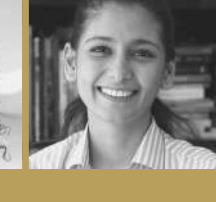
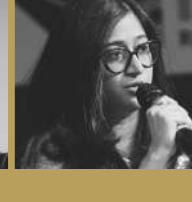


THE INDIAN ACHIEVER'S CLUB

**33 WOMEN**  
**ACHIEVERS OF INDIA**

2023  
 EDITION I

In association with Ministry of women and child





## ABOUT

Established in 1966 as Sahitya Bharti Trust, was then one of the biggest networking and socialising clubs in the city. The Trust was a collaborative effort by three aspiring entrepreneurs – Shri Shirish Mehta, Shri Jaivadan Takhtawala and Shri R.R Sheth, who translated the concept of networking clubs by having over 5000 members at once. The sole idea behind initiating this club was networking for businessmen and professionals to help them bring out better thoughts and strategies which in turn helped them to do better socially as well as professionally.

Today 54 years later, a team of like-minded new age entrepreneurs and professionals have come together giving a modern facelift to the networking club. This 2.0 version of the club is taking all the activities online, making available for its members who are spread across various regions of India and abroad. The initiative is in its new avatar with a modern approach, while keeping the ideology of appreciating the achievers in the society. We call the organisation – The Indian Achiever's Club.

Chaired by Harsh Vaidya an ecopreneur by profession with over 15 years of experience in brand communication and entrepreneurship, the organisation has a managing committee which includes a team of highly experienced entrepreneurs, strategists, professionals and experts in the field of creativity.

The main purpose of the club is to recognize the efforts of achievers, who have sailed through numerous social baisses and today have established themselves in their respective fields. The club has come up with various initiatives which will bring the unsung achievers from around the country on a platform, where they can share their journey in front of the world.



# 33 WOMEN ACHIEVERS OF INDIA

# WINNERS 2023

THE INDIAN ACHIEVER'S CLUB

2023 EDITION I



**URVI A. PIRAMAL**

CHAIRPERSON  
ASHOK PIRAMAL GROUP



**SHALAKA MARFATIA**

LEAD  
HEALTH ECONOMIST  
& DATA SCIENTIST  
AT PHARMEDGE



**ALYONA KAPOOR**

FOOD ENTREPRENEUR  
KHANA KHAZANA



**NAMRATA PUROHIT**

ENTREPRENEUR  
THE PILATES STUDIO,  
THE EARTH CIRCLE



**KAMIYA JANI**

CHIEF TRAVELLING  
OFFICE  
CURLYTALES



**MALINI AGARWAL**

FOUNDER & CREATIVE  
DIRECTOR OF MISSMALINI  
ENTERTAINMENT



**PIYA MARKER**

PARENT COACH &  
SPECIAL EDUCATOR



**SHWETA GHUGE-GUPTA**

BUSINESS DEV EX  
SHWETA PRINT PACK  
PVT LTD



**MAHEKA MIRPURI**

FASHION DESIGNER  
MAHEKA MIRPURI



**ANSHU AANAND**

BUSINESS ADVISOR  
ANSHU AANAND  
& ADVISORS



**ANKITA SINGH**

SENIOR VICE  
PRESIDENT & GLOBAL  
HEAD AT CIGNEX



**DIPALI SONAWANE**

FITNESS CONSULTANT  
& ENTREPRENEUR  
IRON SPORT GYM



**CHARU SAREEN GUJJAL**

PARENTING & LIFESTYLE  
BLOGGER @THEMOMSAGAS



**SUSHMITA REKHI**

FOOD BLOGGER -  
CONTENT CREATOR  
@SUSHIONTHEROLLS\_



**DEEPIKA CHAWLA**

CA, VP IN FORTUNE 100  
COMPANY & FOUNDER  
OF SPEAK UP LADY



**SHARMILA PANDEY**

DOCTOR  
& MARATHON  
RUNNER



**BISTRITI PODDAR**

BRANDING &  
COMMUNICATIONS  
UKNOWVA



**HARDI OZA PATEL**

TRAVELPRENEUR  
VELVET ESCAPES



**ANUPREET KAUR DHODY**

ENTREPRENEUR  
& CO-FOUNDER  
I'M WHOLESOME



**POONAM SONI**

ACTOR, MODEL,  
DIGITAL CONTENT  
CREATOR



**ZAHRA JANI**

LIFESTYLE & PARENTING  
INFLUENCER



**NITA GANGULY**

EDUCATOR AND  
ENVIRONMENTALIST  
TCRP-INDIA



**NEELAM KUMAR**

SINGER-SONGWRITER



**SHEENA BOLL**

MUSICIAN



**PREETI VYAS**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER AND PRESIDENT  
AMAR CHITRA KATHA



**HIMALI VYAS NAIK**

VOCALIST,  
PERFORMER



**SAHANA AHMED**

NATIONAL PRESIDENT,  
WICCI RURAL TOURISM  
COUNCIL



**SHREYAA SUMI**

INTERNATIONAL  
MODEL, PAGEANT  
WINNER, ACTOR



**RAINA KSHETRY**

CORPORATE  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SPECIALIST, FOOD  
BLOGGER, DIGITAL  
CREATOR



**RIYA MAYUR PARALKAR**

INFLUENCER  
ENTREPRENEUR



**LINA ASHAR**

CO-FOUNDER  
KORROBOREE



**SHUCHITA VYAS**

SINGER MUSIC  
COMPOSER  
& SONG WRITER



**NIYATI RASESH KANAKIA**

EDUCATIONIST  
RBK EDUCATIONAL  
INSTITUTIONS





## URVI A. PIRAMAL

CHAIRPERSON

ASHOK PIRAMAL GROUP

*Ms. Piramal has been a member of Technology and Quality Improvement Committee of IMC since its inception in 1994, and also the Chairperson of Supply Chain & Retail business (Internal Trade) Committee (04-05)*

*She has a Bachelor of Science degree and has attended the Advance Management Program at Harvard Business School*

*Ms. Piramal has received a number of awards for her contribution to business. She was awarded the Qimpro Gold Standard Award for excellence in Managing Quality Improvement programmes across the Group*

*She has won the Outstanding Woman Industrialist Award presented by the Marine Lines Junior Chamber and the Yami Woman Award for her outstanding contribution to business*

*She also has to her credit the Cheminor Award from the India Institute of Materials Management. She was honoured with the Giants International Award in recognition of her outstanding contribution to business in 2015*

*She is a Trustee of the Piramal Education Trust, Ashok G Piramal Trust and Urvi Ashok Piramal Foundation (UAPF) which has been set up for the underprivileged. She is on the board of Population First, an NGO working on creating awareness for the girl child*

*Ms. Piramal is a wildlife enthusiast and has published two books – "My Wildside: India and Africa". She spends her leisure time reading, listening to music and traveling extensively*



*Ms. Urvi has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### **CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS? HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?**

I did my Bachelors Degree in the Sciences. I was married at a very young age and when I lost my husband I was 32 yr old, with three young children. With support from my family I started working in the family business.

Thirty seven years back I entered into a very male dominated industry. First thing I had to do is to show commitment and get knowledge about business and finance. I visited the shop floor and learnt finance from a tutor. After a few years I also did The Advanced Management Programme from Harvard Business School.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

It gives me immense pleasure to have being selected.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

Since the lockdown last year my routine has changed and I have been working from home. Before that my day began by going to the gym and then straight up to my office. Morning would be devoted to routine work followed by meetings with my colleagues. Evenings were spent with the family and weekends with grandchildren.

Diwali holiday are always celebrated with the whole family where we spend quality time with each other.

An example of managing work and family life is when I used to visit our glass factory in Gujarat. I used to leave early in the morning and make sure I came back on the same day even if it was late at night so that I could be with my children in the morning before they left for school. These are the small way I used to try and balance my work and family life.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

It gives me a feeling of great achievement to have managed my business well and also brought up my children with the right values.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED? WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Life throws up challenges when we least expect. So I believe that we have to be prepared for any challenge that comes our way. You may not get the exact results you are looking for. Always have plan B in place. Never give up. Find out why your strategy is not working and change it if it needs to be changed.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

Global warming and climate change is of great concern to me and I would love to change that in the world.



**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Knowledge, commitment and hard work are the three most important aspects to focus on. Challenges come up when you least expect them to so don't give up. Look for where you can make a change. Find a new path and I am sure you reach your goal.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Forest cover in India is only 24.56%. So planting of trees is a very important solution to global warming. I believe if all of us live consciously and do our little bit whether it is conserving water or not using plastics, I am sure we can make an impact on the reduction of the carbon footprint.



## SHALAKA MARFATIA

LEAD HEALTH ECONOMIST & DATA SCIENTIST  
PHARMEDGE

*Successfully started, sustained, and grew her company PharmEDGE - a pioneer research consulting firm in the field of health economics and outcomes research in India*

*Raising funds and supplied PPE kits to healthcare providers at Nair and JJ hospitals during the pandemic*

*Volunteering to teach children from remote villages in Maharashtra how to read at the Read a Story program*

*Volunteering at the Kavach foundation to raise awareness and funds to support the menstrual hygiene drive in government-funded schools in Mumbai*

✉ [shalaka.marfatia@gmail.com](mailto:shalaka.marfatia@gmail.com)



*Shalaka has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

Behind every success story is a journey filled with hard work, challenges, excitement, and choices. Mine is no different. I never dreamt of being an entrepreneur. I was very happy in my job at Pfizer-NY headquarters. However, when we decided to move to India, it was my husband Aditya who motivated me and believed that I could not only start my own company but also become a leader in the field. I wouldn't be here had he not believed in me. Today my success stands on the strong shoulders of my parents, my children (Ansh and Aria), Aditya, my family, and my close friends who have supported me. I am proud of the niche that PharmEDGE has carved for itself in the industry over the last 12 years. We are not only known for our high-quality work but also for our work ethics and integrity which is why we have the continued privilege of working with the leading multinational pharmaceutical companies both, within and outside India.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I was always interested in healthcare particularly in patient centered research and data science. This interest led me to pursue my Masters degrees in the field of Public Health - Epidemiology and Biostatistics as well as in the field of Health Economics. I have spent close to 20 years in this field and it still continues to fascinate and motivate me so much so, that I am currently pursuing my 3rd Masters in Data Science with Machine Learning and AI.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

I feel privileged to share this space with my fellow colleagues who are also selected as one of the top 99 Achievers of India.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

For me, it is extremely important to maintain a healthy work and family life balance. Though I recognize that we cannot split time equally, the goal has always been to keep it balanced. My typical day starts at around 5:30 am in the morning where I consciously spend the first 30-45mins with myself with no digital distractions. These 30-45 minutes are dedicated to stretching, journaling, and planning my activities for the day ahead. Post this, I dedicate the next hour to my children and family before we all head off to either school or work. I plan my work, team/business meetings between 8 am to 5 pm to ensure that I am back home in time to be with my children when they are back from school. Being a hands-on mother I like to spend the evenings doing activities with my children and family. Post dinner, I dedicate about 30-45 minutes to catch up on work-related matters/emails. Reading and meditating for me are a must before bedtime.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

One of my greatest professional achievements is setting up my own international research consulting firm- PharmEDGE. Having lived through the most difficult times during the pandemic, one of the things I am proud of is how quickly the PharmEDGE team adapted to the new environment and not only survived but thrived in it. Compassion and teamwork formed the core of our activities and each team member brought the best version of themselves to the virtual workplace. Every member mattered so taking care of each others' mental and emotional health while working became of prime importance to us. We did not have a single lay-off and today each one of us is proud to be back in the office with a healthy mindset.

Another achievement that I am proud of is going back to school at my age to get my 3rd Masters in Data Science with Machine Learning and AI. Though it is extremely challenging to strike a balance between work, study, and family life, it is tremendously exciting to have this opportunity to learn and grow. I am looking forward to integrate my learnings at work and offer superior technological services to my clients.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I encourage myself to look for opportunities when things are not going as smoothly as planned. I always ask myself- What can I do differently/what is this incident trying to teach me? Do I need to change my service offerings, my pricing strategy, or marketing/sales pitch to offer better value to my stakeholders?





### WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?

I would say discipline, consistency, and persistence over excuses will always help an individual achieve success.

### IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?

- 1) Bring about more empathy, integrity, and compassion in people which would in turn enable them to solve some of the biggest challenges that human beings are facing today
- 2) Encourage people to be kind to the environment and understand that global warming is a real problem. We need to do something about it now so that the next generation does not suffer the harsh consequences.
- 3) Empower women through education so that they can not only become financially independent but can also become contributing members of a country's economy

### IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Discipline, passion for your craft, perseverance when things get rough, and patience to see the fruits of your hard work are the key to success. Find a mentor, learn the art of effective delegation, nurture a curious mind, and invest in up-skilling yourself to stay abreast with the changing demands of the industry.

### HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Planting and growing trees are one of the simplest and most powerful solutions for tackling global warming and climate change. I feel like a mindful global citizen who is delighted to be a part of the Biggest Tree Plantation Drive in India.

I would request the readers to continue supporting this noble cause as it is one of the most effective ways to contribute towards environmental restoration for their present as well as for the next generations.



## ALYONA KAPOOR

### FOOD ENTREPRENEUR

KHANA KHAZANA PRODUCTIONS PVT LTD, FOODFOOD,  
SK RESTAURANTS

*Worked alongside Sanjeev on his first cookbook-  
Khazana of Indian Recipes which was published in 1999*

*Successfully launched India's first 24X7 food TV channel-  
FoodFood*

*Have been raising funds and creating awareness since  
more than 15 years for Forum for Autism, India*

*Have been supporting Akshaya Patra, a foundation which  
serves wholesome meals to underprivileged students.*

*CFO at Khana Khazana India Pvt LTD*

 @alyonakapoor     alyonakapoor@gmail.com



*Alyona has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

As a kid, I travelled a lot with my father who has serviced the Indian Navy. Travel helped me broaden my horizons and I had a fine amalgamation of various cultures which also resulted in creating even the simplest of the dishes to be delicious and healthier. All my life, I have been surrounded by great food. My mother is a great cook, my elder sister is a chef and that's how I met Sanjeev. He was her friend and colleague back then. Later, we got married. After which I started working in the food business alongside him. When he began hosting the cookery show Khana Khazana, I helped him in the production because I had spent enough time on the sets and I gained a lot of interest and experience by that time. Later, we started our own business and I am thankful to be a part of this wonderful journey with him!

