

iWill Impact

INSPIRE > INVOLVE > TRANSFORM

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AUGUST 2012

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



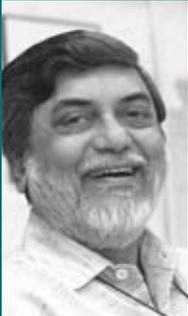
PD Rai
Lok Sabha MP, Sikkim



Pradeep Kumar
Central Vigilance Commissioner



Harish Hande
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SELCO Solar Light Private Ltd



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Nimbkar Agricultural
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Social Entrepreneurs: Transforming India



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Central Vigilance Commission



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Rajendra Desai
Joint Director
National Centre for Peoples'
Action in Disaster Preparedness



Manish Kumar
Co-founder, Farms n Farmers



Shashank Kumar
Co-founder, Farms n Farmers



Paniit Global Conference 2012

7th to 9th December Science City Auditorium, Kolkata, India



2012 GLOBAL CONFERENCE



PanIT EXPO 2012

An excellent opportunity for giving the small, medium, large industries, Indian and foreign corporations, and business houses to showcase their activities, technologies, and products

Mega exhibition spread across 100,000 square feet with six specially constructed air-conditioned domes, fully carpeted adjoining the main auditorium of the Science city

For more details, floor plan and stall booking rates, see **EXHIBITION:** <http://bit.ly/L7ml4a>

QUICK LINKS

PanIT 2012 WebSite:

<http://bit.ly/MGq93f>

PanIT 2012 Brochure:

<http://bit.ly/M8bFch>

MEET UP WITH YOUR BUDDIES !!!

Find your batch mates and plan your stories to share with them., laugh at good old times and more...

To find those IIT mates who have already registered for the conference, **Search for your Buddies:**

<http://bit.ly/MIGGFI>. You can sort this list by name, by campus or by their year of completion.

EVENT SPONSORS

The 2012 Global Conference offers a unique opportunity for sponsors to promote their corporate identity and brand through association with "Excellence, Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Giving Back". Sponsors will be able to network with senior executives and entrepreneurs and interact with decision-makers from academic, industry and government from all over the world.

For more details on Sponsorship Levels and Sponsorship Options, visit **Sponsors:** <http://bit.ly/MjB5yy>

IITians....LETS SPREAD THE WORD AROUND !!

***Follow* the PAN IIT 2012 Page on Google+ :** <http://bit.ly/OYWFII>

***Like* the PAN IIT 2012 Page on Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/paniit2012>

***Follow* PAN IIT 2012 on Twitter** <http://www.twitter.com/paniitgc2012>

Dear All,

Welcome to PanIT Alumni Global Conference 2012 in Kolkata, the City of Joy, for a few days of knowledge sharing, networking, exotic foods, spectacular entertainment, meeting old buddies, Profs., international personalities, seniors, juniors and much more ! We look forward to you to be here with us with your family and take back some everlasting memories.

The programme starts from the forenoon of Friday, December 7, 2012 right through to afternoon of Sunday, December 9, 2012. Your registration fee covers conference expenses (including lunch, dinner and entertainment programmes). Spouse registration includes local sightseeing, meals and off course entertainment. There is an optional trip to Kharagpur on Monday, December 10, 2012 for those keen to take a nostalgic trip to the roots of the IIT system - where it all started.

We look forward to welcoming you, your family, friends, and sponsoring organizations. Please promote this event to all your alumni friends and classmates. See you in December !

Sincerely,

Sitangshu M Basu (IIT Kharagpur, 69)

Chair, Participation

email: Participation@PanIT2012.org

REGISTER NOW!!!



The Conference is expected to draw over 5,000 IITians from 16 IITs across the breadth and length of India, and will include over 1,000 overseas participants from US, Canada, UK, Middle East, Singapore, and Australia. Don't miss the opportunity to catch up with your batch mates. Be a part of this extravagant event with industry leaders, policy makers, consultants, planners, and decision makers from various the private and public sector all at one platform.

For registering, visit

<http://bit.ly/LYYvzV>

A STROKE OF FUN OR TEE TIME



Enjoy a fun filled time with your golfing buddies at the famous 'Tolly Club' of Kolkata....book your slots for 6th Dec 2012 and share a game. Tee Off : 7.00 AM, Cocktails & Dinner: 7:30 PM. Few Rooms have been booked at Tolly Club for the conference; participants enrolling for PanIT Golf to be given preference.

read more: <http://bit.ly/LRSqOI>

THE BIG BANG THEORY OR BACK TO THE ROOTS OR NOSTALGIA



LET'S GO BACK TO WHERE IT ALL BEGAN : IIT Kharagpur!

A short trip (optional) has been planned on Mon, Dec 10, 2012 for those who are eager to take a nostalgic trip to the roots of the IIT system.

See: **Back to the roots - IITs :** <http://bit.ly/MGralL>

TO JEE OR NOT TO JEE : A 16-YEAR-OLD'S TAKE



What IIT means to me: I am a 16-year-old-student, about to begin class XII, and I'm preparing for all the engineering entrance exams for 2013. I have been sure of my career choice for nearly four years now, and have always enjoyed learning and building my knowledge. Here is my opinion on the change in the IIT entrance pattern, as well as the years that build up to taking these examinations.

read more: <http://bit.ly/O7n3Vy>

Contribute to the PanIT 2012 Newsletter!

We would love to hear from you! If you'd like to contribute a short IIT-related story or article to be published in the Newsletter, please send a 200-or 250-word writeup to newsletter@paniit2012.org. Include your contact information and your IIT affiliation in your email.



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Rita Dutta

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I Will Impact (IWI) is a quarterly newsletter of Pan IIT Alumni that is aimed at highlighting the pioneering nation-building initiatives undertaken by its various projects: Avanti Fellows, Classle Knowledge, I Create India, IUCEE, IITians For ITIs, PARFI, IIT Mentors, India Nirman Sangh and SEED. IWI would also underscore determined efforts of social change and significant achievements of members, provide updates on conferences and be a platform to discuss and deliberate.

How Can I Impact?

To get involved in Pan IIT's nation-building mission, send the following details to coopaniit@gmail.com

Name: _____
Age: _____ Alumni of : _____ Yr: _____
Mob: _____
E-mail id : _____
Current Location: _____
Current Occupation: _____
Interested in supporting project/s: _____

I would like to

1. Volunteer time & expertise
2. Contribute cash or kind
3. Join full time
4. Any other



Farewell Note

Hari Padmanabhan
Immediate Past Chairman, PanIIT Alumni India

Looking Back, Moving Forward

Dear fellow alumni,

It's time to bid good bye, and I have many 'thank you's' to say. Let me say that by capturing what we stepped into, what we did (and wished we did better) and what we believe is the way forward.

Great Expectations, Equal Challenges

Thanks to the outstanding contributions of the previous Chairmen and their teams, the PanIIT Alumni brand, with three (as on April 2010) hugely successful PanIIT conferences in India and four in the US, had been growing larger year on year in both stature and repute. The overall impact was giant sized expectations on the scale and quality of whatever we take up as PanIIT Alumni. While this was the expectation or the demand side scenario, the supply side showed a rather bleak picture.

A one man almost full time secretariat at Mumbai, located in a sparse facility in IIT Mumbai, with a part time advisor on Government relations in Delhi, and I am referring to Ashok Kalbag and SN Zindal, was all that was there to back up the chairman. A few Nation Building initiatives had been identified for support, but proactive engagement was a challenge due to a lack of resources. The one initiative that stood out was the Pan IIT Alumni Reach For India, which was set up as a financially and legally independent structure, during the previous period (when Ashank Desai was Chairman), since there was a financially viable business model.

So, the question that came from conference sponsors and other supporters, and we heard this again in the 2010 Delhi conference was, 'What does Pan IIT do between conclaves'? My task was, and I took this upon myself as my key mission, was to set about answering this question in as tangible a manner as was possible.

The vision we worked out was to have, in two to three years, 1,000 alumni actively involved in alumni activities, by having

10,000 registered alumni on our active list and impacting 100,000 people through nation building initiatives.

Nation Building

The first step was to set up a full time working team that will engage with the nation building initiatives and move them towards sustainability and scale. This we believed was fundamental to making this a sustainable longer term effort.

In early 2011, Satish Kini (IIT B) came on board as COO to lead nation building, Anil Vij (IIT D) in Delhi took up Government and other institutional engagements and Shanmuga Sunderam in Chennai was brought in from the social sector, to get field engagements going for the various projects. Zindal, who has been our long time advisor continued to take care of Government matters, while Ashok Kalbag (IIT B), as always, stood as a rock, taking care of legal and secretarial matters. Pramod Gothi chaired the finance function and gave us oversight.

Over the past year, through quarterly workshops and numerous field engagements across projects, Nation Building projects are now an ongoing activity. Each project has begun to scale and some of them have started to work together in unique ways, to create new possibilities.

I want to put on record the immense commitment and passion Satish personally has brought in to achieve this. Satish's initiatives and leadership, Zindal's support with government, Anil's relentless working on the ground, Shanmuga's direct engagement with projects, Ashok's steady support and Pramod's oversight on finance, have all created a ground swell in the engagements, and consequently in the engagements of the projects with the field, to synergize and lay the foundation for growth. Please refer Satish's presentation

and explanatory notes attached for details:

A. Testimonials <https://docs.google.com/open?id=0B4tTTW7Cu7zjcmxfODhFU3RDdW8>

B. COO's Report <https://docs.google.com/open?id=0B4tTTW7Cu7zjaENYng2R1RWYzQ>

PIAI Structure and MoA

The MoA and structure at the time presented challenges of governance. A task force was set up and Yogesh Andlay (IIT D) spearheaded the effort. Through meetings and discussions, he steered the drafting and adoption of the new MoA by the EC and then it was approved by the general body. This is now being registered with registrar of societies. The new structure provides membership to the alumni associations of all the IITs, taking into consideration the newly formed IITs as well, thus ensuring true representation of the IIT ecosystem in the EC.

Physical Infrastructure

There has been progress on the physical infrastructure as well. Through the sustained efforts of the IIT M alumni leadership and the involvement of Prof Satya of IIT Madras and our PARFI champ, Kalyan Chakravorty, we now have a well appointed office at IIT Madras. My special thanks to Prof Ananth, the then Director, for making this possible. We now have working facilities in both Delhi and Chennai and these are being utilized by various projects on a need basis.

Networking

In today's world there is no better way to network and stay connected other than through social digital media. Kicking off with a pro bono CSR funded offer, we engaged with a social digital media marketing organization in Mumbai, to reach out and connect to alumni through social digital media, including Twitter and Linked In.

Early signs show (this is about a six-month-old initiative) an order of magnitude increase in hits and registrations, hits moving from a few hundred to 5,000 a month at this time and registrations touching four figures as well. This needs strong and enhanced support, to truly connect with and connect alumni among themselves and make PIAI the platform of choice for all alumni to connect and stay connected.

