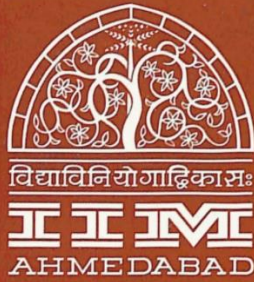
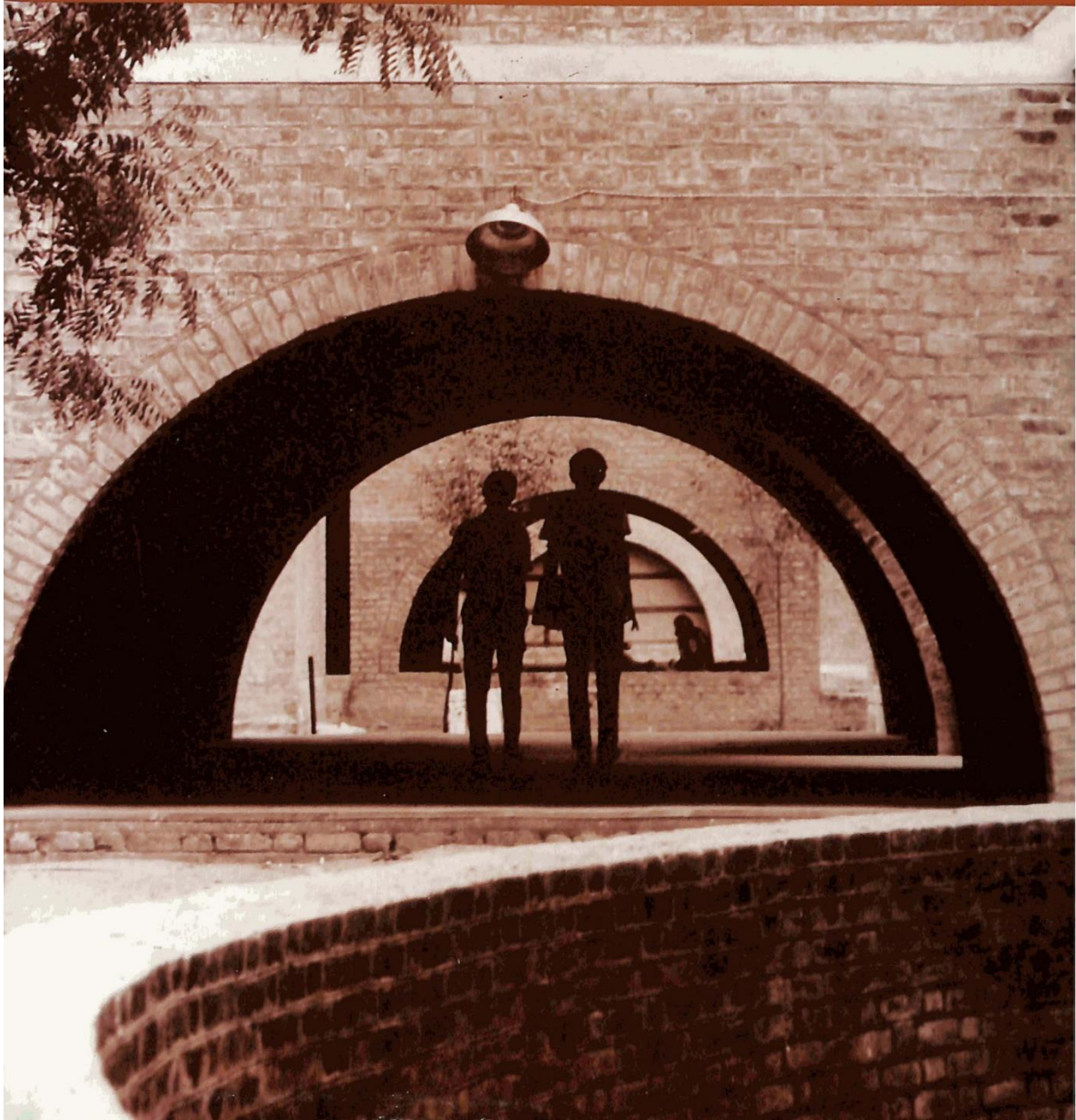


"IIMA ALUMNUS, VOL. 41, NO.2, JUNE/ JULY 2009"



IIMA Alumnus

Vol. 41 | No. 2 | June/July 09 | Tri-annual



Source: IIMA Archives

Alumni add panache to politics

They're freshers in the field of politics and might get ragged by seasoned seniors. Though late on the scene, they bring hope their tribe will increase. One is talking about alumni and students of IIMA. Elections 2009 look and feel different because they've plunged into the fray to change the fate of Indian politics, if not India itself. Mallika Sarabhai and Sarathbabu, who are contesting the polls, are political greenhorns, but they're sure getting noticed.

