

# Connect

January 2022

The magazine for alumni of member firms of EY Global in India

*Living*  
the dream,  
one step at a time

**Shweta Jalan**  
Managing Partner,  
Advent International

**Walking down  
memory lane...**

*Retiring Partners*



Building a better  
working world

# Welcome

## EY Alumni



### **Farokh Balsara**

Partner Sponsor  
India Alumni Program

Dear friends,

It gives me immense pleasure to connect with you through this ninth edition of our annual publication, specially curated for the members of our EY alumni network - *'Connect'*.

At the onset of this new year, I truly hope you and your family are keeping healthy and safe. The last year has been an unwarranted emotional roller-coaster. 2021 started off well and we entered into the second wave of the pandemic, more severe and damaging than the first for many. It unimaginably disrupted our lives when we were expecting to be returning to normalcy. It shook us and tested our resilience, patience and determination in every way. My condolences to those in grief and my sincere thanks for showing all the courage. Post that dreadful phase, the next six months once again gave us the hope that the worst was over, our lives and spirits had started picking up and then again, we start 2022 amid the third wave. Even though it seems less tragic, it still has brought in some level of uncertainty that brings along anxiety and an overwhelming feeling. I really hope that you are taking good care of yourself and your loved ones in this challenging time. I am sure it will soon be over and we can look forward to a better future soon.

Before the third wave hit us, the last six months the business was gaining momentum as well. We especially saw the private equity investments and exits being the buzz words and recording highest ever numbers. Tracking the trend, we bring to you the inspiring journeys of a few of leaders in the

private equity industry. We are happy to present our conversation with **Shweta Jalan, who is leading Advent International in India** as the cover story of this edition. We are sure you will enjoy reading her inspiring success story, the foundation of which is based on humility, ethics, passion, in-depth experience and ambition.

In another feature, we present the inspiring story of **Amith Bharadiya**, Vice President (Finance), The Blackstone Group. From his humble beginning to now supporting one of the world's leading private equity firm is inspiring for many. We have also featured an interesting conversation with **Kalpesh Jain**, MD and CFO at Multiples Equity. His story is a testament to the importance of making the right choice at the right time.

Further, we also pay a tribute to our partners who have retired during the last couple of years. We have put together specific snippets from their life that will take you down the memory lane with each of them and bring you their association and contributions to EY. I wish each of them a very fulfilling time going forward.

Friends, as an organization, EY has also made progress on many fronts. From turning carbon negative to winning the transfer pricing firm of the year 2021 award to once again being named as a great place to work, we have many developments to share. We have covered these significant developments in our EY news section. We have also included our top-of-the-shelf insights to give you a perspective on various aspects that are driving the economy and the industry per se.

I would also like to highlight the exceptional response we have received from you during the Global Alumni Week 2021. I was happy to see that the entire alumni community came together amid the raging pandemic to show their compassion for each other. This edition also includes two interviews with two of our returner Partners - **Shailesh Tyagi** and **Bharat Gupta**. They have re-joined EY as partners and are now helping in building a better working world. The conversations indicate the important role that EY plays in the professional lives of our people, whether past or present. Friends, with a heavy heart I share the news of the untimely passing of our EY alumni **Rangarajan K Ekambaram**. He was a valued member of the EY India alumni network and will be missed. Please keep his family in your thoughts in this difficult time.

As EY alumni, you have been an integral part of our culture and I feel proud that the EY India Alumni Network is growing from strength to strength and is today a community of 14,500+ registered alumni. We hope that this association continues to grow stronger especially as we step into the tenth year of this program.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of '**Connect**'. As always, we welcome your thoughts, suggestions, and feedback on this edition.

Warm regards,  
Farokh

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*The views expressed are personal to the individuals as profiled in the alumni interviews/articles.*

For further information on Connect, please contact the alumni relations team at [eyindia.alumni@in.ey.com](mailto:eyindia.alumni@in.ey.com)

*Thanking our people:*  
**the resilient force that  
propels us forward**



**Rajiv Memani**

Chairman, India Region  
Chairman, Global Emerging  
Markets Committee

*Throughout the year, many of you – our alumni - worked with us in different ways. I feel proud and humbled by your contributions and volunteer-ship with our CSR initiatives, especially during the worst phases of the pandemic.*

Hello everyone,

I hope you and your families are keeping well.

While 2020 turned our lives upside down, this year was a mixed bag with several highs and lows. When I look at our journey at EY in 2021, the adaptability and agility with which we adjusted to the new normal reaffirms my belief that we have our priorities at the right place - our clients and our people. Importantly, it is because of the resilience and commitment of our people that we have continued to grow strength to strength despite the external environment and delivered on our purpose of building a better working world.

I am pleased to connect with you through this issue of the Alumni '**Connect**' and share some highlights of our organization from the year gone by.

## When adversity brings out the best in human spirit

While 2021 started on a positive note and it looked like the pandemic-induced downturn was beginning to ebb, soon afterwards we were hit by the heart-rending second wave. It was indeed a difficult time for many of our people too, but I am also heartened with the way our people and the global organization came together to extend support. Colleagues from across the country stepped forward to help with arranging for beds, oxygen, and blood plasma, among other medical supplies. We truly saw humanity at its best. As a firm, we supported our people, clients and alumni through access to medical infrastructure and were among the first organizations to organize COVID vaccination for our people and their families.

Our EY Foundation launched several initiatives to look after the needs of the most disadvantaged. The Foundation, in coordination with its NGO partners, played a vital role in providing food and other necessary supplies to the deprived during the pandemic. It also facilitated medical infrastructure in the form of temporary COVID centers and setting up oxygen plants as also with food and critical medicines.

To address the challenges of a prolonged remote working environment, we started many new initiatives to keep our people engaged. Through holistic physical, emotional and financial health programs and hobby clubs that saw the participation of 12,000+ people, we enabled an environment for people to disconnect from work, re-energize, and prioritize their overall well-being.

## The secret of success is to be ready when opportunity knocks

While the second wave of the pandemic caught everyone unawares, the quick recovery in economic and consumer demand resulted in new growth avenues for businesses. On one hand, digitization and technology continue to define the strategic transformation agenda for clients, on the other, we saw the themes of ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) and sustainability assume greater significance against the backdrop of rising awareness of climate change as also investors call for sustainable business practices.

The accommodative monetary policy adopted by several countries have led to greater appetite for M&As, and pursuit of growth capital by companies of all sizes through private equity and IPOs. The tax and economic reforms including schemes like Production-Linked Incentives have also given impetus to manufacturing and set the stage for capital investments. Together, these trends have resulted in increased opportunities for us across all our service lines.

Benjamin Disraeli once said, "the secret of success is to be ready when opportunity knocks" - I am pleased that our early investments in high quality talent and technology have held us in good stead to seize market opportunities and we continue to hire the best talent to meet our future needs. In 2021, we added 12,000+ people to our workforce, including several new partners who bring with them a wealth of sector and domain experience.

## A resolve to staying ahead of the curve

I feel very optimistic of the opportunities that lie ahead of us and for our people. Globally, the organization announced a three-year expansion plan and a combined investment spend of US\$10b between FY22 and FY24 in areas of quality, technology, sustainability and transformation. These also constitute a big part of our strategic agenda in India too.

Amidst this increased business momentum, we are also cognizant of our biggest challenge of hiring and retaining the best talent, which will be critical to our success in the future.



*I truly feel that we came out stronger this year both in capability and adaptability thanks to our people, who remarkably rose to the occasion, living up to the expectations of our varied stakeholders and achieving their aspirations.*

Like always, our community efforts and focus on environment will remain an integral part of our purpose. Our efforts to spread education and employability remain strong through our programs. Many more employees have joined our efforts to contribute to the betterment of the society through the global EY Ripples program, which saw more than 2,700 participants in several initiatives impacting 650,000 lives in 2021.

I truly feel that we came out stronger this year both in capability and adaptability thanks to our people, who remarkably rose to the occasion, delivering high quality service to clients, living up to the expectations of our varied stakeholders and achieving their own aspirations. I remain deeply grateful to them and to you - our alumni - who have always extended so much support to the firm. I feel particularly proud to see EY alumni in India and around the world reaching career heights and conquering new frontiers. I have immensely enjoyed reading the interesting stories of some of our alumni featured in this edition of 'Connect' who are making a mark in the private equity space in India.

I will close by saying that in the past year we have established more ways of staying connected with you. I hope you find these platforms valuable and would request you to share your feedback on what we can do better.

