

# OUTLOOK BUSINESS

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Dr. Manjula Pooja Shroff



Sharmila Kumbhat



Dr. Shruti Sharma



Dr. Shweta Goel



Dr. Satya Vadlamani

## INCREDIBLE ACHIEVERS

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Gobinda Chandra  
Pattanaik



Prof. Parmendra Kumar  
Dashora



Kamal Goel



Dr. Anupam Chouksey



Sushain Mital

# Prof. P.K Dashora: Shaping the Future of Education with Visionary Leadership

From advising 300 + Ph.D. scholars to transforming Mangalayatan University into a global Gurukul, Prof. Dashora exemplifies educational leadership.

**Incredible Achievers:** Prof. P.K Dashora, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Mangalayatan University

In the world of academia, few figures have made as indelible a mark as Prof. Parmendra Kumar Dashora. With an illustrious career spanning decades, Prof. Dashora has not only contributed to the academic growth of institutions but has also played a pivotal role in shaping the future of countless students. His journey, from a postgraduate in Statistics from Rajasthan University to becoming the Vice Chancellor of Mangalayatan University, is one of relentless dedication to education.

Born in Udaipur, Rajasthan, Prof. Dashora's academic and professional trajectory has been filled with stellar achievements. His expertise as a professor has impacted the lives of over 300+ Ph.D. students, whom he has guided throughout their academic endeavors. His research work, published in numerous national and international journals, further underscores his deep commitment to expanding the boundaries of knowledge.

In addition to his academic accomplishments, Prof. Dashora has held prominent leadership positions within Rajasthan's higher education system. He served as the Vice Chancellor of Kota University, Rajasthan, and President of Modi University of Science & Technology, Lakshmangarh. He also took on additional responsibilities as the acting Vice Chancellor for both Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur, and Kota Agricultural University, Kota. Prof. Dashora's contributions extended beyond academia during his six-year tenure as a member of the Rajasthan Public Service Commission, where his

expertise and decision-making helped shape key policies.

Prof. Dashora's role at Mangalayatan University goes beyond traditional academic leadership. His vision for the institution is encapsulated in the philosophy that education must blend values with global professional competencies to create individuals who are ready to face the challenges of the future. His belief in creating a "Gurukul of Global Education" at Mangalayatan University reflects his emphasis on holistic education, where academic excellence is paired with personal growth.

Under Prof. Parmendra Kumar Dashora's leadership, Mangalayatan University has embraced residential programs that enable students to focus on their studies in a serene, distraction-free environment. The 70-acre, fully Wi-Fi-enabled campus provides an ideal setting for immersive learning, blending academics with sports, cultural, and co-curricular activities. Prof. Dashora believes this holistic approach prepares students to excel in a rapidly evolving world.

Prof. Dashora, Vice Chancellor of Mangalayatan University, blends values with global insights, shaping future-ready individuals through holistic education.



**Prof. Parmendra Kumar Dashora**  
Vice Chancellor of Mangalayatan University

The university's commitment to world-class education is reflected in its curriculum, developed with input from subject matter experts, industry leaders, and behavioral trainers. These programs integrate formal studies with extracurricular activities to shape well-rounded graduates equipped for today's competitive landscape.

Prof. Dashora's contributions to education have earned him several prestigious awards, including the Education Leadership Award 2023. Under his guidance, Mangalayatan University has ranked among India's top 100 universities and won accolades like the Best Emerging Private University of Uttar Pradesh (2022) and the Bharat Shiksha Award (2021).

Prof. Dashora's vision is not just about academic excellence but also about fostering an environment where individuals can thrive. His leadership continues to inspire students, faculty, and institutions, paving the way for a brighter future in education.

# Sushain Mital: Redefining Luxury Menswear with The Darzi Group's Timeless Craftsmanship

As the second-generation leader of The Darzi Group, Sushain Mital seamlessly blends tradition with modernity, elevating bespoke tailoring to global acclaim.

**F**ounded in 1981 by Sunil Mital in New Delhi's Rajouri Garden, The Darzi Group has long epitomized bespoke luxury menswear in India, fusing traditional craftsmanship with modern innovation. Now, as Sushain Mital takes the reins, the brand continues to soar, establishing itself as a globally recognized name in bespoke tailoring.

