

CALL REQUEST

To,

Select Volunteer Group Heads
Alumni Leaders and IIT Senate Members

Special Invitation to a personal informal discussion:
With Global Consulting Stalwart Rajat Gupta

Agenda: Creating an appropriate Governance Structure for IIT Alumni
Bodies for strengthening Brand IIT Globally.

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the IIT Alumni Council was formed on Independence Day 2019 based on a license from the Ministry of Company Affairs, GoI to operate as a Section 8, non-profit company with four main objects: acting as a global alumni body across the IITs, rallying the alumni for nation building, helping strengthen brand IIT and representing alumni in various trade associations and government committees. The Alumni council has since got the support of and aligned with several existing autonomous and independent IIT alumni groups and entities.

Traditionally, IIT Alumni bodies have been specific to individual IITs. Their activities are largely targeted to maintaining ties of the alumni to their alma maters or to each other. These include, with some exceptions, social get togethers, cultural events, fund raising for new programmes and infrastructure in the IITs. Their activities are focused inwards to strengthening the IIT system. IIT Alumni Council, on the other hand, focuses on what IIT alumni can do for others. Its target is to mobilize IIT alumni to for nation building by mobilizing alumni resources for addressing major challenges facing India where the massive intellectual, financial ,technology and management resources of the IIT community in India and overseas can be mobilized to solve tough problems, effectively and at scale.

There are several existing laudable alumni initiatives that include a Social Fund, a Foundation, a think tank Institute, an engagement Forum and many others. The branded IIT Alumni movement dates back to June 1990 when the term “PanIIT” was coined by a large ad agency for an “All IIT” Alumni get together hosted by TCS in Mumbai. The first registered entity to carry the IIT name was IIT Investrust Pvt Ltd. formed in 1992. Thereafter the PanIIT India Forum was set up as an Association of People in 2002 to host the PanIIT 2004 conclave. Since then, several entities with the name PanIIT and IIT Alumni have been created – mostly by well-meaning alumni. There is a need to build on this learning, especially from entities that have not been successful. The IIT Alumni Council is neither the first nor hopefully the last alumni initiative in the area of nation building – and though we see a meeting of mind with most - it is unlikely that we will find common ground with all others. But the Council does aspire to be the largest of these and with that aim in mind is trying to invest substantial time and effort in building a solid foundation.

For one, the Council has been conceived of as a borderless, non-hierarchical organisation that is born digital. In pursuit of building on past strengths and learning from past mistakes, we have had several rounds of discussion with these highly diverse yet very talented and committed alumni groups on the most appropriate governance and management framework for this nodal and global entity. Whilst there is an often mentioned need to create a continuously evolving and upgrading framework, we need to start somewhere. The aim has been to create a loosely bound organisation comprising of thousands of alumni groups, each typically with no less than 50 members and no more than say 1000 members.

There are several obvious criteria for the creation of these alumni groups – such as by IIT pass out batch, by hostel, by home town of person, by city of residence of person, by industry of work, by hobby or passion or by nature of volunteer work that is of interest. We believe that all of these are relevant and in different cases can serve as a glue to create adhesive and cohesive groups. We plan to encourage all of these formats. The Council needs to be all inclusive, yet exclusive and focused for it to achieve its objectives. It may not be feasible to create a global organisation with so many parameters and variables. It may thus be required to create really a two tier organisation – a secretariat and then the individual groups. We can also simplistically refer to them as the Boards and the Groups. The Boards really form the Secretariat and the Groups hold the actual alumni. At the most inclusive level, the Global Organisation needs to have:

- A **Global Board or Senate** that addresses governance and exercises oversight. This Board would expect to comprise of Eminent and Distinguished Alumni of the IITs – strictly by invitation. A certain number would retire each year to be replaced by younger members to ensure that the average age doesn’t keep going up annually. Typically graduates of the IITs.
- **City Chapters** which are led by socially popular alumni in that geography. In the absence of any other abbreviation, they are defined by the abbreviated name for the nearest airport.

- **Batch Coordinators** – one from each batch of each IIT post 1980 to ensure uniform coverage across batches.
- **Technology Forums** which are led by the techies in the IIT family. These would have a generous sprinkling of post graduates and PhDs – both from the IITs as well as BTechs who have a PhD from elsewhere. The older the better.
- **Cultural, Sports & Hobby Groups** who bring together alumni with common interests. Current hobby groups range from a group designing an ultra-compact nuclear reactor to one building private forests on wastelands to building a USD 1 genome sequencing system based on optical imaging. In addition there are groups with varied interests that range from golf and marathon running to music to mountaineering and art collection.
- **Global Headquarters or Secretariat** which is manned by enthusiastic volunteers who take on the onus of keeping the organisation running and well oiled. This is about as important a role as any.

Realising that one entity cannot handle such a diverse set of activities, we have initiated the task of creating or where possible, aligning a wide range of independent alumni entities to cover a wide gamut from social funding to CSR supported pilot projects to a regulatory & policy think tank – all the way to emulating the Fraunhofer Model of Germany for Syndicated multi-disciplinary research by aggregating a 30,000 PhD innovation army. Entities targeting measurable global excellence in the form of one Nobel laureate every year, Olympic Medals or the creation of global leaders in new economy sectors are in various stages of actualisation. It is important that we create a robust foundation to support such a wide and ambitious structure – relevant to the borderless yet nationalistic emerging world order.

I have included our attempts, challenges and failures - among other thoughts in a first anniversary document that has been sent to several of our stakeholders including the Government and the IIT Directors. A copy of the same is included at the end of this document as an Annexure. In pursuance to the various issues outlined in this document, we are in the process of creating a Governance Advisory Council with senior alumni who have a track record and demonstrated competence in undertaking such work. These include alumni who have led large global consulting firms, Big4 accounting firms like Deloitte, global HR Majors like Hewitt/William Mercer, IPR firms and Law Firms.

In order to create the groundwork for this, we have requested Mr Rajat Gupta, former Global Managing Partner of McKinsey of Company to speak to a cross section of our volunteers and help evolve a preliminary structure tying up all the entities aligned with the IIT Alumni Council into a highly synergised structure that does not compromise the autonomy or independence of the individual organisations and initiatives. We do look forward to your active participation and carefully planned yet honest feedback to Mr Gupta. Though Mr Rajat Gupta (as probably the most significant personal contributor to the creation of Brand IIT and the top rated Management Consultant of Indian origin globally) really needs no introduction, his CV can be

accessed at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/rajatgupta2/>. He holds a BTech from IIT Delhi, a MBA from Harvard Business School and has spent 34 years with McKinsey & Co as a Management Consultant (where he rose to be the first and only Indian to ever Head the Marquee Strategy Firm). Mr Gupta has been gracious enough to accept our request and we will soon be calling each of you to fix a suitable time slot for the tele meetings. These will be for a hour each and be held at two time slots- 730 pm and 830 pm India time. These interviews would be one of the inputs used for structuring and manning the proposed Global Senate of the IIT Alumni Council.



Regards
Ravi Sharma, President
IIT Alumni Council
August 20th, 2020



A distinguished Alumnus of IIT Roorkee, former Corporate leader and now full time Philanthropist - Ravi Sharma plays an active role in global revitalisation and unification of IIT alumni across countries, across IITs and across age groups. He is the President and Chief Volunteer of the IIT Alumni Council and also leads the Institute Outreach & Branding initiatives. The main deliverables of the Council are facilitating alumni networking, fortifying Brand IIT and Brand India, catalysing alumni participation in nation building and accelerating technological developments in key areas of our economy including start-ups, manufacturing and digital transformation. The Council has six operating missions - Alumni Networking (PanIIT Alumni) , Mentorship (PanIIT Institute), Social Venture funding (PanIIT Fund), CSR Platform (PanIIT Foundation), a Thinktank (PanIIT Forum) a Biomolecule Mega Incubator (PanIIT Incubator). The IIT Alumni Council is now actively engaged in solving the corona crisis and has formed the C19 Task Force which has the participation of over 20,000 alumni and includes Mumbai University and ICT Mumbai as institutional partners. C19 Task Force initiatives include the 10 million tests per month MegaLab, the 50K litres harvested blood per month MegaTx and Rs 21,000 crore MegaFund.



Dr. Arindam Bose retired from Pfizer Worldwide Research & Development in 2016 after 34 years in leadership roles in bioprocess development and clinical manufacturing. Dr. Bose's final position at Pfizer was Vice-President, Biotherapeutics Pharmaceutical Sciences with responsibility for external sourcing, competitive intelligence and external influencing as well as for executing the technical development plan for Pfizer's entry into biosimilars. He is widely recognized as a Key Thought Leader in the biopharmaceutical industry. Dr. Bose was elected to the US National Academy of Engineering for innovations in biologics manufacturing. Dr. Bose currently provides consulting services in bioprocessing to several start-up biotechnology companies including a part-time process development management role at Akero

Therapeutics. He received a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Purdue University, a M.S. from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and a B. Tech from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur.

Dr Arindam Bose has been a key mentor and coach to the engineered biomolecule initiative of the IIT Alumni Council. He has advised the Council on a host of issues of both a technical and techno-economic nature. He has helped conceptualise and plan the Rs 500 crore Engineered Bio Molecule Mega Incubator (EBMI) which will include a phygital incubator, 100K square feet pilot plant facilities,, a 10 acre residential training campus, a BSL3 Laboratory equipped research centre and a 100 acre biologics manufacturing cluster for biologics exports in the NCR Biologics ecosphere which includes AIIMS, CSIR IGIB, EBMI training campus, EBMI SEZ, THSTI, ICMR, AIIA, Bibcol, DBT, DST and TDB. The BioTherapeutics Task Force of the IIT Alumni Council has close to 100 PhD volunteers , most of who are alumni of the IITs, ICT and MU.



Ashish Chitnis has a BTech in Chemical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and graduated in 1987. He did a MS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Mississippi and has a MBA from the Texas A&M University. He has been involved in senior technical roles in the pharma industry since inception and has worked with industry leaders such as Glaxo Smithkline and Pfizer. He has led engineering and construction projects, managed technical support services and supervised staff to set up global scale projects. He has spent a significant part of his career helping to build manufacturing plants for the production of blood plasma derived products. He has been an active volunteer in the Therapeutics group of the IIT Alumni Council and was the first to help us understand and appreciate the impact of regulatory issues on convalescent plasma therapy. These issues are primarily related to the ban on commercial purchase of blood from donors and the consequent ban on products derived from donor blood.

He also helped the group understand the need for “virus sanitisation” of the blood using processes other than chromatography and fractionation which were used by Indian industry. It is based on his recommendation that the MegaLab architecture was modified to carry out concurrent testing for viruses in donor blood using RTPCR. Also, modifications were made to the Genetic testing protocol to enable a framework for creating an antibody library and characterising the antibodies to examine if one could clone part of the antibody in a cell line to get the full benefit of the antibody at a fraction of the cost. This approach has lately been commercialised by some bleeding edge companies in the sector.



Mayur Sirdesai has been in the Private Equity space for the last 8 years. He founded and currently runs a Healthcare focused PE fund called Somerset Indus Capital Partners focused on investments in products and services platforms in the SME sector of Healthcare in India. The fund focuses on investments that create strong and sustainable impact in the healthcare sector especially in the lower tier markets and provide access to affordable quality healthcare in India. The fund has a strong track record of making several successful investments across Pharma, Lifesciences, Medical Technology, Diagnostic products and Services, Healthcare Delivery, Primary Care, Nutrition and Wellness and is currently investing from its USD 100 million second fund. Mayur has over 25 years of experience in Healthcare/ Pharma and FMCG and has worked in various roles like Private Equity, Strategy, Advisory Services, Operations, Manufacturing and Marketing in this sector. He is on the Advisory Board of SINE (IITB Incubator) as a mentor and is a key member of the Healthcare Special Interest Group (SIG) of the IIT Bombay Alumni Association. He, also, currently serves on the Board of Directors of the IIT Bombay Alumni Association.