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

After our marriage, I started working along with Sanjeev. He and I started Khana Khazana India Pvt LTD. together and then followed FoodFood channel and SK restaurants. Since the beginning, our journey has been quite amazing and we managed to make it till here, together. Since I studied Commerce and Computers, it really helped me handle my work smoothly while managing the finance and administrative affairs in our company. I still remember the time we took a short trip to Khandala when Sanjeev was working on his very first cookbook. It was amazing, we tried and tested, created some new ones and wrote all of the recipes together. Not to mention, it has been a memorable journey so far and since then, I have supported and have been a part of everything he did. I look forward to many more achievements together!



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

In one word, I'd say I am truly overwhelmed. I feel honoured, humbled and grateful to have been chosen for this recognition. These are a few times in your life when you feel that your hard work has paid off and I am happy to say this is one of those moments!

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

I believe every day is a new day! There's no precise schedule that I have in my life apart from my everyday office routine but yes, I do make sure that I give some time to my meditation, my fitness goals and get a good night's sleep. After all, health is wealth!

As for the work-life balance, when I am not at office, either I am travelling with Sanjeev, or having that evening cup of tea with my mother-in-law or cooking dinner for my beloved daughters, the balance is pretty smooth. Thankfully, I don't have to struggle in that arena because of my partner. It has been a breeze so far if I may say so.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I have co-authored Sanjeev's first cookbook, Khazana of Indian recipes, which we launched in the year 1999. I have also assisted him in launching India's first 24x7 food channel, FoodFood. Apart from this, I have been a part of Forum for Autism for more than 15 years which supports autistic children. Sanjeev and I are very close to this organization and we have been raising funds, creating awareness and helping them in any manner we can. I am also a part of Akshaya Patra foundation which aims at providing wholesome meals to underprivileged children. These are some of the achievements I feel truly proud of!

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I do things my way but I don't keep a lot of expectations out of it which is why it doesn't affect me if things go out of the way. I believe in 'living each day as it comes' so I don't stress much about the future plans and try to live in the moment. Whenever I feel I have an opportunity to learn something new, I grab it. And thankfully, that is what has brought me till here today!

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

My mantra is, never let an opportunity slip out of your hand. Be on your toes all the time, learn and share whatever you can. Keep smiling, motivate others, be humble and share your knowledge, success is going to follow!



**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

If I had a magic stick right now, the only thing I would wish is for COVID-19 to go away and that everyone remains healthy, safe and sound.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

I'd like to say, get out of your comfort zone and go that extra mile with patience, you might tumble in the beginning but keep the focus and you will definitely reap the fruits of your labour which bring you happiness along with laurels. Take challenges head-on, with a smile on your face. Never cease to work hard as there is no shortcut to hard work!

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Nature looks out for us and we need to reciprocate by looking out for nature. With the rise in global warming, there are only a few things we can do to help revive our mother nature and improve the air and surroundings around us. Each of us has to more responsible to plant trees for a healthy living in the foreseeable future. I feel so proud to be a part of this tree plantation drive in India and I wish to continue doing more and more such plantation drives for a safe and healthy future. I encourage more and more people to do their bit and help us rejuvenate nature.





## NAMRATA PUROHIT

ENTREPRENEUR AND FITNESS EXPERT, PARTNER  
THE PILATES STUDIO, THE EARTH CIRCLE

HEALTH COACH, WRITER


Founder - The Pilates Studio

Founder - The Earth Circle

Created a music video - Flow

Author - The Lazy Girl's Guide to Being Fit

Awarded Fitness Expert, Entrepreneur and/or  
Influencer of the year by prestigious brands  
and magazines like Vogue, Elle, Reebok,  
Global Spa, Exhibit, Wow woman achievers.

 @namratapurohit



Namrata has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth

WINNERS  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

The journey has been incredible. It started when I was 15, my father was hosting a Pilates course in Mumbai and had brought down an instructor from Canada to do the course. I begged to be a part of it and manage to get myself on it. The moment the course started, I knew I was in love. We opened a small studio at the basement of a popular gym, we had to share the space with other activities that were being held there too. A few months into it, we knew we had to find our own space and that's what we did. We converted my father's office into a private training studio and slowly started expanding. Having started the centre purely out of passion and love for fitness, it is very exciting that now we have 25 studios and can share the experience and spread awareness across the country.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I literally fell into it. I had a bad fall at 15 and injured my knee, after having to undergo a surgery, I was unsure if I would ever be able to play squash, dance and do all the other activities I did. I tried various forms of exercise for months to feel better but I was not fine. Only when I did the Pilates course did I feel relief. Just a few days into the course I was pain free and literally thought I was experiencing magic. This is when I knew I had to spread the magic of Pilates.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

It does feel great, it is very exciting and overwhelming to be on such a prestigious list with incredible people from all across the country, and it also motivates me and makes me want to work harder.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

I usually wake up by 5:30am and leave home to spend time with my horse and train with my riding coach. I get to the studio by 9am and take class and work from 9am to 4pm or 5pm. In the evening I spend time with my family and on some days I do a dance class or my singing class.

I think it is very important to balance work and ones personal life and I do give both a lot of importance, so I try my best not to mix the two. When I am with my family or doing activities for myself I am completely in the moment and with the people I am with, and if I am working I try to be more than a 100% there. On most days I try to stick to my timings and work schedule.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

There definitely have been things that make me feel happy, and make me feel like I did something right, something good.

The step to open our stand alone studio was a big one, a decision I am glad we took.

When we opened our first franchise of The Pilates Studio that was a proud moment too and of course all the other franchises that have opened make us feel like we are able to spread magic across the country.

When I wrote my first book at the age of 18, that was extremely exciting.

Creating the song and music video – Flow. Starting The Earth Circle.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Honestly, I genuinely love the journey. The process of doing whatever I have done has been incredible and exciting and has all taught me a lot. I always try to see the positives.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Work hard, don't run after success, focus on what you have to do, be honest to yourself and your work, never think you know it all, keep learning and always do the best that you can.



**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

- Get rid of plastic
- Make people more conscious and kind towards the environment, animals and each other.
- Get rid of suffering and poverty.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Follow your heart, always be honest and KISS: Keep it Safe, Simple and Smart.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

It is a very important initiative, trees are an essential part of a healthy environment. Not only do trees help better the environment in various ways but they also help mentally. The greenery and walking around a park or roaming in the forest has always brought peace and calm, and hence it is essential to have them for all purposes. While planting of trees will help, the solution to global warming and climate change is much larger than that, it is prudent not only to plant trees but to stop cutting so many, to take conscious decisions in our everyday lives, for industries, big businesses and governments to step in. There is a lot of work to be done. However, something is better than nothing and it is essential for all of us to do our part. Like we say on our website, The Earth Circle, one person, one change, one choice at a time.



## KAMIYA JANI

CHIEF TRAVELLING OFFICER/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CURLYTALES

CONTENT CREATOR, ENTREPRENEUR, INFLUENCER

*Ex-Journalist*

*Presenter*

*Author/Writer*

*Won the title of Superwoman by Social Samosa*

*Featured in Times Of India, Economic Times, CBNC TV18 etc*

📷 @kamiya\_jani

✉️ kamiya@curlytales.com



*Kamiya has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

WINNERS  
2023

## Q & A

### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I was always interested in journalism and presenting news so I graduated from RD National College. I graduated in BMM & I specialised in journalism. After Graduation, soon after I joined the digital arm of CNBC TV 18 where I would write articles about personal finance, taxation, and how to manage your investments for a good 1.5 years. I figured I didn't have an opportunity to be in front of the camera here as it was all about writing and hence I decided to Switch my job and I moved to a channel that was just launching and was looking for faces and producers. So I joined Bloomberg which was known as BTV I back then as it was a collaboration between Bloomberg and UTV. I joined as a producer for a show which was known as the Autocar show but I still didn't get a camera facing roll and was always a producer, however I learnt a lot about video production and what goes behind the scenes. I worked there for 2 years. 2010 I made a switch to ET now in 2010 as a news anchor finally and I would talk about stock market and would do early morning shows. 2010 was also the year I got married and for the next 6 years I was here talking about the stock market and from early morning shows I got into mainstream market shows. But even though I had a great job + personal life as I had become a mother in the interim but still I felt a void and I was not satisfied with the job and with what I was doing hence I quit in the year 2016 - 2017 and started Curly Tales which is all about travel as I really wanted to travel and explore the world I give myself a year's time to explore what I really wanted to do and that's how the journey for CT began.





### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

Even when I was working as a news anchor or a producer at the news channels I would often go to media junkets although mine was related either to auto or business I saw that there were a whole host of people who were actually travelling just as a full-time profession. They were travel journalists, there were travel writers and that's when I realised that it could be a full-time job. When I quit in 2017, I decided to start a travel blog where I would write about my experiences but soon after I realised that there aren't many platforms who were doing videos and that's how we started doing videos along with blogs which was a great hit and that's how Curly Tales is where it is and today we have our own website and we are now available on all social platforms.

### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

It's truly an honour and a privilege to be honest to be selected amongst 99 achievers of India like amidst the population of 130 crore if I am selected and recognised for my work I couldn't be more happy, so thank you very much to you guys for identifying me as one of the achievers. All I ever wanted to achieve really was to travel around the world and follow my passion as much as I could but I think in this journey I have achieved a lot more and I think that just happened because I was honest to my own soul for what it really wanted to achieve. Thank you very much.

### IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?

There are so many. To start with, it is the 99 achievers of India that currently tops the list. A community of 5 million people absolutely love us because we have a 98% positive feedback on our content because in times where a lot of trolling happens or negative comments happen, fortunately for us that's not the case and we have a lot of positive feedback coming in. Being invited by the tourism boards in India and internationally, I think it's such an honour to work with the governments across the globe and them trusting in us and putting in money, sitting across the table with some well-renowned politicians, being a self-sufficient company, as well as bringing happiness to everyone's life through our content because that's the intent. We don't want to do too much negative news but just bring a smile to everyone's face, encourage them and inspire them to travel and go follow their dreams. Also another achievement clearly is celebrities coming on our show and are so happy to collaborate with Curly Tales every time they want to promote their film so that is some sort of validation coming in from some of the most successful personalities.

### HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?

When I am like really really disturbed because of course there are so many things happening and we are multitasking all the time and I feel like things are not in my control anymore, I switch off everything and I close my eyes and meditate for a little while and I listen to Sadguru's motivational talks and suddenly I feel like I am so silly to worry about things...



..I take a break, I meditate and I go on a journey internally and then I bounce back and I know that journey is never going to be 100% smooth and if it is what's the fun in it so there are always going to be ups and downs. So all you need to do is gather your strength and walk again. I always ask for stronger shoulders to be able to take up as much responsibility as I can instead of not having challenges in life because I know that it's a part and parcel of life.

### **WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

The principles we follow to achieve success is being honest to our audience, a lot of integrity and very high on ethics because if we are recommending something to someone we got to be sure that the thing is as good as you know Curly Tales is today India's number one food and travel platform. People are taking our suggestions seriously. We have our commerce platform where people can book packages. Now we are not a tour company but we are actually going there and experiencing the same as the community does. People are investing time and effort not only by watching our content but also by spending money with us and going and having a same experience as we do so we think it's a huge responsibility on us and as much as possible we should be honest in our content. For us, content means everything and our consumer is the king. We need to be sure by the end of it that our viewer is happy with what they are watching and reader is happy with what they are reading and anybody who goes out and experiences our experience should be 100% satisfied with what we are presenting and the success quotient is not related to which brands we are working with or how much money we are making but it's purely on the basis of how much love we are getting from our audiences and how big our community is growing. That's the only intent we work with.

### **IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

If I had a magic stick, 3 things I would ask for is of course a cleaner world as it would help save the environment, a good hygiene practice being done by all of us be it pollution or safety measures second thing would be a roof above everyone's head, all around the world and the third thing would be nobody sleeps hungry in the night, they are all well fed.

### **IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Two things I would like to tell to anybody who is starting out first would be focused and understand what you really want to achieve and put your blinkers on and be really focused on it and the second would be, be consistent because if you believe in something trust me it is a matter of time that you get noticed and people identify you. So be focused and be consistent are the two things I would like to tell anybody who is starting out.



**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Yes this is amazing to be a part of the biggest tree plantation drive. As I said, we all should be responsible for the environment around us because we call it our mother earth because it is our mother and we all should respect and I often say that I worship nature and I see God in nature and not really in idols. For me, my sense of God/belief is when I see waterfalls, mountains or lakes because this is something beyond human control and this is something God has created and we should truly value it, be it our forests, our plants and we just need to respect our environment as much as possible so I am very happy to be a part of this drive.



## MS. MALINI AGARWAL

FOUNDER & CREATIVE DIRECTOR OF MISSMALINI ENTERTAINMENT & MALINI'S GIRL TRIBE, AUTHOR AND TV HOST

*Digital Influencer, TV Host, Author and Entrepreneur*

*Malini ranked #1 on IMPACT's 50 Most Influential Women in Media, Marketing and Advertising 2017, and has been recognized as one of the top business leaders to watch on Fortune India's 40 Under 40 List, GQ's 50 Most Influential Young Indians List and World Marketing Congress's 50 Most Influential Digital Marketing Leaders Listing*

*She has been awarded Cosmopolitan's Editors Choice Awareness Influencer of the year 2020 along with being named one of the Top 10 Young Businesswomen by CNBC-TV18 at the Young Turks Summit and the #1 Digital Influencer in the world on SERMO's Digital Influencer Index 2016*

*During the pandemic, Malini organised the #IgnoreNoMoreOnline movement to empower men and women to speak up against online harassment*

*Malini launched an app called Girl Tribe by MissMalini for women looking for a safe and uplifting space to connect with other women, away from the trolling and negativity of conventional social media*

📷 @missmalini



*Ms. Malini has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

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### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I started my career as a backup dancer, but in 2000 I moved to Mumbai to join MTV India as their digital channel head. Later, I became a radio jockey and programming director and eventually, the digital content head at Channel [v] India. While I was working with radio, I had a gossip column called "Malini's Mumbai" to document all the fun experiences I was having in Bombay. Over time, I taught myself Photoshop, copywriting skills, and learned the most important lesson of my career: how to connect with people. I love this Japanese concept of "Ikigai" which means your true passion lies at the center of 4 things: what you love to do, what you're good at doing, what you can get paid to do, and what the world needs.

I am fortunate to have been able to make this work for me. Launching Girl Tribe by Malini was a personal and professional milestone. What started as a Facebook experiment to spread positivity, empathy, and kindness amongst 100 girlfriends in 2018, has now catapulted into an extraordinary community that is over 70k+ women strong, and growing each day.





### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

MissMalini.com blog was founded in 2008, perched on a couch, with one laptop, and was initially a hobby blog. Eventually, it became a gossip column, which was solely written by me.. These columns were then also published in a tabloid.

