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Ambassador Anil Trigunayat

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- Incredible India is no longer a figment of philosophical ventures and imagination. Over the years it has emerged as the fastest growing major economy in the world with over 7% annual growth in GDP. In terms of PPP it has become the third largest economy. India's industrial prowess and intellectual enterprise have made the Indian work force a global good and a comparative advantage for the country. Moreover, India has always been a trading nation even if during the course of history due to foreign invasions and colonial rule its trading quest was contained. The spirit of Indian adventure continues apace.
- While India has surely emerged as a leader in the Information Technology and Communications we can forget the contribution of the Small and medium sector industries to the Indian growth story. It was estimated that over 45 million units employing over 100 million people and huge capital from the MSME Sector provide the requisite fuel and impetus to industrial and economic growth of the country. This sector continues to be nurtured and guided especially as they look for new opportunities abroad and chartering green field territories in trade and investment across the whole spectrum of manufacturing, services and agriculture sectors.
- Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched several salutary initiatives to make India a manufacturing hub through his "Make in India", "Start up India" and "Stand up India". Similarly, the "Digital India" aims to bridge the digital divide in the country and to really reap the benefits of a democratic and demographic dividend so that India stands tall as an economic and democratic giant in the comity of nations.
- We are striving to assist the Indian government and industry in their economic enterprise through the Millennial India International Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (MIICCIA) by identifying suitable opportunities in India and abroad and creating reliable networks so that a win-win relationship between the Indian and foreign businesses could prosper. Our motto is to Access, Adapt and Achieve. Let us join hands in this effort of nation building.

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LETTERS MATTER

COVER STORY WAS TOUCHY

Thanks for providing your combined August- September issue. It was once again refreshing and interesting. Cover story on Atal Bihari Bajpai was really touchy. From your issue I came to know that you are organizing some event in Delhi. Can I join your event. Is there any fees for it. Kindly revert on my mail I'd. I'm a professional IT expert. I want to do global consultancy. I hope your event must be the ideal platform for exploring new business avenues.

Y. R. Subba RAO
Hyderabad, Telangana

आपका कार्यक्रम लाजवाब था

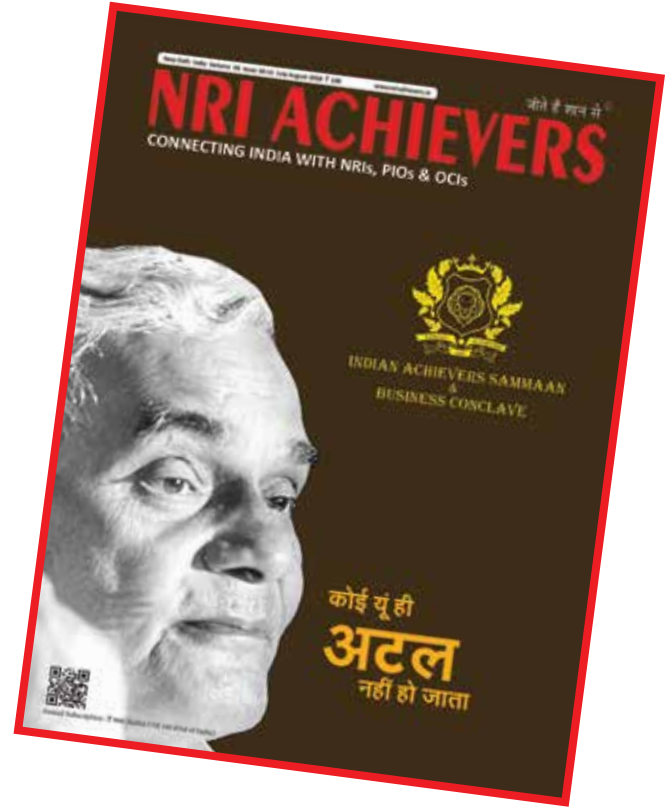
आपके कार्यक्रम में संयोग से पहुंची, क्योंकि कार्यक्रम के ठीक एक दिन पहले मेरी नजर दिल्ली के दिल क्वांट प्लेस में लगी डिसप्ले पर पड़ी. बहुत अच्छा लगा. मैं आपकी पत्रिका बहुत वर्षों से पढ़ रही हूँ. आपका होर्डिंग देखकर यह तो विश्वास हो गया कि आप सही जा रहे हैं. दो नवंबर को वापस अमेरिका चली आई हूँ. मेरा उद्देश्य आपके बिजनेस कॉन्क्लेव में शामिल हो कर व्यावसायिक अवसर को एक्सप्लोर करना था, इसमें काफी हद तक सफलता भी मिली. आपके कार्यक्रम में महत्वपूर्ण शिखिसयतें आईं तथा महत्वपूर्ण चर्चाएं हुईं. आपके कार्यक्रम की वजह से भारत की यह यात्रा काफी अच्छी रही.

सुनिधा कपूर
डलास, अमेरिका

SALUTE TO YOUR PASSION

I'm glad for attending your international event 'Indian Achievers Sammaan & Business Conclave 2018' in New Delhi on 29th October. I had gone through all the information about your earlier event which you organized in Bahrain in January this year. This is really an act of bravery for organizing such big events. How do you manage money. I think it requires lot of man power and funds. As this time it happened in the capital of India, I not only met important person of different associations and chambers but I also got the chance to meet so many NRIs, PIOs and OCIs at a single platform. As my business has global presents, I literally got new avenues and prospects to expand my business.

Dolly Karmakar
Mumbai, India



ARRANGE ME STUDENT VISA FOR NEW ZEALAND

Thanks for organizing such a usefull event and I am lucky that I got a chance to know more about their life, profession & etc. I always wish to study abroad and I met here one of the NRIs Mr. Krishnamurthy who is in the business of immigration and student visas gave me very very important guidance and advise regarding education visa. By the way how do you choose your awardees. Do you ask for nominations or you select them yourself. I have lots & lots of things to share & discuss with you & your key team members. I hope I will get enough attention. Thanks

Sachin Sabharwal
New Delhi, India

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Volume 07, Issue 03, December 2018

जीते हैं शान से

NRI ACHIEVERS
RNI No. DELBIL/2012/45826

INSIDE

COVER STORY



22

INDIAN ACHIEVERS SAMMAAN & BUSINESS CONCLAVE 2018

COVER STORY



18

ROLE OF INDIAN DIASPORA IN BUILDING A NEW INDIA

REALTY



52

INDIANS BECOMING UK'S BIGGEST INVESTORS IN REAL ESTATE

INDIAN WHISKEY BLOWS IN US

16

ITC TO ENTER BRANDED RICE SEGMENT

54

CINEPPETS

**KANGANA RANAUT
ATTACK ON HRITHIK
ROSHAN**

56



अब नहीं रुकना...

दरअसल, एनआरआई अचिवर्स ने अपनी यात्रा के इस माह छह साल पूरे किये। इस अवसर पर बीते २९ अक्टूबर को एनआरआई अचिवर्स की ओर से नई दिल्ली में इंडियन अचिवर्स सम्मान व बिजनेस कॉन्क्लेव का सफलता पूर्वक आयोजन किया गया। इस आयोजन का मुख्य उद्देश्य भी पूर्ववत ही रहा कि दुनिया भर में फैले अप्रवासी भारतीयों को एक दूसरे से संवाद का मंच उपलब्ध कराया जाए, उनको अपनी मिट्टी से जुड़े रहने के लिए अवसर उपलब्ध कराया जाए तथा भारत और भारतीयता को महसूस करते हुए भारतीयों के साथ मिल कर उद्योग-व्यापार-इनोवेशन के क्षेत्र में पूरी दुनिया में उल्लेखनीय योगदान दे सकें। हमें आपसे यह साझा करते हुए हर्ष की अनुभूति हो रही है कि हमने जिस उद्देश्य से इंडियन अचिवर्स सम्मान व बिजनेस कॉन्क्लेव का आयोजन किया था, उसमें पूरी सफलता भी मिली और इसका सारा श्रेय एनआरआई अचिवर्स के पाठकों, शुभचिंतकों, दुनिया भर में फैले अप्रवासी भारतीयों और भारत की बेहतरी सोचने वाले सभी शुभेच्छुओं को जाता है। इनके सहयोग व समर्थन के बगैर ऐसे आयोजन का हो पाना संभव ही न था।

छह साल की समयावधि में पत्रिका ने कई उतार-चढ़ाव देखे, कुछ उल्लेखनीय कार्य भी किये, इसी क्रम में बीते साल जनवरी में पत्रिका की पांचवीं वर्षगांठ के अवसर पर जब एनआरआई अचिवर्स के बैनल तले ५० से ज्यादा विशिष्ट लोगों का जत्था बहरीन की सरजमीं पर एकत्रित हुआ और वहां विश्व की १३ विमेन अचिवर्स को उनकी कामयाबियों के लिए सम्मानित किया गया तो वाकई मंजर काफी खुशनुमा हो गया था। इस खुशनुमा मंजर के दीदार के लिए हम लोगों ने कितने उतार-चढ़ाव देखे, कितने कष्ट झेले, कितनी यातनाएं सही, लेकिन विश्वास का झोला ज्यों का त्यों मजबूती से थामे रखा, समय कम था लेकिन जज्बा और करेज ऐसा था कि सिर्फ मंजिल दिख रही थी। देखते-देखते सब हो गया।

बीते महीने हमने इंडियन अचिवर्स सम्मान व बिजनेस कॉन्क्लेव का नई दिल्ली में स्थित होटल शेंगरिला में जो आयोजन किया, इसमें विश्व भर से सैकड़ों एनआरआई, पीआईओ और तमाम इंडियन डायस्पोरा के अलावा पूरे भारत से महत्वपूर्ण हस्तियों ने शिरकत की। ये सभी किसी न किसी क्षेत्र में अपनी अलग पहचान रखते हैं और हमारे आयोजन में शामिल होने का उनका मुख्य उद्देश्य आपसी व्यावसायिक संभावनाओं को टटोलते हुए अपने कारोबार को विस्तार देना था। इसमें कई ऐसे एनआरआईज शामिल हुए, जिन्होंने देश से हजारों मील की दूरी पर रहते हुए देश-दुनिया के कल्याण के लिए महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया। उनके बारे में इसी अंक में विस्तार से चर्चा की गई है।

बीरबी बैठके हुई, कई करार हुए। कई व्यावसायिक प्रस्तावों पर रजामंदी बनी, जो आने वाले समय में मूर्त रूप ले सकेंगे। इसके अतिरिक्त दुनिया भर से आए विभिन्न देशों के राजनीतिज्ञ, राजनयिक एकत्रित हुए, वर्तमान व समसामयिक मुद्दों पर विचार-मंथन हुआ और एनआरआईज के महत्वपूर्ण और जरूरी मुद्दों पर ठोस गोष्ठियां और परिचर्चाएं हुई। आमंत्रित मेहमानों ने अपने विचार रखे और भविष्य की रूपरेखा तय की गई। एनआरआई अचिवर्स ने बहरीन में ही यह घोषणा की थी कि इस तरह के आयोजन का सिलसिला जारी रहेगा, उस घोषणा की ही यह कड़ी थी। एनआरआई अचिवर्स का लगातार प्रयास रहेगा कि इस तरह के आयोजन प्रतिवर्ष किये जाते रहें। समारोह की सफलता ने हमें एक नई ऊर्जा से लबरेज किया है। हम वादा करते हैं कि एनआरआई अचिवर्स दुनिया के विभिन्न हिस्सों से अचिवर्स को ढूंढ कर सम्मानित करता रहेगा। अलग-अलग देशों में रह रहे भारतीयों के साथ द्विपक्षीय संवाद की संभावनाओं को बल दिया जाता रहेगा और एनआरआई अचिवर्स द्वारा जल्द ही एक ऐसा मंच तैयार किया जा रहा है, जिसके जरिये इंडियन डायस्पोरा को विभिन्न सेवाएं प्रदान की जाएंगी। जिसकी घोषणा हमारे इसी मंच से की गई है। बस, अब बढ़ते जाना है...

नव वर्ष २०१९ की आप सभी को हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ



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On the other hand, if the plan is to dole out platinum in small quantities to keep the valuation high (as it is done in the diamond industry), then how could asteroid companies compete with terrestrial mining companies that benefit from a mature, low-cost terrestrial supply chain and transportation network?

Mining asteroids might seem like the stuff of science fiction, but there are companies and a few governments already working hard to make it real. This should not be surprising: compared with the breathtaking bridges that engineers build on Earth, asteroid-mining is a simple, small-scale operation requiring only modest technological advances. If anything is lacking, it is the imagination to see how plausible it has become. I am afraid only that it might not arrive soon enough to address the urgent resource challenges that the world is facing right now.

As an academic researcher, I work with several asteroid-mining companies to address that urgency. I depend on their funding, so there are trade secrets I cannot share. However, I can reveal the core reasons why I am optimistic about the business case for asteroid-mining, and what it will mean for our future.

