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GLOBAL INDIAN AWARD GALA 2023

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Ms. Sudha Murty

AWARDEE



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Honouring Ms. SUDHA MURTY



CIF GLOBAL INDIAN AWARD GALA 2023





PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

September 29, 2023

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the Global Indian Award Gala 2023, hosted by the Canada India Foundation (CIF).



You have come together this evening to celebrate the strong partnership between India and Canada, and to honour Indo-Canadians for their tremendous contributions to both countries. I join everyone in attendance in congratulating this year's recipient of the Global Indian Award, Ms. Sudha Murty. Her many accomplishments make her most deserving of this special recognition and her commitment to making a difference in the lives of others serves as an inspiration to us all.

I would also like to thank the CIF for hosting this gala and for fostering fellowship in the community. Canada is truly a multicultural nation, made stronger and more resilient by our diversity.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable evening.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P. J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada



MESSAGE

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warm greetings to the organizers of the CIF-Global Indian Award 2023.

2. The Canada India Foundation (CIF) has demonstrated its commitment to fostering a stronger bilateral relationship between Canada and India. CIF's efforts have brought together decision-makers, thought leaders, and visionaries from both countries on a common platform with an objective of further deepening and widening the strategic relations between the two democracies.

3. I am glad to know that this year, CIF has decided to honor a truly remarkable individual, Ms. Sudha Murty, a beacon of inspiration in her own right. Her multifaceted contributions as an engineer, teacher, author, and philanthropist have left an indelible mark in India and worldwide. As the driving force behind Infosys Foundation, Ms. Murty's altruistic endeavors have brought hope and transformation to the lives of countless individuals, especially the most vulnerable in our society.

4. Let us not forget that the strength of our two countries lies in our shared values, aspirations, and the collaborative efforts of our people. The Canada-India partnership has a bright future, and I am confident that events like the CIF-Global Indian Award 2023 will continue to play a pivotal role in advancing our mutual interests.

5. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Ms. Sudha Murty and extend my gratitude to Canada India Foundation for their efforts in providing yet another bridge to our two nations. May this event inspire us all to strive for excellence, foster innovation, and nurture the bonds of friendship between Canada and India.

(Sanjay Kumar Verma)

01 September 2023

10, Springfield Road, Ottawa, Ontario, K1M 1C9
Tel : +1-643-744-3751; Fax : +1-613-744-3033; Email : hcoffice.ottawa@mea.gov.in / hc.ottawa@mea.gov.in



Message by High Commissioner Cameron MacKay for CIF Annual Award Gala Magazine 2023



I am delighted to extend my warm greetings to the Canada India Foundation (CIF) on the occasion of their 2023 Global Indian Award Gala. I would also like to congratulate CIF for their continued and valuable contributions to the Canada-India bilateral relationship.

I also congratulate Ms. Sudha Murty, this year's award recipient. As a founding partner of the renowned software services firm Infosys and as an author and philanthropist, Ms. Murty inspires millions of people in India and across the world.

Canada and India enjoy rich people-to-people ties, with over 1.8 million Canadians of Indian origin who make valuable contributions to all facets of Canadian society. India is the largest source of immigrants to Canada across all categories.

The Canada-India commercial relationship is now worth over \$125 billion, led by Canadian portfolio investment of \$85 billion. Canada's biggest pension plans and private equity investors - OTPP, CPPIB, Brookfield, CDPQ and Fairfax – are invested heavily into sectors such as infrastructure, renewable and clean energy, and real estate. This is Canadian capital helping to build the new India. Two-way trade in goods and services is \$29 billion and two-way foreign direct investment is \$13.3 billion. More than 100 Indian companies are invested in Canada and over 600 Canadian companies are invested in India.

I look forward to CIF's continued contribution to our vibrant bilateral relationship, and wish you all the very best for the year ahead.

Cameron Mackay

High Commissioner of Canada in India
New Delhi



Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario

September 29, 2023

A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD

Warm greetings to everyone taking part in Canada India Foundation's Annual Global Indian Award Gala 2023.

I am thrilled to join you in honouring Ms. Sudha Murty, a world-renowned entrepreneur, thinker and philanthropist. Many thanks to the Canada India Foundation for giving the global Indian community the opportunity to pay tribute to this remarkable person.

This event is also an occasion to celebrate the strong connection between India and Ontario — a friendship and partnership built upon strong economic, cultural, and people-to-people ties. Ontario is proud to be home to a thriving community of people with roots in India. Their skills, talents and hard work have contributed much to the building of this great province.

Best wishes for a memorable gala.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Ford".

Doug Ford
Premier





MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF ALBERTA

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my pleasure to send greetings to the Canada India Foundation's Global Indian Award Gala 2023.

The CIF Global Indian Award is a great opportunity to recognize individuals who highlight the accomplishments of Indian people here in Canada and around the world. Alberta is blessed to have a strong Indian community as part of our history—and our future. We are proud to continue building on the ties we share with India through trade, education, energy and cultural exchanges, and to celebrate India's incredible contributions on the global stage.

Congratulations to this year's Global Indian Award honouree, Ms. Sudha Murty. Her achievements as an engineer, entrepreneur, author and dedicated philanthropist have made an impact on countless lives, and she is a wonderful role model for women everywhere.

Thank you to the Canada India Foundation for your commitment to strengthening relations between our two great nations, and to supporting the Indo-Canadian community. Best wishes for an inspiring evening!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Danielle Smith".

Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta





PREMIER
OF MANITOBA

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8
CANADA

A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of all Manitobans, I am pleased to welcome you to the Canada Indian Foundation (CIF) Global Indian Award Gala 2023.

Thanks to the CIF bilateral relations, Canada and India have continued to strengthen, Canadians have a better understanding of India's evolution as a nation and Canadian interests in India are protected. Canadians are grateful for the programs the CIF have designed to bring awareness and interaction between decision makers in Canada and India on to one platform.

The CIF Global Indian Award recognizes outstanding individuals who have demonstrated global leadership, vision, and personal excellence. It celebrates the many people who have helped to strengthen the bond between the great country of India and the other vibrant democracies of the world.

I wish to congratulate Ms. Sudha Murty for her work in bringing transformative changes to the world. As a founding partner of the internationally renowned software services firm, Infosys, her inspiring work has brought relief and positive changes to hundreds of thousands of the most destitute sections of India. Over 4,000 workers in Canada have also been positively impacted through her employment. It is no wonder that she is regarded as one of the most admired women of India! As the first female Premier of Manitoba, I stand on the shoulders of Ms. Murty and others before us for their leadership, vision and determination.

Our government fully supports the CIF in its mission to strengthen bilateral ties between Canada and India for the benefit of both our great nations. I extend my sincere congratulations again to Ms. Murty and all those involved in organizing the CIF Global Indian Award Gala 2023.

The Honourable Heather Stefanson



September 6, 2023

Canada India Foundation
2939 Portland Drive, Suite # 300
Oakville, ON L6H 5S4
pawan@canadaindiafoundation.com

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Government of New Brunswick, and our citizens, I am pleased to offer greetings to everyone attending the Canada India Foundation's 2023 Global Indian Award Gala.

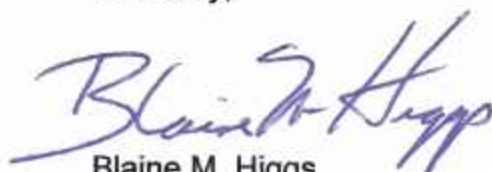
This year's Gala also offers an occasion to celebrate the deep cultural, social and economic ties between Canada and India, and the invaluable contributions of Indo-Canadians in our local communities.

I am pleased to offer my sincere congratulations to Ms. Sudha Murty, of the Infosys Foundation, as you receive this year's Global Indian Award in recognition of your outstanding global contributions and philanthropy.

New Brunswick is proud of our growing economic and cultural ties with India. We have committed to increasing these ties as we embrace a pro-growth agenda focused on private sector investment and growing our population base.

I trust all participants will enjoy this year's Gala. We look forward to continuing to work with the Canada India Foundation as we build new connections based on friendship, respect and mutual prosperity.

Sincerely,



Blaine M. Higgs





Premier of Saskatchewan

Legislative Building
Regina Canada S4S 0B3

A Message from the Premier

On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, I am pleased to welcome everyone to the 2023 Global Indian Award Gala.

The Canada India Foundation (CIF) established the Global Indian Award as a way to celebrate and honour outstanding individuals who have made, and continue to make, significant contributions to Canada and to the world. They share a courageous spirit that truly makes them positive role models, and this year's recipient will join the ranks of those who have received this prestigious recognition since 2008. The stories of these visionaries will be immortalized in the edition of the *Canada India Foundation Magazine 2023*.

I would like to congratulate the 2023 winner of the Global Indian Award, Ms. Sudha Murty, of Infosys Foundation. As an engineer and philanthropist, she has demonstrated leadership, vision and personal excellence by bringing essential services such as education and healthcare to remote regions of India.

I want to thank the CIF along with the presenters, volunteers, and sponsors who have continued to make this event possible. Without you, none of this would be possible. Thank you also to the families and friends for demonstrating your support for the recipients of the 2023 Global Indian Award.

Best wishes for a memorable evening.

Scott Moe
Premier





Message

CIF Global Indian Award Gala has become a much-awaited event on the annual calendar. This high-profile event brings together distinguished political and business leaders and has emerged as an excellent platform for exploring collaborative opportunities and strengthening of bilateral relations between India and Canada.

2. I am delighted to know that this year's award recipient is the renowned Indian entrepreneur, engineer, author and philanthropist Smt. Sudha Murthy, Co-founder of Infosys, one of the leading IT companies in India. Smt. Sudha Murthy is also Chairperson of Infosys Foundation, a charitable trust that has been doing incredible work for improving the education and healthcare systems for underprivileged sections of society.

3. CIF has been playing a pivotal role in deepening relations between India and Canada. It has been at the forefront of several initiatives for strengthening the economic, cultural and people-to-people ties between our two countries, including support for the welfare of fallen soldiers in India and Canada and other philanthropic activities.

4. I would like to commend CIF for its efforts towards closer bilateral linkages and their continued and invaluable service to the broader community.

S. Nath.
(Siddhartha Nath)



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CIF – Growing from Strength to Strength

Satish Thakkar

Chair, Canada India Foundation

We are gathered this evening at the Universal Eventspace in the City of Vaughan, which we respectfully acknowledge as situated in the Territory and Treaty 13 Lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. We also recognize the traditional territory of Huron-Wendat and the Haudenosaunee. It is my great pleasure and privilege to convey my greetings to all the distinguished guests, in my position as Chair of Canada India Foundation, a position I have held for the past 3 years. We have accomplished a lot during these 3 years, particularly this past year, which I will get to shortly. But I want to start with something just prior to that time, which signifies everything CIF stands for, a mindset that I believe I have carried through during my term as Chair.

In March 2020, little over three years ago, we at CIF, were all busy with debating many new initiatives to build, – stronger ties between Canada and India. Then COVID-19 struck, a truly black swan event of our times.

The pandemic was on us in full force, disrupting our lives completely. At CIF, our activities depended almost totally on people engagement, and the shutdown had no room for that. The tragic circumstance offered CIF an opportunity to show our deep appreciation for Canada in its hour of need. That's how we launched the initiative to deliver thousands of hot vegetarian meals to the frontline workers of Southern Ontario, working at emergency services like police, fire and hospitals and the long-term care facilities.

We were doing what CIF has always stood for – doing the best to reach ideal outcomes on behalf of the people of Canada, our karmabhumi, while demonstrating the core ideals of India, our matrubhumi – Vasudeva Kutumbkam



(the whole world is one family). I am proud to say that we continue to be propelled with that same spirit for the past three years to go into areas where we can make a difference on behalf of Canada and India, while at the same time continuing to enhance the profile of Indo-Canadians.

Let me highlight just a few. No initiative better encapsulates CIF's profound commitment to the welfare of our community than the Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Over the years, this event has raised substantial funds, contributing to worthy causes such as supporting the Families of the Fallen Soldiers and other noble endeavors. This year's tournament also continued this proud tradition of giving back.

One of the key elements in the Canada India file is to leverage India's traditional practices of Yoga and Ayurveda for the benefit of Canadians. Ayurveda holds great promise in managing non-communicable diseases like diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. Yoga, Ayurved techniques and meditation can offer a preventative solution to many chronic diseases along with dealing with mental health issues, while relieving the pressure on our soaring healthcare budgets. CIF's unyielding commitment to Wellness as a pivotal public policy component was eloquently demonstrated through the continuation of our lecture and discussion series on Ayurveda, featuring over 50 speakers to-date. This series, which had garnered significant acclaim from 2020 to 2022, continued to enlighten and inform participants about the multifaceted world of Ayurvedic medicine, its formulations, and its myriad benefits.

CIF's recent initiatives in healthcare also included organizing all-virtual Canada India Healthcare Summit in 2021 and co-sponsoring the World Non-Communicable Diseases Congress in 2023. The latter featured a dedicated

session highlighting the transformative potential of Ayurveda in promoting wellness, featuring renowned speakers from across the globe.

Moreover, CIF's active participation in integrating India's traditional healthcare systems into the Canadian mainstream culminated in the signing of a historic MoU between the All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) and the University Health Network (UHN) in Toronto, underscoring our enduring commitment to this endeavor. The cherry on the cake was the exclusive \$1 million dollar endowment, that CIF has set up in partnership with University Health Network to support research into integrative medicine that would explore possibilities for the two systems of medicine to work together to beat some of the most pressing health issues like diabetes and cardiac diseases, that humanity faces.

Another notable highlight of CIF's year was the ambitious two-week delegation to India, where we participated in the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas event in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, among other essential engagements. This delegation, spearheaded by me and National Convener Ritesh Malik, included the esteemed presence of Ontario's Associate Minister for Mental Health and Addictions, Hon. Michael Tibollo.

Furthermore, we were honored to witness Dr. V.I. Lakshmanan, OC, CIF's founding member and past Chair, being felicitated with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award during PBD 2023 by the President of India. Dr. Lakshmanan is the 3rd CIF member to receive this honour, joining the (late) Vasu Chanchlani and Ramesh Chotai.

During our sojourn in India, we engaged in discussions with key dignitaries, including India's Minister for External Affairs, Hon. S. Jaishankar, and Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Youth, and Sports, Hon. Anurag Thakur. These dialogues allowed us to explore various initiatives undertaken by CIF and the Indian diaspora, reinforcing the strong bonds between our nations. We also met with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath and briefed him on India specific initiatives of CIF.

Hon. Michael Tibollo, who joined our mission, took a keen interest in finding alternative ideas from Indian experts to combat the increasing incidence of mental illness, and reduce the financial burden on the healthcare system, employing India's traditional treatments and techniques like meditation and yoga. Our meetings with Minister of Ayush Hon. Sarbananda Sonowal, Yog Rishi Baba Ramdev and Sister B K Shivani of the Brahmakumaris were significant in this context. Promotion of yoga and ayurveda

will continue to remain a thrust area for CIF in the future.

Needless to say, the signature event of the past year was the Global Indian Award Gala, where we honoured renowned entrepreneur and philanthropist, Anil Agarwal, Chairman of Vedanta Resources. It was also the occasion for us to honour the Indigenous People of Canada, as the Gala date coincided with the National Truth and Reconciliation Day. We want to express our special appreciation to Mr. Agarwal not only for donating the Award money of \$ 50,000 to the Anishnawbe Health Foundation, but also adding \$21,000 from his personal funds to the Foundation.

Among the many breakthrough initiatives under the CIF umbrella, we are very proud of our choice of the Global Indian Awardee this year. Ms. Sudha Murty becomes the first ever, and hopefully among many more to come, woman awardee. Ms. Murty symbolizes the Gala's theme, SheRises, which also shines the light on the women scientists responsible for India's successful Chandrayan Mission to moon. I am proud and privileged that this milestone event is taking place under my chairmanship.

CIF is actively seeking the participation of more and more women and youth in all our activities. Many of our plans will be enriched and made possible with the inputs from a wider section of the Indo Canadian society. We would like to see CIF positioned as an organization that has the welfare of the community as one of its core objectives. Someday, CIF should become the go-to place for all those who seek guidance and need help.

An example would be the situation of the hundreds of thousands of Indian students who have moved into Canada in the past few years. While this is a welcome development, the challenges they face are also huge in terms of survival and their eventual integration into Canadian society. Of course, this is not for one individual or one organization to solve, but it will take many of us to jointly offer solutions. CIF could be a leader in setting the agenda on behalf of not only the youth, but also the larger Indian diaspora living in Canada.

