



Alumni Engagement • Endowment • Mentoring • SDG

SPEAKER BOOKLET

IvyCap Day 2021

**THE
MULTIPLIER
EFFECT**

Leveraging Global Alumni Ecosystems





Neeraj Aggarwal

Chairman, Asia Pacific, Boston Consulting Group

Neeraj Aggarwal is the regional chair of the Asia Pacific region for BCG, which includes overseeing business in Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea, and Southeast Asia. He is a member of BCG's global governing Executive Committee. Prior to this Neeraj used to lead the BCG India office. Neeraj has over 25 years of experience with clients in the government, technology, media, financial services, and consumer sectors. He has worked with clients across geographies ranging across Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Neeraj has worked closely with various sectors that have been at the forefront of a lot of change in the recent years. More recently, a lot of Neeraj's work has been focused on disruptive impact of Digital across businesses. Neeraj has participated in many discussions on evolving economies with stakeholders across government, regulators, NGOs and industry.

Neeraj is very passionate about using technology to leapfrog development and large-scale change across geographies. Neeraj was a member of the firm's global client service team, which focuses on transforming BCG's engagement model with clients. In the past, he has also headed recruiting and operations at BCG in India. Neeraj is the author of multiple reports across technology, media and financial services. Over the years, Neeraj has worked closely with numerous government and industry committees. Neeraj holds a degree in B. Tech. in Computer Science from IIT Delhi, Masters in Computer Science from Ohio State University, USA and holds an MBA degree from IIM, Ahmedabad. He is a recipient of the Alumni Achiever award from IIM Ahmedabad.



Sandeep Kataria

CEO, BATA

Sandeep Kataria is a business and marketing leader with over 25 years of experience in the consumer products and retail industry across the developing and developed markets. Since Mid 2017, Sandeep has been the CEO of Bata India Ltd. At Bata India Ltd, Mr. Kataria has been tasked with the transformation of the footwear giant into a modern, contemporary brand for generations to come. Prior to taking over the charge at Bata India Ltd, Sandeep was the Chief Commercial Officer at Vodafone, leading the Marketing and Services function for the telecom giant in India and responsible for some of the most iconic marketing campaigns in India. Before Vodafone, he held CMO and General Manager roles at Yum! Brands (the owners of KFC, Pizza Hut & Taco Bell) in India and the UK. He was involved in the rapid growth of KFC & PH as well as the launch of Taco Bell in India! He joined Hindustan Unilever from XLRI and worked there for almost 2 decades in several marketing & strategy roles across India and at the global headquarters at the UK.

Sandeep is an engineer from IIT-Delhi and finished his PGDBM from XLRI in 1993 as the gold medallist of the batch. While IIT gave him the analytical skills, he believes XLRI was responsible for sparking the interest in Leadership & Marketing making him a life long student of consumer behavior and insight ! Sandeep is married to Anuranjita Kumar, another alumni of XLRI from the 1994 batch who runs a startup Women In Technology (WIT.in) focusing of diversity & inclusion. Prior to that she spent over 2 decades as head of HR with Citibank & RBS. They have 2 children – daughter Avni who studies Politics & Economics at University of Pennsylvania and son Siddharth who studies at British School, Delhi.



Sanjeev Bikhchandani

Founder, Info Edge India Ltd

Sanjeev Bikhchandani is the Founder of Info Edge India Ltd. - the company that owns Naukri.com, India's leading job site. It also owns 99acres.com, Jeevansathi.com and Shiksha.com. In addition it has invested in promising internet start-ups such as Zomato, Policybazaar, Shopkirana, Ustraa, Gramophone, Shopsy, and Printo, among others.

Sanjeev schooled at St. Columba's School in New Delhi. He graduated in Economics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi University and began his career working in advertising with Lintas. After working for three years he did his post-graduation from IIM Ahmedabad in 1989 and joined the consumer marketing firm HMM Ltd. (now called Glaxo SmithKline Consumer Healthcare Ltd.). He quit his job for entrepreneurship eighteen months later and co-founded Info Edge.

For the first seven years as an entrepreneur, Sanjeev drifted and did a number of small businesses - from salary surveys to databases, to feasibility studies, to training. For a brief period, he was the Consulting Editor of Avenues - the careers supplement of 'The Pioneer' newspaper. In 1997, Info Edge launched Naukri.com and transformed itself into an Internet company. Sanjeev is active in various industry forums and is a contributor to the entrepreneurship ecosystem. He has served as the President of the Delhi chapter of TiE [The Indus Entrepreneurs]. He has also served as a member of the Global Board of Trustees of TiE. He serves as a Member of the Council of Management of All India Management Association. He has been Chair of the Internet Council of NASSCOM. He has also served on the Venture Capital Investment Committee for the SIDBI Fund of Funds for startups. Sanjeev is a member of the Board of the CIIE Initiatives at IIM Ahmedabad.

Sanjeev has received several awards and honours. He received the "Ernst and Young - Entrepreneur of the Year" award in 2008 for Business Transformation. Sanjeev also won the Dataquest Pathbreaker Award & the Teacher's Achievement Award for Business in the same year. In 2011, he was conferred the Distinguished Alumnus award by IIM Ahmedabad and in 2012 he was honoured with the CF Andrews Distinguished Alumnus award by St. Stephen's College. He is the recipient of the Lakshmi Pat Singhania - IIM Lucknow National Leadership Award, as Young Leader in the Business Category for the year 2012. In April 2017, Outlook Magazine selected him as one of India's fifty greatest CEOs ever. Recently in 2019, he was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award in IT given by the Financial Express. In Feb 2020, Ministry of Home Affairs approved Sanjeev's name for conferment of Padma Shri Award.



Dr. Devi Prasad Shetty

Chairman, Narayana Hrudayalaya Limited

A cardiac surgeon of repute and a successful entrepreneur, Dr Shetty is a highly respected luminary for his ingenious ideas for reforms in healthcare sector. His visionary leadership to make quality healthcare affordable for all has drawn global recognition. Treading the path of economies of scale to bring down the cost of healthcare delivery, Narayana Hrudayalaya has been an interesting case study for the likes of Harvard University and The Wall Street Journal. In association with Government of Karnataka, Dr. Shetty pioneered Yeshaswini, a very inexpensive micro health insurance scheme benefitting more than 3.4 million rural poor.

Dr. Shetty is the current Chairman, Board of Governors, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. He has also served as member Board of Governors of Medical Council of India and Representative of President of India in the Board of Governors of Indira Gandhi National Open University. The Government of India, state governments, trade bodies and global policy think tanks invite him regularly for discussions on healthcare policies. He was part of International Advisory Group, a strategic advisory platform, invited by Japan Centre for International Exchange to address the global health agenda under Japan's G-20 leadership during 2019-20.

Dr. Shetty is the recipient of several prestigious awards including the Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri, The Economist Innovation Award, Ernst and Young – Entrepreneur of the Year, Financial Times Arcelor Mittal 'Boldness in Business' Award, Nikkei Asia Prize for Economic and Business Innovation. He has also been awarded honorary doctorates from University of Minnesota, University of Mysore and IIT, Madras.

After his post-graduation from Kasturba Medical College and having undergone higher training in Cardiothoracic Surgery at NHS, UK, Dr. Shetty held positions in BM Birla Heart Research Centre, Kolkata and Manipal Heart Foundation, Bangalore before becoming the Founder and Chairman at Narayana Hrudayalaya Group of Hospitals. The group now has 32 hospitals with close to 7,000 beds.