Says founder-member of Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and former dean of IIMA, Prof. Jagdeep Chhokar, "Current politics certainly needs better leaders and I hope IIMA alumni have the potential to fill the vacuum. They will bring integrity, cleanliness and professionalism to the political system and I hope and wish they don't fall prey to the standard state of politics in the country," he adds. ADR is a non-political, non-partisan NGO, founded in 1999, to focus on fair and transparent electoral processes.

Srijan Pal Singh is actively involved in mobilising youth for participation in politics. "There is urgent need to create new leaders for voters in the country. Politics is all about management of the country and IIMA students have both, ethical grounding and managerial acumen to lead the country forward," he says.

"I don't think it's late. In fact, time is opportune. People across the country now want development and are voting on that basis. Such an atmosphere is conducive for any professional, whether from IIMs or any other place, to try their luck in politics. They might not come up with a solution overnight and change the system, but something good will come of it," says another graduate, Kumar Rahul Roshan.

Mallika Sarabhai (PGP-74)

Noted dancer and daughter of famous space scientist, Vikram Sarabhai, Mallika Sarabhai entered the poll arena to challenge Bharatiya Janata Party prime ministerial candidate LK Advani in Gandhinagar. She contested as an independent. Sarabhai, says the main reason for joining the fray was to register her strong protest against criminalisation of politics and reducing the common man to the level of a non-entity.

E Sarathbabu (PGP-2006)

E Sarathbabu contested, again as an independent, from South Chennai. He has come up the hard way; his mother sold idlis door-to-door to make ends meet. He also spurned fat pay packages to turn entrepreneur and started his own venture, FoodKing Catering Services Ltd. Sarathbabu has nurtured political aspirations for almost three years. In a recent interview with TOI he said: "On top of my list of goals is alleviating poverty. I have interacted with people from various backgrounds and know their needs."

Kumar Rahul Roshan (PGP-2007)

Braveheart Kumar Rahul Roshan chose to walk down the road less travelled by starting his own consultancy service and a website dedicated to spoofs! He came up with the election campaign, Crow Party of India, a satire on the sad state of Indian politics.

Cheपुरi Krishna (PGP-2008)

Cheपुरi Krishna started the trend of IIM students interning with political parties. He worked with CPM's central office in 2008 and produced a paper on the unorganised workforce in the country. This was after the visit of CPM leader Sitaram Yechury to the institute for a guest lecture, as part of a course on Indian Social and Political Environment.

Srijan Pal Singh (PGP-2009)

Actively involved in the public policy group (PPG) course, Srijan Pal Singh assisted members of Parliament (MPs) like Sitaram Yechury, Madhusudan Mistry and Harin Pathak to formulate a constituency management programme last year. Singh and his batchmates also developed an information and communication technology (ICT) system by which citizens in several constituencies could register their complaints with their respective MPs through an interactive voice response system (IVRS) and get prompt response from respective departments.

Source: The Times of India, Ahmedabad (15th April, 2009)

MS. MALLIKA SARABHAI, PGP 1974

Lok Sabha Elections 2009

timesofindia.indiatimes.com/mallika-sarabhai-had-contested-loksabha-election-as-congress-against-l-k-advani-in-lok-sabha-2009-/articleshow/28554359.cms



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THIS STORY IS FROM JANUARY 8, 2014

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Himanshu Kaushik / TNN / Jan 8, 2014, 16:41 IST

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Poll

Source: Times of India (link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/mallika-sarabhai-had-contested-loksabha-election-as-congress-against-l-k-advani-in-lok-sabha-2009-/articleshow/28554359.cms>)

MR. SARATHBABU ELUMALAI, PGP 2006

Lok Sabha Elections 2009

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PTI / Apr 17, 2009, 10:49 IST

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A typical case of rags to riches story, an IIM-A graduate and a successful entrepreneur has taken a plunge into politics by contesting the Lok Sabha polls, with an aim to clear the "silt" of it.