A visionary in his own right, Sushain has upheld and expanded his father's legacy through his education and international experience. He holds an Honors degree in Bespoke Tailoring and a Master's in Pattern Design from the London College of Fashion, making him South Asia's only professionally qualified bespoke tailor. His journey included training at Savile Row, where he honed his skills with renowned tailors like Richard James and Henry Poole & Co. This expertise allows Sushain to uniquely fuse British sartorial elegance with Indian craftsmanship.

## Innovating While Respecting Tradition

Since joining The Darzi Group in 2013, Sushain's mission has been clear: build upon the brand's legacy while introducing innovations to adapt to the fast-changing fashion landscape. Bespoke tailoring remains the cornerstone of The Darzi Group's success, and Sushain's commitment to perfect fits and impeccable craftsmanship ensures its continued prominence.

Under his leadership, The Darzi Group has expanded its fabric offerings, now featuring one of the most extensive luxury fabric collections in India, including exclusive collaborations with top international fabric houses. His keen understanding of fabrics, pattern design, and client preferences helps maintain the brand's reputation for tailored perfection, creating individualized experiences that resonate with India's elite.

## Expanding the Brand's Reach: Studio Firang and Mirasu

Sushain's entrepreneurial spirit has driven the launch of Studio Firang in 2001 and Mirasu in 2016, further solidifying The Darzi Group's luxury position. These outlets serve as one-stop destinations for traditional and contemporary fashion, offering a diverse range from sharp Indo-Western suits to elegantly designed sherwanis. The blend of old-world techniques with modern styles caters to a wide clientele, including India's business leaders and celebrities.



**Sushain Mital**  
Director The Darzi Group

## Global Recognition Through Exclusive Collaborations

Under Sushain's leadership, The Darzi Group has partnered with renowned international fabric brands, such as Cloth Ermenegildo Zegna, showcasing exclusive co-branded fabrics with Studio Firang. Also, high-end exclusive fabrics from Dormeuil, Scabal, and Loro Piana are uniquely available only at Studio Firang. Additionally, the brand carries ready-made options from Eton, Fidelli, Herno, Piacenza, Moreschi, and Magnani. The Darzi Group's meticulous attention to detail, bespoke tailoring services and commitment to 100% on-time delivery have solidified its position in luxury fashion. Sushain's blend of international standards and Indian craftsmanship ensures that bespoke tailoring thrives in modern India, positioning The Darzi Group as a leader in luxury menswear, both domestically and globally.



Sushain Mital carries forward The Darzi Group's legacy, merging Indian craftsmanship with global luxury standards in bespoke menswear.

# Pioneering Change: Dr. Satya Vadlamani's Journey in Pharmaceutical Innovation

## Transforming Drug Delivery Systems and Empowering Future Generations in the Pharmaceutical Industry

In the fast-evolving landscape of the pharmaceutical industry, Dr. Satya Vadlamani stands tall as an extraordinary leader, breaking barriers and redefining what it means to be an achiever in the field. As Chairperson and Managing Director of Murli Krishna Pharma Private Ltd. (MKPPL), her transformative leadership has revolutionized drug delivery systems and reshaped the global pharmaceutical industry. Dr. Vadlamani's unwavering commitment to research, innovation, and social responsibility positions her as one of the most incredible achievers of our time.

Dr. Vadlamani founded MKPPL in 2004. Under her visionary leadership, the company has become a global leader in drug delivery technologies, driven by groundbreaking innovations such as NanoSphere technology. These microscopic marvels, ranging from 10 to 200 nanometers in diameter, are revolutionizing how drugs are delivered to the body. By using biodegradable and biocompatible polymers, these Nanospheres encapsulate and target drugs with remarkable precision, enhancing the efficacy of treatments and setting a new standard in pharmaceutical care.

One of the most notable aspects of Dr. Vadlamani's journey is her relentless focus on research and development, positioning MKPPL as a pioneer in drug delivery. The company has developed advanced, aqueous-based technologies covering a wide range of therapeutic areas, including oncology, ophthalmology, corticosteroids, and transdermal applications. This breadth of expertise underscores MKPPL's



**Dr. Satya Vadlamani**  
Chairperson and Managing  
Director Of Murli Krishna  
Pharma Pvt. Ltd. (MKPPL)

versatility and reflects Dr. Vadlamani's mission to provide high-quality pharmaceutical products that improve patient outcomes globally.