Ravi Dhariwal

Former CEO, Bennett Coleman & Co. Ltd

Ravi Dhariwal is the co-founder and Chairman of Sagacito Technologies, a data analytics firm specialising in helping enterprises maximise their revenues. He is also Senior Advisor, Mentor and Board Member of several leading listed and private firms. Just prior to co-founding Sagacito, Ravi was the Group CEO of Bennett & Coleman, India's largest media company, with diversified media platforms including Radio Mirchi, Times Television Network, Times Internet, Times OOH and the world's largest selling English newspaper The Times of India. Ravi was also the World-Wide President of International News Media Association from 2011-2013. He was honoured for his voluntary contribution to World News Media in 2014. Prior to joining Bennett & Coleman, Ravi worked with PepsiCo for 12 years. He was Pepsi's first employee in India, launched Pepsi brands in India helping build a successful business. He also led the Beverage Business in India, Africa and South East Asia for PepsiCo. Ravi started his career with Unilever in India in 1977, and worked for them in India and Australia for over 12 years mostly in Sales and Marketing management.

In his career now spanning over 42 years he has built consumer businesses all over the world. He has worked in diverse and varied cultures, and, helped companies win customer loyalty and consumer regard.

Ravi is an Engineer from IIT/Kanpur, and an MBA from IIM Calcutta. He was bestowed the Distinguished Alumni Award by IIM Calcutta in 2013 and also from IIT Kanpur in 2019.



Sharen Jester Turney

Former President and CEO, Victoria's Secret

Sharon Jester Turney is a retail executive with more than 30 years of experience growing world class brands and launching ecommerce businesses across department, luxury, and specialty concepts for Fortune 500 companies and leading retailers worldwide.

Turney spent the previous 16 years as president and chief executive officer of the nearly 8 billion dollar Victoria's Secret brand (stores, direct, PINK, beauty), doubling the business and profit under her stewardship.

Prior to Victoria's Secret, Turney spent 10 years with luxury powerhouse brand Neiman Marcus, first serving as executive vice president overseeing six departments before launching their eCommerce business and managing the famous Neiman Marcus Christmas Book as President and CEO of Neiman Marcus Direct.

She began her career at Foley's, flourishing in their renowned retail-training program. She went on to hold leadership roles with Byer California and Federated Department Stores. A graduate of The University of Oklahoma, Turney earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education.

Turney is proud to be an inductee into the State of Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the highest honor bestowed upon an Oklahoman. She is an inductee into the Hall of Fame Business of Education at the University of Oklahoma and received OUs award of Distinction.

Turney serves on the Board of Trustees for the University of Oklahoma Foundation and the Board of Directors for Alliance Data Systems in North America and NewStore in the US and Europe. Turney served as Chairman as the Board of Directors for the Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital and was an eight-year member of the board of directors for MM Homes, Inc. She serves on the Jay H Baker Retailing Initiative advisory board at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

Turney's advisory roles in retail, technology, and philanthropy span the globe, including London based Marks and Spencer, Gloria Jeans in Russia, Cosmo Lady in China, Sweden based global brand Happy Socks, Full Beauty Brands in New York, and many others, Catholic Relief Services in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Nepal with a commitment to helping Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Jordan and Cristo Rey Columbus college preparatory high school with a professional work-study program. She is also actively involved with The Centre for Family Safety and Healing.



G K Pillai

IAS (Retd.), Former Union Home & Commerce
 Secretary of India

He is the former (recently retired) Union Home Secretary, Commerce Secretary and Secretary of the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice. Mr. Pillai has a distinguished service record. Among his many appointments at both state and national level, he was Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister of Kerala before becoming Special Secretary in the Commerce Ministry, India's chief negotiator at WTO, and Chairman, Board of Approvals for Special Economic Zones. During the tenure of this last role, over 500 Special Economic Zones, as tax-exempt export enclave zones, were approved, and are expected to employ around one million people.

He has represented the State and Central Government on delegations to USA, EU, Argentina, Brazil, DRC, Singapore, Japan, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Canada, Bangladesh, Myanmar, China, U.K., Thailand and Slovenia. He is renowned as a tough negotiator on behalf of national interests with a reputation as a thorough gentleman and a stickler for playing by the rule book. He sits on the board of various companies.



Pradeep Gupta

Chairman & MD, Cyber Media

Pradeep Gupta is the Chairman of the CyberMedia Group, South Asia's first and largest specialty media house, with 15 publications, 12 websites, over 150 events and weekly TV programs in the infotech, telecom, consumer electronics & biotech areas. CyberMedia's brands include Dataquest, PCQuest, Voice&Data, BioSpectrum, DARE, MIT's Technology Review, CIOI.com and Global Services. The group's media services include market research (CMR India) and content outsourcing (Content Matrix Inc). CyberMedia is a public company.

Pradeep is also an Angel investor and a mentor to a number of entrepreneurs. He is on the TiE Board of Trustees and co-founder, Indian Angel Network. He is also on the Board of UTI Asset Management Company. Pradeep is on the Governing Board of IIT Mandi, on Global Board of PanIIT Alumni Global, President Association of Indian Magazines, Member Executive Committee of Indian Newspaper Society (INS), and Director Kaleidoscope Entertainment.

He is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni award of IIT Delhi and the Helen Keller award for working in the disability sector. Pradeep is an Engineer from IIT Delhi (1975) and an MBA from IIM Calcutta (1977).



Vikram Gupta

Founder and Managing Partner, IvyCap Ventures

Vikram Gupta is the Founder and Managing Partner of IvyCap Ventures, a USD 200 mn Venture Capital Fund that invests through the Alumni ecosystems that has portfolio of 30 companies. He has over 25 years of experience in Private Equity, Business Consulting, M&A, Strategy and Operations in Healthcare and Life Sciences, Education, Consumer Goods and other industries. He has held leadership positions across various well-known companies in India and Abroad. Prior to founding IvyCap, Mr. Gupta was the founding member at Piramal sponsored USD 100 mn Healthcare focused Private Equity Fund that he conceptualized, and raised in 2008 when the world markets were going through turmoil. Mr. Gupta worked in the US with IBM Business Consulting Services for over four years in strategy and planning, business development and project management across various assignments. He conceptualized and led IBM's Healthcare and Life Sciences practice for Clinical Genomics. He has also held senior positions with various well known Indian companies. Mr. Gupta is the Co-Chairman of PEVCAI (Private Equity and Venture Capital) at ASSOCHAM and is an active member of IVCA (Indian Venture Capital Association) and CII (Confederation of Indian Industry). He received Distinguished Alumnus Service Award from IIT Delhi in the year 2020. Mr. Gupta has completed his B.Tech. in Chemical Engineering from IIT Delhi and has MBA degree in Strategy and Finance from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, USA.



Ashish Wadhvani

Managing Partner, IvyCap Ventures

Ashish has over 25 years of experience in venture capital, M&A, and strategy consulting. During his career, he has worked with various companies across the investment lifecycle, from incubation to exit. He has advised over 40 companies on business strategy, growth, implementing new business models, value creation and monetization, mergers and acquisitions, and new investments in technology, consumer, and traditional industries across Asia, India, and Europe.

Ashish has also found and run his own ventures and has been a member of the board in several companies across the APAC region while currently serving as a board member of The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) Singapore.

