

# Game Changer of Education



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Last few years have witnessed sea changes in the Indian education sector as it has been reshaped by the introduction of innovative teaching-learning practices, effective use of technology, collaboration with foreign universities for global standard of education and many others. All these are helping in nurturing the competitive global citizens in India for the world.

In line with this positive backdrop, heavy responsibility has devolved upon the country's educationists and educators to influence public policies in the same direction and simultaneously guide their own institutions of learning to provide game changing prospects for generations ahead. Moreover, the responsibility is not only of education philanthropists and private education entrepreneurs or edupreneurs but has also devolved upon education ministers, bureaucrats, vice chancellors, faculty and administrators of public universities, and principals and teachers of the country's every educational institute. The positive side is that most of them are already practicing leadership skills to nurture institutions under their care into centres of excellence.

As education has been playing a key role in shaping up personalities and careers of a child, these visionaries are helping the sector to change and influence future career choices of most of them. There is a need to discern these leaders for their unique vision, choices and the paths they have chosen to guide, mentor or prepare hundreds of youths every year towards the goal of nation-building.

Beyond the realm of financial prospects, each of these [game changers](#) has a strong desire to take their set of pupils ahead of others by enabling them to deliver the best with the help of innovative

approaches.

digitalLEARNING, Asia and Middle East's first and only magazine on innovation in education, has played a vital role in highlighting the best practices and visions of these game changers since last many years. Through its thought provoking write-ups, the magazine has been discussing their challenges and helps them in interacting face-to-face with the solution providers on a common platform.

These game changers include many political leaders, government officials, school owners, principals and others. These are known to be leaders in education landscape. They've always stressed upon adopting better education practices, requirement of new government policies or amendments in them, role of teachers, school management and parents for better learning outcome of students among others.

Based on their perspectives, Akash Tomer of Elets News Network (ENN) takes a look at the top game changers linked to the [education landscape](#) over the years who inspired others with their wisdom.

### **Prakash Javadekar**



#### **Prakash Javadekar**

Prakash Keshav Javadekar (born 30 January 1951) is an Indian politician. He is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and currently serving as the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Minister of Information and Broadcasting. Following the victory of the Bharatiya Janata Party in 2014 Indian General Election, he was appointed Minister State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forests and Climate Change. He was also the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and briefly held the portfolio of Information and Broadcasting.

He was made the HRD Minister in 2016. For a while, he was also the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Information and Broadcasting. As the Education Minister, he ensured the establishment of the National Testing Agency as a premier and self-sustained testing organisation to conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions.

He was also the Chief Guest at 2nd Annual Higher Education and Human Resource Conclave. The summit was held to promote an environment of innovations, employability and entrepreneurship across the country. During his address, Javadekar said, "There is a new vibrancy in the education landscape of Rajasthan. A number of path-breaking measures have been implemented across the length and breadth of the State – a number of which are IT-led innovations that have transformed the whole educational content delivery across Rajasthan State's schools."

### **Dhan Singh Rawat**



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Dhan Singh Rawat (Born on October 7, 1972) is a Member of Legislative assembly of Uttarakhand. He represents the Constituency of Srinagar Garhwal, and is a member of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). He completed basic education from his village School, and higher education from Hemvanti Nandan Bahuguna (HNBGU) and holds a PHD degree.

During various events organised by Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd, his gracious presence as a chief guest and valuable thoughts have made the audience know about latest policies and Government's key focus areas in future. As the Chief Guest in 12th World Education Summit Delhi, he inaugurated it and shared his thought provoking ideas on various aspects important for holistic development of the nation and necessary to impart quality higher education in the country.

His efforts in Uttarakhand have helped the State to improve the higher education and bring it at par to the global standard. Sharing the efforts of the Uttarakhand Government for betterment of the education sector, Dr Rawat during the 12th World Education Summit Delhi said, "Due to shortage of funds in education that too mostly in the higher education, institutes are facing faculty shortage and lacking quality education. The Uttarakhand Government has recruited teachers through state public service commission which resulted into improved attendance of students in the institutions of the State. The attendance increased to 68% from 47 % within a short span of time."