Thanks to the tremendous support we have received from the community, we are in the process of finalizing several plans that would result in the footprint of CIF spreading wider across Canada. While we have presence in Ontario, BC, Alberta and Saskatchewan, we want to reach out to more provinces and seek like-minded community partners to set up chapters in the areas yet uncovered.

Common foundational values, strong economies, the mutual ability to address the other's needs, and a strong presence of the people of Indian origin in Canada should

mean that the 'sky is the limit' when it comes to Canada-India economic ties. The recent pause in the negotiations towards a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, along with the deferral of the planned trade mission to India, causes us great disappointment and concern. We sincerely hope that the talks resume soon and also that future discussions incorporate input from CIF and other organizations in the Canada-India economic space. We wish to emphasize that good relations between the two countries depend on mutual understanding and empathy for each other's national security concerns. We hope that continued engagement and talks will resolve these issues.

CIF has always striven to advance the Canada India file wherever we find a potential for collaboration. Our many initiatives have brought important decision makers from both countries together on our platform to address issues and encourage deliberations. We continue to explore new avenues that may offer opportunities to expand our bilateral potential. Our outreach to Ontario's smaller municipalities to help them connect with cities in India was aimed at developing intimate and immediate contacts between the peoples and leaders in these cities. We believe that each of these cities, like Peterborough, Clarington, Barrie, Niagara or Oakville, has unique strengths they can offer to India and investment needs that India can help fulfill. The long lasting relationships that ensues from such engagements can form the bedrock of an all-encompassing bilateral space going forward into the future.

Another initiative CIF is very proud of and one which we hope to expand to other universities, is the sponsorship of the Global Thought Leader in Residence program at the University of Guelph, beginning with Mr. Vikas Swarup, diplomat, author, and former High Commissioner of India in Canada.

Some of our other plans may seem a little too ambitious at the moment, but we may surprise you. They include having a discussion on establishing a CIF Venture Fund to support startups in the community, especially by students. The fund will not only be supporting them financially, but also find mentors who are qualified to set them on the right tracks to success.

For many years, now, it has been a dream of CIF members to have an exclusive building premise that would be the nerve Centre for various in-house activities like seminars, mentorship sessions, community services etc. It would also enhance the image and prestige of CIF. Our members are hard at work to make this a reality, sooner rather than later.

We also witnessed a changing of the guard in the esteemed offices of the High Commissions of Canada and India, as well as the Consulate of India in Toronto. Shri Ajay Bisaria, the former High Commissioner of India, was a great friend of CIF and we wish him well in his current role. We extend our warmest welcome to His Excellency Sanjay Kumar Verma, the new Indian High Commissioner in Ottawa, and His Excellency Cameron MacKay, the Canadian High Commissioner in New Delhi.

We shall fondly remember and deeply miss Smt. Apoorva Srivastava, the former Consul General in Toronto, whose steadfast support for CIF left an indelible mark on our organization. As we welcome Shri Siddhartha Nath, the incoming Consul General, we are confident that he too will continue to be an exceptional representative of the Government of India in Toronto.

While we take justifiable pride in our accomplishments during this relatively brief period, we remain steadfast in our commitment to setting the bar ever higher for future initiatives and achievements.

Our endeavors will remain harmoniously aligned with the evolving aspirations of both Canada and India, as well as those of our dynamic Indo-Canadian community. We invite each of you to remain engaged with us and to actively participate in shaping our promising future.

I would like to conclude by expressing my absolute admiration and heart-felt appreciation to the CIF Board Members, the larger membership and my family for their unstinted support that I have received over the years. It has been a most wonderful journey.

Thank you for gracing us with your presence tonight.

Satish Thakkar, Chair





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Ms. Sudha Murty

Founder & Chairperson - Murty Trust, Philanthropist, Educator and Author

A close-knit family of high achievers, outstanding academic and professional accomplishment, great philanthropic vision, and inspiring personal humility. No one fits this description better than Ms. Sudha Murty, recipient of the 2023 CIF Global Indian Award.

Born as Sudha Kulkarni in the village of Shiggaon in North Karnataka, India, Ms. Murty completed her engineering in Electronics & Electrical Engineering from B.V.B College of Engineering & Technology, Hubli in 1972 and her master's degree in computer science from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in 1974. It is noteworthy that she was winner of the Gold Medal in both her undergraduate and graduate program, receiving the first one from the then Chief Minister of Karnataka. Her self-confidence and perseverance led her to become the first woman development engineer to be hired at TELCO (now Tata Motors), where she worked for 8 years.

The story of Sudha Kulkarni getting her first job is typical of her trailblazing life. While searching for a job after her graduation, she came across a job vacancy posting from TELCO. What caught her attention was the footnote in the advertisement stating, "Female candidates need not apply". Deeply hurt, she wrote a postcard to none other than J.R.D. Tata, the legendary Chairman of TELCO at that time, criticizing the gender discrimination in his company. She thought no more about the advertisement until she received a telegram from the company asking her to appear for an interview with a promise of reimbursement of first-class travel both ways. Needless to say, she was hired.

It was while working at TELCO that she met Narayana

Murthy and shortly afterwards the two got married. The marriage function was an indication of the simplicity of living that the couple have since been known for, with just the two families present in a ceremony held at home. Ms. Murty's story of contributing towards the birth of Infosys, along with her husband Mr. N.R. Narayana Murthy is a well-known one. In 1981, with both of them working in their respective jobs, Narayana Murthy caught the entrepreneurial bug and wanted to leave his job and start his own company but had little money to invest. Sudha Murty came to his rescue and gave him all the money (₹10,000) from her rainy-day savings, thus laying the foundation for Infosys. Later, when Infosys started to grow, she graciously agreed to her husband's request not to join the company, despite her obvious professional qualifications, and dedicated herself to her family. Nonetheless, it is safe to say that her unwavering support of her husband was a key factor in his extraordinary accomplishment making Infosys a major global IT giant.

It was not long before Sudha Murty started making her own mark in society. In 1996, she co-founded Infosys Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping the underprivileged in society. Her unwavering dedication, sharp acumen, and decisive leadership qualities have played an important role in making Infosys Foundation one of the most impactful and influential non-profit organizations in India. During her twenty-five plus years long tenure as the founder and chairperson of the Foundation, she has supported multiple projects across India in the fields of healthcare, education, art & culture, women's empowerment, and public hygiene. Her foremost contribution towards women's empowerment has been her extensive work with the Devadasi





Ms. Sudha Murty is a prolific writer and has penned several bestselling books across genres

community. The initiative helped rehabilitate and achieve financial independence for more than three thousand Devadasis by providing substitute livelihoods. The Foundation has also supported relief efforts during sixteen natural disasters, such as the tsunami in Tamil Nadu and Andaman, the earthquake in Kutch, hurricane and floods in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh and drought in Karnataka and Maharashtra along with building more than seventy thousand libraries in Karnataka, fifteen thousand toilets, and five dharmshalas (rest and rehabilitation houses). She continues her initiatives now at Murty Trust.

Coming from a family with a versatile educational background, Ms. Sudha Murty developed a reading habit at an early age. She is a prolific writer and has penned several bestselling books across genres—from children's books to short stories, novels, technical books, and

travelogues. She mainly writes in English and Kannada, but her books have been translated into all the major Indian languages and have sold over 30 lakh copies around the country. Several of her books have also been translated into Italian and Arabic. Among her most famous titles are Grandmother's Bag of Stories, Gently Falls the Bakula, Gopi Diaries, Three Thousand Stitches, and Wise and Otherwise. With simple and accessible language, Ms. Murty's stories inspire readers young and old. Her writings are replete with values of compassion and kindness, in keeping with our culture and heritage. Her non-fiction stories are based on her time at the Infosys Foundation where she worked with people from all walks of life. As of September 2023, Ms. Sudha Murty has 250 titles to her name.

Over the years, her efforts have been recognized with many



CIF Award Gala 2023



Ms. Sudha Murthy is one of the most admired people in India and among the global Indians

Honorary Doctorates and prestigious awards including the Padma Shri & Padma Bhushan from the Government of India in 2006 & 2023 respectively; Sahitya Academy Award in 2023; the R.K. Narayan Award for Literature in 2006 & the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award in 2020. She was also awarded the Rajyotsava and Attimabbe award for excellence in Kannada literature from the Government of Karnataka in 2000 and 2012, respectively. She is also the recipient of eleven honorary doctorates from universities across India, including IIT Kanpur. Not surprising for an Indian, she is also a great movie buff and confessed once to the actor Dilip Kumar that she would skip classes to go see his movies!

Ms. Murthy's immediate and extended family is one that is found to inspire anyone, particularly any youngster, wanting to make a positive contribution to society. Her husband, N.R. Narayana Murthy is the founder of Infosys, one of India's earliest and still most respected IT powerhouses, her son Rohan Murthy is the Chief Technical

Officer at an Artificial Intelligence company and founder of the Murty Classical Library of India at Harvard University, and her daughter Akshata Murthy is a venture capitalist and wife of Rishi Sunak, the current Prime Minister of England. Her father, R.H. Kulkarni, was a surgeon. Her eldest sister is a gynecologist, her other sister is Jayashree Deshpande, wife of Gururaj Deshpande, one of the first Indo-American high profile technology entrepreneurs, and co-founder of the Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and her brother, Shrinivas Kulkarni is a renowned astronomer and Professor of Astrophysics at the California Institute of Technology.

Even among such illustrious family as company, Sudha Murthy has been a shining star and is one of the most admired people in India and among the global Indian diaspora. She is indeed the epitome of the theme of this year's Gala.

#SheRises





Previous Award Recipients



2008

Sam Pitroda

Chairman

National Knowledge Commission, Government of India



2009

Tulsi Tanti

President & CEO

Suzlon Energy



2010

Ratan Tata

Chairman

Tata Group



2012

Deepak Chopra

Author &

World Renowned Expert in Mind-Body Medicine



2014

N. R. Narayana Murthy

Executive Chairman

Infosys



Previous Award Recipients

2016

Dr. Subash Chandra

Chairman
Essel Group



2017

Yogrishi Baba Ramdev

Yoga Guru



2018

Sparsh Shah

Motivational Speaker



2019

Stephen Harper

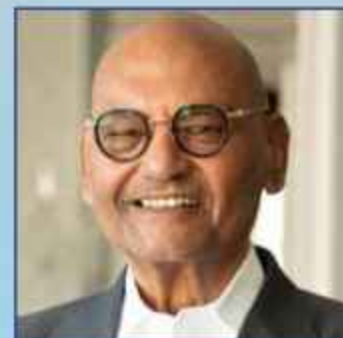
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2022

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The Tortoise and the Hare: Asia's Great Race

Gary Comerford

Recently, I was participating in a webinar for the International Insurance Society, (IIS) an American based organization, with the mandate to support the Insurance industry internationally. The topic of discussion for this webinar was "Why do business in India?". Inevitably, the mandatory question was asked, "Which is the better market, India or China?".



I have attempted to answer this question more times that I care to imagine. The simple fact is, that China and India are must markets for most international companies, particularly as you look ten and twenty years into the future. I often feel that the answer to this question leaves India being treated as the young sibling with great potential that has not yet been realized. So, I decided to provide an analogy that would get the audiences' attention.

Many of you are aware of Aesop's Fable, "The Tortoise and the Hare". To refresh your memory, this is a fable of a race between unequal competitors. By all accounts this is an unfair match, with the Hare being declared the winner before the race had even begun. But to the surprise of all the observers, the Tortoise wins the race by employing ingenuity and dogged determination to succeed. The creativity, inventiveness and originality shown by the Tortoise were all key ingredients, critical to victory. To my mind these are precisely the attributes that are in abundance in India today.

In 1987, the GDP (Nominal) of both countries was almost equal. Today China's economy is five times greater than India. China's growth, from the early 1990's until 2015, grew at much faster pace than India, catapulting China into what would appear to be an insurmountable lead. However, if you look carefully at the numbers, you will see a definite cooling of the Chinese economy and to the educated observer, you can see that India has maintained

a very consistent rate of growth equal to, if not occasionally better than China. Now I am not trying to argue that India will surpass China any time soon. But the point that I would like to make is that the methodical, gradual, deliberate approach that has been embraced by the world's largest democracy, seems to be gaining some traction.

The economic measures taken by Prime Minister Modi's government is having a real impact on growth. To put it simply, the Modi government's implementation of economic and social reform has enabled the average man and woman on the street to embrace a more self-sustained, entrepreneurial lifestyle that is turbo charging the potential for growth in the country. India's gradual but consistent investment in infrastructure, reform of the financial markets (FDI), embracing of technology and the digitization of a nation looking to the future cannot be discounted. India, slowly but surely, is removing the shackles that in the past have acted to inhibit the tremendous entrepreneurial spirit so pervasive in the country.

As a younger man I managed to run many marathons. In every race that I entered, it was all about the pace that you set based on your age, training, and physical condition. It is fair to say that India needed to get in shape for the economic race that is clearly taking place in Asia. India did however have one major advantage. India, in comparison to many other economies in Asia, has a young population. This is an advantage that should not be underestimated.

China, by all accounts, has been the leader in this hypothetical race, but there are signs that China's energy level is beginning to wane. This happens as one grows older, particularly when you are old when you first start the race, while India's energy level is benefiting from being younger and in much better shape than in the past.



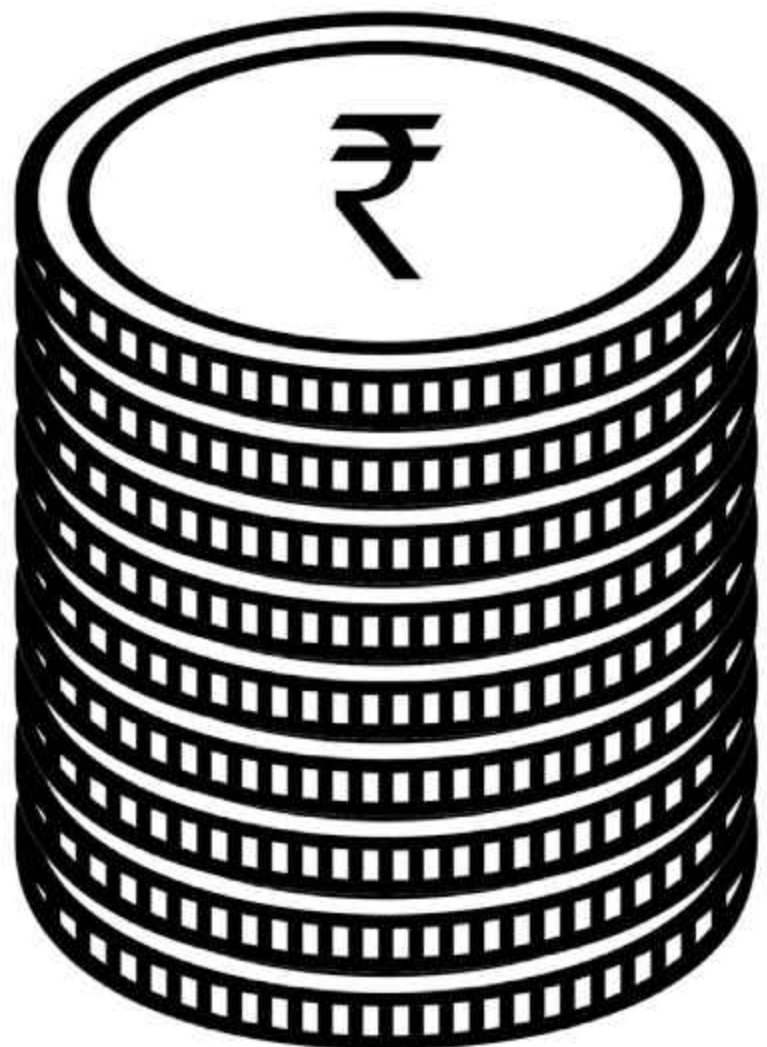


This transformation is a direct result of their embrace of economic and social reforms that have put them in better position to compete. India has not looked inwardly to stimulate growth.

The emergence of BRICS as a formidable economic compact allows India to secure new and growing economic relationships that will pay significant dividends in the future. Canada must view these new economic relationships with some concern. India is solidifying its economic network of partners now, so time is of the essence for Canada to solidify a meaningful and mutually beneficial economic relation with India.

It is hard to say fifty years from now which country will have fared better economically; India or China. But what is clear is that not having strong economic relationships with India will most certainly leave Canada disadvantaged. Businesspeople around the world should pause and take note that the winner of this race is far from a forgone conclusion. Asian culture is measured over thousands of years and while the Hare may still be out front, China should be careful not to nap at the side of the road for any prolonged period.