***Wish you a wonderful 2022 full of happiness, joy and good health.***







# How human is your algorithm?

EY's global financial services team can help you humanize your digital offering. [ey.com/financial](http://ey.com/financial)  
**#BetterQuestions**



The better the question. The better the answer. The better the world works.

# Living the dream, one step at a time

*Shweta Jalan is among the few women leaders who are heading global funds in India's fast-growing private equity (PE) space. A part of the India leadership team since 2009, when Advent had just begun investing in India, Shweta is now a well-recognized investor in the Indian private equity space. She worked with EY in India as an associate with the corporate finance team in Kolkata and Mumbai.*

## Early days

Born in Kolkata, and having lived in a joint family, Shweta gives credit of her success to her liberal and progressive parents. Her mother, an entrepreneur, and her father, an Indian Institute of Management - Ahmedabad alumnus, ensured that she had access to the best education from top schools in Kolkata. Shweta completed her under graduation in economics and later earned an MBA from Kolkata.

Her early years managing between academics, living with a large family, and seeing her mother and father focussed on doing something meaningful gave Shweta the lessons she needed to become a successful professional. With the right foundation, all she then needed was the opportunity to perform and shine.

## Spreading her wings

Shweta joined EY in 1999 right after college in its Kolkata office and was part of the corporate finance team which was in its nascent stages. She recounts having great relationships with several partners and colleagues back then, which she continues to cherish. Shweta relives the nostalgia of her short but very memorable stint at EY and acknowledges that EY gave her the initial platform in corporate finance which made her realize her true calling as a professional.

Corporate finance was the buzzword back then and Shweta soon started to learn the basics of the investment banking world. In November 1999, after visiting EY's Mumbai office for a short project and working there for a while, she found the opportunity to move to Mumbai. With a smile on her face Shweta recalls, "I was really



*Learnings and relationships which I developed during my tenure at EY were my stepping stones for a career in investing.*



# Shweta Jalan



looking forward to move out of Kolkata and I just jumped onto the opportunity. That was probably the best decision I have taken”.

Shweta relives the nostalgia of her short but very memorable stint at EY and acknowledges that EY gave her the initial platform in corporate finance which made her realize her true calling as a professional.

## The why and how of investment banking

Deals and the investing side of business always looked exciting to Shweta even while she was pursuing her MBA. But her first-hand experience of corporate finance at EY gave her more clarity. She got introduced to a career in investing with ICICI Ventures which was one of the few major investment banking firms in the early 2000s and was heavily investing in start-ups while also incubating companies. The opportunity seemed like a natural extension to her and an exciting place to be in. She joined ICICI Ventures and has not looked back since.

## New beginnings and new opportunities

Shweta's journey with ICICI Ventures was an exciting one with many ups and downs which accentuated her learning curve. Her first few years were spent in understanding the investment landscape in detail by collaborating across industries and segments. She vividly remembers how the dot com bust had shaken the market and investors' confidence and says it was a very volatile time in the industry. She shares, "That was the time when everybody learned and understood private equity which was not a known asset class yet and we literally had to go and explain everything to the clients."

Shweta feels that the later part of her stint with ICICI Ventures where she got immense exposure through multiple buyout assignments, prepared the grounds for her career with one of the global leading buyout firms.

## Making a conscious choice

Always having a zeal to stay ahead of competition, Shweta calls her decision to join Advent 'a conscious choice.' Advent came to India in 2007 and set up an office in 2009 which is when Shweta saw a window of opportunity where she could truly get global exposure and learn from the best. She feels her personal growth has mirrored Advent's and that she has significantly grown with the firm. She proudly shares that Advent had a very humble beginning in India but since then it has only grown in size and scale and also in the volume

of deals. She credits the culture of Advent as the major driving force behind this. She shares "it is an extremely humble culture. I still remember meeting several partners when I interviewed, and the culture is still the same despite the scale we've achieved today". Engaging on the topic of what she really likes about her current role, Shweta replied, "I really love what I do, there is a lot of entrepreneurial spirit in my role. When we invest in companies, we feel the ownership of that company, and the journey each company takes through its various phases. You see those companies grow and transform for the period you own them. You also see challenges and learn how to grapple with those challenges and help them come out of it".

Shweta's investment philosophy is to have a simple approach focused on a few key sectors while also adopting bottom-up approach. Shweta expands this and says "I look at the underlying foundation that the company has. Once the foundation is there, you build upon it. The idea is to have companies which have strong growth levers and have multiple margin levers. Apart from growing such companies, you also try and implement not something incremental but something structural".

As per Shweta, she is more focused on working with companies which are more mature and present an opportunity of driving change. The biggest differentiator is not just buying companies and then selling them, it's the art of bringing in transformation in how the company operates and doing something more valuable. She also believes in having a mix of both data and experience, or 'the gut' while making investment decisions.

## The private equity industry - tickers and dynamics

Looking at the private equity industry, Shweta thinks that the entire ecosystem has significantly evolved in the last two decades. The deal sizes have increased, be it on the investing side or the exit side, and it's not something done by an individual or an entity, the market itself has matured and transformed completely. Recalling her early days in investing she said, "When I started my career in investing, we really use to fight for a cheque size of \$75 million, but now even if someone has a cheque size of \$250 million, you cannot be sure whether it is enough to run and sustain a business."

The private equity industry in recent times have been breaking all records across investments and exits. IPOs are a hit and investors are extremely bullish on the market. While agreeing to the sentiment, Shweta does expect an eventual natural correction in the market but ponders on the only question - when.

Shweta also finds the accelerated growth of the market a little counterintuitive given the pandemic. Sectors which have never traded well previously are now trading at extremely high multiples and the overall sentiment is so positive. She also believes there are certain sectoral themes in play where she finds logic behind the ramped-up sentiment but some valuations are not easy to explain as there is little correlation between numbers and actual valuations, she thinks.

Speaking on the future of the market, Shweta thinks that the

Indian economy will have to catch-up with people's hope. Right now, everyone is very positive about the growth of the economy which has bounced back after many dampeners in the past few years like demonetization, GST implementation and the pandemic. She also shares that everyone at Advent is very excited about the future of India and that the country is on the right growth track, but she also advises caution while investing.

## Core values remain constant

Coming back to talking about EY, when asked how EY has evolved in the last two decades, she says that the entire professional services industry has changed. It is outstanding to see that EY today is a completely different organization offering all services under one roof. Talking about what has remained the same in EY even after all these years, she credits EY for the relationship orientation which it still sustains. According to her, the culture of developing and managing relationships is still very strong and adds, "this is the biggest differentiator for EY".

## On the personal front

She has immense gratitude for many people in her life, who she credits for having taught her so much. Humility and positivity stand out as the core attributes that drive her as a person. Personally, she loves spending time with her two kids who are 9 and 13 years old. Her husband is an investment banker and they try and find time whenever they can as a family. In terms of hobbies, she enjoys yoga and tries to take out time from her busy schedule. She shares that she is happy with what she has accomplished for herself, she shared that she does not have any major regrets in life. Going forward, she would like to get an opportunity to get more involved in the social sector and work at the grass root level that she feels could make a real difference.

## Constant bond with EY

Shweta continues to have a special bond with EY. She shares that, "there are still many people I am in touch with, even today." Even though her stint with EY was brief, she recalls her association as an exceptional journey and gladly told us that relationships she developed at EY are still a part of her professional life. Her continuing bond resonates with EY's endeavour to make its experience last a lifetime.

***"Whenever you join, however long you stay, the exceptional EY experience lasts a lifetime".***

# Walking down ● ● *memory lane...*

Meet our partners who  
retired recently



**Terry  
Thomas**



**Thampy  
Koshy**



**Vijay  
Maniar**



**Suresh  
Subramanian**



**Amit  
Majmudar**

Taking a break to pursue his  
passion for photography



**Mahendra  
Jain**

# Terry Thomas

## The Techpreneur

The last 22 years have been a long journey. I want to thank a few people and put light on some memories that have been great, and I want to start by thanking the Almighty.

There has been a lot of support and inputs that I have received from EY Leadership at large, I want to thank all of you, particularly Rajiv. I started my career under his watch, and I look back at the firm that I joined and the firm that I'm leaving -it has come a long way because of your excellent leadership. Thank You for that.

I also want to thank all the partners who have stood alongside me, supporting me and in helping me succeed. Mentioning the Chennai office, yes, I did a lot but if it wasn't for the partners then it would have been a total failure. You made me what I am today. I also want to thank my family who have been the real pillar of support and if you don't have support from your family, one will always be a shade of what they are, both in terms of performance and otherwise.