The Newsletter: *I Will Impact*

I Will Impact, this new colorful, full of life newsletter, was launched mid last year and its totally updated content and style has been well received by all. This is also proving to be excellent collateral for our brand building and

fund-raising efforts. Editor Rita Dutta has truly raised the bar on our newsletter and many thanks to her.

The Alumni Club

Over the last year, the Pan IIT Alumni Club movement has been gaining momentum. With the inauguration of the first Club premises in Chennai, this has now taken physical form. Many Chennai-based alumni across IITs, led by Deepak Mirza (IIT D) and Chand Das (IIT K) and many other alumni, have laid the foundation for what can become the most sustainable way for alumni to physically meet, to have fun and to get business done through the immense connectivity the Club can facilitate. The Bangalore Club has been formed and its premises are being located. Prof Ashok Mishra, the chair for the club, is guiding it actively.

With a view to making the Alumni Club, the hub of alumni activity, and scale this across the country, I invited Kalpathy Suresh (IIT M), to lead a national initiative to integrate alumni activities. He has since been actively involved and is in touch with alumni in many cities.

Policy Advocacy

In the area of Policy Advocacy, we organized a panel discussion and webcast to evolve a single alumni view on the contentious IIT JEE issue. Our team then met with the Minister of HRD to present our recommendations. In spite of many apprehensions, the final guidelines from the ministry have met with most of our recommendations. Somnath Bharti from the front and Yogesh Andlay from the back office contributed significantly to the initiative. I believe that there is enormous work that can be done in this area and my tenure could not deliver sufficiently in this area, for want of a champion.

Database of Alumni

An area where we continue to face a serious challenge is in having a live updated database of alumni contact data, available to us at all times. In close co-ordination with the global board, after much debate and discussion on privacy and security concerns, we have agreed on the joint creation of an 'opt in' database.

Gunjan Bagla is leading this initiative from the US side. We now need to work with him to create this 'opt in' database, which can prove to be the single most valuable resource for Pan IIT Alumni globally. Kalpathy Suresh is willing and able to take up this project and deliver results. I urge the new EC to take this up on an urgent basis and make this happen.

Global Networking

On the global networking front, we presented our Nation Building initiatives at the New York conclave in October. Since then, the WHEELS project of Pan IIT USA has been working closely with Satish in identifying areas of co-operation. A major project in the healthcare space is at an advanced stage of commencement. Many other initiatives have been discussed. With close coordination with the WHEELS team, and on the back of the Kolkata conclave interactions, there is a significant opportunity to get these into operation. Hiten Ghosh, Suresh Shenoy and Gulab Bhavnani lead these initiatives from the US.

The Kolkata 2012 conference will take the conferences full circle and back to where it all started, IIT Kharagpur. Sandipan Chakravorty and his high powered team have been working closely with us and we look forward to a great conference and a great time in December.

Learnings and Recommendations

At the EC level, in order to achieve continuity I recommend that we adopt a policy where one half of the members retire each year and the other half overlaps with a half of the new team for a year before moving on.

At the operating level, the recommended structure for PIAI to go forward is a two layered leadership structure for each vertical or each of the pillars of Pan IIT, Nation building, Networking and Policy Advocacy. The first consisting of an Alumnus Mentor providing direction and 'brand cover' each with a full time paid professional executive, not necessarily an alumnus carrying out the execution and providing operational continuity across EC tenures.

This needs to be enhanced, based on funding, with a horizontal structure that manages the various functions-to begin with marketing and communication, membership services and accounting & legal. Satish presented a budget and an action plan to realize revenues to meet the plan along with a recommended org structure, and these are all in his presentation (link below). (<https://docs.google.com/open?id=0B4tTTW7Cu7zjaENYng2R1RWYzQ>)

Like I said in the beginning, brand IIT is larger than life and everyone we have met has huge expectations of it, large in scale, world class in quality. In order to deliver on this, there is no choice but to build a permanent professional organization led by passionate and accomplished alumni. With this, I wish the new team the very best in all their endeavors, assure them of all our support and I handover the chair to the new chairman, Himangshu Vaish. ■

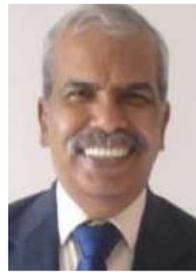
NEWSMAKERS

New Leadership at PIAI



Himangshu R Vaish (IIT-D, 1976) has taken over as Chairman of Pan IIT Alumni India (PIAI) from Hari Padmanabhan. Vaish, who is currently

the Managing Director of Instapower Limited, has filed a number of patents over the last several years in the field of electronics, more specifically in the field of electronics and LED lighting solutions, both in India and abroad.



V Gopinathan (IIT-M, 1969) has taken over as Chair-Finance, PIAI. Gopinathan, who worked with State Bank of India for over three decades, also worked as

Manager, Money and Forex, SBI, Hong Kong and Dy General Manager, Treasury Management, Corporate Centre.



Shashi Munjal (IIT-D) has taken over as Co Chair, PIAI. He worked with ONGC, Tata Economic Consultancy Services and Ranbaxy Group. He is involved in

production, marketing and preparation of project feasibility reports for the private sector, public sector and the Government. Currently as an entrepreneur, he is engaged with international trading of confectionery fats, egg powder and desiccated coconut, into import and distribution of Cocoa Powder to India and export of milk powder from India.

PIAI Board Members

Himangshu R Vaish (IIT-D)	V Gopinathan (IIT-M)	Shashi Munjal (IIT-D)
Arvind Singhal (IIT-R)	YOGESH MUNJAL (IIT-R)	Raj Varadrajan (IIT-M)
Ramnath S Mani (IIT-KGP)	Pronob Guha (IIT-KGP)	Saravanan Vijayakumaran (IIT-G)
Jay Dhariwal (IIT-G)	Mustan Tambawala (IIT-K)	ANURAG GOEL (IIT-K)
PV Krishna (IIT-B)	Raj Nair (IIT-B)	Hari Padmanabhan (IIT-K)

Chairman's Mission and Vision for PIAI

Himangshu R Vaish, the new Chairman of PIAI, wants to undertake the tasks of:

- Determining clearly scalable professional structure for individual PIAI Projects and vision for their expansion and growth in next five years.
- Accelerating the progress of those NBIs which have a significant impact on the nation and promote new NBIs which enthuse the EC. Professionalize management of NBIs.
- Laying down detailed guidelines, model contracts with NBIs, which ensure an enduring relationship with PanIIT and professionalize management and operative structure of PIAI projects, preferably manned by competent CEOs/Project Directors.
- Developing a sustainable revenue stream for PanIIT operations. Wherever possible, evolve self sustaining business models and where it is not possible for philanthropic reasons, ensure sustainable funding resources thru public, private and government partnership.
- Encouraging alumni who can spare time for PanIIT initiatives and

make resources available to them for effectively contributing to these initiatives.

- Improving the constitution of PanIIT to make it effective and set up policies, practices and processes which allow PanIIT to work in a transparent manner with its members (i.e. the IITAAs) and other stake-holders.
- Helping setup PanIIT alumni clubs wherever possible.
- Reviewing existing secretariat structure and its staffing for efficient and task oriented deployment and implement the multifarious programmes of PanIIT under guidance of its EC.
- Creating a strong connect between the IITAAs, IITs, IIT Students and the NBIs for a sustainable delivery.
- Closing ranks with IITAAs and through them with IITs and students to marshal all their resources for Nation Building.
- Encouraging IITAAs to be at the vortex of all PanIIT Activities and have joint activities which strengthen the IITAAs.

GIM 2012 Marked a New Strategic Partnership Between Govt of K'taka & PanIIT

Besides a special invite and former CM's exclusive interview to PanIITians, the Government of Karnataka has agreed to sponsor PANIIT Golf Tournaments in Bangalore and Mumbai and the finals at Kolkata

The 2nd Global Investors Meet (GIM) 2012, held from 7th to 8th June 2012 in Bangalore, marked a new beginning in Government of Karnataka's association with PanIIT. The Government of Karnataka sent a special letter to PanIITians, inviting its members to attend the GIM Meet. The invite also highlighted significant contributions made by illustrious IITians in socio-economic development of Karnataka. The webcast of the event was also seen by PanIITians during their visit to GIM 2012.

"Association with PanIIT: A Value Addition"

Lending thrust to the partnership, DV Sadananda Gowda, Former Chief Minister of Karnataka, gave an exclusive interview to PanIIT. Delineating the nature of the partnership, Gowda said, "The strategic partnership between our state and PanIIT will enhance our quest to seek quality investments across sectors in the state. The association with PanIIT will certainly be a value addition as it is a well known fact that IITians hold senior, responsible positions in industry and Government across the world. That apart, since the primary objective of PanIITians is focused on "Nation Building", I am certain that this partnership will not only help profile India in better light but will also project Karnataka as one of the most viable investment destinations in this part of the world. Going forward, we would like to be associated with PanIIT to sustain and enhance our industry outreach." He has also stated that he wants PanIITians across the world to come and experience Karnataka and the business environment that the state offers.

Praising IITians for Socio-Economic Development

Speaking about IITians' contribution to nation building, he stated that IITians have kept development of the nation in mind in spite of

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No.RCK.PS.GIM-2,2012
 Date:-11/05/2012

Dear PanIITians

Sub:- Invitation for the Global Investors Meet to be held 7th
8th June-2012 at Bangalore.

Greetings from Karnataka

Global Investor's Meet (GIM) is a biennial investment summit organized by the Government of Karnataka in Bangalore, India. The event is aimed at bringing together business leaders, investors, corporations, thought leaders, policy and opinion makers under one platform.

GIM 2010 was a grand success and encouraged by the outstanding response to GIM 2010, Government of Karnataka is organizing the 2nd Global Investor's Meet on 7th & 8th June, 2012 at Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bangalore.

Government of Karnataka acknowledges the significant contribution made by IITians towards the development of Karnataka and welcomes more PanIITians to invest in the progressive and investor-friendly state of Karnataka—the first state to implement the industrial facilitation act for investors.

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in GIM-2012 on 7-8th June 2012 at BIEC, Bangalore. This meet is intended to showcase the investment opportunities in India and Karnataka. We assure you of our fullest support in making your visit memorable and productive.

For more information please long on to: www.advantagekarnataka.com

With best wishes,

RSVP: G. Manjunath Gowda, Resident Director,
 Karnataka Udyog Mitra.
 Mobi:+919868860070, email:-rd@kumbangalore.com

C.C. Mr. Anil K.Vij, Head Govt.Projects, PanIIT
 Mobi:-918800296282, email:-anil.vij@gmail.com

Yours sincerely

 (Vandana Gurnani)

Government of Karnataka's invitation letter to PanIIT

having some of the most lucrative jobs across the world. "Their (PanIITians) contribution to the socio-economic development of the state is commendable. Their initiatives in the areas of rural finishing schools, rural BPOs and rural agro-processing will go a long way in giving the rural youth more opportunities to hone their skills and contribute more to the nation. IITians have done extensive work in RTI, rural development, academics, bureaucracy and even in politics," he said.