The current negotiations taking place between Canada and India to expand trade, is a recognition of India's tremendous potential going forward. India today is looking more and more like the Hare as India has moved aggressively to create innovative trade agreements with many countries around the world. It is now time for Canada to stop acting like a Tortoise and employ the sense of urgency and ingenuity required that will lead to a meaningful trade deal with India. The good news is that under Trade Minister Ng's leadership, this is a real possibility.



(Gary Comerford, International management and financial specialist, was Sun Life's general manager for India and is a past president of the Canada India Business Council)

G20 Bringing India and Canada Together

Ambassador Vikas Swarup

India and Canada are two large, vibrant, multicultural democracies which share similar values and beliefs. They are united by their shared membership of several international organisations, in particular, the UN, the Commonwealth and the G20.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's recent visit to India for the G20 Summit underscored the tremendous potential of the two countries to work together on a whole host of issues on the agenda of this important organisation.

India's presidency of the G20 was unique in many aspects. It was easily the most ambitious in the history of the G20, with over 220 meetings in 60 cities across every state and union territory of India. The summit on September 9-10 was the culmination of this process, resulting in a record 112 outcomes and presidency documents, more than tripling the substantive work from previous presidencies. Unique experiences showcasing India's diversity, inclusive traditions and cultural richness were also an integral part of the visiting delegates' programme. Millet-based dishes



were incorporated in the menu, and a wide range of cultural performances and excursions were organized. Over 150 cultural events, with the participation of over 8,000 artists, showcasing local and national art forms, were also held.

It was also a people's G20, involving over 100,000 participants in side events as well as involvement of citizens from all corners of the nation. The Jan Bhagidari events witnessed the participation of 15 million students and 125,000 youth delegates.

Right at the start, India put its unique imprint on the G20 presidency by organising the Voice of Global South Summit. The whole idea was to use its own stature as G20 president to act as the spokesperson of the global south and bring the views and concerns of the global South on the G20 Agenda, and, most importantly, to show 'Unity of voice', and 'Unity of purpose' in addressing these concerns and priorities.

India lived up to its commitment by ensuring the inclusion



of the African Union as the latest permanent member of the G20 club at the New Delhi Summit.

Another priority of India's presidency was the focus on technology and digital public infrastructure to improve ease of living. And India has pioneered some world-beating digital public goods like the Aadhaar biometric identity system, India Stack, Unified Payments Interface, and the Cowin platform. At a time when 4 billion people of the world do not have digital identity, about 3 billion people do not have bank accounts, and over 133 countries do not have fast payments, India's digital public goods can be of immense help in empowering vast segments of the Global South.

The New Delhi Leaders Declaration, adopted by complete consensus, also focuses on:

- Strong, Sustainable, Balanced, and Inclusive Growth
- Accelerating Progress on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals
- Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future
- Reform of Multilateral Institutions to make them fit for purpose for the 21st Century, and
- Reinvigorating Multilateralism

In all these areas Canada can be a valuable ally of India as a country which has prioritised green transition, and which is a firm believer in multilateralism and a rules-based international order. Canada's new Indo-Pacific strategy recognises India as a "critical partner" in the Indo-Pacific region which "will play a critical role in shaping Canada's

future over the next half-century".

A new Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), a new Engagement Group "Startup 20" and a new Initiative Chief Science Advisers' Roundtable (CSAR) have been operationalized in India's G20 Presidency.

Even on geopolitical issues, Prime Minister Modi was able to achieve a remarkable consensus, especially on the contentious issue of the Ukraine War, with both the bloc of G7 countries as well as Russia and China accepting India's language calling for a "comprehensive, just, and durable peace in Ukraine that will uphold all the Purposes and Principles of the UN Charter for the promotion of peaceful, friendly, and good neighbourly relations among nations." By endorsing Prime Minister's Modi's clarion call for Mission LIFE (Lifestyle for Environment) the outcome document is a powerful plea for Planet, People, Peace and Prosperity in today's world.

Right at the start of India's G20 Presidency Prime Minister Modi had declared that India's Presidency will be inclusive, ambitious, action-oriented and decisive. India has walked the talk by making its tenure one of healing, harmony and hope and working together to shape a new paradigm – of human-centric globalisation.

The G20 Summit has ended, but India and Canada should continue to work together within the G20 and beyond to ensure that the world acts as 'One Family' to create that 'One Future' that our 'One Earth' deserves.

(Vikas Swarup is a retired Indian diplomat and writer. A former High Commissioner of India in Canada and the official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, he is internationally known as the author of the novel Q & A, adapted in film as Slumdog Millionaire, the winner of 2009 Academy award. He is Global Thought Leader in Residence, University of Guelph.)



Explore the Opportunities with Trusted Partners

Stewart Beck

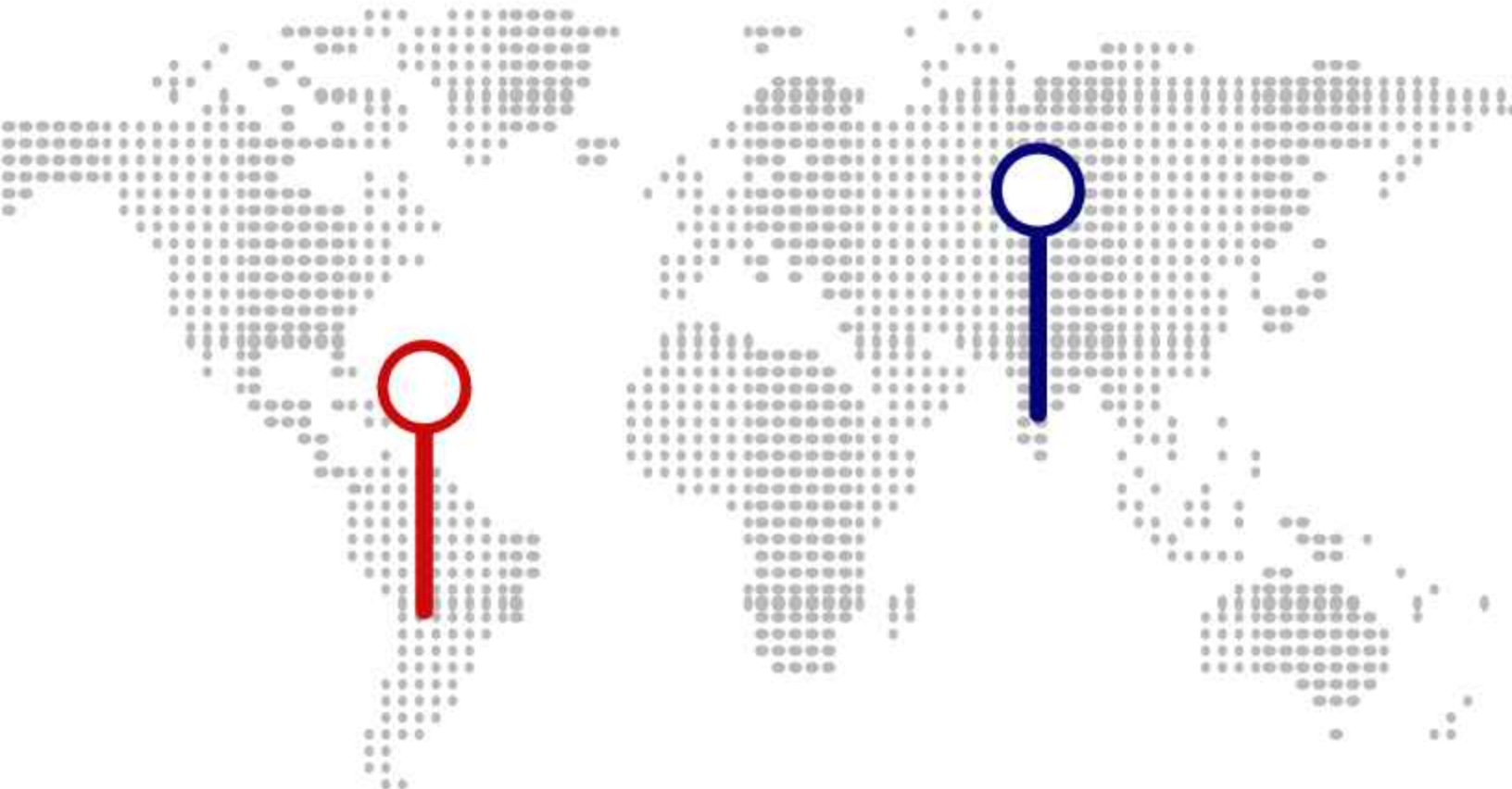
The way India perceives the world today is significantly different from my time as High Commissioner. I was in India during the final four years of Congress rule, departing in 2014, just as Chief Minister Modi was elected Prime Minister Modi, and India was commencing its assertive presence on the international stage.

Now, nine years later, India has emerged as a prominent geopolitical player. India's remarkable economic progress, its hosting of the G20, and its role in expanding BRICS membership stand as testaments to the adept leadership of Prime Minister Modi and his team of economic and foreign policy experts. It is fair to say that India is no longer a leader among the non-aligned nations but, as Foreign Minister Jaishankar Subrahmanyam puts it in his book "The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World," for India today there is "convergence with many but congruence with none."



Regrettably, at the government-to-government level, there is currently a lack of convergence between Canada and India. The reasons for this have received media attention over the past few months. However, there is alignment at the business-to-business level, as I discovered during my recent visit to the B20 summit hosted by India in Delhi. Throughout my week spent in Mumbai and Delhi, I met with several prominent Indian business leaders, all of whom engage in business with Canadian partners. Without exception, they hold their

Canadian counterparts, partners, and investors in high regard. Many of them share strong personal connections with Canada that go beyond the transactional nature of business relationships (this is shared by many Indian bureaucrats as well). They recognize that Canada offers much; we possess a world-renowned science, technology, and innovation ecosystem, with companies that provide solutions to critical non-traditional security challenges facing India, such as climate change, food security, and,



especially pertinent to India, the education of a population where fifty percent are below the age of twenty-five.

They are aware that Canada has become an international hub for talent, welcoming their children and providing them with valuable education and the opportunity to work in Canada or return to India with the skills and experiences to contribute to India's economic prosperity. They understand that investing in Canada is a safe bet and that they will have access to a skilled workforce to grow their businesses in North America.



In all of these meetings, Canadian pension plans were recognized as significant contributors to India's economic growth, and there is a genuine interest in partnering with Canada in areas like digital health, agri-tech, and artificial intelligence (AI).

India boasts a wealth of data, and Canada is a globally acknowledged leader in machine learning. Collaborating, the potential to develop solutions to pressing global issues is immense. While government-to-government alignment would facilitate these collaborations, the fact that both private sectors are interested in engagement should be sufficient to drive the necessary cooperation and collaboration.

It may not be widely known, but Canada played a role in India's startup revolution a decade ago. It began with Toronto Metropolitan University's Digital Media Zone, which was chosen as a partner for the Bombay Stock Exchange's incubator and accelerator. Since then, India's startup ecosystem has exploded, becoming the third largest in the world, with over 68,000 startups launched to date, raising \$USD 141 billion in startup funding with a combined valuation of \$USD 450 billion, and producing 110 Unicorns. For perspective, India has 759 million active internet users (the numbers are according to INC42's The State of Indian Startup Ecosystem Report 2023).

Furthermore, Canada has benefited from Indian companies utilizing the Startup Visa Program to expand or establish their presence in North America. Promoting cross-border partnerships and investments in AI startups can foster innovation and growth in both countries. Again, this is about convergence for mutual benefit.

Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy rightly emphasizes the importance of engaging with India. Challenges at the government-to-government level are not unique to India but are common throughout the Asian region, stemming from differences in value systems, legal structures, and political constructs.

However, these should not deter Canadian businesses from exploring and capitalizing on the opportunities arising from the remarkable growth in Asia. That said, it is essential to be mindful of areas of convergence and to conduct business with trusted partners whose values and business practices align with our own.

(Stewart Beck is the President and CEO of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. Prior to joining APF Canada, Beck was the Canadian High Commissioner to the Republic of India. In Ottawa, he was Director General of the North Asia Bureau. Stewart Beck was also Consul General in Shanghai and San Francisco.)

A snapshot of Bharat's defence sector

Hari Panday, FCPA, FCGA, ICD.D, NACD.DC

At the time of writing, a very successful G20 had concluded in New Delhi, Bharat. It was not only a well-organized and orchestrated global gathering but one that the leaders took pride in and seemed to reflect that they were a part of the full process.

Bharat's own resolve was visible around its foreign policy that brings multi-layered benefits to all G20 member countries. Bharat's corporate world was watching closely, especially, companies with foreign individual and institutional investors as well as those with their securities trading on stock exchanges around the world – particularly the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE).

It is my personal belief that the industrial landscape has been evolving over the last two decades and now it is on its path of accelerating with unprecedented changes. These changes are due to a variety of factors, unique to Bharat, taking into consideration its domestic complexities and international positioning. This article looks at Bharat's defence sector as it modernizes its armed forces, with "Make in India" mission and a hybrid approach adopted for executing its strategy around defence needs, similar to other major global powerhouses in this sector such as, the USA, France, and other leading countries. These countries develop innovative technologies and products and services initially for their domestic needs, but later rising as an exporter of state-of-the-art defence hardware and software. The defence sector in these countries have traditionally received tremendous government support in financial and R&D terms, while working closely with the private sectors. Bharat is showing evidence of similar changes and showing early signals of becoming a serious source of defence products and technologies.

A recent equity research report on this sector from ICICI Securities, Mumbai, Bharat, and other media reports lay out noticeable developments in the awarding of defence contracts. These sources also draw attention to how the defence sector in Bharat has evolved and how it now offers meaningful opportunity for investors.

Needless to say, in addition to direct investing there may be joint venture and outsourcing opportunities that would most likely exist, but they are not the focus of this article.



Key Players:

Bharatiya companies are addressing the needs of the army, navy and the air force. These are the entities included in this short article (CAD 1= INR 61, rounded):

- Adani Defence; Adani Enterprises Mkt Cap \$47 Bn
- Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited; Government of India owned
- Astra Microwave; Mkt Cap \$662 million
- BEML Limited; (formerly, Bharat Earth Movers

Limited – 54% owned by Government of India – Mkt Cap \$1.6 BN)

- Bharat Electronics Limited; Mkt Cap \$16 BN
- Dhaksha Unmanned Systems; a start-up
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL); market cap (Mkt Cap) \$ 21.5 Bn
- Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL); Government of India owned
- Idea Forge; Mkt Cap \$672 million
- India Optel Ltd; Government of India owned
- Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited; Government of Kerala Undertaking
- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDSL); Mkt Cap \$7 Bn
- Veda Aeronautics; privately owned

Latest Activity

- For HSL, the Defence Ministry signed a ₹19k-cr (\$3 BN) contract for five fleet support ships (HT, 25 August) - The order will provide a major boost to self-reliance in the defence manufacturing sector. These vessels will be indigenously designed and constructed by HSL and will be capable of replenishment of warships at sea and extending their range and endurance for longer missions. The first vessel is to be delivered to the Indian Navy in four years, and the rest to follow at the rate of one every 10 months thereafter.

HSL also signed an Rs.1,100 crore (\$179 million) contract with Bharat Electronics Limited for communication and navigation equipment for the new vessels. The project will generate employment of nearly 16,900,000 man-days over eight years. A government statement stated that, "With the majority of the equipment and systems being sourced from indigenous manufacturers, these vessels will be a proud flag-bearer of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' in

consonance with the 'Make in India' initiatives of the government." The development comes at a time when the navy is working on becoming fully self-reliant by 2047 when India celebrates its 100 years of independence.

- The Ministry of Defence has approved capital acquisition proposals worth INR 78bn (\$1.3 BN), which include the procurement of an electronic warfare suite for Mi-17 helicopters from BEL, procurement of 40,000nos. 7.62x51mm LMG (light machine guns), acquisition of Hellfire missiles and Mk 54 Torpedoes for MH-60 anti-submarine helicopters of the Indian Navy.

BEL has also secured orders worth INR 32.9bn (\$539 million, including non-defence) for the supply of radars, jammers, encryptors, SONARs, AMC and spares. These also include Letter of Intent (LoI) worth INR 10.75bn (\$175 million) from Hindustan Shipyards for supply of Command Management Systems (CMS), communication systems, electromagnetic warfare (EW) systems and other sensors for fleet support ships.

- Astra Microwave has received orders worth INR 1.58bn (\$26 million), to be executed over the next 12-18 months. These include: 1) INR 168mn (\$2.7 million) worth of order from ISRO for supply of satellite sub-systems and weather data processing system; 2) INR 1.204mn worth of order from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for supply of satellite sub-systems and airborne radar; and 3) INR 208mn (\$3.4 million) worth of order for supply of radar and EW sub-systems from a DPSU.