Satish Mehta holds a BTech in Chemical Engineering from IIT Bombay (1987). From 1987 to 2002, Satish worked with the accountancy Firm A.F.Ferguson & Co where he led the government advisory and consulting practice that was closely involved with the liberalisation of the Indian economy, privatisation of key industries and removal of bureaucratic hurdles to enabling a license free regime. After the acquisition of AF Ferguson by Deloitte in 2002-03, he has been working in the Impact and Fund management space. He has served on the Investment Committees of several Private Equity Funds as the Compliance & Regulatory head. These funds have invested over Rs 100,000 crores in India.. Along with Pawan Kumar and Gyanesh Choudhary he helped set up PanIIT India and was Chairman of the participation committee of the first PanIIT Conclave held in 2004. He has been an active volunteer with various PanIIT alumni initiatives including the IIT Alumni Council, PanIIT Fund, PanIIT Institute, PanIIT Foundation and PanIIT Forum. He has been actively involved in creating the start-up ecosystem in India and has served on many working groups and committees including the BSE SME, Digital India and Make in India Investment Boards. He served as head of the participation committee of HowdyModi held in Houston in September 2019 on behalf of the IIT Alumni Council.

Satish is an amateur film maker and an enthusiastic photographer. In the impact space, he is now involved with three key initiatives that involve the creation of: 1) a robust social entrepreneurship ecosystem built around a social stock exchange 2) the India Innovation Network initiative that brings together all leading Indian research institutes, educational establishments, alumni tech ventures (in both the profit and non-profit space) 3) a framework for improving the ease of doing business by creating islands of ease based on the successful SEZ framework deployed successfully in other countries.



Jayashree Kalpathy-Cramer is an Associate Professor of Radiology at MGH/Harvard Medical School who works at the intersection of computer science and medicine. She is an electrical engineer by training, having received a B.Tech in EE from IIT Bombay and a PhD in EE from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She returned to academia after a number of years in the semiconductor industry with a research pivot towards healthcare. Her lab is currently focused on the applications of artificial intelligence in medicine. She is a Scientific Director at the MGH/BWH Centre for Clinical Data Science and a Senior Scientist at the American College of Radiology Data Science Institute. She is a Deputy Editor for the Radiology-AI journal, a new journal from the Radiological Society of North America focused on the applications of AI in Radiology. More information about Dr. Jayashree in links below:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/24ieen7dv6dhuq6/biosketch_jkc_4_2020.docx?dl=0

https://www.dropbox.com/s/xqvj4g49chph20h/jkc_cv_2020_02_05.docx?dl=0



Ashish Kumar Chauhan is the MD & CEO of BSE, Asia's oldest exchange, World's fastest exchange with 6 Micro seconds response time, World's largest exchange with 5,000 plus listed companies and India's first universal exchange to offer trading across all asset classes. He is credited with reviving BSE and completing its IPO - which was oversubscribed more than 51 times. He was instrumental in setting up India's first International Exchange, India International exchange, inaugurated by India's Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in January 2017.

Prior to joining BSE, from 2000 to 2009, Ashish worked at Reliance Industries, India's largest conglomerate as President and Group CIO, Head of Corporate communications and CEO of Cricket team Mumbai Indians in its formative years. From 1993 to 2000, he setup India's National Stock Exchange (NSE), primarily on technology, Screen based trading system, satellite communications network, equities and derivatives businesses, and Nifty index amongst his many responsibilities. He is considered the father of modern financial derivatives in India due to his work at NSE. He received several Indian and International awards including Distinguished Alumnus Awards from both his Alma Mater IIT Bombay and IIM Kolkata, a rare achievement. He has also been awarded "Digital Icon of Year" by Indian Express Group and ranked amongst the top CEOs in financial markets by Asian Banker, amongst top 50 CIOs in the world by Information Week US. He is a member of several committees of Government, Regulators and international associations. He is a member on the Board of Directors at IIM Raipur and NIFM Faridabad and served as the chairman of NIT Manipur. He is a distinguished visiting faculty at Ryerson University in Toronto and Honorary Professor at Nottingham University Business School. He co-authored a book on the history of the BSE titled "The Temple of Wealth Creation".



R Shyam Sundar is a senior executive with leadership roles and proven track record of creating value in global financial institutions (Temasek, JPMorgan, ICICI Bank), complemented by entrepreneurship experience both as an investor & as start-up founder. Investments experience in venture capital, private/listed equity, majority/minority & fund of fund. Currently, he is incubating, as co-founder, a unique data analytics venture in the NLP & Sentiment Analysis space. Previously Managing Director - Investments at Temasek Holdings and member of the Investment and Management Committees, he subsequently continued to serve Temasek in an advisory capacity. At BASIL Capital Partners he worked on strategy and fund raising for portfolio companies. At Udvik Infrastructure, he conceptualized an infrastructure focused NBFC for India. Shyam has also served as a founding member of the Singapore American School Investment Committee for 5 years (corpus > USD 125M). He has a BTech from IIT Delhi and a MBA from FMS, Delhi University.

Besides serving as Board Level Advisor, Mentor, Coach and Financial Advisor to family owned enterprises in Vaccine manufacture, EPC / Toll roads & Telecom Software, FMCG and Telecom Infrastructure, Shyam is deeply engaged in incubating / advising technology start-ups (Health & Wellness, Consumer Analytics) and leading the fund raising for client companies. He is well versed in commercial banking and project finance constructs and practices. Shyam is based in Singapore along with his family. His daughter works in India and his son is attending college in the USA.



Ashok Singh is a Chemical Engineer from IIT Kharagpur 1967 batch. After graduation he worked in Industry for 23 years till 1991. I was mainly in ICI (UK based company) in Explosives, Fertilizers and the Agro & Pharma industries at different locations. I was in Operations, Technology, Projects and General Management. Thereafter I have started up companies in Management Consulting, E-learning for Schools and Open Source E-learning platform development and Moodle Partners.

He was a trustee of the Vinod Gupta Charitable Trust for several years during which the Vinod Gupta School of Management was setup at Kharagpur and a girls polytechnic was started in a backward area in UP.

He was an executive member of PanIIT India for 4 years as a nominee of IIT, Kharagpur. He has served as President of IIT, Kharagpur Alumni Association. During this period he worked towards promotion of golf amongst IITians and organized six IIT golf tournaments in Delhi and the NCR area. The IIT Global Golf Tour is scheduled for 2021 and (Covid permitting) will be held in ten countries including USA, India, China, Singapore, Japan, UK, Canada and Indonesia.



Dr. Jyoti Joglekar is Bachelor of Electrical engineering from 1990 batch of Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli, Maharashtra, a Master of Computer Engineering from Mumbai University and a PhD in Satellite Image Analysis in March 2015 from IIT Bombay. She presented her doctoral research work in International conferences of repute by International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) in Paris, France and in Munich, Germany in 2010 and 2011. She worked on Chandrayaan 1 data for some assignments of SAC, ISRO, Ahmedabad as a research scholar. Her work is published in the IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing (TGRS). She has over 25 publications in international journals and international conferences of repute. She is a reviewer of reputed international journals such as IEEE TGRS, IEEE letters, IEEE Access, IET etc. She has been honoured as Fellow member of IETE (Institute of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering). She is Board of Studies member of Department of Computer Engineering, Mukesh Patel school of Technology, NMIMS, Mumbai, the Department of Information Technology, Cummins College of Engineering, Pune and Science college at SVU.

She has received research funding from NESAC, DoS, Meghalaya for ‘Design and development of a Physical Working Prototype to showcase an optimized algorithm and software for image acquisition and processing using Swarm of Autonomous UAVs (Drones)’. She is Principal Investigator (PI) and focal officer for this ongoing TDP (Technology Development Partner) research project with NESAC, ISRO. She played a role of data analyst expert for the funded DST-RFBR research project. She has been invited for expert talk in various Quality Improvement Programs (QIP), faculty development programs (FDP) and STTPs, short term training programs in various institutions of repute such as IIT Bombay and engineering institutes of Mumbai University. She recently won second prize for her paper presentation at INaC 4 conference by ISSE and ISRO held at SAC, ISRO, Ahmedabad, on 26-27 September 2019. She mentored 3 teams of students in Smart India Hackathon in SIH 2018 and 2019. Her all teams won prizes in SIH 2018 in SIH 2019. She is currently writing a book of Oxford university press on Internet of Things as a co-author. She has total 25 years of teaching experience to undergraduate and postgraduate students. She possesses few years of industry experience in software industry. She is an active research volunteer with IIT alumni council from April 2020 and working on some research projects on image analytics for the social cause of COVID 19.



Mr. Anil Sharma a graduate of IIT Roorkee (1981) started as a private professional Architect has in 1989. He has over 30 years of wide experience in designing multi star hotels (www.asharma.com), which are climate responsive & energy efficient. He has designed more than 70 hotels all over Indian subcontinent and Kazakhstan. He adopts latest materials & technology to achieve operational efficiency & to reduce carbon emissions. All his latest designs are LEED / IGBC compliant and certified. The hotel “Khyber, Gulmarg” is the most awarded hotel by “Conde Nast” and various other travel platforms of repute.

Apart from his professional duties as an Architect, he has balanced his work with teaching responsibilities, as visiting expert and faculty member to the following institutions of repute: such as “Indian Institute of Technology”, Roorkee, “The School of Planning & Architecture”, Bhopal, “The School of Planning & Architecture”, New Delhi, “Indira Gandhi Technical University for Women”, Kashmir Gate, New Delhi. Mr. Anil Sharma has been deeply committed to his Alma Mater and has already made several inputs and contribution for taking the revered institution to higher level value goals and achievements. Mr. Sharma has always been keen on sharing his knowledge through classroom teaching, and technical project co-ordination meetings, he has always felt responsible for imparting the rightful knowledge. Many clients, consultants’ even specialists approach Mr. Sharma for his suggestions and technical expert knowledge that he has gained through hard work and experience of more than 39 years in the Industry.



An alumnus of IIT Roorkee, Sunil Goyal is an industry veteran who is passionate about Technology. His career of close to three decades speaks volume of his sharp business acumen and leadership skills. After spending the initial four years of his career in the corporate world, Sunil started his entrepreneurial journey in 1993 when he co-founded Momentum Technologies with Pankaj, his senior from IIT Roorkee.

Together, they took the Systems Integration business to a new level and in 1999, they decided to venture into Offshore Development for Software services. In the year 2000, Citi Ventures invested in Momentum Technologies and soon the software arm grew to a strength of 100 people with offices spread across Noida, Vancouver and Seattle. The acquisition by Newell and Budge, a Scottish company happened thereafter. The company eventually got acquired by Sopra in the same year.

Sopra after merger with Steria today has over 5000 people in India. It is a part of the 4.6 Billion Euros Sopra Steria Group with more than 46,000 people worldwide. Sunil is the Dy.CEO for the company's India Operations. He is also the CEO for Sopra Banking Software India, which has around 800 people in the India centre.

A great humanitarian by heart, Sunil is deeply involved in the CSR activities of the organization and is working closely on some Education and Community Health related projects. He is also the Co-Chair for Northern Regional Council at NASSCOM.