### **Temjen Imna Along**



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Temjen Imna Along, Minister for Higher & Technical Education, Government of Nagaland, is also the president of Bhartiya Janta Party's Nagaland unit. He strongly asserted that his involvement in politics is simply to be able to influence the policies that would reign in 'Sustainable and Equal opportunity for all round development, so as to ensure a healthier future for the next generation'.

He has participated in various summits of Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd where he motivated the attendees to bring sustainable change in education sector. Temjen Imna Along is a non- assuming, soft-spoken and a philosophical person whose aim is to serve the people with a sense of social responsibility. During his addresses, Along touched various aspects like importance of digitisation in education and need of North East States' inclusion for holistic development of the region.

During his address at 10th Higher Education and Human Resource Conclave Chandigarh in March 2019 as a Guest of Honour, he emphasised that quality of higher education plays an important role in the development of youth and country holistically. He said, “I’m glad that we have come to realise the importance of higher education and technical education in our country. There is a huge gap between industry and academia. I belong to North East part of the country which is a cluster of eight small states. In Nagaland, the minimum qualification to teach is a Doctorate degree and in our department there is a dominance of women. So, it can be said that in Nagaland, women are more educationally empowered than men.”

### **Thokchom Radheshyam**



### **Thokchom Radheshyam**

Thokchom Radheshyam, Minister for Education, Labour and Employment, Government of Manipur, has been elected as a Member of Legislative Assembly from Heirok (Vidhan Sabha constituency) of Manipur in 2017.

He has participated in various events of Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd including 2nd Annual Higher Education and Human Resource Conclave Jaipur where he motivated the attendees to bring sustainable change in education sector. While sharing his thoughts at our events, Radheshyam always emphasised on the importance of maintaining standard of education not only in Manipur but also across the country.

Sharing his thoughts during the Summit, Radheshyam said, “Education is in an ever-evolving paradigm. Addressing challenges on a routine basis, finding their solutions and implementing innovative ideas to improve the educational landscape of Manipur, remain my key priority. Manipur is a small State with a great diversity and I am here in this conclave to follow the very slogan of this event — connect, engage and participate.”

### **Anil Swarup**

Anil Swarup started his career in the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) in, 1981. His assignments in various Ministries of the Government reflected his in- depth knowledge and experience in visualising, conceptualising, articulating and implementing various schemes.

Swarup holds a Masters degree in Political Science from Allahabad University, where he was awarded the Chancellor’s Gold medal for the best all-round student. At the very beginning of his administrative career he was awarded the Best officer Award at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration amongst the officers of 1981 batch. As a strategic thinker and an innovative leader he has won several awards and nomination, the prominent ones being: Nominated as one of the “policy change agent” by The Economics Times during the years 2010, 2012, 2015 & 2016. He was selected as one of the 35 “Action Heroes” in India Today’s 35th Annual Edition.

Swarup attended various educational events organised by Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd where he shared about the various Government initiatives and also motivated every attendees to perform better in their respective areas of working.

## **Prof Anil Sahasrabudhe**

Prof Anil Dattatraya Sahasrabudhe joined All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) as Chairman on 17th July 2015. Prof Sahasrabudhe graduated from BVB College of Engineering and Technology, Hubli, in Mechanical Engineering with first rank and Gold medal in 1980. He obtained Master's and Doctoral (with UGC Fellowship) degrees from Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore in 1982 and 1989 respectively.

In his illustrious career of 31 years, Prof Sahasrabudhe held several important Academic, Research and Administrative positions. He started his career as Scientific Officer, at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in 1983 and moved to Tata Consulting Engineers (TCE) as Engineer in the same year. He served as Lecturer and Assistant Professor at North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST), Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh) from 1987-1988 & again from 1989-1995, before joining IIT Guwahati as Associate Professor in 1995 and has been serving as Professor since 1999. Also, he served as Director, College of Engineering, Pune (CoEP) since 2006 on deputation from IIT, Guwahati prior to joining as AICTE Chairman.