Anil Viz, Head – Government Projects, PIAI, who spearheaded the strategic association with Government of Karnataka, said, "We are pleased to confirm that PanIIT has fulfilled the activities related to Advantage Karnataka

GIM 2012, in accordance with its order and with great gusto. We were amazed both by the panorama of sectors and projects and by the imagination, conceptualization, planning and implementation by the Government of Karnataka during GIM 2012."

He added that though the GIM 2012 has come to an end, the partnership with the Government of Karnataka carries on. And a reflection of that is that the Government of Karnataka has agreed to sponsor PANIIT Golf Tournaments in Bangalore and Mumbai and the finals at Kolkata. The Government of Karnataka has also indicated that it would participate in the forthcoming PanIIT Conclave in Kolkata from 7th to 9th December, 2012. ■

GIM 2012



During the inauguration

GIM 2012 Leads to Inking of Crucial Pacts & Raising Mega Investments

The two-day event culminated in 7.6 lakh crore investment, signing 730 MoUs and a potential to create 15 lakh jobs across various sectors

The flagship event of the Karnataka Government, Global Investors Meet (GIM) 2012, which was held from 7th to 8th June at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bangalore culminated with the Government signing 730 MoUs across several sectors for investments in the State. The other highlights of the event was the Government garnering investment of over 7.6 lakh crore with a potential to offer over 15 lakh jobs. In addition, 1.68 lakh crores of investment was received as registration of interest for the infrastructure sector. The two-day event, which had a participation of over 40,000 visitors, had Ernst & Young as the Knowledge Partner and

MM Activ Sci Tech Communications as the Event Partner.

Realizing Karnataka's Vision

Addressing the media at the close of GIM 2012, Former Chief Minister of Karnataka, DV Sadananda Gowda, said that the response to Karnataka has been tremendous. "The Global Investors' Meet has been organized as a focused endeavor to realize Karnataka's vision of achieving sustainable economic development, increase in employment levels, better livelihood, balanced regional development and environmentally sustainable long-term development, as outlined in our Vision 2020. I am happy to say that through the success of GIM 2012, we are on the right track. We look forward to strengthen partnerships with our investors in our mutual quest to achieve enhanced and wide-ranging interactions and initiatives in the future. Over the last 20 months, we have invested a large

amount of time preparing for Global Investors Meet 2012 and have interacted with investors not only in India but in several other countries," he added.

Success of GIM 2010

The State Government had organized the first Global Investors Meet in 2010 to demonstrate its commitment to promote equitable growth across the state to make it globally competitive and a leader among Indian states. The 2010 event was a grand success and the state signed 389 MoUs with investments amounting to Rs 3.92 lakh crores (US\$ 78.4 billion), of which more than 72% of the projects are in various stages of implementation.

Business Climate Par Excellence

The success of GIM 2012 was a result of Government's efforts in reaching out to and offering investors a business climate that is at par with the best in the world. "We are continuing our efforts to enhance and sustain investments across sectors through proactive and innovative initiatives in policy and GIM 2012 has taken us to the next level," Gowda said.

Investment	Numbers	Value
MOUs / EOIs	712	6.58 lakh crore
Industry ROIs	18	30,000 crore
SME MOUs	6,800	71,000 crore
Infrastructure ROIs	324	1.68 lakh crore

With the Government of Karnataka committed to inviting and sustaining investments that would enhance inclusive growth and employment within the state, one of its initiatives is the forming of a Karnataka ICT Group 2020. The mission of the Group is to increase ICT exports to Rs 4 lakh crores and create additional 12 lakh jobs by 2020. The Group also intends to help incubating 1,000 start ups and entrepreneur driven initiatives.

With Karnataka offering an abundance of investment opportunities in various sectors with a slew of sector-specific policy initiatives to encourage investor interest, the GIM focussed on a wide range of upcoming sectors like knowledge economy, science and technology, engineering, tourism, textile, infrastructure, and energy. The State has also placed special emphasis on business partnerships for development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The GIM Expo

The GIM Expo saw the participation of over 462 exhibitors over an area of 2,00,000 square feet. The expo had participation from 13 countries including Japan, Germany, Mexico, Italy, Canada, UK, Taiwan, and nine leading states, like MP, Bihar, Rajasthan Kerala, Gujarat, Chattisgarh and Jharkhand. Over 130 PSUs and large enterprises, including Tata, Toyota, Honda, JSW, L&T, MRPL, Indian Oil, HAL and SBI participated in it. Over 300 small and micro enterprises across all districts of Karnataka also participated.

Investor-Friendly Policies

Interlinx partnering online tool received 2,600 registered delegates, leading to about 2,200 plus meeting requests and over 560 meetings



During GIM 2012's road show in Hyderabad

were held at the venue. India-partnering meetings numbered over 150 amongst national and international participants.

Speaking at the press conference, Murugesu Nirani, Minister for Large and Medium Industries attributed the success of GIM 2012 to an unrelenting quest by the Government to proactively identify and find solutions to issues investors were facing. "Going by the tremendous success of the Global Investment Meet 2012 and the unprecedented response from investors through the signing of MOUs valued at over 7.6 lakh crore, we have proved that Karnataka is the most preferred destination not only in the country but in the region as well," Nirani said.

Speaking on the State's commitment to facilitate the smooth flow of business for investors, Nirani added that the State Government has launched innovative policies, under which attractive incentives across a wide variety of sectors have been offered to investors to create an enabling policy environment and address the varied needs of industry in the state. "Karnataka has launched India's first Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics Policy apart from focusing on a strong and effective Intellectual Property Rights framework through greater awareness and

commercialization. In addition, the Government is putting in place policies to advance further facilitate investment in the state. Draft policies that are ready for release include Infrastructure Bill, Special investment Region Act, Karnataka State Housing Policy, Automobile Policy, Aerospace Policy, Solar Policy, Pharma Sector Policy," he added.

The State has been proactive in identifying and addressing investors' needs through timely policy-level interventions such as The New Industrial Policy, State SEZ Policy, Electronic Hardware Policy, Textile Policy and Integrated Agri Business and Agro-Processing Policy. The Government is in continuous communication with investors to seek feedback and further enhance the business environment in the state. The State has also provided land for the establishment of Indian Institute of Nano Science and Technology, and for the establishment of International Centre for Theoretical Sciences.

Boosting Investors' Confidence

In its past experience, the State realized that land was one of the primary issues facing investors and hence the Government has taken a slew of steps to acquire and build a land bank near Devanahalli to establish a software park, an electronic hardware park and an aerospace park to harness the vast potential in this sector. "The state has allocated 4,000 acres of land for the development of a science city in Challakere, about 200 kilometers from Bengaluru, where the prestigious Indian Institute of Science will locate its second campus," Nirani said.

Karnataka is the first state in the country to promote nano science and nanotechnology. In a significant move to attract investment from nanotechnology-based industries, the Government has initiated a project to develop a nano park on approximately 100 acres. The state has also proposed the establishment of a technology innovation and research center, based on the Industrial Technology Research Institute model in Taiwan.

The Government of Karnataka has allotted 50 acres of land near Bengaluru airport to IFCI to build a financial city. In addition, the State has taken the initiative to develop an integrated Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR), covering an area of 40 sq. km. The Central Government has given an "in principle" clearance for the project. The first phase of this project has been initiated in 2072 acres of land. ■



Meeting with Posco

CONCLAVE

Government of Kerala Invites PanITians to Attend Global Investment Concave

The Conclave will provide PanITians an opportunity to explore, invest and establish business interests in Kerala

The Government of Kerala is organizing 'Emerging Kerala 2012', a Global Investment conclave, from 12th to 14th September, 2012 at Le Meridien Convention Centre in Kochi, Kerala. A bouquet of opportunities for the world to take note of, 'Emerging Kerala 2012' provides opportunity to explore, invest and establish business interests in Kerala. With a proactive administration and investment-friendly policies, this conclave is a gateway to make a mark on the industrial playground of Kerala.

The Conclave: A Melting Pot

The purpose of the conclave is to make Kerala a premier global hub of economic activity, through fostering entrepreneurship and industry, which could leverage its inherent strengths, resulting in equitable socio-economic growth. The conclave intends to present and showcase Kerala and create awareness amongst all stakeholders – enterprises, Government, institutions, leaders & influencers, investors and general public – through continuous engagement and connect initiatives, while simultaneously creating the right environment, to facilitate the transformation of Kerala into a business hub and preferred investment destination. The conclave would have a mix of business meets, sectoral conclaves, domestic and international road-shows, discussion and debates.

Advantage Kerala

Kerala has not only been at the forefront of marking quality education and healthcare available to the masses, it's human development indicators (HDI) are the highest in the country and even on par with some developed nations.

Kerala has had excellent socio-development indicators like high literacy, high life expectancy, low infant mortality, greater skew favouring the girl child and more. The result of this is the creation of a strong social fabric that has been better able to weather the turbulences thrown up by the economic upheavals of the past decade.

Special Invite to PanIT

The Government of Kerala has sent a special invite to PanIT, acknowledging the significant contribution made by PanITians towards the progress and advancement of various sectors in the country. The invite states, "PanITians, this is your opportunity to explore, invest and establish your business interests in Kerala, which has set the tone for social development in country, creating benchmarks that others choose to emulate." The invite mentions that PanITians would benefit from programmes like

business meets, sectoral conclaves, domestic and international road-shows, discussion and debates. PanITians can also participate in Global Connect Sessions like Inaugural & Plenary Sessions, Sectoral presentations, Round tables, Business to Business (B2B) connects, Business to Government (B2G) connects, Cultural performances, etc.

Exclusive Interview by the CM

In an exclusive interview to PanIT regarding the event, Kerala's CM Oomen Chandy has stated, "We have already conducted Emerging Kerala 2012 road shows in New Delhi and Mumbai. The response to these has been extremely positive and heartening. In New Delhi, where we kick-started the campaign with a high-profile ambassadors' meeting, we had diplomats from various countries including the US, the UK, France, Canada, Germany, the Russian Federation, Belgium, China, Taiwan, Denmark, Czech Republic, Malaysia and Sri Lanka. Many of these countries subsequently sent diplomatic delegations to the state and we have had fruitful discussions on potential trade and business partnerships."

