

Shri. Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa, Government of India

Amitabh Kant is presently CEO of National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog). He is a member of the Indian Administrative Service, IAS (Kerala Cadre: 1980 batch). He is the author of Branding India-An Incredible Story, Incredible India 2.0 and has edited "The Path Ahead-Transformative Ideas for India". Kant has been a key driver of the "Make in India", Startup India, "Incredible India" and God's Own Country" initiatives that positioned India and Kerala State as leading manufacturing and tourism destinations.

In his capacity as Secretary (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion) Govt. of India, he vigorously drove the Ease of Doing Business initiative and ranking of States on outcome parameters. These initiatives have led to India making a quantum jump in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Index and enabled Indian States to compete in the spirit of competitive federalism.

Mr. Kant has been the recipient of Economic Times Policy Change Agent of the Year Award, the Bloomberg TV Personality of the year Award, the NDTV Administrator of the year Award and the Distinguished Fellowship of the Institute of Directors. He is the recipient of One Globe Award-2016 for leadership in Transforming Governance for the 21st Century. He is also the recipient of Sir Edmund Hillary Fellowship awarded by the Prime Minister of New Zealand. He is a Member of the Steering Board of "Shaping the Future of Production Systems" of World Economic Forum. He is also the recipient of Golden Peacock Award for Leadership in Economic Transformation-2017.

Amitabh Kant did his schooling from Modern School, Delhi, and graduation in Economics (Hons) from St. Stephens, Delhi University and M.A from Jawaharlal Nehru University. He is a Chevening Scholar. He has also undertaken a mid-term course with John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University and Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmadabad.

Shri. Jayant Sinha, Honorable Chairman, Parliament Standing Committee on Finance

Mr. Sinha is a second term Member of Parliament from Jharkhand, India. Mr. Sinha won his Lok Sabha elections in 2014 and 2019 with record margins. As Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Finance, Mr. Sinha leads the 31 member Parliamentary panel that has oversight of the Ministries of Finance, Corporate Affairs, Statistics & Program Implementation, and the Niti Aayog (the government planning agency). In addition, the panel has Parliamentary responsibility for the Reserve Bank of India, the Securities & Exchange Board of India, the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board, and the Insurance and Pension regulatory authorities. Mr. Sinha is very active in Parliament having opened the debate on India's Annual

Budget on multiple occasions as well as by introducing important Private Member Bills. In the 2021 Budget session, he introduced the Climate Change (Net Zero Carbon) Private Member Bill 2021.

Previously, Mr. Sinha served on India's Council of Ministers from 2014 to 2019; first, as the Minister of State for Finance and then as the Minister of State for Civil Aviation. During his time as a Minister, Mr. Sinha gained wide recognition as an innovative and results-oriented policymaker with singular successes ranging from piloting the legislation that brought in India's game-changing bankruptcy code to establishing India's sovereign wealth fund (the National Investment & Infrastructure Fund) to privatizing multiple airports under an entirely new regulatory framework. As Aviation Minister, Mr. Sinha was instrumental in upgrading safety and security across India's fast-growing aviation system. He launched the UDAN

Regional Connectivity Scheme which expanded the number of operational airports in India by 50% in just three years. Mr. Sinha also implemented several major digital initiatives such as the Digital Sky drone policy and the DigiYatra digital traveler program.

Prior to his career in public service, Mr. Sinha was Partner at Omidyar Network (ON) and the Managing Director of Omidyar Network India Advisors, where he led overall investment strategy and operations in India from 2009 to 2013. At Omidyar, Mr. Sinha made venture capital investments in a variety of companies including two unicorns: Quikr and DailyHunt. Before joining Omidyar Network, Mr. Sinha was Managing Director at Courage Capital Management, where he led Global Technology and India-related investing for a billion dollar global special situations hedge fund. Mr. Sinha joined Courage Capital in 2006 after twelve years with McKinsey & Company, where he was a Partner in the Boston and Delhi offices, and co-led the Global Software & Services Practice.

As a global thought leader, Mr. Sinha has been published in the *Financial Times*, *Times of India*, *Economic Times*, *Indian Express*, *Business Standard*, *Harvard Business Review*, and the *McKinsey Quarterly*. He has pioneered new thinking on platform-based businesses, innovation-driven entrepreneurship, Climate Change, and sustainable development. Mr. Sinha's **Getting to the Green Frontier** development model is gaining broad acceptance as the Net Zero pathway for India in the 21st century. Mr. Sinha has an MBA with Distinction from the Harvard Business School, an MS in Energy Management & Policy from the University of Pennsylvania, and a BTech with Distinction from the IIT Delhi. He was awarded the Distinguished Alumni award from IIT Delhi in 2015.

Mr. Anant Singhania, President, IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Mr. Anant Ajaypat Singhania, a fifth-generation industrialist, is the CEO of M/s. J. K. Enterprises. The firm belongs to the illustrious, 135-year-old, J.K. Organization, which is owned and operated by the Singhania family. J.K. Enterprises is active in Finance, Agri-Commodities, and Real Estate fields, which are just a few of the many diverse fields including Textiles, Cement, Tyres, Paper, Engineering, Garments among others that the J.K. Organization operates in. Further, Mr Singhania is a Director in J.K. Organization, Platinum Fashion Apparels Pvt Ltd and Subash Silk Mills Ltd.