Uday B. Desai received the B. Tech. degree from Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, India, in 1974, the M.S. degree from the State University of New York, Buffalo, in 1976, and the Ph.D. degree from The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, U.S.A., in 1979, all in Electrical Engineering. He was the Founding Director of IIT Hyderabad from June 2009 to June 2019. From 1979 to 1984 he was an Assistant Professor in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department at Washington State University, Pullman, WA, U.S.A., and an Associate Professor at the same place from 1984 to 1987. From 1987 to May 2009 he was a Professor in the Electrical Engineering Department at the Indian Institute of Technology - Bombay. He was Dean of Students at IIT-Bombay from Aug 2000 to July 2002. He has held Visiting Associate Professor's position at Arizona State University, Purdue University, and Stanford University. He was a visiting Professor at EPFL, Lausanne during the summer of 2002. From July 2002 to June 2004 he was the Director of HP-IITM R and D Lab. at IIT-Madras. Dr. Desai received the outstanding Alumni Award from University of Buffalo (State University of New York) in 2015. In 2016 he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from IIT Kanpur. He was on the Strategy Advisory Board of Microsoft Research Lab. India. He is a member of many central governmental committees and several governing councils of leading academic institutions. He Chairs several committees under MEITY, DST, DRDO, and private organizations. He is one of the founding members of COMSNETS and also Society for Cancer Research and Communication. He was the Chair for IEEE Bombay Section 2006-2008. He was also on the Visitation Panel for University of Ghana.



Dr Kapil Talwar holds a BTech in ChE from IIT Mumbai and a MS & PhD in Chemical Engineering from Washington University at St Louis. He has a MBA from Melbourne Business School. He has been a serial entrepreneur in the technology space having exited several startups to established Industry leaders.

Experience is concentrated around the confluence of business, science and technology, and include broad exposure to ancillary functions that support business growth.

Professional Experience: Startup management, development and growth, capital raising, financial modeling and budgeting, investment due diligence, market strategy development, business development, corporate strategy, product planning, operations, program management.

Specialties: Startups Management, Corporate Development and Strategy, Business Development, Fundraising, Mergers & Acquisitions

He is a much admired mentor and serial entrepreneur. He resides in Melbourne Australia and has served as a Jury Member of various competitions of the IIT Alumni Councils C19 Task Force.



Dr. Rohinton Dehmubed has over 30 yrs experience in engineering design and product development in the field of telecommunications, RF, optics and compound semiconductors across multiple continents. He co-founded OPEL Inc. in 2001 which got listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (currently trading under TSX: PTK) in June 2007. As Vice-President in charge of product development at OPEL he led the team to develop a complex III-V epitaxy for monolithic opto-electronic integration of optical communication devices for military and commercial applications. He has secured funding from private investors and government bodies and was on the board of directors of OPEL Inc. from 2005 until his departure in early 2007. Since then, he has been a mentor and an investor in Cheekotel Venture Fund., a long horizon deeptech fund focusing on the markets in India and other emerging markets and is a member of their advisory board. From 1997-2001, he worked at TranSwitch Corporation in Shelton, CT, (NASDAQ: TXCC), where he was in charge of system development, definition and testing of high speed next-generation communication chipsets from DS3 (44Mhz) to OC-768 (40 GHz). Prior to TranSwitch, he worked in the field of free-space optics and plume measurements at Electro Optical Sciences and Contel Corporation. During his time at Contel, he tested the earliest Erbium Fiber Optical Amplifiers and Semiconductor Optical Amplifiers for the Fiber-in-the-Loop application.

Dr. Dehmubed holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Columbia University in the field of Integrated Optics and a B. Tech. in Electrical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay. Dr. Dehmubed has published several technical papers and holds multiple patents. Currently Dr. Dehmubed is a co-founder of Rubitel Inc., a startup specializing in electronic tamper evident packaging. In his spare time he likes to make gourmet chocolates and cheese.



Shri Ramendra Gupta did his B.Sc. (Hons) in Mining Engineering from IIT Dhanbad (formerly called Indian School of Mines) in 1972 and started his career in gold mining industry of India and later became Managing Director in Kolar Gold Fields. In June 2000, Shri Gupta took over as the Chairman and Managing Director of Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. Under the leadership of Sri Gupta, the uranium mining industry of India underwent massive expansion with several new mines and process plants set up in the last decade around Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh. With this, the uranium production capacity of India increased multifold. With many strategic assignments of Indian nuclear industry, Shri Gupta has represented the country in IAEA, Mongolia, Russia, Kazakhstan, South Africa and Namibia. Shri Gupta is a member of Mining, Geological and Metallurgical Institute of India (MGMI), Indian Nuclear Society (INS) and fellow of Indian Geophysical Union. He has presented a number of technical papers in national as well as international conferences.

Shri Gupta is the recipient of “National Design Award in Mining Engineering – 1999” for his “Outstanding contribution in the field of Engineering design” from Institution of Engineers (India). Recognizing the valuable contributions of Sri Gupta, MGMI, Kolkata awarded him the prestigious “John Dunn Medal for 2000-2001”. Indian Nuclear Society conferred Shri Gupta with prestigious INS Award – 2006 for his outstanding contribution in the field of Nuclear Fuel Cycle Technologies. Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad conferred its most coveted Distinguished Alumnus Award-2007 to Sri Gupta. Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India, recognising Sri Gupta as a specialist in deep mining technology and impressive contributions to underground metal mining industry conferred on him the celebrated National Mineral Award-2007. Indian Nuclear Society also conferred him the Life Time Achievement Award 2012 for his achievement in Research and Development of Technology in maintenance of safety and spreading education in Nuclear Science and Technology.



V.S. Verma was appointed Chairman of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) in 2012 and Member in February, 2009. He started his career in the Central Power Engineering Service (CPES 1971 batch) in Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and was appointed as Member (Planning) in Central Electricity Authority in the year 2002. Additionally he was given the charge of Director General of Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). Shri Verma also worked as Member (Hydro) in CEA for about an year. In his long standing career of over 39 years in the power sector Shri Verma acquired wide and valuable experience in the field of Planning, thermal and Hydro power plant engineering, project monitoring, construction, supervision, operation monitoring, human resource development, grid operations, conservation and efficiency, low carbon growth strategy and other environmental issues. Shri Verma had, as Member Planning - CEA headed the Eastern Regional Electricity Board (New ERPC) as Member Secretary and was responsible for the coordinated grid operation to maintain the quality of electricity in the Eastern Region of the Country in the year 1997-98 and dealt with Optimization of Generation and transmission capacities, inter-state and inter-regional exchange of energy, generation scheduling and accounting etc.

Shri Verma has also been on Governing Council/Board of Directors of various institutions like CPRI, NPTI, CWet, DVC etc. Shri Verma received Life Time Achievement Award from CBIP and from Rajiv Gandhi Technical University, Bhopal. He was also awarded Leading Energy Personality Award 2014 in November 2014 from Council of Power Utilities. He was also awarded Distinguished Alumni Award of IIT Roorkee. He is now Professor Adjunct for IIT Kanpur. Shri Verma is a distinguished professor at Central Power Research Institute in Bangalore, India reviewing the research projects in the power sector. the issues relating to the power sector in the Power Sector. Shri Verma is also a visiting professor at IIT Kanpur as Adjunct Faculty. Shri Verma is advising Govt of Rajasthan for improving their Distribution System of electricity in general including generation and transmission



Srinivas Rachakonda is a Chemical Engineer from IIT Bombay. He started his career on the shop floor of Bharat Petroleum doing hands-on engineering. He was recruited as the founding team of Reliance Petroleum and helped to build and design the Reliance Jamnagar Refinery ground up. He led the team that managed the start-up and optimisation of the refinery. He thereafter evolved into an expert in the optimisation of refinery and petrochemical plants. He then worked with AspenTech to help develop software solutions for refinery optimisation. Thereafter he led the business team that revived the Essar Refinery and took over the Shell Refinery in UK – followed by a successful stock offering.

He serves as an Advisor to McKinsey & Co in the oil and gas sector. He is currently based in Lagos, Nigeria heading the strategy team for the Dangote Refinery – which is likely to be the largest single line greenfield refinery in the world.

He is a passionate environmentalist and has been working on building enabling technologies for creating thriving forest ecosystems on wasteland in India.



Anil Kejriwal is a Chemical Engineer from IIT Kanpur. He has been an entrepreneur since college and has successfully built trading and manufacturing companies around the world, including in harsh terrains such as Russia, Asean and Latin America. He was the largest exporter of computer systems from India in the late seventies.

A resident of Singapore since the early eighties, he brought the concept of IT Parks to India and has built over ten million square feet of IT Parks, industrial estates and warehousing parks.

He now spends most of his time in philanthropic pursuits, often acting as mentor and angel investor to several start-ups by IIT Alumni.



Anupam Narayan has held leadership positions in the lodging industry for over 30 years. He currently provides strategic and investment advice to select clients and serves on a number of Boards. He has served clients in USA, China, Peru, Switzerland and India and is frequent speaker at conferences worldwide. Until January 2010 he served as President and Chief Executive Officer and Director of Red Lion Hotels Corporation, a New York Stock Exchange company. Since joining Red Lion in 2004, the company increased its focus on core business operations by divesting unrelated businesses, acquired two hotels for a combined investment of over \$50 million, initiated a follow on stock offering to raise equity, strengthened the balance sheet, improved its market position and increased investor awareness. Prior to that from 1998-2004, he was with Best Western International, the world's largest chain based in Phoenix, Arizona. He served as Senior Vice President for Global Strategy and as the Acting Chief Executive Officer. There he had global responsibility for Finance, Global Operations, Quality and Brand Standards, Strategy, Procurement and Legal services. He was instrumental in Best Western's expansion in Asia and South America. During his tenure Best Western International redefined its product, improved its brand image, increased market share and combined global operations. Prior to 1998, for twelve years he was with a Kohlberg, Kravis and Roberts (KKR) hotel and real estate company and was involved with large debt financings, Initial Public Offerings(IPOs), mergers and acquisitions and the capital markets. He has held leadership positions at both public and private hotel and real estate companies, including Doubletree Corporation, Red Lion Hotels, Inc. and Holiday Inns, Inc. He has significant accomplishments in franchising, business turnaround, finance, brand strategy, planning, international operations, IPOs, debt financing, mergers and acquisitions, and development. He is a graduate of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur and he received his MBA at the University of Florida, USA.



Mrugank Paranjpe holds a BTech from IIT Bombay in EE and a MBA from IIM Ahmedabad. He is currently a Member of the Main Board of State Bank of India. He is also Chairman of the Risk Management Committee of the Board. Prior to this he was the Managing Director for the MCX Stock Exchange – India’s largest commodity stock exchange. He spent close to 20 years in various leadership roles with Deutsche Bank. He has been a career banker having had senior roles in Citibank, WI Car, Indo Suez, IIT Investrust and IIFL.



Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Vishwambhar Singh completed his B.Arch from University of Roorkee (now IIT Roorkee) in the Year 1980 and M.Sc. in Defence Studies from Madras University in 1991. He has double M.Phil from Devi Ahilya University in 2004 and then from National Defence College in 2009. He has a rich and vast experience of 37 years in Indian Army where he served as General Officer Commanding, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa.

He has been Winner of Lions Trophy, Best Athlete, best all-round sportsman and All India Inter University Regetta Champion in Single sculls. He was the UOR winning champion in 1979 against all the heavyweights of Rowing like Calcutta University, Madras University and Jadhavpur university. He was also awarded University Colour in Athletic and Rowing by UOR and was awarded University Blue for the year 1979, third student to get since UOR was established and the Award was instituted. He was conferred with the Distinguished Alumni Award by IIT Roorkee in the Year 2015 and was also bestowed with the Eminent Engineer of India Award on 15th September 2015 by Indian Institution of Engineers, New Delhi. He also has the following achievements to his credit:

- Served as an Operations Officer in a UN Peacekeeping Mission learnt about International and UN Laws by dealing with UNDP, UNHRC, NGOs and other international contingents. Having been the General Officer Commanding of two areas and has the experience and understanding to deal with complex legal matters involving courts of inquiry, summary of evidences, ordering of trials and award of sentences.
- Recognized as an accomplished sports person had the privilege of representing India twice in the Asian Games at Delhi in 1982 and Seoul in 1986 respectively. Participated in World Rowing Championship in 1983 in Germany, Asian Championship in Hong Kong in 1985, Nile River International Regatta Egypt (Bronze Medal) in 1983. National Champion in Single Sail Category from 1982 to 1986.
- With great pride the Govt. of India released a First Day Cover with his photograph during the 1982 Asian Games for contribution in the Field of Sports.