- BEML Limited has received a contract worth INR 1.01bn (\$17 million) from the Indian Army to supply an unknown number of command post vehicles (CPVs). It has also received a contract for export order from KAMSS Ltd, Russia, for BEML Dozer BD355 valuing USD 19.71mn. The contract is likely to be executed in different phases starting Aug'23, for which purchase order has been received.

- Adani Defence has revealed that Indian Army has placed a limited series production order for ULPGM (UAV-launched precision-guided munitions). They will be incorporated into Archer UAVs and TAPAS drones, serving as effective tools for targeting armoured vehicles, artillery units, and command and control stations.

- Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited (Government of Kerala Undertaking) has secured the prestigious contract worth INR 1.05bn (\$17 million) from the Indian Navy for the supply of 650te of titanium sponge. This material is scheduled to be delivered over a span of five years. Titanium sponge has exceptional properties, such as high strength, low density, and excellent corrosion resistance,



making it an ideal material for manufacturing nuclear reactors of nuclear attack submarines.

- India Optel Ltd., located in Dehradun (Government of India owned) has successfully secured an order for 13,482 Advanced Telescopic Sights from the Indian Army. These sights will be integrated with 7.62x51mm 6716 rifles. After undergoing an extensive three-year testing phase, these telescopic sights have proven their capabilities, allowing accurate targeting at a distance of 800m.

- Chennai-based startup, Dhaksha Unmanned Systems has secured a significant contract worth INR 1.65bn (\$27 million) from the Indian Army to supply 200 DH-HM medium altitude logistics drones with accessories for efficient and agile transportation of essential supplies to frontline troops. The drone can carry over four kilograms of payload and has an endurance of more than four hours with a range of 20km. The delivery of this order is anticipated within the next 12 months.

- Idea Forge, Navi Mumbai based, has announced its successful bid for INR 880mn (14.4 million) order to supply surveillance quadcopters, along with accessories, to one of the Indian armed services. The Metro V4 Plus is a smart and portable UAV boasting an operational range of 10km and an endurance of 60 minutes.

- Kanpur-based, Government of India owned, Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited has announced orders worth INR 60bn (\$984 million). This includes an order for 300 Sarang artillery systems upgrades from the Indian Army and orders worth INR 4.5bn (74 million) received from European countries.

- Indian Air Force has entered into INR 3bn (\$50 million) contract with New Delhi based, privately owned, Veda Aeronautics for the procurement of 200 swarm drones.



These drones, forming a Swarm Unmanned Munition System, are catapult-launched jet-powered drones with a range exceeding 150km. This capability allows for precision strikes on heavily fortified enemy airbases, camps, and vital installations.

- Kalyani Strategic Systems, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bharat Forge, has secured two export orders worth INR 8.5bn (\$139 million) from friendly countries. These orders involve the supply of components and armoured vehicle chassis, scheduled for delivery in the next 18 months.
- The Indian Army has signed a contract with L&T for the procurement of an unspecified number of 5mt short span bridges. These bridges will enhance the mobility of mechanized columns on the Western Front, enabling them to swiftly overcome obstacles during operations.
- The joint venture between India and Israel, Kalyani Rafael Advanced Systems, has secured INR 2.875bn worth of order from the Indian Defence Ministry for the supply of missile kits. These kits are integral to MR-SAM (Medium Range Surface to Air Missile) defence system, a collaborative effort between Rafael Advanced Defense Systems and DRDO manufactured with the active involvement of the Indian industry.

These recently awarded contract show a sense of urgency, vibrancy and opportunities in the Indian defence sector. Companies mentioned here and many others are concurrently building export opportunities. They are established across India, creating job opportunities in those corridors and include public and private enterprises of varying size, ownership and complexity. Investors can

access these investing opportunities via Indian capital markets, knowing that some of these companies have set up offices in key target markets.

In terms of foreign interest here is a snapshot: Guyana's National Security Advisor expressed interest in procuring Dornier aircraft manufactured by HAL along with other defence equipment. Kenya is also considering the purchase of LCH Prachand (an Indian multi-role light attack helicopter). Malaysia is also open to discuss the sourcing of components and spare parts for the Royal Malaysian Air Force's Su-30MKM aircraft. HAL has offered its services to the Royal Malaysian Air Force for servicing the Su-30 aircraft in India and has also proposed the Super Sukhoi upgrade package. The well-publicized deal between GE and HAL jet engine deal got a 'No Objections' in the US Congress and is expected to receive US Congressional approval in the coming days.

I expect a rise in foreign investors in the Indian defence particularly with government's measures taken during the last four to five years to boost self-reliance in defence. Apart from a series of phased import bans, these steps include creating a separate budget for buying locally made military hardware, increasing foreign direct investment (FDI) from 49% to 74% and improving ease of doing business.

Disclaimer:

The views expressed here are my own and based of the sources cited. They do not necessarily represent the views of the Ontario Securities Commission or its Board of Directors.

(Hari Panday is Honorary Colonel in Canadian Army and the President & CEO, PanVest Capital Corporation)



G20 Summit Cements Bharat's Position as a Force for Good

Pankaj Dave



Bharat has truly arrived on the world stage. I am not saying this – the world is saying this. It was a claim often touted in the past but never really came to pass. Media hype of a Super Bharat remained only a wish and a hope as the country's early promise began to wane, giving way to political uncertainty and volatile leadership.

Thankfully for the 1.4 billion people of Bharat, the ennui that had set in has been dispensed with and a new energy permeates all aspects of Bharat today; a new vision guides the nation steadily to the heights it was naturally destined to reach.

The recent G20 Summit is the latest proof, if needed, to convince friends and critics alike that there is no looking back now for Bharat. The event has been unanimously termed a spectacular success on all fronts.

Let us look at some of the highlights:

Bharat had decided that the 2023 G20 under their presidency would be nothing like the earlier ones. Past summits, while successful, have lacked an inclusive vision of the world, a human touch, and warmth. Some might say there was an abundance of it with Prime Minister Modi greeting each state guest with a friendly hug! Bharat has been known for these qualities for thousands of years. All this came to the fore for all the world to see during the year-long celebration of G20 – Amritkaal.

It has been an enormous enterprise in the challenges it posed to the organizers and the resources needed for it to become an unqualified success. This G20 allowed Bharat to showcase the rich diversity of the land and its people. Over sixty cities spread over twenty states (Provinces) drew over a hundred thousand guests who came to attend G20-related events during the year of Bharat's Presidency. No city or region was left behind. Even Srinagar, located in Jammu & Kashmir, was thoughtfully chosen as a vital event venue. For example, the third G20 Tourism Working Group meeting was held in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir. It was a bold and audacious move by Bharat. After all, Bharat doesn't lack adversaries, especially in its immediate neighborhood.

However, the tourism conference went off without a hitch,

despite a sustained campaign by sections of international media, with 19 out of the 20 members sending their representatives. According to the latest reports, Kashmir has reported the highest-ever tourist arrivals this summer following the meeting held in May. The proof is right before you!

There are more scoops Bharat managed to pull off that testify to its commitment to building a more cooperative international framework, strengthening its current position in the Global

South.

A consensus eluded the members till the very end, thanks to the insistence of some countries to make Ukraine a centerpiece of the Joint Declaration. Bharat refused to be pressured and chose a more neutral tone, reflected in the eventual agreed-upon statement. The message is unmistakable. Bharat wants to be a force for building peace and prosperity but do not push it to go where she does not want to go.

The other dramatic development related to the African Union (AU) induction into G20. A billion people on the continent have taken their rightful place on the world stage. Bharat's engagement with Africa is multifaceted and centuries old. AU becoming a full member during Bharat's presidency couldn't have been coincidental.

Bharat today is a trusted partner of most major economies. US President Biden's endorsement of Bharat's permanent membership at UNSC, echoed by even President Erdogan of Turkey, is a sign of the changing times. Bharat is also becoming a champion of the Global South, openly advocating for their long-ignored concerns in the international arena.

Among the initiatives announced that have the potential to transform international trade and investment is the Bharat-Middle East-Europe economic corridor, announced during the G20 summit. The leaders of the United States, Bharat, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, France, Germany, Italy, and the European Union finalized a Memorandum of Understanding committing to work together to develop a new Bharat-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor at the G20 Leaders' event on the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment.

A White House release said: "The United States and our partners intend to link both continents to commercial hubs and facilitate the development and export of clean energy; lay undersea cables and link energy grids and telecommunication lines to expand reliable access to electricity; enable innovation of advanced clean energy technology; and connect communities to secure and stable Internet. Across the corridor, we envision driving existing trade and manufacturing and strengthening food security and supply chains."

As many experts have pointed out recently, Bharat is in a sweet spot, and there is increasing acceptance of its importance to the world economic order. And here, I would like to highlight a fact many may have missed. Besides Prime Minister Modi, another Bharatiya – the newly-appointed President of the World Bank, Mr. Ajay Banga, joined the world leaders almost on an equal footing. I quote Banga at the G20 Summit: "The world is much different than when the World Bank was founded. We face declining progress in our fight against poverty, an existential climate crisis, food insecurity, fragility, a fledgling pandemic recovery, widening disparity, and a crippling war on the borders of Europe. All intertwined... The remarkable G20 New Delhi Declaration, which I congratulate Prime Minister Modi and all G20 Members on, puts the World Bank at the center of our search for solutions."

The G20 Declaration also pays close attention to the skills and labor shortages facing many parts of the world, especially the developed economies. Under the heading 'Preparing for the Future of Work 20,' it states: "We commit to addressing skill gaps, promoting decent work, and ensuring inclusive social protection policies for all. Towards this aim, we recognize that well-integrated and adequately skilled workers benefit origin and destination countries and commit to ensuring well-managed, regular, and skills-based migration pathways."

With a billion and a half people and the world's youngest population, Bharat is ideally suited to play the most crucial role in filling the skills gap.

The G20 theme "One Earth, One Family, One Future" clearly enunciates Bharat's age-old traditions expressed in the ancient Hindu scripture Maha Upanishad – Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam (the whole world is one family). This straightforward line has long provided moral guidance to Bharatiya society and is engraved at the entrance of its parliament building.

G20 was both an opportunity and a challenge for Bharat to prove to the world that Bharat's commitment to humanity's present and future is not a new-fangled idea but ingrained in its culture and people for millennia. All topics of interest that were on the leaders' agenda could take inspiration from that one sentence uttered thousands of years ago. Climate change, supply chain disruptions, food shortages, the environment, global economic development, and world peace are well-served by adhering to this philosophy.

Bharat's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, clearly the CIO (Chief Inspiration Officer) of this grand enterprise, has become the toast and, if I may say so, the envy of many world leaders. Of course, thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, contributed to making the G20 Summit memorable. But there is no denying they were inspired to think outside the box and even push the envelope to come up with ideas that would have been considered unthinkable just a few years ago.

G20 is over. The baton will pass now to Brazil as its President. Bharat and its people will, however, not take a pause. They know that they are on the path to making the dreams of today a reality in the next quarter century when Bharat completes a hundred years of independence. Nations and groups who have not quite grasped this tectonic shift will miss out on the century's opportunity.

(Pankaj Dave is the Founder and CEO, Manas International Inc., trading in Steel and Metal products internationally.)



Every Right comes with Responsibility

Ritesh Malik



We are blessed to call Canada, one of the freest countries on the planet where every person is guaranteed freedom of thought, belief and expression, as our home. As Indo-Canadians, we are also deeply respectful of India, the land which has been the motherland of our ancestors for millennia, and also one that had nurtured us through our early years. Unfortunately, direct and potentially very fruitful relations between the two countries have been sidetracked by an issue which hits at the core of the two countries' security and sovereignty, but one that now also threatens to disturb Canada's social harmony. Caught in the middle is the concept of free speech, more accurately freedom of expression, a victim of ideologies, misinformation and mistrust.

Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right that allows individuals to express their thoughts, ideas, and opinions without censorship or government interference. In popular culture, the one place most popularly identified with free speech is the Speaker's Corner in Hyde Park, London, England. The United States enshrined Free Speech in its Constitution through the First Amendment and the French included it in the Declaration of Rights of Man and of the Citizen, adopted during the French Revolution in 1789. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations in 1948. The objective of enshrining free speech in the Declaration of Human Rights is to ensure protection of the individual in expressing his views against a group or the state. The Canadian Charter of Rights, entrenched in the Constitution of Canada in 1982, includes freedom of expression among the many rights that Canadian citizens are entitled to.

The progression from free "speech" (as in the Hyde Park variety) to free "expression", to the extreme example of uttering threats against individuals, groups or state and triggering actions that implicitly or explicitly threaten the sovereignty or security of any nation, is a slippery slope. In the latter case, the state has acted to limit or curtail the ability of the individual or group(s) to express themselves. Canada has done so on at least two occasions in recent history. Apart from the Charles DeGaulle incident, when the French President was asked to leave Canada in reaction to his utterance of the phrase "Vive le Quebec

Libre", Canada has acted to limit rights of its citizens during the FLQ crisis in the '70s and more recently during the so-called "Freedom March" last year. Section 1 of the Canadian Charter, known as the "limitations clause" allows the Canadian government to justify certain infringement of charter rights.

Some individuals use their freedom of expression to spread hate speech, which includes discriminatory, prejudiced, or inflammatory comments targeting specific racial, ethnic, religious, or other groups. Hate speech can lead to real-world harm, such as discrimination, violence, and social division. While Canada values freedom of expression, it also has laws in place to address hate speech. Section 1 of the Charter allows the government to pass laws that limit free expression so long as the limits are "reasonable and can be justified in a free and democratic society". Hate speech (which refers to the advocacy and incitement of genocide or violence against a particular defined racial, ethnic, gender, sexual, religious or other identifiable group) falls in this category.

Politicians face the challenging task of balancing various rights and interests, including freedom of expression, with the need to promote social cohesion, protect vulnerable communities, and maintain public order. Striking this balance can be difficult, and political decisions may be criticized from multiple angles. Elected officials are accountable to their constituents and political decisions are often scrutinized by the public, media, and opposition parties. When politicians appear to prioritize the interests of one group over another, it can lead to accusations of bias or favoritism.

Political leaders have the ability to shape public discourse through their statements and actions. When they use freedom of expression as an excuse to tolerate or even endorse hate speech or divisive rhetoric, it can have significant consequences for societal harmony and inclusivity. They should prioritize the long-term interests and stability of their nation over political expediency.

It is incumbent on politicians to communicate factually and responsibly. They should avoid spreading misinformation or disinformation, especially when it pertains to critical



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Ajit Someshwar is an Indo-Canadian entrepreneur, philanthropist and social activist based in Toronto, Canada. He is President & CEO of CSI Group. Someshwar is an active fundraiser for hospitals, charities and the arts. In September 2010, Someshwar along with fellow businessmen donated a Maple-Leaf Shaped 17-ton monument to the Canadian Armed Forces for their exemplary service as global peacekeepers. He is the co-founder of Canada India Foundation and a past Chair.



Amar Bhatia is President and CEO of Illuminex Technologies, founded in 2009, and International Data Systems. He is a committed philanthropist who has been involved with grassroots movements in India to educate girls. He is actively engaged in mentoring and financing young entrepreneurs. He was an active member of Million Dollar Pledge that Indo-Canadian Friends of Osler made to donate \$1million to the William Osler Foundation.



Andy (Arjun) Jasuja is the founder and Chairman of the Sigma Group, a global conglomerate of companies with presence in Technology, Real Estate Development, Hospitality, Finance and Healthcare. As a serial entrepreneur, Andy has founded, acquired and successfully exited numerous companies with investments from world's leading Venture Capital and Private Equity firms including Kleiner Perkins, Morgan Stanley, Cisco, and Birch Hill Equity Partners.



Anil Bhasin is a realtor for the last three decades. His 'Ghar' brand is extremely popular amongst Canadians of Indian origin. He is a yoga enthusiast who was instrumental in getting Baba Ramdev to Canada in 2007 and was actively involved with the International Yoga Day Canada. A committed philanthropist, he was actively involved with the Million Dollar Pledge that the Indo-Canadian Friends of Osler made to donate \$1million to the William Osler Foundation and the Sunnybrook Hospital.



Anil Gupta immigrated to Canada in 2014 under the Investor Immigration program along with wife Raksha, two daughters and a son. All the family members are today involved in expanding their business in Ontario and New Brunswick. RAS, their corporate identity, is now a proud owner of two of the most beautiful golf courses in NB - St. Ignace-Golf and St. Margrets Golf. Currently, his group is working on various development projects including townships, condos, hotels, shopping plaza and a new golf course.

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Anil Shah, CEO of Ni-met Metals Inc. a large nickel and alloys trading and supply house with multiple associated offices globally with headquarters in Canada, and a scrap processing facility in Italy. Anil served on the board of The Trillium Hospital group (A consortium of several large hospitals in Ontario) and has chaired the Trillium Diwali Gala twice in the last decade, raising large amount of funds for the benefit of the hospital.