With an eye to make this blog more interesting and captivating, I left my job at Channel V and focused only on how to promote and grow my own blog, which no longer is just a "desi girl's diary", and has grown into India's biggest Bollywood news website which covers diverse topics!

### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

It is a great honour to be selected amongst the top 99 achievers of India, especially since it is out of millions it really makes hard work worth it. And to this day, I still look back and still pinch myself that the journey and adventure that I have had, it means so much to me that it's been acknowledged even if it is 2021. This means that we should keep working hard and do what we are doing, and I absolutely love what I do so being recognised for it is an icing on the cake.

### CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?

So It is interesting, no two days of mine are alike, at least pre pandemic they weren't because some days I would be out on shoot or meetings or even at home writing on my sofa . Now there is a little more routine in the sense that everybody's at home there is a limited amount of things you can do, so I end up actually doing a lot more writing at home. I am doing a lot of meetings and also alot of downtime as well.

### IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?

I believe one of my greatest achievements that I am personally very proud of has been starting Girl Tribe by Malini. Over the years, there have been accolades and awards, but starting this judgment-free community where real women talk, share, support, empower, network, and inspire each other to live their best lives has been a very important milestone. Bringing together a diverse range of women of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences to converse, share views, and offer expertise on any topic via multiple mediums is extremely rewarding and a feat in itself.

The success of the #IgnoreNoMore movement is also something I am very grateful for. During the pandemic, this online movement empowered men and women to speak up against online harassment. This campaign aimed to empower both men and women to protect themselves against online trolls and stand fiercely against internet abuse and social media's creep-fest, and I am glad it received so much support from everyone.



### HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?

I will be honest when things are difficult, of course I suffer stress, anxiety just like everyone else, but I have a great support system with my confounders, my other co-founder Nowshad who is also my husband. They are very supportive and make it a lot easier to get through the tough times and get through and also I have a very supportive team. Also we adopted a puppy Milo who is a great stress buster. I think these are the things that definitely help, spending time with friends and decompressing, stepping away and not taking yourself so seriously.

### WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?

Over the years my principles for success have changed and evolved. Initially it was all about putting your head down and working hard and not making it about the money, finding your passion by trying to do different things and learning about the things that you are good at, that you love to do; it's the logic of ikigai which are four pillars – find something you love to do that you are good at, that you can be paid to do and what the world needs!

### IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?

I would definitely reverse the corona virus and all the hurt and pain and loss people have suffered.

Another thing I would personally reverse the times I have had so much insecurity about myself where I had self doubt, if I could go back and change that. Although that is also a part of becoming who you are growing up and evolving..wish I was as comfortable in my own skin as I was in my teens and 20s as I am in my 40s.

Aside from that I wish that all my loved ones stay healthy and happy. At the end of the day those are the most important things that no amount of wealth can bring you joy or if you're not healthy and happy.

### IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

My advice for people starting out is simple: don't start out looking to become rich and famous, especially in the world of creators. It is important to step back and think about the one thing you love to do even if no one paid you to do it and make that your career and passion we live in a time where you can make anything your job – from designing shoes to social media manager to who knows what careers are going to appear tomorrow that don't even exist today with the changing face of the world. So focus on being the best self and doing something that you love and the fame and fortune will follow.



### HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I am excited to be a part of the biggest plantation drive in India. I have always admired the people who take effort to do that, I have personally never planted a tree before so I am very excited to go and be a part of the solution to the global warming and climate change and I think everyone should take part in initiative and plant trees and follow footsteps of achievers who are making that effort. No amount of success or money can save us if we don't have a healthy planet to live on.

I have tried to help my husband with a very green thumb at home, but I don't have a great green thumb but I am hoping this will be the change for me. I think planting a tree is a beautiful thing, it's really about starting a new life and looking at a tree is always refreshing and nourishing and it is wonderful to be a part of that solution.



## PIYA MARKER

PARENT COACH & SPECIAL EDUCATOR  
AT PIYA MARKER

*Educator - Parent Coach - Influencer*

*Principal of Special Needs school for 19 years*

*Instagram handle to guide, motivate and educate parents*

*Over the last decade as Head of School, The Aditya Birla Integrated School has received multiple awards placing it within the top 3 in India, Number 1 in Mumbai*

*Internationally certified Parent coach*



*Piya has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
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 @piyamarker

 piyamarker@gmail.com

## Q & A

### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

My journey spans 25 years and began with a desire to make a difference one child at a time. To this end I completed my Masters in special education and spent the last 2 decades as the Principal of Special needs schools. This journey largely involved working closely with parents to partner them on their road to empowering their child. Covid 19 made me realise that many parents were lost and confused as to how to make the time at home productive, enjoyable and sustainable. To this end, I thought of sharing my experiences over the past 2 decades, tips, ideas and motivating messages on Social media. This gave birth to my Instagram handle. Over the past year I have trained and am an Internationally certified Parent coach. So my journey continues, only now I wish to make a difference one parent at a time. I believe that happy parents make happy homes and that's all the recipe we need for happy kids!!'

### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

Considering the type of career it is, one would think it was always something I wanted to do. But to be fully honest, I came to Special needs by chance but now looking back on a 25 year long career it feels like it was all I was meant to do.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

I feel very humbled, happy and grateful that the years I have invested with all my heart has been recognised. I cant wait to do more!

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

My typical day starts with the hustle and bustle of mornings ensuring we do not miss the school bus. Once the kids are on their way to school, I'm on my way to mine. Once we're all back from school. I often forget I have a job or a career and happily slide into mother mode. I enjoy nothing more than being with my kids. So this is when my relaxation begins! My kids ground me and balance me out.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

The last year was transitioning back to normalcy post pandemic and readjusting special needs students to offline school again was challenging and through this year I went back to study myself. I have completed a graduate level course in Parent coaching that was rigorous and very demanding. Looking back I am proud that I have managed to balance work, studying, my kids and certify myself to help a whole new section of people.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Always remembering that mistakes don't define us, they are the universes way of pointing us in a direction of personal growth. Having said that, I'm human and also have days when I take advantage of my supportive family and friends to vent away.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Honesty, transparency, and hardwork!

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

Equal educational opportunities for all, cruelty toward animals and deeper concern for a healthier environment for our children.





**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Be true to yourself, always balance out head and heart when making decisions and make sure you choose to do something you are truly passionate about. Once you decide what you want to do, do not let hurdles change your path.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

We all know that deforestation has led to imbalance in biodiversity that has led to climate change and so Yes, Knowing that my children will inherit the earth, I am more than happy to be a part of making it a better place for them. No step is too small, take a step toward a greener healthier tomorrow!



## SHWETA GHUGE-GUPTA

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE  
SHWETA PRINT PACK PVT LTD

*Goldmansachs 10000 women entrepreneurs*

✉ [shweta@shwetaprintpack.com](mailto:shweta@shwetaprintpack.com)



*Shweta has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

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### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

My journey has been a pretty unusual journey. Being the only child in my family, I was brought up with the utmost love and care. I completed my B.Tech in Information Technology after the birth of my elder daughter in 2008 at the age of 21. For the next 4 years my life completely revolved about my little girl. Post that I joined our company which was started by my father and uncle in 1993. However hard I tried there was always a struggle of responsibility of work and a child that needed to be constantly juggled. In 2014 after the birth of my son I was back at being a full time mom till my child needed me. In 2016, I rejoined our company and slowly and steadily increased the share on my plate. My work has become like breathing to me and I enjoy every step in the process of this journey of learning, growing and reflecting.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I have grown up looking at the way my father and uncle run the business. The entire team of Shweta Print Pack is like home to me. I have grown up organically absorbing and learning the way our business works. It is my dream to fill my fathers shoes and that's how I got into this career.

#### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

It feels ecstatic to be acknowledged on such a big platform no doubt !! The journey is very long and I am prepared to overcome every obstacle that comes in the way !



**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

My day starts around 5 am . The early hours of the day feel the best time to manage and gear up for the chaos that I am headed towards !! I am at the gym at 6 am. Around 7.15 am I am back home and I get my kids ready for school and see them off at 8am . I head towards my office at 9.30 am . My usual working hours in the office are until 6.30 pm. Post that I resume my utmost important job of being a mother again . Nevertheless the advantage of working in an owner driven organisation are the flexibility it offers at times when my presence is needed for my children while I work from home . I will be honest, it is not at all easy to balance the work and family life. There are days when the guilt of prioritising work takes the better off me . I am blessed to have my mother who does most of the things for my children while I am at work. My husband and mother in law have been extremely supportive because they are heading their own business too and understand the challenges this role comes with . I truly believe that when a person achieves something there are lot many contributing factors to it and not just his/her efforts.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Most of the times things don't go as per planned . There are times when things get overwhelming. There are moments when you doubt your decisions but I believe these are the times when the backbone of the organisation that is the team experience of 30 years comes at rescue . When you are a part of the team you are either all in and all out. So once you are all in there is no looking away till the things turn out to be the way you need them.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

If I can sleep peacefully with a clear conscience I have done the right thing and that is my definition of success. And for that the principle is simple, be honest !

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

This is interesting! Honestly I wouldn't change a thing . We are what we are is because of everything that is around us . Your circumstances and choices shape you to become who you are . Without a con there wouldn't be a pro and vice Versa. Acceptance is the magic stick !

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

I believe that each one of us is carved for his/her own journey. We are moulded to achieve what we were meant for no matter what. So have faith and trust the process no matter how hard it may seem.



### HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

There are multiple factors that contribute to the situation we are in today. Planting trees is a small step but not the only solution. There is a lot of awareness that is still needed for each individual to become conscious about the choices they make in order to make this place secure for the coming generations. If we can impart and practice this an individual level it will definitely have a huge impact.



## MAHEKA MIRPURI

FASHION DESIGNER AT MAHEKA MIRPURI

*ENTREPRENEUR, DESIGNER, ARTIST*

*Raised over 10 Crores in 10 Years for the benefit of Head and Neck Cancer Patients at TATA Memorial Hospital through my charitable foundation, Move for Cancer Awareness (MCAN)*

*A passion-driven thought has successfully made my fashion label operational for over 25 years*

*Designed collections for a well-known jewellery brand for 2 years, refining and diversifying my design skills.*

*Created a collection of masks and released new collections during the Covid pandemic, with social distancing norms and isolation in full swing*

📷 @mirpurimaheka    ✉ mirpurimaheka@gmail.com  
@itsmahekamirpuri



*Maheka has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

As an outsider in the fashion industry, my journey has been defined by my quest to prove myself as a force to be reckoned with. I began my career in 1997 after I had just got married with nothing but a dream and an idea to create something beautiful that I could share with the world. 25 years later, I look backon how far I have come and I cannot be more thankful for my drive and ambition all those years ago, which has led me to see my passion grow into a successful label today .

Losing my father and brother-in-law to cancer early in my career was a shock, and a difficult time for our family, both emotionally as well as financially. I knew I had to honour their memory, while also helping others in a similar position. That is why I started my charitable foundation, Move for Cancer Awareness (MCAN) for the benefit of Head and Neck Cancer patients at TATA Memorial Hospital. Having completed 10 years of this journey, I am proud to say that we have successfully raised 10 crores towards the benefit of over 2500 patients.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

My journey with fashion is a dream. I was drawn to the industry through my love for art, and artistic expression. For me, fashion is an inborn sensibility. My first ever sale was a hand-painted scarf, which sold for Rs 1500. To date, every single one of my collections features a line of my hand-painted silhouettes.





**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

I have always believed in the value of authenticity and honest, hard work. With these values, I truly believe that any person, no matter what their background, can achieve whatever it is they dream of. After so many years of living by these values, I am both honoured and proud to have been named amongst these leaders of industry - it is a dream come true!

Little girls who dream become women with vision - This is my journey in a nutshell.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

My day starts around 5 am . The early hours of the day feel the best time to manage and gear up for the chaos that I am headed towards !! I am at the gym at 6 am . Around 7.15 am I am back home and I get my kids ready for school and see them off at 8am . I head towards my office at 9.30 am . My usual working hours in the office are until 6.30 pm. Post that I resume my utmost important job of being a mother again . Nevertheless the advantage of working in an owner driven organisation are the flexibility it offers at times when my presence is needed for my children while I work from home . I will be honest, it is not at all easy to balance the work and family life. There are days when the guilt of prioritising work takes the better off me . I am blessed to have my mother who does most of the things for my children while I am at work. My husband and mother in law have been extremely supportive because they are heading their own business too and understand the challenges this role comes with . I truly believe that when a person achieves something there are lot many contributing factors to it and not just his/her efforts.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I truly believe that my greatest achievement is my oeuvre - the body of work I have created over the years. Every piece, every successful event, every connection made along the way is an achievement I would never take for granted!

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

If there is one thing I have learned in life, it is that no problem is too big that it cannot be fixed with the right outfit, the perfect pair of heels, and the right attitude!

I also cannot understate the discipline and determination that Yoga has taught me, which has helped me centre myself in even the toughest times.



**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Persistence, respect, confidence, and emotional intelligence are the currency of effective leadership – this is something I am reminded of in my most trying times, and it is what has brought me to where I am today.

You must always operate with drive, discipline, determination, and diligence to get to where you want to be.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

I would eradicate poverty, hunger, and cancer disease.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Never take what you have for granted, never back down from what you truly believe in, and never stop learning. If you move forward with grace, while trusting your vision, there is nothing that you cannot achieve. Dream big and follow your heart.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

As citizens of the world, we must mutually agree to take a stance and make a difference. Planting trees is a noble endeavour – but the fight does not end there. Take a stand for the future, for the health of our planet, our species, and the natural world.



## ANSHU AANAND

BUSINESS ADVISOR & PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER  
ANSHU ANAND & ADVISORS

*She specializes in cross functional analysis to chart a roadmap for companies to scale up their operations*

REX KARMAVEER GLOBAL FELLOWSHIPS & Karmaveer Chakra award instituted with the UN

Keynote at World Peace Summit 2021 by Charles Walter's Society for Innovation & Research

Panellist on NEWX TV channel about How to get Business & Economy Back 2020

Featured in a documentary series "Heroes Invisibles" on Spanish National television

 @anshuaanandinsta



*Anshu has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

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### Q & A

#### CAN YOU TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR CAREER PATH SO FAR?

I am just an inquisitive person who likes to keep learning and analysing various facets of life. I started working right after my 12th schooling. Started with a tech job for three years then fashion retail management for a year with consulting assignments on the side. Looking back, it was my inclination and natural ability of problem-solving that brought the right people to me who hired me, eventually. Then, it was about timing to realise the right business model that brings in added value for my clientele (in comparison to existing consulting companies) I am running a business advisory firm for companies at the growth stage.

#### WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO WORK?

I am fortunate to meet some incredible entrepreneurs and key stakeholders in the business fraternity and government bodies. The eagerness to grow their venture and make more impact motivates me to get my problem-solving hat on, gather my resources and people, to make a difference.



### WHAT PART OF YOUR OCCUPATION DO YOU PERSONALLY FIND MOST SATISFYING AND MOST CHALLENGING?

We are in the business of constructive criticism. Acknowledgement of our inputs by our clientele is the most satisfying aspect of business advisory. The challenge is building a consistent streamline of income that helps us achieve speed and scale. We are working on that by creating 'plug and play' automation led services for MSME.

### WHAT'S THE MOST INTERESTING THING ABOUT YOU THAT WE WOULDN'T LEARN FROM YOUR PROFILE ALONE?

I am in the business of strategic thinking, logical approach and analysis. However, I credit most of my progress to Intuition. I try to strike a balance with my spiritual practices to cultivate intuition as an empowerment tool to use in daily life and critical times.

### WHAT SKILLS ARE THE MOST CRUCIAL TO SUCCEEDING IN THIS CAREER? WHAT TYPE OF PERSON DO YOU NEED TO BE?

Critical Thinking is essential, unbiased analysis and evaluation of factual evidence. Its important to be an open-minded person. That comes with having a growth mindset. Just know that, your mind can be trained to be the best at anything. Your likes and dislikes, habits, skillsets, can be upgraded, you just have to train your mind to do so. On the contrary, people with fixed mindset tend to stay with the same habits and personality for several years. They don't grow out of their comfort zone.

### WHAT ARE SOME THINGS OUTSIDE OF WORK THAT YOU'RE IRRATIONALLY PASSIONATE ABOUT?

That got me thinking, having a humanitarian approach as a lifestyle. Spending my special days like birthday with less fortunate ones, packing my favorite meals to give it to someone in need on the way back home or spring cleaning my wardrobe to donate to charity every season. Besides, I must mention the most fulfilling is to be able to rescue animals like birds, squirrels, cats and dogs. They shower you with so much gratitude its unbelievable. The pigeons and squirrels I've rescued come find me after getting released from foster veterinary care.

### HOW IS THIS INDUSTRY AFFECTED BY THE ECONOMY PRE AND POST-PANDEMIC?

Post pandemic, I can see clients with more focused approach to growing their business via diversifying to emerging lines of products and services. Technology as a tool for efficient operation isn't debatable anymore. Investors are more keen to look into Alternative Investment Funds, thats so important for a developing economy since the money is used to build other businesses rather than just sitting in the bank.



**FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE, WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS YOU SEE WORKING IN THIS FIELD?  
WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE YOU WERE FACING?**

What we are selling here cannot be seen or held in hands, that's the biggest challenge. How do you align with your clients' goals and create deliverables that helps him trust you to pay. For me personally, the challenge has been to find the clients, who have been men mostly, to just see me beyond my gender and age gap. The ones who would be ethical enough keep it strictly business and not expect any "special" favors.

**MOVING FORWARD, DO YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR OUR  
READERS AS A RESULT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE?**

Just keep moving forward with your goals. Remove the distractions from your life regularly, people who don't pay on time or help in your intellectual & spiritual growth. Value your energy and time, invest it since its a limited resource.

**ON THE LAST NOTE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE US AN INSIGHT ON YOUR FUTURE PLANS**

I can see my ultimate vision and mission taking shape in near future. We are increasing our focus towards a Green Economy, Sustainable Business solutions and the application of deep technology. It's exciting to note that the world is moving in this direction at an exponential rate. I can foresee some drastic changes in the world within 5 years that will make Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption an essential topic to be incorporated by individuals, corporations and governments, similar to the paradigm shift in Digital Economy within one year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.





## ANKITA SINGH

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
& GLOBAL HEAD AT CIGNEX

*She has over 22 years of progressive experience in managing and leading various aspects of business domains of ITES*

Ranked amongst Forbes India's Top 100 "Great People Manager" by GMI India two time 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

Successfully completed prestigious Harvard Business School online certification program "Sustainable Business Strategy"

Awarded "CHRO of the Year 2020, 2019, 2018 and 2017" "Women Personality of the Year 2019, 2018 and 2017 by Femina" and "Most Influential HR Leaders 2017" and many more

📷 @singhankita14



*Ankita has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU TELL US A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR CAREER PATH SO FAR?

Over the past 20-plus years, I have had the privilege of working alongside the same collective. Developing and maturing with the company has been an exceptional and enlightening experience. We have navigated through triumphs and tribulations together, transcending every challenge that came our way. Realizing there is still so much to learn and contribute is simply awesome. I have been blessed with unwavering support from everyone in my sphere. A remarkable team, exceptional mentors, and an outstanding family, who have tended to every demand, have been my pillar of strength.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

At the onset, I stumbled into Human Resources by happenstance. However, I didn't take long to discern my innate affinity towards this function. The realization that I could acquire and bestow knowledge meaningfully prompted me to take the plunge wholeheartedly, and ever since then, I haven't looked back.

#### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

I am deeply humbled and overwhelmed by the privilege of being among the top 99 Achievers of India and sharing the same space as several distinguished individuals. It brings me immense joy to know that I can make a small contribution towards the betterment of our society, and I am grateful to the Indian Achievers Club team for conferring me with this honor.



**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

Striking the right balance between various aspects of life can be arduous, often resulting in sacrificing one aspect in favor of another. Nevertheless, I adhere to the 30:40:30 rule, which entails allocating 30% of my time to nurture my mental and physical well-being and contribute to the community, 40% to work, and 30% to self-development and family. While achieving an optimal balance is a constant challenge, following this rule has aided me in maintaining equilibrium and pursuing my endeavors with renewed vigor.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

For three consecutive years, it is a privilege and an honor to be recognized as one of the top 100 people managers by Forbes India and GMI. Moreover, I derive immense satisfaction from supporting 175 underprivileged children for their education and sustenance. Recently, I founded HRAI, an initiative that brings me immense pleasure as it allows me to contribute to the HR fraternity. This journey has been fulfilling, and I remain steadfast in my commitment to making a meaningful difference in the lives of those around me.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS  
ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I adopt a pragmatic approach when faced with obstacles or setbacks. I take a moment to pause and reevaluate the situation, analyzing what factors are within my control and what is not. This allows me to understand the situation better and develop a course of action that aligns with my objectives. I then focus on giving my 100% effort to achieve the best possible outcome. Staying determined and persevering through adversity is key to overcoming challenges and achieving success in the long run.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

To thrive in today's dynamic world, it is essential to remain authentic and nimble, adapting to changing circumstances while staying true to oneself.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

I would eliminate biases, borders, and bureaucracy.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Never stop learning and be open to new experiences.



**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I believe that planting trees is not just a solution to global warming and climate change but also a powerful symbol of our collective responsibility to protect our planet. It's a great feeling to come together and do our part to make a positive impact, and I am proud to be a part of it.

I have learned that even small actions can make a significant difference, and it's our collective responsibility to contribute towards a sustainable future. So, let's follow in the footsteps of those making a difference and remember that it's not just about how much we give but how much love we put into giving.



## DIPALI SONAWANE

FITNESS CONSULTANT AND ENTREPRENEUR  
IRON SPORT GYM

*Fitness enthusiast, former bikini athlete, and owns two fitness clubs*

📷 @dips\_shine

✉️ dipalisonwane1@gmail.com



*Dipali has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I am a biotech graduate and I have done my masters in Business management but my interest was always in fitness industry so I started with a supplement store franchise of a well known brand which failed and in few years I stood up again and open my first branch of iron sport though it was very tough for me to bear with financial loss which laid me in to huge debts.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I was always passionate about fitness I was always a chubby kid but I was born in small town which were not having enough scope for me to do my fitness courier and education there.

#### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

It feels such an honour to be on the top 99 achievers of India thanks for having me.



**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

I am a mother of 3 year old girl my day starts at 5 in morning followed by getting my 30 min run and a personal training sessions in morning at my gyms and followed by few meetings post lunch I try to finish my workout in evening and some administrative and promotional work at my both the branches and home to take care of my baby.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

My greatest achievement is being mother when I was at a peak of my courier I was ready for iron man competition (triathlon) but yea apart from this the first time I stepped on the stage wearing that bikini and reprinted India was my best achievement.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I simply try to keep trying again and again and to keep myself calm and going I always take out at least an hour for myself which helps me a lot.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

I like to work with ethics, honesty and dedication.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

I would have changed no kid should sleep empty stomach every elder should be taken care and every poor should get the right medical treatment food and shelter

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Just hang in there keep trying things will surely work if you are passionate enough about your Business.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

It feels absolutely great to be a part of such a biggest plantation drive and absolutely plantation is the only solution for global warming along with other few activities.

We all got only one home that is Mother Earth and it can't be survive without trees so plant as many as trees possible and not only plant but grow and protect them.

Save Mother Earth.





## CHARU SAREEN GUJJAL

PARENTING & LIFESTYLE BLOGGER, DIGITAL CREATOR,  
AUTHOR

@themomsagas

*Educationist, Blogger, Author, Digital Creator*

*Founder of themomsagas.com*

*Successfully authored 2 books (A to Z of Parenting Twins, The Magic of Reading Aloud to Kids)*

*Guest speaker at the famous talk show - 9 Months by FirstPost (Season 6, Ep - 4- Towards A Better Tomorrow) alongside celebrities like Shruti Seth*

*Awarded for 'Being A Change Maker as a Social Media Influencer' by Finer World Organization & Parenting Champions*

*Recognised by Netflix as a part of the focus group for their subdivision- Netflix for Kids*

*Recognised as top inspiring Mom blogger by Babychakra, Digital Scholar, The Better India, Galleri5.*

*Featured in Mini N More Magazine, InMandi, EatMyNews, Women Fitness Org, SheThePeopleTV*



*Charu has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

📷 @themomsagas

✉️ charusareen@gmail.com

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I started my journey as a parenting blogger in 2016 when my twins were just about 6-7 months old. I had left my teaching career back then and was freelancing as a content writer. As a first-time mom we are always confused and full of doubts. I was no different! I made many mistakes and eventually learnt from them. I wanted to document my parenting experiences with my twins, and share all the tips and tricks of parenting that personally worked for me. My main thought was to share my learnings with more and more mothers who may benefit from it. So, I started my own blog <https://themomsagas.com> and also delved into social media and created an instagram page by the name @themomsagas.

Slowly, my page grew bigger and I had an audience of my own who would relate with my blogs and found them helpful. A few of my posts went viral on social media that helped me reach a wider audience Eventually even brands started approaching me for various kinds of promotions to reach out to more parents.

Back then I never knew what started as a simple digital diary would gradually grow into a full-time profession that would connect me with so many more moms, brands and communities. Today I blog with a purpose- which is to spread awareness about mindful parenting practices and share positive parenting solutions.



Along with running a successful blog, I have authored 2 books in this space-

- 'A to Z of Raising Twins' -which is a useful resource for new parents on raising twins.
- 'The Magic Of Reading Aloud To Young Kids'- a helpful guide for parents to know all about what, why and how to read to young kids right from infancy.

Both are available on Amazon.

### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

It all began with an urge to document the highs & lows of my parenting journey and to share simple tips and tricks on positive parenting that worked for me as a mother of twins.

I always had a penchant for writing and when I became a mom, I found writing as a perfect way to share my emotions, thoughts and struggles as a new parent. Thus started - The Mom Sagas and my career as a professional blogger and content creator.

### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

It feels great! Six years back when I had left my job as an educationist, I thought its the end of my professional career. But motherhood opened an altogether new avenue for me and brought so many new opportunities. I had never thought in my wildest dreams that through a small digital space I could create a mark of my own, start a new career, meet new people and even be financially independent.

I have worked really hard for this and today my hard work is being acknowledged and appreciated. I truly feel honoured to be among the Top 99 Achievers of India.

### CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?

My day typically starts at 7 am, sending my twins off to school and finishing basic household chores. I like to plan my day in advance, so a night prior I make a to-do list of all the things I need to finish through the day.

I try to fix my work schedule as per my kid's daily schedule. So I make the most of the hours when they are at school. Once they are back home, I limit my work and spend time with them.

Striking a good work life balance being a freelance work-from-home mom is very difficult. There are no fixed clocking in & out hours. Sometimes you are all over the place and working all through the day.

I only learnt gradually how important it is to balance between work, family and household chores. Its not that I have aced it but I try everyday.



### IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?

- Getting associated with brands like Netflix, Viacom 18, Amazon, etc.
- Creating a strong digital presence as The Mom Sagas.
- Being featured as an inspiring mom blogger on platforms like The Better India, Shethepeopletv and many more.
- Awarded for 'Being A Change Maker as a Social Media Influencer' by Finer World Organization & Parenting Champions
- Authoring two books and having an audience that trusts my recommendations

All of the above are the accomplishments that I am extremely proud of. Today my kids say that they are proud of their mom being a noted blogger, that feels like my biggest personal achievement.

### HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?

I always believe in trying and giving my best efforts. In my opinion, when we do something from heart, it always pays off in some way or the other. I try to not let my low days bring me down. On days, when things do not go as planned I take it as a learning experience and move on.

### WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?

I truly believe in 3P's - blog with a PURPOSE, step out of your comfort zone and know your full POTENTIAL, set small goals and stay PERSISTENT to achieve them. These 3 P's have worked well for me so far.

### IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?

If I had a magic stick, I would work towards ensuring a better future for my kids by eradicating disparity & discrimination (based on caste, gender, culture, etc). I would work towards creating equal educational & work opportunities for all. I would do away with the patriarchal system bringing equality in relationships and families. I would work towards improving the climatic condition and ensuring a safe, green and clean environment for our kid's future.



**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

I would say always start with a purpose and goal in mind. Once you are clear on that, work hard and give it some time. Nothing comes easy and quick in life. Stay consistent and stay self-motivated to achieve your goals.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I'm stoked to be a part of something that is so important. Planting trees is the need of the hour. It solves so many environmental and climate related problems including Global warming. We're already too late, and I must confess that I haven't done enough to say that I've done my bit. This initiative has given me an opportunity to take steps in this direction and put my genuine efforts.

A message to all - Please try to keep your surroundings neat and clean - be it your home or neighborhood. Start with the basics like segregating the waste, using eco-friendly sustainable products, etc. Take small steps but do your bit.

Every small effort that we make will go a long way.