Mr. Singhania graduated from Sydenham College, Mumbai. He also did a 2-year course in Computer Applications and Programming. He started his career as a management trainee in the Engineering Division of Raymond Ltd in 1995. Soon, he rose up the ranks, eventually becoming the Whole-time Director of Raymond Ltd. During this time, he was vital in making JK Files and Tools a global market leader, with a third of the world market share. Thus, understandably, he was the only non-European individual to be invited to the elitist round table of the European File Manufactures Association. Additionally, he has headed the Cutting Tools Panel of the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) of India and has been a Commissioner of the Board of Commissioners of PT Jaykay Files, Indonesia. He has received many national awards for the meritorious performance of the engineering activities of the Group. Besides he has also held multiple management and Board positions in various group companies.

Mr. Singhania has been involved in the activities of educational institutions, organizations and charitable trusts in the J.K. Organization and elsewhere. He was a Trustee of JK Trust, India's largest private NGO in the animal husbandry field and a Trustee in a few other public Charitable trusts in the fields of education and medical facilities. He was a member of the Board of Governors of Smt.

Sulochanadevi Singhania School at Thane, one of India's premier academic institutions having been ranked No. 1, thrice in the top 5 schools nationwide in the last 5 years alone.

Apart from business, Mr. Singhania has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Indo-Italian Chambers of Commerce and the Managing Committee of the century old Indian Merchants Chambers. He is also the Chairman of its Industry Committee and a member of various other committees including International Business & Shipping to name a few. He was elected, unopposed, as President of the Bombay Management Association in 2005-2006, the youngest in the 52 glorious years of the Association. Mr. Singhania has been a Member of the Steering Committee of Corporate Governance Awards of the Asian Centre of Corporate Governance and on the jury of many other Awards. He was invited to be a member of the Divisional Railways Users' Consultative Committee of the Indian Railways in 2011 – 17. He is the Co-Chairman of the prestigious FICCI - Maharashtra State Council and an Executive committee member of the China – India Forum.

Outside of work, Mr. Singhania has a penchant for perfection and has travelled the world extensively. He is married to Roma and has 2 wonderful children- Aadya and Ananddi. He is fond of motor racing and plays snooker and squash among other sports. He was the youngest R/C Car Racing champ in the 1/10 scale way back in the early 1990's and pursues aero modelling as a hobby.

Mr Samir Somaiya, President Elect, IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry

A man of many hats, Mr Somaiya is Chairman and MD, Godavari Biorefineries Ltd., Chancellor at Somaiya Vidyavihar University, President, Somaiya Vidyavihar, Chairman, K. J. Somaiya Trust, K. J. Somaiya Medical Trust, K. J. Somaiya Institute of Applied Agriculture Research and The Girivanvasi Pragati Mandal, Chairman Research Innovation Incubation Design Laboratory (Riidl) (Technology Business Incubator), Owner, Kitabkhana and Visiting Instructor, School of Chemical Engineering – Cornell University.

He did his Masters of Public Administration (2005) from Harvard University, MBA (1993) from Cornell University and Master of Chemical Engineering.

He is the recipient of American Institute of Chemists Award (1990) and American Institute of Chemical Engineer's Award for Scholastic Achievement (1989).

Samir is married to Amrita, and has three children - Gayatri, Meera and Madhav. He lives in Mumbai, loves to play squash, doyoga, swim, trek and has a 2nd danblackbelt in Taekwondo.

Chairman and Managing Director of Godavari Biorefineries Ltd, President of Somaiya Vidyavihar and Chancellor of Somaiya Vidyavihar University

Samir Somaiya is Chairman and Managing Director of Godavari Biorefineries Ltd., Chairman of The Somaiya Trust, the K J Somaiya Medical Trust, Girivanvasi Educational Trust, Girivanvasi Pragati Mandal, President of Somaiya Vidyavihar & Owner of Kitab Khana. He was the Chairman of the Education Committee of the Indian Merchants Chamber and is a member of the Green Chemistry Initiative of the Scientific Advisors to the Government of India, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Indian Chemical Council, the Cornell University Council, and the Advisory Board of the School of Chemical Engineering of Cornell University. He is a Visiting Instructor at the

School of Chemical Engineering at Cornell. Samir Somaiya has Bachelors and Master's Degrees in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University and an MBA from Cornell as well. He also has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University.

Ms. Shloka Nath, Chairperson, IMC YLF and CEO India Climate Collaborative

Ms. Shloka Nath is CEO, India Climate Collaborative. She also leads the Sustainability portfolio at the Tata Trusts, focused on the organisation's climate, energy, and environment work.

In addition to her roles at the ICC and Tata Trusts, Shloka Nath is the Vice President of the Bombay Natural History Society, one of the largest non-governmental organisations in India engaged in conservation and biodiversity research, and she is a member of the Advisory Board to IUCN's Nature-based Recovery initiative. Prior to this, Shloka co-founded and was the Managing Partner of Sankhya Women Impact Funds, a gender lens fund with a focus on sustainability. She has spent over a decade in journalism with the BBC in London, as a news anchor with New Delhi Television (NDTV) and Principal Correspondent with Forbes in Mumbai.