## **Dr Subodh Agarwal**

Dr Subodh Agarwal, a 1988 batch IAS officer of ACS rank, has been formulating public policy in the Central and State governments, managing public sector organisations and leading administrative districts for the past three decades.

Known for his strong and effective interpersonal and communication skills, the senior IAS officer is noted for building effective teams and providing hands-on leadership. He has always been the first choice for demanding assignments or managing organisations in crisis with specific mission. He is a highly focused, motivated, analytical and organised with an eye for details.

**Also Read:** [Top Influencers Shaping up School Education World in Digital Era](#)

Dr Agarwal is a graduate from IIT-Delhi. He earned Post Graduate Diploma in Systems & Management from IIT Delhi in 1988. Dr Agarwal also holds a Master's degree in Public Policy from Princeton University and a PhD in economics from Rajasthan University.

Dr Agarwal has always graced the various summits organised by Elets Technomedia Pvt Ltd. His deliberations during the summits always helped the participants to know about the policies and initiatives that may help them to improve outcomes. As one of the key speakers at Higher Education and Human Resource Conclave Jaipur in September last year, he said, "The Government of Rajasthan is taking various initiatives for the benefit of students in the State. Nowadays, the Government is focusing more on equipping students with vocational and entrepreneurial skills. These skills will make our students job-ready for the corporate sector and the industries of their respective streams.

## **Anju Sharma**

Anju Sharma is a member of the prestigious Indian Administrative Service and has been serving in the Government at senior leadership positions for more than 26 years. She currently holds the office of Higher Education and Technical (H&TE), Government of Gujarat, as Principal Secretary. She is also the Director General of Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management (GIDM).

During her administrative career she worked as collector & DDO in various districts of Gujarat and has worked in various departments like Food, Revenue, Environment and Forests departments in the State Government. She has also worked as Director in Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

She has received several awards, viz., the 'Prime Minister's Award for Administrative Excellence

for implementing the Sickle Cell Anemia Control Program in the State (2011)', 'Individual Contribution Award for Health Insurance Scheme – Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY) (2011)', 'NASSCOM Social Innovation Leaders Award', 'National E Governance Award', 'E World Award for the project e-Mamta-MCTS (2012)', and 'India Tech Award for the project e-Mamta-MCTS (2012)'.

She has also written a book – 'I of the Storm – Discover your true self'. Ms Sharma has also received range of national and international trainings and has pioneered pathbreaking projects like e-Mamta for Mother and Child Tracking, "Khilkhilat" vans for drop back of new born infants with mothers from maternity homes, 181 "Abhayam" helpline for women, School Safety Week for disaster management education, Student Start up and Innovation Policy and so on.

### **Navin Mittal**

Navin Mittal is currently serving as the Commissioner of Collegiate and Technical Education for Government of Telangana.

He belongs to the 1996 batch of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and allotted to the Andhra Pradesh cadre. He is an engineering graduate (B Tech) in Computer Science and Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. He stood 3rd in All India Civil Services exams in 1995. In 2009, the Rotary Club of Hyderabad East honoured Navin Mittal, with Vocational Excellence Awards.

He is always of the view of adopting latest innovations and technologies for the improvement of any sector. The same was reflected during his address at the 10th Higher Education and HR Conclave 2019, Chandigarh, where he was one of the key speakers and inaugurated the same along with other key dignitaries.

Elaborating his thoughts on the fourth Industrial Revolution, Mittal said, "There are three significant trends which we are seeing all over the world. The first one is industry 4.0, which is a big shift from industry 3.0. It was about basic use of Information & Technology, basic development of Information & Technology in last five to six decades. India was somehow not a leader in the previous three Industrial revolutions.