## SUSHMITA BHUSHAN REKHI

FOOD BLOGGER - CONTENT CREATOR

@sushiontherolls\_

EDUCATIONIST, SOCIAL INFLUENCER, WRITER

*Certificate Born on Instagram Creator*

*Volunteered as a Mentor & Motivator for the children's at NGO named "Sneha Sagar" by teaching & helping them to enhance their skills*

*Successfully marketed and worked closely with big brands like lays, PepsiCo etc*

*Got a distribution championship medal in my current organization*

*Got certificate of excellence during my internship with Perfetti Van Melle*

📷 @sushiontherolls\_    ✉️ sushiontherollsemail.com



*Sushmita has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

WINNERS  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I am a banker by profession and foodie by passion. I started this journey of food blogging during lockdown and each day I am learning something new, it's a total rollercoaster ride for me.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I am passionate about food and I thought of converting my passion into part time profession .

#### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

I feel highly obliged to be part of this & would like to thank each and every person who supported me in this journey .

#### CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?

It gets quite tough sometime to manage personal and professional life. But I feel that if you love something then nothing can stop you from achieving it.





**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I was extremely happy when I received Born Instagram recognised Content Creator certificate and personalised GIF's by Meta also I got direct access to Meta team which helped me more to grow my page.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Sometime there are highs and lows but it's a part of journey. I make sure to be consistent on my page and keep my audience engaged. I keep reminding myself that If you love something do it with all your heart and you may see the results.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

I feel success is ongoing journey and not a destination, so just go with the flow and appreciate all small and big achievements equally.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

1. Bribe
2. Poverty
3. Everyone would have access to education

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Life is loveable mess , just embrace it  
Do what you love & love what you do

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

- It gives me immense pleasure to be part of this biggest tree plantation drive
- Today Someone is sitting in the shade because someone planted a tree long time ago. It's extremely important to plant tree for the planet, to save mother earth
- I would like to tell people that the best time to plant tree was 20 years ago & the second best time is now. Plant a tree, plant a hope.





## DEEPIKA CHAWLA

CA, VICE PRESIDENT IN FORTUNE 100 COMPANY  
& FOUNDER OF SPEAK UP LADY

*Bestseller Author, Mentor, Moderator, Motivator,  
TEDx Speaker*

*Creator of women mentoring program, Speak Up Lady, having mentored  
200 women professionals in the last 18 months*

*Author of Amazon's no1 bestseller - Now, Speak Up Lady! A chronicle of  
real-life stories and life lessons.*

*Mentors Youth / next-generation leaders across organizations  
& colleges where she contributes as a speaker or a panelist*

*She is a TEDx Speaker where she spoke for the youth on the Prevailing  
Presence of Passion and is a Josh Talk Sheroo*

*A businesswoman having 30+ years of rich global experience in Business  
Transformation & Governance, Financial Shared Services, Banking  
operations, Inclusion & Diversity & People Leadership, a Qualified  
Chartered Accountant, She has worked with brands like HDFC Bank, ICICI  
bank Ltd, etc, and now a Vice president with a Fortune 100*

*Supports multiple NGOs working on Cancer, Education & Thalassaemia.  
She's on the advisory board of two of them.*

📧 @deepika.chawla.vivacious ✉️ deepika@deepikachawla.com



*Deepika has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

Humbled to be a sought-after mentor for women professionals. Having worked in the domain of Banking, Finance, Inclusion & Diversity as well as people leadership for mentoring next-generation leaders across organizations & colleges. I am currently involved in facilitating women transform their lives through the unique program called Speak Up Lady Mentoring Program. I'm married for 30 years mother of 3 children 27-year-old boy, 23-year-old girl and 10-year-old Beagle.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I have been channelizing my rich experience of 30 years to empower and lay a road-map for women leaders to make their journey meaningful, across varied walks of life.

Problems, hesitation, competition, disruption, opposition, confusion, we all have faced it. In my journey through corporate transitions and growth, I have had the opportunity to be guided by some great mentors myself. A common learning for all has been that anyone who wants to navigate the journey successfully and come out a winner, needs a true mentor. That turned up to be my mission - to offer women a mentoring platform and fill in this huge need gap that exists.

Christened as SPEAK UP LADY, it focuses on empowering seekers by building a journey of clarity for women professionals.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

It's very humbling to be recognized thus. With great recognition comes great responsibility. I will continue to inspire and guide others to be leaders and help women grow professionally & personally.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

Yoga, walking, tending to my terrace garden, interacting with children, in-laws, my pet, my husband, managing office, and then by the night, a little bit on Speak Up Lady mentoring program (balance I focus on weekends). A little OTT before sleeping.

The traditional image of work/life balance creates a sense of competition between the two elements. Work/Life Integration instead is an approach that creates more synergies between all areas that define "life": work, home/family, community, personal well-being, and health.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

Being a Mother to 3 children  
Being Happily Married to the same man  
Being an Author  
Being Financially independent

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Believing in myself & having faith that this shall too pass

- refer my Ted Talk The Prevailing  
Presence of Passion | Deepika Chawla ...  
YouTube · TEDx Talks  
09-Jun-2016

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Being Resilient, Being Tenacious & having Self Belief

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

Make the world more inclusive, Equity should be a birthright, Empower all the women around me



**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Know your self-worth. Don't underestimate your capabilities. Others will regard you the same way as you regard yourself. Have faith.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Tree Plantation drive has big potential to tackle the climate crisis. Trees are earth's life-supportive network. Thank You for allowing me to contribute a bit to the next generations and my children.

Everyone should contribute their bit , every drop in ocean.



## SHARMILA PANDEY

DOCTOR AND MARATHON RUNNER

*District President of Brijbhoomi Foundation, an NGO for the woman by a woman Shri Hema Maliniji*

*Till date completed 102 marathon runs(10k,15k,21k,25k) and 90 Virtual Runs*

*100 km Oxfame Walk*

*Has done Ultra 6 hrs Run*

*Has won awards for "Queen in the Making", "UNIMO Indore", "I.N.S.P.I.R.E Beyond Motherhood*

*Sportsperson of the Year", "Successful Women Award-2017", "Rangoli Award -2019", "Kalyan Sports Recognized Awards"*

*Guinness World Record Holder in Plank Challenge and Backward Race*

*Recently this year did the "Kailash Manasarovar Trek"*

*WOW 2019 Award by Mumbai Moms - Fitness Freak of the year Award*

*India's Sparking star Awards (Sports and Fitness Category)*

[@sharmila.pandey.775](#)



*Sharmila has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

### Q & A

#### **CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?**

I am a doctor by profession, a housewife by choice, a Marathon runner by passion, a motivational speaker, a social activist, and a trekker to reach the Everest Base Camp at the age of 53 when most women plan their retirement both from their personal and professional responsibilities.

Being a part of the conservative society, I was married at a young age and had to give up on her medical career to become a loving wife, a dutiful daughter-in-law, and later a caring mother to two young kids. Surprisingly nothing of these could kill the dreams of a young girl that I was in heart still. Though outwardly I was a wife, a daughter-in-law, a mother but inside was that young girl with fire in her belly to carve a niche for herself.

My dreams got wings in 2014 when came across an opportunity to run Marathon after which I became invincible.

I began her journey or rather the second innings of her life at an age when most women already compromise on their dreams and passion. At an age, where most women suffer from hot flashes and pre-menopause symptoms, I was treading towards her journey as a Marathon runner and a trekker. Everything that manifests physically on the outward has to first shape in the mental frame. Exactly was with me, who was always passionate about physical fitness and sports.



**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

Everest Base Camp is a dream for every trekker who's passionate about enduring challenges that Nature throws at them while scaling the mountain. It was a dream come true for me in 2022 when I got the opportunity to scale the mountain and experience an altitude of 5,364 meters after the journey of 9 days, each day beginning at 5:30 a.m. and ending at 5:30 p.m. It took me a year of physical and mental training for reaching to my dream destination. Each day I was presented with new challenges as the weather on the mountain is completely unpredictable. But nothing could stop me to scale the elevated heights neither the freezing temperature nor the uneven surface of the mountain nor the reducing amount of oxygen. My feet trembling hands freezing and nose bleeding, with my will, dedication and most importantly passion to fulfill her dreams finally took me to the Everest Base Camp.

All good things are possible with the blessing of the Almighty and the support of the family and I was blessed and lucky enough to receive both. From Day 1 to Day 9 became more intense and more challenging, I was hell-bent to reach where I aimed to. With no transportation at hand in case of emergency, I almost risked my life at such an elevation with no family members but just their blessings. I have been as stubborn as a mule to complete the journey with iron-will and did it with full faith and confidence!

Has completed 252 Marathon runs (10K, 15k 21K 25K)  
Rappelling  
Trekking at many places  
Has been interviewed by YouTube channel Women TV India  
G Town Awardee  
100 km Ox fame Walk  
Has completed Ultra 6 hours Run  
Has won award for 'Queen in the Making 'UNIMO' Indore.  
I.N.S.P.I.R.E Beyond Motherhood-Sportsperson of the Year  
Successful Women Award 2017  
Rangoli Award - 2019 and 2020  
Guinness World Record Holder in Plank Challenge and Backward Race  
-----  
Has successfully completed Kailash Mansarovar Trek  
Devil circuit finisher for 3 consecutive years  
IWA Award  
Dr. Sarojini Naidu International Women's Award 2020.  
Forever Star India Awards for the real Superwomen 2020  
International Creative Society Award Interview  
Unit Calendar launch award 2021  
Global GIW Award Singapore  
The Indian Achievers club 50-50  
and many more to add to this unending list...



**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

"Success is neither magical nor mysterious - Success is the natural consequence of good habits."





## BISTRITI PODDAR

BRANDING & COMMUNICATIONS  
UKNOWVA

*Changemaker, Influencer, TEDx Speaker*

*4 Time TedX speaker*

*Marketing Excellence & Economic Times Inspiring Leader 2022*

*Featured in Asia's Top 100 Power Leader in Marcomm 2022 by  
Whitepage International and listed on Fortune India*

*Won e4m PR & Corp Comm's 40 Under 40 2022*

*Her venture Paperless Postcards is also now a case study at one  
of the top business schools of Mumbai, like the Institute for  
Technology and Management.*

📷 @paperless\_postcards    ✉️ bistriti.poddar@conv.in



*Bistriti has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

Well, it wasn't a great start for me initially, I was written off in my very first job by a toxic manager. But I was committed to achieving my goals. When you're consistently chasing excellence, you can't be too far off from success. I always strive to break through any limits and create the kind of life I have designed for myself. I currently helm the role of Chief Communications Officer at uKnowva. Under her tutelage, the company solidified their brand value as an end-to-end HRMS solution.

From being written off to becoming a 4-time TEDx speaker, winning Asia's top 100 power leaders in Marcomm, ET women leadership award and Business World's E4M 40 under 40 title, the journey has been exhilarating. I created the country's first social platform Paperless Postcards for non-fictional contemplative conversations that intend to better relationships and change mindset. I have always believed that if you want the doors of opportunities and success to open for you, you have to open the doors in your mind to start with. What got me this far is my attitude that in the end, all rejections are good, just reframe them well.

I am a self-made person, who came to Mumbai with a million dreams, limited resources and made it big with her grit, determination, perseverance and passion for writing. Turbulent times fuelled my awakening, evolution and success and helped me realize that my passion to make it big and the fire in my heart exceeded the disappointment of chronic failures and rejections.



### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I am a celebrated writer, an award-winning leader, a TEDx Speaker and a mentor for millennials seeking accelerated career growth. But I was written off as a writer during my first job but that didn't stop me from making it big.

I founded Paperless Postcards in 2016, a company that went on to become India's largest non-fictional content community with more than 6,00,000 followers garnered organically over a span of 3 years. This was followed by an innovative book launch of Paperless Postcards that was endorsed by celebrities like Himanshu Malhotra, Piyush Mishra, Manoj Bajpayee and Ishaan Khattar to name a few. My venture Paperless Postcards is also now a case study at one of the top business schools of Mumbai, Institute for Technology and Management.

Apart from my entrepreneurial achievements, I also possess over 12+ years of experience in the content, social media and PR space. I have held leadership positions in the content departments of TATA AIA, Havas Media, Bewakoof.com, UniAcco, Annex Cloud and Maxixx Business Solutions. While I was at HAVAS MEDIA, she worked on elite brands like Star World Premiere and Emami. For one of the campaigns that I helmed, the company won the Times Network National Awards for Marketing Excellence in the content marketing genre. I have also been featured on ET Now Leaders of Tomorrow, BTVI, RadioCity 91.1 FM (Mumbai) and ranked amongst the top 50 influencers of the nation by EXHIBIT magazine.

I am a regular keynote speaker at IITs and IIMs with her most recent talk held recently at the IMA Conclave. I have spoken on entrepreneurship and the importance of social media across various sessions. Many top national and online dailies like The Quint, Yourstory, Business World, The New Indian Express and The Times of India have chronicled Bistriti's entrepreneurial and corporate journey. I am also sponsoring the education of three girls from Dharavi (Mumbai). I empower people to search for change, exploit the gap, and optimise the opportunity thus found.

### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

Winning this award to me is just absolutely phenomenal. I am ecstatic. This is just inspiration to keep going on the road I have been heading down. I am grateful to everyone who has been a part of my journey. Awards like these remind me that no matter what you have been through, your dreams no matter how big are always valid!

### CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?

I am very fortunate to have chosen a career I don't need a break from. I am religiously in love with what I do. I start my day with chalking out short-term goals and deadlines for the day and getting an exhaustive to-do list made. And by the end of the day, I ensure all the tasks are either achieved or overachieved. When you're out to create an impact and inspire others, there's a lot you leave behind and give up in order to achieve that. I live the life of a soldier, I take the responsibility of inspiring & empowering everyone in my vicinity very seriously, and my family understands that my purpose in life of making an impact, being a changemaker, is much bigger than anything else in the world.



### IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?

Founded Paperless Postcards that is now a case study at Institute for Management and Technology, one of the finest business schools in Mumbai and has been endorsed by celebrities like Ishaan Khatter, Manoj Bajpayee etc

Launched Paperless Postcards book (merchandise) UNBOOK, that was endorsed by TV and Bollywood veterans like Himanshu Malhotra, Piyush Mishra

Won Times Network National Awards for Marketing Excellence (Content Marketing) for EMAMI Fair and Handsome campaign at Havas Media

Economic times inspiring leader 2022 (Distinguished and Innovative women leader category)

Asia's top 100 power leader in Marcomm 2022 , featured in Fortune India

40 under 40 Business World Exchange for Media in corporate communication

4 Time TEDx speaker

### HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?

I have seen and lived 'ABSOLUTE ROCKBOTTOM' and I have survived that, so there's nothing that can deviate me from my goals or discourage me. I am not scared of things going awry or failures to be honest. I am a hustler by nature and extremely resilient and no matter what, I never stop. The fire that burns inside me is mightier than any misery!

### WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?

I believe that 'Love' is a powerful force, and that anything done with great love brings success! Having had a difficult life herself—raised by toxic parents; married young to a man who shattered her self-worth; not having enough to feed herself and having to eat from dustbins, and being written off by superiors—my struggle to shine and reach the pinnacle was long and hard. I believe that passion and fire in the heart exceeds the disappointment of chronic failures and rejections. Success is not just about how talented one is, but also about how much one is willing to give up in order to succeed and the invincible motivation that drives people to succeed.

### IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?

I would change the way people look at failures

I would like to provide everyone free education (I am already doing my bit in this genre by sponsoring girl kids from Dharavi)

Make women financially independent



**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Have a vision, chase it, money will follow, it's much easier to make millions than it is to make an impact in the world!

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

It is such a great opportunity to be part of the Biggest Tree Plantation Drive in India. This is the best platform one can have to make a difference for our environment. Planting trees is the solution to global warming and climate change. Planting even one tree can make a huge difference. Together we all can change the grave situation of the climate crisis. Climate Change is real and humans have made it real. We cannot ignore the situation any more and continue to live our lives like nothing is wrong in the world. It is time to take real action and restore the nature.



## HARDI OZA PATEL

TRAVELPRENEUR  
VELVET ESCAPES

*AVID TRAVELER, PASSION & ETHICAL*

*Selected by Goldman Sach from 10,000 women across India to study Women Entrepreneurship at IIM Bangalore*

*Awarded Best Travel Influencer Award in 20 Inspiring Women of India by SHE awards 2022*

*Featured by Forbes, Outlook & India Today*

*Successfully did the Travel Show "Travel Thursday" on Radio Mirchi*

*Ex Columnist Divya Bhaskar*

 @hardiozapatel

 [velvetescapesholiday@gmail.com](mailto:velvetescapesholiday@gmail.com)



*Hardi has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

The journey of 16 yrs has been full of hardwork, passion, never giving up, chasing stars & getting up more stronger each time there was a setback.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I remember seeing an aeroplane for the first time when I was four. And that was when I decided to either travel the world or pursue a career in astronomy. Stars, the moon, and galaxies continue to fascinate me to the core. So, driven by my passion for travel and desire to explore the world, I founded my travel company 16 years ago.

#### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

Blessed, elated & absolutely nothing but gratitude.



**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

The day starts with yoga followed by sending off my 8 years to school to finishing housework, getting ready & be in office till late evening. We women are multitaskers & go getters, we simply don't give up and yet balance everything between the earth and the sky.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I was selected in top women's in India to study Women Entrepreneurship at IIM Bangalore, can there be a bigger pat on the back to oneself than this?

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I am a leo, the king & gogetter. So a woman who is going to do big things, cannot let small things get to her.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

The only key to success is hardwork, belief in yourself & persistence.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

1. If I had a magic wand, first I would be thrilled & make this world a better place for women grow & be herself.
2. I would make all mankind equal so humility stays.
3. If I had a magic wand, I would keep all the people I love from the deepest corners of heart together.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

When you know what you bring to the table, do not be afraid to sit and eat alone. Never give up just because someone did not appreciate your efforts, keep going, hustling & make a life of your dreams.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Absolutely, it's a bare minimum we can do for our mother earth. Its taking a positive step towards restoring forests, repairing damaged ecosystems and mitigating climate change.





## ANUPREET KAUR DHODY

ENTREPRENEUR / CO-FOUNDER  
I'M WHOLESOME

*Foodpreneur – Gastrophile – Urban Farmer*



*In 2022, she was chosen by IIM-Bangalore for a 3-month program on Entrepreneurship by NSRCEL.*

*Topper, Cohort 17 at IIM-Bangalore, 2002*

*She has been selected by Ascent foundation as one of their Trust Group Member*

*Reared several species of butterflies on our terrace garden, and helped several schools in creating Butterfly Parks*

*Core-group of Tree Appreciation Walks, where she assisted my mentors conduct 120 tree walks in Mumbai*

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[@imwholesome.india](https://www.instagram.com/imwholesome.india)



*Anupreet has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

My name is Anupreet Dhody, and I'm from Mumbai. I studied to be a stockbroker and in 2006 I graduated from St.Xavier's college and started my career at the Alternative Derivatives Desk at Edelweiss Capital. Thereafter continued to work in the financial sector for a few years.

I joined a train journey named Jagriti Yatra, which changed the course of my life. In 2011, I decided to quit my job, and started to learn farming. Later we moved to a farm near Bangalore and encouraged farmers in the neighborhood to grow organic produce, and helped them sell directly to families in the city. This model was called community supported agriculture.

In 2019, my new-born was diagnosed with medical complications, which required us to move back to Mumbai for better medical facilities. While I was a little sad and was missing growing food, my passion for food continued and took a slightly different shape after moving to the city.

In 2020, along with my younger sister and trained chef, I started I'm Wholesome. It started of as a home-grown business, and now we are a team of 50+ in a span of 28 months.



### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I always wanted to start a business of my own. My father is a businessman, and most summer holidays since age 15 have been spent in his office.

Food has been the focus of my life since the past decade, or more. Having lived on a farm, and having spent a lot of time with farmers, I have observed what is seasonal, where to source great quality ingredients, and how to source fresh produce.

My sister is a chef. She is very good with her tastes and flavours. During pandemic, we identified a huge gap in the market, where guests were looking for food to be delivered to their doorstep. We rented a small kitchen and started this as an experiment. And since then, there has been no looking back. She takes care of the kitchen, and I take care of the procurement and sales.

### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

It is humbling, and also comes with a strong sense of responsibility and gratitude.

Achievement to me does not only mean growing my business at 2x every year. To me, touching lives of people who work with us along the way, and being at the receiving end of their blessings is also achievement.

I have come across a lot of strong mentors, especially women, who have shaped me the way I am today. This selection of mine, is dedicated to them, and their strong values they continue to practise everyday.

### CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?

I am grateful to a wonderful family support, which allows me to focus on work. My husband works for a US firm, remotely from home, and often takes care of our toddler once he is back from school. Had it not been for his support, I think I wouldn't have been as involved in work as I am today.

We stay in the same apartment complex as my parents, which enriches the family life. Even if my toddler gets less of my time, he gets a lot of warmth from his grandparents and strong values are being instilled in him by elders in the family.

My typical day starts around 5-6am. This is the only time I get for myself, where I plan my day or sit in silence.

I drop my son to school, where we enjoy reading story books enroute. And often I reach office before 9am, before anyone else comes. It gives me a good start to the day to be early.

I spend the first half at office with the team, and have meetings in the afternoon.



Having a co-founder is a great support system. I take care of the mornings and she takes care of the evenings, so that atleast one of us is around. We divide work in such a way that both of us are able to take breaks while the other one covers up.

And I am home in time to spend sometime with my family and read bed-time stories to my toddler before putting him to sleep.

### **IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

In less than 2 years, we have served over 20000 guests, and have done events at over 250 stores in Mumbai post pandemic. These include brands like Ferrari, Amazon, Gucci, etc.

In 2022, we catered for Arijit Singh's concert which had a footfall of over 4000 guests.

We also recently catered at Ananth Ambani and Radhika Merchant's mehndi.

The above are achievements of numbers and scale. I also measure achievement in numbers of lives I touch.

In 2021, a girl had come to our home as househelp. We noticed she is a quick learner, and now she takes care of our accounts. Similarly, our watchman's son had come for pot-wash at work, and now he is getting trained to be a chef and makes the best pizzas for us.

### **HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

This too shall pass – it's a wonderful quote that is stuck near my mirror. In times of ups and downs, this quote comes handy.

### **WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Take care of the team, and they will take care of the business.

Never compromise on Quality.

I stay in touch with customers myself, often, no matter how big the sales team grows.

### **IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

Make the world greener. Drive less. Begin all meetings with a minute of silence and gratitude.



**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Bounce back quickly everytime you fall. Falls are inevitable, bouncing back is in your hands.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I couldn't have been happier. I couldn't have asked for a better gift.

I completely resonate with pay-it-forward philosophy. We have received so much from nature and our previous generations, and its our responsibility to pay it forward to the next generation, and a much better form.

Lets come together to grow native indigenious species of trees and leave a greener footprint behind.



## POONAM SONI

FOUNDER AND JEWELRY DESIGNER  
POONAM SONI SIGNATURE LINE PVT LTD

*JEWELRY ARTIST, FOUNDER PSSL, PROMOTER OF  
ARTISANS ON NATIONAL LEVEL*

*Pioneered unique jewellery and changed the mindset for designer  
jewellery in India*

*Represented India among global designers at Eco Art charity of  
Prince Albert 2 of Monaco*

*Received patronage from the Spanish government and  
authentication for the Collection "Gaudi Revived" and the debeers  
millennium award 2000 by Kriti Soni*

*Listed as India's leading luxury designer in the Black Book library*

*The most awarded designer of the country and listed in more than  
2 dozen Coffee Table Books*

📧 @poonamsoni.soni

☎ 9870001023



*Poonam has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

Three decades ago in 1989 I started a modest jewelry business from home. I loved designing , aesthetics and jewelry and had a clear vision to create the kind of unique 'one of a kind 'pieces , I would love to buy and wear. India had fabulous artisans but they were restricted into creating prototypes. I wanted to bring a revolution in jewelry, do 'unheard of' things and create one of a kind Collection pieces. So I started with a modest capital, a small collection but introduced semi precious stones , shells , laces , leather and fabric in jewelry. They were colourful, bold and multidimensional. They created a sensation and my name spread by word of mouth. Post that I never looked back as I had succeeded in entering a very closed industry , broken the mindset of the Indian buyer and the media wooed me to write about this bold designer who created unabashedly a brand with her own name.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I loved accessories, jewelry and all things beautiful. I had eye for colours , detail , and a good sense of business as I had topped the Delhi University with a gold medal from the President of India. Friends liked my aesthetics and always asked me to create jewels for them and accessories as a favour. I did it joyfully but after that I decided to turn it into a profession. A profession which would be unique , a brand with exquisite jewels, packaging, store ambience , pampering and all the trappings of luxury a women loves. I wanted her to buy my jewels as a Collection piece and covet it and not as an investment to be cashed in during tough times.



My brand was all about custom designing , single price point and luxury. I introduced art in jewelry with miniature hand painted canvases of ace artist Laxman Shreshtha and fun art with Nawaz Modi Singhania.

### **HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

Any appreciation and felicitation always feels good . It's been worth it ! is the first thought and ofcourse a lot of gratitude that my work was recognised. Thank you! This is a proud moment for me to be alongside so many women achievers.

### **CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

I am an early riser as I want to do a lot and pack the maximum in a single day. I have a tremendous zest for life . My day starts with 7am Buddhist chantings for an hour. Post that orange juice, call my mother in California and then breakfast over TV news . Thrice a week I do a virtual workout , a combination of free style and Pilates. Then work calls and office time which these days is replaced by growth plans and structuring the organization better - which I struggled to do earlier for lack of time. The rest of the day is divided in my Buddhist activities , friends and my children. My 'me time' is also very important and I have learnt the art of a 10 minutes power nap in a heavily packed day full of accounts , production, customers , Buddhism , friends and family.

### **IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

31 years of journey and I have nothing to complain or want for. A customer appreciating my jewelry and loving me as a human being is what I treasure.

I have worked with Royalty , endorsed by Spanish , Tahitian and Indian governments. My pieces have been auctioned by Sothebys , written about by Christie's and Saffron art. I have featured in more than 20 Coffee table books ,listed in the Black Book library .Michael Kors discovered , endorsed and introduced me to Linda Fargo of Bergdoff and Goodman, the luxury store in New York . Harrods of London wooed me in 1992 and Marc Jamet of LVMH invited me to showcase at the Incredible India show in Paris. I collaborated with Lido, Prince Albert, Valentino, and Judith Leiber . My daughter Kriti recieved the Debeers Millennium award at the Louvre in Paris by Oppenheimer. The Tahitian government chronicled a magazine on me. We have received over a 100 awards including the Economic Times Business award and 100 global successful woman. BBC Jet flew down from London for a day to interview me for luxury and jewels.

The list is endless but what I am most proud of are the relations I have built over the years with clients , friends and people. We have a very special relation with all our clients and these bonds are our treasure!





### HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?

I am a very positive person. There is never a dead lock in life. The corona pandemic I utilized for my Buddhist activities – encouraging people more than ever . I revived my cooking skills , caught up on Netflix serials and bonded with friends. I enjoyed the break which I never had the liberty for. I feel water always continues to find a way no matter how many pebbles you put in its path.

### WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?

Increasing friends and decreasing enemies is the surest way to success. I believe in my self and set my own path – I don't tread the path of negativity , jealousy and competition. I believe in respecting and valuing people . I follow my heart , enjoy my work with passion. I don't chase success. It discovered me.

### IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?

- (1) I would remove divisibility – Religion which divides
- (2) Equality for all and respect for every human being
- (3) Remove suffering, war and corruption

### IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Work on your own strength instead of eyeing the strength of others. Carve your own path and be true to yourself.

### HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Nature is a part of our lives and we have exploited it enough. I am truly happy to be able to give back even if its in a small way– to something which actually sustains life.

As an achiever I feel the only way to express gratitude is to protect the environment which sustains us . When you get you must give back – that is the formula of life and success.



## ZAHRA JANI

LIFESTYLE AND PARENTING INFLUENCER

[@beingmomandbeyond](#)

Things that she is proud of:

The birth of her child Alizah. She has brought so many good things to her life and is so grateful for her

Her marriage to her long-term beau, Abiali. Coming from different religions (her Hindu, him Muslim), it was a story full of drama and so much love

Having been overweight nearly her entire life, losing 47 kgs stands to be one of her proudest achievements

Growing her community of engaged Mothers who actively come to my page to seek solutions, share stories, and stay connected

Within a span of two years, she has been able to successfully establish her brand Being Mom And Beyond and is truly making a mark in the Parenting and Lifestyle space

[@beingmom\\_andbeyond](#)    [zahrabmn@gmail.com](mailto:zahrabmn@gmail.com)



Zahra has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

It has been 2 years since I started my career as a full-time Lifestyle and Parenting Influencer and the journey so far has been wonderful and deeply fulfilling. Along with building a career and growing professionally, I have experienced tremendous growth on the personal front as well. But what I love the most about my job is that it has given me a chance to meet a lot of inspiring people and build a community that is kind and giving. I have learned, unlearned, and relearned a lot about myself over the past couple of years and each experience has added to my personality.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I have always been a creative person on a constant lookout for different ways in which I can express this aspect of my personality. So, when I became a mom, I started clicking fun and creative pictures of my daughter Alizah, and shared them with my family and friends, and of course, on my Instagram profile. I started getting an overwhelming response on my posts and I realized that being a Lifestyle and Parenting Influencer was an amazing career option. That's when I began researching the possibilities and began posting regularly. Slowly, things picked up the pace and one thing led to another - I'd found my true calling.