CHENNAI: A typical case of rags to riches story, an IIM-A graduate and a successful entrepreneur has taken a plunge into politics by contesting the Lok Sabha polls, with an aim to clear the "silt" of it.

E Sarath Babu, the proprietor of Food King that has business spread over four states, is an independent candidate from the elite South Chennai constituency and has a vision for his country -- 'a hunger-free India by another 20 years' where 'unemployment will be non-existent'.

Source: Times of India (link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/iim-a-graduate-to-fight-from-south-chennai-constituency/articleshow/4412903.cms>)

MR. PREM DAS RAI, PGP 1978



Source: IIMA Student Yearbook, 1978, IIMA Archives

"PREM DAS RAI (PGP-78) ENTERS UNCHARTED TERRITORY"

Alumni News

Prem Das Rai (PGP-78) enters uncharted territory

It is Indian education system's ultimate ticket to the corporate boardroom. According to one study, around 50% of all CEOs in India have those magic letters on their CVs — IIT-IIM. But for all their brilliance and achievement in the corporate world, not a single member of the IIT-IIM club had so far entered Parliament as a member. Now, **Prem Das Rai** (PGP-78), elected to the 15th Lok Sabha as the lone member



from Sikkim, has the unique distinction of being the first ever IIT-IIMer in the Lok Sabha. Rai, 54, hopes to contribute his bit in changing the way Parliament and MPs are viewed in the country.

For the moment though, this IIT Kanpur (chemical engineering) and IIM Ahmedabad alumnus just wants to familiarise himself with the new job. "First, I need to look at the benchmarks of what constitutes a good MP. We are at a crossroads. People this time have voted for stability but they have also voted for better parliamentarians and parliamentary processes," says the Sikkim Democratic Front MP who, early in his career, chucked a cushy job as a multinational banker and later gave up opportunities in the US in favour of returning to his home state, Sikkim.

And what does an IIT-IIMer bring to Parliament? "I look at the entire IIT-IIM community as part of my support system. We have a very strong network. Through it I would be able to funnel a lot of intellectual

capital. Then there is the skill set. In IITs and IIMs, you develop a certain way of learning, analysis and presentation. These would be handy in Parliament," he says.

Rai, however, admits he is entering uncharted territory. "These are, as yet, just hypotheses. I don't know how it will actually play out. Down the road you would be able to find out how I add value to governance." Rai had been marked for brilliance early in life. As a boy growing up in the then sovereign kingdom of Sikkim, he was sent to an elite school in Mussoorie by the king as part of the royal policy of promoting bright kids. After school, he cracked the JEE to go directly to IIT and then to IIM.

"Life in Sikkim was very feudal but in Mussoorie I learned that you are no more and no less than anybody else. That's a value I imbibed early," he says.

In the midst of his BTech course, Sikkim merged with India and Rai became an Indian. After completing his MBA in 1978, Rai landed himself a "great job" at the American Bank in Calcutta. A meeting with B B Lal, then Governor of Sikkim, changed the course of his life. Lal told him, "Young man what are you doing in Calcutta? Come back, Sikkim needs you." That finally helped him make up his mind and he returned to join a state government enterprise with a three-fourth cut in salary.

Source: The Times of India (June 2, 2009)

Source: IIMA Alumnus, Vol. 41, No.2, June/ July 2009, p. 68, IIMA Archives

MR. PREM DAS RAI, PGP 1978

Lok Sabha Elections 2009

timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/in-a-first-an-iit-iimer-as-mp/articleshow/4606111.cms



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In a first, an IIT-IIMer as MP

Amit Bhattacharya / TNN / Jun 2, 2009, 08:58 IST

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Abrupt fall in Naveen Patnaik's health will be probed: PM Modi



Should law treat Pune Porsche crash boy as an adult?

Prem Das Rai, elected from Sikkim, has the distinction of being the first ever IIT-IIMer parliamentarian. Rai hopes to contribute in changing the way MPs are viewed here.



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Source: Times of India (link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/in-a-first-an-iit-iimer-as-mp/articleshow/4606111.cms>)

“PREM DAS RAI”



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A note of gratitude to Mr. N. Vaghul

MPs & MLAs » 15th Lok Sabha » Prem Das Rai

17th Lok Sabha | 16th Lok Sabha | **15th Lok Sabha** | Rajya Sabha

(Data corresponds to the period 3 Jun 2009 to 21 Feb 2014.)



