



Steering India's Ascent Leading with Impact

BS MARKETING INITIATIVE

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VISIONARY LEADERSHIP: ARCHITECTING INDIA'S TRANSFORMATION AND GLOBAL ASCENT

> **India's growth trajectory is skyward-bound, powered by visionary leadership and purpose**

India today is poised at a monumental moment in its long journey. The nation is rapidly cementing its position as the world's third-largest economy, profoundly reshaping global supply chains, and establishing a global standard for digital public infrastructure.

This ascent is marked by a deep commitment to leading worldwide conversations around inclusive and sustainable growth, a testament to the nation's increasing influence and strategic clarity on the global stage. This grand agenda of nation-building, however, is not a self-piloting mechanism. It requires vision, courage, and unwavering impact.

At the very heart of this extraordinary transformation lies a dynamic and influential cohort of Indian leaders. These individuals are not simply reacting to the winds of change or adapting to new realities; they are the true architects of this new national future. Their work goes far beyond achieving quarterly business results. They are defining industry direction, establishing new benchmarks for corporate governance and social responsibility, and contributing

meaningfully to the broader national development agenda.

This is the compelling reason for bringing together and recognising the Influential Leaders of India: it serves as a necessary tribute to this new era of purposeful leadership. We recognize that leading in this age of disruption demands a unique blend of strategic foresight and ground-level execution. These leaders are tasked daily with navigating complex regulatory landscapes, unlocking essential capital for innovation, enabling inclusive digitization across vast segments of the economy, and building organizations that are fundamentally future-ready.

The collective momentum of India's ascent is extraordinary, but it is the individual contribution of these leaders that provides the essential drive. They exemplify what it means to lead with precision, integrity, and a deep sense of commitment to their stakeholders and the nation at large. Their stories are a powerful reminder that true influence is measured not just by scale, but by the lasting quality and depth of the impact they create.

It is with great pride that we announce those who have exemplified this spirit and vision. Their strategic leadership has positioned them as the vanguard of India's economic narrative.

The following outstanding individuals have been recognized

- Ajay Kumar Choudhary, Non-Executive Chairman and Independent Director, NPCI Group
- Ajay Vishwanath Agarwal, Executive Director, Donear Group
- Alok Bajpai, Managing Director, India – NTT Global Data Centers
- Ameera Shah, Promoter and Executive Chairperson, Metropolis Healthcare Limited
- Anand Ramakrishnan, Managing Director, Equiniti India
- Badrinath Setlur, CEO, Pando India
- Deepak Rai, Founder and Managing Director, BOOTES
- Harish Kohli, President & Managing Director, Acer India
- Manmohan Awasthi, Group President, SSE Group
- Pavithran Kallada, Deputy Managing Director, PSA India
- Prachur Sah. MD & CEO, Indus Towers Limited
- Priti Rathi Gupta, Founder, Lxme
- Puneet Gupta, Managing Director & Vice President, NetApp India/SAARC
- Rajeev Singh, Managing Director, BenQ India & South Asia
- Rohit Pathak, CEO, Copper Business (Hindalco Industries Ltd)
- Santosh Kumar, Chief Operating Officer, INNOCEAN INDIA
- Shailendra Shukla, Managing Director- Mobility Group, India, Eaton
- Shri. Bhupesh Sushil Rahul, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, United India Insurance Co. Ltd
- Siddharth Mittal, CEO & MD, Biocon Limited
- Sridhar Pinnappureddy, Founder & CEO, CtrIS Datacenters, Singapore
- Subrat Mishra, Managing Director & CEO, Danieli Corus India Pvt. Ltd
- Sunu Mathew, Founder and Managing Director, LEAP India
- Suresh Mahalingam, Chairperson, Aviva India
- Suresh Pattathil, Managing Director and General Manager, AbbVie India
- Vijay Chandok, Managing Director and CEO, NSDL
- Vivek Bhatia, Managing Director and CEO TKIL Industries Pvt. Ltd.

IT'S ALWAYS "U" BEFORE "I"

> **Bhupesh Sushil Rahul, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, United India Insurance, reveals organizational roadmap to achieving the vision of becoming the "most preferred insurer"**

United India Insurance Company Limited was incorporated as a Company on 18th February 1938 and it is one of the India's leading Non-Life PSU Insurer with over 8500+ work force spread across 1200+ offices providing insurance cover to 2 crore+ policy holders.

The insurance sector is at the crossroads of transformation. Technology, climate risks and changing customer behavior are reshaping the very fabric of our industry. With a growing customer base, UIIC continues to leverage technology and data analytics to improve service delivery, aligning its long-term goals with IRDAI's "Insurance for All by 2047" mission.

Digital transformation remains central to our strategy. At UIIC, we have launched several forward looking IT initiatives to boost operational efficiency and customer experience.

One of the standout accomplishments was our collaboration with IRCTC, through which we introduced Personal Accident (PA) insurance for railway passengers - extending coverage to over 4 lakh travelers every

day across India. To foster digital payments and reduce reliance on cash, QR code-based payment systems were introduced at branch offices, making premium transactions more seamless and secure. UIIC unveiled a specialized portal for legal professionals, streamlining case management and enhancing communication with advocates. These initiatives reflect UIIC's commitment to building a paperless, customer-centric insurance ecosystem in line with broader industry goals. Our newly introduced product - Param Mitra Suraksha (Parametric Insurance), product offers claim settlements based on pre-defined objective triggers, ensuring speed, transparency and fairness in payouts.