Diwakar Sawant is a graduate of IIT Bombay from where he earned a BTech in 1987. He has since been engaged in his family business of providing clearing and forwarding services at the Mumbai ports and airports. His firm is among the largest integrated logistics players in Mumbai and provides a wide gamut of services including warehousing, clearing, forwarding, booking, container rentals, container transportation etc. He subsequently diversified in entertainment centres and owns a majority of the bowling arcades and entertainment machines in Indian malls.

Diwakar accepted the responsibility of moving men and material for all the initiatives of the C19 Task Force to handle the rapid response team activities set up. He personally led the movement of both people and materials – both locally as well as across India and globally using the chartered planes of Fedex. It was because of the large team of volunteers working with him that centres from Poddar Hospital to NSCI Dome could be set up in hours instead of weeks or months. His hands on familiarity with the local vendors, systems and government helped contain and manage the Covid crisis in Dharavi. His entire team of volunteers worked on site in the middle of Covid patients and facilitated movement of patients in addition to volunteers and material. Managing logistics for over 1000 volunteers and handling over 100,000 covid infected individuals required a war room like planning and execution given that terrains such as Dharavi were amongst the hardest to navigate even in ordinary times.



Dr. Srinivasan Sundararajan is an alumnus of B.Tech, IIT Bombay 86', M.Tech, IIT Bombay 88', Ph.D. at the Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque 1994 along with a post-doctoral stint at Univ. of Calif. - Berkeley. He has worked in companies such as Lam Research, Schlumberger, KLA, Applied Materials and ASML in the semiconductor industry in senior roles in Technology and Marketing. In addition, he was a Senior Analyst covering Semiconductors, Semiconductor Equipment, Solar, Display (LED and OLED) and solar areas at companies such as Oppenheimer, Barclays and Summit Research. He has been published in various publications such as Bloomberg, Reuters TV, Investor Business Daily, Korea Times, Korea Herald and Wall Street Journal and has been featured on a CNBC interview. He was also a Country Managing Director for Thailand at Daramic, part of Japanese behemoth Asahi Kasei where his duties included sales of all of Asia ex-China and ex-India.



Alkesh Wadhwani has a BTech from IIT Mumbai and a MBA from IIM Calcutta. He started his career with an entrepreneurial role in the investment banking industry with IIT Investrust. He then spent five years with McKinsey & Co in management consulting. He has spent close to ten years thereafter with the India Country Office of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He is currently the Director of the Poverty Alleviation program of the Foundation.

He was one of founder of the C19 Task Force of the IIT Alumni Council as acted as its protem Founder Chairman. He was the principal proponent and influencer of the early lockdown strategy adopted by the Indian Government.



Girish Mehta holds a BTech from IIT Bombay and a MBA from IIM Calcutta (1990). He started his career in management consulting with Tata Strategic management and since the late nineties has been involved in the healthcare sector in various senior roles.

He served as President and CEO of the Piramal Group. He built Piramal Diagnostics from a 3 lab operations into a 110 lab profitable operation with market leadership during my tenure. The business grew over ten times over a period of 6 years with good profitability and achieved market leadership. Piramal Diagnostics had a good brand salience in the market and was a trail blazer. Currently the business is part of SRL Limited. He served as Director RSD of Thermo Fisher Scientific. He served as Group CEO of Oncquest Laboratories from 2013 to 2015 and as CEO of Medgenome from 2015 to 2018. MedGenome is the pioneer in the evolving space of Genomics and its research and clinical applications. . As CEO, I was responsible for growing the clinical genetics and research business rapidly in India and nearby geographies. The company was around a year old in this space when I joined it and was working on several exciting opportunities such as Non Invasive PreNatal Testing (NIPT) and genetics applications in the field of Oncology and rare diseases and preventive healthcare opportunity for clinical genetics. I built teams for NIPT and Oncology from ground up and nurtured the existing rare diseases vertical. The business during my tenure grew three times with the company achieving market leadership with top of the mind brand recall. The company is reaping the benefits of work done during my tenure to further build on the business and continues to be the market leader in this space. He served as National Divisional Director for Clinical Diagnostics for Eurofins Clinical Genetics from 2018-2019

Girish served as Chairperson of the Diagnostics Group of the C19 Task Force. He has been the driving force towards creation of requisite infrastructure for mass testing and was closely involved with conception of MegaLab.



Satish Chandra Agnihotri was Chairman & managing Director of Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd , a public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Railways. Agnihotri, M.E. (Structures) and B.E. (Civil) from IIT Roorkee, joined the Indian Railway Service of Engineers in 1984. He was Director (Projects) at RVNL before taking over as managing director in 2010. As OSD to Chairman Railway Board , he was involved in laying down policies, standards, planning, implementation and monitoring of infrastructure projects across the Indian Railways. As Executive Director (Corporate Coordination) and OSD to Chairman, Railway Board, Dr. Agnihotri was engaged in substantive decision making in the Ministry of Railways.

In his career spanning over 24 years, Agnihotri has worked on important projects that include the construction of a double-line bridge over river Ganga, doubling of tracks and major yard remodelling among others. He worked on the Rajdhani route of Allahabad Division, the most prestigious track on the Railways, as Maintenance Engineer progressing to Assistant Engineer and Divisional and Senior Divisional Engineer. He was largely responsible for raising the speed potential of the Rajdhani route from 130 kmph to 160/180 kmph by upgrading the track geometry and strengthening the track. Dr. Satish Agnihotri also has a keen interest in sports and was adjudged as best in sports and studies amongst all branches of engineering at IIT Roorkee and was awarded the Sarojini Naidu Cup for Work and Play.



Mahendra Pratap is widely known as the father of “make in India” for indigenous computers. He was the key technical person in the founding team of HCL in the mid-seventies. He repeated the feat across industries, having designed the first biometric enabled smart card payment terminal in 2007. IMFAST received the the Gold Medal July 2007 and the Most innovative GSM application award at Macau in November 2007. UIDAI which was formed in 2009 adopted a similar stack in the Aadhar enabled payment system. He has served as mentor, guide and boss to two generations of manufacturing industry leaders in India. He did his BTech from IIT Kanpur in 1972.



Daljit Singh is a Strategy Advisor, Management Consultant, Life and Chairman-Malar Hospitals. During his tenure of 17 years with Fortis Healthcare, he has held the office of President, Chief Executive Officer and has led the Company's Strategy, Organizational Development and Projects Functions. Prior to joining Fortis, he was on the Board of Directors of ICI India. Daljit is an acknowledged expert and thought leader in the domain of Healthcare. He has represented Fortis at Industry forums like the World Economic Forum, Nathealth, CII and FICCI and led several healthcare related committees. He has held the office of President of Nathealth (Healthcare Federation of India) and has been an active participant on the World Economic Forum platform. He was on the Forum's Advisory Board on "The Economic Burden of Non-Communicable Diseases in India" and on the Global Agenda Council on Ageing. He is a mentor to a number of start-ups in Healthcare and has been a speaker at Indian and International forums on themes related to Leadership, Strategy and Healthcare. He is a trustee on the Boards of Ananda Sangha, Paramhansa Yogananda Charitable Trust and the Sai Aasra Charitable Trust,

A graduate from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, Daljit was a Commonwealth Scholar to the Senior Management Programme at the Manchester Business School. With an outstanding track record in the field of athletics, his current interests include athletics, high altitude trekking, adventure sports, spirituality, music and reading.



Prof Raghunath Shevgaonkar holds a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Electrical Engineering from I. I. T., Bombay/ (Indian Institute of Astrophysics/Raman Research Institute, Bangalore) on Maximum Entropy Restoration of Astronomical Images. He holds a Master of Technology (M.Tech) in Electrical Engineering from IIT, Kanpur with specialization in Electromagnetics and Optical fibres and a Bachelor of Engineering (BE) in Electronics Engineering from Jiwaji University, Gwalior. Gold Medalist.

He is currently Vice Chancellor of Benet University in Noida. From 2011-2015, he served as Director IIT Delhi. From 2010-2011, he served as Vice Chancellor of University of Pune. From 2008-2010: Deputy Director (Finance and External Affairs), IIT Bombay. 2005-2008: Dean, Resource Mobilization, IIT Bombay. 2003-2005: Head, Electrical Engineering Department, IIT Bombay. 2005: Visiting Professor, ETH Zurich. 2002-2006: Head, Centre for Distance Engineering Education Programme (C-DEEP), IIT, Bombay. The Centre has been setup to generate and disseminate the video lectures from experts in IIT to the students of engineering colleges in the country. 2000-2001: Visiting Professor, Computer and Electronics Engineering Department, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, USA. 1998-2000: Dean of Students' Affairs, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. 1990-to date: Professor of Electrical Engineering at IIT Bombay.
Job: Teaching and Research in Photonics, Fiber optics, Image processing, Printed antennas, Optically controlled microwave devices. 1987-1990: Assistant Professor at Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Bombay.



Parag Shah holds a BTech in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Bombay 1987. He has been a self-made entrepreneur in the area of bespoke algorithm development, IT Services and database management. He founded MechSoft which was a pioneer in software for mechanical engineering and AutoCAD type software working on client projects around the world.

Parag shot into prominence in March 2020 when a self-learning algorithm developed by him for pool testing was adjudged as the best in the world by an eminent jury led by Padma Sri Manvendra Agarwal. This algorithm now known as the PSA algorithm drives robotic automation for pool testing in several high capacity labs including MegaLab Mumbai.

The PSA Algorithm helped increase testing in Mumbai by over 200% without needing any test kits of incremental machines. This quantum leap in testing was primarily responsible for containing the Covid outbreak in Dharavi and other slum clusters. This approach in addition to increasing testing capacity almost overnight, also led to a proportional reduction in testing costs as now three+ individuals could be tested for the cost of one RTqPCR test.



Hemant Gupta is an alumnus of IIT Chennai with a BTech in Electronics 1985 and a PGDM from IIM Kolkata. After spending close to twenty five years with Citibank NA in various leadership roles across the entire spectrum of Banking and banking operations, he shifted his focus to the Impact Sector. Since 2016, he serves as the Managing Director of BSE Sammaan CSR Ltd and is currently also the Managing Director of BIL Ryerson Technology Startup Incubator Foundation. BSE Sammaan CSR facilitates listed corporates and other CSR exigible entities to locate suitable CSR projects and helps track impact assessment and other compliances. He is a part of the SEBI task force for setting up the Social Stock Exchange Framework and a thought leader in both the ESR and Social entrepreneurship sector. BIL Ryerson is a global joint venture with Ryerson and other international universities and is widely considered to be the best managed and most successful incubator in India. The ZoneLabs incubator at BHU, Varanasi is supported by the Atal Innovation Mission. ZoneLabs signed up as the first institutional incubator partner for the EBMI in May 2020 and has been the Chief Mentor of EBMI ever since. He led the team that coordinated the large technical and techno economic teams that carried out multitude activities from identifying suitable locations for the 2.5 million square feet biologics manufacturing cluster to the 100,000 sqft pilot plant facility to the residential campus for international training programs.



Sunil Hali is a leading torch bearer of India in the USAs since 1992. With an unmatched understanding and goodwill within Indians diaspora, he was featured in “Jewels of India in 2013” and “Roshni Media in 2014”. In last two decades, Sunil as head of Maya Consulting Group has emerged as a pioneer in South Asian media, marketing and management in the US. Publisher of Indian Express and Bhaskar in USA, Sunil has now launched his own newspaper with the name Indian Eye. He has been one of the leading guiding force behind Radio Zindagi since its launch from California in 2012, the first South Asian 24x7 radio network with a 1st of its kind deal with CBS Broadcasting. The radio is today the biggest media platform reaching 2.4 million South Asians across US in nine states: Silicon valley to Big Apple to Capitol Hill. He also launched Global Punjab TV, the in-language Punjabi TV channel in 2013 with International quality content yet maintaining Punjabi ethos.