In an industry where regulatory standards are critical, Dr. Vadlamani has ensured that MKPPL meets and exceeds global benchmarks. The company's manufacturing plant is approved by the European Union and has earned GMP compliance from the World Health Organization, a testament to its stringent adherence to international quality standards. These recognitions have helped solidify MKPPL's position on the world stage, garnering trust from international clients and partners alike.

Dr. Vadlamani's achievements extend far beyond the laboratory and corporate boardroom. She has actively advocated for gender equality and inclusivity in an industry traditionally dominated by men.

Her leadership as a woman in the pharmaceutical industry has been a source of inspiration for aspiring female entrepreneurs, proving that perseverance and innovative thinking can lead to extraordinary success. She is not just a leader but a trailblazer, continually pushing boundaries and challenging norms.

Dr. Satya Vadlamani is a dynamic achiever recognized for her significant contributions to the pharmaceutical sector. In 2016, she received the Make in India Award for MKPPL's role in the industry and the Times Exemplary Leader Award in 2023 for her innovative impact. Beyond her professional accolades, she champions corporate social responsibility, leading initiatives to enhance healthcare access, education, and sustainability. Looking ahead, Dr. Vadlamani plans global expansion for MKPPL, establishing offices in Dubai, the U.S., the Netherlands, and Germany. Her relentless pursuit of innovation and excellence positions her as a transformative leader in global healthcare, inspiring future generations.

Dr. Satya Vadlamani revolutionizes pharmaceuticals with innovative technologies, inspiring future leaders through her commitment to excellence and social responsibility.

# Amba Group: Forging a Legacy of Excellence in Steel Manufacturing

How Kamal Goel's Vision and Innovation Propelled Amba Group to Leadership in India's Steel Industry

## Incredible Achievers: Amba Group's Journey to Steel Industry Leadership

In a rapidly evolving industrial landscape, companies that adapt to technological advancements and market demands thrive. One such name is Amba Group, a trailblazer in the steel manufacturing sector. From its modest beginnings in 1974 to its current position as a leader with a manufacturing capacity exceeding one million tons annually, Amba Group is a story of perseverance, vision, and innovation.

Founded by Mr. Kamal Goel, Amba Group began as a single furnace foundry in Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh. Through strategic leadership and a commitment to excellence, Mr. Goel expanded the company's footprint across India. Today, the group operates multiple high-tech plants in Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and more, contributing to India's infrastructure development and self-reliance.

## Technological Advancements Driving Amba Group's Growth

Amba Group's success is rooted in its investment in state-of-the-art technology and infrastructure. The company employs PLC-based machines and computerized control systems, ensuring precision and consistent quality across its operations. With advanced tempcore technology at its Gwalior plant and German thermal quenching technology at the Sikandrabad facility, Amba Group has become a leader in producing high-quality TMT bars in India.



Amba Group's growth journey combines cutting-edge technology, sustainability, and social responsibility, establishing it as an industry leader in steel manufacturing.

## Kamal Goel, Founder Of Amba Group

"Our strategic investment in technology has reduced costs, increased profit margins, and enabled continuous reinvestment in processes to ensure top-tier product quality," says Mr. Kamal Goel. The Sikandrabad plant, with a capacity of 0.5 million tons, is the largest in Northern India, setting new standards for steel production.

## Sustainability at the Core

A key pillar of Amba Group's journey is its commitment to sustainability. The company's eco-friendly plants in Gwalior and Sikandrabad run entirely on electricity, avoiding fuel, gas, and coal usage. This significantly reduces the company's carbon footprint, positioning Amba Group as an environmentally responsible industry leader.

"Our approach to clean energy ensures that growth remains environmentally responsible," emphasizes Mr. Goel, reflecting the company's dedication to sustainable steel manufacturing.

## Global Sourcing for Quality

Amba Group sources raw materials through both local and international channels. While sponge iron is locally sourced, the company imports high-quality scrap from countries like Brazil, the UK, and Australia. This ensures reliable production of high-quality steel products, reinforcing the company's strong market reputation.