Shloka has a Master's in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and a BSc in Government from The London School of Economics and Political Science. She is also the author of the book, "Hidden India: Journey to Where the Wild Things Are" (April 2018), a compendium of photographs and writing about Indian wildlife and landscapes.

Mr. Palagummi Sainath, Author, Former Rural Affairs Editor, The Hindu, India

P. Sainath, former Rural Affairs Editor of The Hindu, is the 2007 winner of the Ramon Magsaysay Award, Asia's most prestigious prize (and often referred to as the 'Asian Nobel'), for Journalism Literature and Creative Communications Arts. He was given the award for his "passionate commitment as a journalist to restore the rural poor to India's national consciousness." He was the first Indian to win the Magsaysay in that category in nearly 25 years (after R.K. Laxman). He was also the first reporter in the world to win Amnesty International's Global Human Rights Journalism Prize in its inaugural year in 2000.

His latest award, which he received this January 27th, is the World Media Summit Global Award for Excellence 2014. He won its Public Welfare award for exemplary news professionals in developing countries, taking the WMS prize in its inaugural year.

On June 1, 2015, Sainath became the first ThoughtWorks Chair Professor in Rural India and Digital Knowledge at the Asian College of Journalism, Chennai. He is also the holder of the Coady Chair in Social Justice at the University of St. Francis Xavier, Nova Scotia, Canada. He continues to have his home and base in Mumbai while working most of the year in rural India. Sainath, who was awarded a Doctor of Letters (D.Litt) honoris causa by the University of Alberta in Edmonton in 2011 — UAlberta's highest award - was also McGraw Professor of Writing during the Fall Semester (2012-13) at the University of Princeton.

His other awards include: the United Nation's Food & Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) Boerma Prize (the foremost award for development journalism) in 2000; the Harry Chapin Media Award in New York, 2006; and was the first and only print media journalist until now to win the Inspiration Award at the Global Visions Film Festival in Edmonton, Canada in 2002. He was also the first Indian reporter to win the European Commission's Lorenzo Natali Prize for journalism in 1995. Apart from the 40 plus print

media awards, two documentary films on his work, 'Nero's Guests' and 'A Tribe of his Own,' have between them picked up over 20 awards across the globe.

In a 34-year career as a journalist, Sainath has won over 40 global and national awards for his reporting (though he has turned down several, including one of India's highest civilian awards, the Padma Bhushan. Which he declined because, in his view, journalists should not be receiving awards from governments they cover and critique). His awards include the 2009 'Journalist of the Year' (Ramnath Goenka Prize for Excellence in Journalism). Almost the entire amount from his awards goes towards prizes for other journalists or to support other projects aimed at improving journalism. His latest project, the People's Archive of Rural India launched on Dec. 20, 2014. It aims at capturing the labour, languages, livelihoods, arts, crafts and many other aspects of rural India. This will be a platform that combines video, audio, still photography and print. Public access to the archive will be free.

Sainath's book *Everybody Loves a Good Drought* (Penguin India, 1996) has remained a non-fiction bestseller by an Indian author for years and was declared a Penguin Classic and had a special edition issued this January with the 'Classic' cover. Working on this book involved covering 100,000-km across India. Sainath used 16 forms of transport for this, and walked over 5,000 km on foot. It has been published in multiple editions and in ten languages. The book is in its 34th printing and is presently being used in over 100 universities in India and overseas. In the late nineties, Nikhil Chakravartty, India's then senior-most editor, described Sainath's work as "the conscience of the Indian nation." In 2000, the leading Scandinavian publishing house, Ordfront, included one of Sainath's reports in its volume: *Best Reporting of the 20th Century*. In doing so, Ordfront chose to feature his work alongside that of giants like Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Studs Terkel and John Reed. All royalties from his own book, *A Good Drought*, go towards funding two to three prizes for rural journalists in India each year.

Sainath then undertook a nation-wide project on dalits (those historically subjected to Untouchability under the caste system) for *The Hindu*. Working on this project saw him cover another 150,000 km across the country. The 40 plus reports he filed were used as major evidence in the National Public Hearings on atrocities against Dalits. His favourite ongoing project is on the nation's last living Freedom Fighters, mainly little recognised ones from rural India, who fought the British Empire in India's struggle for Independence. They are dying quickly and the few who remain are in their late 80s and 90s. Sainath has been interviewing them and recording their testimonies and hopes to develop an online archive for those he calls *The Foot Soldiers of Freedom*.

Sainath's work includes a series on the devastation of Indian agriculture by anti-farmer policies this past decade, which runs in *The Hindu*. Consisting of detailed reports from the households of landless labourers and marginal farmers across the country, the series has set the agenda for investigative rural reporting. It was of this work on India's agrarian crisis that the jury of the Prem Bhatia prize said: "Rarely has an individual journalist gone so determinedly against the current of entrenched official orthodoxy, bureaucratic apathy and intellectual smugness." Sainath's work on the agrarian crisis has produced the largest journalistic body of work ever on the Indian countryside in terms of the problems faced by farming communities. It is also a body of work that goes far beyond the realm of journalism, capturing issues and complexities that academia and policy makers have failed to.