Sunil has produced mega events for brand India since 1999. This includes “Building India Excellence Awards” (2016); “Indian American Achiever Awards” (2007); “Zee Gold Bollywood Awards” (2000); “Zee TV Miss India Worldwide” (1999) and “Zee Gold Six Nation Cricket Championship” (2001). These events were presented to global Indian audience on television and as a live event at most prestigious venues across USA. He has since launched several Indian brands in the USA including Jet Airways, Make my trip, Godrej properties etc

A double Gold medallist in engineering, and a Graduate from IIT Roorkee, Sunil is the first Indian to be featured on the cover of The New York Times in 1995, Metro Section, for Mausam-Seasons, a 52 part Indo-American soap opera, his maiden venture in media and entertainment as a Producer. The New York Times, once again, favourably reviewed his second project as a Producer-The Music Festival of INDIA, the largest South Asian event ever held in the US to celebrate India’s 50th anniversary of Independence in 1997.



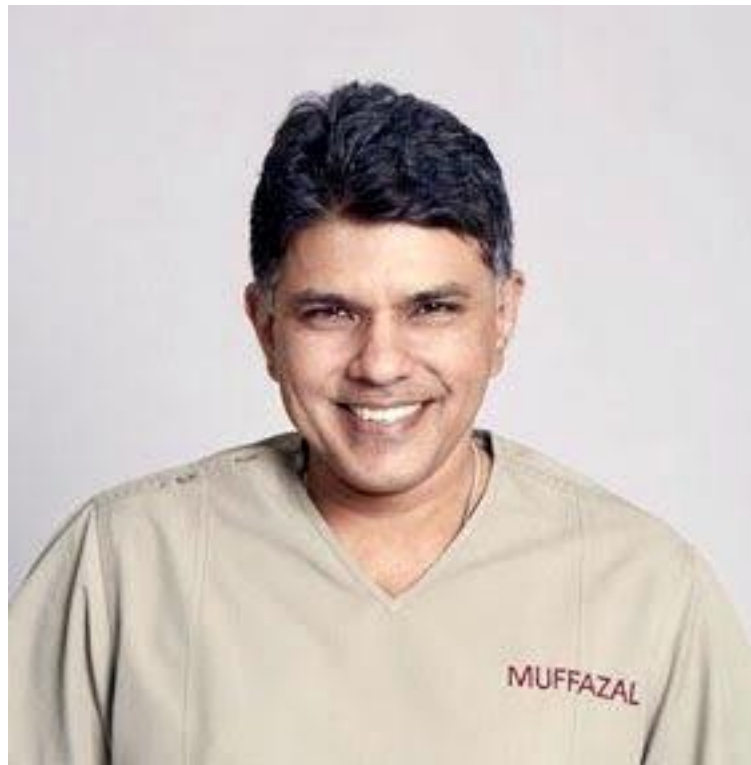
P Balaji is the Chief Regulatory and Corporate Affairs Officer of Vodafone Idea Limited. A member of the National Leadership Team, Balaji leads the company's Regulatory, Public Policy and Government Relations activities along with Industry advocacy, Corporate Communications, Reputation Management and CSR. Prior to that, he was the Managing Director of Nokia India and Managing Director of Sony Mobile.

He has rich experience of over 25 years in Telecom & IT sector in diverse functions including sales, marketing, strategy, operations, and product management. Balaji has held senior leadership positions in start-up and turn-around ventures of TATA group, AT&T, Ericsson, Lucent, Sony and Nokia.

Balaji is the Chairman of ASSOCHAM National Digital Communications Council, Vice President of Telecom Sector Skill Council, and Member of National Council of apex industry chambers CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM and All India Management Association. He was President of Telecom Equipment Manufacturers Association (TEMA), Northern Region Chairman of the Telecom Export promotion council and member of Task Forces set up by government on policy matters.

An Electronics Engineer from IIT Roorkee, Balaji completed his MBA from IIM-Ahmedabad in Marketing, Finance and Strategy.

VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE NOT
IIT ALUMNI BUT HOLD
THE POST OF SPECIAL INVITEES
AS SUBJECT MATTER
AND DOMAIN EXPERTS



Muffazal Lakdawala is an eminent Indian surgeon and founder of Digestive Health Institute by Dr Muffin, Mumbai, which is the first Indian Centre for Excellence in Bariatric Surgery. He is the chairman of Institute of Minimal Invasive Surgical Sciences & Research Centre, Saifee Hospital, Mumbai and the president of IFSO- Asia Pacific chapter. He serves as the Doctor to the Vice President of India and his clients include a wide cross section of political and other leaders.

He was awarded the first international centre of excellence designation by the US based SRC (Surgical Review Corporation) Mumbai. Dr Lakdawala underwent training in Bariatric Surgery with Raul Rosenthal, Cleveland Clinic, United States, 2006. He was also trained at the Unit of Gastro Surgery, with Piet Pattyn from the University of Ghent Hospital, Belgium, 2005 and also underwent Training in Advanced Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery with Prof. Seon Hahn Kim, Seoul, 2004.

He is one of the only Indian surgeon to have demonstrated live surgery in almost every Asian country. Till date he has performed the largest number of single incision sleeve gastrectomy surgeries in the world. He is the first surgeon to conduct laparoscopic gastric bypass in India.

Lakdawala has performed sleeve gastrectomy surgery on one of the youngest Indian patient who is a 17-year-old boy. He has performed Bariatric Surgery on the heaviest man in Asia of 285 kg in Tianjen, China. Since its inception, he has been the Chairman of the Doctors Group of the C19 Task Force.



He belongs to the 1989 batch of the IPS, borne on Karnataka cadre. Accomplished high degree of professionalism in wide and varied professional assignments and finally got groomed and refined into an officer who has 360 degrees experience of all policing tasks, simultaneously maintaining keen interest in all staff functions and a passion for usage of appropriate technology in policing at all levels and in all fields. He created an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software, the Police IT, for Karnataka State Police and headed the CCTNS project since its inception in 2008. He has gained immense expertise in a broad band of technologies like TETRA, Geospatial Technology, ERP, Interception etc and is regularly invited to deliver lectures at national and international forums on these topics. From January 2014 -December 2014 as a ADGP, Police Computer Wing working with assignment deals with a comprehensive computerization of the Karnataka State Police, stabilization of functioning of Police ERP software and its enhancement, running the MHA sponsored CCTNS project, up gradation and maintenance of state-wide broadband networking KSPWAN and Data Centre, creation of a Disaster Recovery Centre and increasing the usage of Police IT functionalities to the last task and last user. Since Jan - 2015, he has been working as a ADGP in Grievances and Human Rights Wing This Profile is slightly unconventional, to suit the broad based Website visitors and is broadly divided into Important Assignments, Core Competencies, Core Technology Areas, Major Documents Created, Recent Lectures Delivered, Training, Recognition and Papers both published and unpublished.



An alumnus of Institute of Chemical Technology, University of Mumbai and Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, Samir Kulkarni holds versatile qualification in complementing faculties of pharmaceutical sciences, bioprocessing, chemical engineering and business management. His total experience extends over a period of about 20 years in the area of biological sciences, with tenures in reputed research institutions such as Oak Ridge National Laboratory and University of Cincinnati, as well as in leading biologics organizations such as, Intas Pharmaceuticals, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, USV Limited etc. In senior leadership roles in biologics development organizations, he has successfully executed strategic and technical planning to enable launch of Biosimilars in Indian and Global Markets. He is presently working as the Director for Innovation, Incubation and Linkages with University of Mumbai and also holds additional charge as the Director of National Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. As a representative of the University of Mumbai he has been actively volunteering in the coordination of different initiatives of the IIT Alumni Council and providing technical insights in biomolecule development and diagnosis to manage the Covid19 Pandemic. Dr Kulkarni has played a key role in the evaluation of various incubatee proposals and has mentored several teams that are closely and directly involved with the various C19 Task Force initiatives.



Prof. Suhas Pednekar is the Vice Chancellor of the University of Mumbai. He has over 30 years of academic experience as a under graduate, post-graduate teacher and a researcher. His inherent passion, commitment and dedication towards academics and research led to his appointment as Principal of Ramnarain Ruia College in 2006, a position he held until April 2018. He holds a Doctoral Degree in Organic Chemistry and was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Stevens Institute of Technology, New Jersey, USA. His areas of research interest are Green Chemistry, Pharmacological and Chemical Investigation of Medicinal Plants and Marine Biotechnology. He has presented his research findings in many national and international conferences and has published over 50 research papers in national and international journals of repute. He has undertaken collaborative research projects with many Universities in India and abroad and has successfully guided over 25 students for Doctoral and Masters' programs. He has vast administrative experience and has served as a Member of official bodies of the Institute of Chemical Technology (Mumbai), University of Mumbai and State and National level bodies engaged in the enhancement of quality of education. He has worked as the Member of the many National and State level bodies such as the Working Group on Higher Education (XII Five Year Plan) Planning Commission of India (2012), Committee for Revision of Maharashtra Universities' Act, Government of Maharashtra (2012), Task Force Committee, Government of Maharashtra for New National Education Policy (2016 – 2017), Education Innovation Committee & Commercial Examination Board, Indian Merchants' Chamber (2009). He has been the President (2007- 08); Vice-President (2002 – 2004); Joint Secretary (1999 – 2002) and Member of the Executive Committee, Indian Chemical Society, Mumbai Branch. He is also the Life Member of many scientific bodies. He is the recipient of several awards which include the Best Chemistry Teacher Award at National level by Tata Chemicals Ltd. given in association with the Association of Chemistry Teachers, Royal Society of Chemistry, Confederation of Indian Industry and Godrej (2013); and the Best Teacher Award, Government of Maharashtra (2012).



V. N. Rajasekar is a distinguished academician and Scientist. He is currently the Vice-Chancellor of Somaiya Vidyalaya University and Chancellor of the ICFAI University, Tripura. He was President of Mewar University, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan, India (2016–2018). He served as the Principal Secretary, Science & Technology Dept of the Govt of Kerala, Prior to that Prof. Pillai was the Vice-Chancellor of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi (2006–2011). He served as Chairman of the University Grants Commission, Govt of India, New Delhi during the period 2002-2006.. Prior to that he was the Vice-Chancellor of the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Govt of Kerala and held additional charge of the Cochin University of Science and Technology (1996–2000). In 2000 he was on a Visiting Research Professor assignment in the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. From 1983 to 1996 Dr. Pillai worked in various academic and research executive positions in the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam such as the Founder Professor and Director of the School of Chemical Sciences, Dean of Faculty of Science, Founder Director of the School of Professional Distance Education, Director, College Development Council and Controller of Examinations of the University. During the period 1977–1983, Dr. Pillai worked as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, on deputation from Calicut University, Kerala, in the Universities of Tübingen and Mainz, Germany. From 1971 to 1983, he worked in the Universities of Kerala and Calicut University as UGC/CSIR Junior and Senior Research Fellow, Assistant Professor and Associate Professor in the area of Chemical Sciences. He is an Elected Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences. Distinguished Fellow of the Kerala Academy of Sciences, and an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE), New Delhi. He has been a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and an Honorary Senior Fellow of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore.



Nitin Deshmukh is the founding member of the Private Equity practice at Kotak Investment Advisors Ltd. Prior to taking up the current assignment at Kotak in June 2004, Nitin spent 3 years with Dresdner Kleinwort Capital and over 12.5 years with ICICI Venture, starting in January in 1989 to becoming its Chief of Private Equity Investments in 1997. Nitin has a strong association with the Pharmaceutical and Biotech Industry in the country, having served as the first honorary Director General of Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABLE), the apex industry association of biotech companies. Nitin is also a member of the CII National Committee on Private Equity and Venture Capital as well as the CII National Council on Economic Policy. He also serves as Director of ABLE in addition to being a member of the Committee on Biotech Policy of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. Nitin is a recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award 2012 from the Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai earlier known as UDCT.