There are a lot of people who have invested time in shaping me, mentoring me, counselling me and I want to thank all of them.

EY made me what I am today.



In your association of over two decades, I've known you as a disciplinarian and a stickler for time, but what I most admire about you is that you 'call a spade a spade' and feel fortunate to have experienced your strong people and societal values. You are a 'people's person' at heart and have always kept their interests central to your decisions. You are a great role model for many and have mentored several young partners of the firm.

Terry, thank you so much for all the great work you have done. Wish you the very best in whatever you do.

Look forward to staying connected.

**Rajiv Memani**

Chairman - India Region, EY  
Chairman- Emerging Markets Committee







All the best for the future. I still remember the days in ISAAS and the fun we had with the entire team. How you managed so many disparate, overconfident bunch of people at that time was a wonder. You have always been a person of high integrity and I will always respect you for not just your knowledge and achievements but your humility and integrity. Wish you all the very best.

### **Pinakiranj Mishra**

Partner,  
Business Consulting, EY India



Thank you so much for all your support and guidance provided to us over the years. From a small team in STS to this huge team of cybersecurity –we have come a long way and could not have been possible without your leadership to begin with. Be it your sense of discipline and protocols at work or the fun time we had at Naneghat offsite, you command a sense of respect and loyalty. Wish you all the very best in your journey ahead! You will be dearly missed!

### **Mini Gupta**

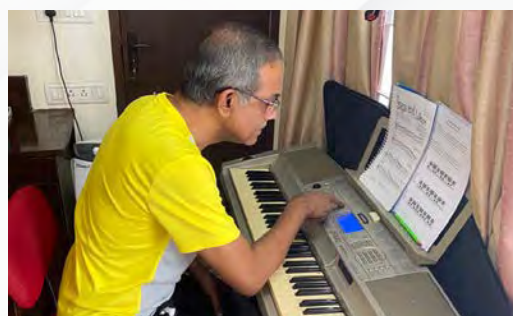
Partner,  
Business Consulting, EY India



You have had an incredible first innings and I am confident that your second innings too won't be any different. My career has unfolded under your wings; thank you for your motivation and guidance. Congratulations on an outstanding career and best wishes for your retirement.

### **Nitin Mehta**

Partner,  
Business Consulting, EY India



# Thampy Koshy

## *The Guru of Digital transformation*

When I joined in 2011, I did not think that I will last, to be very honest. It was a completely new thing and I had never been there. I was always the guy on the street trying to do things there, not anybody who can tell everybody what to do in their life. But I had fantastic friends and colleagues like Gaurav, Rahul and many more who were my early friends and a fantastic team who made every moment exciting. Like I said any job comes with a frustration, but I had got the opportunity to be associated with a lot of assignments which I have been proud of.



***It has been a fantastic journey!*** .....



While you continue to be associated with the firm, I want to acknowledge and thank you for the immense contributions you have made as a partner. Your decade-long stint with EY has undoubtedly been impactful and inspiring. Whilst we know you to be an absolute workaholic, I have seen you inspiringly find the time to follow your varied interests in sailing, horse riding, and fitness. I am also enthused with your immense passion for education, especially the personal commitment you have shown in establishing and running an educational campus in Coimbatore. It truly shows the human being and leader that you are –compassionate and conscientious.

Once again, thank you for everything you have done for the firm. I will look forward to staying connected.

**Rajiv Memani**

Chairman - India Region, EY

Chairman- Emerging Markets Committee



It has been great working with you. Never once did you come across as a boss. Always a friend and mentor,. inspiring us to reimagine things at a grand scale. Thank you and wish you all the best. Look forward to continuing working with you as you continue to blaze new trails at EY, even after you retire.

**Joe Cosma**  
EY Partner and  
CSP World Bank (Africa)



You really taught us valuable lessons in our professional life and would like to thank you for that. All the best to you and your family. Wishing you the most exciting and stress-free retirement ever.

**Sanjeev Kumar Nagpal**  
Senior Manager,  
Technology Consulting, EY India



It has been a pleasure knowing and working with you over the years! Thank you for everything that you ha've done for us.

**Shiv Narain**  
Partner,  
Business Consulting, EY India



# Vijay Maniar

## Retail Champion

I am taking back memories of moving from Vaswani Mansion to Express Towers to Jalan Mill, to Ruby Towers. Also, I am taking back the excitement of experience of 400 plus audit committee meetings which I have been part of. I am taking back the respect and pride I got when I told a person I am a partner at EY.

I am taking back the pursuits, learnings, losses. I take back the meeting of deadlines. I will cherish how we went against all odds and met those deadlines. I take back the Audit debriefing meetings, the audit closing parties, people sharing their experiences. I take back how interns and others join and what were their aspirations, how were they excited about their future success.

I take back the learnings and trainings we have had. My most important take back is the interaction with the brightest professionals.

I take back all my interactions. I take back the relationships which I built within the firm and outside the firm. I take back all friendship within and outside the firm.



In your two decades long association, you have made remarkable contributions to the success of the firm. Thank you so much for all the great work you have done. Wish you the very best in whatever you do. I know you will continue to have an active life.

Looking forward to staying connected.

**Rajiv Memani**

Chairman - India Region, EY  
Chairman- Emerging Markets Committee

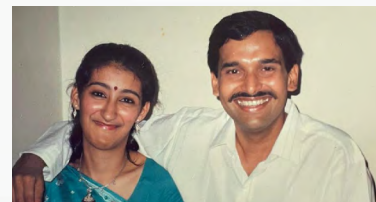




It was great to work under your mentorship, and I always had great interactions with you. I have learned a lot from you. Wish you a very healthy and successful life ahead.

**Sanjay Bachchani**

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



Dear Vijay bhai, best of luck. It is always a pleasure to interact with you, as you are very relaxed in every situation and always have a smile on your face. Look forward to being in touch.

**Navin Vohra**

Partner,  
Strategy and Transactions, EY India



I have always admired your down-to-earth attitude, your Buddha-level Zen, even bringing in an element of light-heartedness to any situation, despite all the pressures. Here's wishing you a peaceful and happy retirement!

**Aniruddh Sankaran**

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



# Suresh Subramanian

*Transforming the practice,  
the people and the profession*

A lot is often said about my contribution to the growth and development of the Assurance practice in Chennai, but honestly, I was only the facilitator of the orchestra. It was the hard work and efforts of my fellow partners and colleagues that helped develop a market leading practice in Chennai. Whether it was the efforts in the successes of audit rotations or establishing a knowledgeable and respectable position in the market by demonstrating thought leadership - the wonderful team spirit helped us grow. All teams in the Chennai office work together as a well-knit unit and have supported each other throughout - bringing remarkable progress and achievements to the office. All this would have not been possible without inspirational leadership. Our leaders gave us immense level of freedom and independence to drive initiatives, demonstrate entrepreneurial spirit and deliver excellence. I will always cherish the fantastic memories I have created at EY.



Thank you so much Suresh, for being a wonderful partner, excellent colleague and for really contributing immensely to the firm and leading a tremendous legacy in the audit profession, and more so in Chennai where your personal brand as a thorough professional is just fantastic.

**Rajiv Memani**

Chairman - India Region, EY  
Chairman- Emerging Markets Committee





I want to thank you for everything that you have done. You came to Chennai as our boss, you leave us as a friend, mentor, and father figure. On behalf of the firm, and particularly the Chennai office – we thank you for everything that you have done for us and wish you the very best in what you may call as your third innings.

**Bharat Nallapa**

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



Thank you so much for your support, it was just fantastic having you as a partner and somebody to bounce things off. Your leadership and your calmness are exemplary, which all of us can take back with us as we head towards our retirement as well.

**Ranjan Biswas**

Partner,  
EY India



Suresh is quintessential professional – someone who has a quest for knowledge, is passionate, technically superb, an excellent auditor, has wonderful convincing skills, has the urge to resolve complex issues, and gives the best possible advice to clients.

**Balasubrahmanyam Sangameshwaran**

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



# Amit Majmudar

## Captain cool

My journey started in 1999 with the Vaswani mansion office and I have spent 21 years with the firm and 15 years as a partner. It has been a great journey and I cannot thank the firm enough because it redefined my professional career. The firm has given me a lot of opportunities to work with great leaders and technical experts, along with social recognition. When you meet someone, and you tell them that you are a partner at EY - that one sentence has so much of impact and it's just a fantastic feeling. When I look at the firm, all I can say is that it is a world class organization, the best in the country and resilient. It is just phenomenal how we have handled this COVID situation. I would like to thank everyone in my team for their effort and hard work. I am taking back a lot of good friendships; relationships and I do not think I can ask for anything more.