Many people are skeptical of asteroid-mining because they imagine that the goal is to bring platinum back for sale in Earth's metals market. Reporters repeatedly cite an irresistible statistic that the platinum in an asteroid can be worth trillions of US dollars, but anyone with an understanding of economics realises that bringing home a huge stash of precious metal would crash the market, reducing the valuation of the asteroid.

On the other hand, if the plan is to dole out platinum in small quantities to keep the valuation high (as it is done in the diamond industry), then how could asteroid companies compete with terrestrial mining companies that benefit from a mature, low-cost terrestrial supply chain and transportation network?

This is exactly why platinum is not the objective of asteroid-mining. Instead, the first product from asteroids will be something much less obviously precious: water.

To rocket scientists, water is the raw material for propellant. Launching water from Earth into space consumes a lot of propellant, which makes the whole concept self-defeating. Fortunately, water is abundant in space, where it is much easier to move around. Water can be readily extracted from clay minerals in a common class of small bodies known as carbonaceous asteroids. Once separated from the minerals, the

water can then be split by electricity (a process called electrolysis) into hydrogen and oxygen to make rocket propellant – the key ingredients of rocket fuel.

Using rocket propellant produced in space will reduce the cost of doing everything else in space, initiating a virtuous cycle for the off-Earth supply chain and transportation network. Before that can happen, though, we must find the customers who can get the whole process started.

Who will buy rocket fuel made from asteroid water? One concept is to sell it to telecommunications companies for boosting satellites into orbit. A decade ago, most satellites were launched with a small upper-stage rocket attached. The rocket initially lofts the satellite into geostationary transfer orbit, a highly elliptical orbit having perigee (the low point) just a few hundred kilometres above the Earth's surface, and apogee (the high point) about 36,000 kilometres higher. The spacecraft coasts to apogee, where the rocket fires and circularises the orbit so that the satellite can begin selling data to customers. The cost of the disposable upper-stage rocket is very high, however.

Today, most satellite owners place a lightweight electric thruster on the spacecraft instead. Such thrusters are cheaper and more efficient, but very weak. It takes six to 12 months for satellites to reach final orbit. Time is money, so this delay still costs the satellite-owners hundreds of millions of dollars in lost revenues.

Asteroid-mining will provide a third option. A mining company will sell water to an in-space transportation company, which will use it to refuel a space tug parked in Earth orbit. The tug will dock with the newly launched satellite in geostationary transfer orbit, and boost it to the final orbit quickly, within a day.

According to our calculations, the total cost for this service, including capital recovery, finance charges, insurance and profit for all parties, will be less than the lost revenues of the current method, so that means there is a business case. The only concern is whether there are enough early customers to get the service established.



RAJIV RANJAN MISHRA GETS ADDITIONAL CHARGE AS CMD OF MCL



Rajiv R. Mishra, has taken over the additional charge of Chairman cum Managing Director, Mahanadi Coal Fields Limited (MCL) from 24th September 2018. Currently he is serving as the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL) Holding a Master Degree in Geology and Post Graduate Diploma in Personnel Management & Industrial Relations, Shri Mishra began his career with CMPDIL over three decades ago.

R MADHAVAN TAKES OVER AS CMD OF HAL



R. Madhavan took over as Chairman and Managing Director of defence PSU Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) from T. Suvarna Raju here recently. Prior to this, he was heading the Accessories Division of HAL at Lucknow as an Executive Director. "Maintaining the numero uno position of HAL in aerospace industry while delivering worldclass products and services through increased indigenisation would be my key focus areas," Madhavan said in a company statement here.

PK RATH ASSUMES CHARGE AS CHAIRMAN-CUM-MANAGING DIRECTOR OF RINL



Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited Director (Operations) Pradosh Kumar Rath assumed the office of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the 'navratna' company here recently. After taking over, Mr. Rath said RINL-Visakhapatnam Steel Plant was well known for its commendable work and team spirit of its employees. He exhorted the employees to continue to work with commitment to overcome the challenges and take RINL to greater heights.

ANIL KUMAR CHAUDHARY NEW SAIL CHAIRMAN



Anil Kumar Chaudhary has been appointed as the new chairman of the Steel Authority of India (SAIL), a government order said. Chaudhary, at present, has been serving as the Director (Finance) in the country's largest steel making company. The post of SAIL chairman fell vacant on June 30 with the retirement of P. K. Singh.

P J VIJAYAKAR ASSUMES CHARGE AS CVO , RINL



PJ Vijayakar, IFS has assumed charge of Chief Vigilance Officer of RINL on 20th Sep 2018. Shri Vijayakar belongs to 1993 Batch of IFS officers of Assam & Meghalaya Cadre. Earlier he was Chief Vigilance Officer for The Hindustan Shipyard Limited. Shri Vijayakar also holds additional charge as CVO-Hindustan Shipyard Limited.

PRASHANT KUMAR TAKES CHARGE AS CFO OF SBI



Prashant Kumar has taken charge as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of State Bank of India (SBI). Prior to this Kumar was designated as DMD (HR) & CDO of the bank. He has also worked as Chief General Manager, Kolkata circle and General Manager in Mumbai Circle.


N P DIWAKAR ASSUMES CHARGE AS DIRECTOR, BDL



N P Diwakar, assumed charge as Director (Technical) of Bharat Dynamics Limited. He is a Mechanical Engineer from Osmania University and holds a rich experience, spanning over 28 years in various areas of Missile Production. Prior to this Shri Diwakar has served as Executive Director in Bhanur Unit of BDL where he played a key role in establishing standards set for the production of Konkurs – M & Invar Anti -Tank Guided Missiles and Unified Launchers ensuring safe operations with an objective of reaching set targets. He has also established Astra Missile Production facilities. Earlier, he has worked as Head of Akash and Prithvi Divisions of BDL.

SRIDHAR PATRA GIVEN CHARGE AS DIRECTOR (FINANCE) OF NALCO



Sridhar Patra, has taken over the charge of Director (Finance) of National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), the Navratna PSU under Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India, today, at the company's corporate office in Bhubaneswar. Dr. Tapan Kumar Chand, CMD, NALCO congratulated and welcomed Shri Patra to the Board of NALCO and expressed the hope that his rich experience in various sectors, including mining, would strengthen Team NALCO and help the Company soar to greater heights of glory. 

NRI Achievers Desk



DONALD TRUMP NOMINATES INDIAN-AMERICAN LAW PROFESSOR TO AGENCY ON PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

Aditya Bamzai, a professor at University of Virginia's School of Law, has been nominated by Trump to be a member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board for the remainder of a six-year term expiring January, 29, 2020. The agency works to ensure that efforts by the executive branch of the government to protect the nation from terrorism are balanced with the need to protect privacy and civil liberties. He joined University of Virginia School of Law's faculty as an associate professor in June 2016. Bamzai has argued cases relating to the separation of powers and national security in the U.S. Supreme Court, Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court of Review, D.C. Circuit and other federal courts of appeals. He is a graduate of Yale University and of the University of Chicago Law School, where he was the editor-in-chief of the law review. Before entering the academy, Bamzai served as an attorney-adviser in the Office of Legal Counsel of the U.S. Department of Justice and as an appellate attorney in both private practice and for the National Security Division of the Department of Justice. Earlier in his career, he was a law clerk to Justice Antonin Scalia of the U.S. Supreme Court and to Judge Jeffrey Sutton of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Amika George, an 18-year-old Indian-origin teen from the United Kingdom, became a recipient of the Goalkeepers Global Goals Award on 25 September, for her 2017 campaign that demanded free sanitary products for poor girls in schools. Popularly referred to as the Oscars for social progress, George won a Campaign Award for her initiative which started off as an online petition and culminated into a protest on Downing Street in December 2017. Following this youth-led campaign, the UK government granted 1.5 million pounds to end 'period poverty' — the factor that has prevented many girls from low-income households from attending school while on their period.

"One in 10 girls in the UK can't afford sanitary napkins, shows a study by Plan International... Girls were using newspapers, socks," she said. It was only after she saw a news report about how girls missed school because they could not buy sanitary pads that she decided to start her campaign. Nearly 2000 protesters, including Amika's own grandfather, took to Downing Street to support the #FreePeriods initiative. George has also spoken about how menstruation is a taboo subject in every country, and that women are 'punished' for bleeding. While she has lived in the UK all her life, her grandparents moved here from Kerala.

Goalkeepers was started by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2017 to track the progress of the United Nations Sustainable Developmental Goals programme. It honours individuals in three categories. In 2018, the Changemaker Award was given to Nadia Murud, the UN Goodwill Ambassador for the Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking, while the Progress Award was bagged by Dysmus Kisilu.




INDIAN-ORIGIN TEEN WINS SOCIAL PROGRESS 'OSCAR'

INDIAN-AMERICAN RESEARCHER AWARDED \$6.5MN TO IDENTIFY CANCER BIOMARKERS

Arul Chinnaiyan, 48-year-old Indian-origin professor, from the University of Michigan has given the “Outstanding Investigator Award” and \$6.5 million in funding over seven years by US National Cancer Institute, to identify cancer biomarkers to improve diagnosis and develop new targeted therapies. “The field of precision oncology continues to evolve with the overarching goal of providing cancer patients with enhanced diagnostic and prognostic capabilities and better treatments,” Chinnaiyan, said in a statement. “This grant will help us identify new biomarkers and understand their biological roles in cancer progression,” he added. A pioneer in precision oncology, Chinnaiyan in 2010, launched the Michigan Oncology Sequencing (Mi-ONCOSEQ) programme. Mi-ONCOSEQ is a research protocol for sequencing the DNA and RNA of metastatic cancers and normal tissue to identify alterations that could help drive treatment. The programme includes a precision medicine tumour board in which experts discuss each case. Chinnaiyan’s lab has also analysed the global landscape of a portion of the genome that has not been previously well-explored — long non-coding RNAs (lncRNAs). Earlier, considered as the dark matter, new evidence suggests that lncRNAs may play a role in cancer and that understanding them better could lead to new potential targets for improving cancer diagnosis, prognosis or treatment. Chinnaiyan’s lab has also identified and explored several lncRNAs that could be promising targets for future therapy. “We want to further characterise the dark matter of the genome. Some of these lncRNAs will certainly be very useful as cancer biomarkers and we think a subset are important in biological processes,” Chinnaiyan noted. “We hope to make it commonplace for patients to have a molecular blueprint of their tumour to guide treatment choices.”



71ST ANNIVERSARY OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATED IN EMBASSY OF INDIA IN COPENHAGEN

The Embassy of India in Copenhagen celebrated the 71st Anniversary of India's Independence on at the Embassy, located at Vanghusvej 15, 2100 Copenhagen. A large number of Indians, Indian origin and Danes gathered to celebrate. Ajit Gupte, Ambassador of India unfurled the National Flag, followed by singing of the National Anthem and reading of the Address of the Hon'ble President of India to the Nation. A small Bharat Natyam/Kathak fusion dance was performed by local Indian community. Light refreshments was served. 

NRI Achievers Bureau

INDIAN WHISKEY BLOWS IN US

Originally from a small town Rampur, in Uttar Pradesh, the whisky was catering for Indians and its neighboring liquor clientele. This fast growing premium liquor importer has set its sights on being an international exporter and distributor of all kinds of liquor in the US and other parts of the globe.





The whiskey of Rampur in Uttar Pradesh is now becoming the choice of the American people. SG Worldwide Inc, the importers of Rampur Indian Single Malt Whiskey was established after gaining much experience in the liquor industry. Based in Edison, SG Worldwide imports wine and spirits from India. Originally from a small town Rampur, in Uttar Pradesh, India, the whisky was catering for Indians and its neighboring liquor clientele, this fast growing premium liquor importer has set its sights on being an international exporter and distributor of all kinds of liquor in the US and other parts of the globe. The products are produced at Radico in India, the seventh biggest distillery in the world, and then are distributed to more than 60 countries.

The company boasts of its various national and international distributors and branches. Recently, the company has announced that Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits (Southern Glazer's), North America's largest distributor of wines and spirits, has become their distribution partner in 20 States in addition to 25 States that SG Worldwide already conducts business in the US.

The company aims that before the end of 2019, its products will be distributed in over 45 states in the US

along with Alaska/Hawaii. According to Bobby Garg, President and CEO of SG Worldwide Inc., "World whiskies are still in a nascent stage, but there's some healthy competition as more brands are introduced....we are excited to see Rampur Indian Single Malt Whiskey grow in the United States. The powerful outreach that Southern Glazer's has in their markets will help elevate Indian brand and bring brand awareness. We are proud of the product!"; also adding that "It has been a great start getting Rampur Whiskey distribution in the U.S., but having Southern Glazer's as our distributor in key states will definitely increase sales and brand awareness". The company has a credible presence with premium outlets like Costco and Total Wine and plans to launch new Rampur expressions in the future.

"Though there has been great, traditional whisky producers offering fantastic products for decades, it's only in the last few years that the rest of the world took notice of these brands," the CEO says, adding that emerging brands such as Rampur are challenging the long dominance of Scotch, Bourbon, and Canadian whiskies on the U.S. market. "This is true globalization!"