The response from the business community has been tremendous. "The meetings we had with business and corporate leaders in both Delhi and Mumbai have given us many valuable inputs as well as a clear indication of the investor interest in the opportunities that Kerala has to offer," he states, adding that as the next step, the Government is planning to take the road shows to the cities of Bangalore and Hyderabad. ■

The entire launch ceremony and event on 12th to 14th September, 2012 will be webcast live on PanIT Alumni website.

For more information, visit:
www.emergingkerala2012.com



Kerala Government's invitation letter to PanIT for attending 'Emerging Kerala' conclave

Social Entrepreneurs: Transforming India

Be it socio-economic development, providing quality education for children at the bottom of the ladder, harnessing technology to improve living conditions in rural India or spearheading radical reforms, many IITians have devoted their lives to the cause of social entrepreneurship. *I Will Impact* profiles the pioneering initiatives of some of these social reformists



PD Rai

Lok Sabha MP, Sikkim

Age: 57

IIT: Kanpur, 1976

Boosting Sikkim's Economic Growth

Prem Das Rai has the unique distinction of being India's first Member of Parliament with the dual and prestigious IIT and IIM degrees. Born in Sikkim, Rai was sent to Wynberg Allen, a boarding school in Mussoorie, by the former king of Sikkim as part of a royal policy of promoting promising children. After his B Tech in Chemical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1976, he received a degree in management from IIM Ahmedabad in 1978.

Chucking Up Corporate Job

His first job was with Bank of America in Kolkata. While there, a chance meeting with BB Lal, the then Governor of Sikkim, made Rai re-chart the course of his life. Lal saw the potential difference that Rai could make to Sikkim and urged him to return home. So in 1979, Rai left his cushy corporate job and started working as a Project Manager to set up Sikkim Flour Mills, drawing only one-fourth of his previous salary. "It was evidently a huge, courageous, and ultimately, an emotional decision," says Rai to *I Will Impact*.

People might think otherwise, but I believe there are three kinds of entrepreneurship: business entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship and political entrepreneurship. Business entrepreneurship requires passion at the heart and willingness to walk the extra mile. Social entrepreneurship is to see how to contribute to the society after arriving at a certain level of career fulfillment. In the third phase, political entrepreneurship, one actually looks at politics as entrepreneurship and starts doing valuable political work. Political domain knowledge is acquired only by doing. That is why it is important to be in it

His Engagement with Sikkim Government

For six long years, Rai worked for the Sikkim Government in various capacities: as Managing Director of Sikkim Milk Union, establishing Sikkim Flour Mills; Managing Director of Sikkim Milk, Amul style cooperative Union; Chairman of Sikkim Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (SIDICO) and Sikkim Scheduled Tribes and All Other Backward Classes Financial Development Corporation (SABCO). Outside the Government, he also invested time to found and chair the Ecotourism and Conservation Society of Sikkim (ECOSS), a non-profit initiative, and run a computer business. He also served as the CEO (Northeast) of BASIX, one of India's largest microfinance and livelihood promotion institutions. He implemented microfinance initiatives for Sikkim and other NE states by working with farmers, villagers, and NGOs during his term at BASIX.

Foray into Politics

His political career flagged off when Rai joined the Sikkim Democratic Front Party (SDF), at a time when the party was in its formative years in 1993. He served as the party's General Secretary and has worked at all its various structural levels. He has contributed to SDF's manifesto and vision, and continues to work for the party and for the well being of Sikkimese people. In 2008, he served as Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Commission of the Government of Sikkim.

In 2009, he was elected as Sikkim's only Member of Parliament to the 15th Lok Sabha. In Parliament, he first became a member of the Standing Committee on Information Technology (IT). In 2011, he shifted to the significant Standing Committee on Finance. He is also on the Lok Sabha Committee on Ethics and on the Consultative Committee attached to the Human Resource Development Ministry. Most recently, he has been nominated by the Speaker of Lok Sabha, Meira Kumar to head the Fellowships Committee of the Lok Sabha. He is also keenly involved in the Speaker's forums on water and climate change.

Awards

In 2002, Rai was awarded the prestigious and selective Eisenhower Fellowship (USA) for his contribution to Sikkim's economic and industrial growth. He has also been bestowed "Distinguished Alumnus Award" by IIM Ahmedabad for his outstanding contribution in the area of public and Government services.

His Message to PanIITians

Emotional decisions, when backed by a larger aim in mind, are sometimes the smartest ones you can make! PANIIT, like many such bodies and institutions seeks to funnel and channelize energy into building a better society and thereby help in nation building. I would say our country needs many more IITians doing public service and help develop public goods with integrity of purpose. India has the world's highest number of poverty stricken, health and education deprived people. We have miles to go. Let us commit to redouble our efforts to alleviate this. Every little effort counts and should be made to count. Then and then only, can we begin a conversation about becoming a superpower.

COVER STORY

Cracking Down on Corruption

With the spectre of corruption looming large and tainting every possible fibre of the society, the announcement of Pradeep Kumar as the new Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) in July 2011 was hailed by the nation. Kumar revered for his immaculate reputation in public service was appointed for a period of three years by the President of India and approved by a high-power committee headed by Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh.

Kumar, a graduate in Electrical Engineering from IIT-Delhi, joined the IAS in 1972. He belongs to the Haryana cadre. In 1986, he went to University of Wales, UK, to do a Masters in Economics and Social Sciences.

Holding Key Positions

A seasoned bureaucrat, he had worked in various key ministries. In 1997, he served as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises. In 2009, he was appointed as the Defence Secretary for a two-year term. Kumar's earlier postings also include Chairmanship of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), Secretary of Defence Production, Secretary of Disinvestment, Ministry of Finance and Additional Secretary, Coal at the Centre. He has served on the boards of many leading companies, including Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., Maruti Udyog Ltd., Coal India Ltd., Neyvelli Lignite Corporation, Hindustan Paper Corporation and Andrew Yule Ltd.

Initiatives as the CVC

Kumar has undertaken a mammoth job with the Commission overseeing investigations by the CBI of several high profile corruption cases. Kumar advocates not only the use of technology and e-governance as a potent weapon in the fight against corruption, he has also emphasized upon change in value system to boot out corruption. He holds that ethics should become an integral part of work culture and people's lives. Under him, the watchdog has recommended the teaching of ethics as part of school curriculum as prevalent in several developing countries.

Under his aegis, the Commission has been persuading organizations to adopt measures like e-procurement, e-billing, e-payment and IT enabling of various public services. Kumar has been advocating the

Ethics are integral to one's professional skills. Professional competence without ethics is like a knife without a handle. Young Indians, whether in industry or in business schools, must be exposed to business ethics, corporate governance and corporate social responsibility

use of CCTV as a simple tool to keep a check on corrupt and unauthorised activities. With corruption taking international dimensions, the Commission is leading a task force to develop a global knowledge management system that would help anti-corruption agencies across the world to exchange information, knowledge and experience to fight graft more effectively.



Pradeep Kumar
Central Vigilance
Commissioner
IIT: Delhi
Age: 62



Harish Hande
Co-founder
SELCO Solar Light Pvt Ltd
IIT: Kharagpur, 1990
Age: 45

Tech Power for Rural India

In 1991, while studying rural electrification in the Dominican Republic, Harish Hande was enthused by the fact that households were using solar power by paying a paltry sum of money. Wanting to contribute in the socio-economic space in India, Hande returned to India and co-founded SELCO India (Solar Electric Light Company India) in 1995, a social enterprise that promotes sustainable technologies in rural India.

Backed by a PhD in Energy Engineering from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, Hande was determined to debunk three beliefs related to sustainable technology in rural sector: that poor people cannot afford sustainable technologies, poor people cannot maintain sustainable technologies and social ventures cannot be run as commercial entities.

Installing Solar Lighting Systems

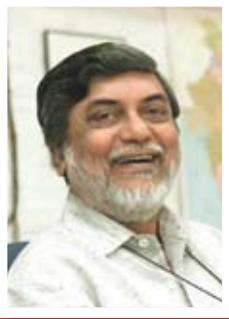
SELCO helps lightning up by decentralizing the process and creating personalized solutions based on people's different needs. SELCO focuses on creating products based on end user needs, installation and after-sales service and standardized financing packages. Headquartered in Bengaluru and having a skill force of over 170 employees, SELCO India has installed solar lighting systems in over 1,35,000 households, mainly in rural areas of Gujarat and

Karnataka. "For the past 15 years, we have concentrated on building the necessary parts for a sustainable and scalable model for energy services delivery through our bottom top approach," says Hande.

Expanding fast, today SELCO boasts of 28 branches in Gujarat and Karnataka and has emerged as India's leading solar technology firm. Hande is looking forward to replicate the SELCO model across India and create six labs by 2016-17 as centers of innovation for the poor. SELCO has a profit of approximately \$1.6 million and has projected revenue of \$4.8 million to \$6 million between 2013 and 2015.

Awards & Achievements

Hande has won the Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy 2005, Tech Museum Award 2005, Social Entrepreneur of the year 2007 by the Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship, the Nand & Jeet Khemka Foundation and Ramon Magsaysay Award in 2011 for "his pragmatic efforts to put solar power technology in the hands of the poor, through his social enterprise SELCO India". Hande has also received the world's leading green energy award from Prince Charles in 2005. In 2007, SELCO INDIA won the Outstanding Achievement Award from Ashden Awards, which was presented by Al Gore, former Vice President of the US.



Dr Anil K Rajvanshi
 Director
 Nimbkar Agricultural
 Research Institute
 IIT: Kanpur, 1972
 Age: 61

Taking Technology to the Hinterland

To address problems faced by rural people in the areas of energy, water, pollution and income generation, Dr Anil K Rajvanshi left his job as a faculty member of the University of Florida in the Department of Mechanical Engineering to return to India. In 1981, he found his own rural NGO – Nimbkar Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) in Phaltan, Maharashtra. Previously, Dr Rajvanshi did his B Tech and M Tech in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1972 and 1974 respectively. He received his PhD in Mech Engineering from University of Florida, Gainesville, USA in 1979 under solar energy pioneer Dr Eric Farber.

Addressing Issues Affecting Rural Population

NARI has done pioneering work in agriculture, renewable energy and sustainable development areas, specially in those affecting rural population. Backed by his 30 years of experience in renewable energy R&D and rural development, Dr Rajvanshi has been applying sophisticated science and technology to solve problems faced by the rural people in environmentally sound ways. Consequently, he developed innovative technologies like ethanol from sweet sorghum, solar

distillation plant for ethanol, efficient lanterns/stoves for rural lighting and cooking, low concentration ethanol stoves and lanterns, biomass gasifiers and electric cycle rickshaws, among others.

Awards and Recognitions

For his pioneering work, Dr Rajvanshi has received a number of prestigious national and international awards, such as Jamnalal Bajaj Award, induction to the US-based Solar Hall of Fame, Energy Globe Award, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) Annual Award, and Sweden-based Globe Award, among others.