Amit commands tremendous respect for his attention to quality and has worked tirelessly to create this ethos in the larger team. I have always found Amit's integrity, honesty and positive attitude reflect in client engagements and in the way, he leads his team. He is ardently devoted to the betterment of the profession and growth for its practitioners.

### Rajiv Memani

Chairman - India Region, EY  
Chairman- Emerging Markets Committee







Remember the times when you used to prepare so intensely for an audit partner review – going over the points you would want to make and anticipating the partner's points, so that no item was left. But most fondly that I remember is our time at the cricket field, especially the time we were in the team that won the EY All India Cricketing tournament and we brought the cup home.

### Viren Mehta

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



It has indeed been a pleasure to have worked with you for 18 years. I carry fond memories of all our interactions over the years - be it managing the practice or clients or the people, as well as the time spent off work. Over time, all of these have contributed to the blossoming of a strong friendship, which I deeply cherish. My journey with EY has been nothing but 'exceptional' and having you by my side has been a big contribution.

### Govind Ahuja

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



Few words that come to mind when we think of Amit are, he is active, honest, friendly and reliable. I have always felt at ease with him around and seeing him making even complex matters look simple with his humour. The cheerful and the calm demeanour that he exhibits, particularly in some of the client transitions that I have done from him, the resolve that he has, and the kind of respect that he demands from the client is extremely admirable.

### Nilangshu Katriar

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



*Taking a break to pursue his passion for photography*

## Mahendra Jain

### *Framing life*

*with passion and purpose!*

My journey with EY has been a wonderful one. As I take a break from what I refer to as my second marriage, I would like to say that I will always continue this association. I will always remember my interactions with the senior members at EY. Being one of the youngest partners in the firm and delivering the roles that I was entrusted with, would not have been possible without the support from the leaders, and I can easily say that the leaders of the firm have been one of its biggest strengths. I have personally been a part of EY's journey, and it has been nothing but phenomenal. Overall, it has been a great and fun experience, and it will always be a very memorable and special phase of my life.



Mahendra has had a big impact on the firm's Bengaluru practice in the last 27 years that he has been with us. He became one of the youngest partners two decades ago and has been a par excellence auditor with a depth of technical and business knowledge. He has built strong relationships with clients, been an inspiring mentor to many young partners, and has instilled a passion for gaining domain expertise and commitment to quality in his team. I have known him as a very focused person who gets intensely involved when he decides to do something and his passion for wildlife photography is commendable.

**Rajiv Memani**

Chairman – India Region, EY  
Chairman - Emerging Markets Committee





Nothing I can say will ever convey the amount of gratitude we owe to you MJ for guiding us. I have always shared a special bonding with you and have always reached out to you in difficult situations for guidance. You have impacted me on how a person should be, and this is something I cannot thank you enough for. I have seen the selfless efforts you have put in to grow the Bangalore practice over the years. You got the best out of us and I consider myself fortunate for having a chance to work with an expert of your calibre. Your time and guidance have been the most important and valuable thing for us.

**Adarsh Ranka**

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



I have worked closely with Mahendra and his various Global roles over the years speak highly of his versatility. He is one mature individual. Very often we had to make decisions and I would not hesitate to give him a call, and he used to provide mature advice for the practice – something that I have valued a lot.

**Sudhir Soni**

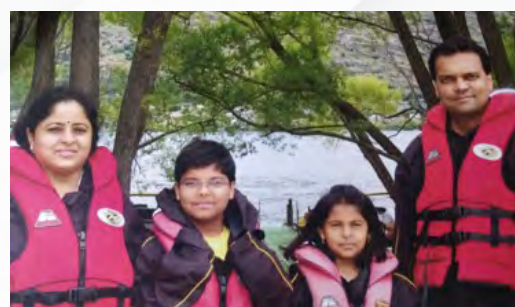
Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India



Two amazing qualities of Mahendra are: people skills – he develops strong relationships with anyone and everyone (client/peer group). Second quality is his relentless focus, he would not leave anything unless it is done and would apply the same level of focus everywhere, even in his personal hobbies.

**Chandra Rampuria**

Partner,  
Member firm of EY Global in India





**Kalpesh  
Jain**



*EY really knows the pulse of the market. They know what the market expects and will find a solution. It is much faster and way ahead of all other firms in that approach and goes to the market as One EY*

## *Making the right choices at the right time*

*Kalpesh Jain, currently the Managing Director and CFO at Multiples Equity, was a former partner with a member firm of EY in India. His journey from being a leading voice in the assurance space to now actively supporting a successful domestic private equity firm is remarkable. As we spoke to him in an hour-long conversation about his journey, we uncover interesting anecdotes which made him the professional he is today.*

### Achieving big, right from the beginning

Born and brought up in Mumbai in a business family, Kalpesh undertook the foundation course of Chartered Accountancy only to realize that it's where his interest lay. "I actually felt that this is something that can seriously be pursued, and it has wonderful opportunities and clearing the exam in the first attempt already felt like a win!" When Kalpesh was about to complete his Chartered Accountancy, he realised that to be the best, he needed to learn from the best and for him, the Big 4 was the way to go. He worked with another Big 4 firm before joining EY a few years later. Later, his constant focus from his early days helped him quickly become a partner at EY in India.

### The exceptional EY experience

Kalpesh shared that he spent the longest time of his professional career with EY. He worked with EY from 2002 to 2018, an indication of his exceptional experience which, as per Kalpesh, lasts even after moving on from EY. Kalpesh not only got an opportunity to play a significant part in EY's growth but also a platform to mentor and coach many young aspiring professionals by offering them useful advice who worked with him.

## Switching Gears

After having spent many years with Assurance practice at EY in India, Kalpesh took on an opportunity in industry and believes he took the right plunge! Coming from an Assurance background, private equity was an entirely new frontier for Kalpesh. With time, he started to sense the nerve of the industry and its inner working and realized that he had made the right choice. He has had the opportunity to do multiple things at Multiples and shared that he setup the "Fitness team" and is involved in Investment Diligence, Structuring, Portfolio Management, Taxation, Funds and Investor Operation, and IT/ Tech. Over the period of three years, Kalpesh has had a very interesting journey from raising \$650 million fund to an existing investment fund worth \$1 billion and working with portfolio companies during the pandemic times.

## Making sense of the private equity market

Kalpesh sees the overall private equity market sentiment as positive and says "it is an interesting time for the private equity industry with private equity funds' investment in India reaching record high. It will increase further with availability of capital and opportunities". He is excited about the future and believes that, *"it is just the start. With strong team, strategy and tapping into right themes, Indian fund managers can grow many folds from present"*.

## Opening on the personal front

Kalpesh calls himself an introvert and says that his friends and colleagues also identify him as someone who is shy and open within a limited circle of family and friends however, he is also clear on how to get his job done. His calm demeanour and taking a composed response to questions, also reaffirmed these personality traits. He further adds, "if not thinking so, you'll have endless regrets in life and with god's grace I have a loving family, good career, good organizations to work with". Kalpesh's idea of an alternate career option would lead him to become a street photographer which is a hobby he has recently picked up. He enjoys his time with his family, loves the job that he does and wants to learn guitar along with his daughter and son. He calls himself a fitness freak and although he has not been able to focus on it right now, he wants to go back to the same fitness regime.

## Advice to the millennials

Kalpesh's advice to the millennial was very clear. He calls early twenties as the most important part of their professional career and advises them to invest the maximum amount of time learning all that they can. He adds, Big 4 will not give you global experience but will also shape you as a professional. Only things is you need to be ready for it". He balances the need to learn with taking out time for their personal lives as well because this is the time to not only grow professionally but personally, as well. He closes this by saying, *"Just believe in yourself and go ahead with it, you will achieve what you want to."*

**EY Entrepreneur Of The Year™**  
2021 India

**Are you determined to break through to the unknown?**

**Celebrating the unstoppable entrepreneurs whose vision changes the world.**

**ey.com/in/eoy #EOYIndia2021**

**The better the question.  
The better the answer.  
The better the world works.**

**EY**  
Building a better working world

# Knowledge centre

## Our latest insights



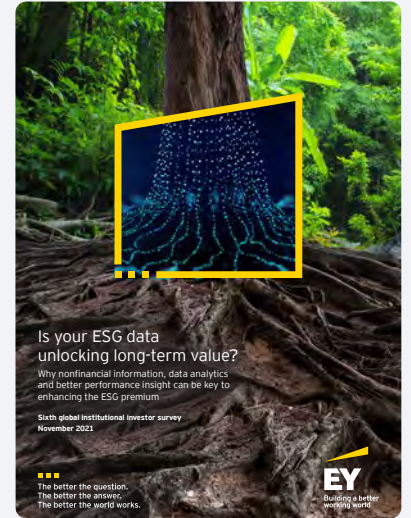
### Can ESG help future-proof your business?