NRI Achievers US Bureau

Curtain Raiser: 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

ROLE OF INDIAN DIASPORA IN BUILDING A NEW INDIA

Unlike all earlier PBDs which were used to be celebrated from 7 to 9 January every time, next years' 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is going to be celebrated from 21-23 January, 2019 at Varanasi.

It is worth noting that the convention has ever since its inception been organized on January 9, the day marking return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa in 1915. However, this time the convention is being organized from Jan 21-23 keeping in view the sentiments of the larger diaspora community to participate in Kumbh Mela and Republic Day celebrations. After the Convention, participants would be given opportunity to visit Prayagraj for Kumbh Mela on 24th January, 2019 and witness the Republic Day Parade in New Delhi on 26th January 2019.

Online registrations for participation in this biennial have been on since Sept 15 when the Minister of External Affairs Smt. Sushma Swaraj and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath launched the commencement of online registration for participation in the event. Registration will be closed at the end of this month. The Government of Uttar Pradesh is the Partner State for the Convention, this time.

On 21st January, 2019, the inauguration of the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in partnership with Ministry of Youth affairs and Sports. Government of Uttar Pradesh will also organize the State PBD - 2019 on 21st January, 2019. On 22nd January, 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention. On 23rd January, 2019, the Valedictory Address will be delivered and Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards will be conferred by the President Ram Nath Kovind.

Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius, has been invited as the Chief Guest of the Convention. Mr. Himanshu Gulati, Member of Parliament of Norway, will be the Special Guest and Mr. Kanwaljit Singh Bakshi, Member of Parliament of New Zealand will be the Guest of Honor at the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on 21st January, 2019.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention is the flagship event of the Government and provides an important platform to engage and connect with the overseas Diaspora. The theme of PBD 2019 is "Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India." International monthly publication 'NRI Achievers' is the official Media Partner of this Diaspora based convention. It's worth mentioning here that this publication has been regular Media Partner of PBD since 2015.

History

The decision to celebrate Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was taken in accordance with recommendations of the High Level Committee (HLC) on the Indian Diaspora set up by the Government of India under the chairmanship of L. M. Singhvi. The then Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, after receiving the report of the Committee at a public function at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi on 8 January 2002, announced the "Pravasi Bharatiya Divas"(PBD) on 9 January that year. The day was chosen to mark the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India in 1915.

The occasion is marked by special programs to recognize the contributions of NRI/PIO individuals of exceptional merit, felicitate NRI/PIO individuals who have made exceptional contributions in their chosen field/profession (Pravasi Bharatiya Samman) and provide a forum to discuss issues and concerns of people of the diaspora. The event sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has been or-



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ganized every year from 2003 to 2015. However, the programme was made a biennial event in 2016 just before organizing the event. Initially the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industries (FICCI), the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and a few ministries of the Government of India used to be co-sponsors of the event.

After organizing the convention in New Delhi for two consecutive years, the event that seeks to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots was taken to other cities in the country. The third convention in 2005 was held at Mumbai while in 2006, Hyderabad became the host for the event. The concept of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) was launched during the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention at Hyderabad. It again returned to New Delhi for consecutive two years – 2007 & 2008. However, in 2009 Chennai was the venue of the event.

The 8th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas took place on 7–9 January 2010 in New Delhi and was webcast live at the official Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs website. Next year again, the event was organized in New Delhi. Tenth Pravasi Bhartiya Divas was held from 7–9 January 2012. The venue was Jaipur, Rajasthan. Chief Guest of this event was the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Ms Kamla Persad-Bissessar.

In 2013, 11th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was held in Kochi from 7–9 January, where the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (ICCC) was the organizing partner of the summit. The President of Mauritius, Rajkeswur Purryag, was the chief guest at the official inaugural session. Canadian Minister Jason Kenney became the first individual of non-Indian heritage to address the gathering.

The 12th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was held during 7–9 January 2014 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. The Theme for this year was Engaging Diaspora: Connecting Across Generations. It was at-

tended by 1,500 delegates from 51 countries. The 13th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was held during 7–9 January 2015 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The Theme for this year was "Apna Bharat, Apna Gaurav". Chief Guest was Donald Ramtar, President of Republic of Guyana.

The 14th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was held during 7–9 January 2017 at Bengaluru, Karnataka. The theme for this year was "Redefining engagement with the Indian diaspora".

Importance

With passage of time, the event has grown in importance. It is clear from the fact that as a run up to PBD 2019, Ministry of External Affairs organized seven PBD Conferences (Panel Discussions) in New Delhi in 2017 & 2018 on issues important to the Indian Diaspora. Domain experts from the Diaspora, stakeholders and policy makers based in India and foreign countries were invited for day-long deliberations on various topics. Their recommendations are submitted to the concerned Ministries & Departments in the Government of India for consideration in policy formulation. At the 15th PBD Convention in January 2019, Action taken on the recommendation will be presented to PBD delegates for their suggestions and comments.

Partner State: Uttar Pradesh


Uttar Pradesh is a state situated in the north-central part of the Republic of India. Uttar Pradesh (abbreviated as UP) is the fourth largest state economy of India as also the most populous state with 16.17% of the country's population. It is surrounded by Bihar in the East, Madhya Pradesh in the South, Rajasthan, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana in the west and shares an international boundary with Nepal. Uttar Pradesh has been the cradle of civilization and culture, as it has ancient cities and places on the banks of the Ganges and the Yamuna – two major rivers of the north central India. It is home to most of the cultural and tourist attractions in the country.



Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award

The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) is the highest honour conferred on overseas Indians. PBSA is conferred

by the President of India as a part of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Conventions organized since 2003 on a Non-Resident Indian, Person of Indian Origin or an organization or

institution established and run by the Non-Resident Indians or Persons of Indian Origin, having made significant contribution. 



Here is the list of the recipients of last Pravasi Bharatiya Samman-2017:

S.No.	Name	Country	Field
1.	Dr. Gorur Krishna Harinath	Australia	Community Service
2.	Mr. Rajasekharan Pillai Valavoor Kizhakkathil	Bahrain	Business
3.	Antwerp Indian Association	Belgium	Community Service
4.	Mr. Nazeer Ahamed Mohamed Zackiriah	Brunei	Community Service
5.	Mr. Mukund Bhikhubhai Purohit	Canada	Business
6	Mr. Nalinkumar Sumanlal Kothari	Djibouti	Community Service
7.	Mr. Vinod Chandra Patel	Fiji	Social Service
8.	Mr. Raghunath Marie Antonin Manet	France	Arts & Culture

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S.No.	Name	Country	Field
9.	Dr. Lael Anson E. Best	Israel	Medical Science
10.	Dr. Sandip Kumar Tagore	Japan	Arts & Culture
11.	Mr. Ariful Islam	Libya	Community Service
12 .	Tan Sri Dato Dr. Muniandy Thambiraja	Malaysia	Education and
13 .	Hon'ble Mr. Pravind Kumar Jugnauth	Mauritius	Public Service
14 .	H.E. Mr. Antonio Luis Santos da Costa	Portugal	Public Service
15 .	Dr. Raghavan Seetharaman	Qatar	Business Management
16 .	Ms. Zeenat Musarrat Jafri	Saudi Arabia	Education
17.	Singapore Indian Association	Singapore	Community Service
18.	Dr. Carani Balaraman Sanjeevi	Sweden	Medicine
19 .	Mr. Susheel Kumar Saraff	Thailand	Business
20.	Mr. Winston Chandarbhan Dookeran	Trinidad & Tobago	Public Service
21.	Mr. Vasudev Shamdas Shroff	UAE	Community Service
22 .	India Social and Cultural Centre, Abu Dhabi	UAE	Philanthropy and Community Service
23 .	Rt. Hon'ble Ms. Priti Patel	UK	Public Service
24 .	Ms. Neena Gill	UK	Public Service
25 .	Mr. Hari Babu Bindal	USA	Environmental Engineering
26 .	Dr. Bharat Haridas Barai	USA	Community Service
27 .	Ms. Nisha Desai Biswal	USA	Public Affairs
28 .	Dr. Mahesh Mehta	USA	Community Service
29 .	Mr. Ramesh Shah	USA	Community Service
30.	Dr. Sampatkumar Shidramapa Shivangi	USA	Community Leadership

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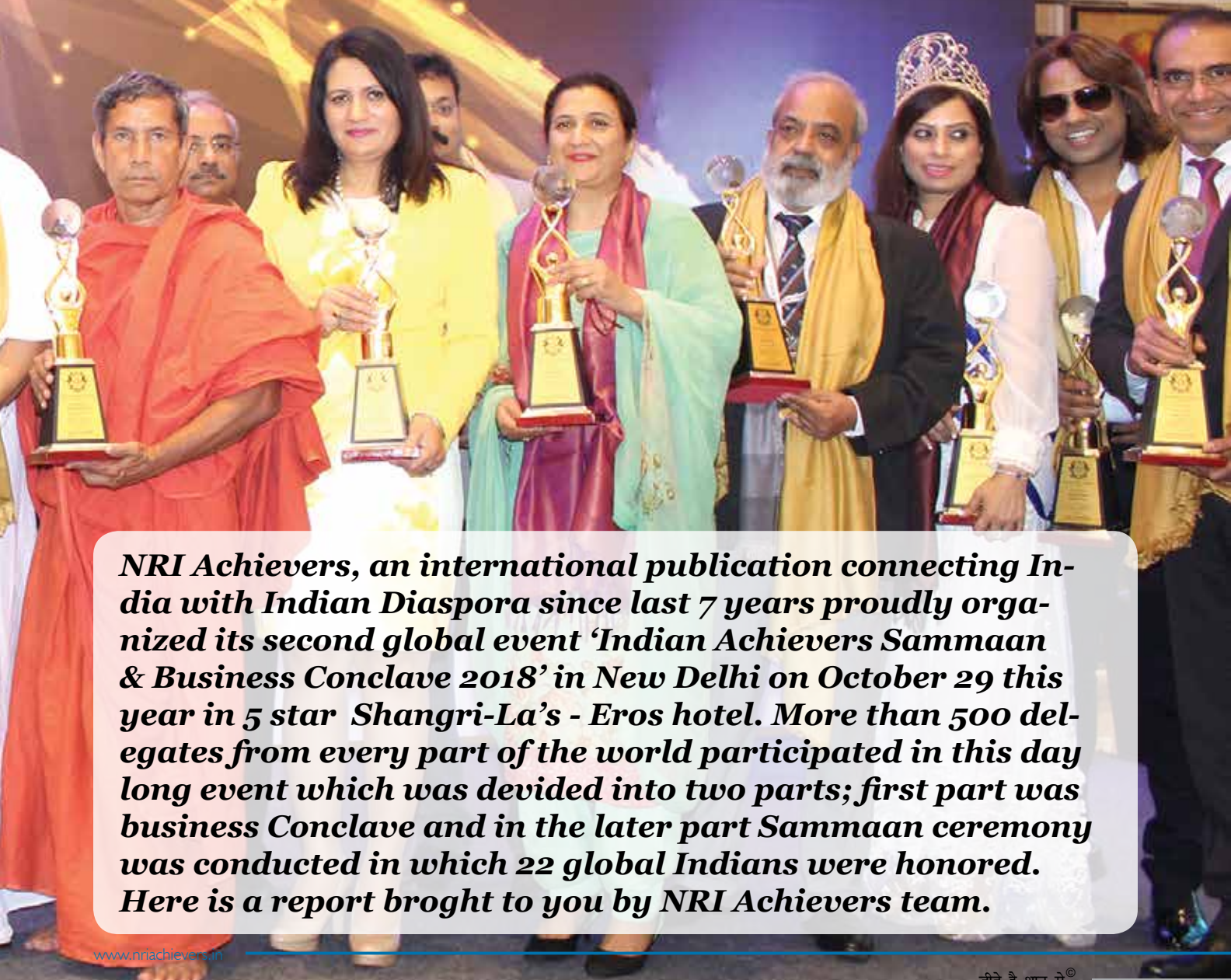
CONNECTING INDIA WITH NRIs, PIOs & OCIs

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SAMMAAN & BUSINESS CONCLAVE 2018



NRI Achievers, an international publication connecting India with Indian Diaspora since last 7 years proudly organized its second global event 'Indian Achievers Sammaan & Business Conclave 2018' in New Delhi on October 29 this year in 5 star Shangri-La's - Eros hotel. More than 500 delegates from every part of the world participated in this day long event which was divided into two parts; first part was business Conclave and in the later part Sammaan ceremony was conducted in which 22 global Indians were honored. Here is a report brought to you by NRI Achievers team.