He has also managed and led 30+ investments and has led a NASDAQ listing. Ashish has also been an entrepreneur, running his own ventures, and has been a member of the board in several companies across the APAC region while currently serving as a board member of The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) Singapore.



Vishal Gauri

Co-Founder, IvyCap Ventures

Vishal is an entrepreneurial business leader with a track record of founding and building companies. Vishal has a diverse background, with deep expertise in materials, semiconductors, software and financial services. Across his 20+ year career, Vishal has developed go-to-market strategies, led sales & marketing and streamlined operations to create sustainable growth in both early and late stage ventures. In his prior role, Vishal was President and Chief Strategy Officer at Incedo, where he led its strategic pivot, to focus on productized AI/ML solutions that revived growth and increased margins. Vishal was also President of Nagarro, a global technology solutions company - where he was responsible for overall strategy, revenue and growth. Under his leadership, Nagarro grew to grow 20x in revenue and was acquired by Allgeier SE. Vishal is an operator and a hands-on leader, owning multiple functions across the company during growth to 2500+ team members. He led P&L for Americas, and built high performing teams across US, MX and India.

In his early career as a technologist, Vishal focused on developing leading new processes and materials in multiple industries. Vishal is an inventor on 18 patents in areas including ceramics, semiconductors, plasma processing and reactor design.

Vishal is passionate about creating an impact, and is active as a volunteer, advisor or board member in several social causes, including Peopleshores, a public benefit corporation that aims to bring tech jobs to underserved rural US communities.



Anju Gupta
 Partner, IvyCap Ventures

Anju focuses her efforts on nurturing entrepreneurs to explore their potential to the fullest through mentoring, corporate engagements, accelerator programs, and driving the IvyCamp Platform. She is strongly committed to driving the company's funds efforts to support and build out the next generation of entrepreneurs.

Anju has over 15 years of experience in the product management and marketing segments of the software industry. After her Ph.D. in the US, she worked in a number of roles (most recently as Sr. Director) at Risk Management Solutions Inc., in California, the leading provider of catastrophe risk models for the global re/insurance industry. Her roles have included building risk assessment models for earthquakes, leading the software development cycle for RMS's first ASP weather derivatives product, leading the product management team for RMS's core catastrophe software product line (revenue of over \$100 million), playing a key role in the core team that laid the groundwork for RMS next-generation modeling platform, and the architect of RMS's first usage-based pricing methodology for its next-generation platform.

She has authored a number of publications in catastrophe risk management and has extensive knowledge of the risk management needs of specific sectors and organizations. She has worked closely with organizations such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Office of Emergency Services, PG&E, Insurance companies, and risk managers in the commercial sector in the USA.



Kashyap Avashia
 Principal (Investments) & CEO (Mentor Trust),
 IvyCap Ventures

Kashyap Avashia is the CEO of Mentor Trust at IvyCap Ventures. He has over 21 years of experience in Business Consulting, Business Development, Software Development and Program; Portfolio Management in the US, Canada and India. During his career, Kashyap has had an opportunity to be associated with a wide variety of organizations in terms of size, industry, ownership structure and geography. Kashyap started his post-MBA career in the US as a consultant with a start-up IT/management consulting firm and then moved on to join IBM's business consulting organization. During his tenure of 8 years at IBM, Kashyap led several successful consulting assignments in the areas of Portals, Knowledge & Web Content Management and Business Intelligence resulting in satisfied clients. He also represented IBM at industry events and authored research reports for existing and potential clients.

Kashyap relocated to India in 2009 and has been playing leadership roles in the life-sciences industry ever since. His primary areas of responsibility has been to manage the multi-million dollar R&D pipeline/portfolio of leading organizations. Kashyap holds an MBA from the University of Maryland, College Park (US) and a BE (Chemical Engineering) from Gujarat University. Kashyap has been living out of Bangalore since 2018. He is an amateur guitarist/singer and passionate about equity research.



Mansi Goel

Senior Vice President, Fundraising & Investor Relations,
IvyCap Ventures

Mansi has more than 18 years of experience in Corporate & Merchant Banking and has worked across Debt and Equity Capital markets. Mansi heads the Fund Raising and Investor Relations Team at IvyCap. Prior to joining IvyCap, she has worked with SBI Capital Markets, Axis Bank, Kotak Bank and Edelweiss Group.

In her last assignment, she was responsible for fundraising for all entities belonging to the credit business vertical of Edelweiss Group. Her key focus areas included Domestic Bonds and Foreign Currency borrowings. She was also responsible for coverage across Investor segments in South East Asia, Middle East and UK. At Kotak Bank, she was a part of Debt Capital Markets team and was responsible for Loan Syndication (both Rupee and Foreign Currency) across SEA and Middle East. She has completed her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University and MBA from Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies.



Madhuri Sawant

Vice President, Legal, IvyCap Ventures

Madhuri comes with 6+ years of experience on matters ranging from company formation to closure, including the investment term sheets, business contracts, employment terms, stock options, corporate compliances, trademark, FDI, GDPR, business transfer, joint venture, etc.

Prior to IvyCap, Madhuri was a Senior Associate at Burgeon Law Firm and worked at GREX as well. She is a Lawyer from ILS Law College and a Company Secretary by profession with a master in Business Laws from NLS Bangalore.



Nilay Doshi

Associate, IvyCap Ventures

Nilay comes with over 6 years of experience in venture capital and finance industry. He has worked earlier with Swan Finance and CIIE Initiatives.

In the last 6 years, Nilay has worked with early-stage startups and established SMEs. He has worked with startups across different sectors including agriculture, healthcare, fintech, IoT, space, robotics, etc, and analyzed them for angel and seed investment. He has worked with SMEs for project financing and provided advisory around financial strategies.

He has also worked with more than 100+ startups over a time span of 6 years and provided advisory in terms of financial and business models, GTM strategy, product-market fit, scaling-up etc. He has helped the startups with fundraising from other investors too.

Nilay is a Chartered Accountant and a CFA Charterholder.



Dr Cherian

Co-Founder, Synapsica

Leads the concept, design, data preparation for all the medical products and platform operations. Dr. Cherian is an alumnus of AIIMS, New Delhi (top medical research institute in India), and has worked in the domain of the clinical field and startups in his career. Before Synapsica, Dr. Cherian worked as VP-Operations at Zolostays, where he launched and led operations in multiple cities, managing 6000+ long stay guests pan-India. A tech enthusiast, and an AI / coding initiate, he is the interface between tech and medical team, translating medical problems to mathematical terms.



Abhishek Jha

Co-Founder and CEO, Elucidata

Abhishek is the Co-founder and CEO of Elucidata. Before starting Elucidata, Abhishek was a Senior Scientist at Agios Pharmaceuticals and completed his Postdoc at MIT. He holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago and an integrated Master's Degree from IIT Bombay.



Swetabh Pathak

Co-Founder, Elucidata

Prior to co-founding Elucidata, he has been a founding member and Product Manager at start-ups in technology and affordable STEM education. He has an integrated Master's degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from IIT Delhi.



Niranjana Ramakrishnan

Group CIO, Leixir

Niranjana is an entrepreneurial and driven Chief Technologist, with 20 years of healthcare industry expertise in leading numerous companies in domestic and international marketplaces. He was part of the digital transformation initiatives of Leixir Dental Group, as Group CTO and CEO of MyLabConnect and strategy technology director of Neuberg Diagnostics Group, Triviron Medical Device Manufacturing and other healthcare organizations. He has also governed Kauvery Group of Hospitals, Chennai as Group Head IT, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi, Healthcare Practice lead in Covansys (a CSC Company) and Head of Healthcare Vekical for Altosys Software Technologies Limited (Part of Apollo Hospitals Group).