## Corporate Social Responsibility

Beyond industry success, Amba Group is dedicated to Corporate social responsibility. Mr. Kamal Goel plans to establish educational institutions for underprivileged students, offering job opportunities upon graduation. "We aim to provide pathways to a brighter future through quality education," says Mr. Goel. Amba Group's journey exemplifies a commitment to innovation, sustainability, and social progress, solidifying its role as a key player in India's growing steel industry.

# Dr. Shweta Goel: A Visionary Eye Surgeon and Trailblazing Woman Achiever

Leading with expertise and compassion, Dr. Goel transforms lives and inspires women in healthcare and entrepreneurship.

## Dr. Shweta Goel: Redefining Eye Care and Inspiring Women.

Dr. Shweta Goel, the founder and senior eye surgeon at Vinod Eye Centre, is a remarkable figure who combines medical brilliance with entrepreneurial vision. With over 12 years of experience and more than 50,000 successful eye surgeries, she has solidified her reputation as a leader in ophthalmology. Yet, her influence extends beyond her surgical expertise—Dr. Goel is also a trailblazer for women in business, proving that compassion and innovation can go hand-in-hand in the healthcare sector.

## A Journey of Excellence

Dr. Goel's career began at Sarojini Naidu Medical College (SNMC), followed by an MS in Ophthalmology from PGIMS, Rohtak. She further honed her skills with prestigious fellowships, including FICO Basic (London), FVEIRC (Venu Eye Institute), and FIOI (Intraocular Lens Implantation). Today, her expertise spans advanced cataract surgeries, glaucoma management, and medical retina treatments, making her a trusted name in eye care.

Under her leadership, Vinod Eye Centre has grown into an ISO 9001:2015 certified super-specialty facility offering cutting-edge diagnostics and surgical services. Dr. Goel's vision of making high-quality eye care accessible has transformed Vinod Eye Centre into one of Noida's most respected institutions, providing affordable care without compromising excellence.

## Woman Achiever and Leader

As a woman entrepreneur, Dr. Goel has shattered many barriers. She not only leads a successful healthcare business but also serves as a role model for women aspiring to break into leadership roles in medicine and

beyond. Her ability to manage both the medical and business aspects of Vinod Eye Centre highlights her multifaceted skills. Dr. Goel has received numerous accolades, including the ET Inspiring Women Leaders Award (2022-2024) and the Times Excellence Honour (2021).

Her entrepreneurial journey is defined by resilience and a relentless pursuit of innovation. Dr. Goel's leadership has enabled her to treat over 90,000 patients, while continuously expanding the scope of services offered at Vinod Eye Centre. Her impact is not only felt in the clinic but also through her efforts to inspire women to pursue entrepreneurship in healthcare.

## Education and Mentorship

Dr. Goel's commitment to education is evident through her academic contributions. She has co-edited the widely respected *Comprehensive Ophthalmology* by A.K. Khurana and launched 'Siimplify Eye,' an online platform dedicated to educating undergraduate and postgraduate students. Her mentorship of young professionals, particularly women, underscores her belief in nurturing the next generation of leaders in healthcare.

Dr. Shweta Goel is reshaping eye care while empowering women through her medical expertise and entrepreneurial leadership.



**Dr. Shweta Goel**  
MS Ophthalmology (PGIMS),  
MBBS, FICO Basic (London),  
FVEIRC, FHVDEH, FIOI,  
Consultant Eye Surgeon  
Spl. Cataract, Glaucoma &  
Medical Retain.

## Empowering Through Action

Beyond her professional achievements, Dr. Goel is dedicated to philanthropy. Partnering with NGOs, she has provided free eye surgeries to underserved communities, ensuring that quality healthcare is available to all. Her contributions have earned her recognitions such as the Blackswan Award for Women Empowerment (2022), highlighting her commitment to social responsibility.

Dr. Shweta Goel's story is one of perseverance, excellence, and compassion. As a woman achiever and leading ophthalmologist, she continues to transform lives, setting new standards in healthcare while inspiring women to lead with purpose.

**For more information,**  
visit [www.vinodayecentre.com](http://www.vinodayecentre.com) or  
[www.drshwetagoel.com](http://www.drshwetagoel.com).