The overseas Indians are increasingly being recognized as a valuable asset for India as a bridge of understanding between India and the country of their Domicile. Embodying this principle, the NRI Achievers organized the Indian Achievers Sammaan and Business Conclave at five star hotel Shangri-la in the Indian capital New Delhi on 29th October, 2018. The Indian diaspora is present all over five continents. And, it is continuously growing in different parts of the world; according to a report of Indian External Affairs ministry, 4.5 lakh Indian nationals acquired citizenship of different countries in past four years. In spite of their reasons for migrating to other countries and successfully adjusting in their new societies, people of Indian origin love their original country, people and the culture. Fortunately, the Indian migrants have proven themselves to be amongst the top performers in all fields across the globe and their recognition amongst other global communities has bolstered their confidence as global citizens. However, their bond with India remains inalienable and they continue to carry their identities like that. Deep down their hearts, they yearn to attain recognition and love from the people in India. It reassures them of their roots and the bond with the people back in India.

There was always this need for a bridge between the Diaspora and the motherland. For long, it remained an ignored issue as the system in India never reflected positively towards the migrants. On the other hand, those choosing to settle in a country other than India initially didn't care much about their roots, people and the culture. However, with the passage of time both sides started to feel the need and started taking initiatives in a positive direction despite systemic lacunae and laxities. Serious attempts in this direction started only in last decade, both at official and unofficial levels. An attempt to create a strong communica-

tion bridge was initiated some six years ago with the start of publication of NRI Achievers. Editor of the magazine, Rajeev Gupta says at the onset of the venture it had been decided to make sure that besides connecting with the Indian diaspora through the magazine, they shall arrange to honour NRIs and POIs as well as achievers from India for their outstanding achievements.

The event was conducted mainly to serve the dual objectives – Celebrating the distinguished Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Persons of Indian origin (PIOs) as well as Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs), who have contributed significantly in the field of industry-business-innovation globally and conducting a Business Conclave, the purpose of which was to provide the biggest platform for global Business Opportunities. No Wonder, during the Conclave, companies from across the world came up with various business offers. Of the

world's top companies 43 were present at the high commissioning ceremony. Several Companies from different sectors such as aviation, real estate, yoga, healthcare, educations, immigration, FMCG, service industry, manufacturing, etc. participated in the Business Conclave. Experts from all around the world shared their invaluable thoughts, experiences and prospective opportunities to indulge into new ventures. There were discussions on International Money Investment, several MOUs were signed and all this paving the way for many other treaties. Then there was also a practical delegation from several countries. The event was successful in generating the message of compliment to the Overseas Indians that they are the vital source for the promotion of India's bilateral understanding with countries of their domicile.

Several delegates comprising Indian influencers, businessmen, NRIs, PIOs



& OCIs gathered to cheer the honoured members of the Diaspora community. The invocation and the inaugural session was followed by presentation of 'Indian Achievers Samman' given to 22 eminent members of the Diaspora drawn from different countries. Indian dignitaries such as Vijay Goel, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Statistics & Programme Implementation, Rajya Sabha MP Dr. Sasikalapushpa Ramaswamy, Lok Sabha BJP MP Udit Raj, industrialist Sanjay Sinha, Spiritual Leader Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni, besides other important dignitaries were gathered to honor those very arduous and talented personalities. On 29th October, it was 'Dream come true day' of the winter season. The winter season began to be felt on the national capital of New Delhi, but there was heat in the atmosphere of Shangri-la, there was glee, on the face of those coming to participate in a ceremony origin. The event

started with a customary 'Ganesh Vandana' and for obvious reason there was a lot of joy in the face of native Indian who were present there.

This was evident from the list of awardees that included several celebrities who performed outstanding work in different regions both within & outside India were honored with Indian achievers Sammaan. Dr. Ruby Dhalla from Canada, Dr. Parmjeet Parmar from New Zealand, Dr. Anil Mehta from Holland, Ishwar Ramlutchman from South Africa, Dr. (prof.) Nabhit Kapoor, Dr. Sunil Kumar from Jordan, Kalpana Saroj, Ira Singhal, Daljeet Kumar, Rajesh Ram Satija, G.S Rawat, H.R Shah, C.B Sanjeev, Dheeraj Kadodiya, Sarita Patnaik and from Mauritius Sarita Boodhoo.

Addressing his inaugural function, Indian MP Udit Raj said, "the identity of India and Indianans is not only within the geographical boundaries

of India, but with the spirit of Indians, vitality and their notion of Vasudev Kutumbakam, they are in the spirit. Wherever they went in the Indian world, they went about their tradition, culture and nationality and there they established the identity of India. A name that has become very popular in the world due to this very fact is "Indian Diaspora" is not associated with any other country in the world. It fills every Indian with pride". The Indian Member of Parliament further says that "today we are now resident of the global village. Tradition, Rituals have also expanded in the profession. Now it is necessary that the Indian youth, along with their immigrant brothers, benefit the world with their talent". He appealed to the NRIs to contribute to nourishing of the Indian talent, saying "Just as the whole world regards Indians as top notch in the IT Sector there are a lot of other areas where the talent of the Indians needs to be raised". Simultaneously, MP Udit Raj also appealed to the NRIs to establish business in India and contribute to the development of the social sectors of India.

Speaking at the event, His Holiness Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni said that, "India has always been giving the message of brotherhood and peace which most essential and stressed on national unity and appealed to all to contribute to their homeland in every possible way".

After the inaugural speech, the famous Odissi dancer of foreign origin, Sharon Lowen presented a dazzling dance; she gave a new kind of experience to the guests with her lovely dance that had a glimpse of deep Indian culture.

Addressing the function, former Canadian MP Dr. Ruby Dhalla talked about the Canadian government's immigration policy. Talking about the continuous expansion of Indian values in Canada, she advocated the elimination of borders for eligible immigrants around the world. Ms. Shalini Bhargava also shared her personal experience in her address how she married an NRI and how did her marriage fail. She also discussed the ever changing social



22 Indian Achievers Honored from all across the world





COVER STORY





Pics: Rajeev Tyagi



values and highlighted how her company is helping people with social issues.

Mahendra Singh Jadeja remembered his dynasty and strong roots in India and talked about his former contributions to Britain and India. He talked about the business of homeopathic medicines and his venture of low-cost airlines which will meet the passenger needs of small towns. Former New Zealand lawmaker, Dr. Parmjeet Parmar talked about the problems of small businesses in New Zealand and India, she wants more and more people to come to New Zealand as a tourist. She stressed the need for direct flight between New Zealand—India and the people of both countries, so that the time of travel will be reduced and this will increase the closeness of the two countries.

Under the business conclave, Sweden's council of ministers, Gautam Bhattacharya highlighted the contributions made by the Indian community to reach the zenith in IT industry of the very less populated country of Sweden. He also discussed about the importance of English in Europe and especially the Nordic countries. He said that the human values and rights in Sweden are in the top priority of the government, they come to attend the conclave, appealing people to settle with the business community in Sweden and expand the business. They assured all possible assistance from the Swedish embassy.

IFS Anil Trigunayap conducted the business conclave, guest speakers greatly influenced people with their important statements and all highlighted the importance of the area related to their expertise and the opportunities in it. Business drafts were discussed between companies outside India and India, an agreement between two companies was also carried out and many other companies had all the formalities done before they would sign the agreement.

Finally, the business conclave concluded with the speech by MP B. Ramaswamy. Calling the migrant Indians to return home, he said that, “Bharat Mata is spreading arms for her sons”; they will collaborate with other Indian

brothers and present some new and exemplary work in the world”. He further commented that the present BJP- led NDA government has introduced a number of schemes for NRIs and they can contact them directly if they face any kind of problem in the country.

Indian Achievers Sammaan is an incredible honorary ceremony, applauding the achievements of the Diaspora community, who have contributed magnificently in various disciplines and have earned distinguished achievements for their country. The event was possible and successful due to the strenuous efforts of the NRI Achievers magazine and its owner. Importantly, the NRI Achievers magazine, a flagship publication connecting India with Indian Diaspora and the main organizer of the event completed 7 years of its publication. One has to acknowledge that such awards symbolize India's recognition of the phenomenal contribution of the Diaspora to the global community and its pride in its children's accomplishments. These achievements had not come easy but had been earned through centuries of hard work and struggle since the time when thousands of Indians were forced to travel to distant lands as indentured labour to serve the colonial goals of an imperialist power. Apart from PIOs, the contribution of NRIs, particularly those who had made a mark as professionals and businessmen, is certainly notice-


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able and commendable. Such events serve a long purpose in strengthening the Diaspora engagement and provide such a platform in which India can be shown as an emerging power.

According to the Editor of the magazine NRI Achievers, Rajeev Gupta, “we have also taken an initiative to celebrate such Achievers feat as “Indian Achievers Day” on October 29, annually all around the world. And we wish that every Indian get involved in it with their heart & soul”. Importantly, the event is a kind of personal initiatives while complimenting the Indian government in promoting NRI activities in the Indian context, more importantly the event was conducted without any help from the government bodies. Though, one has to acknowledge that with advent of the Indian PM Modi led NDA government, it has been successful in bringing about radical shift in the policy of the government of India. They have quickened the pace of the reforms and speeded up the move towards integration with the process of globalization. But at the same time the importance of such events speaks volumes of the effort and the commitment. It is notable that this was the first non-governmental effort in India in which Indians were called by invitation from various corners of the world and provided an atmosphere of establishing new business dimensions in India and with Indians. As this magazine's aim is to create a bridge between India and the Indian Diaspora, NRI Achievers has started this mission functioning in this direction and has got success in it too.

In the words of Rajeev Gupta, “The Indian Achievers Sammaan 2018 felicitates the achievements of exceptional role models from diverse fields who have succeeded against mighty odds. These pioneers have broken the glass ceiling for the new generation by setting an example with their hard work, perseverance and innovation. We feel proud to recognize and honor such empowered achievers contributing in the making of the nation... There's nothing greater in the world than when somebody of the



team does something good, and everybody gathers around to pat him on the back. NRI Achievers has in these years strived to get these performers and achievers from all over the nation and globally, on a single platform and have appreciated and recognized the smallest of deed done, with the noblest of cause. These gems of the nation have to be found and appreciated in abundance as they are the ones who make our nation proud and lead the country to success. However serious attempts in this direction started only in last decade, both at official and unofficial levels. An attempt to create a strong communication bridge was initiated some seven years ago with the start of publication of NRI Achievers. It had been decided to make sure that besides connecting with the Indian Diaspora through the magazine, they shall arrange to honour NRIs and POIs as well as Indians for their outstanding achievements. However, connecting with the Diaspora spread in five continents and bringing them on a single platform in some part of the world is something which requires a lot of commitment, propriety of the purpose and hard work”. According to Smit Singh, director of NRI Achievers, “this is the first year of the Indian achievers award and business conclave, but this is just the beginning of a journey”.

Earlier in January, 2018 the same or-

ganization with the help of the GOPIO (Global Organization of Persons of Indian Origin) had hold its international convention. That convention was held at the Gulf Hotel Bahrain Convention & Spa, the NRI Achievers successfully organized Indian Women Achievers Sammaan Samaroh 2017. Finally, if one recognizes 9th January – the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas, which is organized by the Indian Government commemorating the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa in 1915, perhaps 29th October will also be recognized first non-governmental effort in India, which conceives as a platform for forging a strong network of Indian Diaspora across the globe.

Sushil Tayal, Philanthropist & Chartered Accountant by profession & well known MC Pratika Sood were the Masters of Ceremony.

Vijay Goel was the Chief Guest of the Sammaan Samaroh. Speaking on the occasion Vijay Goel said, ‘I’m really surprised to know that NRI Achievers magazine is doing such a wonderful work by connecting Indian Diaspora with India & creating global business opportunities’. He also expressed his pleasure for meeting so many high profile & successful NRIs, PIOs & other guests under one umbrella. He presented the Shields to all the selected Sammaan winners.



Kalpana Saroj
Mumbai

Kalpana Saroj is now the chairperson of a company with an annual turnover of Rs 11.2 crore. Known as zeher kipudiya by her maternal uncle. A girl child is, after all, only a burden on her parents generally said by her maternal uncle. Little did he anticipate that four decades later, the same little pocket of poison will emerge as one of the most successful women entrepreneurs in the country. At 56 years, Kalpana's story began as a child bride. She was married at the age of 12 into a household that looked at her as no more than a 'housemaid to cook and clean, for free.' She was brought home by her father within six months of her marriage. "Baba's support was everything. Even today when girls get married, most parents don't want them to come back but when Baba saw how I was living there, he brought me back. If he didn't support me that first time, my life would have been over, she says about her father, Mahadeo, who worked as a police constable in the same village.

She had to endure the stigma, like all women who return to their parents' home after marriage. Kalpana, initially, tried applying for various jobs — in nursing, in the police force and even in the military.