## **Game Changers in Preschool Education**

### **Dr S K Rathor and Kavita Rathor**

Dr S K Rathor and Kavita Rathor stepped into the pre- school arena way back in 1999 and together they launched their preschool brand Sanfort a decade later in the year 2009. Dr Rathor shares that he gave- up his flourishing career as a computer engineer with one of the top IT companies of India and joined his wife to set-up a preschool with a mission to provide an enriching learning experience to the early learners in their first step towards education. Fondly remembering his initial years of struggle in establishing the brand he further quoted, "Our journey during these 10 years was both interesting as well as challenging as initially parents were not well aware about pre-school concept on one hand, and mushrooming of schools with or without the vision to nurture little learners on the other due to lack of an established regulatory body for preschools."

Looking back at the journey, Dr Rathor shares his experience with stars twinkling in his eyes and a big smile spreading across the lips, "The journey of SANFORT since its inception till date has been incredibly interesting and aspiring for many. Rising from a preschool to an international brand operational from 3 countries, 28 Indian states with 250+ schools and 80,000+ alumni in just 9 years, it has happened only because of parents' love and faith on us."

SANFORT has earned for demonstrating restless work in the field of education and pre-school

setup: Times Business Award for Outstanding Contribution in School Education 2019, Most successful educationist award, most trusted pre-school brand of the year 2016, Women Entrepreneur of the Year 2015, Franchise Award 2015, Indian Education Award 2016, World Education Award 2016, Entrepreneur of the Year 2016, Fastest Growing pre-school chain in India, Education Excellence Award 2015, Business Sphere Award, to name a few.

## **Jitendera Karsan**

Safari Kid International came to India in 2015 and launched their first centre in Mumbai. Seeing the success rate and feedback from the parents community, we have now expanded to over 10 centres across Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore and Gurugram. Keeping this in mind, we plan to expand to 7-8 more centres this year and about 10-20 more centres in 2020. The essence of Safari Kid lies in the personalised care we provide to every child that joins us, so a considerable amount of time is spent on research, curriculum, training along with the constant communication with parents.

Our biggest achievement has been the strong and unwavering loyalty of the parent community across all the cities we are present in. Owing to their word-of-mouth, most of our centres have a waitlist which goes to show the kind of trust they have put on us. We also push for several initiatives wherein parents and children can interact via activities like sports, parent guest lectures, bonding programs, etc.

**Also Read:** [Safari Kid International Preschools: Nurturing the Overall Development of Kids](#)

Since our launch in 2015, we haven't looked back when it comes to earning accolades. From winning The "Best Preschool for Pedagogy Practices" at the 2017 edition "BW Top Education Brands In India" and "Best Preschool In India", by the 5th National Conference School merit Awards 2017. Safari Kid was also awarded The Best Innovation in Curriculum in "Early Childhood Development" at World Education Summit 2018. Special mention of our Safari Kid Mumbai centre which was awarded "Top 12 Best Proprietary Preschool In Mumbai" By Early Childhood Education National Conference 2017. Jitendra Karsan was awarded "Greatest leader 2018-19" By PricewaterhouseCOOPER P.L

## **Game Changers in School Education**

### **Dr Madam Grace Pinto**

Over the decades, among the variety of personalities that have risen to prominence for their contribution in the field of education and social service, Grace Pinto stands out as someone distinctively striking and seminal in her demonstration of commitment towards making a difference through her schools as a leader. What makes Madam Grace Pinto unique and different is her management style with multiple roles as a managing director, educationalist, leader, visionary, counselor coupled with entrepreneur qualities. She began as a teacher nearly four decades ago and today she is a credible personality of excellence in the highly competitive and challenging segment of education.

The determination and energy in accomplishing the vision "Excellence in Education and All Round Development" makes her a stalwart in the field of education in the country. Her contribution in the segment of education and social service has been recognized with over 110 national and international honours.