Sainath has spent an average of 270 days a year in the poorest villages of India since 1993 (that figure crossing 300 days in some years). He also takes his own photographs for all his reports. Since November 2001, an exhibition of Sainath's photographs has toured India, seen by well over half a million people to date. The exhibit, *Visible Work, Invisible Women: Women & Work in Rural India* mixes text with

visuals and brings home the astonishing but unacknowledged contribution that poor rural women make to the national economy. Typically, his exhibition was inaugurated by the women who feature in the photos: landless, poor and 'Untouchable.' Most of the exhibition venues have also been typical of Sainath's thinking. Villages, factory gates, schools and colleges, cafeterias or corridors, entrances to mines and quarries, even railway stations. It is perhaps the first Indian photo exhibit to be seen by more rural than urban people. Yet the same exhibition has been sought out and hosted at the Asia Society, New York, the International House of Japan in Tokyo and several universities in Canada and the United States (more on the exhibition on p.7). In 2007, it drew viewers in both the villages of rural India as well as in South Africa, Ireland, Finland and The Netherlands. Since its launch, it has collected over 28 notebooks with thousands of comments in nine languages. Building on this work, Sainath is creating India's first archive of photographs of rural India, consisting of thousands of pictures he has shot in dramatically different parts of the country.

One of the most critical aspects of Sainath's work has been its impact on public policy, related in particular to the plight suffered by rural India since the nineties. No other phenomenon symbolised this situation as much as the tragic suicides of thousands of farmers in several states of the country. Through several years, Sainath kept at the issue unrelentingly. Today, if the farmers' suicides are a huge issue in India — as they were in the 2004 elections which saw the defeat of the incumbent government — it can be said that one journalist contributed to that more than any number of politicians did. It is widely believed that Sainath's reports on hunger, migrations, distress and suicides played a role in pushing the government to move towards programmes and policies like the farm loan waiver, the farm crisis packages — all crucial developments of the past few years. His reporting has also contributed to perceptions of and policy directions in the development of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), considered to be a key development in public policy. During 2008-9, he served as Member of the Expert Group constituted by the Ministry of Rural Development to formulate a methodology for conducting the next Below Poverty Line (BPL) census. The aim was to simplify the identification of BPL families in the rural areas. His work has also had a major influence on the worlds of activism and NGOs, where many use his *Everybody Loves A Good Drought* as an activist's handbook. In just the past few years, Sainath has published over 150 investigative reports on the agrarian crisis in *The Hindu* alone, in addition to many other pieces elsewhere. In June 2004, after assuming office as the new prime minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh journeyed to rural India to meet the farmers Sainath had written about. In 2005, Sainath's reporting on the agrarian crisis in the state of Maharashtra instigated an investigation by the National Farmers' Commission. Less than a year later Prime Minister Manmohan Singh himself visited the crisis-ridden districts — first speaking to Sainath about the issues. That August 15, the Prime Minister spoke of the agrarian crisis in his Independence Day Speech from the ramparts of the Red Fort. In March 2008, the Government of India, under siege on the agrarian crisis issue, and with election year approaching, announced a \$16 billion farm loan waiver to address the distress of indebted farmers. Several farm organisations and activists said they believed that the relentless pressure of one journalist had a major role in the government opting for the waiver. Some called on a bewildered Sainath to 'congratulate' him. Sainath's own reaction was to warn that the waiver could benefit rich farmers on irrigated land more than subsistence peasants on dry lands.

Sainath is actively involved in the training of journalists in the poorest regions of India's countryside. Some of the finest reporters to emerge from rural and non-metro India proudly write of earning their spurs travelling with Sainath in some of India's poorest villages. He has also been teaching journalism at the Sophia Polytechnic in Mumbai for over 20 years and at the Asian College of Journalism, Chennai since 2001. Many of Sainath's students have themselves gone on to win major national and

international awards. He has also lectured at many universities worldwide, including Columbia University, Harvard University, New School for Social Research (US); Monash University, La Trobe, the Australian National University (ANU), Canberra (Australia); Helsinki University and Tampere University (Finland), University of Western Ontario, Simon Fraser University, University of British Columbia, McGill University, University of Alberta (Canada).

Inspired by Sainath's work, Canadian documentary maker Joe Moulins has produced a documentary entitled *A Tribe of His Own: The Journalism of P. Sainath*. Till date, it has won 14 international awards including the top ones at the Columbus (Ohio) and the Global Visions (Edmonton, Canada) film festivals. The jury at the Edmonton Film Festival called this 'an award about inspiration', a thought that has been echoed several times by critics (more on the film on p.9). A new film by Deepa Bhatia titled 'Nero's Guests' on the subject of inequality as seen through Sainath's work was screened (as an official selection) at the Amsterdam Documentary Film Festival in November 2009. At the Mumbai International Film Festival, February 2010, it won two awards. It has won others, too, including the first prize at the Cinestraat documentary film festival in Spain in 2011. It has also won the Indian Documentary Producers Association's Gold Medal for best documentary in December 2010.