Handing over of Mumbai Covid Data to Dr Anurag Agarwal (on the right), a MBBS from AIIMS and Director of CSIR – IGIB by Ravi Sharma, President IIT Alumni Council in New Delhi at the CSIR IGIB Headquarters on July 7th, 2020

Dr Anurag Agarwal has a MBBS from AIIMS, New Delhi and trained in medicine, pulmonary disease and critical care at the Baylor College of Medicine, Houston. He did his PhD from Delhi University. He is a senior fellow of the DBT-Wellcome Trust and a recipient of the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology and the National Bioscience Award. He is a key member of the government S&T task force for Covid 19.



Vikesh Mehta is a senior Chartered Accountant with 30 years of experience in the advisory space, largely in the development sector. He is an alumnus of St Xavier's College in Mumbai. Having articulated at Arthur Andersen, he helped set up Grant Thornton in India in 2002. He has worked extensively on Government projects as well as on infrastructure and social sector projects of multilateral and bilateral agencies in India and abroad. He has served on various advisory committees of Grant Thornton International and currently heads the Not For Profit business unit which provides CSR and Sustainability Services to corporates and Governance related services to the not for profit sector, including social enterprises. Vikesh serves as an Independent Director on the Boards of several companies and non-profits. In the social space, he is an independent director of the Pan IIT Social Venture Fund and the Cheekotel Development Catalyst Social Venture Fund.



Air Cmdr S. Shankar is the Head of Department – Internal Medicine of the Armed Forces Medical College and a key member of the Medical Team assembled by the Government to address the Covid Challenge. He is a graduate of the Armed Forces Medical College. He did his Post Graduation in Internal Medicine from the same college and was the University Gold Medallist. Subsequently he obtained his doctorate in Clinical Immunology from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. He is the winner of several academic and research awards including the prestigious IRA Oration award (2014), Dr JN Berry Award & Dr PJ Mehta Oration of API and Capital foundation award 2016. He has a keen interest in Autoimmune diseases, Molecular Genetics & Proteomics, Economics, Mathematical Modelling & Biostatistics.



Prof Jayandharan Rao is a DBT Fellow and Professor of IIT Kanpur. He completed his PhD from Christian Medical College, Vellore and his post-doctoral training at the Powell Gene therapy centre, University of Florida, USA (2007-09). Subsequently he was a faculty of Christian Medical College, Vellore and joined the faculty of BSBE at IIT Kanpur in October 2014. His research interests traverse and investigate aspects of the virus-host life cycle.



Mrinalini Gupta is a MBA from FMS, Delhi University and specialises in conceiving and creating online and real world brands ab initio.

She has over 35 years' work experience in building Indian brands, several of which have succeeded globally.. She started her career with Eureka Forbes in the early eighties and has since worked in advertising (J Walter Thomson), education (NIIT), Ayurveda (Dabur), Pharmaceuticals (Ranbaxy), Media (Hindustan Times) and Technology (Airtel). For the last fifteen years, she has been closely associated with the non-profit sector and has helped create and build some iconic brands. These include HowdyModi, IIT Alumni Council, MegaLab, Digital India, Make in India and the movie Avatar.

Around 1990, the team led by her in J Walter Thomson first came up with the brand "PanIIT" which was used by the IIT Bombay Alumni Association for events where members of other IIT Alumni Associations were invited. The word has stuck thereafter and was used to set up alumni chapters in Singapore and China.

During the tenure of the C19 Task Force, she was closely involved with manning the IPR, Legal, Media and Mental Health desks overseeing over hundred volunteers tracking mortality in Mumbai. She also handled all legal issues relating to branding, logo use etc and coordinated printing of all brand material including media releases, project reports and various filings.



Atul Kanwar was actively involved in the acquisition of Satyam Computer by Tech Mahindra and was the Global CTO of Tech Mahindra till 2018-19. Atul currently advises and mentors Digital Tech start-ups on business and technology strategy, innovation/disruption business models, operations excellence and team building initiatives. And timely access to growth capital to realise their business potential. He is an invited speaker to several Business and Technology forums. is the Chairman Hygge Energy, Co-Founder BLAED Advisors (Blockchain), Advisor OriServe Former CXO (Sutherland, Tech-Mahindra, AB Minacs, eFunds (FIS), Syntel, Mantra Online, 3Com, HCL).

Atul is an experienced CXO credited with transforming and growing multiple Global Technology businesses. Across assignments, Atul built a track record of realising stretch goals, evolving scalable business models and building high performance global teams - committed to operations excellence and characterised by customer centricity, strategic clarity and high governance standards. As a partner at a Private equity firm, Atul raised and deployed growth capital in innovation driven SME enterprises across specific funding themes/verticals. And successfully exited growth businesses to strategic players. A lateral thinker with an ability to quickly connect dots, Atul is adept at big picture scenarios as also execution centric detailing. He is comfortable operating across global environments, and has a unique distinction of co-working with 5 widely admired billionaires in their listed/private enterprises.

Atul is an active contributor to a 'not for profit' collective with a mission to deploy 'out of box' emerging technology solutions to address global business and social challenges in the COVID and post COVID timelines. Atul is a BE (EE, 1984) alumnus of Delhi College of Engineering (now DTU) and MBA from FMS (Delhi Univ. 1986).

VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE
ALSO PART OF THE
PANIIT ALUMNI INDIA SOCIETY
WHICH WAS FORMED IN 2006 TO
ORGANISE
CONCLAVES IN 2006, 2008, 2010
AND 2012.



Satish Kaura is a well-known technologist and is widely credited with enabling the indigenous colour television revolution in India. Samtel sponsored the Display Technology Centre in IIT Kanpur and was the first to use robotics extensively in high tech manufacturing. An elected Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE), Satish Kaura is the first recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur. The Government of India awarded him the fourth highest civilian honour of the Padma Shri, in 2004, for his contributions to the Indian industrial sector.



Brijendra Kumar (BK) Syngal is a pioneer in the Indian Telecommunication Sector and has been referred to as the 'Father of Internet & Data Services in India'. His five-decade career has included senior executive positions in the major and public sector telecom companies in India including Chairman and Managing Director of VSNL, India's leading provider of telecommunication services, Chairman of Reliance Telecomm and Vice Chairman of BPL Communications. He has also served as Chairman, Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (London) ; Governor, INTELSAT Board, Washington DC; and as a Councillor for the INMARSAT Council in London as well as a Governor, INTELSAT Board, Washington DC.

Syngal is presently, Senior Principal with a leading law firm in New Delhi, India. He heads the Consulting and Advisory team of Telecom Experts in the disciplines of Licensing, Regulation, Policy Formulations and Government Affairs. He provides services to a large number of Telecom Clients, both National and Multi-National, in these areas.



Ashok Madhukar is a graduate of IIT Kharagpur and a distinguished alumnus of the Institute. He is an alumni leader and served as Chairperson of PIAI from 2016-18. Several initiatives in the development space including the Social Fund which has now morphed into the Rs 21,000 crore MegaFund were conceived of by him. He started his career in the engineering industry working for L&T. He was one of the pioneers of the auto ancillary industry in the NCR area and was closely connected with the setting up of the Maruti car ecosystem as an entrepreneur. For the last 25 years, he has been closely associated with the Development Sector. He was closely involved with setting up the Social Fund for Development in Egypt which then grew into the largest social fund in the world. On returning to India, he helped set up the India Africa partnership at the Heads of State level and has been a Development Consultant specialising in economic upliftment of remote North eastern districts as well as economically backward areas.

His current areas of work include: 1.Integrated Socio-Economic Development Strategies for Governments - Local Area Development & People's Participation. 2.International Cooperation -SME Focus 3.Sector Development Strategies-Holistic Approaches 4. Change & Change Management



Pawan Kumar is the founder of the branded all-IIT alumni initiatives along with Gyanesh Choudhary in India and Rajat Gupta in the US. He was founder Chairman of the first Association of People (AOP) that organised the PanIIT Conclave in 2004 with President Abdul Kalam as the Patron. Till this event, individual alumni associations of the IITs held their own events. This role model conclave was thereafter emulated by a registered society set up in Delhi by around fifty individual alumni called PanIIT Alumni India (PIAI). PIAI event managed the conclaves in 2006 in Mumbai, 2008 in Chennai, 2010 in Noida and 2012 in Kolkata. Even though no large conclaves have been held since 2012, the society still exists with Pawan as its current Vice Chairman. Pawan has also been very active with industry bodies like CII, TIE, ESC, and NASSCOM. Remaining closely associated with his alma mater, he has served as Global President of IIT Kanpur Alumni Association. IITK conferred on him the Distinguished Alumnus Award of IIT Kanpur in 2006. Pawan has since been engaged in what has been always closer to his heart - playing the role of a mentor, advisor, and angel investor to a lot of young entrepreneurs. IIT Alumni Council is one of the many organisations to have benefited from his mentorship. Pawan did his B. Tech. (1969) and M. Tech. (1972) from IIT Kanpur. During his illustrious and long career, he has worked with leading IT organizations starting with TCS. During the 1990's, under Pawan's astute leadership, ICIM and IBM Global Services India grew multi-fold to be regarded as top IT companies in India. Pawan was one of the individual drivers of the Indian response to the Y2K opportunity which saw India rise to the very top of the IT Services global market rank. Along with late Dewang Mehta (photo above), he is one of the pillars that Brand India IT stands on.



Gyanesh Chaudhry, IIT Kanpur graduate (BT/EE/1967), is the founder of Servo Electronics Pvt Ltd (SEPL) New Delhi. The Co. SEPL has been engaged in developing sophisticated products for Defence, Industry, Computer and other applications. The Co. has got several National & professional awards - SIATI award for Excellence in Aerospace Indigenization; Ministry of MSME National awards for Lean Manufacturing – 2013 & for Product Innovation – 2014. After graduation, he served Tata Electric Cos. R & D Division - Bombay for eight years (1967 – 75), lastly as Head – Telemetry & Telecontrol Group, directly reporting to Mr. Ratan Tata.

Gyanesh Chaudhry was honoured by IIT Kanpur in 1998 for his distinguished services towards Alma mater - alumni relations. He was President of the Alumni Association (Global) - IIT Kanpur (1980-82) when he re-activated the Association. He started the Delhi, Chapter of the Alumni Association in 1980 with 48 members & managed its activities with about 750 members till 2016-17. Gyanesh Chaudhry was one of the Founders in 2003 of the PanIIT Forum . He served as Chairman, Constitution Committee & drafted the constitution of PIAI. He was Chairman Finance for the PanIIT Forum in 2004 and PIAI in 2006. He was again Chairman-Finance Committee for the PAN IIT Alumni Global Meet 2010 held in Greater Noida. He has also been involved in other educational & philanthropic institutions. He was Member - Executive Council, apex body of Delhi University (1992-95). He has also been active with many philanthropic organizations. He was Chairman, Rani Dutta Arya Vidyalaya (2001-06), looking after free education of more than 1000 orphans – Class Nursery to XII. He ensured imparting of Quality education & regular assessment of students whereby improving many-fold the results of the Board examinations of the students. He is the Founder / Board member of Apex Chamber of Commerce & Industry, NCT of Delhi. He also serves on the National Defence Committee of Assocham New Delhi.



Arun Seth holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur and a master's in business administration from the Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata. Arun was associated with Alcatel-Lucent India as a non-executive chairman from May, 2011 until May 2014. He has worked for the BT Group in India in a variety of positions for over 17 years, retiring in July 2012. Currently, Arun is on the board of Jubilant Foodworks Limited, Cadista Holdings Inc., Centum Learning Limited, Usha Breco Limited and Samtel Avionics Limited and Narayan Hrudayalaya.

He is an active member on the boards of various non-governmental organisations such as HelpAge India where he chairs the resource committee, 'Katha', 'SPIC-MACAY' and 'India Sponsor Foundation'. He is also a trustee of the Nasscom Foundation, which drives corporate social responsibility initiatives for the IT industry.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY!!