Dr Rajvanshi has written extensively on his work on rural self-sufficiency. He has more than 160 publications and seven patents to his credit. He is the principal author of the Govt of India's national policy on Energy Self Sufficient Talukas. Besides his engineering work, he is also involved in studies of human consciousness and the interaction of spirituality and technology. He is an author of a book entitled, "Nature of Human Thought". Recently, he has also penned his memoirs of his US student days in a new book entitled "1970s America – An Indian Student's Journey".

Spearheading Crusade Against Curable Blindness

For more than a decade now, Krishnamurthy Sridharan has been working as Founder and President of Sankara Eye Foundation (SEF), USA, whose objective is to eradicate curable blindness across India.

SEF was set up in 1998 in San Jose, CA, USA, and works with its partner in India, Sankara Eye Care Institutions (SECI). Set up in 1977 under the auspices and blessings of Sankaracharya in Coimbatore initially, SECI now has expanded to numerous locations around the country. SECI performs free eye surgeries among other preventive care for eye-related diseases, especially in rural areas of the country.

Sridharan obtained his B.Tech in Civil Engineering from IIT Madras in 1980, two MS degrees from Southern Illinois University in 1982 and 1984, and an Executive MBA from Pepperdine University in 2004.

Unique Scalability Model

"In India, a single hospital in Coimbatore, Sankara Eye Hospital, was performing about 8000 free eye surgeries in 1998. When SEF joined the mission, a much bigger goal was set- Vision 20/20 by the year 2020," he explains. To replicate the success of the Coimbatore hospital all over India, a unique scalability model was introduced: every hospital should be self-sustaining in five years after starting the operations. "The self sufficiency is attained by performing 20 percent of the surgeries to

the paying patients, and performing 80 percent of the surgeries totally free," he informs. This model proved successful in the first hospital SEF built in India- in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. There are now eight hospitals running, including ones in Bangalore, Shimoga, Anand, Krishnan Koil, Silvassa, and in Rishikesh.

SEF is currently raising funds for building the next super-specialty eye-care hospital in Punjab. The number of free eye surgeries has increased from 8,000 in 1998 to over 1,20,000 in the year 2010. At SEF, Sridharan has led a dedicated group of volunteers all over the USA to raise funds for the development of this exemplary organization to grow and achieve their objectives. Sridharan is a key member of the core team driving policies, strategy and process for the organization, and is also part of the implementation team. He handles the organization's governance and growth, and is involved in identifying key growth opportunities for the SEF- in corporate grants and foundations.

Sridharan's day job is at Intel Corporation as Director of Strategy and Marketing of Software Pathfinding & Innovation. "Though my job at Intel take up over the usual 40 hours of work a week, I nevertheless find enough time, energy and conviction to spend an equal amount of time and energy to work towards furthering the goals of SEF," he signs off.



Krishnamurthy Sridharan
 President and
 Founder, Sankara Eye
 Foundation
 IIT: Madras, 1980
 Age: 54

COVER STORY

Taking Quality Education to Rural India

Often, a single incident or person can alter one's life. That's what happened with Chandrakant Singh, who had received his B Tech from BIT Sindri and M Tech from IIT Bombay in Electrical Engineering in 2000. With one patent and one copyright in his name while working in Germany, Chandrakant Singh could have continued his steady ascent towards excellence in career, had it not been for his determination to do his bit for the society, disturbed by the plight of Bihari migrants who were targeted by political party MNS in Mumbai.

Singh, who has more than 12-year Research and Development experience in the area of Automotive Embedded Systems and Software, worked in General Motors, BOSCH, Tata Steel. Presently, he is the Head of Learning and Development at PurpleLeap, which is a Joint Venture of Pearson and Educomp.

Starting a Technology-enabled School in Rural Bihar

To provide quality education in Bihar, to prevent brain-drain from the then impoverished state and stop the outflow of money to different states, Singh wanted to contribute in the education sector. He called on the principal of the primary government school at Chamanpura in Bihar with an offer to fund six students who would pass a scholarship test. The reason for choosing the village was that Singh was born there and also completed his primary school using the light of kerosene lamp. However when the proposed test was not conducted, Singh contacted Surya Narayan, Dean of IIT, Bombay, who suggested that he rather make a business plan for a revenue-generating, self-sustaining model instead of providing free education. "I devised a 100-page business plan for a Rs-30-crore campus that would have a school, an engineering college and an R&D centre. With eight of my friends chipping in, I formed the Chaitanya Gurukul Trust. In 2008, my dream project was started to provide world-class, technology-enabled education," recalls Singh.

Interestingly, the village school set up by Singh neither has electricity nor any teachers in the class. It's a virtual class room where teachers are located thousands of miles away. The teachers sit at remote locations and use Skype for teaching. In the absence of electricity, the computers are run on power generators. Teachers, who were selected from different parts of the state, received two months of training from teachers at Mount Carmel School and IIT professors at Bangalore. The teachers were also taught how to use Powerpoint

and Flash technology, and given lessons in team-building and motivation. Teachers mark their attendance using a biometric finger printer, while students log their attendance in a computer.

Today, the school has 45 rooms across two Wi-Fi enabled floors, four volleyball courts, four badminton courts and a cricket pitch. A swimming pool is under construction. The basic tuition fee is Rs 300 for Class I and increases by Rs 100 for every class upward. Hostel residents are charged Rs 4,000 a month, but concessions are given depending on the income of the child's family.

Revenue Surplus

Even though Chaitanya Gurukul is located in a village without any electric pole, Singh has made this organization self-sustainable and revenue surplus in the first year. This is laudable as Chaitanya Gurukul imparts complete free education to students from the bottom of

The institute nurtures talent into all-round excellence, producing not just technocrats or professionals but genuine visionaries and principle leaders

the pyramid. In the first year, 11 students of the school qualified in Level 2 of National Science Olympiad and International Math Olympiad. Singh has also connected his students with Dr Don Thomas, four times NASA shuttle astronauts.

In the future, Singh wants to focus on R&D in the area of affordable education, renewable energy (Solar and Bio-Mass) and agriculture and food procession instrumentation, initiatives that will benefit people at the bottom of the pyramid.

Awards

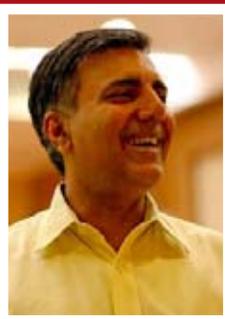
Singh was nominated for Amazing Indians by TIMESNOW in the category of Educators of India. He has received the prestigious Young Alum Achievers Award 2012 from IIT Bombay.

His Message to PanIITians

Let us come together and contribute for development of India to make equitable and sustainable ecosystem where man, animal and nature can live together happily and peacefully.



Chandrakant Singh
Chairman and
Co-founder
Chaitanya Gurukul
IIT: Bombay, 2000
Age: 38



Vinay Somani
 Founder, Karmayog
 IIT: Bombay, 1980

Creating a Useful Resource Platform

Realizing the need for an organization or network that linked NGOs with those who can help or those who need help from NGOs, Vinay Somani set up Karmayog in June 2004. Hailing from a business background and community, Somani found that there was no easily available information about NGOs, their work and the various social issues that they tackle. "Our attempt through Karmayog has been to look at concepts or ideas that are meaningful for society, and then try and bring about actions that correspond to these concepts," says Somani, who did his B Tech in 1980 from IIT-Bombay and MBA from Harvard Business School.

Karmayog is a free, networking platform for citizens concerned over social causes and civic issues. The organization works closely with Government to provide recommendations for policies and procedures, as well as feedback on existing schemes and programmes. It connects citizens, civil society organizations, media, corporates, government officials and organizations by online and offline methods. The Karmayog website houses a comprehensive on-line directory of over 19,000 NGOs from all over India, and useful resource sections on over 350 civic and social causes.

I would like the Karmayog community to grow in size and influence. I want policy makers and planners to seek and use the inputs of Karmayog members while framing or reviewing policies and laws

Spearheading Various Initiatives

The impact of this initiative has been far reaching and straddles various sectors. To facilitate people to make small donations to good NGOs identified by a credible, neutral, third-party, Karmayog carefully selects a "Non-profit of the Month". To map the capacity and capability of each sector in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai with a brief note on their capacity, activities and services, Karmayog has begun a sector-mapping exercise. Karmayog has also undertaken an annual study and rating of the Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives of the 500 largest companies in India, since 2007.

Somani has also reached out to people with hearing issues. Karmayog visited deaf schools and connected NGOs to profile them and put their data on the website for free access by parents, beneficiaries, donors, etc. Lists of various material providers were also compiled and posted on the website. A meeting was organized for everyone connected with the sector.

Karmayog also holds networking meetings of NGOs and supporters in various areas. When life in Mumbai came to a standstill due to heavy downpour on 26th July, 2005 Karmayog pitched in relief and rehabilitation efforts. Karmayog took the lead in forming an NGO-coordination committee duly recognized by and working with the municipality. And the website became

the nodal point for flood reports and feedback from and to NGOs.

Setting up NGO Council

The Karmayog "NGO-of-the-Month" is an initiative to highlight a small, lesser-known NGO every month and to ask members of the Karmayog network to support that NGO with at least a small monetary contribution for that month. This helps the selected NGO to get in touch with a group of interested persons, some of whom may later become long-term funders and supporters of that NGO. Karmayog also took the initiative to set up a formal NGO Council, comprising more than 60 leading NGOs representing the breadth and depth of the NGO sector. The objective is to include NGOs in Government program and policy planning, as well as implementation and delivery of Government services to the public. Karmayog is the Convening NGO of the NGO Council, which has entered into an MoU with the MCGM to collaborate on civic issues. The NGO Council has helped BMC draft various policy recommendations regarding hawkers, public health, stray dogs, public toilets, etc. The NGO Council also partners with the Anti-Corruption Bureau in a 'Mumbai - Pact Against Corruption' Program launched in November 2006.

A Unique Books Collection and Distribution

'The Donate Books, Receive Books' initiative was started by Karmayog on May 2009 to enable any person from across the country to donate books to any public library, school, college, hospital, NGO, Trust, etc. The Karmayog office in Fort, Mumbai is itself a collection centre, and almost daily, someone is either dropping or picking up books from its office. "Over 13,000 books have reached NGOs through just this one collection centre, and many thousands more have exchanged hands all over India," adds Somani.

Scaling Up

Karmayog is evolving into two broad directions: an internet platform for nonprofits and supporters to inform about themselves and their needs / offers and a NGO-citizen - Government interface which can enable a holistic view of the various problems that society faces. In the coming years, Somani would like the Karmayog community to grow in size and influence; he wants policy makers and planners to seek and use the inputs of Karmayog members while framing or reviewing policies and laws. He also desires that NGOs, especially smaller NGOs from smaller cities, towns and villages, to be able to easily get the support and advice that they need, through Karmayog.