# Brindavan Group of Institutions: Pioneering Education and Holistic Development in Bangalore

Empowering Students with Knowledge, Values, and Skills for a Dynamic Global Workforce Under the Visionary Leadership of Dr. Shruti Sharma

## Dr. Shruti Sharma: A Trailblazer in Education and Leadership

Dr. Shruti Sharma, the dynamic CEO of Brindavan Group of Institutions, Bangalore, is a beacon of visionary leadership in the field of education. Her transformative approach has brought about significant changes in the institution's growth, shaping it into one of the most sought-after educational destinations in Bangalore. Dr. Sharma's focus on innovation, inclusivity, and quality education has set new benchmarks in the Indian education sector, leading to numerous accolades and achievements.



**Dr. Shruti Sharma**  
CEO, Brindavan Group of Institutions

## Achievements in Academic Leadership

Dr. Shruti Sharma's journey as an education leader has been marked by her relentless drive to elevate academic standards at Brindavan Group of Institutions (BGI). Under her stewardship, BGI has expanded its academic offerings, providing students with a diverse range of undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs across various disciplines, including Engineering, Management, Commerce and Science. Her leadership has led to a marked improvement in academic performance, infrastructure, and student satisfaction, placing BGI among the top institutions in Bangalore.

A key aspect of her leadership has been the integration of skilled programs with curricula, ensuring that students at BGI are well-prepared for real-world challenges. She has also introduced several interdisciplinary programs, fostering innovation and critical thinking among students. This holistic approach has resulted in consistently high student progression rates, with BGI graduates excelling in their respective careers across industries.

## Pioneering Initiatives

Dr. Shruti Sharma's leadership is not just about academic excellence, but

also about creating an inclusive and diverse educational environment. She has initiated several programs aimed at promoting diversity and inclusion on campus, ensuring that students from all backgrounds have equal access to opportunities. Her efforts to make education more inclusive have won praise from both students and faculty, enhancing BGI's reputation as a progressive and forward-thinking institution.

She has also been a driving force behind BGI's focus on entrepreneurship and innovation. Dr. Sharma has set up incubators and innovation centers that encourage students to develop new ideas and start their own ventures. These initiatives have led to numerous successful startups by BGI alumni, showcasing the institution's role in nurturing future entrepreneurs.

## Awards and Recognition

Dr. Shruti Sharma's contributions to education have been recognized on multiple platforms, both nationally and internationally. She has been honored with several prestigious awards for her exemplary leadership, commitment to education, and role in social responsibility. Among her notable accolades are the "Educational Leadership Award," "World Leading Leader," "40 Under 40 Most

influential Young Leaders 2023-24," "Most Dynamic Woman Leader of the Year," "Most Admired CEO of the Year-2023" and the "Women in Education Excellence Award," which acknowledge her efforts to transform BGI into a center of academic and social excellence.

In addition to her leadership in education, Dr. Sharma has also been recognized for her efforts in promoting social causes. She is an ardent advocate of the Indian Armed Forces, and her work to promote patriotism and social responsibility among students has earned her accolades from various quarters.

## A Vision for the Future

Dr. Shruti Sharma's vision extends beyond academics. She is committed to creating a holistic educational environment that nurtures not only intellectual growth but also physical and emotional well-being. Her recent initiatives to upgrade sports infrastructure, including the development of a football turf and cricket nets, are part of her broader vision to develop well-rounded individuals capable of excelling in all spheres of life.

Her forward-thinking approach continues to inspire students, faculty, and staff at BGI. Dr. Shruti Sharma's legacy as a transformative leader is evident in the numerous successes of her students and the growing stature of Brindavan Group of Institutions as a premier center for higher education in India.

Through her relentless pursuit of excellence, Dr. Sharma is shaping the future of education, fostering the next generation of leaders, innovators, and changemakers.



Academic excellence, industry-oriented learning, and personal growth define Brindavan Group of Institutions, led by CEO Dr. Shruti Sharma.

# Illuminating Success: The Inspiring Journey of Ms. Sharmila Kumbhat

From a teenage entrepreneur to a global business leader, Ms. Sharmila Kumbhat is redefining the lighting industry.

**M**s. Sharmila Kumbhat, Director of K-Lite Industries Pvt Ltd., Chennai, is a testament to determination, vision, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Her journey began at the young age of sixteen when she entered the professional world, working in a fabrication unit called “Metal Craft.” By nineteen, her remarkable efforts were recognized, and she was awarded the “Best Female Entrepreneur Award” by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. This early achievement marked the beginning of her illustrious career, which would span continents and industries, positioning her as a true leader in the lighting industry.