Today, it has been two years since then and I am thoroughly enjoying every single bit of it, grateful for every opportunity coming my way.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

It feels great and to be honest, it also feels surreal! I come from a very conservative background where I never really got the chance to build a career. So having a career and giving my everything to make it a success has been incredibly empowering. I have worked really hard for this, and my hard work being acknowledged in this way means a lot to me. I'd never imagined that things could transpire like this, but I feel truly honored to be amongst the top 99 Achievers of India.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

For me time management is everything and I always plan my day in advance. We are a family of early risers, so our typical day starts fairly early. I try to sneak in a cup of coffee by myself – this small window of me-time helps gives my day the much-needed head start. This is followed by settling Alizah down for her online school and diving right into my workout routine.

Alizah's online school is really like my hyper-productivity pocket. Once I am done with my workout, I get the daily household chores out of the way and try to dedicate about 5-6 hours to my work.

Evenings are again spent with Alizah, playing with her in the park, before having dinner with the family. Simple yet structured and preplanned!

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

Like I said, coming from conservative family background, having a career that is successful and thriving is an achievement in its own right. But for me, being able to find something that I am deeply passionate about and collaborating with big brands doing great work is very gratifying. To be able to carve a niche for myself in the influencer community within a short period of two years – is something I am really proud of.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Even though I like to plan my days in advance, I understand that I cannot plan for every contingency. There are days when things don't pan out as smoothly as I would like. When that happens, my philosophy is simple – life is a journey, not a race. Sure, there will be days when things will not go as planned but each experience will teach you something valuable. So, whenever things hit a low, I don't let them bring me down – I learn my lesson and move on.



### WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?

For me, it is all about knowledge, hard work and discipline.

I make sure I do a ton of research about every new venture that I put my mind to. Being aware and staying updated is the only way ahead. I also believe that Nothing worth achieving comes easy – you have to put in your 100% and work hard to realize your dreams. And lastly, I believe that success can only be achieved through discipline and consistent efforts.

### IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?

Well, given the current situation, if I had a magic wand, I would definitely use it to get end the COVID-19 pandemic and bring all our lives back on track. The second thing that I would like to change is the effects of global warming – so that our children can have a better future and a fair chance at living a healthy, fulfilling life. The third thing, and perhaps the thing that's the closest to my heart will be to change the patriarchal perception that a girl child is a burden on the family. Of course, things have improved by leaps and bounds but there are still pockets of society where a girl child's potential is questioned, and she is not given equal opportunities to flourish. If I could magically change things, this would surely be on my agenda.

### IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

It is extremely important that you do your test the waters before taking the plunge. Most people believe it is an easy job since it is just social media. But that simply isn't the case. Being an influencer or a digital content creator is a serious business, and you must treat it as such. There's a lot that goes into running a successful business – you have to plan everything, invest a lot of your time and resources and above everything else, be prepared to work hard and be consistent in your efforts.

### HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

It feels great to be a part of the Biggest Tree Plantation Drive in India. We all want to do our bit towards the conservation of nature, but we don't know where to start. This initiative has given me an opportunity to do my bit and leave a better planet for our future generations to live in. And I would love to use this platform to urge all the readers to come together and be a part of this drive and make it a success.



## NITA GANGULY

EDUCATOR AND ENVIRONMENTALIST  
TCRP-INDIA

EDUCATOR, AUTHOR AND CLIMATE REALITY LEADER-MENTOR


National Winner of "Unsung heroes...No longer" 2004 – Rustam Irani Foundation Award for Excellence in Education at the National Proficiency Evaluation


Environment Education Promoter's Excellence in Teaching Award 2010 in Innovative Teaching Practices in Delhi & NCR (17 Jan 2011)

Authored two pictorial children story books 'POLY TRAP' (19th Aug 2016) and 'Hello Earth...here we come' (10th February 2017), published by Rupa Publications

TEDx Speaker - Dec 2017

Earth Day Network Star Award 2020 for leading and sharing a zero-waste lifestyle

 @nita.ganguly

 nitag4@hotmail.com



Nita has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth

WINNERS  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I have always considered myself as a Student-Teacher. My journey has been a smooth transition from an Environmentalist, Educator, Motivator, Humanist, Resource Person, Climate Reality Leader, Administrator, Author, Attitude-Changer to a Mentor. I firmly believe, that people cannot be forced to adopt certain attitudes, unless they embrace a sense of responsibility and accountability to protect the environment that sustains us.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I thank my parents for sowing the seeds of practicing the 3 R's which blossomed into a lifelong learning and a way of life for me. Being in sync with nature and following its laws made sense to me as I saw the logical, scientific and sustainable reasons behind it. So, as an educator I made it relevant by integrating school subjects and connect them with the real-life of the natural world. I Eco-Designed a functional Environmental Laboratory, a platform where knowledge and awareness about the environment and associated challenges enabled students to develop the necessary skills and ability to address them and fosters attitudes, motivations, and commitments to make informed decisions and take responsible action.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**


Absolutely thrilled that I get an excellent platform to reach out to people from all walks of life, to understand the need to restore our one and only home that we all share!!!

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

One of the strengths of being fifty plus is that time is on my side. Fortunately, my family too is in sync with me. I took a conscious decision in 2014 to give up my regular job and plunge into SHRAMDAN. I have not looked back ever since. Especially now, during the pandemic, where masking up and social distancing is a norm, working and connecting with people from the safety and comfort of my home through online environmental presentations and workshops have proven as a boon for me. It has not only reduced my carbon footprint but I have reached out and motivated more people from all walks of life to Be the Change than what I could do physically on ground! My daily routine is to give least six hours daily to browse, research and prepare for my next online presentation on any environmental issues and create armature YouTube videos on them.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

Early 2000, I was Heading the Environment Department in at Sanskriti School, Delhi and I had introduced a simple waste management technique that worked purely on MUTUAL COLLABORATION between the school and the GREEN heroes, who executed the process successfully and facilitated the institute to reach the ZERO WASTE target. One of the heroes was Abdul, a RAG PICKER boy from the streets and this action transformed his life. This achievement I value it more than any recognition or awards I have received as it gives HOPE for restoring our ecosystem!!!

(Please see the 6 mints video, to know the whole story that motivates symbiosis: The story of Abdul, the rag picker boy.....EACH ONE, ADOPT ONE! By Nita Ganguly 

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I firmly believe that there is always LIGHT & HOPE at the end of a tunnel, no matter how long that tunnel is!!! BE POSITIVE.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Unless one tries and give their best one will never know what lies ahead...So, NEVER GIVE UP!!!





**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

It is very clear that mother nature does not need us for HER survival. As she can evolve! But WE DO need HER for our EXISTENCE! The 6th mass extinction is already underway, as we speak! PUSHED ever higher by HUMAN ACTIVITY alone. If I had a magic stick, I will use it only on HUMANS and humans alone, to restore normalcy on our planet:

- a) Learn to Respect ALL CREATURES of Nature, no matter how big or small.
- b) Abide by the LAWS of Nature.
- c) Follow the RELIGION of Mother Earth.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Nature is the best teacher, observe and learn from it and DO NOT PLAY GOD!!!!

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Earth is a "Goldilocks" planet because it is "JUST RIGHT" with the key ingredient of Air, Water and Warmth to support life!

I have always asked this question...Name one thing that can replace the functional GREEN PHOTOSYNTHETIC PLANTS and support LIFE on Earth?  
There are NONE!

More than planting trees we need to focus on SAVING WHAT EXISTS!!!! Planting saplings is NOT a solution to compensate the felling of magnificent trees!!! The single biggest cause of extinction TODAY is HABITAT LOSS. The way forward is to go hand in hand with both, plantation and safeguarding the trees at all cost!

For years now, my husband and I have been sowing the seeds of every fruit we eat and planting it where ever we have been posted, as well as gifting it to people. I would love to spread this initiative to bank on the seeds and grow fruit trees as well as be a part of the Biggest Tree Plantation Drive in India!!!



## NEELAM KUMAR

BESTSELLING AUTHOR, INSPIRATIONAL LIFE COACH

*Word Spinner, TEDx Speaker, Educator*

*Neelam's pandemic special bestseller, "I am Invincible-Thirteen True Tales of Courage Grit and Survival" spread a lot of hope when the air became heavy with hopelessness*

*Her talk show "The Invincible Talks" (a series of 12 videos) became a lighthouse of courage and hope during the grim pandemic times*

*She is the Author of 10 life-impacting books*

*Neelam has successfully empowered 16 generations of teens in crucial Life Skills in that many years of Life Skills Coaching at a premier school in Mumbai*

*In the 30 years of her successful stint at India's largest steel company, she won prestigious awards and reached a coveted position. As Chief of Communications, she led a team of men and as DGM (Corporate Affairs), she handled the entire Western Region for her company*

*Having battled 2 Cancers with joy, she has become a Positivity Generator*



*Neelam has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

📷 @lifecoachneelam

☎ 9833140456

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I believe that it is rare to be born a human being. Therefore, if we waste this privilege by not living with joy and contributing to humanity, we would have wasted this opportunity.

I have used the horror script of my life—early widowhood; single parenting; the unimaginable struggles; three encounters with death (through 2 cancers and 1 meningitis) to live with courage, hope and joy and infuse the world with positivity through my books and motivational talks.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

When I wanted to change my image from a "poor widow" to "a tough, successful professional" I became a steel woman in a male dominated steel industry.

When I discovered that there are many women/people inside me, all jostling for self-expression, I became a writer.

When I discovered that people need hand-holding (from someone who has been through it all) during life's rocky journey, I became a Life Skills Coach.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

Grateful & humbled. But more importantly, immensely motivated to continue making a difference in the world through my words.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

My morning starts with re-charging my soul with spiritual strength. I chant the life-transforming chant of Nichiren Buddhism and resolve to have a value-filled day.

I follow this up by recharging my body with walking/exercise

Then I simply follow my previously planned To Do list which includes making my family's favourite meals; spending laughter times with them; taking breaks for "me time" with friends; taking sessions on Life Skills and then immersing myself in my reading and writing.

I close my day with determined Daimoku (chanting of the Lotus Sutra) to review my day and ensure I add more value to the next day. The Mystic Law always gives me ample courage and strength to be more productive and try to become a better version of myself with each passing day.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

a) Flooding lives with hope and courage during the pandemic with my hope-filled bestseller "I am Invincible-Thirteen True Tales of Courage, Grit and Survival" and my Talk Show "The Invincible Talks". I feel that in these dark times, I did my bit to bring in the sunshine of hope through my words.

b) Writing actor Manisha Koirala's bestselling biography -"How cancer gave me a new life" (Penguin Random house)

c) Writing India's first joyous book on Cancer- "To Cancer with Love-My Journey of Joy"

d) Getting funded by Mr Ratan Tata and Mr Amitabh Bachchan to write India's first Graphic Novel-"To Cancer with Love-A Graphic Novel"

e) Co-authoring "Our Favourite Indian Stories" with the legend Mr Khushwant Singh and learning the secret of writing a bestseller from him.

f) Being awarded the Nargis Dutt Memorial Trophy for changing the narrative of cancer in India from grimness to hope.

g) Topping in my Masters in Journalism course in the US.

h) But my biggest achievement has been giving the world two wonderful humans-my two children Rajneel and Abhilasha.



**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

In the face of obstacles, I become my own Cheerleader and just get the task accomplished.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

I love challenges. I love winning. I love reaching the finish line and beyond. Success is always determined by the amount of hard work you put in. So I just keep going until I reach the destination I can be personally proud of.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

I would -

- 1) Light up each heart with the highest values of humanity.
- 2) Flood the world with love, kindness, inclusiveness.
- 3) Wipe out all illnesses and sufferings-especially pandemics.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Keep going. Obstacles will arise. But that's the nature of life. Greet obstacles and beat them.  
Keep going!

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

We adults have stripped off the very planet which sustains us. The current global warming and climate change is the penalty we are paying.

It is our duty now to leave behind a greener, healthier planet for our children. Instead of running after accumulation of more personal wealth, let us focus on giving our planet its green wealth back. We owe this to the planet we call home.

I feel very proud to be a part of the Biggest Tree Plantation Drive in India. Thankyou so much for this opportunity.

My message: Let us make re-forestation our mission. Let us re-store Mother Earth's green cover. Urgently.



# SHEENA BOLL

MUSICIAN

FEMALE DHOL PLAYER

*Voted best female dholi UK 2017*

*Corporate Leader in music 2018*

*Certificate of appreciation from L.O.A.N.I*

*WAW Awards Hall of Fame - Named in book of 100 most successful women across the world 2020*

 @sheenabolllondon     desidholie@outlook.com



*Sheena has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

## Q & A

### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

Music was always apart of and around me growing up.

I put education first at the start, despite wanting to play the dhol and pushed this after university.

This came to a halt for a brief moment as I was married and had a child.

The marriage itself was so traumatic. After my marriage ended I turned back to music. The one aspiration which was taken away from an ex-violent partner.

Music made me - 'me' again. It brought life back into me and people were able to see my passion through their eyes.



### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

Through the people. My fans/friends and family all steered me into this direction through love and sharing my work. My success doesn't just belong to me, it belongs to the people who got me here.

### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

It feels surreal, it feels empowering and it feels like love. It's hard to believe when I read it as for a long period of time, my ex husband made me feel like nothing.

I am elated and completely grateful.

### CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?

It's hard sometimes as I play 'mum' and 'dad', but I've always seen my parents work hard, my siblings and friends so this comes as second nature for me.

I try and take time out in the day for myself daily. This helps to keep me grounded and focused.

### IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?

To be honest, I would say first; it was when I became a mother. My child's pure faith in me, motivates me on a completely different level.

After that I would say it's the sheer volume of love and support I receive daily. The awards came after people pushed me out there.

Just to be able to gain such a huge following in less than five years is really unbelievable.

The awards were consecutive for four years. The recognition in itself put me in a position I really didn't expect.

### HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?

You learn to take the rough with the smooth. It hasn't been an easy ride at times but it's the storm that changes you and your perception. The same things that bothered me just stopped when I became more unbothered.





**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

I'm myself. I don't try to imitate others at all. Originality is my strength. I pray and always wish success for others, especially those who may not wish it for me.

Being 'dark has never really sat well with me and that has really paid off.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

World peace, famine and poverty.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Never give up, even at the hardest of times. That's when you have to be the strongest. If you want it, go and get it.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I am absolutely thrilled. Its certainly a start; planting more trees. Building today will help our future tomorrow.