Anita Dalakoti is widely known for her expertise in finance and insurance and is recognized as a leading financial advisor, serving the Greater Vancouver Area. She is a Life Member of the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT). She is currently the CEO of Apple Insurance & Financial Services Inc. providing general insurance to a range of clients in the GVA. Anita is also the President of Dalakoti Financial & Insurance Services Inc. that provides financial management services, estate planning, personal insurance, corporate and tax planning services.



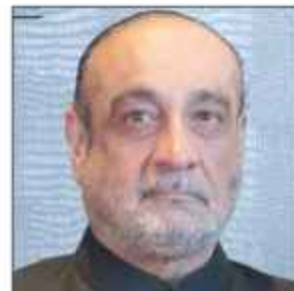
Dr. Anoop Sayal graduated from the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry with honours in 1992. He was elected to Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honours Dental Society. Dr. Sayal has served the GTA community both in his professional capacity as well as a volunteer. He served as a Peel Regional Police Auxiliary constable from 1993-1996. He was the Secretary of the Faculty of Dentistry Alumni Association 1992-1993. He demonstrated his passionate commitment to the needy by volunteering his time at various organizations like Mississauga Food Bank, Eden Food for Change.



Anshul Ruhil is a self-made, extremely successful entrepreneur. He has a vision for empowering the next generation to make significant contributions to society. He has made a lasting impression from 'Haryana to Harvard', his village to Wall Street, founder of Ruhil Holdings (with interest in future technologies, Real Estate and Organic Farming), board of governor of CIF and founding member of CITC. He pursues technology breakthroughs as Head of Technology at LexisNexis, by achieving historic milestones, taking eNPS from -13 to +89, MEI score of perfect 100, almost 0% attrition and very high product NPS. He led software sector growth globally, as well as coaching many entrepreneurs to be next multi-millionaires and billionaires in future technologies and Real Estate.



Bhupinder Singh Khalsa is the Founder & CEO of Ramee Impex. A Geo-technical engineer, he came to Canada in 1986 and is a pioneer in introducing Indian Marble and Granites to North America and Europe. Bhupinder also supported a Grand Memorial for Canada's fallen soldiers. Exquisitely carved in black granite and shaped as a Maple Leaf, this 15-tonne memorial is dedicated to Canadian Armed forces and placed at the premises of Canadian Museum of Hindu Civilization in Richmond Hill, Ontario.



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Chetan Handa, a highly successful entrepreneur, first arrived in Canada in April 2014. He has diverse business interests spanning several sectors like FMCG, Real Estate, Jewellery, IT and manufacturing units spread across India and Canada. Recently he was chosen as the Entrepreneur of the Year by the prestigious Dubai-based Asia One magazine, which held its award function in Bangkok in February 2020.



Chinmay Thakkar of Thakkar Group runs a chain of Tim Hortons Restaurants - a network thriving today with the support of the whole family. Following in the footsteps of his late father Ambrish Thakkar, Chinmay has been actively involved in helping new immigrants, especially students, settle in Canada and helping them to build long term careers in management within Group's network of restaurants.



Chirag Shah is Founder and CEO of Subhtech Solutions Inc., an IT services company. Chirag is also actively involved in advising high net worth individuals and businesses in Canada and India through his boutique consulting and advisory service. A generous volunteer, Chirag has raised funds for Milton District Hospital Foundation, Vaishno Devi Temple, Oakville and other charities.



Dr. Deepika Ruhil is a flourishing self-made entrepreneur constructing a fantastic future for the individuals around her. She's a medical graduate (MD) but aspired to create a difference in more lives; hence she joined IBM Watson Management and contributed taking medical software product to next level by helping team enhance more radiology features in the radiology solution for Innovative reading workflow. Now she has dual focus of consulting and managing the family real estate business.



Dinesh Jain immigrated to Canada in 1973, joined the consulting firm R.J. Black and Associates. In 1989, he bought the firm. In 1994, the name of the firm was changed to Jain and Associates, and he expanded the firm internationally with offices in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai. The firm's global expansion continued with offices in New Delhi, Dubai, Hong Kong and Amman. Jain Consultants currently operates ten offices worldwide employing approximately 300 people.

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Girish Kekre is the Vice President of Ni-Met Metals and Minerals Inc. as well as Ni-Met Resources Inc. Girish is a Chemical Engineer and brings in senior management experience and a very valuable expertise in non-ferrous metals and scrap metals. He also worked as a process superintendent for Agro-Chemicals and Food Company Limited, Kenya – a \$ 100 million joint venture between VEW of Austria, Nanji Kalidas Mehta of Kenya and the Kenyan Government.



Haresh Mehta is CEO of Eximcan Canada. He holds a bachelor's in marketing from St. Joseph University, Philadelphia, USA. His entrepreneurial journey started in the early 1970s, and since then, he has launched several successful businesses. His community development work in Canada and India is an adroit mix of public service and philanthropy.



Hariharan Gautam is the CEO of Grintex Technologies Inc. Canada (a subsidiary of Grintex India Ltd). He has been instrumental in introducing cutting edge technologies to India in the domain of Jelly filled & Optic Fiber telecommunications, Geo Augmented GPS aided navigation system for a satellite-based navigation system, Radar and the state-of-the-art Air Traffic Control systems for Aviation, strategic defense technologies etc.



Vaidya Harish Verma is the Founder-President of Canadian College of Ayurveda & Yoga Inc. in Ontario, and President of Best Ayurveda Limited, Canada. He was a Member of Governing Body of National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur and Member, Board of Ayurvedic and Unani Systems of Medicine, Punjab. He served as faculty of Honors program in Ayurveda at Thames Valley University, London. He is the author of two books on Ayurveda - A Comprehensive Book of Ayurvedic Medicine and Secrets of Ayurveda.



Hema Bhatt is Vice-President, Natu'Oil Services & Co-Founder, Bhatt Group of Companies. Hema immigrated to Canada in 2003 and in the following year started Natu'oil Services in partnership with her husband. Following the initial success of Natu'Oil, they setup Global Agri-Trade Corporation in the US in 2006. Natu'oil Services specializes in international trade of palm oil-based ingredients for animal feed and food manufacturing industries.



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Dr. Indira Khurana is the President and CEO of Laser Cosmetics and Pain Treatment Clinics specializing in Pain, Addiction and Dermatological conditions. She earned her doctorate degree in Physics from IIT, Roorkee, and was an assistant professor in EEE Department at BITS, Pilani, India. She served as adjunct Professor of Physics at Florida A&M University, and Research Associate at Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY, USA. Her outstanding contributions in integrative medicine have earned her several awards, including the “Doctor of Humanitarian Service” and “Bhartiya Nari Ratna Award”. Her research papers published in prestigious journals have earned her acclaim in academic circles.



John Jickling leads a global engineering organization as President and CEO of EPCM Services Ltd. An experienced professional with a proven history of working in the mining and metals industry, he is a specialist in Process Engineering, Engineering, Strategic Planning, Contract Negotiation, and Contract Management. He is a strong business development professional with a Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.Sc.) focused on Mechanical Engineering from Queens University.



Joseph Selvaraj Savier is President & CEO of SBI Canada Bank, a Sch II Canadian Bank and a subsidiary of State Bank of India (SBI). Prior to this, he managed SBI Treasury's relationship with the largest corporates in India and was CFO & Corporate Secretary of State Bank of India (California). He has governance, strategic planning, business development, treasury and risk management experience, spanning three decades in Canada, India, USA and Panama.



Kamal Paul, CEO, K Paul Architect Inc. began his architectural career in Canada in 1971 in St. John's, Nfld. He held various positions at several architectural firms until he established K Paul Architect in 1978 in St. John's. He relocated to Oakville in 1989 where he currently resides. In 1994, Kamal in partnership with Ben Ignagni formed K Paul Architect Inc which has steadily grown into a premier North American architecture and design firm with offices in Ontario, B.C, Alberta and Florida.



Kuldeep Sharma, President & CEO of Crown Group of Hotels, migrated to Canada in 2002. He acquired his first hotel in Canada, Quality Hotel Burlington, in January 2013 and the second, Courtyard by Marriott Brampton, in 2014. Crown Group of Hotels today employs over 300 associates and has in its portfolio internationally recognized flagged hotels like Marriott, Hilton, Holiday Inn, and Wyndham Hotels. Crown Group has in 2023 forayed into three Golf Courses across Ontario and Nova Scotia.

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Kundan Joshi is the founder & CEO of TheAppLabb, leading developer of Apps, powered by AI. TheAppLabb has built over 750 apps in the last 16 years with a team of 250+. Their clients include Unilever, GE, Samsung, Suncor, Petro Canada, RBC, Meridian. TheAppLabb was awarded Great Place to Work in Canada by Globe & Mail, Top Mobile App Developer and Most Innovative Company by Canadian Business. Kundan has been awarded EY Entrepreneur of Year, RBC Entrepreneur of Year, Top 25 Canadian Immigrants, Top 50 under 50. He is the founder of Canada India Tech Council and board chair for YPO (Young Presidents Organization).



Dr. Lalita Malhotra, OC is an obstetrician and family physician. Based in Prince Albert, SK, she has delivered thousands of babies, helped to find a wellness clinic for women and advocated for skills-upgrading opportunities. She counsels teenagers at the Ranch Ehrlo Society treatment centre, volunteers with the YWCA's Family Futures Program and has raised funds for disaster relief in Southeast Asia. Affectionately referred to as the "Angel of the North", she is known as a great humanitarian.



Nirav Bhatt is the co-founder of Aastha Lawyers. Prior to starting his own practice, Nirav worked with small to mid-sized firms as well as a large Bay Street law firm in Toronto. Nirav was also featured in University of Toronto's 2011 edition of Nexus Magazine as part of immigrant lawyer success story. Nirav's skill and experience ensure that he delivers nuanced advice and creative solutions to help meet with his client's requirements and expectations.



Norton Kothari is Chairman of The Kothari Group. It has been successfully developing and managing Canadian real estate since its entry into Canada in 1996. He has established the Kothari Family Innovation Trust through a \$1 million gift to Trillium Health Partners. Apart from real estate developments & hotels, the Group has vast interest in real estate mortgage lending in Canadian & U.S. markets. The Group holds mortgage portfolio of over \$200 million.



Pankaj Dave is Founder and CEO, Manas International Inc., trading in Steel and Metal products internationally. Strongly rooted in Indian cultural traditions, he is also equally appreciative of the opportunities and values of Canada. While remaining a proud Canadian, he strongly believes in the idea of 'Vasudaiv Kutumbkam' (World is One) that allows him to easily adapt and improve his international trading business and personal life in Canada.



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Pradyuman Jhala, Founder & CEO, SPS Canada Group, which includes SPS Canada Immigration, SPS Canada ImEX, Student Placement Services Inc., SPS Canada Capital, SPS Canada Asset Corp, Sodashi Botanical Inc., AltruCanna Inc., NatCure Inc., Yuvlife Inc., and SPS Canada ImEX. He serves as a beacon of inspiration in the fields of immigration and entrepreneurship for two decades. His expertise is complemented by his recognition as a Senior Immigration Practitioner and Commission of Oaths by the Ministry of the Attorney General, Ontario. He continually creates opportunities and inspires dreams, serving as a catalyst for success in every endeavor.



Pranav Patel is a prominent Indo Canadian Barrister, Solicitor and Notary Public. He successfully introduced a motion to recognize ancient Indian Sanskrit Language in Ontario with the Toronto District School Board, and Sanskrit language is officially recognized. Barrister Patel represented vulnerable daughter's rights at City Councils, and 7th November is duly proclaimed as "Daughter's Day" by City of Brampton & City of Markham. "Humanity Is The Soul Of A True Indo-Canadians & We Provide The Ray Of Hope" - Barrister Pranav Patel



Prashant Srivastava, is Director Business Development at Seneca Polytechnic, where he leads student recruitment, partnerships & business development activities from South Asia, Middle East and North Africa. Seneca is one of the largest post secondary institutions in Canada, with over 15,000 international students from 150 countries, 45,000 full time and 60,000 part time registrants. Prashant began his career in International Education in 2006, by opening the first overseas office for Vancouver Island University in New Delhi. In his previous assignments Prashant has worked at the University of California and New York Institute of Technology.



Rahul Shastri is a Senior Partner at law firm KAGAN SHASTRI, based in Toronto, Canada and heads the firm's litigation department. Rahul currently serves as counsel, or in an executive position, on several not-for-profit and charitable institutions. Rahul is a past National Convener of the Canada India Foundation.



Ramesh Chotai is the President of Bromed Pharmaceuticals with operations in several parts of the world. Educated in the UK and Switzerland as a pharmacist, his first job was with ICI Pharmaceuticals in Kampala, Uganda. He came to Canada in 1972 following the tumultuous events in Uganda during the reign of Idi Amin. Bromed Pharmaceuticals, has become one of the leading pharmaceutical companies, offering employment to several hundred and becoming the leader in formulation technology.

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Ray Gupta, is the Founder, Chairman, & CEO of Sunray Group. Sunray Group, since 2006 has now grown to 70+ hotels across Canada and is associated with all the major Hotel Brands. Sunray Group is to be awarded Pinnacle's National Company of the Year Award 2023. It is also the first Canadian company to be awarded, Marriott Hotels' award, The Partnership Circle. Under Ray's guidance, the group has diversified its operations into retirement homes, industrial, gas stations, and residential divisions. Ray, is known for his philanthropic activities, supporting the Sai Dham Food Bank, Aga Khan Foundation, SHN's Community Mental Health Centre & other charitable organizations over the years. He serves on the Board of SHN Foundation and as a Board member of PPES Canada, he helps underprivileged girls in rural India get a quality education.



Ritesh Malik is a serial entrepreneur, an impact investor and a dedicated community worker. Having started his career in International Logistics, he ventured into Real Estate development, Public Relations, Agri Exports and a Fintech company. Always looking for new challenges and opportunities which are not just numbers, but have a larger positive impact on the society. Proud Indo-Canadian who feels immensely blessed for his Hindu roots and extremely fortunate for his Canadian wings.



Rupesh Kapadia is the Managing Partner of Kapadia LLP. He has over 24 years of public accounting experience dealing with multinational companies and owner-managed companies. This has provided him with vast knowledge of financial and accounting systems. Rupesh also has a law degree from India. It enables him to understand the legal aspects of the business keeping the numbers in mind. His working experience in India and Canada brings the global flavor to any assignment.



Sandeep Gupta is a Textile Engineer and holds an MBA degree from India. He migrated to Canada in 2002 and started his own textile venture in 2005 which now spans across the American Continent. His textile business sources textiles, fabrics and yarns from Asia for factories across the American Continent. He has also started his own spinning factory in Panipat, Haryana. In 2011, Sandeep began venturing into other local businesses. Today the Aarti Group has amassed a large portfolio of commercial, and industrial properties and over 10 active development projects across Southern Ontario with over 4,000 units in the pipeline.



Sanjay Jain is a Director at Latham, the Pool company, responsible for the Canadian market. Latham is the largest designer, manufacturer, and marketer of in-ground residential swimming pools in North America, Australia, and New Zealand. Sanjay has been named top 10 Indian Leaders in Canada by CEO insight magazine. He is a dynamic business executive with over 3 decades of international leadership experience managing P&L and strategic business growth in three different countries and cultures.



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Sanjay Makkar is the Founder and President of InSureU! Insurance & Investments Solutions Inc. and InSureU! Brokers Inc. in Mississauga, that offer premier professional financial services, providing consultation and solutions in Risk Strategies, Personal/Group Health Insurance, Estate and Succession planning, and Property & Casualty Insurance as part of Broker Distribution Channel. With over 20 years spent in insurance industry, Sanjay today leads a large team of professionals and staff members.



Sanjeev Chhibber is an accomplished entrepreneur and a lifelong learner. He graduated in Commerce from Delhi University. Sanjeev, along with two of his friends founded Glaze Trading India Private Limited in 2003, and always believed in venturing into the lesser-known territories and embrace novel, innovative initiatives to challenge the existing paradigms of business. This company has achieved annual turnover of Nine billion INR (C\$180 million).



Satish Thakkar, CPA, FCGA, is President, Excelsior Group engaged in Real Estate Development & Management. He is a Canadian entrepreneur, a renowned professional, a committed community leader and a passionate philanthropist, with a number of accomplishments to his credit in a short span of time. He is a Past President, ICCG, Founding Chair of International Yoga Day Canada. He is a pioneer in popularizing Yoga, Ayurveda & mindful living in Canada.