To,

Chairperson, C19 Task Force

Partner Institutions and Mission Organizations

Doctors and Paramedic volunteers

IIT Directors and Volunteer Academicians

IIT Alumni volunteers

IIT Students and Aspirants who have enrolled as volunteers

Jury Members, Industry Leaders and Alumni Leaders

Sub: Some thoughts on our First Anniversary.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Today, 15th of August 2020 is the first birth anniversary of the IIT Alumni Council. On behalf of the Founding/Patron Members and the Global Board, I would like to thank each IIT Alumnus who has helped in making the IIT Alumni Council an outstanding success in its first year. I would particularly like to thank Dr K Vijay Raghavan - Chairman of the C19 Task Force, contributing Senate Members of various IITs, other C19 Taskforce members, Leaders of partner institutions, volunteers involved in executing various initiatives, Jury Members, Academicians who worked in finding solutions to every problem, WhatsApp group

administrators and Admin Council members who worked day and night connecting alumni and responding to every query received by them.

Today also marks the end of the six month tenure of the C19 Task Force. We would like to thank each and every alumnus, volunteer and contributor to the Covid19 activities in Mumbai particularly in the NSCI Dome, Covid Test Bus, MegaLab, MegaTx, I2Net and the MegaIncubator. These initiatives will outlive the C19 Task Force and will be taken forward by philanthropist alumni, partner social funds and industry partners - in keeping with the vision and foundation built by the volunteer armies who conceived these.

Annexure One to this document summarises all the announced initiatives of the Council as well as a brief outline of initiatives and missions that are of a more long term nature. These include the MegaFund, the Open Source Data initiatives and missions in areas such as Quantum Technologies, Ultrasound and Next generation sequencing among others.

During our first year (and more so in the last six months), we have been fortunate enough to receive a wide variety of inputs – some complimentary and some not so complimentary. Whilst most of the IITs and other partner institutions like Mumbai University, CSIR, BSE and ICT Mumbai have gone out of the way in supporting us, some of the IIT Directors have put in substantial effort in highlighting what they considered to be areas in which the Alumni Council needed strengthening and changes. Though many of these comments were based on misinformation, we have accorded the highest level of responsiveness to these. We are extremely grateful to those directors who helped & supported us in the fight against Covid and also, to those few who acted as self-appointed auditors giving us highly constructive and well-meaning criticism. This helped accelerate learnings, based on which we have taken two steps – formalise the process of information dissemination through an official digital platform – and put in place a mechanism to evolve a governance framework that is appropriate for an organisation of such scale and impact.

There have been objections filed by several alumni who believe that they were not given a chance to join as Office Bearers despite having the necessary credentials, track record and alumni connect. On investigating some of these complaints, we found a lot of merit in several of them. We would like to tender an unconditional apology for the same. We have, as an immediate measure, thus dissolved the Admin Council which was overseeing these appointments and replaced this by two entities – a full time Global Secretariat based in New Delhi and a Global Senate. The Current Global Board is being morphed into the Global Senate and the size is being increased from the current 21 members to 121 members.

Another criticism we received included challenging use of the IIT logo in a banner on a community portal and extended to being cautious in areas like healthcare starting with: “How can IIT engineers run a hospital?”. These words of caution were warranted as well as thought-provoking. We are glad that the Directors took the extra ordinary effort of issuing a joint press release by all the IITs clarifying that IITs were not officially connected with IIT Alumni Council

and its initiatives; thus, absolving them of any liability stemming from our Covid initiatives. We have in parallel requested the Ministry of HRD to issue guidelines on usage of the IIT Logos and are awaiting their instructions on the same.

At the same time, we are immensely proud of our volunteers and members who did an outstanding job on fighting the virus – to the extent of making NSCI Dome the world’s best performing Covid hospital on almost all parameters. WHO deemed it fit to mention this in its global briefing and international as well as domestic media covered the world’s first contactless hospital run by just one doctor as a technological marvel, worthy of global emulation.

We also sought professional and legal advice on the various issues raised (both formally and informally) and acted upon the advice. As an example, the cover page of our website now states: “The use on this website, of the logos of various Indian Institutes of Technology, is solely for the purpose of identifying that the members of the IIT Alumni Council, are also the alumni of such Indian Institutes of Technology. The use of these logos is performed on a strictly non-commercial basis, and the logos are not used for any communication or undertakings or activities of the IIT Alumni Council - which is independent of the IITs.”

We are now commencing the task of acting upon the well-meaning and constructive criticism that we received on the governance front. In keeping with our processes, all these inputs have been extensively documented and studied/ analysed. We have found a lot of merit in many of these inputs, especially in six areas:

- Institutional strengthening and capacity building,
- Institutionalising the selection process for city and batch coordinators,
- Formalising framework for governance of long-term initiatives,
- Formalising alignment with existing outward looking alumni bodies & initiatives that work across IITs
- Developing a framework to revitalise the research ecosystem and value chain among academic and research institutions in India
- Incorporating the dual functionality of community building through an open information sharing platform on our portal.

Annexure Two of this document outlines the steps being taken in each of these six areas.

I do hope the above gives you a fair picture of our activities in the past year and where we are going in the coming year. We would once again request you to bear with us as change is the primary constant that any fast-evolving young organisation has to deal with.

On an overall basis, when I look back at the year gone by from HowdyModi that had 5400 IIT Alumni attending to Covid 19 which has over 25,000 alumni engaged and the whole world fearing the biggest pandemic of our lives – we have come some way. But we have miles to go

before we rest. And we do look forward to your support to progress in all the initiatives outlined above.

We shall be reaching out to some of you separately with the invitation of membership to the Global Senate and the Chairmonial Council.

I do wish you a happy first anniversary of your association with IIT Alumni Council.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ravi Sharma', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ravi Sharma, President, IIT Alumni Council
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ravisharmaindia>
August 15th, 2020

ANNEXURE ONE

Summary of Initiatives & Missions

A brief summary of the four ongoing C19 initiatives which have been announced in the public domain are as follows:

NSCI Dome: Creating a Real Time Live Laboratory, the first task at hand was to align a Real Time Live Laboratory with real Covid 19 patients. The medical world had, at that time, an exceedingly limited understanding of the disease. Policy Makers and government departments were even less aware. Technology developers and researchers were battling in the dark with no precedents, no data, no studies and no place to carry out experiments. It was a vicious cycle of ignorance dampening innovation and the lack of innovation killing people. In order to get out of this loop, IIT Alumni Council selected South Mumbai as their geography of work and Dr Mufazzal Lakdawala as the Mission Head. In pursuance of this objective, Dr Mufazzal Lakdawala created the NSCI Dome Hospital which became the world's first technology and data-driven contactless hospital. The Dome went live in end April with just one full-time doctor; and lost just one patient out of the first 1000 Covid positive patients on-boarded in the facility. This made the NSCI Dome the world's best performing Covid Hospital. NSCI Dome has become a showpiece of Indian Innovation and Technology - garnering global praise for both the "contactless" concept and the outstanding results.

Covid Test Bus: Social Distancing is an impossibility in Mumbai Slums of Dharavi and Jijamata. With 8-10 people sharing a room and up to 100 people sharing a set of bathrooms - isolation, testing and treatment take on completely new challenges. A quick and cost-effective screening tool with instant results was required for testing and isolation in these slums to handle the crisis. The Covid Bus was launched on Maharashtra Day (May 1). Digital X-rays were used as an interim tool and complemented by pool testing - both innovations from IIT Alumni Council partner organisations. Using a prudent combination of digital imaging, AI, molecular biology-based pool testing and telemedicine, the Bus could screen over 500 people each day with a 90%+ diagnostic accuracy.

MegaLab Mumbai: Using equipment from the Tuberculosis Mission, India started RTPCR tests for Covid 19. Neither machines nor test kits were available. Proprietary systems increased cost as well as downtime since the machines could not run with alternate kits. To overcome these challenges, MegaLab Mumbai was conceived of as the world's largest RTPCR lab with

adequate capacity to test the entire population of Mumbai monthly using pool testing. The Lab is initially to be housed in a temporary location - finally shifting to a 10 acre plot that would house an iconic building, a memorial and a celebration for the healthcare workers who saved lives.

MegaTx: India does not have a large biologics or plasma products industry - the former because of the high cost of products and the latter because of laws which prohibit commercial trade in blood and blood derived products. Live experiments showed that convalescent plasma therapy was helping save the lives of critical patients. At the same time, there was a need to shift from convalescent plasma to intravenous immunoglobulins which are safer and easier to administer. However, in the long term, there was a need to shift from antibodies that were harvested from recovered patients through blood donations - to nature identical anti-bodies manufactured using biotechnology in a cell line. The MegaTx initiative starts off with harvesting 50,000 litres of blood per month for harvesting of anti-bodies and then shifting to monoclonal anti-bodies expressed in a mammalian cell line.

A brief summary of the four ongoing IIT Alumni Council initiatives which have been tweaked to address C19 challenges in the short term are as follows:

MegaFund: What started as a thought for a Rs 100 crore social initiative in 2016 by a select group of alumni has now evolved into the largest social entrepreneurship and social venture funding platform with a target corpus of Rs 21,000 crores. The platform approach facilitates a 7x multiplier effect by entering into co-investment agreements with the largest domestic private equity funds and a pass-through Fund of Funds framework to use the existing 300+ SEBI registered AIF Funds as disbursal and outreach arms. The MegaLab, MegaTx and MegaIncubator initiatives demonstrate the opportunity for social Start-ups with both scale, depth and accelerated take-off.

MegaIncubator: The Government supported Atal Innovation Mission and related programs have laid a solid foundation for the incubation ecosystem. However, occupancy and incubatee funding are both areas that need improvement. The approach thus is to create a “phygital” incubator that aligns with around 25% of the 10 million square feet of incubation space and supplements this with domain specific expertise. Two examples of domain specific incubators are the Biomolecule incubator (EBMI), the Quantum Technologies incubator (QTMI), the Advanced Genomics incubator (AGNI) and the Ultrasound Technologies incubator (ULTA), EBMI (Engineered Biomolecule Mega Incubator): India does not have a large molecular diagnostics or biologics manufacturing. Both these industries as well as several others including genomics and water treatment rely on engineered biomolecules. To accelerate progress in the area of engineered biomolecules, the IIT Alumni Council has promoted the Mega Incubator initiative which targets aggregation of 2.5 million square feet of incubator and manufacturing space, a 100,000 square feet pilot and developmental manufacturing facility and a large residential campus for training in the NCR area. The Mega Incubator will

also include a BSL3 laboratory being built in the Kalina Campus of Mumbai University at the Institute of Nano Bio Sciences. The Mega Incubator will involve an investment of Rs 500 crores in the first phase and is likely to attract manufacturing investments of Rs 10,000 crores thus developing the NCR Area into a major global hub for manufacturing of biomolecules including biotherapeutics, Biosimilars and other biologics.

QTMi (Quantum Technologies Megalncubator): India was the first country in the world to announce a sanction of USD 1 Billion+ in the union budget 2020 for a Quantum Technology initiative. Quantum technologies have the potential to disrupt several industries by providing highly secure, ultrahigh bandwidth and extremely low latency network connectivity. When coupled with oxygen attenuated RF local loops for cord cutting – this holds out the potential for an ecosystem with almost unlimited bandwidth starting with an indigenous 6g mobile system that can demonstrate 1 Gbps to the handset eventually going up to 10 Gbps. Similarly Quantum Computers offer the potential for a 100x improvement in price performance over legacy HPC computers. By provisioning the computing capacity in the cloud, it is possible to both share it as well as colocate it with data hosting. Further by standardising protocols such as Docker, it is possible to not just queue jobs for processing but also enables distributed computing wherein for example a billion smartphones could donate their computing resources for late night processing. This hybrid Quantum approach is being used to build the world's fastest computer in India by harnessing the power of data centres, smartphones and quantum computing. Quantum cryptography is now proven and commercially deployed. Quantum technology initiative will in the short-term address applications in drug discovery.