The suicide attempt brought a formidable change in her. She couldn't do much with farming, the only occupation available in the village. "And there were no factories in the village. I knew I had to get out to be able to work,"

He was born 41 years ago to Seetha and Ram-lutchman Kissoon was named "Ishwar, "a philosophical concept in Hinduism meaning "God". Devastated by the loss of his father in his final year of schooling seriously hampered his studies. Hardship and knowledge of his father's struggles dawned on him that nothing was going to change, unless, he took the initiative and made a personal effort himself. Accompanied by his determination, diligence and a natural aptitude for business he became innovative and creative establishing a lucrative business enterprise that expanded and developed over time, earning him the recognition as one of KZN's prominent Businessmen. Skills development in the form of sewing machines, computers and farming implements provided to sustain people long term he believes, is crucial to promote independence and survival. Building low cost homes for destitute families and providing water and sanitation for needy com-



Ishwar Ramlutchman
South Africa

she says. With a strong resolve to succeed, Kalpana asked her mother if she could move to Mumbai. She threatened to commit suicide again, this time by lying on the train tracks, when her mother refused. "This girl has definitely gone mad, my mother said," Kalpana recalls. "But she gave in. She wanted me to be alive at the very least." Mumbai transformed the 15-year-old Kalpana, striving to work hard and become independent. In the mid 90s, after working at a hosiery shop for a few months, she decided to open her own boutique. At work, Kalpana would often listen to the radio. This helped her secure a loan of Rs 50,000 after she learnt about government schemes for Dalit's while tuning into a programme.

She used this money to start an NGO which is now known as Kalpana Saroj Foundation. "Having gone through the pain of not being able to find a job, I wanted to provide for as many others as I could," she says.

munities was included in his humanitarian aid projects. Openly received by both the Indian and African communities, Ishwar's fervent desire to forge a lasting and harmonious relationship still continues. He believes that it is possible to bond these two unique and distinct cultures while still retaining their individual identities.

Environment and wildlife conservation is also a major concern that deserved his attention and involvement. Whilst embarking on sustainable development programs and projects, he is of the belief that we must never ignore the fact that man and environment complement each other. Our continued existence is only recognized and possible through balancing respect for man, wildlife and natural environment. South Africa is indeed a beautiful country and the envy of many a nation. We must constantly strive to protect, promote and preserve this magnificent heritage we proudly call our home thus serving as the Ambassador for Ezemvelo Wildlife KZN makes this possible.



Rajesh Ram Satiija Nigeria

Rajesh is the one of the most successful businessmen of India. Rajesh Ram Satiija is respected around the world for his business and charitable endeavors. Commencing his business journey from Nigeria, Rajesh Ram Satiija has gone on to build a wide range of companies under the banner name, Sun and Sand Group. However, at 50, Satiija is a man with a larger mission who wants to expand his business around the world, particularly in gold and uranium mining. His goal is to increase the existing number of mines in different continents. As a leader, Satiija plays an active role in the community, as a bridge to access resources, expertise, knowledge and markets for the development of India, Africa and rest of the world. Covering an array of businesses from mining and agriculture to the auto trade, across three continents, the Sun & Sand Group was the first to export car parts from Africa to brands like Toyota. Worth an estimated £1.3bn and employing 6,000 people around the globe, he is now considering a public floatation. Transforming the fortunes of his metal industry across continents, Satiija branched out into copper, gold and uranium, the mining magnate is in command of one of the largest reserves of precious and non-precious metals and of some rare ones as well, such as uranium, which has extensive industrial uses. He is working closely with local communities in Africa helping in their development.

A perceptible example is the acquisition of 5,000 acres of land in Canada and Georgia for the agricultural development of apple orchards. While he is committed to developing the infrastructure and mining sector in Africa and around the world, he is also serious about reducing the environmental impact of his own industry. Hence, his companies incorporate a business model for social change, improving human development through technology transfer, sense of responsibility towards the well-being of society and access to renewable energy.



Dr. Ruby Dhalla
Canada

Dr. Ruby Dhalla is a trailblazer who created history in 2004 when she was elected as a Member of Parliament in Canada and earned the honor to become one of the youngest and one of the first women of Indian origin to be elected in Canada and the first woman of Indian origin to be elected as a Member of Parliament in the western world. She is a role model for the NRI diaspora globally and has been the most visible and vocal champion of Canada - India relations working tirelessly to increase economic and trade relations between both nations and promoting greater ties amongst the NRI diaspora globally.

As a Guinness Book of World record holder for being the first woman of Indian origin and first Sikh woman elected in the world outside India as a Member of Parliament, Dr. Dhalla was recently honored in India as one of the 100 Jewels of Punjab for her contributions to Punjab, Punjabis and Sikhs globally. Vibrant & versatile with a passion for helping people - Dr. Ruby Dhalla is a dynamic & charismatic personality whose life journey is a symbol of hope, inspiration and achievement. From a fascinating journey that began by writing a letter advocating for peace to the Prime Minister of India at the age of

10 to being raised as the daughter of a single mother Ruby's own journey & experiences continue to serve as her inspiration in championing change, campaigning for human rights & advocating for the voiceless.

From championing the passing of legislation in parliament for the apology of the Komagata Maru injustice to championing issues of importance to minority's communities to advocating for peace, justice and human rights Ruby is known as a fearless speaker and advocate for those who struggle to be heard. Ruby is known amongst the promising league of young politicians in the world who displays an exceptional depth of purpose in every sphere of her life.

Within India, Dr. Dhalla has raised issues important to the global diaspora of Indians & has advocated on their behalf with both PM Modi, Chief Ministers, various political & business leaders. As a strong champion for enhancing & promoting economic & cultural relations between Canada & emerging markets such as India Dr. Dhalla has worked extensively between the Chambers of Commerce's of both nations to increase people to people ties and reduce barriers for individuals and businesses wanting to expand their market shares within both nations and explore business opportunities and synergies

As a result of her extensive work and knowledge of India. Dr. Dhalla has been invited numerous times to give the keynote address for the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas conference organized by the Government of India for the NRI diaspora. She has won numerous awards for her selfless contributions to humanity and dedication to public service including Politician of the Year, the Pride of India Award, and the Award for Political Leadership. Dr. Dhalla is the proud founder of the first of its type charity in the world called 'Dreams For You' to help victims of Fraud marriages and serves as the Ambassador for Gurughar Seva Society Charity created as a result of the des-

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Politics is not about power. Politics is about the hopes, dreams, and desires of people in which they believe if they can Dream it they can do it.

— Dr. R.Dhalla
Canadian MP-2004-2011

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ecration of the Guru Granth Sahib- the Sikh Holy Scriptures in which she is installing CCTV Cameras in a 100 Gurdwaras in a 100 Villages in Rural Punjab. To inspire the next generation Ruby has just finished writing a book about her journey as a young woman in politics.



Dr. Parmjeet Parmar
New Zealand

Dr Parmjeet Parmar is the National List MP based in Mt Roskill and Opposition's Spokesperson for Research, Science and Innovation and Associate Spokesperson for Economic Development. She is also the Chair of the Education and Workforce Select Committee.

Dr. Parmar became the first Indian born woman to be a Member of Parliament in New Zealand when she first got elected in the 2014 General Election. Dr. Parmar holds a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from the University of Auckland, as well as Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of Pune in India.

Prior to entering Parliament, Dr. Parmar worked as a scientist, businesswoman, broadcaster and community advocate. As a scientist, she understands the importance of adequate funding as well as providing the opportunities for scientists to support innovation, and as a business woman, she knows first-hand the challenges of running a small manufacturing business.



Dr. Sarita Boodhoo
Mauritius

Sarita is particularly active in the spread of Hindi and Bhojpuri in Indian Diaspora, especially in Mauritius. Now She is serving as a Director, Mauritius Bhojpuri Sansthan which is Set up by the Government of Mauritius through an Act of Parliament passed in 2011. Amended in October 2015 it operates under the Ministry of Arts and Culture.

She was Adviser to the Government of Mauritius in the setting up of the World Hindi Secretariat in Mauritius from 1996 to 2001. Apart from this she served as a Member of the Council of Mahatma Gandhi Institute from 1976 to 1985, its Appointment, Finance and Disciplinary Committees, Member of the Council of the Mauritius Institute of Education from 1978 to 1985. Inspector of Private Secondary Schools, Education Officer with the Ministry of Education teaching English and Geography at Royal College Curepipe and Queen Elizabeth College. She was Vice – President of GOPIO International and she has Attended all World Hindi Conferences from 1975 to date. Attended Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas from 2006 onwards. She has written many book in Hindi and Bhojpuri languages and literature.

Advocate Daljit Kaur is one of the most-respected names in Punjab and Haryana High Court for more than 16 years having clients not just from India but also from the USA, UK, Canada. Daljit Kaur can be a perfect example of adversity guiding a strong-willed person towards empowerment. She chose to do LL.B. even after 10 years after her marriage when she found her in-laws family suffering in the hands of land grabbers and the entire system. It was the time when she and her family faced rough waters, for not just the ancestral property but also the grace of the family, their livelihood, future of the children, her own dignity means everything was on stake. She was facing a tough situation but proved herself tougher than any challenge or situation.

Thoroughly committed to the principles of dignity, equality and security for all, Daljit Kaur, as a legal practitioner and social activist has strived for gender sensitivity and parity as well as rights of the children and other sections of the society, who find it difficult to reach their voice to the justice delivery mechanisms.

She envisions creating value for the nation, organizations, legal system to general public and litigants especially to rural areas by fully utilizing synergy of vision, leadership, strategy, planning, and managerial, administrative, financial, academic, legal and social experience.



Daljit Kaur
India



Mr. Mahendra Sinh Jadeja
United Kingdom

He is appointed as Commercial Consultant of POP - People over Profit, the new, low-cost, long-haul airline in the making, which will operate the only current non-stop flights between the UK and India's second cities. He has been an active ambassador and voice of the Asian communities across the UK for over a decade.

Mahendrasinh Jadeja holds several executive posts with an impressive reach to the Asian diaspora: Secretary General - NCGO (representing over 850,000 Gujaratis living in the UK), Senior Advisor to the UKABC (UK Asian Business Council), Vice President - BOPIO (British Organisation of People of Indian Origin), Executive and former Vice President - SPMS-UK (Sardar Patel Memorial Society - UK) and President of the RSUK (Rajput Samaj of UK). Mahendrasinh will be actively supporting the POP Gold Pass campaign and making sure that this great opportunity is not missed by any individual who wants to fly at low-cost and non-stop. The community and social-giving aspect of POP's business model – giving 51% of profits to charity, whilst providing a service that is so valued and in demand – is what has driven jadeja to back POP fully. POP is very confident that every organization in the UK will soon be hearing about the Gold Pass campaign of Mr. Jadeja's.

He was born on 14th January in the year 1955 in a small village in Hattai Gujru of Distt. Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand. Like most other uttarakhandis, the means available those days were very limited. His primary school was about 3 kms away from his village. He always used to enjoy going to school in company of about 5 other children from his village. After primary schooling he went to Junior High School named KingoriKhal. After passing the seventh class he went to Delhi. His brother helped him to move to Delhi. He joined a Government School in Lodhi colony and after Junior High School with flying colours and shifted to another school in the same colony. Immediately after getting degree in Engineering in the year 1978, he joined a public sector job. Those days it was comparatively much easier to get government jobs. He joined Govt. undertaking namely NHPC. He always felt that I was not meant for that job. He also knew that good amount of money was needed to start business; which he didn't possess. First business which he was got with a French company for erection of a diesel power house. Work was small and was completed at a small cost of Rs. 14 lacs. Since the work was to be done in remote areas of Kistwar in J&K, it earned very good profit in a small period of 3 months. He was more than happy to earn such money from business. If one has will the path becomes easy. After this work I took other jobs at the same project and finished the first year of business with a small turnover of about Rs. 40 lacs. During the year 2000 he had started 5 toilets of NDMC on BOT basis with advertisement rights. Initially he took the construction and running of public toilets purely as social service but later he realized that it made a business sense to build & run these. Last about 13 years my company Supreme Advertising Pvt. Ltd. is running more than 200 public toilets in busy area of Delhi.



G. S. Rawat
India



Ira Singhal
India

Ira Singhal is an individual who makes us rethink our entire lives. She is a testament to the fact that stubbornly pursuing our passions is the only way to the path of greatness. She is a person who did not let a mere disability get in the way of her absolute genius. Yes, she is a genius in her own terms. Her story is infallible and profusely inspiring. Recently, the country is abuzz with the accolades gathered by an exceptionally tenacious soul, Ira Singhal. Ira Singhal, a differently abled woman, topped the Union Public Service Commission examination for 2014. She currently serves as SDM of Alipur sub-division in North Delhi district.

Sanal Kumar is the founding Chairman and Managing Director of Classic Group of companies. A Chartered Accountant by profession started his career as an Accounts Manager, at Mumbai International Airport, in 1987. Sixteen years of envisioning came to fruition in 2003, when Sanal established his signature by founding Classic Fashion Industry Ltd. Co. In a decade's time Classic Fashion Apparel Industry Ltd. Has diversified into different business verticals, across Jordan, Vietnam, China, UAE & India. The sphere of the business expanded from garment production, to garment sourcing, cladding & glazing, development & construction, travel & tourism and Information Technology; during this period, the company's turnover rose from USD 2 million in 2003 to USD 326 million in 2015. Sanal has been an influential in designing the path for sustainable development, change management and women empowerment in Jordan. He has established three satellite units of the company to encourage and provide job opportunities for Jordanian nationals and differently abled people.