Shivani Gupta, Director of Crown Group of Hotels, based in Mississauga, ON. She is also the Director at Prudent Law, based in Mississauga, specializing in Real Estate, Civil Litigation and Immigration. She graduated from the University of Toronto with an Honors Degree in Business Administration and a master's Diploma degree in Human Resource Management from Sheridan College. Shivani's educational pursuits have been grounded in her core belief that the employees of a company are the key to its success, no matter what industry.



Siddharth Kumawat is Director Overseas, Maneesh Media. Maneesh Media, earlier known as Manish Media Agency, established in 1999 in India and later forming base in New York (USA) and Toronto (Canada), are a media house with a difference leading with exclusive publications along with pioneering in Connecting Beyond Boundaries.

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Sunita Vyas is a serial entrepreneur with a drive for growth and a passion to build great companies. Over the last two decades she has forayed successfully into the Education, Entertainment and Marketing Sector. Currently, she is the CEO of Academy of Learning College, Mississauga and serves as a Board member of National Association of Career Colleges (the apex body in Canada that strives to promote the interest of Private Career Colleges at the Federal Level).



Surendra Gupta is Chairman of Gold Souk Group. He is president of Water Park Golf and country Club, Ontario and St-Ignace Golf Club. He is active in real estate business in India. He introduced the first franchise of McDonalds in his home state. He pioneered the concept of developing farmhouses as residences and was the first company to develop a shopping mall with a Multiplex cinema.



Surinder Sharma is President of Power Systems Inc. The Company is providing energy efficient solutions to save energy and reduce carbon emissions. In Canada, he successfully launched an Energy Conservation Services Company in technical collaboration with Energy Automation Systems Inc., US. His company assists commercial and industrial properties to conduct Energy Audits and do Project Management for retrofit and technology solutions. Surinder assisted Al Gore's "The Climate Reality Project" in Ontario.



Dr. Terry Papneja presents a model combination of professional excellence entrepreneurial success and philanthropic zeal. After graduating in Dentistry from Indore, India, he moved to Canada in 1981. He acquired his degree in Dentistry from University of Toronto and opened his dental office, Axis Dental Group in Brampton in 1986. Starting initially as a lone dentist, he applied his business and professional skills to grow the business steadily to the point today, Axis is one of the largest dental offices in Canada. Recently, Axis joined a partnership with 123Dentist, which has been awarded one of Canada's Best Managed companies.



Dr. V. I. Lakshmanan, OC is an internationally renowned teacher, scientist & innovator in the area of sustainable development. Dr. Lakshmanan has been actively involved in serving the community for many years. He was one of the Founders of Sringeri Vidya Bharati Foundation Canada, an affiliate of the Sringeri Sarada Peetham, founded by Adi Sankara. He now serves as the Chairman for this spiritual centre. Dr. Lakshmanan was honoured as the Officer of Order of Canada in 2022 for his philanthropy and for his expertise in hydrometallurgy and business, which have greatly benefited his profession, community and Canada-India relations. In 2023, he received the prestigious Pravasiya Bharata Samman award – the highest award conferred upon overseas Indians. He is one of the founding members of Canada India Foundation and a past Chair (2013-2015).



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Vase Sarmah is Global Operations (Support Strategy) Leader at Lifion by ADP. She is technology transformation leader and an expert in driving global operational expansion for strategic positioning. She has over fifteen years of global experience in multi-national firms. She has a proven track record for standardizing business processes/services to create maximum value in compliance with organizational mission, vision and values.



Vijay Sastry Kotamarti is a Certified General Accountant practicing in Canada for the past 18 years. Vijay has served as a Trustee of Telugu Cultural Associations in Canada, India and Kenya and also sits on the boards of several cultural and charitable organizations.



Vijay Thomas, is Founder & CEO at Tangentia, a leading digital transformation company with operations in Canada, USA and India. Tangentia is recognised as a leader in the digital transformation space and counts many prestigious global companies as clients including Suncor, Jaguar Land Rover, Reliance Retail, Royal Bank of Canada, Canopy Growth, LCBO, Whirlpool. He also founded Tangentia Ventures which has investments in a diverse range of companies, including Clean Planet, one of the largest manufacturers of Made in Canada apparel and hospital gowns, Pumpkin Kart, an ethnic food delivery app in Toronto, Dogpot.in India's leading dog food company.



Vikash Sharma, is President and Chief Executive Officer, ICICI Bank Canada. Mr. Vikash Sharma has around 25 years of experience in India and internationally with expertise in retail banking, small and medium enterprise banking, corporate banking, trade finance, private banking, financial institution relationships and treasury management at senior leadership positions in India, South-East Asia, the Middle East & Africa and North America. Mr. Sharma has also been ICICI Group's Head of Corporate and Commercial Banking in Southeast Asia while working out of Singapore and was Chief Manager of the International Financial Institutions Group at the ICICI Head Office in Mumbai.



Vikram Dhaddha graduated in Electrical Engineering and Electronics from Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India and later earned an MBA from Ivey Business School of University of Western, London, Ontario. He has strong domain expertise in various industries like Telecom, Transport, Logistics, Hospitality and Healthcare. He founded Zenith System Solutions in 1997. As President and CEO, Vikram has overseen the growth of Zenith in Canada, USA, India, and Africa.

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Vinod Vyas is the Founder of Partho Technologies Inc. Prior to Partho Technologies, he was the co-founder of 5Pillars Corp, a market leader in providing ERP solutions on the Microsoft DAX platform. Vinod recently forayed into the entertainment industry producing commercially successful movies. He has a strong passion for academia and research, having once taught as an Assistant Professor. Vinod has an engineering degree and an MBA from Imperial College, UK.



AV Terrace Bay is a part of the a US \$ 41billion Aditya Birla group, Located on the shores of Lake Superior, AV Terrace Bay is a NBSK pulp mill producing over 330,000 tonnes annually. With over 360+ employees and \$151 million invested over the last three years the company is focused on moving ahead and responding to future market change. The Terrace Bay Mill became the third Canadian company to join the Aditya Birla Group's pulp and fibre business (Grasim Industries Ltd.) in July 2012.



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The Aarti Group of Companies started with Aarti Textiles in 2005 which now manufactures and trades textiles, fabrics and yarns internationally.

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Mrs. Sudha Murty on
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CANADA INDIA FOUNDATION



Democracies Working Together

Objectives

Canada India Foundation (CIF) is a national, not-for-profit, nonpartisan, non-governmental organization established with the following objectives:

- Foster bilateral relations between Canada and India
- Create opportunities for qualified Indo-Canadians in the public sphere
- Create a better understanding of the new India among Canadians & protect Canada's interests in India
 - Annually recognize & honour a prominent global Indian achiever. CIF Global Indian Award is presented to an outstanding person who has demonstrated global leadership, vision, and personal excellence
- Organize sectoral forums that enable a better understanding of the expanding economic relations between Canada and India
- Position the need for a strategic partnership between Canada and India as critical to Canada's future.

Public policy

Since its inception in 2007, Canada India Foundation has taken a leadership role in fostering stronger bilateral relations between Canada and India through active participation in the public policy debate and engagement with Parliamentarians, CIF plays a pivotal role in transforming Canada's relations with India by emphasizing India's criticality to Canada's future

CIF works towards raising the profile of Indo-Canadian

community by facilitating:

- Participation by qualified Canadians of Indian origin in the policymaking and the legislative process and within crown agencies, government boards and judicial and quasi-judicial tribunals
- Engagement with federal and provincial elected representatives on crucial bilateral issues such as trade enhancement, national security, simplifying immigration procedures, professional accreditation

CIF takes an active role in increasing the awareness among Canadians about the changing face of India, and the promotion of Canada's interest in India. CIF members are among Canada's top industrialists, entrepreneurs, corporate executives, and top-tier professionals. Together, CIF members provide employment to a few thousand Canadians, and they are key influencers of Canadian public policy enjoying tremendous self and prestige in Canada.

CIF proactively assists in shaping a definitive pro-India policy framework in Canada by working with decision makers in the federal and provincial Canadian governments. Policy analysts following the amazing progress of Canada – India relations concur that substantial improvements have occurred in the last ten years – coinciding with the formation and growth of CIF.

Philanthropy

CIF members are dedicated philanthropists who continually donate for a cause globally and especially in Canada and in India.

Canada India Foundation

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Tel: +1 (289) 291-0277

Email: info@canadaindiafoundation.com

www.canadaindiafoundation.com

CIF Secretariat



Kalyan Sundaram
Senior Fellow, CIF



Dr. Pawan Chankotra, Ph. D
Director, Operations



Binoy Thomas
Director, Communications



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CIF Advisory Board

Stewart Beck

Canada-Asia Foreign Affairs and Trade Policy Expert



As a diplomat, a trade commissioner, and a policy expert, Stewart Beck has spent the last 40 years as one of the foremost advocates of Canada's interests in Asia. From 2014 to 2021, he was the President and CEO of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, Canada's leading research institution on Asia. Before joining APF Canada, he had a distinguished 30+ year career with Canada's diplomatic corps. His diplomatic assignments have taken him to important centres in U.S. and Asia, culminating with an assignment as Canada's High Commissioner to India. Today he is recognized as one of Canada's top experts on Asia at a time Asia is becoming increasingly critical to Canada's own future. Applying his understanding and navigating the challenging geopolitical, economic, and trade environment is the value he brings to strategic conversations on the region.

Anil Arora

Chief Statistician, StatCan



Anil Arora is the Chief Statistician of Canada since September 2016. He has led significant transformational initiatives throughout his career, with experience and partnerships spanning all three levels of government, the private sector, and international organizations, including the UN and the OECD. He has led projects on high-profile policy issues, legislative and regulatory reform, and overseen large national programs. He was the Assistant Deputy Minister of Minerals and Metals Sector in 2010, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Science and Policy Integration in 2013, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Health Products and Food Branch in 2014. Mr. Arora has led several business missions to India and recently provided expert advice on the modernization of India's statistical system.

Gary Comerford

Board Member at Novelis



International management and financial specialist, Gary Comerford, is the Chair of Brock University's Board of Trustees. Currently the CEO of Comerford Management Consultants, his career has included appointments as Vice-President of Marketing for Canada Permanent Trust, and Senior Vice-President (International) for Sun Life of Canada. He served as Sun Life's general manager for India and is a past president of the Canada India Business Council. He is also a past chair of the Shaw Festival Board.

Ajit Bapat

Consultant



Ajit Bapat is actively involved in consulting through his company Power Solutions. He is well known in the electrical distribution field and is considered a world authority on ground fault protection. He holds a master's degrees in Business Administration and Electrical Engineering, specializing in power systems and power system protection. He is also recognized for this expertise on digital metering systems; microprocessor based integrated systems for protection; and the metering, monitoring, and control of power distribution systems. A member of Professional Engineers Ontario, he is also a senior life member of the IEEE.

CIF Advisory Board

Arvind Gupta PhD

Professor, University of Toronto, and University of British Columbia

Arvind Gupta is a Professor at the University of Toronto's Department of Computer Science. He was appointed as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the UofT for a two-year term in 2015. He was the President of the University of British Columbia prior to his return to Toronto. Professor Gupta is an alumnus of the Computer Science department, having earned his master's and doctoral degrees at U of T in 1985 and 1991. Before serving as UBC's president, he was CEO and scientific director of Mitacs Canada, a national non-profit that develops collaborative research projects, between universities and industry, led by graduate students.



Arun Chockalingam MS, PhD, FACC, FAHA

Professor of Medicine and Global Health, University of Toronto; Professor and advisor to the Dean on Global Health, Faculty of Health, York University, Toronto, Canada

Dr. Chockalingam's experience encompasses a unique combination of global health research, policy, training, and administration in addition to international leadership within the global health community. He is extensively involved in promoting public health education and awareness on COVID-19 in the community. He is a mentor to senior cardiovascular scientists worldwide. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Noncommunicable Diseases (www.ijncd.org). He is a recipient of many national and international recognitions. He has published over two hundred articles in scientific/medical journals.



V. Kumar Murty Ph.D.

Professor of Mathematics, University of Toronto, and Director of the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences.

Dr. Kumar Murty's contributions to the fields of number theory, algebraic geometry and their applications to Information Technology are well recognized by the scientific community. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University and has held visiting positions at the Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton), the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (Mumbai) and Concordia University (Montreal) before moving to Toronto. He has published over 120 scholarly articles and authored and edited seven books. His research has earned him several honours including election as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, a Foreign Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences (India), and as a Fellow of the Canadian Mathematical Society. He was also awarded the prestigious E. W. R. Steacie Fellowship by NSERC and the Coxeter-James Prize by the CMS. Recently, he has embarked on a study of "smart villages" to mathematically understand the dynamics of communities and to derive the economic and social implications of various models of growth.



CIF Past Chairs



Surjit Babra



Ramesh Chotai



Barj Dhahan



Dr. V. I. Lakshmanan



Ajit Someshwar



Anil Shah

CIF Past National Conveners



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\$150,000 Over Asking Price

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In Brampton Listed \$1300,000



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\$60,000 Over Asking Price

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In Cambridge Listed \$749,900



Sold \$775,000
\$25,100 Over Asking Price

314 Equestrian Way

In Ancaster Listed \$1,399,000



Sold \$1,385,000

167 Chambers Drive

In Waterdown Listed \$839,900



Sold \$858,000
\$20,000 Over Asking Price

82 Bousfield Rise

In Mississauga Listed \$889,000



Sold \$900,000
\$11,000 Over Asking Price

6393 Spinnaker Circle



Leased \$4,200
\$100 Over Leased Price

25 Vivians Crescent

In Hamilton Listed \$1,499,900



Sold \$1,450,000
\$100,100 Over Asking Price

25 Allcroft Court

In Mississauga Listed \$1,299,000



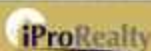
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CIF GLOBAL INDIAN AWARD GALA 2022



From L to R: Anshul Ruhil, Chairman Ruhil Holdings, Ritesh Malik, National Convener CIF, Hon. Helena Jaczek, Federal Minister of Govt Services & Procurement, Anil Agarwal, Chairman Vedanta Group, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Mary Ng, Federal Minister of SMB, Export Promotion & Int Trade, Norton Kothari, Chairman, Kothari Group, Satish Thakkar, Chair, CIF, Apoorva Srivastava, Consul General of India, Toronto and Amanda Strohan, DHC of Canada, New Delhi.

Canada India Foundation held its annual CIF Global Indian Award Gala at a glittering ceremony that attracted nearly 1000 eminent people of the Indo Canadian community, federal, provincial and municipal leaders, decision makers, academia, business leaders, and India watchers. The Award winner, Anil Agarwal, donated the entire award money of \$50,000 to the Anishnawbe Heath Foundation, while adding another \$21,000 on his own.

In his address, Anil Agarwal, the Chairman of Vedanta Resources, London, England based global natural resources giant, spoke from the heart on his struggles and disappointments as well as life lessons that he learned along the way.

Opening his statement, he expressed amazement at the reception he had received in Canada and said, "From my



CIF GLOBAL INDIAN AWARD GALA 2022



heart, I have never seen something like this. The warmth, the affection, the love that you have expressed for me here, I have never felt in my life. What a country you are living in! The natural beauty of this country is not seen anywhere else. You have easy access to government, bureaucracy, they are so open to business.

I want to thank everybody, Mr. Norton Kothari, Canada

India Foundation. I have travelled all over the world and attended events in the diaspora, I have never seen this level of warmth and bonding."

"This can only happen if the cosmos is with you. This is your time. A time has come where you are going to grow because you are in a country which gives you a lot of freedom to pursue your passion," he added.



Congratulations to the Global Indian Award Winner
Ms. Sudha Murty

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CIF YEAR IN REVIEW

22 October 2022

Diwali Fireworks at Toronto's Harbourfront



Thousands of Indo-Canadians gathered at the Toronto Harbourfront on Lake Ontario to celebrate the Diwali Festival in Canada by enjoying musical performances and a mini gala on board a cruiseship. CIF organised this big Diwali event in collaboration with Sunray Group and Indo Canada Arts Council.

27 October 2022

Diwali Celebrations in Canada's Parliament



CIF members visited Ottawa to take part the 22nd Grand National Diwali Celebration at Parliament Hill, co-hosted by CIF along with the Overseas Friends of Indo Canadians, Mr. Todd Doherty, MP for Cariboo-Prince George and

Deepak Obhrai Foundation. H.E. Manish, Acting High Commissioner of India in Canada, Hon. Pierre Poilievre, Leader of the Official Opposition and over 50 Members of Parliament and Senators from three major parties participated. Over 500 Indo-Canadians and guests attended the event.