Niranjan has founded Invest2Care Tech Pvt Ltd, Chennai, and built an innovative patient kiosk to deliver the healthcare information exchange for rural India. He had served in the Indian Airforce as Missile Technician (Electronics) and is recognized as the top 10 CIOs in the Indian healthcare industry by the eHealth magazine, He is the Founder - President of Hospital Tech Association, a registered society for Healthcare CIOs India and Secretary & Board Member of HIMSS Asia Pacific – India Chapter. He was awarded Honorary Doctorate by the International Royal Academy of The United Nations & Chamber of International Commerce and is a certified blockchain expert by World BlockChain Council. He is a Certified Executive MBA in Healthcare Informatics by Medvarsity and Certified Healthcare CIO by College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME), USA.



Pankaj Vermani

Founder & CEO, Clovia

Pankaj is a graduate from IIT Delhi, India, a serial entrepreneur and has co-founded and grown two companies in the past, which went through a successful acquisition and got featured in multiple global forums including Red Herring Asia 100 and Deloitte India Fast 50. In his previous role, he was heading the Incubator / Company-Builder Mountain Apollo India. Currently, he is the Founder & CEO of Clovia, one of the fastest growing Lingerie brands in India. The brand sells a unit every 6 seconds through its online and offline channels. Over the years the brand has won several awards including Super Start-up Asia 2018, and India Retail Awards 2019. Pankaj actively advises and mentors start-ups in the internet, mobile, consumer and education space.



Gaurav Singh Kushwaha

Founder & CEO, BlueStone

Gaurav founded BlueStone in 2011, India's leading D2C brand for fine jewellery. He functions as the Chief Executive Officer of the company, carving out short term and long term strategies that contribute to the brand's growth and its consolidation in the jewellery e-commerce market. He brings to the table, more than 20 years of experience in the domains of technology, e-commerce and internet marketing.

Prior to BlueStone, Gaurav co-founded Chakpak, an online entertainment portal in 2007 and successfully raised two rounds of funding. He has also worked at Amazon USA and Amazon India before founding his first venture.

Gaurav, an alumnus of IIT Delhi, is a prominent figure in the start-up realm and advises new and budding entrepreneurs on marketing and product strategies.



Vishal Jindal

Co-Founder & Co-CEO, Biryani By Kilo

Vishal Jindal, is the Co-CEO and Co-Founder of Biryani By Kilo, India's biggest Biryani Delivery Chain., with 25+ years of entrepreneurial and investment experience across different sectors and geographies. Previously, he was the Co-founder & Director of an India-focused PE fund Carpediem Capital and Director & Chief Operating Officer of Long Short Hedge Fund Akshayam Capital. He also founded and scaled an IT business across Asia. Vishal is a diehard foodie, an avid reader, a passionate traveler, and a speaker on start-ups/entrepreneurship. He completed his MBA from Martin J. Whitman School of Management (Syracuse, New York), and B.Tech. from IIT-Varanasi (BHU), and finance course from London School of Economics.



Prabhkiran Singh

Founder & CEO, Bewakoof

An entrepreneur at heart, Prabhkiran started working or planning on his entrepreneurial journey from his college days at IIT Bombay. He started his first business venture in his college days with a lassi cafe, known as khadke gLASSI. He launched Bewakoof.com out of his dorm room with an initial investment of Rs 30,000 in his 2nd year of college, 2012. Currently, he is the Co-founder and CEO of Bewakoof.com, one of the largest D2C fashion brands in India. The brand has a total customer base of 10 million. It has become one of the most sought-after fashion and lifestyle brands for the millennials and GenZ, with a following of 6.1 Million on social media. Apart from work, Prabhkiran is also a big movie buff and an avid reader.



BG Krishnan

Founder & CEO, eShakti

BG has over 30+ years of experience out of which he has spent more than 20 years as an entrepreneur. He is the Founder of eShakti, which is now a global consumer brand and a leader in the customized clothing for women. He completed his BSc in Physics from Loyola College, Chennai, and MBA from Jamnalal Bajaj Institute, Mumbai. He spent his off-hours Reading and Swimming



Rasik Pansare

Co-Founder, Get My Parking

Rasik is the co-founder of Get My Parking, an asset-light, device-agnostic, end-to-end smart parking platform that converts parking lots to real-time intelligent hubs. Present across 17 countries, Get My Parking is digitizing a highly fragmented industry, with a huge market opportunity across the globe. Rasik completed his MBA from Faculty of Management Studies and B.E. (Information Technology) from Pune Institute of Computer technology.



Tamanna Dhamija

Co-Founder, Convosight

Tamanna Dhamija is an ex-investment banker turned community leader and now a community entrepreneur. She built one of the largest parenting communities Baby Destination, with 2 million mothers across 28 communities, organically. She was selected by Facebook as one of the first community leaders and was also given a grant of \$50,000 to grow and scale the community further. In 2020, she decided to productize her learnings and founded Convosight. Convosight helps facebook power admins monetize their community and grow it faster. It is being used by more than 5000 communities to manage more than 75 million members. Tamanna is also one of the first who got a Facebook certified Community Manager badge on the day it launched i.e. 2nd October, 2020.



Venkat Nott

Founder and CEO, Vinculum Group

Venkat Nott is a seasoned entrepreneur, passionate about creating high-power teams & disruptive SaaS products & business models. In Vinculum, he is the founder, CEO, and takes care of corporate strategy, Global Sales, Investor relations, and fundraising. Through Vinculum, Venkat aims to help 4000+ brands to scale globally by 2024. Venkat has lived and worked in multiple countries in Asia including New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, and India. He speaks in English and 6 Indian languages and is an alumnus of REC Calicut and IIM Bangalore.



Nipun Jain

Business Director (Asia), Bidgely

Nipun is currently leading Bidgely's sales and strategy for Asia and Africa. Overall, he has 16+ years of experience across infrastructure industry and consulting, wherein he has worked in various capacities with companies such as Areva/Alstom, RPG Group, Accenture and Nomura. Nipun looks forward to understanding the evolving digital and new age technologies in the traditional infrastructure sector.



Ashish Mehta

Co-Founder & CEO, OnlineSales

Ashish Mehta is the Co-founder, CEO of OnlineSales.ai — a leading co-op marketing and monetization technology stack for enterprise retailers and brands globally. Prior to OnlineSales.ai, Ashish co-founded Sokrati, which grew to become India's largest performance marketing agency and was acquired by Merkle (Dentsu) in 2017. Ashish has his roots in the digital and retail space while working at Amazon (US) where he was instrumental in building Amazon.com's marketing platform.



Bhuvan Rustagi

Co-Founder and COO, Lendbox

Bhuvan is the Co-Founder and COO of Lendbox. He is passionate about revolutionizing the Indian financial space through innovative tech-based solutions. He comes from an investment banking and consulting background. Prior to founding Lendbox in 2015, he used to work with Alvarez & Marshal and PwC (Tanzania). He completed his B.Sc in Accounting from Oxford Brookes University and MBA from IE Business School, Spain. He is also a qualified ACCA.