COVER STORY

A Champion of Human Rights Law

A graduate of IIT-Bombay, Colin Gonsalves started his professional life as a civil engineer but was drawn into the field of law through his work with the unions in Bombay. He commenced formal legal study in 1979 and litigated his first case, while still in law school, on behalf of 5,000 workers facing lock out of their jobs.

Upon attaining his law degree in 1983, Gonsalves co-founded the Human Rights Law Network (HRLN), India's leading public interest law group. He developed it into a national organization that brought together over 200 lawyers and paralegals operating out of 28 offices spread throughout India. Gonsalves transitioned his practice from the Labour Courts to the Bombay High Court in 1984 and was designated as Senior Advocate, before becoming adding moving onto the Supreme Court of India in 2001.

He has brought numerous precedent-setting cases to the Supreme Court and the appellate-level High Courts of various states. Amongst these cases was the infamously labelled "Right to Food" case, which involved one of the greatest expansions of Constitutional rights seen by the Indian society in the last several decades. Today, under his guidance, HRLN as an organization has expanded to

include the 'Indian Peoples Tribunal on Environment and Human Rights', which is an active Peoples' Court, 'the Centre for Constitutional Rights' and the organization's human rights law magazine Combat Law.

The websites www.hrln.org; www.combatlaw.org; and www.iptindia.org house information regarding over 200 public interest cases that have been fought, publications, trainings, investigations, and their numerous consultations.

Awards and Recognitions

Gonsalves has written, edited and co-edited copious number of articles and books on a range of human rights law issues. For such inspiring work, he was presented with the "International Human Rights Award" by the American Bar Association in 2005. Most recently, in 2010, he has been conferred a Doctorate of the University, honoris causa, by the University of Middlesex, UK. He was also bestowed the "Mother Teresa Memorial Award" for social justice in recognition of remarkable contribution in legal services addressing human rights in 2010.



Colin Gonsalves
Founder, Human Rights
Law Network
IIT: Bombay, 1975
Age: 60



Swapnil Kant Dixit
Co-founder and Executive
Director, Jagriti Yatra
IIT: KGP, 2006

Setting the Wheels of Enterprise-Led Development

In his hometown of Bihar and in villages surrounding IIT-KGP, Swapnil Kant Dixit had witnessed youth getting disillusioned and turning cynical due to lack of opportunity. So at IIT, he along with a couple of friends collaborated with nearby villagers living in abject poverty to manufacture and sell backpacks. "We made 300% profit and funded a village library. The involved villagers went back with a resolve to fight poverty with enterprise, hope and self-respect. This turned me into a firm believer in the power of enterprise," recalls Swapnil.

Starting Annual National Train Journey

After getting his Bachelor of Architecture (Major) with courses in Marketing Management, Economics, and Soft Computing from IIT Kharagpur, he worked as a consultant in New Delhi for a year. However, soon enough

people to ace role model entrepreneurs every year.

The program was implemented in partnership with 10 Tata group companies and has subsequently become an annual event that has been executed twice and created an asset worth Rs 4.5 crore. "The aim of Jagriti Yatra is to awaken the spirit of entrepreneurship - both social and economic - within India's youth by exposing them to individuals and institutions that are developing unique solutions to India's challenges. Through this national event, we have begun to inspire the youth of India to lead and develop institutions both nationally and within their communities," explains Swapnil.

Today, Jagriti Yatra is a coveted national scale program encouraging youth to be the change that they want to see. Jagriti Yatra has networked over 1,800 youth, partnered with ace corporations and Government bodies, and helped initiate over 100 enterprises.

Swapnil's long-term goal is to unleash the movement of entrepreneurship in India and rest of the developing world, and fight the mindset of dependence by creating a system that will combine an incubation centre's optimism, a venture fund's acumen, and a university's open environment.

Awards

Selected as one of the 50 finalists from India for Reliance Dhirubhai Fellowship, awarded by Stanford University and Reliance Industries to up to five candidates; covers all expenses to attend Stanford.

Majority of India's massive population is young, and we are enjoying a huge demographic dividend, but lack of opportunities could turn it into a crippling liability. I strongly believe that 'Enterprise-Led-Development', which means 'doing good while doing well', holds the key to the future of India

he was driven by his desire of social entrepreneurship. So, in November 2007 he reached Mumbai with the dream to take 500 youth on a national train journey to meet with and learn from the best social and business entrepreneurs of India. Thus was formed Jagriti Yatra, which is an annual national train journey spread over 18 days and 10,000 kilometers that introduces young



Dr Balaji Sampath
 CEO, AID INDIA
 IIT-Madras, 1994

Enabling the Socially Disadvantaged Class

An alumnus of 1994 batch of IIT Madras, Dr Balaji Sampath became a volunteer for Association for India's Development (AID) at College Park when the organization was still having local presence. As a young student, he mobilized 500 volunteers and founded 25 chapters of Association for India's Development in the USA. After completing his PhD from Maryland University, College Park's Electrical Engineering program, Dr Sampath returned to India in 1997.

Eschewing corporate jobs, he preferred to work in villages. His initial efforts were directed towards developing and scaling up solutions to address children's malnutrition. However, his interests proliferated to include education, health and livelihood. He also spent the first few years creating a volunteer base and partnering with several NGOs in Tamil Nadu.

Empowering Socially Disadvantaged

Soon, he started AID INDIA, which is a not for profit organization aimed at empowering socially disadvantaged and often forgotten sections of the society through socio-economic development programs, education, providing micro credit, and imparting training in the areas of health, human rights and utilization of resources for income generation. In his words, "AID INDIA enables the poor and disadvantaged to build up a better life."

AID INDIA initially focused on developing low-cost, high quality kits and methods that could improve learning quality on a large scale. Later, Dr Sampath made AID INDIA scale up its activities to work with 13,000 villages across the Tamil Nadu that reached out to over two million poor children in villages. He has played a key role in AID INDIA's large scale primary education program, the Eureka Child initiative, which has reached out to over 1 million children in Tamil Nadu to improve reading, math and science skills.

From 2009, the Eureka Child program started partnering with many individuals and corporates to adopt specific villages and set up village learning centers that work with the village children over 10 years to create a dramatic impact on the village's education standards. A large number of IITians have adopted villages and are supporting this program. Many have been regularly visiting their villages and keeping in touch with the children and teachers. Today, this program reaches out to nearly 1000 villages in Tamil Nadu and Bihar.

Improving Maths and Science Education

Recently, Dr Sampath has started a video-based online education program to improve maths and science education at the high school level. This online program – www.AhaGuru.com – is currently being used by a few hundred students from several elite city schools in Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Ooty to prepare for IITJEE, AIEEE and CBSE. "I expect to soon roll it out in villages and small towns by setting up block level technology-enabled-learning-centers, specifically catering to the poorer sections. AhaGuru.com aims to scale up by cross-subsidizing the village programs through nominal subscription fees generated from serving children in elite schools," he tells *I Will Impact*.

Awards & Recognitions

Dr Sampath has received several awards for AID INDIA's work in reading and science education - Ashoka Fellowship, Pratham USA Achievement Award, Lemelson Innovator's Award, MIT Indus Technovator's Award and Rotary Distinguished Service Award. In 2011, on behalf of the Association for India's Development, Balaji received the Times of India Social Impact Award from the Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh. Recently, in April 2012, he also received the IIT-Madras Distinguished Alumnus Award for his work in the education sector.

Dr Sampath has also authored several popular books on science and conducted 175 science demonstration episodes on popular TV channels. His books and videos are today used in several hundred schools.

His Message for PanIITians

PanIIT has brought together IITians from many different walks of life. PanIIT can serve as a wonderful platform to both launch as well as give voice to a number of innovative initiatives to develop rural areas and to reach education and health services to the poorest sections of our society. India's growth story is closely connected to our nation's ability to take everyone along – to ensure that we as a nation live up to our constitution's promise of equal opportunities for every citizen. Our coming together becomes really meaningful when we also work together to build an India where every child gets quality education, quality health care and can aspire to a satisfying and meaningful livelihood.

Putting Metro on the Fast Track

Born in Bijnor, Mangu Singh graduated in civil engineering from IIT Roorkee in 1979 with an outstanding academic performance. An Indian Railways Service of Engineers (IRSE) officer of the 1981 batch, Singh has contributed greatly in the project implementation of Kolkata Metro and has been responsible for bringing revolutionary changes in the execution of large metro engineering projects (civil) within tight deadlines and budget.

Spearheading Key Projects

Singh joined the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) in 1997 in the capacity of Chief Engineer/Chief Project Manager and moved upwards to Executive Director and then Director (Works). He has successfully spearheaded the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Projects of DMRC, the only such successful project in the railway transportation sector in the world. He has been

COVER STORY

associated with the Delhi Metro since its inception. He has been instrumental in preparing the Master Plan and Detailed Project Reports for Metro system in other cities of the country, such as Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, Lucknow, Kochi, Jaipur, Ludhiana and Ahmedabad. An experienced engineer in the field of construction of underground structures in urban environment, he has contributed greatly in the underground construction projects of DMRC.

Taking on the Mantle of MD

In January this year, Singh took over the position of Managing Director of DMRC from Dr E Sreedharan. Under Singh, the Phase-III of the project that envisages adding another 140 km of the national capital to the Metro network would be completed by 2016. Singh is also at the forefront of the Capital's first private sector Metro corridor—the high-speed Airport Express line. In order to provide more convenience to passengers travelling with the Delhi Metro, over 100 four coach trains have been converted into six coaches. Under Singh, the Delhi Metro is planning to convert some trains

into eight coach trains to further increase the carrying capacity. Additionally, to improve the connectivity between the Metro stations and the nearby localities, Singh has planned to introduce 300 feeder buses which will boost connectivity within the city.

Awards

Singh is a recipient of various prestigious awards and honors, like the National Award (Railway Week Award 1996) for his contribution in completing the Kolkata Metro Rail Project and distinguished Alumni Award – Global Meet IIT (Roorkee) 2007. He is a member of many technical institutions and President of the Tunneling Association of India.



Mangu Singh
Managing Director,
Delhi Metro Rail
Corporation
Age: 57
IIT: Roorkee, 1979

“We realize that Phase-III shall be a very huge task to manage. On technology front, we have enough experience. Competency building was the big challenge. We realized that the middle level management is the back bone and the need for the project management was more on developing skills on interfacing, managing and coordinating.”



Yatendra Agrawal
Founder, EcoSOLUTIONS
IIT: Bombay, 1984
Age: 50 years

Lighting up Remote Villages

Once late in the evening, during one of his visits to his farm at Karjat (one hour drive from Mumbai), Yatendra Agrawal realized that almost all the houses in the area were cloaked in darkness due to lack of electricity in that locality. The houses used wicks dipped in kerosene to get light. Few days later, he came across an article in the newspaper about the two-decade-old struggle in trying to get electric connection in five villages near Panvel (near Mumbai). Though the electric poles were installed, conflict between the electricity and forest departments deprived the village of electricity.