She is also an ardent supporter of the uplift underprivileged and welfare of senior citizens, women empowerment and has always reached out to render help to the poor and needy. Some of her recent awards and recognitions are: 'Leading Schools of India' by Leading Schools Corp, USA; Visionary Leadership in Education Sector Award at Mid-day Excellence in Education Award Ceremony; and Global Leaders Award at India UAE Partnership Summit 2018.

Raghav Podar Born into a family that has been in education since 1927, it would be fair to say education runs in his blood. Raghav Podar had a keen interest in learning how to enhance pedagogy levels and understanding and how to build better learning environments from a young age. After completing his studies at University of Texas and University of Warwick, he left his plush, high paying job in the U.S. and returned to India to upgrade the quality of schooling here.

A fine blend of global thinking & Indian values, he is a path-breaking educationist and a thought leader on constructing optimal learning environments. As Chairman Podar World School, he is at the steering wheel of India's highly acclaimed Podar Education Group. His multi-city, multi-brand school has presence across geographies.

Having studied the education systems of Finland, Singapore, UK and UAE, he has been vested heavily into upgrading the quality of schooling in India.

His contribution to the field of education and society is commendable and he has been bestowed with many awards for his contributions in the field of education and nation building including: The Bhaskar – Pride of India Award, “Global Achievers Award” by the Indian Ambassador to UAE, “THE GLORY OF INDIA AWARD” by the Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand in 2016, and The Education Leader of the Year 2018.

### **Dr Satyabrata Minaketan**

Dr Satyabrata Minaketan is the Founder Chairman/Principal of ODM Public School, which is a multi-purpose school based on Indian culture and affiliated to CBSE. He hails from a remote village Gatanai in district Kendrapara, Odisha. He was born on 19th March 1961. He has completed his Bachelor degree in Education from Regional Institute of Education during 1982 and 1986, Master degree in English Literature from Utkal University.

He has completed his Bachelor's degree in Law from M S Law College, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Besides that he has completed the Diploma Course in Rural Development and was awarded the Doctorate degree in Philosophy in the year 2004 in Value Education. His deep interest and untiring work for child welfare is supreme. The mission of his life is to remove immorality and develop a value oriented society.

With all round effort, Dr S Minaketan, has been tirelessly pursuing excellence in social work and education. To recognise his dedication and contribution to the world of education he has been awarded many laurels by different organisations: Best Social Organizer Award, State Level Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhawana Award, Vidya Jyoti Award, Bharat Vikas Parisad Odisha, and Rastriya Ekta Samman.

ODM Public School is recognised by the Directorate of Secondary Education, Govt. of Odisha, affiliated to all India Senior Secondary School Examination, New Delhi. It provides opportunity for every child to achieve the maximum possible in physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development.

### **Lata Rawat**

Lata Rawat is Director of Cambridge Court Group of Institutions is a personality of multiple calibers. She completed her Master degree in English Literature and bachelor's degree in education from Mumbai University. She also holds a bachelor's degree in Yoga.

She was awarded with the prestigious “Bharat Vidya Shiromani award”. She is the recipient of “Best education leader award” from Lions club. She is the recipient of golden educationist of India award from IIEM, New Delhi and subsequently the education achievement award by IIEM in 2016. The coveted Rajiv Gandhi education excellence award for outstanding achievement in the field of

education has added a feather to her cap. She was most recently bestowed with the leadership award for excellence in co-curricular Education from ScoolStars.

She is a person who believes in her students achieving flying colors in both academics and extra-curricular. She passed on her ideology amongst her students who succeeded in getting top ranks in IIT, PMT, CLAT, IPCC, NTSE, KVPY, Olympiad exams. Under her patronage the students are national winners of Vodafone Next Quiz contest, Derek 'o' Brien's Bournvita quiz contest, CBSE state level Science Competitions. The students also won Zee's Jaipur Literary Fest Quiz in the year 2017. Under her mentorship the schools received "Hundred best schools of India (2013-14) award by engineering watch.