Pratyush Halen

Founder and CEO, Fingpay

Pratyush is the Founder of Fingpay. He is a B.Tech engineer from Indore. He started his career with Amdocs wherein he worked on developing USSD based payment solutions for the rural sectors in India. In 2016, he co-founded Fingpay alongside Anuraag with a vision to bring digital and financial inclusion. Fingpay enables Digital Banking, Payments, and Financial services at the last mile. The company has raised investments from the ICICI Bank and IvyCap Ventures. It is also part of the steering committee of AEPS at NPCI.



Sanjeev Chandak

Co-Founder and CEO, ftcash

Sanjeev Chandak is the Co-founder & CEO of ftcash, a financial technology start-up serving the underserved micro-merchants business owners in India. He has 20+ years of experience across financial services and technology. He completed his engineering from IIT Kharagpur and MBA from The Wharton School. He spent over 17 years in the USA, working in leadership positions with prominent financial organisations. He worked as a Director with Capital One. Prior to co-founding ftcash, he was the Deputy CFO at Deutsche Bank India.



Jatin Solanki
 Co-Founder, Expertrons

Jatin Solanki is an IIT Bombay Alumni. He co-founded Expertrons in November'19 with a mission to help 1.85 billion global professionals in their career journey. Prior to starting Expertrons, Jatin also co-founded Eduisfun - India's largest gamified edu-learning platform that served close to 2 million K-12 students. Jatin has been a TEDx speaker & has been invited as a panel & a guest speaker at multiple B-school events.



Gaurav Perti
 Founder and CEO, PurpleTutor

Gaurav Perti is the Founder & CEO of PurpleTutor. He has more than 16 years of industry experience, including 5 years as an entrepreneur. He founded PurpleTutor with a view to change education using technology and believes learning can be enhanced using the same. He started his career with ICICI Lombard GIC and then spent 10+ years with Standard Chartered Bank. His entrepreneurship career started with founding fincash.com where he spent 3 years as CEO. Won various awards at StanChart and also CNBC Best Financial Advisor Award (2012, 2013 & 2014). Gaurav is a B.Tech. from IIT Bombay and MBA from IIM. He is an avid sportsperson and a yoga enthusiast.



Hari Balasubramanian
 Investor and Mentor

Hari is an active angel investor focussed on innovative startup teams. He practices lean startup principles and encourages founders to think global, act local and build a organisation culture suitable for innovation in startups. He has led several deals in Indian Angel Network, led exits for IAN investors other than providing fund raising support for portfolio companies. Hari started the Early Adopters Syndicate in Letsventure, where innovative startups can raise funds and get support from investors who also act as early adopters. The thesis of EaSyndicate is to identify innovative and disruptive startups by making smaller bets and allowing the best ideas and entrepreneurs with traction to emerge. Startups without traction will likely reinvent themselves or perish. It is a high performance high risk strategy that is being pursued. EaSyndicate now has two startups in the portfolio and several are in the pipeline. In Feb 2020 joined as a member of the the Investment Committee at IIM Calcutta Innovation Park (IIMCIP).

He is a member of the advisory Board of Ivy Cap ventures, a Rs. 500 crore PE fund.



Akash Goel

Co-Founder, Singularity Automation

Akash is the Co-Founder and CEO of Singularity Automation. Singularity started in 2016 with designing smart locking solutions in the co-living industry and in no time became a leading provider in the industry. Now with all the major coliving players as its clients, singularity has launched a new smart access control system called SecurePass which is getting a great traction in residential and commercial space with clients like Mygate, Byju's and Cult fit.



Bhaskar Deo

CEO & Founder, Trillbit

Bhaskar has built proprietary data over sound technology for device-to-device authentication. Trillbit's SDK and API can be integrated into any app, webpage, or embedded device. Bhaskar graduated from IIT Kharagpur. He has worked in research segment at MIT in Boston and Schlumberger in Houston. Before co-founding Trillbit, Bhaskar led the Schlumberger Middle East imaging team based out of Cairo, Egypt. He has numerous international publications and patents. As a hobby, Bhaskar advises MIT's current Hyperloop engineering team.



Gaurav Tripathi

Co-Founder and CEO, Superpro

Gaurav Tripathi is a 3x entrepreneur and the founder and CEO of Superpro.ai. He studied at IIT Bombay and has 16+ years of experience across multiple startups working in web, IoT, Cloud, Big Data, Blockchain, GPUs, and AI. His last venture Innoplexus is now known as the "German AI champion in Life Sciences". Gaurav has 12 US patents across the US and Europe in areas around AI and enjoys reading and trekking.



Sneha Vaswani

Co-Founder and CEO, Miko

As Miko's CEO, Sneha steers Miko's vision for bringing emotionally intelligent offerings to consumer homes. In addition to leading a global team of engineers, psychologists, designers, teachers and mathematicians from U.S and India, he also oversees the multi-country expansion of the brand.

Prior to Miko, Sneha had also lead multidisciplinary teams to victory at robotics competitions around the globe. The B.Tech and M.Tech graduate from IIT Bombay draws this passion from robotics as he focusses on Miko's next growth phase.



Hari V. Krishnan

CEO and Managing Director, PropertyGuru

Hari is a seasoned General Manager & Board director with a deep digital technology pedigree. He is a TEDx speaker and vocal advocate for sustainable urban living solutions. He has over two decades of industry leadership in technology and digital organizations across Asia and the US, driving digital transformation for industries like music, travel, recruitment, and now real estate. Hari leads a team of over 1,200 employees of the Group across Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam, for Asia's leading proptech company. He currently serves on the Singapore Government's Future Economy Council Modern Services Sub-committee, and has advised the government on Real estate industry transformation and Skills development. Prior to PropertyGuru, he started up, scaled and led LinkedIn in the Asia Pacific region, as their Vice President & Managing Director. He has also worked in leadership positions at Fox Interactive, Yahoo! and Cisco, and market-changing start-ups like Travelguru. He is a long-time investor and advisor to multiple innovative startups. Hari has an MBA from INSEAD and an M.S. in Telecommunications from the University of Colorado.



Manish Taneja

Co-founder and CEO, Purple

Manish has a strong background in finance and technology and amazing work experience with the big players of the industry including Avendus Capital and Lehman Brothers. Manish then decided to start his own venture and since then, he hasn't turned back. He plays the role of a friend, a CEO, and a guide. A great tea connoisseur and full-time leader, he is living the definition of 'winning life'!



Pranjal Kumar

Global CFO and Head of Corporate Development,
Eruditus Executive Education

In his 18 years+ of professional career, Pranjal has led multiple high-impact positions of responsibilities spreading across Investing, Transaction Advisory, Strategic Consulting and Operations. In his current role as Global CFO and Head of Corporate Development of Eruditus, Pranjal is responsible for spearheading strategic initiatives that drive Enterprise Value for the company, including Growth (inorganic and organic), Capital raise, Investor relations, Margin improvement etc.

Prior to joining Eruditus, Pranjal was Principal and CFO with Bertelsmann India Investments (BII), a growth stage Corporate VC fund of Bertelsmann. At BII, he led investments in education & employability sector, media-tech and health-tech, where he executed multiple new / follow-on deals and led Board-level matters for portfolio companies. As CFO, he also steered strategic and financial assessment of the fund portfolio and exit strategy. Prior to Bertelsmann, Pranjal spent ~12 years in various strategy consulting firms like A.T. Kearney, KPMG, and Accenture. Pranjal holds MBA from IIM Bangalore, and Bachelor's degree from IIT Delhi.