Prem Das Rai

State : Sikkim (0 more MPs)
Constituency : Sikkim
Party : Sikkim Democratic Front (0 more MPs)
Nature of membership : Elected
Start of Term : 18-May-09
End of Term : In office
No. of Term :

Personal Profile

Age : 59
Gender : Male
Education : Graduate

Source: <https://prsindia.org/mptrack/15-lok-sabha/premdasrai>

“LIST OF MEMBERS, LOK SABHA”

sansad.in/ls/members

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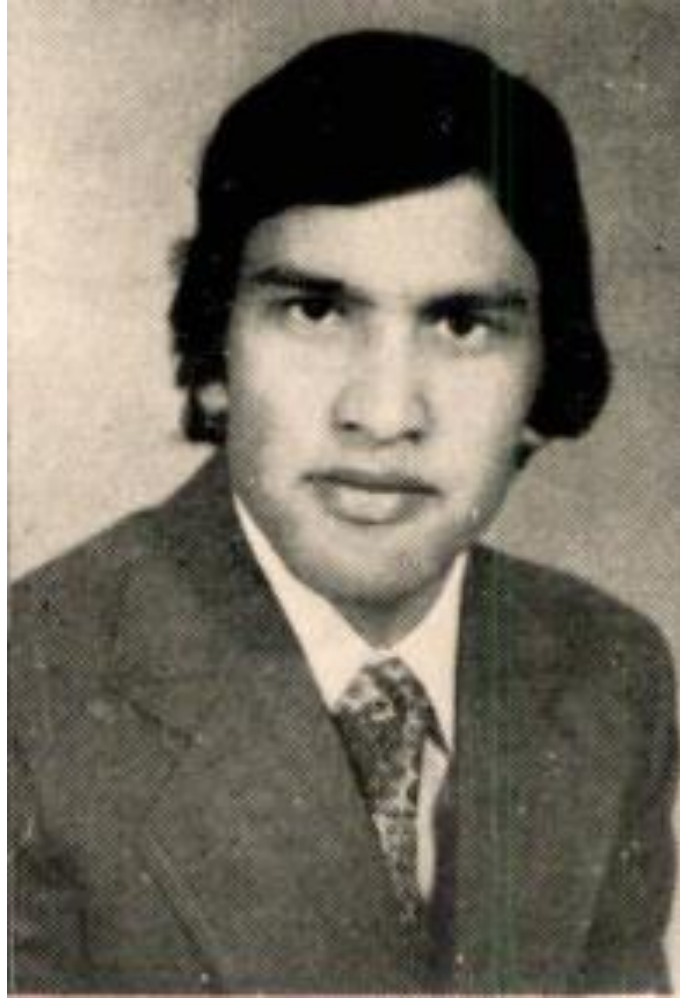
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

| S.No | Name | Party | Constituency | State | Membership Status | Lok Sabha Terms | |
|------|--|-------|--------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| 1 |  Rai, Shri Prem Das | SDF | Sikkim | Sikkim | FORMER | 15,16 |   |

1 entries found Rows per page 10 < 1 >

Source: <https://sansad.in/ls/members>

MR. MEHMOOD KHAN, PGP 1977



Source: IIMA Student Yearbook, 1977, IIMA Archives

“MEHMOOD KHAN (PGP-77): SON OF THE SOIL”

Mehmood Khan (PGP-77): Son of the Soil

Nai Nangla in Haryana's Mewat district could be just another Indian village, ridden with the usual problems of a people trapped in poverty:

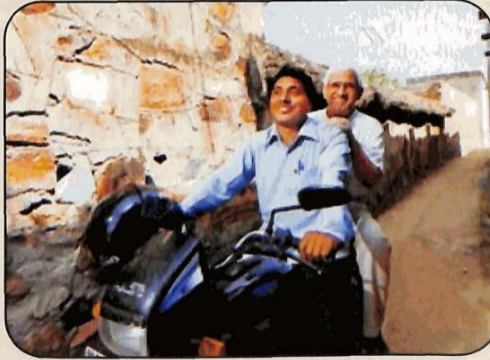
Lack of healthcare and clean water, low productivity, high unemployment and illiteracy. But Haji Siddiq Ahmed, a local farmer in his late 60s, sees a different vision. "I want this village to be an *adarsh* (model) village. Others should look up to this village — that this is what an ideal village should be like," he says.