Mr. Sanjoy Roy, MD, Teamwork Arts

Mr. Sanjoy K. Roy, an entrepreneur of the arts, is Managing Director of Teamwork Arts, which produces over 33 festivals in 42 cities and 17 countries in countries such as Australia, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, the UAE, the UK and USA, the Maldives, including the world's largest free literary gathering — the annual Jaipur Literature Festival and international editions of JLF. Roy, a recipient of a National Award for Excellence and Best Director for the film *Shahjahanabad: The Twilight Years*, is a founder-trustee of Salaam Baalak Trust working to provide support services for street and working children in the inner city of Delhi where over 55,000 children have benefited from education, training and residential services. Roy works closely with various industry bodies on important policy issues within the cultural space in India and is Co-chair of the Art and Culture Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, former President of Event and Entertainment Management Association, and part of the Earth Day Network's official Global Advisory Committee for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in 2020. Roy has lectured at and works in collaboration with leading universities across the world.

Ms. Lily Pandeya, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India

Ms. Lily Pandeya is a Civil Servant, serving as Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India. She comes with a professional experience of over 22 years in various aspects of public administration, human resource management, man power planning and industrial relations. She has worked extensively in the field as well as at the policy making level in the Ministries. In her current assignment, she is in-charge of the Culture Working Group (CWG) of India's G 20 Presidency, International Culture Relations (ICR) and UNESCO matters pertaining to the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). In her previous tenure she was responsible for setting up of the first of its kind, National Rail & Transportation University under the aegis of Ministry of Railways.

In her career, Lily has attended several seminars and training programs including Advanced Professional Program in Public Administration from Indian Institute of Public Administration, Delhi; Strategic Management Program, Indian School of Business, Hyderabad; Advance Management Program at INSEAD, Singapore; Advance Management Program at The ICLIF Leadership and

Governance Centre, Kuala Lumpur; and, Management Development Program in Human Resource Management and Organizational Behaviour at Xavier Labour Research Institute (XLRI), India.

Lily holds an M. Phil in Public Administration from the Punjab University, India; Master of Public Administration from San Diego State University (SDSU), California, USA; and, Master of Arts in History from Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. Lily has been recognized by the California State Assembly as distinguished alumni for community and civic engagement. She received V.K.N Menon award for academic excellence from IIPA and John Fowler Award Scholarship from SDSU. She also received Directors' Gold Medal at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, and Ratan Lal trophy for best probationer at National Academy of Indian Railways, Vadodara among other awards and recognitions.

Lily has been a regular guest speaker in several national and international seminars and conferences. She has been a guest faculty in ICLIF, Malaysia's flagship program 'Women of the World – Be the Change'; hosted the 1st HR Roundtable of Indian Railways; and, has been a regular speaker and panellist in several seminars, conclaves and talks organized by various PSUs and institutions like National Institute of Personnel Management and Indian Society for Training and Development among others.

She is life member of Phi Kappa Phi and Pi Alpha Alpha US National Honor Societies as well as Chartered Institute for Logistics and Transportation .

Lily has co-authored a Coffee Table Book titled 'Art and Railways – A Bangalore Saga' published by National Rail Museum, India in 2014. She enjoys music, haiku poetry and follows international climate debates.

Mr. Owen Roncon, Chief of Business – Live Events, BookMyShow

Owen Roncon is Chief of Business - Live Events at India's leading entertainment destination, BookMyShow, offering not just tickets for movies and beyond but also experiences across theatricals, concerts, live events and sports.

Having spent over two decades building and breathing live entertainment in India across genres, Owen joined BookMyShow in 2022, to helm its live entertainment division, BookMyShow Live and strengthen the revenue potential of the vertical.

A firm believer in live entertainment and its power to bring people together and drive contemporary culture, Owen's mantra for BookMyShow Live is "Come out and enjoy your life!" Owen is responsible for spearheading compelling entertainment experiences across music, comedy, sports, theatre and much more both for audiences to choose from and for brands to build resonance and reach loyal, premium and marquee audiences through these experiences.

Prior to BookMyShow, Owen spent a successful career in experiential marketing having co-founded Fountainhead MKTG, one of India's leading experiential marketing agencies under the Dentsu Aegis Network. He was also Partner at Oranjice Entertainment building several successful IPs including Asia's largest Blues festival, the Mahindra Blues Festival as also other award-winning events. In his new role, Owen is all set to take BookMyShow Live into its next phase of mega development.

When he's not making waves with the next great conversation starter in the live entertainment ecosystem in India, he's busy building up his other love and Mumbai's favourite Japanese haunt, Izumi.

Ms. Nawshin Khair, CMD, Aranya, Bangladesh

Nawshin Khair is a charismatic Creative Director, a social entrepreneur, cultural connector, and a mother of three.

Nawshin is Managing Director and Creative Director for a fairtrade brand Aranya which focuses on revival and conservation of natural dye, local handloom and handicrafts of Bangladesh. Aranya established in 1990, is known for its success in commercializing and promoting the use of natural dye, and empowering rural artisans.

She is also the founder of a nonprofit Bengal Craft Society which implements sustainable livelihood programs to economically empower vulnerable women and artisans residing in remote areas in Bangladesh. Through these entities she aims to create a self-sustaining system where rural women across Bangladesh can play leadership role in promoting green growth through responsible craft production. She is the executive Director of ICE Media Ltd, which publishes eight monthly magazine such as ICE Today and ICE Business Times. She has recently joined International Trade Centre as one of Community Manger for ecomConnect.