### **Dr Mona Lisa Bal**

Dr Mona Lisa Bal is the Chairperson of KIIT International School (KISS), Bhubaneswar. She graduated in Political Science with honours from Calcutta University and post-graduated from Utkal University. She is also a Post graduate in Business Administration from KiiT University. She did her Doctorate in "Effective Learning in a Joyful Environment", culminating into publication of a pioneering book "Transformation in the Pedagogy of Education in India".

She intends to take her passion in primary education forward by making insightful foray into the Higher Education Sector where she has already contributed twenty nine articles in internationally reputed educational journals like, IOSR, IJARSE, British Journal of Education and World Journal of Educational Research.

She is proactively engaged with KISS, a School for 25,000 tribal students and mentors a few tribal students for achieving the civil services. It is under her leadership that the School has achieved all round excellence and is ranked among the top ten Schools of India. Several international awards and MOUs with organizations for academic excellence have been achieved under her tutelage.

## **Game Changers in Higher Education**

### **Kunwar Shekhar Vijendra**

Kunwar Shekhar Vijendra is the Co-founder and Chancellor of Shobhit University India and a prominent social entrepreneur based in New Delhi, who carries leadership roles in many organisations.

Kunwar Vijendra is a persistent advocate of the initiatives for education for all; secular values, crisis management through diplomatic and peaceful ways, and globalized systems of learning and peaceful co-existence. He had been instrumental in the development of a number of higher education institutes, research centers, including two universities and a 100 bed hospital in north India.

**Also Read:** [Shobhit University: Promoting Traditional Learning with Global Outlook](#)

Acknowledging his contribution to society in the areas of education and other concerns he has been copiously honored and awarded. Recently ASSOCHAM conferred on him "Lifetime Achievement Award".

He has traveled widely in India and to the countries like USA, UK, Germany, Australia, Russia, China, South Korea, Vietnam, Mongolia, UAE, Mauritius, Rwanda, Uganda etc. to participate in various professional, social and educational activities.

He is a passionate Gandhian, avid reader, keen learner, social speaker, occasional poet, and a dreamer!

## **Dr Ashok K Chitkara**

With exemplary elegance and polished ideas, with high calibre and right balance of thoughts and beliefs, Dr Ashok K Chitkara is the face of potential youth and equitable education. A renowned Mathematician and a legendary Academician, Dr Ashok K Chitkara is the Chancellor of Chitkara University, Punjab and Chitkara University, Himachal Pradesh.

The establishment of Chitkara University was a turning point in the career of Dr Ashok K Chitkara, as it pronounced the foundation of an educational system which would help reach the upcoming generation to the zenith of their success. Under his leadership and guidance, over 60 programmes are being offered at Chitkara University. It is his strong academic mentorship that resulted for the University to have 200 plus academic partners across the globe. His entire life has been the epicenter of creating academic excellence among the youth of India and producing capable industry professionals and aspirant students, thus adding to the social and scholarly fabric of India.

As a 'Community Reformer', Dr Ashok K Chitkara is also dedicated to improve the quality of the underprivileged and neglected. He has also adopted five villages in Punjab and one in Himachal Pradesh. Dr Chitkara believes in total commitment to society, as his focus is to constantly make the lives of people better by uplifting them in every possible way. In addition to this, under his leadership, Chitkara University runs its own Community Radio by the name of Chitkara 107.8FM. The Community Radio is completely managed by the students of Chitkara University, and is a great way to engage the community.

## **Santosh Kumar Choubey**

Santosh Kumar Choubey is a widely recognised entrepreneurial pioneer in the area of ICT and skills-based Education & Services Dissemination for semi-urban and rural India. Since the late 1970s, he has been a frontrunner in recognizing and actively working to reduce the ICT and technological literacy gap between urban and rural India and propagating effective and sustainable employment solutions for India's less developed areas.