AGNI (Advanced Genomics Neo Incubator): The gene mapping space is led by market leader Illumina (and its Chinese clones like BGI/ MGI) and concept challengers like PacBio and Oxford Nanopore. An Indian challenger Koteleo too has emerged who is trying to merge the electrical reading approach of Nanopore players with optical detection using AI and stereo microscopy based on space imaging technologies.

ULTA (Ultrasound Leveraging Technology Accelerator): Ultrasound technologies compliment optical stereo microscopy and electrical signal-based detection as these can penetrate below the surface. This approach provides a means to look deep into a human organ or to model the organ in real time in 3D for viewing either as a holographic image or as a real 3D image using a headset like Oculus. The emerging field of cobotics and brain reading using EEG type sensors also fit in a broad framework that leverages the penetrating ability of ultrasound without the side effects of X-rays and CT Scans – makes ultrasound a unique technology for widespread use. Ultrasound sensors like Butterfly IQ and Indian challengers like Ionique have shown that ultrasound technology can be made cost effective, highly portable and extremely accurate.

I2Net: The India Innovation Network aspires to bring together leading innovation-fostering institutions from academia, scientific research and industry to help address research challenges in the context of self-sufficiency in old economy sectors and global leadership in

the new economy sectors. The initiative involves creating a highly secure ultrahigh bandwidth connectivity network that helps these institutions to collaborate actively in addition to accessing scarce but desirable resources such as supercomputers and quantum computers. By using protocols such as Docker, it is possible to use these resources in low activity periods for queuing jobs with a standardised input/output interface. I2Net aspires to partner with the highest rated academic institutions, research institutes and industry research divisions. Mumbai University and ICT Mumbai are the founding partners of I2Net. The basic I2Net configuration involves 1024 drops of 40 Gbps each to interconnect key colleges, scientific institutions, incubators and research arms of Corporates.

Start-up Listing: Start-up success is integral to three key economic objectives – Self-sufficiency in old economy sectors, global leadership in new economy domains and livelihood generation across strata. As a “no jobs” scenario gets clearer in the horizon, higher education and employment/livelihood generation paradigms need a systemic reset. The key hurdle for incubates in the various incubators is the absence of a framework that lets them access capital. In pursuance of this, IIT Alumni Council is working with established leaders such as BSE to optimise the process the start-up listing, enhancing the investor depth and facilitating newer formats of enterprise such as social enterprises to list on these public exchanges.

Open Source Data Portal: The Covid pandemic was a clear illustration of “patients and disease everywhere – but not a shred of Covid data for research”. Whilst the IIT Alumni Council took the highly untrodden path of setting up a live hospital and research centre with real patients, the rest of the scientific community continues to struggle without access to even basic data or experimentation. The nodal bodies such as ICMR and NIV have been up to their necks in fighting daily emergencies. As a result, there is no data available to the scientific community to accelerate the development of testing and treatment paradigms. By creating the NSCI dome which took in real patients, the IIT Alumni Council initiatives achieved three key objectives:

- created an entirely private ecosystem that complemented and supplemented the government health infrastructure (this included building a hospital with an ICU in a sports stadium) for real time research,
- reduced the time lag from need to data access to almost zero
- provided a live platform for new technologies in areas like testing and treatment. This open source approach has led to significant breakthroughs in days rather than months or years.

Project Platinae for example is the world’s largest convalescent plasma therapy program just as Project Kodoy aspires to create the world’s largest RTPCR with 25,000 tests per month, Project Ionique is building the worlds cheapest ultrasound sensor, and Project Koteleo which

aspires to create the world's fastest next generation sequencing platform. Project IQ is building the world's largest hybrid Quantum Computer.

There is an attempt to extend this approach to other diseases such as Tuberculosis and HIV Aids – and a MoU with CSIR IGIB to open source all infectious and lifestyle disease data to authorised researchers is the first step in that direction. The HGP initiative (human genome project) aspires to map the genome of 10 million Indians in 100 months starting with a pilot project for 100,000 full genomes to be carried out using Illumina short read and Koteleo long read technologies.

ANNEXURE TWO

Summary of Institutional Strengthening Measures

Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building

- A group of three well known global advisory firms in the areas of HR processes, financial systems & strategy and branding /IPR to evolve a formal framework and submit a formal report in this area.
- Preparation of the first detail draft report of the formal framework in 100 days
- Implementation of the framework fully in the next financial year starting April 1, 2021.

To coordinate and oversee the work done by these agencies, the Council has appointed three of our Global Board Members to oversee these areas. These include a Senior Advisor of McKinsey & Co, a former Global Managing Director of Hewitt Associates and an Advertising Industry veteran.

Selection Process for City & Batch Coordinators

- The humongous task carried out to appoint 100+ city chapter coordinators and 700+ batch coordinators.
- The membership went up from 5,000 to over 15,000 and then to over 25,000, within ten days of launching the C19 Task Force.
- Hundreds of What's App groups, thousands of emails and probably millions of messages zipping on all these platforms are managed. A soft launch had been planned in August 2020 on our first anniversary and full launch on April 1, 2021.
- Covid19 was a disruption that we had neither hoped for nor planned for. Given that millions of people around the world were home locked and scared, several found solace in a known reliable source of information through our social platforms.
-
- Being well-informed professionals running an actual Covid facility on the ground gave the movement received a great momentum and we showed that we were not just Google searchers.

- The Global Board took a decision to nominate Protem members to all possible slots including close to 300 WhatsApp group admins, over 100 city chapter heads, over 200 batch coordinators and several tens of task force heads who were addressing a very wide gamut of issues from X-rays to AI to medication to therapies to prophylactics.
- This Protem organisation was put together in less than 100 hours as were each of the initiatives, it served its purpose well. Because there was no room for formal process, it was done in an ad hoc and urgent manner given the feared anticipated death toll of over a million in Mumbai.
- As well as the fear that Dharavi Slums in Mumbai would become the number one hotspot not just in India but globally. In this situation, choices were few and speed of response was critical. Vision is always 20/20 in hindsight. Looking forward is a little more difficult. Our volunteers and leadership did what seemed like the best option at that point in time.
- Thus, many deserving alumni got overlooked as they did not apply on the portal. We realized this mistake and have therefore corrected this immediately by terminating the term of all appointees in the batch and city councils on December 31, 2020 by when a duly appointed set of office bearers would take over.
- The Admin Council which oversaw these appointments is being dissolved with immediate effect. The new appointments will be overseen by the Secretariat under the supervision of the Global Senate.

Governance Framework for Long Term Objectives

- As mentioned above, the Governance framework is being evolved by an advisory firm specially mandated for the same, this new framework will take effect latest from April 1, 2021.
- In the interim, the Global Board has decided to adopt a suitably modified version of the Senate Manual, that is used by most of the IITs for their own governance. Broadly the same framework will be used.
- This change will be effective from October 2nd, 2020. The Senate Manual is derived from the IIT Act passed by Parliament and has borne the test of time over several decades. The Council of the Indian Institutes of Technology which is the premier academic body of the IITs has also chosen to continue with this manual.
- A task force has been formed to finalise this Senate Manual and to submit it no later than September 15th, 2020. From October 2nd, the Global Board is being morphed into the Senate and will have 121 members instead of the existing 21.

Formalising Alignment with other IIT Alumni Bodies and other Nation Builders

- Nation Building cannot be the prerogative of a few. Nor can it have an entrance exam or eligibility criteria. Anyone with an interest to contribute to the nation should be welcome to contribute. Nation building should not require the consent of a college or of the government. It necessarily must be inclusive. It also needs to go beyond a small community of 500,000 that the IIT Alumni globally represent.
- In pursuance of this the IIT Alumni Council has reached out to credible research institutions such as CSIR in India and comparable bodies in other countries including USA, Canada, UK,

Australia, Germany, Russia, Japan etc. These initiatives are expected to bear results in the immediate future.

- Dos and Don'ts are decided and we will follow those to achieve our major goals, as mentioned below:
 - In addition to the IIT Alumni Council, there are several bodies both in India as well as globally that work across IITs. Notable among these are PanIIT Forum Mumbai which dates to 1992 (and which first used the brand "PanIIT") and PanIIT USA which was formed in 2002. Both these entities started off as Associations of People and in time became more formal entities structure as non-profits in many countries of the world. Some of them like PanIIT USA also created arms in other countries including India. There are close to fifty such entities in at least twelve countries. Many of our IIT Alumni Council members are also members of such entities.
 - Over the last one year, we have reached out to at least twenty such organisations and are in the process of entering into reciprocal arrangements with these. We have done the same with eminent universities like Mumbai University which have millions of alumni and close to 1000 colleges.
 - We have also reached out to niche centres of excellence like ICT Mumbai which has more Padma Sri awardees than all the 23 IITs put together. Similarly, our C19 Task Force has benefitted tremendously from the wisdom of scientists in places ranging from CSIR to hospitals like KEM and AIIMS.
 - We hope to continue pursuit of such alliances using a reciprocal system. For example, the Global Board has proposed a Chairmonial Council which would include the heads of several eminent educational and research establishments.
 - We believe it is a healthy practice for alumni to associate with multiple entities. However, it is also prudent to revitalise these various entities by removing overlaps, eliminating redundancies and leveraging synergies.
 - However, the IIT Specific inward-looking bodies such as the Alumni Associations of the individual IITs, are localised bodies which have a high emotional connect with the IITs. They do a wide variety of well-meaning initiatives which range from helping poor students to organising alumni get together. This is NOT our role and nor is it part of our main objects. Although these alumni bodies are really a part of the parent IIT and continue to be integral part of the college and should remain so.

Revitalising Research for Self Sufficiency

The IIT Alumni Council has taken up three initiatives with a gusto.

1. The Atma Nirbhar Bharat initiative which aspires to make the country self-sufficient in old economy sectors.
2. The Start-up India initiative which aspires to make India a global leader in new economy sectors.
3. The Digital India initiative which aspires to digitally empower our economy as well as safeguard our data for efficient use as well as from misuse.

In pursuit of these, the IIT Alumni Council has signed several MoUs with a wide range of established and credible entities. These include MoUs with CSIR, BSE, TEMA, PanIIT etc. All these MoUs are making expected progress and efforts are on to accelerate impact. IIT Alumni

Council will also be entering into a host of global MoUs in areas such as best practice and expertise sharing.

Building dual functionality platform on our portal

- What started out a small initiative to host international events such as Global Leader Luncheons has evolved into the world's largest alumni body. The hundred people luncheon in Houston morphed to the 54,000 attendee HowdyModi with both the US President and Indian Prime Minister in attendance (broadcast live to 65 countries and covered on leading media channels).
- Similarly, a short interaction for Covid19 in February 2020 catalysed by an IIT Alumnus employed by Gates Foundation has led to initiatives with a USD 5 Billion+ outlay – all completely alumni funded without any public money whatsoever that involves more than 20,000 IIT Alumni and over 50,000 other volunteers.
- As there is stupendous performance and tremendous activities as well as the overwhelming response from IIT alumni and so, to that extent IIT Alumni Council was unprepared at both the organisational as well as systems/processes level. We understand the need to correct these. Whilst the focus shifted from building an organisation to killing the virus – we stand guilty as charged on several counts as regards transparency and public communications.
- We are now working 24/7 to correct this. At the centrepiece of this effort is a private alumni digital platform which will be open sourced to all partner institutions as well. Efforts are ongoing to lease an entire data centre with multiple support points. Those wanting to help test the platform for providing constructive criticism/feedback are invited to visit iitdirectory.org (likely to go live on September 30, 2020) and the current beta load testing at community.iitalumnicouncil.org. We shall endeavour to make our portal an efficient platform not only for up-to date information but also a tool for connectivity among Alumni.