## A Global Perspective

Ms. Sharmila’s journey took her across the globe, where she continued her education and business ventures. She studied design in New York, gaining valuable insights into international markets and cultures. Her extensive travels and exposure to global trends further honed her design and business acumen. While living in the United States for over a decade, she founded and successfully ran two export-oriented companies. This experience solidified her entrepreneurial skills and deepened her understanding of global business dynamics.

However, her commitment to family and her desire to contribute directly to her homeland led her back to India. Upon returning, Ms. Sharmila joined K-Lite Industries, and under her leadership, the company flourished into a vibrant, forward-thinking organization. She brought her global vision and innovative mindset to K-Lite, continuously pushing the company to new heights.



**Sharmila Kumbhat**  
Director of K-Lite Industries  
Pvt. Ltd.

## Innovating for the Future

Ms. Sharmila’s leadership transformed K-Lite into a leading manufacturer of indoor and outdoor luminaires and decorative poles. Her focus on innovation, quality, and design excellence has been the cornerstone of the company’s success. With her philosophy of “taking one step at a time and giving the best,” she guided the company through numerous challenges, always striving for excellence.

Under Ms. Sharmila Kumbhat’s leadership, K-Lite has excelled in product innovation, creating designs that combine efficiency, modularity, and visual comfort. This has enabled the company to provide custom lighting solutions for prestigious projects, such as the outdoor lighting for India’s Parliament area in New Delhi and Egypt’s Parliament complex

in Cairo. K-Lite has also illuminated significant sites in Ayodhya, Varanasi, and Amritsar’s Golden Temple. Sharmila’s forward-thinking approach has positioned K-Lite as a key player in smart city lighting, driving its international expansion with K-Lite Europe now established in London to serve European markets.

Ms. Sharmila Kumbhat’s leadership extends far beyond business success, as she passionately advocates for women’s empowerment. At K-Lite, over 50% of the workforce is female, reflecting her commitment to fostering equal opportunities. She has transformed K-Lite from a promoter-driven company into a system-driven corporate entity, ensuring sustainable growth and long-term success. Sharmila’s philosophy—“Everyone is born with different strengths and develops new ones. I never give up”—has inspired her team and peers alike. Collaborating with international consultants and designers, she continues to drive K-Lite’s innovation, securing its position as a leader in next-generation lighting solutions.

**Ms. Sharmila Kumbhat’s visionary leadership transformed K-Lite Industries into an international leader in innovative lighting solutions.**

# Empowering Communities: Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik's Vision for Inclusive Financial Solutions

Empowering Lives: Mr. Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik's Vision for Financial Inclusion and Social Change through Annapurna Finance.

**M**r. Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik transforms lives through Annapurna Finance, championing financial inclusion and empowerment for underserved communities across India.

In the ever-evolving landscape of microfinance in India, few names resonate as profoundly as Mr. Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik, Managing Director of Annapurna Finance Pvt. Ltd. A true visionary, Mr. Pattanaik's transformative leadership has redefined financial inclusion, fostering a positive impact on millions of lives across the country. His journey, from a social activist to a prominent leader in microfinance, is a testament to the power of perseverance, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to societal betterment.

## Incredible Achievers: The Impactful Journey of Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik

With over three decades of experience in social development, Mr. Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik has consistently prioritized the needs of underserved communities. His early career as a social activist was driven by a profound desire to tackle the socio-economic challenges faced by marginalized groups. This passion led to the creation of People's Forum, a non-profit organization dedicated to uplifting the lives of those on the fringes of society. Under his leadership, the organization became the foundation for Annapurna Finance Pvt. Ltd., now one of India's top ten Non-Banking Financial Companies – Microfinance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs).

Founded in 2009, Annapurna Finance has carved a unique niche in the microfinance industry, offering tailored

financial products that meet the specific needs of its clients. From Joint Liability Group (JLG) loans that empower borrowers to the innovative Water and Sanitation Loan, aimed at improving hygiene standards, the organization has expanded its offerings to support holistic community development. Today, under Mr. Pattanaik's guidance, Annapurna Finance serves over 2.83 million clients across 21 states, delivering essential financial services to the most remote and economically disadvantaged regions of the country.