Sanal Kumar
Jordan



H. R. Shah
USA

H. R. Shah a well-known entrepreneur, philanthropist and community leader, an Indian-American entrepreneur who is the recipient of Padma Shri award, to helping India and the United States further their close relations, as well as to promote India's rich culture and heritage. He is originally from Bahadarpur in Gujarat. He is also chairman of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (USA). HR Shah, is the first NRI to run a 24/7 TV station (TV Asia) in North America since 1997, reflecting his diverse interests. TV ASIA was started by Amitabh Bachchan in 1993. Shah is the first NRI to own a chain store business anywhere in the world. A turnaround expert, he became prominent for rescuing Krauszer's Food Stores, New Jersey's largest chain having over 400 convenience stores. He is also recipient of Ellis Island Medal of Honor.



Dr H B S Lamba
India

Dr H B S Lamba takes care of well known paint company Wembley Paints & Chemicals based out at New Delhi. Due to his hard work, not only he himself but his company has won many national & international awards & recognitions. Golden Peacock award, London, Rajiv Gandhi Shiromany Award, Rashtriya Udyog Samman Puruskar, Piwer Glam 2013 (Las Vegas, USA) are a few recognitions they have won. Lamba says, 'every award has its own importance & it brings recognition to the recipient. We are glad that our products are appreciated worldwide & winning awards help bring accreditation & prestige. Thank you NRI Achievers for adding another feather in our hat.'



C. B. Sanjeevi
Sweden

Carani B Sanjeevi MD, PhD is a Professor at the Department of Medicine, Karolinska Institute (KI). Karolinska Institute is a Medical University which is selected and awarded Nobel Prize for medicine & Physiology. He heads a research group on "Diabetes at the Center for Molecular Medicine in Karolinska University Hospital, Solna campus in Stockholm. He is a Senior Advisor to the Innovation office of Karolinska Institute. He serves in the Board of Cadila Pharms Sweden AB, Oncology Ventures, Denmark and serves as member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Seraxis, USA and Diamyd Medical AB, Sweden. He is advisor to HBM Bio ventures, Switzerland and TATA Capital Healthcare Private Equity Fund, Mumbai. He served as editor for the 'Immunology of Diabetes' series volumes (1 to 5) published by The Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences and served in the Editorial board of several Medical journals. Dr. Sanjeevi connects the Indian Life Science industry with Swedish Academic Institutions and vice versa. His expertise in Translational Medicine has helped several Indian and Swedish start-ups. His efforts have helped making the goal of bringing Affordable Innovation to India. Sanjeevi is also mentor for several startups in Life Science in India. In 2017, Dr. Sanjeevi was awarded Pravasi Bharathiya Samman Award for excellence in the field of Medicine on January 9, 2017 from the Honorable President of India. Pravasi Bharathiya Samman Award is the highest award given by the Government of India to Persons of Indian Origin.



Dhirajlal Kotadia
India

Dhiraj Kotadia began his journey in extremely trying circumstances to blossom into one of the biggest contributors to the success stories of India in diamond and medical device industry. Born in an impoverished village based in the arid Saurashtra peninsula of India's western Gujarat state, he did not even have a shoe to wear till he studied 12th standard. But with his great commitments, he showed Indians what was possible. With no Oxford or Harvard degree and no family capital, he achieved what the elite could not, he helped build an ultramodern, profitable, global diamond industry in India, saved tens of thousands of lives, helped create millions of jobs and made India Self reliant in many front. Still, Kotadia seems destined to rewrite history as he moves forward-an example of what a man from one of India's poor villages can accomplish with non-shrink ambition. Currently, Kotadia is the founder and CEO of Sahajanand Group of companies comprising of Sahajanand Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Sahajanand Medical Technologies Pvt. Ltd., and Sahajanand life science Private Ltd, the Sahajanand Group of companies went from a single start-up company with a handful of employees, to a full-blown Sahajanand Group of companies, an umbrella group with more than 600 personnel in its repertoire of employees as on date under the able guidance of Kotadia. Having completed his diploma in electronics and Sound engineering in 1980, his commercial activity started with a humble beginning with establishing his own Distribution business in the name of Dhiraj Agency in Chennai which dealt in modern home appliances.



Dr. Anil Mehta
Holland

Dr. Anil K. Mehta (born June 17, 1954) is an Indian Dutch Ayurvedic doctor, teacher, public Speaker and writer on Ayurveda & spirituality. Dr. Mehta started his career as an Ayurvedic doctor in New Delhi in year 1977. After getting his graduation degree in Ayurveda from Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak, India. Dr. Mehta started his international career in the field of medical practice and teaching in Ayurveda in year 1980 when he migrated to Holland. In the beginning he started his Clinic in Zoetermeer, in 1989 Dr. Mehta shifted his Clinic and residence to The Hague, with new inspiration to start a School on Ayurveda. Dr. Mehta started spreading the awareness about Ayurveda among Europeans by inviting them to free introductory classes on application of Ayurveda in daily life.

As Committed Community worker he started two NGOs in India Wellness Foundation for Children; WFC gives poor children, who have lost their parents or who are no longer able to live with them, a permanent home and a stable environment. They take care of the child and will be a substitute for the child's natural parents. The children are given a good education. WFC guide them until they become financially independent. Special attention is given to less talented and feeble-minded children. Healthcare is also given to the children. WFC also pays attention to the poor families nearby and tries to raise their standard of living on a long term basis. Completely free treatment is given to needy patients as possible irrespective of caste creed and religion from any part of the world. The trust is providing free Ayurvedic medicines to more than 500 patients every month in Raiwala, Uttarakhand. He is author of more than 15 research papers along with many books on Ayurveda and Spirituality published in Dutch and English.



Dr. Nabhit Kapur
India

Dr (Prof.) Nabhit Kapur, named most influential Psychologist Globally by FAAVM Canada, is a Psychology expert, social sector entrepreneur, pioneer, professional mentor and a global champion of positive mental health and well-being among all sections of society. At a young age of 28, he has founded Peacefulmind Foundation, to empower individuals to take charge of their own wellness and to 'make Psychology a household term'. Since then, his efforts have impacted the lives of millions across more than two dozen countries. His efforts have been appreciated by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. He regularly conducts Detailed Profiling, Comprehensive Screening and Regular follow-ups for participants of his academic workshops. He also trains pilots on Psychometric tools which help in stress management, majority of whom successfully serve the national carrier, Air India. Dr Kapur's establish the Global Youth Mental Health Forum – for scrutiny, education and training of youth in Psychological First aid. This also motivate students opting for Psychology as their chosen career path. From young children to policymakers across the globe, he continues to strive to make human minds perceive and acknowledge the importance of psychological wellness as an imperative for better day-to-day living.

Prabhakar sharan, is from a small city Motihari, from Bihar. He left India 18 years back to Costa Rica, a Central American country for his studies and acting carrier. His struggle has been hallmark of excellence with the Spanish language, his day and night hard work and his strong love for India and Indian culture pushed him to introduce Bollywood movies and Social Activities to promote India in Central America. He has achieved the respect and Honor and became the board member of the university where he went for his studies. He is the first person to introduce Hindi movies in Central America. He also executed live shows and did the first Indian Latin American Movie In The Year 2017-2018 (Enredados La Confusion) which became a huge hit and gave box office record. He became the first Indian to Act and Direct as the lead in Spanish feature film. He has got many awards as the Best Actor, Best debut director in the United States and many other International Prestigious film festival and Government Organizations. His dream to become an actor has given him a journey of struggle, survival, and success which has become an inspiration not just for Costa Rica but whole central America and India.



Prabhakar sharan
Costa Rica



Ms. Sarita Patnaik
USA

Sarita Patnaik, an Interior Designer by profession hails from Odisha, an eastern state of India. She lives in Georgia in USA. She is a beauty pageant, she is a social worker, she is a philanthropist and above all she loves to see smiles on poor and weaker section of the society. She is engaged in promoting education to Poor children in Odisha besides helping an old poor lady. She has adopted this lady for all her needs. She is doing great work among tribal community as well in India. She says, 'social service to the poor community is my passion. I have won many international beauty contests & as a beauty queen it's my duty to serve the weaker & poor section of the society. I think due to my philanthropic work, NRI Achievers magazine has chosen me for this prestigious Sammaan. I whole heartedly thanks them for honoring me. It will always motivate me to do more for the needy people & I promise that I'll keep on doing my bit of work as my responsibility all my life.'

BUSINESS CONCLAVE

A Grand Business Networking Platform

Dr. Ruby Dhalla Canada

Dr. Ruby Dhalla is a trail-blazer who created history in 2004 when she was elected as a Member of Parliament in Canada and earned the honor to become one of the youngest and one of the first woman of Indian origin to be elected in Canada and the first woman of Indian origin to be elected as a Member of Parliament in the western world. She is a role model for the NRI diaspora globally and has been the most visible and vocal champion of Canada -India relations working tirelessly to increase economic and trade relations between both nations and promoting greater ties amongst the NRI diaspora globally.



D. Mulay
Secretary, Ministry
of External Affairs,
Govt. of India



Dnyaneshwar Mulay is an Indian career diplomat and well known celebrated author and columnist. He currently holds office as the Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Overseas Indian Affairs. He is a successful writer and has written over 15 books in different language. He has inspired a number of socio-educational projects including Balodyan, an orphanage in his native village, and the Dnyaneshwar Mulay Education Society in Pune which seeks to introduce innovative concept like global education.

Shalini V Bhargava
Managing Director,
Aschfords Law,
United Kingdom



Shalini went to the U.K. at the tender age of 21 years from Delhi, India in 1989. Shalini was born in India and was raised and educated in Delhi. She completed her BA in English Literature from University of Delhi. Shalini had a struggled life due to her unsuccessful marriage. Shalini said she wants to inspire people, she wants someone to look at her and say "because of you I did not giveup". Shalini V Bhargava has experience of 17 year in the legal field. She is registered with the Law Society of England and Wales.

Acharya
Dr. Lokesh Muni
Founder of Ahimsa
Vishwa Bharti



Founder of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti, eminent Jain Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni is the first Indian to be honored with the prestigious U. S. Congressional Danny K Davis Peace Prize for his efforts to promote Inter Faith Dialogue for World Peace and Harmony. The Award was presented by Honorable Congressman Danny K Davis, Ranking Member Of the powerful U. S. House Ways and Means Committee at his Chicago Office. Many eminent people and Congressmen were present at Danny K Davis Peace Prize 2018 ceremony.

Himanshu Vyas
In charge, Indian
Overseas Congress



Nominated as AICC Secretary for Indian Overseas Congress by Congress President Rahul Gandhi, Himanshu Vyas has been working hard to connect Indian Diaspora with India. Vyas has been state Congress spokesperson.

Dr. (Prof) Nabhit Kapur
Founder,
Peacefulmind
Foundation



Dr Nabhit Kapur, named most influential Psychologist Globally by FAAVM Canada, is a Psychology expert, social sector entrepreneur, pioneer, professional mentor and a global champion of positive mental health and well-being among all sections of society. At a young age of 28, he Has founded Peaceful Mind Foundation, to empower individuals to take charge of their own wellness and to 'make Psychology a household term'. Since then, his efforts have impacted the lives of millions across more than two dozen countries.

Dr. B. Ramaswamy
Legal Advisor,
Members of Parlia-
ment & Member,
Advisory Commit-
tee, NCPDR, Govt.
of India



Dr. B. Ramaswamy is Pro Vice Chancellor Oriental University, Indore, Madhya Pradesh. He has more than 200 publications to his credit. In his 16 years of service, Dr. Ramaswamy has served as a Bench of Magistrate, Legal Advisor, Visiting Professor to the top Indian and International Universities besides holding a wide range of assignments at the Govt. of India. He travels all over the world to give lectures on the developmental issues along with socio- economic issues of the nation concern.

CA Mukesh Mohan Gupta
Chartered
Accountant



Mukesh Mohan Gupta having vast experience of over 29 years in Auditing, Accounting, Finance, Law, Banking, Economics etc. currently, he is associated with Dena Bank, Artson Engineering Ltd, (A subsidiary of Tata Project Ltd.), Madras Fertilizers Ltd, Hindustan Fertilizers Corp. Limited and JCT Electronics Limited as a Director. Gupta has been nominated as a special invitee member of several banks and the National Board of MSME. These institutions get the benefit of his inclusive experiences.

Mahendrasinh Jadeja
Brand
Ambassador,
Fly Pop Airlines,
United Kingdom



Mahendrasinh Jadeja is appointed as Commercial Consultant of POP - People over Profit, the new, low-cost, long-haul airline in the making, which will operate the only current non-stop flights between the UK and India's second cities. He has been an active ambassador and voice of the Asian communities across the UK for over a decade.