Sanjeev Barnwal

Co-Founder and CTO, Meesho

Sanjeev Barnwal, Co Founder and CTO, Meesho is an IIT-Delhi 2012 alumnus. Prior to co-founding Meesho, Sanjeev has worked with the DSLR development team at Sony, Japan. Back in 2015, he teamed up with his college batch-mate and friend Vidit Aatrey to build an e-commerce startup for small businesses at a time when everyone told them that this market was saturated. Five years and two pivots later, Sanjeev and Vidit have today built India's largest social commerce platform at Meesho and are now on the path of enabling 100M small businesses to succeed online. At Meesho Sanjeev has built and scaled a high performing engineering team which has played a pivotal role in enabling Meesho's exponential growth. Meesho has already empowered 10 million+ entrepreneurs, mostly women, and is on its way to create an all-encompassing business ecosystem wherein 100 million small businesses can become successful online.



Ashwani Bhatia

Managing Director (Corporate Banking & Global Markets), SBI

Mr. Ashwani Bhatia is Managing Director of the Bank since August 2020. In his current role, he looks after Corporate Banking & Global Markets verticals. Mr. Bhatia has experience of over three and a half decades in the State Bank Group. Prior to his assignment as MD, Mr. Bhatia was MD & CEO, SBI Funds Management Pvt Limited. Before joining SBI Funds Management Private Limited, he was working as a Chief General Manager, Corporate Centre, where he revamped credit structure and processes of the Bank. Some of his other positions in the Bank include Chief General Manager- SME, General Manager (Heading retail operations of Haryana, HP, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and Chandigarh), and various others in Network Banking, Credit, Investment Banking and Asset Management. He has spent more than a decade in the Bank's treasury operations, holding position of DGM (Forex), DGM (Interest Rates), AGM & Chief Dealer (Equities). Mr. Bhatia has also had a stint with SBI Capital Markets as President & COO. He has also served as dealer at Tokyo in the Japan Operations of the Bank.

Mr. Bhatia started his career with us in 1985 as a Probationary Officer. He is a Graduate in Physics & Mathematics from Dayalbagh University, Agra and is an MBA from Podar Institute of Management, Jaipur.



Prof Aliasgar Contractor

Former Dean, IIT Bombay

Prof. Contractor obtained his M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees from IIT Bombay. After carrying out post-doctoral research at Carleton University, Canada and Texas A&M University, U.S.A., he returned to join the faculty at IIT Bombay in 1984 and retired as Institute Chair Professor in the Department of Chemistry in 2015. He has been actively involved in studying the electrochemistry of conducting polymers for more than thirty years. Prof. Contractor was actively involved in setting up the Desai-Sethi Centre for Entrepreneurship, IIT Bombay. He is also part of the Global Business Forum, an IITBAA initiative to bring technology experts, entrepreneurs, investors and government leaders on a common platform to promote technology-driven business opportunities that can make a difference. Prof. Contractor is also a member of the Board of Advisors, IIT Alumni Trust, IvyCap Ventures.



Mihir Vora

Sr Director & Chief Investment Officer, Max Life Insurance Company Limited

As Director & CIO of Max Life Insurance Company, Mihir is responsible for investment strategy, execution and performance of Max Life funds. Mihir has over than 22 years of investments experience across various asset classes including equity, fixed Income, real estate and currently manages USD 8 billion in assets. He has launched and managed a wide gamut of funds including large, mid & multi-cap funds, sector and thematic funds. He has a long and consistent track record and has also built high-performing investment teams in multiple organisations. In his previous assignment, Mihir was with Birla Sun Life Asset Management, as Chief Investment Officer – Offshore. Before that he was with the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, managing funds for the Indian Subcontinent. He has also worked with HSBC Global Asset Management and ABN AMRO Asset Management as Head -Equities. A mechanical engineer from the Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, he holds a Management degree from Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow. He is also a certified Chartered Financial Analyst from the CFA Institute, USA.



Prasun Gajri

Chief Investment Officer, HDFC Life

Prasun is the Chief Investment Officer for HDFC Life and has been associated with the company since April 2009. He oversees the investment function across asset classes managing an AUM of over Rs. 175,000 crore. He has over 25 years of experience in investments and banking. Prior to joining HDFC Life, he was associated with Citibank N.A. and Tata AIA Life Insurance Company Limited. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Engineering from Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Management from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. He is also a Chartered Financial Analyst from CFA Institute, US



Arjun Anand

Executive Director, Head of India & SE Asia Investments, Verlinvest

Arjun Anand is an Executive Director with Verlinvest, the ~\$5bn family office diversification vehicle of the Belgian founding families behind Anheuser Busch Inbev, the world's leading beer group. He joined Verlinvest in 2015 for active Asia expansion based in Singapore and then setup an India office in 2019 to manage its active Indian portfolio. He focuses on the consumer internet, food & beverage and D2C sectors, which are core to Verlinvest. Arjun currently serves on multiple board including Sula Vineyards (India's market leader in wine), Veeba Foods (India's leading condiments brand), Drums Food (India's first Greek yogurt brand), Purplle (Beauty E-commerce vertical), Wakefit (Digital-first home solutions brand), A-Star-Education (a Singapore based education company), Heads up for Tails (Pet e-commerce & retailer in India). He is also a board observer for Verlinvest in BYJU'S. Based on his investing experience, Arjun researches the food & beverage, education and digital consumer sectors. He led the setting up of the Mumbai office at Verlinvest. He also researches trends in food consumption and consumer preferences globally, which also helps drive Verlinvest's F&B investments in Asia.

Prior to joining Verlinvest in Singapore, Arjun lived and worked across Australia, Malaysia, Dubai and India, working with leading FMCG and Telecom organizations as a management consultant for Kearney. Based out of Sydney Australia, he drove growth and go-to-market strategies in top food & beverage brands in the country. He also spent over a year in the leading Australian telecom provider, where he was focused on improving supply chain operations.



Rajiv Menon

Managing Director, Head of M&A and Investments,
 Asia Pacific & Japan, Cisco

As Head of Acquisitions and Investments across Asia Pacific and Japan (APJ) at Cisco, Rajiv leads an experienced team active in a variety of areas including Security, 5G, Collaboration Technologies and Future of Work, DevSecOps, Network Orchestration and Automation, Data Centre, Cloud amongst other Enterprise Technologies. In terms of investments, Cisco continues to be active in the APJ region and to add to its portfolio with ~ 25 direct investments plus 6 LP positions as on date. On the Acquisitions front, Rajiv and his team are responsible for originating and executing M&A opportunities and Joint Venture partnerships across Asia-Pacific & Japan.

Rajiv has over 26 years of experience in M&A, Venture Investing, Lending (Venture & Traditional), Project Finance and Credit Structuring. Prior to joining Cisco, he co-founded Captive Finance Corporation that was acquired by the Dutch-Belgian, Fortis Bank.

Originally from New Delhi, he began his corporate finance career with the Tata Group after receiving his Masters in Finance from the University of Delhi. Rajiv resides in Singapore with his family and is an avid Polo player.



Ruchira Shukla

Regional Lead, South Asia, Disruptive Technologies -
 Direct Equity and VC Funds, IFC

Ruchira Shukla, Regional Lead, South Asia, Disruptive Technologies - Direct Equity and VC Funds, IFC

Ruchira Shukla has been the Regional Lead for IFC's Disruptive Technologies and Venture Capital Funds business in South Asia overseeing investments in technology startups across stages, investments in VC Funds and initiatives to support and grow the venture capital ecosystem in South Asia. She has led investments across a range of sectors including Consumer Internet, B2B eCommerce, HealthTech, EduTech, eLogistics and AI/IoT applications. Ruchira is an active board member on a number of startup boards and represents IFC on the boards of Byju, Blackbuck, Bizongo, Power2SME, Medgenome and on the Limited Partner Advisory Committees of IDG, Stellaris and Pi Ventures. Ms. Shukla is also the Global HealthTech Sector Lead for IFC.