The image Ahmed sees is

actually taking shape in this quiet village with a majority Muslim population. What's more surprising is the way the change is taking hold. It may be difficult to imagine the humble folk of Nai Nangla as business executives, but the cool concepts reviving the economy of the village are no less professional.

Take dairy farming, which engages nearly 80 percent of the villagers. Earlier, all they could get was Rs. 12 for a litre of milk; today they can get as much as Rs. 25. Three years ago, female literacy was at 2 percent; today, almost 85 percent of the female population can sign their names and 86 percent of the children in the district are enrolled in schools. Some women are also learning to sew and are setting up their own tailoring units. Companies like insurance provider Aviva, ICICI Bank and Larsen &

Toubro are beginning to look at Mewat both as a market and as a field for recruitment. They have hired locals, offering dramatically higher incomes.



The man behind these changes is a Nai Nangla native, someone who left the village nearly 40 years ago in search of an education and a career. His name is **Mehmood Khan**. Now 54, he is Unilever's innovation head. Thanks to him, an experiment in introducing market economy is taking shape at Nai Nangla and the district of Mewat. An impossible feat for an outsider,

but something the people of Nai Nangla have welcomed from one of their own. "Focus on education and use enterprise to bring change by leveraging resources in villages," he says.

Khan has worked and lived in many countries over the years, making London his home for the last nine. But his link to his roots always remained alive; he would visit his village two or three times a year. He still remembers trudging a couple of kilometres to school everyday and taking cattle out to graze. "I somehow landed a seat in university and then got into IIM-Ahmedabad. I was ejected by the system," he says.

For the last five years, Khan has been hard at work to change "the system". He is converting a local resource,

livestock, into a productive enterprise. He roped in the National Dairy Development Board's Mother Dairy to spur Nai Nangla's milk output and break the stranglehold that milk vendors had on local dairy farmers. At one time, these vendors — middlemen really — would lend money to farmers to buy milch animals. In return, they would demand milk supply at low fixed prices until the loans were repaid. For most farmers, their income was too low to enable them to repay the debt. The result: They remained trapped in debt.

Khan was troubled by this age-old exploitation. He spoke to Mother Dairy and ushered in a new system to break this debt trap. Debt-laden farmers were given loans from institutions so they could repay the vendor and start selling direct to Mother Dairy. "Almost 25 people got loans to buy cattle, without having to pay any bribes," says Ahmed. Others who could repay on their own, did so and started selling to Mother Dairy for a better price. This competition forced the milk vendors to match market prices. Overall, incomes improved.

In July 2008, Mother Dairy set up milk collection centres in Nai Nangla and six other villages. In the first week, it got 70 litres of milk. Today, Nai Nangla alone gets 250 litres a day. "Gross income from agriculture has gone up from Rs. 80 lakh to Rs. 1.2 crore," says Khan. "Milk (has become) a constant income source in a village which has seasonal income due to Kharif and Rabi crops. Credit is not such a big constraint now. There are people now who are looking for business."

Khan woke up to the need for change in his village when the voluntary organisation *Pratham*, which educates the urban poor, launched its services in the UK in December 2003. "In 35 days they can teach a person to read and write, and take interest in it," he says. He asked *Pratham* to test the abilities of children in Nai Nangla. The results shocked him. *Pratham* found that students as high as fourth and fifth grades couldn't even perform basic tasks like multiply or read a complete paragraph. Khan realised the enormity of ignorance in his native village. "That hit me hard. You can't unlock the potential of rural India with this kind of education."

The low level of literacy among women gave him sleepless nights. "Women are change agents," he asserts. "If a community has to progress, one must empower women and education is the first step." So education for women is one of the priorities for the trust he has formed in the name of his parents — the Rasooli Kanwar Khan Trust (RKKT).

And there was another problem. "Mewat is a male-chauvinist area," says Khan. Parents strongly resisted sending their daughters to school. Khan decided it was time for a "stakeholder meeting," not unlike a meeting he would hold to build consensus on a contentious issue in the corporate world. He received a good response. Around 200 people from 20 villages across Mewat turned up for the meeting. "An outsider's prescriptions will not work," says Khan.