30 October 2022

CIF Celebrates World Ayurveda Day



Canada India Foundation along with the Consulate General of India marked the World Ayurveda Day on October 30, 2022. The main speakers were Hon. Mahendra Munjapara, Minister of State, Ministry of Ayush, India, Ms. Apoorva Srivastava, Consul General of India, Dr Paul Oh, Medical Director of the Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation Program UHN, Toronto, Dr Manoj Nesari, Advisor, Ministry of Ayush, India, Dr. Madan Thangavelu, European Ayurveda Association, Cambridge, UK, Dr Rajeev Kurele MD (Ay), Associate Professor, Uttarakhand Ayurved University, Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India and Dr Asavari Manvikar, MD (Ay), Founder & Lead Faculty Minnesota Institute of Ayurveda, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

9 November 2022

Welcome Reception in honour of High Commissioner



Canada India Foundation hosted a dinner reception in Toronto for the incoming High Commissioner of India in Canada, H.E. Sanjay Kumar Verma on November 9, 2022. Since taking office in early November, Verma has toured the country to get acquainted with the various organizations and community groups active in Canada.

CIF YEAR IN REVIEW

12 November 2022

University of Toronto Diwali Celebrations



Canada India Foundation celebrated Hindu Heritage Month & Diwali on November 12, 2022, at JJR McLeod Auditorium, Medical Sciences Building, University of Toronto. Then Mayor of Toronto, John Tory, was the Chief Guest.

19 November 2022

CIF – IITAC Inks MoU



Canada India Foundation signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Technology Alumni Canada (IITAC) on 19 November 2022 at the IITAC Annual Gala 2022. The purpose of the MoU is to further strengthen the cooperation between the two organisations.

28 November 2022

CIF Team with Canada's High Commissioner in India



Canada India Foundation members met H.E. Cameron Mackay and Former Indian High Commissioners in Canada Ajay Bisaria and Vikas Swarup in New Delhi and discussed various initiatives taken by CIF for the promotion of Canada India bilateral relations in the light of Canada's official Indo Pacific Strategy.

30 November 2022

CIF National Convener Calls on Haryana CM Khattar

Ritesh Malik, National Convener, Canada India Foundation,



called on Haryana Chief Minister Hon. Manohar Lal Khattar and Hon. Kamal Gupta, Minister of Urban Local Bodies, Haryana to appraise them of CIF activities.

09 December 2022

CIF and InvestUP sign MoU



Canada India Foundation (CIF) and InvestUP, an arm of the Government of Uttar Pradesh (UP), signed an MoU in Toronto to jointly explore avenues of investment opportunities in UP. This announcement was made at a reception hosted by CIF for the InvestUP delegation to Canada, led by the Hon. Speaker of the UP Assembly, Shri Satish Mahana. It included Shri Dharampal Singh, Hon. Minister, Animal Husbandry & Dairy Development, D.S. Mishra, Chief Secretary, Government of UP, Abhishek Prakash, CEO, Invest UP and several top officials representing UP government, CII, and Deloitte India.

8 December 2022

CIF Team meet with High Commissioner MacKay



CIF treasurer Girish Kekre, Immediate Past Chair Anil Shah and CIF Board of Governor member Norton Kothari met H.E. Cameron Mackay in New Delhi. They discussed various initiatives taken by CIF for the promotion of Canada India bilateral relations.

CIF YEAR IN REVIEW



9 March 2023

CIF Celebrates International Women's Day 2023

Canada India Foundation celebrated the International Women's Day on March 9, 2023. The third edition of CIF Women's Day chose the UN theme of DigitAll: Innovation and technology for gender equality for detailed deliberations. The panel consisted of: Neha Kovach, Vice President, Canada Goose; Mahima Poddar, Sr. Vice President and Group Head at EQ Bank, Laddie Rai, CEO, Zumin Group of Companies. CIF member, Kundan Joshi, moderated the session.

27 March 2023

\$50,000 Donation to Anishnawbe Health Foundation



Team CIF visited Anishnawbe Health Toronto and met their leadership team to discuss future collaboration between the two organisations. Both organisations showed their

interest to work closely, especially on traditional healing systems of the First Nations in Canada and India's Ayurveda system. CIF also presented them the cheque of \$50,000.00 which was donated by the CIF annual global award winner Mr. Anil Agarwal.

6 April 2023

Members Meet & Greet and Networking



CIF members got together for a networking meeting on 6 April 2023 to welcome the new President & CEO of ICICI Bank Canada Mr. Vikash Sharma while saying farewell to incumbent, Mr. Sandeep Goel.

8 April 2023

Webinar Series: Depression & Emerging Treatments



Featured speaker at CIF's Webinar Speaker series was Dr. Venkat Bhat MD MSc FRCPC DABPN, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto, and Staff Psychiatrist based at St. Michael's Hospital (SMH) and at University Health Network (UHN). He spoke on emerging options for treatment of the mentally ill.

CIF YEAR IN REVIEW

15 April 2023

CIF attends 32 Service Battalion Spring Mess Dinner



CIF members attended the 32 Service Battalion Spring Mess Dinner with Dr. Rose Patten, OC, O. Ont, Chancellor, University of Toronto, HCol., Canadian Forces College and Adjunct Professor, Rotman School of Management at Royal Canadian Military Institute, Toronto.

22 April 2023

Meeting with HC Sanjay Verma



Canada India Foundation met with H.E. Sanjay Kumar Verma for an exchange of views on the current state of Canada India bilateral relationship. High Commissioner Verma briefed the CIF team about several discussions being initiated between India and Canada, some happening on the sidelines of the ongoing G20 meetings. According to Verma, Canada and India are working closely on a number of projects that have the potential to benefit both economies. Regular visits by leaders and officials from each side have helped in finding solutions and moving forward on important initiatives.

09 May 2023

Meeting with HC Cameron Mackay



Mr. Satish Thakkar, Chair Canada India Foundation and Mr. Ritesh Malik, National Convener CIF met Canadian High Commissioner H.E. Cameron Mackay in Toronto and shared current developments about the ongoing trade negotiations between the two countries.

09 May 2023

Minister Goyal Urges Entrepreneurs to Invest in India

Canada India Foundation members and other prominent stakeholders met with Piyush Goyal, India's Minister of Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles in Toronto on May 09, 2023. The meeting was arranged to exchange views on the latest developments in the proposed EPA (Early Progress Trade Agreement).

The meeting took place a day after Minister Goyal met with Canada's Minister of International Trade, Mary Ng in Ottawa during the sixth India- Canada Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment (MDTI). Satish Thakkar, Chair, CIF, briefed Minister Goyal on the various initiatives being promoted covering many areas of Canada India cooperation including the bilateral sector-wise industry forums held to bring together stakeholders in both countries.



CIF YEAR IN REVIEW

13 May 2023

Obesity and Diabetes: Current & Emerging Treatments



CIF organized an informative session on Obesity and Type 2 Diabetes, with talks by Dr. Satya Dash. The incidence of diabetes has exploded in the past three or four decades to become an epidemic of gigantic proportion. Today over three million people out of the total population of 38 million in Canada live with varying degrees of diabetes. The picture is even more challenging for Indians across the world. India today is often referred to as the Diabetes Capital of the World with 80 million people coping with the disease. Worse, it is likely to climb to 135 million in twenty years. Indians may be at a higher risk to develop diabetes along with other cardiovascular diseases.

1 June 2023

International Yoga Day

The International Yoga Day celebrations for 2023 got off to a great start on June 1, with a formal event hosted by Canada India Foundation, at Queen's Park, home of the Ontario Legislature. The event was graced by the Minister of Mental Health and Addiction for the Government of Ontario, Hon. Michael Tibollo and the Consul General of India in Toronto, Smt. Apoorva Srivastava, former Senator Dr. Asha Seth, as well as several MPPs, dignitaries and partnering organizations, Brahma Kumaris, Patanjali and the Vedic Spiritual Heritage Foundation.



29 June 2023

Dr. Tanuja Nesari, Optimistic about Canada Collaboration



Canada India Foundation had the unique honour of welcoming one of the world's top authorities in Ayurveda, Dr. Tanuja Nesari, Director of All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi, to Canada recently. Dr. Nesari, while in Toronto, attended a special session dedicated to Ayurveda at the World Non-Communicable Diseases Congress.

28 June 2023

Meetings with Academic Institutions



Dr. Nesari also had fruitful discussions with educational institutions like Sheridan, George Brown, and others on the possibility of launching Ayurveda programs for the benefit of Canadian students. Dr. Tanuja Nesari was received at Sheridan College by Michael O'Leary, Dean of Applied Health and Community Studies. Dr. Nesari was accompanied by Shuban Krishen, Consul Commercial CGI;

CIF YEAR IN REVIEW



Satish Thakkar, Chair, Canada India Foundation; and Ritesh Malik, National Convener, CIF. Dr. Nesari was shown the facilities offered at the Centre for Healthy Communities which houses the Faculty of Applied Health and Community Studies (FAHCS). FAHCS provides practice-based learning across a broad range of professional

fields. O'Leary informed the visiting delegation that the Centre was engaged in a variety of activities related to community health including clinical research, regulatory affairs, and practical nursing. Sheridan is an integral part of Brampton's Innovation District, helping to train the next generation of diverse talent that the healthcare sector needs while collaborating with industry on applied research and innovation. Dr. Nesari also met with the faculty and staff of George Brown College and discussed the possibility of launching Ayurveda programs for the benefit of Canadian students.

29 June 2023

Interactions with Policy Makers on Promoting Ayurveda



Canada India Foundation facilitated meetings of Dr. Tanuja Nesari with Associate Minister of Ontario Hon. Nina Tangri, and Member of Provincial Parliament Mr. Logan Kanapathi. Introducing Dr. Nesari to the Minister and MPP, CIF chair Mr. Thakkar and National Convener Mr. Ritesh Malik, elaborated on the prospects of Ayurveda in Ontario and how it can help in providing relief to the Ontario Health system.

29 June 2023

Meeting with Canadian Ayurveda Practitioners



Dr. Nesari met Ayurveda practitioners in Mississauga, Ontario to elicit their views on the future of the Ayurveda in Canada. Dr. Tanuja Nesari also attended the release of a book featuring 50 of the most successful Indo Canadians under 50 at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Brampton.

29 June 2023

Growing Popularity of Ayurveda – Media Interaction



Speaking on the growing popularity of yoga and ayurveda around the world to Y-Media, Dr. Nesari pointed out that what is unique about the ancient system is that it believes in holistic healing, taking charge of your own physical and mental health. She pointed out that even the millennials too are warming to Yoga and Ayurveda as these holistic methods develop core competencies that help young people deal with the pressures of work life.

29 June 2023

Meeting with University Health Network

In a crucial meeting with the world-famous University Health Network, Toronto, attended by Mr. Satish Thakkar, Chair CIF; Mr. Ritesh Malik, national Convener, CIF; Dr. Paul Oh, Medical Director & GoodLife Fitness Chair in Cardiovascular Disease Prevention and Rehabilitation and Prevention, Toronto Rehabilitation Institute and

CIF YEAR IN REVIEW



Peter Munk Cardiac Centre, University Health Network; Dr. Sophia Yue Li, PhD, Partnerships & Strategic Project Manager, UHN; Dr. Pawan Chankotra, Director of Operations, CIF and Dr. Harish Verma, President, Canadian College of Ayurveda and Yoga, they discussed the path forward on operationalizing the MoU signed between UHN and AIIA. Dr Paul Oh welcomed all the dignitaries and especially thanked Dr. Nesari for sparing time for the meeting. Thakkar remarked that in the light of MoU signed between AIIA and UHN which was facilitated by CIF, "now we need to focus on the operationalization in a multifaceted manner." He suggested sending one member of the faculty under an exchange program.

17 July 2023

Meeting with Mayor of Oakville



CIF Members met with Mayor of Oakville, Rob Burton, to discuss issues of relating to the community and possible initiatives that would help connect Oakville with India. Satish Thakkar, Chair, proposed working on exploring a sister city relationship with an Indian city. Mayor Burton welcomed the suggestion. He said that the city is very

interested in new housing opportunities to cater to the increased immigration into Oakville. "I would welcome new investors from India in various sectors Oakville is championing," he noted. "We are also looking forward to welcoming more immigrants from India as our population ages. Our plans are to double the city population in the next fifty to seventy-five years."

20 July 2023

Meeting with New Consul General



CIF members met the new Consul General of India, Shri Siddhartha Nath, in his office on 20th July 2023. CIF welcomed the CGI and briefed him about the different initiatives of the Canada India Foundation taken in the last one and a half decades. CIF also assured him all the help and support for the promotion of the Canada India bilateral ties.

27 July 2023

Welcome Reception in Honour of Consul General

Canada India Foundation hosted an intimate and warm welcome event for the incoming Consul General of India, Mr. Siddhartha Nath at the premises of one of India's most respected and largest banks, ICICI Bank Canada. Prominent CIF members, India watchers, supporters, the top executive team of ICICI Bank Canada and well-wishers of the Canada India engagement turned up in strength to meet with the new Consul General on his very first public engagement.



CIF Award Gala 2023

CIF Mission to India Opens Doors for Deeper Bilateral Engagement



Canada India Foundation organized a major outreach to India for promoting Brand Canada in early part of 2023 with agenda to develop new relationships and renew old ones in an attempt to bring together key people and organizations on board to help with advancing the bilateral relationship. Besides the CIF members and executive team, the delegation consisted of prominent Indo Canadians as well as Ontario's Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Hon. Michael Tibollo.

Tibollo joined the CIF Mission to India with a keen focus to learn more on the alternative therapies and medicines available in India's ancient health systems like Ayurveda and Yoga. Having witnessed the huge challenges by mental illness and addictions among Ontarians, Tibollo wanted to study the effective and affordable options available in India.

Speaking on the experience of the CIF team that toured the country for two weeks, Satish Thakkar, Chair, CIF, noted: "Every time we go back to our motherland, it provides us with newer and better experiences. After visiting several important business and cultural centres,

we are convinced that India is on a fast track to becoming a developed economy in the near future. This gives not just citizens of India, but the whole world a positive direction as India can contribute to the world in ways that are as yet undiscovered."

Team CIF met Hon. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India on the sidelines of PBD 2023 and discussed various initiatives taken for Indian diaspora. Minister also invited suggestions from the CIF team to get more engagement with the diaspora community to further strengthen India's relations with Canada.

The CIF attended the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas PBD 2023 held in Indore, and made its presence felt when the government of India bestowed the honour of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, the highest honours given to a Person of Indian Origin, on Dr. V.I. Lakshmanan, OC a past chair and founder member of Canada India Foundation.

The CIF team was accorded warm welcomes at several venues in Uttar Pradesh (UP) where the preparations were on to welcome the world of investors at the Invest UP





Summit. Chief Minister of UP Yogi Adityanath welcomed the CIF delegation and encouraged the members to look closely at investing in his state. Speaking at a pre-summit event, Thakkar, said: "When some of us moved out of India decades ago, it was a different India. Today, we see that India is on track to becoming the third largest economy in the world. It gives us great sense of pride when we see leaders like Yogi Adityanath Ji setting ambitious goals like turning the \$250 billion UP economy into a \$1 trillion economy in five short years."

CIF team met with India's Minister of Information & Broadcasting and Sports, Hon. Anurag Thakur where the Minister assured the delegation full support in CIF efforts to build a stronger Canada India relationship. CIF Chair suggested to the minister the inclusion of pre departure briefing sessions for the benefit of students headed to Canada for their higher education so that they are fully aware of the challenges and opportunities that await them in Canada. Minister Tibollo suggested that these info sessions should be conducted in many Indian languages.

Another important initiative discussed was an online portal for aspiring students to inform them of not only the educational and regulatory environment but also on the cultural and social aspects of Canada. This is a priority area as thousands of Indian students apply to come to Canada.

CIF team also had fruitful discussions with India's Minister of Ayush, Hon. Sadanand Sonowal, on ways forward to

bring the benefits of the ancient medicine systems of India to Canada. Hon. Michael Tibollo, a key member of the delegation, spent hours talking to officials and practitioners to learn in-depth the latest discoveries and developments in health sciences like Ayurveda and Yoga that can be applied to improve mental health outcomes back home in Ontario. He noted: "I am here to study Ayush and its role in managing mental health. Without mental health there is no health. Without health, there is not going to be any productivity in the economy. Your Prime Minister Modi often stresses on keeping alive the things like ancient wisdom, traditional culture, and our languages. These are foundational to ensure that people have all that they need to be mentally and physically healthy. So, my purpose of being here is to bring back these concepts to Canada, to Ontario and ensure that all Ontarians, not just the Indo Canadians, benefit from these thousands of years old traditions and history of India."

The delegates also traveled to meet with Yog Rishi Baba Ramdev Ji and renew CIF's strong collaboration with the Patanjali Yogpeeth that is currently leading several initiatives in the traditional healthcare sphere.