Keen on making a difference, Yatendra who is a Mech Engineering graduate of IIT Bombay (1984) purchased solar lamps and lit up all the 300 homes at the villages near Panvel in a matter of just two days. “Since then I have never looked back and focused on reaching out to the remotest parts of India where for the next few decades electricity will not reach,” says Yatendra, who worked internationally with Schlumberger Oilfield services for 16 years. He has provided independent consultancy to number of oil companies like Reliance Oil & Gas, GSPC & DGH and service companies like Asian Oilfield services & Quantec GeoScience (Canada).

Founding EcoSOLUTIONS

In 2008, he founded EcoSOLUTIONS NGO with the purpose of bringing in highest technology and low cost solar lamps to the remotest villages of India. So far, EcoSOLUTIONS has lit up nearly 18,000 homes in remote villages of Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, Uttaranchal, Paschim Banga, Madhya

Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan.

Leveraging Technology for the Poorest

EcoSOLUTIONS ensures that the solar lamps it gives out use the LED lighting technology and have the latest generation batteries like Lithium or Lithium Ferro Phosphate. Using solar light has a direct benefit on reduction of kerosene usage which produces soot and smoke and is known to be the biggest cause of respiratory diseases in the villagers. The solar home lighting solutions have made a dramatic difference to the lives of people - women can cook food in night time in proper light, children can study in the evening hours and men can continue their work in the evenings..

Early on, Yatendra decided not to make the solar products himself but to concentrate on reaching out. “Many different innovative products are available in the world but to deliver them in far flung regions of our country is a challenge. We have managed to cover many remote parts of our country by identifying local NGOs and honest villagers who are ready to take our mission forward,” Yatendra informs.

Reaching out to 10,000 Homes Per Month

With the year 2012 being declared by the UN as “Sustainable Energy of ALL”, Yatendra's dream is of distributing 10,000 lamps per month by the end of this year, for which he is seeking funds. EcoSOLUTIONS has 80G certificate from Income Tax department giving donors 50% tax exemption. It is also registered in the US and has 501 approval from IRS giving donations 100% tax exemption in the US.



R Sri Kumar
 Vigilance
 Commissioner, Central
 Vigilance Commission
 IIT Madras, 1970

Professionalizing the Police Force

R Sri Kumar has done his B Tech in Electrical Engineering from IIT Madras (1970) and Master of Business Laws from National Law School of India University, Bangalore (2003).

He joined the Indian Police Service in 1973, after a brief stint in the Central Public Works Dept. From 1973 to 1982, he served in various capacities in Uttar Pradesh in the districts of Fatehgarh, Azamgarh and Pratapgarh and in the Intelligence, Fire Services and Vigilance departments. He worked as the Chief Security Officer of UPSRTC before coming to Karnataka on cadre transfer in April 1982.

Setting up India's 1st Cyber Crime Police Station

His stint with Karnataka began with service as Superintendent of Police, Bangalore and Bellary Districts and then in 1985 he became SP/CBI, Bangalore. He worked with the CBI till 1996 where he served as DIG/CBI, Delhi and as DIG/SIT, Madras. Upon his return to Karnataka, he worked as IGP and Commissioner for Traffic & Road Safety in the office of the DG&IGP,

His accomplishments in police service include setting up the country's first cyber crime police station in Bangalore, obtaining ISO quality, environmental and green building certification for the Karnataka State Police Housing Corporation and playing a vital role in the successful investigations of many crimes of interstate and international ramifications. Widely acclaimed for his impeccable personal record and professional integrity, he ushered in professional management, technology absorption, transparency and accountability in the police force. He is also known for using technology to crack some of the most high-profile cases: the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the 1992 Harshad Mehta scam and the Abdul Karim Telgi fake stamp paper scam.

In 2010, he became Vigilance Commissioner at the Central Vigilance Commission. He has been actively advocating mobile computing for filing complaints about corruption through Project Vigeye, launched by the Central Vigilance Commission with the objective of empowering citizens to report corruption in their neighbourhood.

Vigeye provides a more user-friendly platform for interface between the CVC and the citizens who may have been victims at the hands of corrupt officials and who want to disclose information about such corrupt practices. Over 5,000 complaints had been received under Vigeye.

There are 255 districts in the country where rule of law does not work and extremism had taken deep root. The rule of law should be upheld. Project 'Vigeye' is an example of participative vigilance. The application, which can be downloaded, enables any person to act against corruption, instead of simply grumbling about it

Karnataka State. From 1996 – 2000 as Director (Security & Vigilance), he was a member of the team that brought about structural reforms and turn around in Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation.

He worked as Inspector General of Police in Corps of Detectives, Bangalore, for a year before becoming the Chairman & Managing Director, Karnataka State Police Housing Corporation, Bangalore. He continued in this post till 2008 but for a brief stint as Commandant General, Home Guards, Ex-Officio Director, Civil Defence & Director, Fire & Emergency Services till 2008, when he became the Director General of Police, Karnataka State. He retired as DGP Karnataka in January 2009.

Awards and Recognition

Sri Kumar has been decorated with the Indian Police Medal for meritorious service on the occasion of Republic Day (1989) and President's Police Medal for distinguished services on the occasion of Independence Day 1995. He has been bestowed the distinguished alumnus award of Indian Institute of Technology, Madras in January 2010. He has also worked as the Chairman of Task Force on Internal Security, Confederation of Indian Industry, Southern Region, and as a social entrepreneur by launching a public charitable Trust called Indian Centre for Social Transformation. He was its author, Chairman & Founder Trustee and resigned from the position to become Vigilance Commissioner.

COVER STORY

Harnessing Technology for Rural India

After working in the US for 12 years, Rajendra Desai returned to India in 1985 with his architect wife Rupal to focus on the softer technologies for shelter, water, sanitation and energy in the Indian context. Desai has obtained his BTech in Civil Engineering from IIT Bombay in 1970 and his MS in Structures from Rutgers University, USA in 1972.

Towards Earthquake Risk Reduction

Upon his return to India, he worked with the Centre of Science for Villages (CSV) in Wardha for a year and a half on development and refinement of the cost-efficient vaulted roof made from conical terracotta tubes, made by local potters, and earthen walls. This was followed by joining a tribal housing project at the grassroots in the villages of South Gujarat with Ahmedabad Study Action Group (ASAG), which provided an excellent opportunity to understand the social dimension in the transfer of shelter technologies at grassroots. He continued his efforts on the terracotta tube vaulted roof and earthen walls, developing better understanding their behaviour and also bringing improvements in them.

A damage assessment assignment in the aftermath of 1993 Latur earthquake in Central India took him into the field of disaster risk mitigation, which soon became his principal field of work. He along with his wife devoted much effort on the promotion of seismic retrofitting of the existing stone-earth-timber houses. The couple spent six years in Latur, learning valuable lessons in technical as well as social dimensions of the earthquake risk reduction. This intensive work on disaster preparedness and earthquake risk reduction earned the duo the first AS Arya Award of IIT-Roorkee.

On Disaster Preparedness

In 2000 at the time of Bhavnagar earthquake in Gujarat, barely four months before the Kutchh Earthquake, he and his wife founded the National Centre For People's Action In Disaster Preparedness (NCPDP) with a focus on disaster preparedness. NCPDP strives to bring viable, eco-friendly and sustainable technologies to help people reduce their vulnerability against future disasters. It strives to remain prepared for timely intervention in the aftermath of major disasters. Mr Desai is continuing to work on disaster mitigation through training of engineers and building artisans, awareness for disaster safety in communities coupled with its confidence building in disaster resisting technologies, preparing ready-to-use technical information for people. Desai has also been involved in similar work in Uttarakhand. In the aftermath of 2005 earthquake in Kashmir, he spent several months along the line of control

(LoC) training local masons in using local materials such as stone, mud and timber for building earthquake resisting buildings.

Skill Up-gradation Program

At present, he is involved in an on-going skill up-gradation program for the existing masons in the rural areas of Gujarat. Poor performance of the buildings observed in frequent disasters in India stand witness to the poor skill levels of our building artisans. This program runs with financial support from friends in India and overseas. The organization also has a project of evolving and setting up of certification system for the building artisans at state and national levels for the Government of India with the aims of improving their construction skill levels and bringing them in the main stream of construction industry.

Finally, in their efforts to preserve the traditional (vernacular) building systems that consist of green technologies that have been optimised through generations, and that form an integral part of the invaluable heritage in each geographical region, Dr Desai has been passionately working for their up-gradation through the necessary technical input and through their synthesis with

Technologies, if brought back in the main stream, could go a long ways in taking care of local housing needs with minimal damage to the environment and maximum benefit to the local economy. This would also help preserve the unique identity of the region

modern materials. He believes that these technologies, if brought back in the main stream, could go a long ways in taking care of local housing needs with minimal damage to the environment and maximum benefit to the local economy. This would also help preserve the unique identity of the region. In the coming years, the couple is looking forward to addressing their concern through interacting with students at engineering and architecture colleges in the country.

Awards and Recognitions

He and his wife have been the author of several publications including Manuals for Restoration and Retrofitting of Buildings in Kashmir (UNESCO) and in Uttarakhand and HP (BMTPC- Govt. of India), and the Manual for Hazard Resistant Construction in India (UNDP).

He was also involved in designing of earthquake safety awareness literature in the communities living in the earthquake prone areas. Early in 2012, he was bestowed 'Distinguished Alumnus Award' from IIT-Mumbai in recognition of his work at the grassroots.



Rajendra Desai
Joint Director
National Centre for
Peoples' Action in
Disaster Preparedness
IIT: Bombay, 1970
Age: 63



Dr Ravi Chopra
 Founder and Director
 People's Science
 Institute
 IIT: Bombay, 1968

Bridging the Gap Between Technology and Development

Dr Ravi Chopra always had a social bent of mind. During his decade-long stay in the US, he organized the US east coast chapters for San Francisco area based FREA (Front for Rapid Economic Advancement of India) and ICA (Indians for Collective Action). Also, when emergency was imposed in India, he played a key role in organizing a 100 mile "Walk for Human Rights in India".