ESG as a concept is evolving in creating long-term value for all the stakeholders. This report explores the importance of the ESG framework as a critical approach to long-term business resilience and why it is vital in long-term value creation.



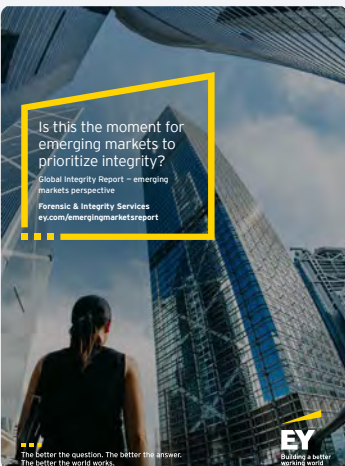
### How can all benefit from the green leadership by the few

This report examines the importance of countries' need to work together to accelerate the global transition to a sustainable future with equitable access to green capital, technology, and knowledge.



### EY Global Institutional Investor Survey 2021

The 2021 EY Global Institutional Investor Survey reveals that a growing number of institutional investors around the world are placing greater emphasis on ESG performance in their decision-making.



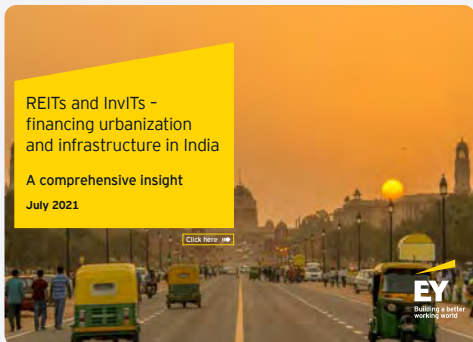
### EY Global Integrity Report - emerging markets perspective

Integrity challenges and breaches of trust in emerging markets are making business leaders anxious about investing and operating in them. Businesses are putting integrity higher up the agenda, encouraging whistleblowing, focusing on data protection and addressing third-party integrity issues. The latest EY Global Integrity Report 2021 - emerging markets perspective, illustrates the extent of this problem and offers some recommendations for improvement.



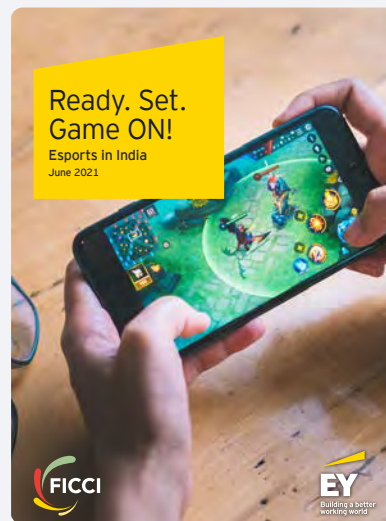
### CEO Imperative

The 2021 EY CEO Imperative Study surveys 305 CEOs of the Forbes Global 2000 to reveal their perspectives on the DNA of the future enterprise.



### REITs and InvITs could drive the future of Indian infrastructure

As Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) have attained importance in furthering the economy's infrastructure needs, find what role can they play in driving the future of Indian infrastructure.



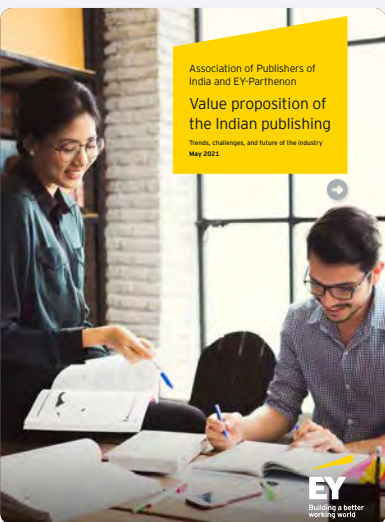
### The dawn of esports in India

A new kind of sport - esports is on the rise in India and it is not the same as online gaming. EY India's latest report in conjunction with FICCI delves into the manifestations of esports and factors that determine its future potential.



### Board Agenda 2021 report

EY Center for Board Matters conducted the EY EMEIA Board Barometer 2021, which surveyed board members across Europe, the Middle East, India and Africa (EMEIA) and gathered insights into board member perspectives on strategic risks and opportunities.



### The now, next, and beyond of the Indian publishing industry

In this digital age, the publishing industry is undergoing a landscape change. Association of Publishers of India and EY-Parthenon examine Indian publishing industry trends and challenges.



### How does India Inc. view its cost of capital?

The India Cost of Capital Survey 2021 aims to understand the cost of capital that companies use for capital allocation and strategic decision-making.



### e-RUPI: an innovation to accelerate financial inclusion in India

Indian consumers have a plethora of instruments like NEFT, IMPS, wallets and UPI at their disposal for all transactional needs. However, these various players in the ecosystem are continuously innovating their basket of services and products. The latest among these innovations is e-RUPI.

# Humility and hard work – the path to success



*Work culture and leadership are two qualities which differentiated EY from other firms.*



**Amith  
Bharadiya**

*Amith Bharadiya, Vice President – Finance at The Blackstone Group, is a well acknowledged name in the Indian Private Equity (PE) community. Hailing from a humble background, his life journey is an inspiration for many. Amith worked with a member firm of EY Global in India from 2005 to 2008 in the Assurance practice.*

## Early days of his journey

“Destiny has its own way,” says Amith with a smile while narrating his journey from a small town near Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (also nicknamed as the city of destiny) to Mumbai, where he is a senior member of finance team in Blackstone, one of the world’s leading Private Equity firm.

Born in a traditional Marwari family, Amith’s father built his own Jute commodity business from the ground up. It was a risky enterprise back then, given that in the newly independent India, owning and running local businesses was a nascent phenomenon. But they went on to build significant scale and set up production facilities as well in time. This flourishing family business inspired Amith to understand finance at an early age and soon enough, he zeroed in on his goal of becoming a Chartered Accountant. He undertook the ‘CA’ journey under the guidance of his uncle who was experienced finance and accounts and got the opportunity to do his articleship with a Big 4. *“It was the best day I can imagine, and my entire family was happy as I was the first one to get a job,”* he recalls.



## Strong foundation built in the early years

Within two years, Amith had gained significant in-depth experience working with clients across sectors and that gave him a head-start in the financial services space when he joined a member firm of EY Global in India and exposed him to the intricacies of managing teams and work pressure while not compromising on quality. He specifically highlighted this by saying, ***“The line- “quality in everything we do,” was taken quite literally at EY.”*** EY always kept his learning quotient up by offering him the opportunity to grow both technically and professionally.

He described his experience with EY as a founding stone of his career and felt fortunate that he got an opportunity to work in the NBFC (Non-banking financial company) sector right from the start. He shares, ***“I was lucky to get independent projects right from the beginning. Within EY, I was developed as the industry expert for NBFC sector, and whenever any questions came up related to NBFC, I was to help and guide the team, which helped build my equity early on.”*** Apart from work, Amith also liked the social gatherings which were an integral part of the culture and helped build deep relationships with each other.

## Moving to the other side

Amith's curiosity to understand how the NBFC and PE industries worked led him to start a new chapter in his career with Clearwater Capital. During his stint with EY, Amith has helped numerous NBFC clients set up their processes and systems, and that experience helped him with his tenure at Clearwater. He got the opportunity to handle several roles including compliance, audit requirements, and fund accounting. Amith showed strong technical competence and he feels that the experience and soft skills he learned at EY helped him develop great relationships in his career.