While the villagers agreed that educating their girls was important, they had reservations. They didn't want them to go outside the village, study with boys or be taught by male teachers. So the group decided that they would be taught by female teachers from their own village. Says 15-year-old Naseema Bano, a regular at such classes, "People who have seen us have also started sending their daughters to school." In July 2008, the girls suggested that they could learn to sew and be self-employed. Khan installed 30 sewing machines in nine villages. Some of the women are turning a profit. Naseema Bano, for instance, makes a neat Rs. 2,000 - Rs. 2,500 a month.

Khan is leveraging his business network to bring employment to Mewat. A year ago, Aviva General Insurance was looking at a rural play. RKKT connected it with 60 local youth. Aviva selected 12. "It's a cycle that generates money into the system. Aviva hired some people whose income went up. They can now buy Unilever products, for instance... This creates a market economy," says Khan.

Khan has bigger plans. He is working with Deloitte to set up a water company in Mewat. "We'll make 100,000 families of Mewat as shareholders. We'll involve the community to green the Aravallis, replenish the lake here and then harness water and distribute it," says Khan. He will need help from outside. He is looking to the World Bank for financing. It is expected to cost Rs. 1,000-crore, of which Rs. 900 crore will come from a funding agency and Rs. 100 crore from the people of Mewat, who will then become promoters in this company.

Network Power

Mehmood Khan has been with Unilever since 1982, launching Unilever's brands in Vietnam, Cambodia and Mongolia, before becoming the company's global innovation head. His strategy for Mewat draws on business lessons learned along the way and leverages his network. Says Khan, "My strength is community

mobilisation and local resources. For the rest, I look up to other people."

Expanding Business

Nai Nangla will buy nine low-cost sanitary napkin machines from Coimbatore-based Jayashree Industries, run by the machine's inventor, A. Murugananthan. A company called Crafts of India, funded by the Future Group, will help design and package the napkins, to be sold in Big Bazaar outlets. This will employ 100 women.

Employment Quotient

Together with Genpact's executive VP, N.V. Tyagarajan, Khan set up a computer centre in Nai Nangla. The lab has 11 computers, some supplied by Genpact. Sixteen of the 30 men trained in the first batch have been hired by ICICI Bank. These previously unemployed men now earn Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 16,000 a month. For English training, Khan has roped in

Kusuma Trust, a Gibraltar-based charity and ReadingWise, a company that works with NGOs to administer literacy programmes.

members of the D5 gang, like **Pankaj Sethi**, **Nitin** and **Bonny Singh** (special invitee). We also called up **Ajoy Alex**, **Hemant Mittal**, **Atul Vohra**, **Ashish Haldhar**, and tried but failed to contact **Praful Ganatra** (he must have been sleeping as usual). It was a very 'senti' evening and all credit to Nishith for the idea. We also made a special call to our beloved senior, **Bhaskar Bhat**, and it was great being together and talking with him.

This is the season when our kids are growing up and taking their first steps into some kind of career path. The result is a lot of "to-ing and fro-ing" of various kids seeking *gyan* from dad's friends. Both my kids, Varun (studying to be a film maker at the New York Film Academy) and Pooja (undergrad B.A., Bombay) were sent off for critical evaluation and pep talks by father figures, Bonny Singh and Rajiv Agarwal. Anjali and I were happy to meet **Rajiv Dhar's** son, Nikhil, Ajoy's son, Atul as well as **Louis Muniz's** (PGP-78) son, Nalin. God bless all the kids as they take on an ever more challenging world!!

PGP-82

Source: Forbes India magazine

Source: IIMA Alumnus, Vol. 41, No.2, June/ July 2009, p. 71, IIMA Archives

MR. MEHMOOD KHAN, PGP 1977

I originate from India and have lived in Holland, Singapore, UK and now living in villages in Mewat(India). I did Post Graduation in Management in 1977 from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad(IIMA). While still at IIMA, I worked with Prof Ravi J Matthai on Experiments in Educational Innovation. On graduation from IIMA, I worked in Voluntary sector on turning Indian livestock to be more productive resources and making these as cottage industries. This work led me to building professional farmers organisations. From 1982 I have been with Unilever and worked in wide areas of the business; Marketing, Exports, Procurement, Business Development and Innovation. Out of 27 years in Unilever, 10 years have been in pioneering new Unilever business in places like Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia and North Korea, along with developing new portfolio in China and other countries in East Asia.

I was Global Leader for Unilever Innovation Process Development, this area helped in accelerating business growth through Innovation by following common global process and systems. The nature of work involved was: working with people around the Globe by establishing Unilever Innovation Communities across the business; spanning all Categories, Brands, Continents and Country boundaries.