One of Mr. Pattanaik's notable achievements has been his advocacy for digital inclusion within microfinance. Recognizing the growing significance of digital platforms, he led the company through a successful digital transformation. By transitioning nearly 1.8 million transactions to digital platforms, Annapurna Finance has enhanced accessibility and convenience for its clients. This innovative approach earned the organization recognition as the best-performing biller under the loan repayment category in FY2022-



**Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik**  
Managing Director of  
Annapurna Finance Pvt. Ltd.

23, highlighting its commitment to progress.

Mr. Pattanaik's dedication extends beyond financial inclusion. He has established rehabilitation centers for vulnerable groups, including mentally ill patients, street beggars, and trafficked women, emphasizing Annapurna Finance's broader mission: promoting both economic empowerment and holistic well-being.

Throughout his career, Mr. Pattanaik has received numerous accolades for his contributions, including the Durgabai Deshmukh Award from the Central Social Welfare Board and a feature in Forbes India's 100 Great People Managers 2021. These awards underscore his leadership, innovative thinking, and impact-driven approach. Under his stewardship, Annapurna Finance has also been recognized as one of the Best BFSI Brands and the Best Organization for Women by The Economic Times.

As the driving force behind Annapurna Finance's growth and success, Mr. Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik exemplifies what it means to be an incredible achiever, setting a new standard for leadership in microfinance and positively impacting society.



**Mr. Gobinda Chandra Pattanaik leads Annapurna Finance, transforming lives through financial inclusion and innovative solutions for underserved communities across India.**

# Elevating the Essence of Indian Excellence: Shri Jai Narayan Chouksey, The Luminary Leader

LNCT Group: Pioneering Excellence in Education,  
Industry Integration and Entrepreneurship

## Vision for Education

**Q.** What inspired you to establish the LNCT Group, and how has your vision for education evolved since its inception in 1993?

**A.** My inspiration came from a deep belief in the transformative power of education. When we have started in 1993, the landscape of education in India was quite different. I envisioned creating an institution that not only imparts knowledge but also fosters character and skills over the years, our vision has evolved to focus more on integrating technology and practical experiences, ensuring our students are not only knowledgeable but also equipped to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

## Industry Integration

**Q.** With the rapid changes in the global job market, how does the LNCT Group ensure that its curriculum remains aligned with industry demands and prepares students for real-world challenges?

**A.** We maintain strong collaborations with various industries and multinational corporations to keep our curriculum relevant. Regular feedback from industry leaders helps us to adapt our programs to meet current market needs. Additionally, we invite industry experts to share their insights and conduct workshops, which keeps our students engaged with real-world scenarios and prepares them effectively for their future careers.

## Skill Development

**Q.** How does the LNCT Group incorporate skill development into its educational programs, and what initiatives are in place to equip students with the practical skills needed for their future careers?

**A.** Skill development is at the core of our educational approach. We have implemented various initiatives,

such as hands-on training sessions, internships, and workshops led by industry professionals. Our curriculum includes soft skills training, communication skills, and leadership development to ensure that students graduate not just with theoretical knowledge but also with the practical skills needed to excel in their careers.

## Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

**Q.** Can you elaborate on the role of the Incubation Center within the LNCT Group and how it supports aspiring entrepreneurs in building successful startups?

**A.** The Incubation Center serves as a nurturing ground for aspiring entrepreneurs. We provide mentorship, resources, and funding opportunities to help them turn their ideas into viable businesses. The center also facilitates networking with industry leaders, which is crucial for budding entrepreneurs. Our aim is to create an environment where innovative ideas can flourish and contribute to the startup ecosystem.

## Community Impact

**Q.** The LNCT Group is known for its commitment to community welfare, such as the free medical services offered by J K Hospital. How do you envision the group's role in social responsibility and community engagement moving forward?

**A.** We believe that education should not only empower individuals but also uplift communities. Our commitment to social responsibility will continue to grow, with plans to expand our community engagement initiatives. We aim to create more partnerships with local organizations to address pressing social issues and ensure that our students understand the importance of giving back to society.