Under Choubey's able guidance and vision, today AISECT has emerged as India's leading Social Enterprise working in the areas of Skill Development, Higher Education, Financial Inclusion and other ICT based services. The entrepreneurial thought behind the workings of AISECT was strong enough for it to become a World Bank-IIM (A) Case Study in 1999. In 2005, Mr. Santosh Choubey received the coveted Indian Innovation Award from the then President of India, Dr. Abdul Kalam.

He has written over ten books on computer science which have won esteemed awards like the Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma Award for content creation in Hindi and the Meghnad Saha Award. His short stories have, over the years, been selected for dramatization at the National School of Drama and the Bharat Bhavan.

## **Prof Raghu Raman**

Prof Raghu Raman is Chairman for Amrita School of Business and Director for Global Rankings at Amrita University. Recently Amrita was declared to be an Institution of Eminence by the Govt. of India and is ranked 8th best university in the country.

Recently, Prof Raman was invited to the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative at UN, since the Amrita School of Business was the only Indian institution to find a place in the prestigious United Nations Sustainable Literacy Test which evaluates knowledge about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among students in higher education.

Prof Raman has over 30 years of executive management experience and enterprise software development at variety of Fortune 500 companies including 15 years at Amrita. As CEO of Amrita Technologies Ltd., Prof Raman led a healthcare technology start up that developed a patented and

CCHIT certified Electronic Medical Record (EMR) System with global customer base. Now scaled to over 25 hospitals, 10 million patients have benefitted from this affordable healthcare solution and is a finest example of a social business.

Prof Raman was awarded the HP Global Social Innovation leadership grant and the New Media Consortium (NMC), USA shortlisted his low-cost tablet learning project as the most innovative project to watch out for in their annual Horizon report. He is the recipient of IEEE Education Society's Best paper award. As Principal Investigator for multiple research projects he has raised over \$3.2m in research funding leading to over 50 publications.

### **Ashok G Verghese**

Ashok G Verghese, is the Director of Hindustan Group of Institutions, Chennai that includes several premier institutes of Higher Education.

Ashok Verghese, has been a Game Changer in the field of education and is an outstanding leader and educationist who steers the Hindustan Group of Institutions with a foresight to propel the institution to achieve global recognition.

HITS has been rated overall Gold in QS I Guage and QS 5 stars ratings in Teaching, Employability, Innovation, Inclusiveness and Facilities. HITS has been rated in 301-350 band in the World University Rankings 2019, BRICS ranking system. HITS has been accredited "A" grade by NAAC, NBA has accredited B. Tech programmes offered by Aeronautical, Automobile, Civil, Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering.

His involvement in acquiring technology resources, and drive for acquisition of knowledge in all fields is astounding. His keen interest in research has resulted in establishment of 14 Centres of Excellence in Hindustan University. He encourages the staff and students to involve in research and he has also published papers in scopus indexed journals and filed patents. He has steered the institution to be the first institution in India to receive the 5S Certification award for successfully implementing 5S Work Place Management System.

### **Anish Srikrishna**

Anish Srikrishna is the President of Times Centre for learning Limited. With over 20 years of experience, he is an established marketing and management professional with a wealth of experience in brand building and innovation.

Anish started out in sales with Hindustan Unilever Ltd. and marketing with Coca-Cola India; he then went on to build and lead successful businesses across varied industries. He was also the marketing head for brands like Samsung Electronics India and Oberoi Hotels & Resorts.

Anish's strengths include building brands and creating new business models. Prior to joining TCLL, Anish worked at Pearson India as Business Head for Higher Education Test Preparation. During his stint at Pearson India, Anish has been instrumental in introducing Direct Delivery programs to diversify Pearson Education into test preparation and distance education. With his past experience in FMCG businesses, hospitality industry, Anish is highly consumer focused and drives outcomes.

Anish strongly believes in team work and people's potential, and supports an open culture in the organization. With his strong business acumen, informal and practical approach, he is recognised as a dedicated professional by his colleagues.

He has an eclectic choice in books and reads various genres like fiction, biographies and business books. In his leisure time, Anish enjoys travelling, studying various cultures and spending time with his family.