## Big moves

Amith joined Blackstone, one of the world's leading private equity firms, in 2013. He spent the first few months understanding the firm's processes and setting them up as per the region's requirements. Since then, the growth has kept Amith, the entire firm, on its toes, and the learning is still a continuous process. He calls himself a problem-solver and says, ***“Any problem gives me a kick. You find a problem, and you work hard to find a solution. That is something that keeps me motivated.”***



**EY now is very big - teams have grown, partners have grown, and even the verticals in which the firm has solutions has also grown. However, the zeal, commitment and aggression with which it comes in the market is still the same and differentiates it from other firms.**

## PE industry and its future

The Indian industry has realized the importance of private equity in achieving its growth ambition. In the last couple of years, the Indian economy has witnessed numerous global private equity firms setting up shop in India and has been received by the Indian industry with open arms. Commenting on this charged up PE scenario, Amith remarked, ***“I think the momentum has just started. We will see an increase in private equity activity going forward.”*** The future of the Indian economy is bright, and investments in the fast-growing sectors such as technology are expected to see good returns in the medium to long-term horizon.

## The driving forces

Being among the first members to get academically qualified in his entire family, Amith credits his success to his parents and uncles from whom he has learned the basic lessons of life. He recognizes his father's commitment and entrepreneurial drive as a significant influence on him. Valuing focus, ethics and humility, Amith believes that the success mantra in life is ***“to keep it simple.”*** Amith's world now revolves around his family, living a happy married life with his wife and a daughter in her teenage years. He defines success as being able to sleep peacefully at night and having a family that supports you through thick and thin.

Professionally, he admires the virtue of humility and shares ***“one should never regret any decision in life. Once you have decided, give it your best, make the most out of it and accept the results.”*** He shares that technical competence is essential in the initial phases of one's career but feels that aspects like communication, networking, and handling difficult situations are the critical skills one needs to be successful in the long-term.

# Coming back to the firm



*EY made me ready by teaching me the importance of the people element, helping build my business development capability, and strong technical expertise.*

*Shailesh Tyagi, currently a partner in the EY's Climate Change and Sustainability Practice in India, re-joined EY in Feb 2021. He has 20+ years of experience in helping clients across various industry sectors and geographies and has served several global and Indian clients to address them ESG risks.*

## Shailesh Tyagi

Partner,  
EY India Climate Change  
and Sustainability Services

### Motivation to re-join EY:

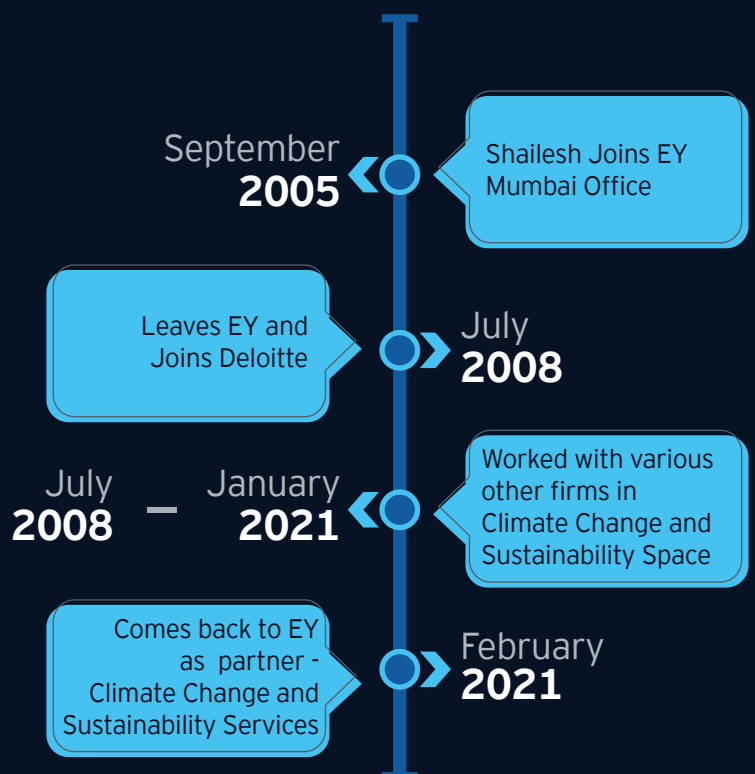
Returning to EY was the natural choice because of EY's strong and empathetic leadership, along with its presence in ESG.

### Staying connected:

I believe my intellectual connection with EY was always strong, resulting in me joining back. As an alumnus, I stayed in touch with EY throughout my career to know more about the Indian sustainability and climate change space developments.

### On EY:

EY's basic philosophy and approach have stayed the same, but the firm has evolved in its capability and presence in the market. Everyone you work with at EY is very supportive and the collective effort everyone puts in making things happen and supporting each other in all aspects is something only EY can offer.





## Bharat Gupta

Partner,  
EY India Restructuring  
and Turnaround

### Motivation to re-join EY:

EY offers teamwork and camaraderie in the partner group. The entire workplace is organized as a single seamless platform that offers all possible services related to stressed situations. All these positive aspects made EY a natural choice for me to take my career ahead.

### Staying connected:

My First stint lasted about 2 years and 6 months, and during that time I developed good relationship across the Partner group. When I moved into the corporate world, I engaged with several EY Partners for various services and even engaged EY at short notice for a cyber security issue. That is how my connection with EY remained strong.

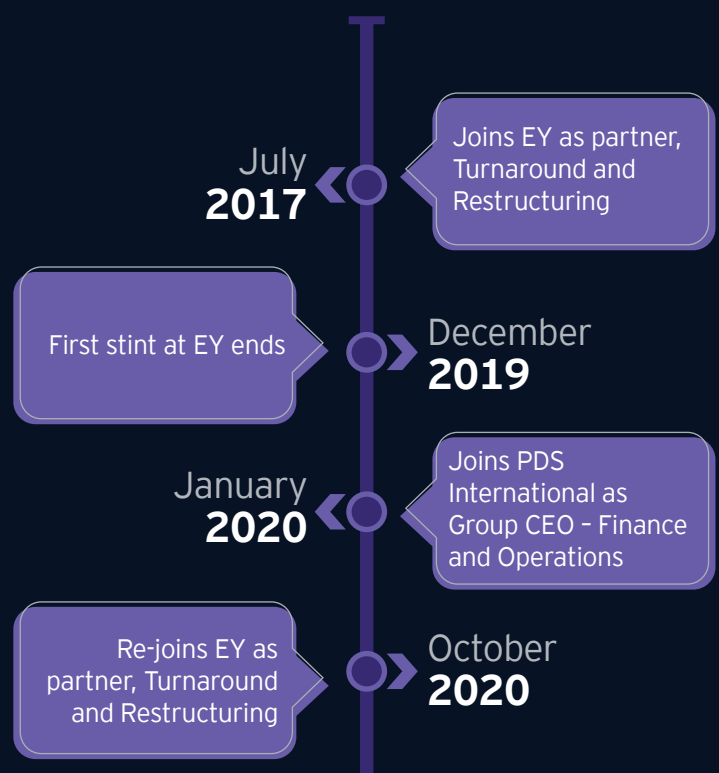
### On EY:

EY continues to retain a culture that I believe is unique i.e., aggression in the marketplace while supporting each other internally.



*I was impressed by the firm's aggression in the marketplace, excellent team work and camaraderie amongst partners*

*Bharat Gupta, currently EY India structuring & Turnaround Services partner, came back to EY in Oct 2020 after a very short stint within the corporate world. Seasoned in organization design, post-merger integration, M&A, financial planning and analysis, and statutory audits, he provides a hands-on perspective to clients. Before his first stint with EY, he worked with a leading multinational beverage company for six years.*





## Sandeep Kohli

Partner and Talent Leader | EY India

At EY, we have been busy over the past year ensuring our employees are safe while also delivering uninterrupted exceptional client service. In today's rapidly changing world, we are focused on providing the technology, learning opportunities and the relationships our people need to personalize their careers and make them truly transformative to succeed. This has enabled us to rise to new realities, challenge the status quo, and traverse unknown terrains to not just survive but also thrive, especially in these unprecedented times.

As we start a new year laced with uncertainty, our continued focus has been on strengthening the resilience and well-being of our people. By empowering our employees to be the best version of themselves, we help them, and our business, grow exponentially. Our goal is to support a Better you, and Better us, for a Better working world.