Nawshin is the founder member of Fashion Revolution Bangladesh. She is on the board as one of the trustee for Bengal Foundation. She studied Business Administration from Richmond American International University in London RAIUL. She is an Acumen Fellow and currently doing her MBA on Sustainable Fashion Management at SUMAS

With over 16 years of experience in the private sector, Nawshin shares a profound connection with art. She has played various roles, including being a craft practitioner, cultural connector, and environmental advocate, while spearheading significant initiatives in the fashion, art, and media industries in Bangladesh. Throughout her successful career, she curated art and craft exhibitions with international partners on behalf of Bengal Foundation, accomplishing notable milestones such as securing the Jamdani commission from V&A, London in 2021 and obtaining the World Crafts City status for Sonargaon, Bangladesh, making it the country's first world craft city recognized by the World Craft Council in 2019. She also showcased works from the Bengal Foundation Collection in Documenta 14 and collaborated with Birmingham Museum for the Bangladesh 50 exhibition in 2021.

In addition to Nawshin's accomplishments in the art world, they played a pivotal role in launching musicians such as Lokhitera, Arnob, and Krishnakali. They were instrumental in digitizing two highly regarded English magazines in Bangladesh, ICE Today and ICE Business Times. Currently, She holds the position of Managing and Creative Director at Aranya, a fairtrade fashion brand.

Over the past decade, Nawshin dedicated herself to building an ethical brand and establishing a sustainable value chain within the fashion and craft sector. Their efforts aimed to improve livelihood programs for marginalized women and artisans, ensure market access for traditional crafts, and promote environmentally-friendly practices in production processes. Her work to create a green value chain, empowering vulnerable women and artisans, led them to become an Acumen Fellow. As a designer, they participated in fashion projects and workshops with renowned institutions such as the

University of Art and Design Berlin-Weissensee, London College of Fashion, Parsons School of Design, and Coventry University in the UK.

Nawshin's leadership role at Aranya has facilitated collaborations with international designers, brands, and retailers, including Armani, Nicole Fahri, and Liberty London. She is also the founder of Fashion Revolution Bangladesh and currently fulfill responsibilities as a trustee of Bengal Foundation, an EC member of Ekota Fairtrade Forum and Fashion Design Council Bangladesh. And Recently serves as the Cultural ambassador for Asia Society.

Ms. Surabhi Chaudhary, Director, Chaudhary Foundation, Nepal

Ms Surabhi Started my career as an award winning student in the field of art and design, specializing in handcrafted textiles & arts. Committed to building my experience in this field since the past 18 years, by complementing various Design Diplomas, Professional Work Affiliations and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management Studies & Economics.

My passion for art and culture was inculcated in my early years of learning, along with my formal education I've been engaged in religious and spiritual sciences, classical Indian dance and music, wellness encompassing yoga, nutrition and mental health thereby creating a deeper and more holistic understanding of life.

Coming from a traditional Indian business family ran a natural inclination towards learning the ropes of financial & entrepreneurial activities which is the life source of any business. This environment of creativity, entrepreneurship and philanthropy became the catalytic combination for creating a solid foundation to build the platform of Unnati.

My journey with the Chaudhary Foundation from 2016 to Present has been an extremely gratifying and a rewarding experience. It is a multi-faceted organisation with diverse programs ranging from health, education, women & youth skill development programs, Social Businesses, Spiritual & Heritage Development etc.

I have been strongly focused on developing the Unnati Project which is related to skills & livelihood development whilst preserving the traditional arts & culture of Nepal. Empowering the women of the nation by creating an equal, inclusive and dynamic platform.

I am now full time committed to enlarging the scope and vision of upscaling the traditional artisanal industries ranging from theatre, arts, crafts, language, habitat & culture starting from Nepal reaching out to South Asia's legacy enterprises. Enriching the artisanal ecosystems, creating a base for networking, dialogues, soft diplomacy between South Asia's cultural bandwidth, diversifying outreach and creating sustainable impact.

CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 2022 – Chair & Co-Founder, Trustee – The SAATH Project, (South Asian Association for Trans-Cultural Heritage)
- 2016 – Present, Director/Founder, UNNATI, Unnati Cultural Village. Chaudhary Foundation, Kathmandu Nepal
- 2012 – 2013: Design Director, Ranjit Ahuja Home Textiles, Mumbai, India & New York, NY USA
- 2007-2009: Creative Analyst and Designer for Weavers Studio, Centre for the Arts, Kolkata India
- 2006-2007 : Stylist and Sr. Merchandiser for Welspun India Ltd. Mumbai, India, Welhome New York, USA

- 2004 - Designer for Lakme Fashion Week India, Spring/Summer Collection K2, Krsna Mehta Mumbai, India

AWARDS AND ACTIVITIES:

- Certified as merit Student by the Ed-Excel Board of Art & Design, London College Of Fashion, London.
- Most Creative Student Award received on completion of Textiles Diploma , B.D.Somani Institute Of Fashion Technology.
- 1st Prize received at Inter-State , Inter-School Level Art Competitions.
- Distinction received at State-Level Exhibition of Art.
 - o Worked as a Senior Designer and Business Development Manager with leading Manufacturers & Design Houses in the Industry.
 - o Handling the export division of textiles and garments to European countries.
 - o Leading the Interior design projects for Hospitality spaces, India & Nepal
 - o Managed portfolio of high profile clients for Bespoke festive collections such as Bergdoff Goodman NY, International Clients & Interior Designers.
 - o Managed the retail division, of manufacturing, distribution & sales. Key player in Business Development , Marketing & Branding.
 - o Participated in Trade Fairs & International shows such as HeimTextile Germany, Santa Fe Mexico
 - o Developing mixed media Art Pieces that were showcased in Japan.
 - o Working with a pool of skilled artisans, master artists & renowned designers.
 - o Attended and Represented the Company in various workshops and seminars held in Design Innovation, Sustainable Development Goals, Women & Youth empowerment.
 - o Developing robust marketing, operations and business development plans related to hospitality spaces, FnB, retail.
 - o Creating an end to end cycle for sustainable social businesses, revival of cottage industries, and micro entrepreneurship development.
 - o Participated in various international forums and net working events related to entrepreneurship development, economic empowerment of women and youth, climate change and conservation, preservation of south Asian legacy enterprises.

Mr. Amit Banka, Founder & CEO, WeNaturalists

Amit Banka founded WeNaturalists with a simple motive – to bring equal opportunities to nature professionals and organisations from across the world. Amit has led a distinguished career over 2 decades and spanning across sectors, while identifying key trends and offering strategic solutions to businesses leading to significant value creation. He's been named in the 'Definitive List of India's Leaders and Change Makers' for the BW Businessworld Social Impact Awards 2022.

Amit's journey towards building an ecosystem for the People of Nature began two years back but the seeds were sown in his childhood. A critical milestone in his life occurred while he was working with Swades Foundation on holistic living projects in rural India. It was here where he realized the need for creating sustainable business models revolving around nature. The learnings from these interventions reinforced his belief that our interaction with nature needs to evolve to create a larger impact. This tremendously influenced his outlook towards creating WeNaturalists.

Mr. Suwendu Biswas, Senior Programme Officer, Youth Mobilization and Climate Action, Bangladesh

Mr. SUVENDU BISWAS is a development worker, a young policy researcher and a climate activist. He has been working for climate vulnerable youth's rights at ActionAid Bangladesh and his current role is associated with engaging, mobilizing and amplifying the voice of marginalized young people to ensure climate and economic justice. SUVENDU is also the founder president of Youth Climate Action Hub. As of his action, SUVENDU also builds awareness, co-creates campaigns and advocates with policymakers and relevant stakeholders to decrease the policy and practice gaps.

Mr. Kavindu Ediriweera, Deputy Director, SLYCAN Trust, Sri Lanka

Kavindu is a longstanding member of the SLYCAN Trust, which is a research-based think-tank mainly focus on climate change, adaptation and resilience, sustainable development, environmental conservation and restoration, as well as social justice. Currently, he is serving as the Director: Youth Programs and Deputy Director: Programs. Represented Sri Lanka and the SLYCAN Trust at Youth NGO constituency of the UNFCCC, Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC in COP 22, COP 26, and COP27 as a member of the government negotiation team and as an observer in COP 18 and COP 23. Nominated to represent Sri Lanka at the UN Youth Climate Summit which was held in New York, 2019, and represented Sri Lanka at the Youth4Climate Summit (PreCOP26) in Italy (Sep 2021).

Ms. Heeta Lakhani, Founder & Director, ClimAct Foundation, India

Heeta Lakhani is a climate educator and entrepreneur working to build representation of vulnerable groups in intergovernmental decision making processes and up-skill them to take climate action. She is the Founder & Director of the ClimAct Foundation. Heeta has a Masters of Science in Environmental Studies and Resource Management from TERI University, India. She is a firm believer in the power of youth participation in grassroots and international processes and strives to create change-makers who combat the climate crisis with knowledge-based action. Heeta was introduced to the world of the United Nations Climate Change (UNFCCC) process at COP21 in 2015 and was the Global Focal Point for YOUNGO for 2020-21. She also co-founded the Youth Negotiators Academy, which focuses on training youth to be effective negotiators in the UN intergovernmental processes.

Ms. Aarti Mohan - Co Founder, Sattva Consulting

Aarti Mohan brings over 14+ years of experience spanning advisory, research, and business leadership. At Sattva, she heads the Foundations Unit that works closely with global and Indian foundations, multi-laterals, state governments and their ecosystems to deliver social impact. Previously, she led Research Advisory, and was instrumental in the creation of several flagship research and knowledge reports and multiple knowledge sharing sessions bringing together funds, philanthropists, foundations, and nonprofits. Aarti has also led the design and anchoring of several large-scale impact initiatives across healthcare, women's economic empowerment, water, and digital transformation. Apart from this she has spoken and curated discussions at leading conferences in the sector.

Before plunging into the world of social impact with Sattva Consulting, Aarti was a design engineer at corporations like Texas Instruments and AMD. Aarti holds a Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering from Birla Institute of Technology Science, Pilani. Aarti is also an alumnus of the Management Programme for Women Entrepreneurs (MPWE) at IIM-Bangalore.