The CIF's India itinerary included visits to various spiritual centres, like Ayodhya and Varanasi. The team members also were given an opportunity to assess the tourism potential of UP including spiritual tourism that forms the core strength of UP's plans to become one of the biggest tourist destinations in the world.





The delegation concluded its visit to India with an exclusive reception hosted by Canada's High Commissioner to India, H.E. Cameron MacKay in New Delhi. MacKay thanked CIF for their contributions to strengthening the Canada India ties. He told the CIF members that Canada and India share so much in common and are on target to forge even closer bonds.

Ritesh Malik, National Convener, CIF, observed: "It is very gratifying to realize that many key figures in India are already aware of the work that Canada India Foundation has been doing on behalf of both countries. This trip has given us deeper and newer insights into a fast-developing new India. We have come away very encouraged and all that we experienced give us plenty of reason to work even harder to take our relationship forward."

The list of important figures that the CIF delegation had the opportunity to interact with during their two week-long tour included: India's Minister of External Affairs, S. Jaishankar; India's Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur; India's Minister of Ayush, Sadanand Sonowal; Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath; UP's Minister of Tourism Nand Gopal Nandi; Durga Shanker Mishra, Chief Secretary, Government of UP; Mukesh Meshram, Secretary, UP Ministry of Tourism; Abhishek Prakash, CEO, Invest UP; Dr. Kamal Gupta, Haryana Bureau of Public Enterprises; Madan Mohan Chhabra, Chair, Kurukshetra Development Board; Yog Rishi Baba Ramdev Ji; Acharya Balkrishan Ji and Sister B K Shivani of the Brahma Kumaris Organization. The CIF team also had fruitful discussions with key stakeholders at All India Institute of Ayurveda, Patanjali Research Centre, and BK Wellness Retreat Centre in Manesar near New Delhi.



CIF Co-Sponsors World Non-Communicable Diseases Congress 2023, in Toronto

30 June 2023



In keeping with its mission to highlight the potential of India's traditional system of medicine, Ayurveda, in addressing the burgeoning problem of non-communicable diseases, such as diabetes, heart disease etc., CIF co-sponsored the World Non-Communicable Diseases Congress 2023, held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto. The Congress was conceived and organized by Dr. Arun Chockalingam, who is also a Member of CIF's Advisory Board.

In addition to the sponsorship, CIF also presented a session titled, "The Role of Ayurveda in the Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases". Distinguished Guests at the session included The Consul General of India in Toronto, Smt. Apoorva Srivastava.

In his remarks, CIF Chair Satish Thakkar spoke of the wealth of knowledge contained in India's traditional healthcare systems, and the importance of incorporating them in the modern portfolio of solutions to address non-

communicable diseases.

Presenters at the session from India, UK, US and Canada, included Dr. Tanuja Nesari, Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda, India, Pratibha Shah, President of the Global Council for Ayurveda Research, USA, Dr. Madan Thangavelu, Genome Biologist, Cambridge, UK, Dr. G. Sivaraman, Member, State Planning Commission, Tamil Nadu, India, Dr. Harish Verma, President, Canadian College of Ayurveda and Yoga. Dr. Harvey Skinner Ph.D, Professor Emeritus, York University moderated the session. Ritesh Malik, National Convenor, CIF, was also present.

Apart from the session, presenters had the opportunity to interact with speakers from around the world, who spoke on the many dimensions of NCD's, and impress on them the importance of incorporating Ayurveda and other Indian healthcare practices in discussions on preventive solutions for NCD's.

CIF Continues Its Strong Support for Ayurveda in Canada



It began as a visionary project with a handful of Ayurveda enthusiasts to build a platform exclusively dedicated to the promotion of Ayurveda, India's 5000 years' time-tested System of Medicine in Canada. Ayurveda is widely practiced in India and Sri Lanka as a government-recognised and regulated healthcare system. Ayurveda is a complete system of medicine in terms of treatments of acute & chronic diseases, internal and external medicine, dietetics, herbology, psychology, right living, longevity and rejuvenation. Ayurveda is recognized as Traditional System of Medicine by the World Health Organisation (WHO). Initial brainstorming sessions threw up several challenges. Besides the usual apprehensions about acceptance and response, there was also the huge logistics of coordinating and bringing together scientists and practitioners of Ayurveda who were spread throughout the world.

But the core idea eventually won over with the able leadership of CIF Chair Mr. Satish Thakkar, thanks to the complete and sustained support extended by key proponents. Among them were Vaidya Harish Verma, President, Canadian Ayurvedic Practitioners Association, Ms. Apoorva Srivastava, former CGI Toronto, Dr. Madan

Thangavelu, Genome Scientists from Cambridge, UK, Dr. Manoj Nesari, Advisor, Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, Dr. Tanuja Nesari, Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) and others.

As Satish Thakkar, Chair, CIF, noted at the time, it couldn't have had more timely launch as the world was still struggling under the conditions imposed by the Covid pandemic. This terrible human calamity also encouraged a fresh look at some of the options available to the medical fraternity.

Thankfully given the commitment and hard work of the community here in Canada as well as the tremendous support extended by the Consulate General of India in Toronto that brought the initiative into the notice of the Ministry of Ayush in India, the CIF Ayurveda Speaker Series took off successfully.

The first of CIF Ayurveda Series featured 25 of the most respected practitioners of Ayurveda from India and the rest of the world. Each expert chose a common health issue/illness and detailed how Ayurveda treated and managed

them. Some of the topics tackled by the speakers were:

- Ayurvedic management of post Covid-19 complications.
- Ayurvedic management of anxiety and depression.
- Immunity-enhancing effects of rasayana drugs mentioned in the ayurvedic literature.
- Ayurvedic management of Diabetes Type 1 and Type 2.
- Role of ayurvedic detox procedures.

The lecture series covered the whole spectrum of preventive health and common diseases from pulse reading to multiple sclerosis. Vaidya Harish Verma, President, Canadian Ayurvedic Practitioners Association, remarked, "Our Speaker Series is a never before attempt to gain the trust and boost the credibility of Ayurveda within Canada. I hope that this can set the stage for the start of a dialogue with the authorities on the need for Ayurveda to be given a Regulated Profession status, so that practitioners like us can pass on the benefits to more citizens."

The expert speakers presented papers that outlined the background information on diseases and how they are referred to in the original Ayurveda texts, but also backed their claims by quoting modern scientific studies and clinical research. The 25th and the concluding session of CIF Ayurveda Speaker Series, held on December 5, 2021, had as its theme - Basic and Fundamental Research for Ayurveda - Modern Medicine Integration.

The theme of second season of Virtual Lecture Series was chosen as 'Pharmacological and Therapeutic Effects of Top Traditional Ayurvedic Medicines'. Canada India Foundation started this Virtual Lecture series on June 19, 2022 with the support of Consulate General of India in Toronto, American Association of Ayurvedic Professionals USA, Ayurveda Union of Midwest, Chicago, USA, European Ayurveda Association, Germany, Association of Ayurveda Academy, UK, International Ayurveda League, Mumbai, India, Tathaastu, USA and our other Media Partners, and completed its 25 sessions on June 11, 2023

The special focus of the series was on Traditional Ayurveda Medicines (TAM). Experts that saw participation from world-renowned Ayurveda practitioners from India, USA, England, Belgium and Canada delved deep into the hundreds of choices offered under the traditional system, investigating their efficacy and pharmacology against a modern scientific perspective.

Among the top 75 traditional medicines that were presented were: Triphala Churna, Kumariasava, Amritarishta, Ashwagandharishta, Kanchnara Guggul, Brahmi Ghrita, Dashamoolarishta, Ashokarishta, Hingwashtak Churna, Samshamani vati, Sitopaladi churna, Trikatu churna, Arjunarishta, Chanderprabha Vati, Maha Narayana Taila, Mahatikta ghritam, Brihat Manjishtadi Kwatha, Ashwagandhadi Lehyam, Avipatikara Churna, Jatyadi Ghritam, Anu Tailam, Gokshuradi Guggul, Khadirarishta, Yogaraja Guggulu, Rasayana Churna.

Each medicine was identified and explained in detail by experts and how it is to be used to treat and prevent diseases. Triphala Churna, for example, is a well-recognized and highly efficacious Traditional Ayurvedic Medicine consisting of three fruits of the plant species *Embolia officinalis* (Amalaki), *Terminalia bellerica* (Bibhitaki), and *Terminalia chebula* (Haritaki). Modern studies have validated several potential uses of Triphala, which include free radical scavenging, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, immunomodulating, appetite stimulation, gastric hyperacidity reduction, dental caries prevention, antipyretic, analgesic, antibacterial, antimutagenic, wound healing, anticariogenic, antistress, adaptogenic, hypoglycemic, and preventive effects.

Guggulu, another popular medicine, an oleo-gum resin released from *Commiphora mukul* Tree, is a natural binder in formulations as well as an excellent medicine itself. Guggul offers many benefits to those seeking relief from a wide variety of physical body ailments, including cancer and chronic diseases, and is considered an excellent compliment for many modern medical treatments.

As the series progressed there was evidently a more open response from the public as well as certain scientific quarters. It was during this period that Canada India Foundation found a willing partner in Toronto's world-famous University Health Network (UHN) to collaborate on integrative medicine research with special focus on Ayurveda.

Toronto-based University Health Network (UHN) and the All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, signed an MoU on April 20, 2022, in the presence of India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi to explore the benefits of holistic medicine practices like Ayurveda.





A joint \$1 million fund established by CIF and UHN will support further research in this area in collaboration with India's prestigious All India Institute of Ayurveda based in New Delhi. First of a series of such joint research projects is in advanced stages of being operationalized.

Ayurveda fits in perfectly with the new concept being developed internationally that speaks of One World One Health. "It is based on the understanding that humans, animals, and the environment are inextricably linked, indicating that the world has suddenly realized the interrelation between ecology, animal diseases, and public health, striving to restore and maintain harmony and synergy."

It is by now an accepted fact in most healthcare circles that prevention is better than cure. This realization has come about thanks to the continuing challenges thrown up by old as well as newer diseases, but also rising



healthcare budgets that are carving up huge chunks of available resources. And integrative medicine approach is being talked about as an alternative system for long term wellness of humanity as well as managing costs associated with healthcare.

"Ayurveda focuses on body, mind and spirit, it does not focus on symptoms by also on root causes of illness," as pointed out by Satish Thakkar. Ayurveda offers a solution that is based on prevention and lifestyle changes that result in better human health.

Canada India Foundation will continue to engage with the public and policy makers in Canada on behalf of Ayurveda towards getting it a regularized professional status. Statutory regulation would result in competent practitioners with an understanding of the evidence base for their therapy along with an appreciation of the limitations of the treatments they can provide. The earlier it is adopted, the better it is for all of us.



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Democracies Working Together

CIF Charitable Foundation is a national non-partisan charitable organization serving the growing population of Canadians of Indian origin and the broader community by organising events, programs and campaigns aimed at ensuring their comprehensive and long-lasting integration into the Canadian mainstream.

Some of the major initiatives of CIF Charitable Foundation are:

- ▶ Co-organizing the CIF Global Indian Award with Canada India Foundation, with prize amount of the Award going to a charity of the Award recipient's choice
- ▶ Organizing the CIF Annual Charity Golf Tournament, with proceeds from the event going to worthy causes, such as supporting the families of the Fallen Soldiers of Canada and India.
- ▶ Organizing meals to be delivered to senior citizens in their homes
- ▶ Helping the students coming to Canada from India to adjust to their new environment
- ▶ In the coming years, CIF Charitable Foundation will be identifying other worthy causes to support, included support of the Indigenous People of Canada and their organizations.
- ▶ The Foundation's 8th Charity Golf Tournament is described in detail in subsequent pages.

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CIF 8th CHARITY GOLF 2023



The eighth Canada India Foundation charity golf tournament was held at the Lionhead Golf Club in Brampton. The tournament attracted 292 golfers, creating a record in attendance as well as funds raised for the cause.

While thanking the players and sponsors, Anil Shah, Chair CIF Golf Committee, said: "At CIF our goal has always been to foster ties between Canada and India. At the same time, we also want to demonstrate our commitment to both countries through such charitable activities. This is one of the most noble causes that anyone can be a part of. After all, the funds raised will go towards helping the families of soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in their line of duty both in India and Canada." Various highlights of the day included an extremely rare hole-in-one.

The \$10,000 hole-in-one prize was won by Vishal Uppal.

Winners of the 8th CIF Charity Golf tournament is as follows:

WINNERS (MASTERS):

Sanjay Makkar, Jeff Patterson, Vikram Khurana, Sanjay Tugnait

RUNNERS UP (MASTERS):

Harkiran Boparai, Anoop Joshi, Gordy Khuman, Naunihaal Gill

WINNERS (LEGENDS):

John Mehlenbacher, Mike Yates, Onkar Dhillon, Shane Presswood

RUNNERS UP (LEGENDS):

Vishal Uppal, Joao Cruz, Bobby Khanna, Avish Narang



CIF 8th CHARITY GOLF 2023





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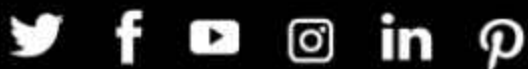
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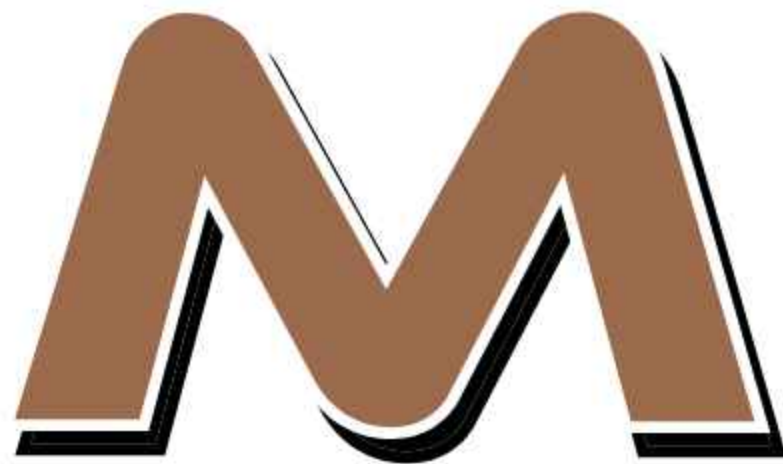
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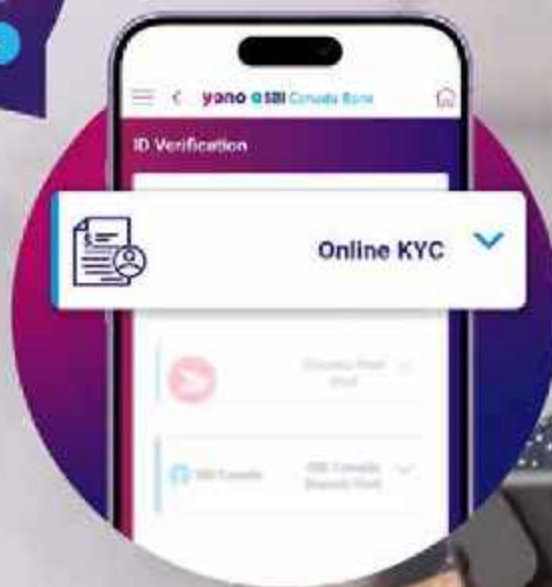
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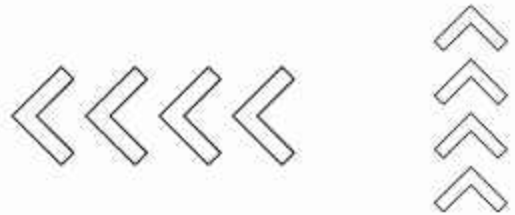
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OUR STORY

In last decade, Ruhil Holdings has strategically invested in future technologies including real estate and eco organic farming which gave exceptional growth and boosted sustainability. We are excited to continue our journey in making the impact on the future of the world.

OUR VISION

Empowering this beautiful world through cutting edge technology, real estate and eco-organic framing solutions that enhance lives and drive sustainable growth.

OUR MISSION

Build a sustainable technology driven universe.

CONTACT US



www.ruhilholdings.com



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**KOTHARI
GROUP**

Real Estate Developers & Financiers

***Kothari Group welcomes and congratulates
Padma Bhushan Mrs. Sudha Murty, co-founder,
Infosys Foundation & Chairperson, Murty Trust on
receiving the CIF Global Indian Award 2023.***

***It is an honour to be a sponsor of this
prestigious award.***

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***We are a diversified company focused on continued growth in mortgages,
financing, real estate and hotel development & management.***