He has a B Tech in Metallurgical Engineering from IIT Bombay (1968). Later, he did doctoral research in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering at Stevens Institute of Technology, New Jersey, USA. Upon his moving to India, he worked with the New Delhi-based Center for Science and Environment. Here in 1982, he worked on a landmark publication "The State of India's Environment - A Citizens' Report" which received wide acclaim. Soon along with a group of IITians, he established the People's Science Institute (PSI) at Dehradun in 1988. PSI is a non-profit research and development organization with a mission to help eradicate poverty through the empowerment of the poor and the productive, sustainable and equitable use of available human and natural resources. Operationally,

As a researcher, Dr Chopra has focused on the interactions between technology and society and environment and development. He first received wide acclaim when he produced the first Citizen's Report on the The State of India's Environment in 1982. Some of the important projects undertaken by PSI include doubling paddy productivity: propagating SRI paddy, micro-watersheds development in an area of over 20,000 ha in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, drought-proofing Palamau district (Sukha Mukti Abhiyan), hydrological studies in Himalayan micro-watersheds, technical analyses of Mansi-Wakal (Rajasthan) and Auranga(Jharkhand) dams, Studies of water management traditions in Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and Himachal, People's Water Policy for Uttarakhand and population and India's water resources in the 21st century and alternate development strategies for the Thar desert. Dr Chopra's current research interests are focused on the protection and regeneration of Himalayan rivers in India.

Awards and Recognition

In 2007 the International Service Society, Lansing, Michigan (USA) bestowed its Lifetime Achievement Award on him. In 1997, Indians for Collective Action in California had honoured him for his work on water resources development and community service and in 2012, IIT Bombay presented its Distinguished Alumnus Award to Dr Chopra.

He serves on various committees of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India and the Planning Commission. He is a member of the National Ganga River Basin Authority, chaired by the Prime Minister of India. He has authored or co-authored 14 books and special reports.

His message for PanIITians

I have been associated with PANIIT, having attended annual events in New Delhi, Santa Clara (USA) and Chennai. I am willing to contribute more as required. Many individual IITians have made significant contributions towards removing poverty and its associated problems in India. If we can come together, we can multiply our effectiveness. But there is a caveat. Before we get involved in such efforts we must ensure that we 'de-class' ourselves and work with a sense of humility and respect for the poor. I hope I am not being pompous about this.

The idea of public interest research is that any citizen can bring a problem to us and our colleagues who are well trained in science and technology, will use their skills to analyze the problem. We want to demystify science and technology for the common man.

it provides technical and managerial support to communities and organizations that work with them, implements development programs and undertakes public interest research.

Pioneering work

Under Dr Chopra's leadership, PSI has done pioneering work in the fields of community-led watershed-based livelihoods development, environmental quality monitoring, disaster-safe housing, promotion of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI), popularizing the concept of Jal Sanskriti – India's traditions of water harvesting- and dissemination of appropriate technologies. A key element in PSI's approach is to build the capacities of the poor to plan their own development, implement projects and then manage the assets created.

COVER STORY

Boosting Yield & Income of Farmers

To improve the plight of poor farmers in rural India and increase profitability of their yield, two IIT alumni Manish Kumar and Shashank Kumar chucked their full-time jobs to found an organization that aims at improving land profitability, improves and maintains the fertility of land and hence increases revenue generation for land owners, farmers and farm laborers. Thus was formed Farms n Farmers in 2010.

About the Duo

Manish, who has an M Sc in Statistics and Informatics from IIT Kharagpur, has been passionate about social service right from his school days and has worked for a slew of NGOs. He also co-founded a society "Sambhav" at IIT Kharagpur which works in the field of employment generation and primary education in villages in the vicinity of IIT Kharagpur. "I decided to pursue my aspirations to work for the society after completion of my studies at IIT, leaving behind prospective job offers," Manish tells *iWill Impact*.

On the other hand, Shashank after his B Tech in Textile Technology from IIT Delhi worked for two and half years as an associate in a management consulting firm. The duo, who met in Delhi while preparing for JEE exams, joined hands to start Farms n Farmers. "Our mission is to create a large and sustainable network of small and marginal farmers to incorporate all possible farming and allied activities at the ground level across the country and

to rejuvenate environmental conditions by encouraging this network into natural farming," explains Shashank.

Providing 360 degree Services

Against an annual fee of Rs 200, farmers enroll with Farms n Farmers to avail of 360 degree services – right from the crop selection to marketing. Farms n Farmers provides a one-stop shop for farmers for all their farming needs—eliminating the need for other multiple middle men at each stage. Its wide range of services include advising farmers on what to cultivate and how to cultivate, making the right inputs available through centralized procurement, training them at the farm, helping them with farm mechanization and finally marketing their produce to fetch the best rates. Farmers are levied 2%-14% service charge for marketing of farm produce depending upon the crop cycle.

"Farms n Farmers helps to bring 20% to 45% increment in farmers' income. We have highly qualified and experienced personnel in the field of soil technology, horticulture, self-sustainable and need-based farming and organic farming," says Shashank, adding that around thousand farmers from eight districts of Bihar have enrolled with this program.

Message to PanIITians

With limited resources, we have scaled up our operation to eight districts of Bihar. The vast network of PanIIT is well capable of spreading this work across the country.



Manish Kumar
Co-founder, Farms n Farmers
Age: 28
IIT: KGP, 2010



Shashank Kumar
Co-founder, Farms n Farmers
Age: 27
IIT: Delhi, 2008

Bringing Smiles to Children

When Shahzad Wakeel was only 10-year-old, his father passed away leaving behind a family of five. Due to limited funds and a soon-to-be-vacated house, Shahzad realized that he needed to start earning to financially support his family. So at a young age, he started giving mathematics and science tuitions to younger students.

After completing his B Tech in Chemical Engineering in 2005 from IIT Bombay, he started working with Synchron Technologies, Pune. In 2008, he joined ICICI Bank as Manager, Customer Analytics, Business Intelligence Unit and also became the Founder, Lead, BIU Knowledge Management Group. In 2009, he joined Illumine Knowledge Resources as Senior Consultant/Model Developer. Since 2011, he is working as a Senior Consultant with nDimensions Research, a think-tank, research and strategy consulting firm.

Founding Pankhudi

The childhood struggles that Shahzad faced made him empathetic towards the plight of underprivileged children. Even while working at a multinational IT firm, he spent weekends holding primary level classes to children from slums and blind-schools. In 2005, he

started a pan-India volunteering community which later became a nonprofit organization, named as Pankhudi Foundation. The initiative has kick-started six different nation-wide projects focused on remedial education, re-admission of school dropouts, broad personality development and healthcare for slum-dwellers, visually-disabled, orphan and HIV-affected children. Today, Pankhudi reaches out to hundreds of children across five cities in four different states of India.

With each city having an average of 100 enrolled volunteers who help run various teaching projects, the student dropout rate has reduced drastically in most communities that Pankhudi operates in. "Our volunteers are in constant touch with the municipal schools these children attend and we have observed a marked improvement in the learning levels and personalities of these children," informs Shahzad.

Pankhudi has forged synergic partnerships with several non-profit organizations and corporate CSR groups seeking to make time and resource contributions for underprivileged children. His commitment and consistency in sharing first-hand experiences of teaching and active mentoring since 2005 has motivated many other youngsters to reach out to children in their cities under the aegis of Pankhudi.



Shahzad Wakeel
Founder President
Pankhudi Foundation
IIT: Bombay, 2005



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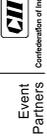
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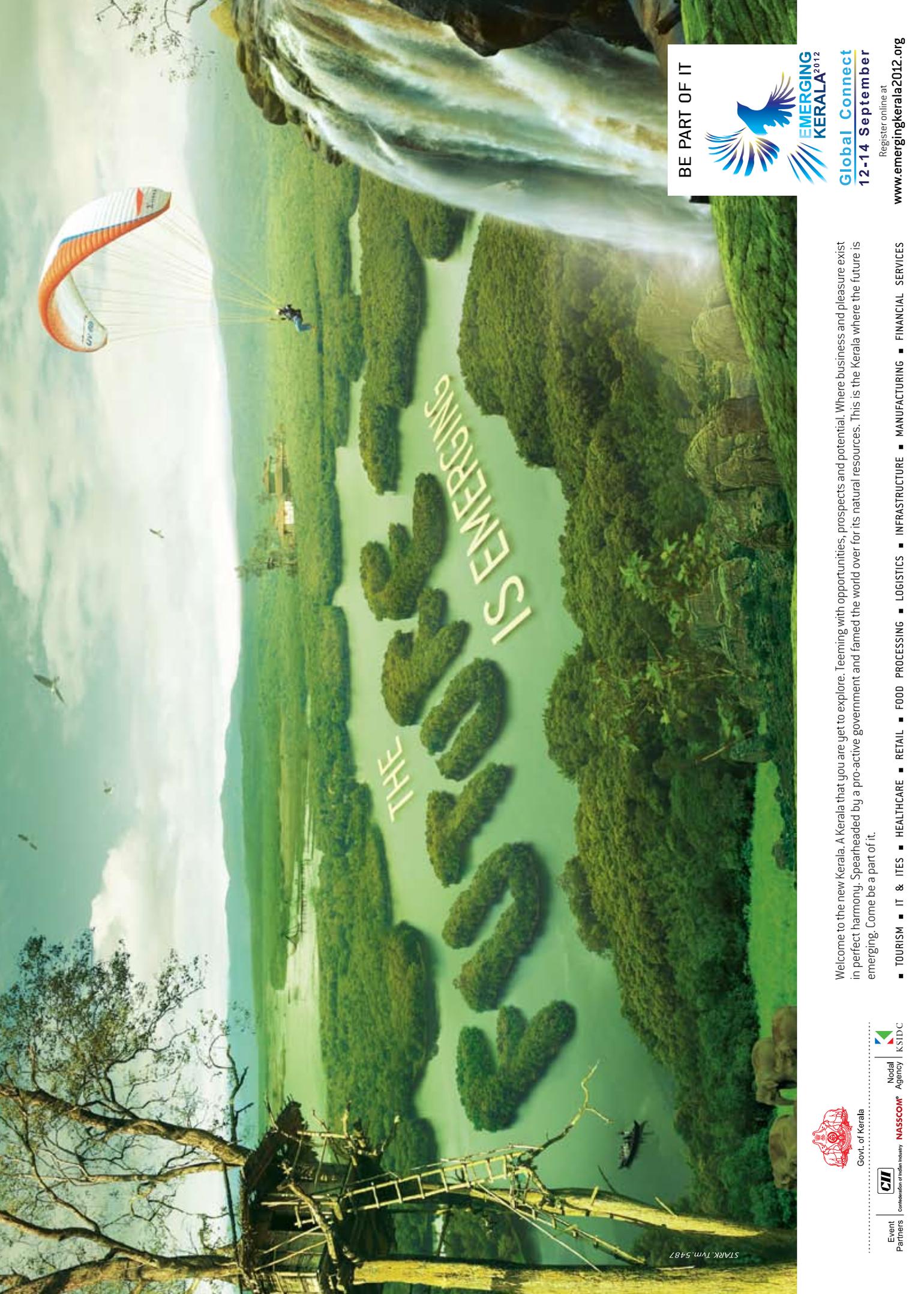


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