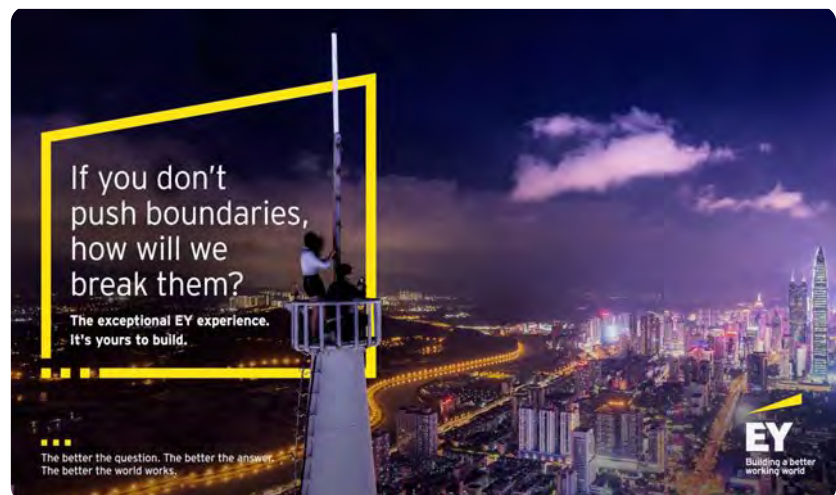
## Accelerating our people's learning journey's at EY

At EY, we believe it is imperative for our people to have the opportunities to develop and obtain credentials in future-focused skills to enhance their career value and professional visibility.

**EY Badges** helps them shape their career by acquiring valuable future-focused skills which are relevant in today's dynamic working world.

**EY Tech MBA**, which debuted globally in July 2020, is a unique opportunity provided by EY through an innovative virtual learning model, to develop the skills and capabilities our people need from anywhere in the world, on a schedule that suits them. In FY21, **25** people have graduated globally and **3000+** personnel has expressed interest in Tech MBA.

Based on the phenomenal response received after the launch of the Tech MBA, EY is also offering a **Masters degree in Data & Analytics and Sustainability** in partnership with the Hult International Business School. These courses offer our employees the opportunity to develop both the tech skillset and business mindset needed to deliver exceptional client service and thrive in tomorrow's workplace. Free to all 300,000+ employees regardless of rank or tenure, EY is the first organization in the world to support all its employees to take one of these degrees. Through these offerings, we are aspiring to build a culture in which our people trust that EY is the best place for them to invest their time, talent and energy.



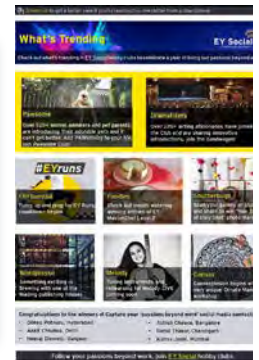
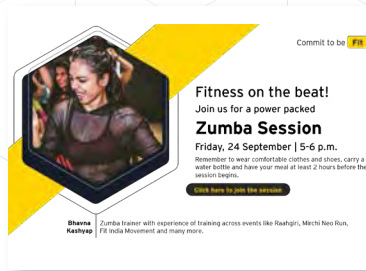
## Our roadmap to holistic well-being

EY is proud to have a culture of caring that we have built through our commitment to our people's health and well-being.

**EY Cares** is our roadmap towards ensuring well-being of our people that goes beyond physical health to encompass emotional, physical, financial, and social aspects that impact their overall health and happiness.

**Employee Assistance Program (EAP)** helps our people and their families on a wider range of well-being issues both professionally and personally including stress and anxiety, parenting, emotional concerns, etc. through counselling support. The counselling support is provided by experienced and trained psychologists from ICAS India.

With social interactions and workplace engagement being redefined, now more than ever, our people were looking for avenues to explore and pursue their passions beyond work. Taking a cue from this, we introduced **EY Social** - our very own platform of hobby clubs for our people to pursue their passions and also network with like minded individuals in the organization. Albeit virtually, over **18,950+** users across levels and locations are actively interacting, engaging and participating in hobby clubs. **85+** engagements organized and more than **340** employees recognized with over **1,00,000** impressions across **8** hobby clubs.



A better working world truly starts with the people at EY who are building it every day. Our employees define the identity of our company. Guided by our shared purpose of providing exceptional experience, we are committed to empower our people in a way that will help them bring out the best in themselves and others. With our strong support, they will pave a new way forward aligned to our purpose of building a better working world.

# Awards


India's Most Attractive Professional Services Employers 2021 for students by Universum

Top 10 Best Workplaces in Asia for 2021 by Great Place to Work

AVTAR Top 10 Best Companies for Women in India 2021

EY recognized as Best Workplace for Women in India by GPTW

EY India recognized as a 'Champion of Inclusion' in the Working Mother & AVTAR Most Inclusive Companies in India (MICI) Index

A close-up photograph of a hand pulling a brass ring handle on a blue door. The door has a textured, painted surface. A yellow graphic element, consisting of a line forming a partial frame, surrounds the text on the left side of the image.

Can knocking  
on a familiar  
door, lead to new  
opportunities?

[ey.com/alumni](https://ey.com/alumni) #EYAlumni

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The better the question. The better the answer.  
The better the world works.

The EY logo, consisting of the letters 'EY' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. A yellow diagonal line is positioned above the 'Y'.

Building a better  
working world

# EY News in brief



## EY's software management tool built in India is used across world

EY India developed a proprietary SAM (Software asset management) platform called EY Atom and got excellent feedback from clients, the solution was deployed in the Americas and Europe to the company's global client base. Atom manages software assets via automation and enable stakeholders to derive business insights through customised dashboards and has helped clients optimise their software costs by as much as 20% over the initial years.



## JungJin SEO, Celltrion Group, receives the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ 2021 Award

South Korean entrepreneur JungJin Seo, Honorary Chairman of Celltrion Group, has been named EY World Entrepreneur of The Year™ 2021 which was held on 10 June 2021 and watched by millions worldwide.

## Gold, silver and bronze medals among our amazing athletes' achievements in Tokyo

The Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games witnessed weeks of inspiring action from the world's top athletes - and for the nine EY people that competed, memories (and medals) that will last a lifetime. All our athletes did incredibly. Training at the highest level, during a pandemic, while balancing personal, professional and academic responsibilities is beyond impressive. Furthermore, five athletes returned home with some extra baggage - gold, silver and bronze medals!







## EY wins Microsoft India Area Award 2021 as "Game Changer of the Year"

EY won the Microsoft India Area Award 2021 as the "Game Changer of the Year" for excellence in innovation and delivering unique customer solutions based on Microsoft technology. This award recognition is as part of the Microsoft Inspire India Area Summit's 2021 Microsoft Partner of the Year Awards that acknowledge outstanding achievements and innovations from across Microsoft's partner ecosystem.



## EY is officially carbon negative - a major milestone in our carbon ambition journey

EY has achieved carbon negative status in 2021 by significantly reducing its emissions in line with science-based target, and offsetting and removing more carbon than it emits. EY's carbon ambition now has the effect of removing carbon from the atmosphere instead of adding to it. With its seven-point action plan it will continue to reduce emissions even more as it heads for net zero in 2025.



## EY Global has again ranked as one of the 'Great Place to Work' in Asia 2021

At EY, the purpose is to build a better working world, and this starts with people and the experiences they have at EY. EY is proud to be named amongst the Best Workplaces in Asia for 2021 by Great Place to Work®.

## EY wins 2021 SAP Pinnacle Awards for Partner of the Year in SAP Business Technology Platform and Experience Management

EY today announces that it has received two 2021 SAP® Pinnacle Awards for Partner of the Year - SAP Business Technology Platform and Partner of the Year - Experience Management, SAP and Qualtrics. The recognition highlights the strength of the EY-SAP Alliance to generate long-term value to help organizations reframe their future and create businesses designed for what's next. The wins showcase EY strength in providing cloud-based and intelligent solutions, and technology to support clients' transformations. This is the eighth consecutive year that the EY organization has been recognized as an SAP Pinnacle Award winner or finalist.

# Re-energizing connections

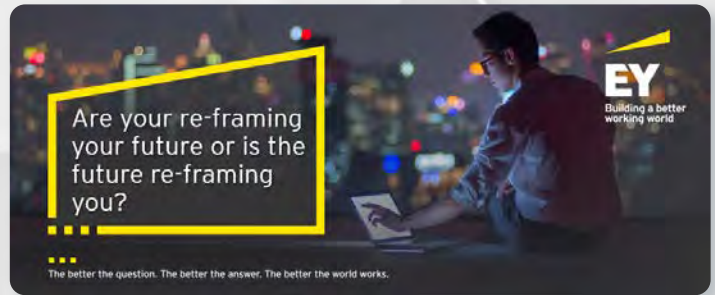
A glance at some of the alumni engagement activities throughout the year 2021.