She has worked for over 25 years across venture capital and private equity, investment banking, M&A, strategy consulting and held operational roles in technology startups across US, Europe and India. She has familiarity with and strong networks in several markets globally – India, US, Canada, Europe.

Ruchira graduated from IIT Delhi in 1994, from IIM Ahmedabad in 1997. She pursued a specialization in Finance at Wharton from where she graduated as a Palmer Scholar and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.



Nishith Desai

Founder, Nishith Desai Associates

Nishith Desai is the founder of the research & strategy driven international law firm, Nishith Desai Associates (www.nishithdesai.com) ranked amongst the Asia-Pacific's Most Innovative Law Firms by Financial Times. Nishith's interest span a wide spectrum of law, society and ethics. He is a renowned International lawyer, author, lecturer, researcher and a thought leader. Nishith himself is regarded as the 'Father of International Tax' in India and is a 'true pioneer' in the field of International Tax Law. He was also a director on the board of Singapore International Arbitration Centre (2011-2019). Soon after India opened its economy to the outside world in 1991, Nishith pioneered the roots of asset management industry in India. He has assisted the Governments of Mauritius and India in launching their offshore financial centers. He established the first five India Focused Funds He played a seminal role in structuring several private equity funds in addition to structuring several domestic venture capital funds. The firm has now worked for over 1400 funds across all asset classes.



Ashank Desai

Co-Founder & Advisor, Mastek Ltd

Mr. Ashank Desai is the founder and former Chairman of Mastek Limited, a publicly-held IT solutions player with global operations. He also guides Mastek Foundation, whose mission is to enable 'Informed Giving and Responsible Receiving'. He is widely recognized as an industry veteran, and is one of the founder members & past Chairman of NASSCOM. He is also a former President of Asian Oceanian Computing Industry Organisation (ASOCIO). It is an organization founded for the development of IT in the Asia Pacific region, which comprises of 20 IT Countries like Australia, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, India etc. In the last few year, he is actively involved in the field of education, and has been a member of the Governing Boards of IIM Ahmedabad, IIT Jodhpur, and the Goa Institute of Management. He also serves on the Advisory Boards of SJM School of Management, IIT Bombay & IIT Hyderabad. He is involved in Entrepreneurship Management in the country. He is the Vice-Chairman of Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE), IIT. He is a charter member of The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE). He has been conferred with the Distinguished Alumnus Award by IIT Bombay and 'Fellow of the Society' honour by the Computer Society of India (CSI) in recognition of his services to the Indian IT Industry as an entrepreneur and for his contribution to the growth of education. He has also been presented with the Honourable Contributors Award by ASOCIO, the only Indian to receive this recognition twice. He was conferred with the much coveted Outstanding Entrepreneur Award at the Asia Pacific Entrepreneurship Awards (APEA) 2010 India. Asia Pacific Entrepreneurship Awards 2010 India is organized by Enterprise Asia - a non-governmental organization in pursuit of entrepreneurship development across the region. Mr. Desai studied at IIT Bombay and IIM Ahmedabad.



Prof Ashok Misra

President, IIT Alumni Centre

Prof. Ashok Misra is currently NASI (National Academy of Sciences, India) Distinguished Professor at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Earlier he was Director IIT Bombay (2000-08); Chairman-India Intellectual Ventures (2008-16); at IIT Delhi (1977-2000) and at Monsanto Chemical Co. (1974-77). He obtained his B.Tech. from IIT Kanpur (1968) M.S. from Tufts University (1969) and Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts (1974). Prof. Misra is a Director on the Boards of Jubilant Life Sciences Ltd., Jubilant Pharma Ltd., Kirloskar Electric Company Ltd. and Higher Education Financing Agency. Earlier he has been on the Boards of Reliance Industries Ltd., National Thermal Power Corporation and Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. He has held several responsibilities with Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, including Chairman of the Standing Committee of the IIT Council and Chairman Board of Governors of IIT Roorkee. He is a Fellow of National Academy of Sciences India and was its President from 2006-08; a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering; Founder President of the Polymer Processing Academy; former President of the Society of Polymer Science, India; Founder President of IIT Alumni Centre, Bengaluru and member of a number of professional societies. He has received several awards including: Distinguished Service Award, Polymer Processing Society (USA); Distinguished Service Award, IIT Delhi; Distinguished Alumnus Awards from all his Alma Maters; Indian Chemical Council Lifetime Achievement Award for Education & Research; National Systems Gold Medal; Qimpro Platinum Standard Award (Education); Chemtech CEW Awards (Education) and Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray Memorial Award of Indian Chemical Soc. He has guided 22 doctoral students, co-authored a book, has 8 patents plus 7 in the process and over 182 international publications.



Prof Mahesh Panchagnula

Dean of International and Alumni Relations, IIT Madras

Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula serves as Dean of International and Alumni Relations at Indian Institute of Technology Madras since September 2018. Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula, is an alumnus of IIT Madras (B. Tech.), and completed his higher studies (M.S. and Ph.D.) in Mechanical Engg. from Purdue University. He is a Faculty In-Charge and Director of IITM Incubation Cell and has been in teaching and research for over 20 years. Prof. Mahesh served as Associate Professor, Assistant Professor at Tennessee Technological University from August 2005 to July 2010. Prior to joining Tennessee Tech, Prof. Mahesh gained holistic research experience in Lehigh University. Also, he served as a General Manager of Excel India since August 2002 until March 2004 and as a senior research engineer with Goodrich Aerospace. His expertise is in spray nozzle design, drying, atomization, combustion and experimental fluid dynamics. He has worked with students from different geographical regions and premier organizations to build next-generation solutions for problems in the broad area of Fluid Dynamics.



Prof. Rishikesha T Krishnan

Director and Professor of Strategy, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore

Prof. Rishikesha Krishnan is Director and Professor of Strategy at the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB). He held the Jamuna Raghavan Chair in Entrepreneurship at IIMB from 2007 to 2010. He completed a 5-year term as Director of the Indian Institute of Management Indore in December 2018. Prof. Krishnan was educated at IIT Kanpur, Stanford University and IIM Ahmedabad. His main areas of interest are strategy and innovation. He has been listed in the Thinkers50 India list of most influential management thinkers from India. Apart from publications in academic journals, case studies and articles in the business press, Prof. Krishnan has written two books: 8 Steps to Innovation: Going from Jugaad to Excellence (co-authored with Vinay Dabholkar) which won the Best Book Award for 2013-14 from the Indian Society for Training & Development and From Jugaad to Systematic Innovation: The Challenge for India. Prof. Krishnan is a member of the board of the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) and Wheels India Ltd., and a trustee of the Foundation for Excellence India Trust. Prof. Krishnan was a member of the expert committee set up by the Government of India in 2017-18 under the chairmanship of Justice BN Srikrishna to propose a data protection framework for India. He was currently a member of the high-powered Expert Committee set up by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India to review the Biotechnology Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) and the Chair of the NextGen HR Sub-committee to implement the report of the Committee on "Reorientation of CSIR for Extending Technological Support to Indian Industry."



Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao

Director, IIT Delhi

Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao is currently the Director, IIT Delhi. Before joining IIT Delhi as the Director in April 2016, Dr. Rao served as a P. K. Kelkar Chair Professor for Nanotechnology in the Department of Electrical Engineering and as the Chief Investigator for the Centre of Excellence in Nanoelectronics project at IIT Bombay. Dr. Rao has over 475 research publications in the area of nano-scale devices & Nanoelectronics and is an inventor on 48 patents and patent applications, which include 18 issued US patents. Thirteen of his patents have been licensed to industries for commercialization. Prof. Rao is a co-founder of two deep technology startups at IIT Bombay (Nanosniff & Soilsens) which are developing products of relevance to the society. Dr. Rao is a Fellow of IEEE, a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering, the Indian Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, and the Indian National Science Academy.

Prof. Rao's research and leadership contributions have been recognized with over 30 awards and honors in the country and abroad. He is a recipient of three honorary doctorates. The recognitions Prof. Rao received include the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in Engineering Sciences, Infosys Prize, IEEE EDS Education Award, Excellence in Research awards from IIT Bombay, DAE and DRDO, Swarnajayanti Fellowship award from the Department of Science & Technology, IBM Faculty award, Best Research award from the Intel Asia Academic Forum, Techno-Visionary award from the Indian Semiconductor Association, J.C. Bose National Fellowship among many others. Prof. Rao was an Editor for the IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices during 2003-2012 for the CMOS Devices and Technology area and currently serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of ACS Nano Letters, a leading international journal in the area of Nanotechnology. He is a Distinguished Lecturer, IEEE Electron Devices Society and interacts closely with many semiconductor industries both in India and abroad.

Dr. Rao served as the Chairman, IEEE AP/ED Bombay Chapter and as a Vice-Chairman, IEEE Asia Pacific Regions/Chapters sub-committee for two terms. He was the first elected Chairman for the India section, American Nano Society during 2013-2015.



Ann Rosenberg

Senior Vice President, Sustainability Solutions, Wood plc

A Denmark native, but a global citizen based in Los Angeles, Ann has 25 years of experience in the corporate world working with sustainability and purpose. She was part of founding SDG Ambition with UN Global Compact and has dedicated her life to serving as a trailblazer for the UN SDGs.

She launched SDG Ambition at the WEF in Davos, which challenges and supports companies in being more strategic, and transformative in how they run their businesses to deliver on the 2030 Agenda and build on the ESG framework. SDG Ambition will challenge companies to set bolder goals aligned with their purpose, governance and strategy - and address barriers to speed and scale - with enterprise-wide integration that hardwires the SDGs into business management, business processes, and information technology landscapes. The first ambition launched was Business Ambition for 1.5 C. This ambition challenges companies to take bold action to redefine business models to limit the global temperature and mitigate climate change, which will require integration of new functionalities and datasets within the existing enterprise software for businesses to become sustainable enterprises. This includes carbon accounting across the value chain, carbon ledger approach, calculation of high-level carbon footprint, and more.

She also recently launched SAP Purpose Network Live to connect a community of changemakers committed to addressing the complexity caused by COVID-19. Attend upcoming virtual conversations to connect with likeminded individuals, exchange ideas and support the incredible initiatives presented by various organizations. Let's lay the foundation for a more sustainable future.



Arno De Vette

Chief Representative, FMO, Singapore

Arno de Vette is FMO's chief representative in the Dutch entrepreneurial development bank in Singapore. FMO is active in around 85 emerging markets investing in private sector with loans and equity products (direct and via funds).

His financial career started in 1989 in South America at DSB, a ABN subsidiary bank in Suriname as a credit manager before he crossed over in 1994 to ABN Amro as a CIO responsible for SMEs and corporate clients. Arno returned to the Netherlands with the Dutch bank in 2000, after three years working in management team of ABN AMRO in the Caribbean (Curacao). In Amsterdam he was a trainer at ABN AMRO Academy.

In 2002, Arno joined FMO as a senior investment officer to focus on Asia investments. He has accumulated nearly 20 years of experience since, working on direct and fund investments. Since 2011, Arno has been at FMO Private Equity department. He moved to Singapore in 2016 to oversee SBI-FMO Emerging Asia Financial Sector Fund. In 2019, Arno set up FMO's office in Singapore.

The Dutch national studied Economics at Erasmus University in Rotterdam. He moved in 1986 to Suriname in South America as a teacher of Economics before moving into the financial industry.



Rahul Shah

Head of Corporate Debt (Asia), CDC Group
 (UK's Development Finance Institution)

Rahul is the Head of Corporate Debt (Asia) at the CDC Group (UK's Development Finance Institution). Previously, he was Director with Standard Chartered Bank's Principal Finance team where he led mezzanine debt investments across corporates in India. Prior to that, he was a principal at Edelweiss' structured credit fund and J P Morgan's Principal Investments Group focusing on structured credit and distressed debt investments in India.

Rahul set-up CDC's debt team in India and stepped up debt investments across sectors such as financial services, healthcare, food & agriculture in Asia. Some of the notable investments led by him include CDC's first investment in Nepal, first direct debt investment in a Bangladesh bank, first green directed lending facility to an Indian NBFC, first pooled bond intermediated credit investment to MFIs, structured debt facility to the largest food company in Bangladesh, long-term debt to the largest eyecare chain in India, etc.



Mohak Goel

Family Office, Sheel Chand Agro

Mohak joined Sheel Chand Group in May 2015 as Management Trainee and later took over the position of Head- Purchase & Sales in the year 2016. He brought a tremendous amount of energy and new vision to the role and successfully led projects of varying complexity including those focused on cost reduction strategies, process improvements, and market expansion.

Before Joining Sheel Chand Group, he co-founded Tag Cellular Accessories Company in Burnaby.

He completed his graduation from Beedie School of Business, British Columbia, Canada, and specializes in Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Management Information System. During his academic course, he always remained 'A lister', actively participating in and represented his school in many competitive events/ levels.



Smita P Mishra

Founder and CEO, Fandoro
 (Sustainability Partner, IvyCap)

Smita Mishra is the founder of Fandoro Technologies, a SaaS startup & consulting firm that helps businesses become planet-positive through the adoption of the UN Sustainable Development Goals framework. They help enterprises build purpose-led businesses by identifying and managing their sustainability-related risks and opportunities. Smita is an experienced entrepreneur with a demonstrated history of working in the financial services, retail, banking, and utility industries. As a computer science engineer, Smita is skilled in data analytics and user experience. She's also adept in the areas of business risk mitigation for tech products as well as project/product/test management. Aside from also being an international speaker on technology and diversity in tech, Smita also engages with different forums to assist growth for women in her field.

Live Entertainment



Amit Tandon
Stand-up comedian

Amit Tandon is a blockbuster entertainer and a professional standup comedian who is known for his sharp observational comedy and hugely relatable anecdotes which connect with audiences of all ages.

An MBA and Engineer by qualification, Amit started comedy as a hobby. Comedy became serious business when he featured on Rising Stars of Comedy on NDTV and later "CEO's Got Talent", which aired on CNBC TV18.

His comedy has crossed boundaries and has become global with over 200 international shows across 25 countries including the USA, UK, Australia, Canada, Dubai, and Singapore. Overall, Amit has completed performing a mindboggling number of 1400 shows. His viral videos have crossed the sacred mark of a whopping 100 million views across social media platforms.