**Jai Narayan Chouksey**

Chairman, LNCT Group of Colleges & Chancellor, LNCT University, Bhopal

**Dr. Anupam Chouksey**

Secretary, LNCT Group of Colleges & Pro - Chancellor, LNCT University, Bhopal

## Conclusion

Under the esteemed leadership of Shri Jai Narayan Chouksey, The LNCT Group has solidified its position as a pioneer in education, blending academic rigor with practical skill development and community engagement. As it continues to evolve, the LNCT Group remains committed to producing globally-ready graduates who are equipped to meet the challenges of the 21st century, making it a source of pride for India.

**LNCT Group excels in academia, fostering industry ties and entrepreneurship to shape globally-ready graduates for the dynamic 21<sup>st</sup>-century landscape.**

# AI Meets Classroom Curiosity: Dr. Manjula Pooja Shroff's Vision for the Future of Education

Harnessing AI to Transform Learning, Empowering Educators, and Supporting Digital-Age Parenting with Kalorex's Innovative Approach

**W**ith the dawn of generative AI, many educational institutes around the world found themselves in uncharted waters. Teachers and students suddenly were grappling with an advanced technology that could excel in standardized tests and solve complex problem sets—faster than humans ever could.

For Dr. Manjula Pooja Shroff, the MD and CEO of Kalorex Group, the advent of AI was not a threat, but an opportunity. Her perspective is stemmed from a belief that technological advancements and AI technologies in the education sector could not just revolutionize the learning experience, but make it more engaging and personalized for students.

Rather than viewing AI as an adversary, she encourages parents, and educators to embrace these technologies, viewing them as collaborative partners in the educational process.

## AI Clone and Avatar

One of her pioneering initiatives is the creation of MAYA, her AI avatar and clone. In an effort to bridge the gap between traditional education and digital innovation, MAYA was designed to enhance personalized learning experiences for students, parents, and educators alike.

In just a year, MAYA has reached over 75 cities, impacting thousands of students and educators across India.

## Kalorex Group

Over a span of nearly 30 years, Kalorex Group has been at the forefront of integrating technology into education, a testament to Dr. Shroff's forward-thinking vision. With a network of 60+ institutions, the group has empowered over 4000 educators, and shaped the futures of over 88,000 students.

She has been deeply involved with state and central policy committees working on the implementation of NEP 2020. She developed a detailed NEP implementation strategy report, which has been shared with various stakeholders, including Education Ministries, Departments of Education and school principals across the country.

## Parenting in the digital age

Last month, Dr. Shroff launched Total Parenting Solutions, a comprehensive approach to helping parents, educators and students manage the complexities of parenting in the digital age. Total Parenting Solutions includes her bestselling book *Baby Steps to Big Dreams*, its newly released sequel *Safe Teen Steps*, and an innovative AI tool called *Sitting-by-MAYA*, which provides real-time advice to parents and teens alike.

*Safe Teen Steps* tackles hard-hitting issues like cyberbullying, sexting, catfishing, harassment, online grooming, and social media addiction. The book, authored by Ms. Ragini Bharadwaj and Dr. Shroff, offers practical advice to parents on how to engage with their children and



**Dr. Manjula Pooja Shroff**  
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ensure a safe online experience.

*Sitting-By-MAYA*, the online Adaptive AI interactive portal, is a key component of this package that offers instant solutions to specific parenting queries and doubts.

Today, Kalorex operates K-12 schools including Delhi Public School, Bopal-Ahmedabad, Kalorex Future Schools, and a chain of Kalorex Pre-Schools. Reflecting a commitment to inclusivity of all students, the group also runs initiatives like *Perna* and the *Visamo Kids Foundation*, which aim to support children with learning difficulties and uplift underprivileged youth.

Additionally, Kalorex also offers a digital learning platform – *eKal Academy* – to learners of all age

groups with self-paced and live sessions for academic and co-curricular development and career counselling.

## Emphasis on sustainability

Kalorex also places a strong emphasis on sustainability. To ensure that this value percolates to all groups of society, including teachers, parents, students, and vendors, the Group showcased the Kalorex Mascot, *Yali*, as the *Green Guardian*.

This initiative involves all stakeholders and encourages them to follow *Yali* and engage in a series of focused activities aligned to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, and also contribute towards Green Earth initiatives through internal drives.

**Dr. Shroff embraces AI to personalize education, guide parents, and create sustainable, inclusive learning through Kalorex's groundbreaking initiatives.**