01

## Data update campaign for 14500+ registered alumni

### Impact created:

4000+ alumni updated their profiles on the Global Alumni Portal.



02

## Virtual well-being sessions

### Zumba Session

### Dynamic Workout Session

### Acupressure Session

### Smart Invest with Viral Bhatt

### PowerVoice Session on Digital Well-being

## 03 Business driven session

### ET ESG Webinar



**EY** Building a better working world

How sustainability can create and protect value for businesses

Tuesday, 14 September 2021 at 6 p.m.

Webcast invitation

The graphic features the EY logo at the top, followed by the title and date. Below the text is a photograph of a person in a green shirt and hat standing in a lush green forest with their arms raised. A yellow box on the left contains the text 'Webcast invitation'.

### Let's Talk Strategy Webinar



Let's talk strategy

Real world. Real voices. Real perspectives.

The graphic shows a person in a blue shirt looking at a camera. The text 'Let's talk strategy' is overlaid in white, and 'Real world. Real voices. Real perspectives.' is at the bottom.

## 04 Leadership connect

### Chairman's FY 21 Message to the Community

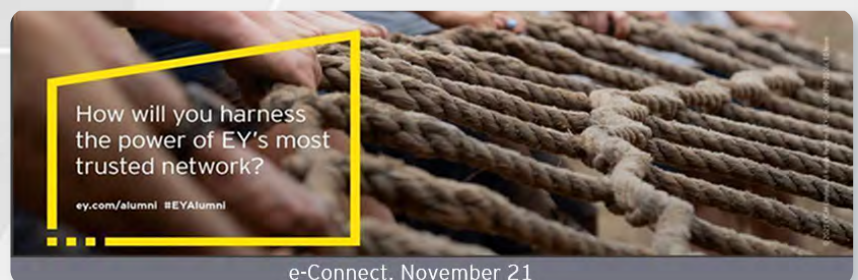


**EY** Building a better working world

FY21 highlights and future outlook

The graphic features the EY logo at the top, followed by the title. Below the text is a photograph of a large crowd of people at night, many holding up glowing lanterns.

## 05 Monthly digital newsletters (e-connect)



How will you harness the power of EY's most trusted network?

ey.com/alumni #EYAlumni

e-Connect, November 21

The graphic shows a close-up of hands holding a thick rope. A yellow box contains the text 'How will you harness the power of EY's most trusted network?' and 'ey.com/alumni #EYAlumni'. The text 'e-Connect, November 21' is at the bottom.



## EY Alumni Network remembers

**Rangarajan K Ekambaram  
(1958 – 2021)**

It is with profound sadness that we inform you of the untimely passing of our EY alumni Rangarajan K Ekambaram. He had been a valued member of the EY India alumni network and will be missed. Please keep his family in your thoughts as they go through this difficult time.

Rajan joined EY in Singapore in 1999 and was admitted to the partnership in Singapore in 2006. He played many roles in Risk Consulting and was also the Risk Q&RM Partner for SE Asia. He moved to India in 2011 as a Partner and led significant revenue growth along with a strong team of risk professionals.

As many would know, Rajan was a versatile and humble professional. People who worked with him considered him a good friend. They also regarded him as a great mentor and would vouch for his humility and wisdom. Apart from seeking professional advice, his colleagues and juniors looked up to him for any spiritual/cultural guidance. He will always be remembered for his innate ability to balance global and local thinking with his passionate yet humble leadership.

We request our entire EY alumni community to join us in praying for his soul and extending our sincerest condolences to his family. May God give them all the strength to go through this difficult time. You can share your condolence messages at [eyindia.alumni@in.ey.com](mailto:eyindia.alumni@in.ey.com) by Wednesday, 5 January 2021 and we will compile and share them with his family.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

## Messages

I had the privilege of meeting Rajan and have been a part of many client conversations along with him. On many occasions have been mentored by him. He not only was a great mentor to us within EY teams, but also showed towering expertise and brilliant POVs. It truly appeared as if the client leadership teams were being mentored.

I also have had a chance to discuss with him on his spiritual and social pursuits and realized how grounded he was despite his wide experience and success.

On hearing this news, I felt that the society that he set out to work for, post retirement, will miss many years of his valuable experience and contributions.

We will nevertheless miss him. Pray for strength to his family at this difficult time.

Manikandan Balasubramanian  
Associate Partner, EY India,  
Chennai

Rajan was an extremely respected leader and professional. I am extremely saddened and shocked to read the news of his passing away. May God almighty give his family the strength to overcome this great loss. Thanking God for his life and contributions. Rest in Peace. 🙏

Anu Rohit  
Amazon, Hyderabad

To the family of Late Mr Rangarajan K Ekambaram,

My prayers to give family the strength to bear this untimely loss. Please accept my prayers and heartfelt condolences. May his soul rest in peace.

OM NAMAY SHIVAY...!

BP Inani  
Co-Founder at Swan Angel  
Network, Indore

Having left EY India in 1959, it is obvious that I would not know Rajan, more since I have hardly attended any function of the alumni, barring a couple. But from what I read of him, he certainly did great credit to our beloved organization. There is no doubt that his soul will rest in peace, and I hope his family, surely missing him, take satisfaction from the fact that they were so closely associated with him, and that he was so well thought of by his colleagues. God be with him.

BS Postwalla,  
Mumbai

Our condolences to Rajan and family 🙏...may God give 🙏 the gamely strength and gladder tidings.

Shankar Chandrasekhar  
Manager, Cognizant, Chennai

# *Celebrating the* **EY Global Alumni Week**

14-18 June 2021

We celebrated the EY Alumni Week from 14-18 June 2021, in 160+ EY offices in 50+ countries, showcasing the power of our global alumni network. It was a celebration of EY's greatest ambassadors – our alumni – who help bring our purpose of building a better working world to life.

The EY offices hosted pop-up stands, competitions and other events to bring our alumni together. Online activity was driven through various alumni connected social media platforms (EY portal, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.). This year, the exclusive EY Alumni network of 200,000 people bonded over the theme of digital transformation.



*I have been with EY for over 35 years now, and one of the things I value most is my network of alumni relationships.*

**Carmine Di Sibio**  
Global Chairman & CEO, EY

# EY Alumni Week India

EY India joined over 48 global EY offices to celebrate the EY Alumni Week, our annual initiative to celebrate and strengthen the alumni connections worldwide, from 14 June - 18 June 2021. Bringing together the 1million EY alumni community across the globe including the 14, 000+ registered members in India, the theme for this year's Alumni Week in India was #StrongerTogether to emphasize the importance of supporting each other during challenging times

In cognizance of the theme for this year's Global Alumni Week, the events encouraged both the Alumni community and EY employees to reconnect, revive and build new connections - opening doors to new opportunities and possibilities both professionally and personally. To enable such connects, there were multiple initiatives planned to strengthen the relationship and nourish existing bonds

## 'Tag and Thank campaign' on social media:

Organized mainly on EY India's Facebook and Twitter page, this social media campaign encouraged the entire EY community to tag and thank former colleagues and friends who have been a special part of their EY journey.

## Virtual 'connect over Coffee':

EY alumni and colleagues were encouraged to reconnect virtually and renew relationships with their former EY friends and share a cup of coffee together.

## e-Connect:

Our monthly digital newsletter for the EY India alumni community released. The publication saluted the Alumni Heroes who have gone beyond the call of duty to serve the society. The newsletter also covered inspiring messages on being connected from Amit Majmudar, Former Partner along with EY's recent thought leadership reports.

## Alumni and internal referral campaign:

EY employees and alumni were encouraged to reach out to others in their network and ask them to register for the EY India Alumni Network.

## 'Thank you' e-cards:

Over 500 gratitude and check-in expressions shared with the alumni community



## PPED group participation:

Our India program sponsor reached out to the PPED with a special message and encouraged them to take out time and re-connect with their alumni connection during the entire alumni week

**In our quest to reinforce the importance of self-care and well-being, two sessions were arranged for, especially curated for the alumni community**

## Mental Resilience with Mansi Mahajan



## Mindfulness hacks and emotional well-being with Yeshe Lama



**We also celebrated the strong bonds on EY social media channels with numerous EY employees and alumni exchanging memories and greetings.**



We once again thank you for your enthusiastic participation.

To share any feedback, ideas or update about the event you can write to us at [eyindia.alumni@in.ey.in](mailto:eyindia.alumni@in.ey.in).

## Ernst & Young LLP

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