Digital transformation continues to be a cornerstone of our outreach efforts, with ongoing upgrades to both the grievance redressal system and the customer portal. We have a robust in-house grievance redressal mechanism which is fully automated with real time interface. Through a structured feedback system, we consistently deliver service excellence and reinforce trust across every customer interaction.

By embracing innovation and prioritizing user experience, UIIC is continuously evolving its digital platforms to provide intuitive, responsive and efficient service.

Our aspiration is bold: to make United India Insurance a model PSU of the digital age—financially strong, socially responsible and globally respected.

It's always "U" before "I".



BEYOND ASPIRATION: LEADERSHIP THAT ACCELERATES CLEAN ENERGY TRANSFORMATION

> **Manmohan Awasthi, Group President, SSE Group, makes a compelling case for why leaders must craft their vision with intent and purpose so as to not just inspire their teams, but an entire ecosystem**

At Shirdi Sai Electricals Ltd. (parent company of Indosol), translating a vision of being a "catalyst in the clean energy revolution" into purpose-driven leadership begins with aligning every action, decision, and conversation to that vision. This means going beyond the adoption of renewable technologies and embedding sustainability and innovation into the organization's culture, strategy, and long-term objectives.

Leadership must begin with clarity of intent—articulating why the clean energy revolution matters and how the company contributes to it. When leaders define a compelling purpose of creating energy solutions that are accessible, responsible, and transformative, employees can connect personally with the mission. The vision then becomes something they live each day, turning aspiration into reality.

To make this tangible, broad ambitions must translate into

measurable actions: investing in green technologies, setting clear sustainability goals, promoting circular economy practices, and ensuring ethical supply chains. This also means fostering innovation across all levels—empowering teams to experiment, learn, and co-create solutions that reduce carbon emissions while enhancing efficiency and affordability.

A key priority is nurturing a culture rooted in inspiration and accountability. When employees see leadership making bold, values-driven decisions and choosing sustainability over short-term gains, trust deepens and alignment strengthens. Recognition systems, communication platforms, and leadership messaging should consistently highlight contributions that advance the clean energy mission, reinforcing that every role matters.

Beyond internal efforts, purpose-driven leadership enhances credibility

with stakeholders, investors, customers, and communities through transparency, meaningful partnerships, and advocacy for progressive climate policies. Demonstrating measurable progress reinforces the organization's stature as a trusted leader in the global energy transition.

Ultimately, being a "catalyst" means driving change beyond one's own boundaries. It requires inspiring collaboration across industries, academia, and government to scale sustainable solutions and make clean energy accessible to all.

In essence, purpose-driven leadership transforms vision into movement. At Indosol, we link aspiration with execution, individual effort with collective progress, and innovation with lasting impact, we energize an entire ecosystem to believe that a cleaner, more equitable energy future is within reach.

FLEXIBILITY AND INNOVATION: TWIN PILLARS OF SUCCESS

> **Anand Ramakrishnan, MD, Equiniti India, outlines how a shift to fluid, dynamic structures is paramount for sustained future success**

In a market driven by digital disruption, our leadership approach emphasises flexibility and innovation.

Building adaptive, hybrid teams that blend domain expertise with digital fluency has become central. Client challenges now demand an understanding of both — a consultant who misses the business value of digitization falls short, as does a technologist who ignores the client's operational nuances. Our upskilling initiatives focus on bridging this gap.

Additionally, fragmented teams cannot meet the pace and multidimensional needs

of our external clients and internal customers. Our focus is increasingly to move away from rigid reporting structures and siloed delivery to fluid, cross-functional customer-centric operations.

The cultural shift is paramount. Along with continuous learning, we encourage improvisation and innovation within well-defined parameters with an unwavering focus on customer-centricity for every action and decision. For leadership, this means empowering people closest to the problems to solve them, rather than directing every move.



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The **Voice** of a Nation, A Call for **Progress**

India's star is on the ascendance, with the nation recently being anointed the fourth largest economy in the world and being on track to become a potentially \$9trillion economy by 2030. This is being driven by a multitude of factors, such as a rich demographic dividend, technological innovation, and sectoral transformation.

The nation stands at an inflection point, with a unique opportunity to drive high-value job creation and unlock significant economic potential.

But key challenges remain. How do we find productive employment for a growing working age population? How can our growth trajectory be a sustainable and inclusive one? And what impact will Gen AI have? Understanding these strategic growth levers is vital to aligning with global trends, and addressing India's unique challenges and advantages.

India's leaders have a key role in mapping out that future, and we engage them in dialogue in an exclusive video series, **Baat Bharat Ki**.

Be it academicians, policymakers, bureaucrats, civil society icons, or thought leaders, we leverage their expertise and showcase their insights. Through discourse, we capture the voice of progress and chart the many facets of India's development journey.

SOME OF THE NOTABLE NAMES WE HAVE SAT DOWN WITH INCLUDE:



Shri Sudhir Mungantiwar
Former Cabinet Minister for Forests, Cultural Affairs and Fisheries, Government of Maharashtra, and current MLA from Chandrapur



Sri Ramdas Athawale
Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment



Shri Suresh Prabhu
Former Union Minister & Chancellor, Rishihood University



Shri Manjinder Singh Sirsa
Minister of Industries, Food & Supplies and Environment, Forest & Wild Life



Shri SP Singh Baghel
Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Panchayati Raj



Shri Girish Chandra Yadav
Minister of State for Sports & Youth Welfare, Uttar Pradesh

...and many more.

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