Ms Dipanwita Chakraborty is the Regional Director, Corporate Responsibility & Sustainable Development, Asia Pacific in Cargill. Her charter comprises of spearheading corporate responsibility and sustainable development practice area for the Asia Pacific region and interventions related to WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) globally. She leads a team of practice area experts that works towards bringing on intersections of food and nutrition security, diversity, equity & inclusion and sustainability by engaging with key stakeholders- communities, customers, NGO partners, government, industry bodies, academia, multilateral agencies and advocacy platforms for the key markets of Cargill in Asia Pacific. She has been a part of Cargill India's Nourishing India initiative from the time of inception and successfully led various initiatives which have helped to create scalable and replicable models for addressing the complex issues of food and nutrition security, education and livelihoods and sustainability in India.

Ms. Anjali Krishnan - Senior Program Manager, IDH Anjali Krishnan is a senior program manager at IDH. She is a social policy analyst, working at the nexus of labour rights, circular economy and environment. Her areas of expertise include sustainable waste value chains, social compliance, gender resilience and its implications on small holder farmers, and workers in South Asia.

Mr. Nagasimha Swamy - ESG Manager, South Asia, British International Investment

Nagasimha Swamy, Manager ESG I, South Asia, Swamy is based out of BII's Mumbai India office and has over 25 years of experience in ESG domain across sectors in different capacities. Prior to joining BII, he was leading Axis Bank's E&S management group for corporate banking, Associate Director at KPMG's Sustainability and Climate Change services vertical, Sustainability Specialist at Det Norske Veritas, and has also worked with not-for-profit organisation among others.

Anjali Krishnan is a senior program manager at IDH. She is a social policy analyst, working at the nexus of labour rights, circular economy and environment. Her areas of expertise include sustainable waste value chains, social compliance, gender resilience and its implications on small holder farmers, and workers in South Asia.

Ms Aarti Wig, Member, IMC YLF; Co-Founder, Yunus Social Business India

Ms. Arti Wig, co-founder and country director at Yunus Social Business India. Aarti has developed and led the India operations of the USB movement since its inception, first as country Director of the Grameen Creative Lab and now as part of Yunus Social Business. She helped create the YSB Fund Mumbai and currently Social businesses. Previously, Arti worked as an investment banker at JP Morgan in Mumbai. Arti holds a Master's degree in Finance from in London school of Economics.

Mr. Chevaan Daniel, Executive Group Director, Capital Maharaja Group, Sri Lanka

Mr Chevaan is the Executive Group Director of The Maharaja Organisation Sri Lanka and Global Advisory Board Member at The Watson Institute of International & Public Affairs, Brown University, USA.

A Fulbright Scholar, an Eisenhower Global Fellow and an Asia 21 Fellow Chevaan is a globally recognised humanitarian leader and orator, regularly addressing local and international forums on a wide range of topics. Widely feted for his achievements in Sri Lanka's corporate world, he was awarded *The Most*

Outstanding Young Person of the Year Award, by Junior Chamber International and also named twice into the *40-under-40* list of best performing Sri Lankan Corporate Leaders.

Chevaan was the UN-OCHA *Maître de Cérémonie* for the World Humanitarian Summit- Global Consultation in Geneva. He spearheads Sri Lanka's fight against Modern Day Slavery by way of his role in the *Bali Process*.

He leads '*Gammadda*', a community-driven rural development initiative in Sri Lanka considered to be the nation's most powerful grassroots movement. Chevaan is an avid musician and historian specialising in ancient Sri Lanka. He is an internationally certified Swift Water Rescuer, deployed in regional flood disasters.

Ms. Freshta Karim, Founding Director, Charmaghz Cultural and Services Organization

Freshta Karim is the Founder and Director of Charmaghz, a Kabul-based Afghan NGO dedicated to promoting critical thinking among children through providing resources and space on buses turned into mobile libraries. Prior, she worked at different UN agencies and international organizations and in the President's Office of Afghanistan. Karim studied political science at Panjab University, India, and completed an MA in Public Policy at the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford.

Ms. Suhani Jalota is the Founder and CEO of Myna Mahila Foundation

In 2015, Suhani Jalota founded the Myna Mahila Foundation an Indian social enterprise that transforms the lives of women by breaking taboos and social stigma, creating employment opportunities, and building women networks. Through Myna Health, Jalota has helped provide women with health education and access to affordable menstrual health products at their doorstep.

Suhani has been awarded the 2017 Queen's Young Leader Award and has been featured in the Forbes Asia 30 under 30 List in the Social Enterprise category in 2018. Her foundation was also the only Indian charity to be recognized as part of the 7 charities chosen to benefit from donations marking the wedding of Prince Harry and Ms Meghan Markle in 2018.

Addressing the Covid-19 crisis, Myna Mahila's response activities included Covid sensitization, facemask manufacturing, disease surveillance and setting up a mobile health application. Committed to the cause of public health and social entrepreneurship, Suhani is currently pursuing a PhD in health policy at Stanford School of Medicine and an MBA at Stanford Graduate School of Business.