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BY DR. SASIKALAPUSHPA & DR. B. RAMASWAMY

ROLE OF 'START UP' AND 'STAND UP' IN EMPLOYMENT AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT IN NEW INDIA

This article emphasizes on role of the 'Start Up' and 'Stand Up' India schemes in employment generation and boosting entrepreneurial climate in India.

In quest for expansion, our economy has acquired the dubious distinction of having high unemployment numbers, despite being one of the fastest growing economies in the world. One of the major challenges for India is to provide employment to a growing number of literate and aspiring youths. More than one million youths are joining the country's already bulging pool of unemployed workforce every month.

During the initial plan periods, India pursued the trickle down strategy for mainstreaming millions of underprivileged, but didn't achieve much success. This disappointing experience called for a more direct, inclusive and participatory growth model with greater orientation towards employment generation.

Failure to provide employment may aggravate unrest among the youth, denying the nation the benefits of demographic dividends. Time frame available to address this issue is shrinking fast and we may lose this opportunity forever. Hence, for stable, sustainable and equitable growth, the speed of providing solution assumes significance. All these demand an urgent job-centric economic growth model with its focused and direct interventionist approach to the targeted segments of aam aadmi.

The government's schemes like "Stand Up" India and Start Up India are designed as umbrella initiatives aimed to steer a series of other initiatives already undertaken, like Make in India,

Digital India, Skilling India, MUDRA, among others. These have potential to trigger an economic revolution.

Understanding "Start Up" and "Stand Up" India Campaigns

Start Ups and entrepreneurship are critical to India's efforts to restart private investment into the economy, in the face of risk aversion, stalled or slow investments from corporate India. Start Up India' initiative was launched in January 2016 by PM Narendra Modi in a move to help Start Ups and catalyze entrepreneurship.

The Start Up India Action Plan lists out a comprehensive set of structural and regulatory reforms – Income tax exemption, easing compliance through reduction of regulations and having fixed qualifications as to what a 'Start Up' is.

The action plan also provided an 80% waiver on patent filing fees by Start Ups and advisory services. It also created a Rs.10,000 cr fund-of-funds which is to be managed by professionals drawn from the private sector.

The "Stand Up" India initiative is aimed at promoting entrepreneurship among the downtrodden sections of society such as Dalits and women, by providing local employment, through appropriate hand holding backed by concessional funding from banks. Start Up India on the other hand is targeted at promoting innovative ideas to bring solutions in the areas of affordable health-care, education, social infrastructure etc

with the use of technology as a driver and enabler.

Stand Up India is, thus, envisaged to impart direct and focused interventions guided towards segments like SCs/STs and women to bring them in the mainstream of the economy. This will catalyze their entrepreneurial potential to stimulate bottom-up growth. Similarly, Start Up India is aimed at exhorting new generation aspirational youths, who largely belong to the aam aadmi fold and also have greater risk appetite to jump and pursue high-risk-high-return structured entrepreneurial business models.

Start Up India Portal and Mobile App:

These have been launched as online platform for providing updates, information, recognition and eligibility certificates to Start Ups and other stakeholders.

Start Up India Hub:

Start Up India Hub was operationalised on 1st April 2016 to resolve queries and provide handholding support to Start Ups. The hub has been able to resolve 12,290 queries received from Start Ups through telephone, email and Twitter. To seek clarifications pertaining to Certificate of Recognition as a "Start Up", Certificate of Eligibility to avail tax benefits, seeking information on incubators or funding, one can get in touch with the Hub on Toll-Free number: 1800115565 or email: id dipp-Startups@nic.in. Dedicated professionals are handling over

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200 queries per day. DIPP has requested State governments and administration of Union Territories to set up hub as well as incubators to help Start Ups during various stages of their life cycle.

Fund of Funds:

A 'fund of funds' of INR 10,000 cr to support innovation driven Start Ups has been established which shall be managed by SIDBI. The fund will invest in SEBI registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) which, in turn, will invest in Start Ups. It will act as an enabler to attract private capital in the form of equity, quasi-equity, soft loans and other risk capital for Start Ups. Rs. 500 cr has been released to SIDBI in FY2015-16 and Rs. 600 cr in FY2016-17. First meeting of Venture Capital Investment Committee (VCIC) was held on 12th July, 2016, wherein 13 proposals were examined for funding under FFS and 8 were recommended.

Tax Incentives:

The Finance Act, 2016 Section 80-IAC has provision for Start Ups (Companies and LLPs) to get income tax exemption for 3 years in a block of 5 years, if they are incorporated between 1st April 2016 and 31st March 2019. To avail these benefits a Start Up must get a Certificate of Eligibility from the Inter-Ministerial Board. Tax exemption on investments above Fair Market Value have been introduced on 14 June 2016 for investments made in Start Ups.

Self-Certification:

CPCB has exempted industries in "white" category from all the applicable self-certifications under the 3 environment related Acts -The water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess (Amendment) Act, 2003 and The Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981) listed in the Start Up India Action Plan.

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM):

The guidelines for harnessing private sector expertise to set up incubators,

organizing annual grand challenge for innovative solutions to problems faced by industry and those posed by ministries as well as a grand challenge for incubators and establishment of tinkering labs have been formulated and published on NITI Aayog's and Start Up India websites.

Relaxed Norms for Public Procurement:

Relaxed norms for public procurement for micro and small enterprises have been provisioned in the Procurement Policy of Ministry of MSME.

IPR Benefits:

A panel of facilitators has been constituted for assistance in filing Intellectual Property (IP) applications. DIPP would bear the facilitation cost on behalf of Start Ups and also provide rebate in the statutory fee for filing application. To avail IPR-related benefits (rebate in

“
India's opportunity
and role in shaping
the Fourth Industrial
Revolution is im-
mense.
— Narendra Modi,
PM of India
”

fee and free of cost facilitation in filing IPR applications), a Start Up is required to obtain a Certificate of Recognition from DIPP. Guidelines of the Scheme for Facilitating Start Ups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP) have been published. Facilitators shall provide assistance to Start Ups in filing and disposal of IP applications related to patents, trademarks and design under relevant Acts. Fast track mechanisms of Start Ups patent applications has been enabled to allow Start Ups to realise the value of their IPRs at the earliest. Further, to enable Start Ups to reduce costs in their

crucial formative years, Start Ups shall be provided a rebate of 80% in filing patents (Patent Amendment Rules 2016, May 2016).

Many of these Start Ups are focused to address the societal problems through innovative solutions, be it drinking water, sanitation or rural healthcare among others. Competitive market funding of these "Start Up" are driven largely by the leverage, outreach and the likely benefit to ultimate consumer viz. cost reduction, savings, efficient usage of resources etc. Many funds are registered as Social Venture Funds for Start Ups having greater social impact.

For understanding the efficiency of the "Start Up" India action plan, it is worth looking back at Small Industry Development Bank of India (SIDBI's) experience in funding "Start Up". SIDBI has been supporting "Start Up" and early stage enterprises through contribution to various venture funds and has so far supported 88 different funds and has assisted 612 units, out of which 530 were MSMEs.

The Fund of Funds architecture, galvanizes inclusive growth, driven by innovative and disruptive business models of assisted units, while providing employment to educated and skilled youths. Flow of private capital will inject greater resilience in the ecosystem. It is proving to be one of the efficient financial leveraging structures compared other contemporary PPP models.

Other Initiatives

Startup Fests

The government will implement the various measures for promoting research and innovation among students.

Innovation Centres at National Institutes

The government will set up 35 new incubators, 31 innovation centres at national institutes. Seven new research parks – six in IITs and one in IISc shall be set up by government with an initial investment of Rs. 100 cr each.

Biotechnology Boost

Five new bio clusters, 50 new bio incubators, 150 technology transfer offices and 20 bio connect offices will be established.

Innovation Core {Programmes for Students}

It shall be launched to target school children in 5 lakh schools. Out of the total innovations from school children, the best 100 would be selected and are showcased at the Annual Festival of Innovations in the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Nidhi

The National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations is a grand challenge programme to support and award Rs. 10 lakh to 20 student innovations from Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centres (IEDCs).

Uchhattar Avishkar Yojana

It is a joint programme of Ministry of HRD and Department of Science and Technology that aimed at fostering 'very high quality' research among IIT students. The scheme will make a bridge between the academics and the practical working on field.

Annual Incubator Grand Challenge

This will be launched to select 10 incubators who have the potential to become world class. The government plans Rs. 10 cr assistance for them to ramp up capacity.

Critical Evaluation of the Schemes

A tax break of three years has been given in the scheme. Anyone who has business sense knows that only a few of Start Ups will be profitable in the first three years and so this handful can avail themselves of the tax break.

When it comes to the 'fund of funds' under the initiative, Rs 500 cr has already been provided as fund corpus in 2015-16 and Rs. 600 cr for 2016-2017. Cumbersome procedures to access funds from the Rs. 10, 000 Cr. corpus have, however, made the plan a non-

starter and SIDBI has committed only Rs. 129 cr to VCs so far so the progress has been slow.

There is also the government's requirement that participating investors have to be registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India. But some of the biggest VCs aren't, and the government has essentially shut them out.

A lot of entrepreneurs and investors think that demonetization and the lack of exits in Start Ups by investors are adding to the gloom; After demonetization, the investors are afraid to exit their investment due to slump in the IPO (initial public offering) market.

While initiatives like "Start Up" certification, roping in bodies like CBDT to give tax breaks to entrepreneurs, setting up incubators and tinkering labs have been lauded there is a lot more that could have been done.

The scheme sets up an 'Inter-Ministerial Board' led by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion which 'validates' the innovative nature of an enterprise, thereby qualifying it as a Start Up – an involvement of government in this ecosystem that is hardly desirable.

It also exempts starts-up from inspection under a fixed number of labour laws — six to be specific. But, there are about 45 laws at the central level and about four times this number at the state level. The Centre needs to work with the States to ensure a smooth rollout of the benefits under the Action Plan and avoid discord between policies at the two levels.

The Action Plan requires an enterprise or partnership to be innovative by developing and commercializing a new prod-

uct or service — a step to promote truly innovative ideas. But it institutes an inter-ministerial body led by DIPP to examine whether an enterprise is 'innovative'.

While initiatives like "Start Up" certification, roping in bodies like CBDT to give tax breaks to entrepreneurs, setting up incubators and tinkering labs have been lauded there is a lot more that could have been done. While the progress is slow, the ecosystem feels much supported as the government put light on their struggles and achievements.

Start Up India is consistent with the PM's call for innovation when he launched Digital India. The Start Up India Action plan is a good start to this – but will need continued support and evolution to make this a true, deep revolution for the youth of India.

India must have a strategy to unleash the potential of youth to provide meaningful opportunities for their participation in the growth journey, thereby fueling its economic growth targets. All these, necessitate to make our growth model not only inclusive, accommodative and participative but also employment-centric. This will help us reap benefits of favorable demography, besides providing direct and effective intervention to remove despondency among millions of marginalized citizens and uplifts their quality of lives.

These two initiatives duly nestled with drives like MUDRA, i.e. Make in India and Digital India, would fuel India's pace to achieve long cherished goals of highly participative, universally inclusive and delightfully desirable economic ambiance.

Dr. Sasikalapushpa is a Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) & she has also Co-authored four books with Dr. Ramaswamy. Dr. B. Ramaswamy is Pro Vice Chancellor of Oriental University, Indore, Madhya Pradesh. He has more than 200 publications to his credit. He can be reached out at: sasikalapushpampr@gmail.com

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THE POOJA KAJAL Foundation wants to see children happy, healthy and educated

Meet Ashna Sookha who was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and in 2016 underwent treatment at the Ayurvedic Centre at The Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust (HIHT) in Dehradun. Ashna is 4th generation Indian in the diaspora and founder of the Pooja Kajal Foundation, based in Amsterdam and operational in Dehradun, India.

While coming to terms with her future, Ashna saw Pooja and Kajal wandering and begging aimlessly on the compound and thought “why are they not in school, what’s their future to be?” More observations made Ashna’s awareness grow. As a mother and professional coach in the Childcare section and trainer in Family Services, she founded the Pooja Kajal Foundation. The ambition of the Foundation with board members Gerard Zwerver and Rob Buijs, is taking care of underprivileged children like Pooja and Kajal and give them access to healthcare and education.

In collaboration with the Rural Development Institute (RDI) and the HIHT, the Flying Birds school kicked off in 2017. The main objectives are to provide regular classes by trained teachers and recreational facilities for the children, so that they are in a safe space and can develop freely. The children receive classes in personal health and environ-

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“

“Hope you are satisfied with the work of 2017. If all is well, would you like to look in to extending/ executing the work agreement for 2018?”

— RDI director and implementing partner Dehradun India

”

mental care, health check-ups by an RDI doctor, as well as daily nutritious meals.

Extending our agreement, says Ashna, means that the Foundation is making a big impact as the outcomes of the Flying Birds school over last year show. Just to name a few, the parents know that their children are safe inschool and not roaming around in their absence. They also have a proactive attitude towards school activities and the progress of their child. The children have become more aware of health issues and hygiene. They are driven to attend school and take part in various activities. This has increased their confidence and they show a more responsible attitude towards younger classmates. Reading and writing skills have improved a lot. And above all 10+ children got enrolled in the regular government school education, which we still monitor and care for.