I have been married to Sanobar for 35 years. Together we have two grown up children.

I want to continue to work on areas which make this world a better place to live and enjoy life.


Source: LinkedIn

MR. MEHMOOD KHAN, PGP 1977

Lok Sabha Elections 2019

timesofindia.indiatimes.com/elections/lok-sabha-elections/haryana/news/jjp-fields-iim-a-alumnus-as-its-ggn-candidate/articleshow/68998565.cms

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NEWS / ELECTIONS NEWS / JJP Fields IIM-Ahmedabad Alumnus As Its Gurugram Candidate


THIS STORY IS FROM APRIL 23, 2019

JJP fields IIM-Ahmedabad alumnus as its Gurugram candidate


Chetna Choudhry / TNN / Updated: Apr 23, 2019, 09:37 IST

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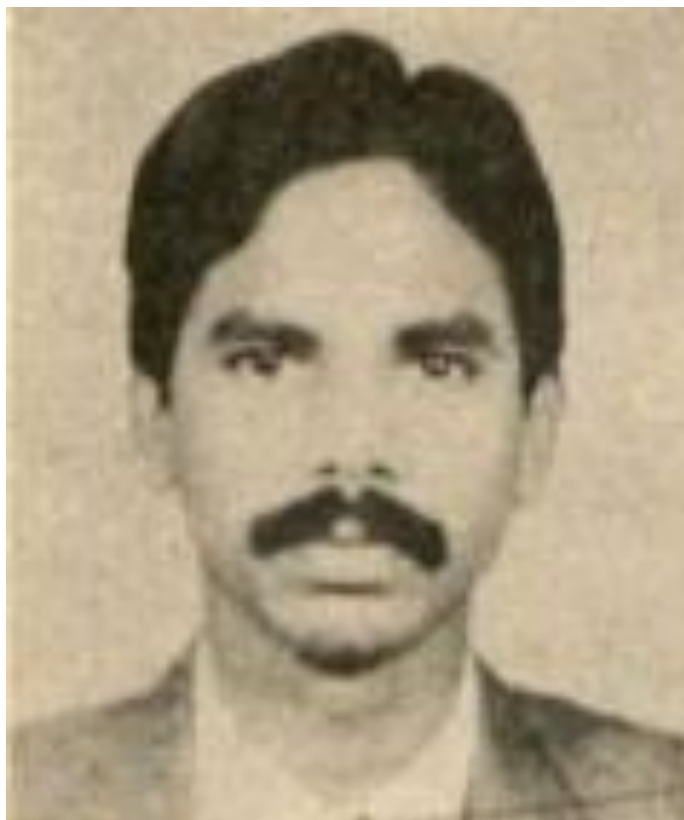


Jai Bhagwan Sharma (L), Digvijay Chautala (C), Mehmood Khan (R)

GURUGRAM: The Jannayak Janta Party (JJP), which is fighting the Lok Sabha elections in alliance with the [Aam Aadmi Party](#) (AAP) in Haryana, on Monday fielded [Mehmood Khan](#), an MBA from IIM-Ahmedabad, as its candidate from Gurugram.

Source: Times of India (link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/elections/lok-sabha-elections/haryana/news/jjp-fields-iim-a-alumnus-as-its-ggn-candidate/articleshow/68998565.cms>)



MR. KRISHNA PRASAD TENNETI, PGP 1985



Source: IIMA Student Yearbook, 1985, IIMA Archives

MR. KRISHNA PRASAD TENNETI, PGP 1985

Lok Sabha Elections 2024






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Won 717493 (+ 208031)

KRISHNA PRASAD TENNETI
Telugu Desam

Source: Election Commission of India

Mr. S. G. RAMACHANDRAN, PGP 2015

Lok Sabha Elections 2024

thehindu.com/news/cities/Coimbatore/aiadm-bjp-announce-candidates-for-coimbatore-pollachi-constituencies/article67977525.ece



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March 21, 2024 09:46 pm | Updated 10:35 pm IST - COIMBATORE

THE HINDU BUREAU



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Singai G. Ramachandran will contest from Coimbatore on the AIADMK ticket. | Photo Credit: Special Arrangement

Source: The Hindu (link: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Coimbatore/aiadm-bjp-announce-candidates-for-coimbatore-pollachi-constituencies/article67977525.ece>)