The Foundation works fast as is illustrated in the case of the adolescent Priya (18), who has been attending classes with her siblings Priya decided not to be an illiterate anymore and wants to start a



business in sewing clothes. Within days Ashna started the campaign for Priya on social media and as of recently the funds have been transferred. “This trickledown effect shows that we need to help these children be a part of a sustainable society”.

The commitment and hard work of partners and the financial help of donors has made all this possible. Support these children and help us to continue to see them more happy, healthy and educated on...

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INDIANS BECOMING UK'S BIGGEST INVESTORS IN REAL ESTATE

The Indians have emerged as the fourth-largest group of overseas buyers of property in London, after China, Russia and the US, which has led to £2 billion of investment over the past years.

As per the recent research conducted by the Knight Frank's, 'Wealth report', in recent years, the Indians investors have outnumbered other Asian, Russian, West-Asian and continental European homebuyers in the UK (London

and even in Scotland). Infact, the Indians have emerged as the fourth-largest group of overseas buyers of property in London, after China, Russia and the US, which has led to £2 billion of investment over the past years.

According to Liam Bailey, Knight

Frank's head of research, "The attraction for wealthy parents is to find good private schools in the UK, particularly London, which then provides a boarding option for parents who can visit over the holidays. Also, it is longer term investment, as a base for the student

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Indian families own some of the most luxurious properties in London's prize catch districts such as Mayfair, South Kensington, Chelsea, Baker Street, and Belgravia etc.


who may go on to university in the UK and explore future job prospects in the country". The 'Wealth Report' also finds that the demand for property in London is expected to increase as the number of Indian "demi-billionaires", or those with a net worth of \$500 million, is set to rise from 200 in 2017 to 340 in 2022.

Importantly, the 'Education' is considered as an important demand source among Indians in the central London million-pound-plus market. The rich Indian parents are fanatical in educating their children at leading British schools have helped drive up overseas demand for homes in London.

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The report also states that the trend among buyers from India contrasts with that from Southeast Asian countries as Indians are open to both newer and more traditional developments to invest in. Indian families own some of the most luxurious properties in London's prize catch districts such as Mayfair, South Kensington, Chelsea, Baker Street, and Belgravia, St James, Portman Square, etc. While buyers from Singapore and Hong Kong tend to focus only on new-build properties, Indians are willing to invest in both new-build and more established homes in prime London areas of Mayfair and Chelsea. Overall, Knight

Frank's analysis also finds that BREXIT have also added more charm to property in London.

Interestingly, the Frank's analysis is not the only research suggesting that the Indians among the biggest investors in residential real estate in the UK. According to property investment advisory London Central Portfolio's (LCP) latest sales audit in 2017, Indians became the second largest buyers of property in central London, accounting for significant sales. These reports also suggest that the Indians also spent more per house. They accounted for one-third of the total spend, with an average purchase price of £1.77 million, slightly higher than the market average of £1.6 million. 

NRI Achievers UK Bureau



ITC TO ENTER BRANDED RICE SEGMENT

S. Sivakumar, group head (agriculture and information technology business), ITC, said in an interview that Branded rice will be launched by end of this year, This marks the entry of the firm into one more low-margin commodity market after atta (wheat flour), which is already crowded with more than 100 brands.

ITC Ltd, the maker of Aashirvaadatta, Sunfeast biscuits and B Natural juices, plans to launch branded packaged rice this year, entering a segment vacated by Hindustan Unilever Ltd two years ago. The Kolkata-based company will sell both basmati and non-basmati rice and, in future, introduce ready-to-make versions of rice-based dishes.

“(Branded) rice will be launched by end of this year,” S. Sivakumar, group head (agriculture and information technology business),

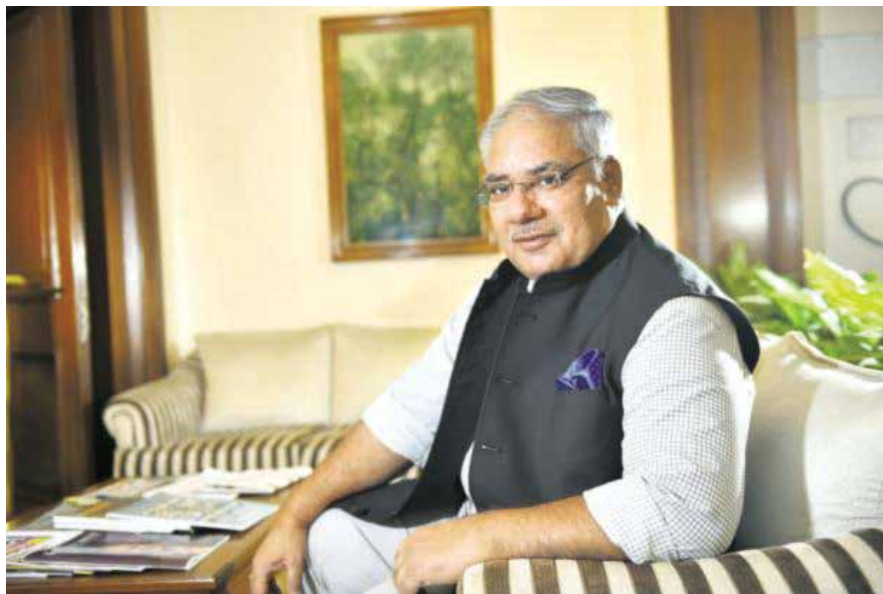
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ITC, said in an interview. This marks the entry of the firm into one more low-margin commodity market after atta (wheat flour), which is already crowded with more than 100 brands. Rice, however, is not an entirely new business for ITC. The agri-business division of ITC already exports both basmati and non-basmati rice to Africa and the Middle East. The company's agri business unit has a nationwide network for procurement and logistics connecting rice millers, brand owners and traders, according to the company's website.

ITC's decision to enter the branded packaged rice segment comes about two years after yoga guru Baba Ramdev's Patanjali Ayurved Ltd entered the market. On the other hand, HUL, India's largest packaged goods maker, decided to exit the business as part of its strategy to divest non-core businesses.

The company sold its rice exports business, carried out primarily under Gold Seal Indus Valley, a premium brand, and Rozana branded basmati rice in the mid segment, to New Delhi-based LT Foods Ltd that sells rice under Daawat brand, HUL, which entered the rice market in 1985, was exporting to 21 countries including the Middle East and Europe at the time of divestment. In 2013, HUL launched Gold Seal Indus Valley branded rice in select Indian cities across modern trade with a plan to scale up later.

ITC is yet to finalize the brand for packaged rice. The company may, however, leverage Aashirvaad, a brand created in May 2002 to sell atta and later expanded to include spices, salt, ghee, milk, instant mixes and ready-to-eat meals. Aashirvaad sales have now touched Rs. 4,200 cr. The company already sells



premium ready-to-make biryani under the Kitchens of India brand across US, Canada and India.

India is among the top exporters of rice and analysts expect it to increase. Indian rice export is projected to account for 29% of the global rice trade in marketing year 2017-18, up from 26.7% in marketing year 2016-17, research firm India Ratings and Research said in a report.



The domestic branded packaged rice market was valued at Rs. 22,000 cr in 2016 and the market is expected to grow at a compounded annual rate of 11% till 2020, according to market researcher Euromonitor International.

In India, New Delhi-based KRBL Ltd is the largest rice company with around 30% share in the domestic market and about 25% share in export, according to a report by equities research firm HDFC Securities. KRBL's basmati rice brand India Gate is the largest rice brand in India. Gurugram-based LT Foods is the second largest rice company in India. ITC's entry into the volume-led rice market is part of the company's plan to generate around Rs 65,000 cr from packaged foods by 2030 to reach its target of Rs. 1 trillion revenue from non-cigarette packaged goods by that time.

NRI Achievers Desk

ANUSHKA SHARMA: YOU CAN'T BLAME STAR KIDS FOR NEPOTISM IN BOLLYWOOD

The lack of a film family background and zero links with Bollywood didn't stand in the way of Anushka Sharma's stardom. And 10 years after her debut, she feels a lot of "contentment and gratitude" for everything that she has got. "I'm thankful for the films that I've been able to do, for the opportunities that I've been given and the love that I've received," says the actor, who entered cinema with a bang — in a lead role opposite Shah Rukh Khan in *Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi* (2008). Amid the debate around nepotism, which heats up every time a star kid makes his or her Bollywood debut, Anushka, the outsider who hit the big league, has said little or nothing. Her name, however, usually crops up in such a debate, alongside that of other outsiders-turned-stars such as Deepika Padukone, Sidharth Malhotra, and Rajkummar Rao, as examples of how the family name isn't everything.



KANGANA RANAUT ATTACK ON HRITHIK ROSHAN

Bollywood actress Kangana Ranaut, who had opened up on sexual harassment allegations against Vikas Bahl, has launched a fresh attack on Hrithik Roshan. In an exclusive chat with a news channel, Kangana said, "Whatever is happening with Vikas Bahl is absolutely correct. Our industry still has a lot of people who don't behave well with women. They assault them, they harass them, they should also be punished." About Hrithik Roshan, she said, "People who keep their wives as trophies and keep young girls as their mistresses should also be punished." On being asked if she was talking about Hrithik, Kangana said, "I am referring to Hrithik Roshan, people should not work with him as well." Earlier, Kangana had spoken about her *Queen* director Vikas Bahl and narrated her experience with Bahl on the sets of '*Queen*'. She said, "He partied every night and shamed me for sleeping early and not being cool enough. I often told him off. He was scared of me but still every time we met socially, we greeted and hugged each other. He would bury his face in my neck and hold me really tight and breathe in the smell of my hair. It took me a great amount of strength and effort to pull myself out of his embrace, he would say, 'I love how you smell K.' I could tell something is wrong with him."

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SHAH RUKH KHAN TO HEAD TO OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOON?

Now we all know Shah Rukh Khan has fans across the world, but the principal of Oxford University? Well, let's just say we're glad to be surprised. Alan Rusbridger, the principal of Lady Margaret Hall at Oxford and former editor of the 'Guardian' newspaper, took to social media to invite Khan over for a chat. He wrote to Khan: "Can we tempt you to Oxford University to talk to our students at LMH Oxford? They love you (I'm the principal)". This was in 2016, and Khan seems to have missed it. But now, the university's famous student, Malala Yousafzai, has sent him a reminder. She wrote to Khan, quite simply saying, "Still waiting". Khan promptly replied saying, "Most certainly would love to do it & meeting u will be a privilege. Will put my team to schedule it sooner than soon".



PRIYANKA CHOPRA FLAUNTS MASSIVE ENGAGEMENT RING, HANGS OUT WITH KIM KARDASHIAN IN NEW YORK

Priyanka Chopra pulled out all the stops for the Tiffany Blue Book Collection gala in New York. The actor proudly flaunted her diamond engagement ring, costing approximately Rs 2.1 crore, for all to see as she arrived at the venue, Studio 525, wearing a glittering gown from fashion designer Giorgio Armani. Priyanka Chopra chose a revealing outfit - a silver low-cut and low-back dress with a thigh high slit - as she attended the party, but it was her ring that grabbed the attention. Priyanka couldn't keep the smile off her face as she held her statement Tiffany sparkler and posed for pictures. At the event, Priyanka was joined by Keeping Up with the Kardashians star, Kim Kardashian West, who was there to support Tiffany & Co. at the launch of their Blue Book Collection. The pair posed for pictures in front of Tiffany's signature blue wall and looked like the best of friends. While both Priyanka and Kim wore jewellery from Tiffany & Co, the reality TV star opted for a white cut-out gown from Rick Owens that featured a sleeveless top and floor-length skirt.





FARAH KHAN POSTS PIC WITH NANA PATEKAR, TANUSHREE DUTTA HITS BACK

After Tanushree Dutta's allegations of sexual harassment on Nana Patekar, a number of celebrities came in her support. Actors like Farahan Akter, Sonam K Ahuja, SwaraBhaskar and Renuka Shahane among others took to social media, to stand up for the actress. However, Tanushree is not pleased. Reacting to Priyanka tweet, 'the world needs to #BelieveSurvivors' she told Zoom TV that she doesn't want to be reduced to a survivor. She said, "Well, it's amazing. She (Priyanka) has finally decided to join the bandwagon. It's probably a smart thing to do at this point of time. But I just want people to know that I am not going to be reduced to a survivor. I have a name, I have a story and I have this truth that I am trying to get out because it's not for me but for people who will come forward in the generations to come". Tanushree's spoke person also told media that she was appalled by Farah Khan's Instagram post where the director was seen happily posing with Housefull 4 team, including Nana Patekar. India Today quoted her statement as saying, "Farah's Instagram post has appalled her. Being a woman herself, Farah has made her stand very clear by going ahead with Nana for the Housefull shoot."

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Congratulations & Best Wishes



From
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