If we all plant trees and take part in tackling climate change we can all bring about change that was once thought of as impossible.



## PREETI VYAS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND PRESIDENT  
AMAR CHITRA KATHA

BOOKSELLER, PUBLISHER, ENTREPRENEUR, EDITOR  
AND AUTHOR

*Preeti Vyas is the President of Amar Chitra Katha Private Limited, publishers of the iconic Amar Chitra Katha comics, Tinkle magazine and National Geographic India. She is also the Founder of FunOKPlease Publishing that creates contemporary Indian content for children.*

*Preeti is a passionate bibliophile who believes any problem's solution can be found within the pages of a book somewhere. She is a practicing Buddhist and lives in Mumbai with her 10 year son and in-house editor, Neel*



*Preeti has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I started my professional journey when I was 21, so it's been an amazing ride of 26 years working across organisations in a combination of roles spanning retail, publishing and content, specifically children's content. I am blessed to have been exposed to all 360 degrees of a book's journey through my roles as an author, editor, storyteller, publisher, marketer and retailer of books.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I grew up in a family of book lovers, in a house filled with books; books have always been my best friends. After my graduation from St Xavier's College Mumbai, I went to Australia to study retail management. Along with various on-campus jobs, I had a fun part time job with ToysRUs, which was my first exposure to the children's market.

Over the last 2 decades in India, I have worked with Sony music, Crossword, Globus and with the Future Group setting up and running a chain of bookstores called Depot. My entrepreneurial efforts included running my own children's bookstore, Kidztown and my own children's publishing company FunOKPlease, which was launched in 2011. At FunOKPlease, we publish contemporary Indian content for children under our own imprint and also as co-publishing projects with publishers like Scholastic, Harper Collins and Penguin. I am also the author of a story book series about a Mumbai based sparrow called "The Adventures of Woka Chimni" published by Penguin in 2018.



In 2019 I joined Amar Chitra Katha, and the content I created as a part of FunOKPlease is now exclusively licensed to Amar Chitra Katha. Heading ACK is a dream come true. I believe that the past karmas of many lifetimes have fructified for me to be in this position today, leading a publishing company which has been such an indelible part of all our childhoods. In many ways, I feel like every step of my journey has prepared me to lead this iconic and most loved children's storyteller of India. As Steve Jobs said, "The dots always connect" and my current role is a huge privilege which I am so grateful for.

### **HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

I am absolutely honored and thrilled to be a part of this list. I think every woman in our country is an achiever, given the number of hats most women don and the number of responsibilities they fulfill. But, a platform like this is important to encourage other women in the sisterhood to step up and not shy away from chasing their dreams for their own lives.

### **CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

I spend about an hour every morning with my spiritual practice, which includes chanting, meditation, journaling and reading. It is an important time for me to think about the challenges I'm facing and make a plan for the rest of the day and the rest of the week. I am a single mother to a 12-year-old so sending him off to school and doing mom duties is an integral part of the morning. Rest of the day is spent in office with the most amazing team. Luckily for me, my work is in the world of books so I never feel like I want to escape work. When you enjoy what you do, your work and the rest of your life blend seamlessly. Evenings and weekends are reserved for travelling, spending time in nature, reading, cooking and spending precious time with friends and family.

### **HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I am a practicing Buddhist and Buddhism is a spiritual anchor in my life. The philosophy we follow tells us, that there is no single life which is without struggles; nobody in the world has had a completely smooth and comfortable life. The most important thing is that we have to be able to pick us up whenever we fall and keep going; in fact, to remain undefeated is the biggest victory. So don't quit and keep moving is my philosophy. On some days you will sprint and on some days you will only be able to move an inch forward, but that's perfectly fine. The important thing is to not get stuck, but just to take the next step forward and keep moving.



### WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?

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A few principles I live by:

Believing in the potential of every person be it a junior, an intern or the senior most member of our team. Everybody has the same potential and it's a leader's job to actually get that potential actualized. This can only happen when you trust and keep an open mindset.

When I look at a leader's role, I think of it as one of a 'Vighnaharta'– remover of obstacles. A leader is not there to monitor people and micro-manage them. A leader has to remove any obstacles in the path of the team's success and secondly, bring in new opportunities, challenge the team with new ideas and enable, empower them to turn the vision into reality

I believe in neuroplasticity– anyone can learn anything at any age. We just need to have the motivation, inclination and dedication to learn. The human brain is a powerhouse capable of unbelievable feats.

### IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

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There are no shortcuts in life. No matter how attractive and how easy something looks, the reality is that when you actually jump into it, it's going to be ten times harder than you thought. To make something work, make it successful and to build something which is going to create impact, add value to the world, is going to take perseverance, positivity and grit. So believe in yourself, in your own potential and don't ever give up. We can achieve anything we set our hearts on.



# HIMALI VYAS NAIK

VOCALIST, PERFORMER

*Multi-genre Singer, Experimental Musician, Performer*

*Trained in Hindustani classical as well as Western Rock and Pop music with degrees from Akhil Bhartiya Gandharv Mahavidyalaya Mandal and Trinity College, London.*

*Recipient of multiple state level awards like Shreshtha Kala Saadhak, Best Playback Singer, Kavi Shree Ravji Patel Yuva Pratibha Award etc., by the Government of Gujarat, Gujarat Sangeet Natak Academy in various fields of music such as Indian classical, regional and folk.*

*Has worked with international music labels like Universal music, MTV Indies, Times music etc. And has given playback for 15 urban Gujarati films.*

*Is the only Gujarati artist to have performed the American National Anthem Star Spangled Banner on the soil of America for twice.*

*Has performed Indian classical, fusion, regional, folk, western rock and pop and Bollywood music all over India, USA, UK, China, Thailand and middle eastern countries.*

@himalivyasnaik

9769027792

Himali has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth

WINNERS  
2023



## Q & A

### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

My journey in the field of music started at the tender age of 4 with learning Indian classical music. I then participated in various state and national level competitions in the school and college. I learned and started singing certain other genres of music such as bollywood, ghazals regional and folk music while growing up and then after coming to Mumbai, I got trained in western music under the able guidance of Samantha Noella. I started performing music professionally at the age of 16. I have performed with the renowned artists such as Shaan, Pt. Krishna Mohan Bhatt, Padma Shri Purushottam Upadhyaya, Shri Ashit Desai, Parthiv Gohil and Osman Mir and have travelled the world for the past 15 years for my performances.

### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I am blessed to be born into a family with a strong background in arts and academics. I inherit music from my parents and grand parents. My mother, a writer and a compere, having learned Indian classical vocal herself, put me for a formal training of Indian classical music at a very early age after observing my keen interest in notes and beats. My father, an engineer and a government officer who also plays tabla always encouraged me to give my best to everything I pursued. My parents took me to watch and hear the performances of world renowned musicians. At our place, my parents played all kinds of music in our house ranging from Indian classical to ghazals, Bollywood to western classical. Hence, the hobby gradually turned into a profession.





**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

It feels astounding. It's a huge honour to be a part of the league of such talented and skillful 99 Women Achievers of India. I feel humbled and all the more responsible now.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

So, when I am in town, my day usually begins with a cup of tea and a hearty breakfast followed by an hour of workout and an hour of morning riaz. I step out of the house after lunch. My days are occupied with recordings, meetings and shoots and usually I have live performances at night (this is before the pandemic hit). I have a different schedule whenever I am travelling for work. Balancing work life and professional life is almost a cakewalk for me as I am blessed to be married into a family of musicians. My husband is a clinical psychologist and a writer and both my in laws are musicians. We all respect one another's space and understand the requirements of our respective professions.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

Winning 'Shreshtha Kala Saadhak Award' by Gujarat Rajya Sangeet Natak Academy in the year 2009, winning Pt. Omkarnath Thakur classical music competition in both junior and senior categories, 'Sangeet Ratna' award by the Government of Gujarat in the year 2010, receiving the 'Best Singer of Gujarat' award by Gujarati Sugam Sangeet foundation in the year 2006, receiving the 'Daughter of Gujarat' sanman by Gujarat Chamber of Commerce in the year 2014, receiving Kavi Shree Ravji Patel 'Yuva Pratibha' award for the year 2015 at Samanvaya - Kaavya Sangeet Samaaroh by H. H. Shri Morari Bapu and receiving Best Playback Singer of the Year Award for the year 2018 by The Gujarat State Film Awards for her film Mission Mummy are the achievements that I am most proud of. Also, singing the American and Indian national anthems on the soil of America together is the achievement I am proud of. I am also proud to have performed for certain NGOs, orphanages and social service groups to bring awareness in the society through music.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I try to find solace and peace in music and in spending time or sharing my days with my family when things are not going smoothly. For instance, during pandemic, I focused on planning my upcoming projects, learning new genres of music and gathering content, worked on my health and spent time with my family.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Undeniable passion for work, consistency, focus and commitment to my profession are some of the main principles I follow to achieve my goals.





**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

- I would implement equal pay for men and women in all professions.
- I would demolish terrorism from the world.
- I would work to spread awareness among youth to stay away from substance abuse.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Find out what you are good at, find out the purpose of your life. Dream big and work hard to achieve your goals.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I am ecstatic to be a part of the biggest tree plantation drive in India. I firmly believe that by planting more trees, we are working in the betterment of our present and we are also creating a golden future for the upcoming generations. It is one of the most pioneering steps to solve some of the dangerous environmental issues like global warming, water shortage, climate changes and saving the endangered species.



## SAHANA AHMED

NATIONAL PRESIDENT, WICCI RURAL TOURISM COUNCIL  
WOMEN'S INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

*AUTHOR, ENTREPRENEUR, COMMUNITY WORKER*

*Founded a training institute. Training classes featured on ETV*

*Debut novel, Combat Skirts, among the most-read on juggernaut.in*

*Creative writing included in leading international publications*

*Founded the Rural Tourism Council for Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

*Launched 'Green Buddies', a nationwide Responsible Tourism campaign for school children*

*Chosen to curate a list of inspirational Indian Muslim women for Rising Beyond the Ceiling*

📷 @schahm

✉️ sahana.ahmed@gmail.com



*Sahana has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I was born in Katwa, West Bengal, and grew up in a dozen places, being an army brat. I studied to be a hotelier but gravitated towards Learning and Development. I founded a training academy specialising in English Language and Services Selection Board coaching. I worked with various Engineering and Management colleges as a consultant and conducted workshops for many multinational corporations. In 2016, I was commissioned by Juggernaut Books to write a novel, and that propelled my writing journey. Earlier this year, I founded the Rural Tourism Council for WICCI. I am finally doing something that makes use of my Tourism degrees.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I have two, occasionally three, parallel careers. Writing, training, and leading a chamber of commerce. Writing was always meant to be, it just took me thirty-six years to accept the fact. Training comes naturally to me, or so I have been told. Starting WICCI Rural Tourism Council was pure chance. I was given an opportunity to lead the council and I just went with my gut. I knew I had organisational skills, I knew I had the right connections, and I knew I had the discipline.

#### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

I feel elated. My ten-year-old is proud of me. What more do I need?



**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

I cannot claim to be a good example when it comes to work-life balance. Especially as my daughter is unschooled. A lot of time is spent in front of a screen as I run my council virtually. My friends have started calling me a superwoman but to be honest, I am just winging it. The only reason I do not have Impostor Syndrome is because I do everything with full commitment.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I am happy when I receive praise for my writing because that is my chosen form of expression. Otherwise, I am not too attached to accolades beyond the fact that my success may inspire someone somewhere to aim higher.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Adversity fuels my determination. I have failed many times and it has taught me to reinvent myself and start again. Adapting to change comes naturally to me, and I am not afraid to venture into the unknown. The only thing that matters to me is to know that I gave it my all.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

The right intention, the ability to take risks, and empowering others.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

Fix climate change, disinvent plastic, and erase all hateful content from social media. The list is longer but those are the top three.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Back yourself, and be your own biggest supporter.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

It is a fantastic initiative. I have always wanted to create a mini-forest of my own and to be able to add a hundred trees to the planet's green cover is like a dream come true.



## SHREYAA SUMI

INTERNATIONAL MODEL, PAGEANT WINNER, ACTOR

*Winner of many beauty pageant titles*


*Won the Title "Radiant Beauty Mrs South Asia World 2020" held in the USA*


*Winner of "Mrs India 2020" by Madarase Events held in Chennai, India*

*International Ambassador & Brand Ambassador*

*Quarter-Finalist - "Maxim USA magazine cover contest 2021"*

*Nominee-International Influencer 2021*

 @shreyaasumi

 9003077566



*Shreyaa has pledged to grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

### Q & A

#### **CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?**

My journey has been incredible so far. My first photo shoot was shot by cinematographer for a magazine editorial during my early twenties and it's going stronger than I have imagined. I have experienced many wonderful things by stepping into international modelling as well. The fashion industry is constantly evolving and becoming more inclusive. It's a lot better now and more diverse. I also wish high-fashion brands would push themselves to expand the idea around what beauty really means beyond height/weight/skin tone. Many people think modeling is only about glamour. It takes a lot of grit, confidence and persistence to make it in the industry. Success is a constant work-in progress. The journey has taught me to enjoy the process and not compare myself to others.

#### **HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?**

I choose modelling because it is my passion and my dream. I love being in front of the camera. I always wanted to make my career in performing arts right from my teenage. I have made my passion and dream into reality only with my efforts and determination without any family background in the media industry. While doing modelling I also got opportunities to act so I took it up. I acted in short films and played a supporting role in a kollywood movie. I also love to dance. Apart from beauty pageants & fashion shows, I have been featured on various magazines' cover page, brand shoots for E-commerce and print shoots. I am born & brought up in India & later moved to California. I wanted to pursue the same after moving to California and that's how I started working with International Brands in the USA.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

I feel humbled and honored to have made it to the prestigious list of "Most Inspiring Global Indian 2021". Thanks to Indian Achievers Club for recognizing my talent and hard work. It makes me realise that I have become the change that I wanted to see. The change in perspective of the society, that women's are empowered and they can prove their capabilities beyond barriers in modelling & entertainment industry especially after marriage. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family for their constant support through out all that I choose to do. My husband and my mom are my biggest support system.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

I practice Gratitude everyday. I balance by setting priorities and I plan my day in advance. I also take rejuvenation days to get energized. We can have it all but not everything at once. Time management is the key. Create a schedule that works best for you. Maintain a healthy lifestyle, it will improve over all well-being.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I am proud of all my work and accomplishment so far in modelling. I am also proud of all the awards and accolades I have received for my work in the field of fashion & arts. I would cherish the moment of winning a title in an international pageant. I am an Indian-American , so being a South Asian representative , I am proud that I am able to make a difference and bring positive impact through my work on the international platform. On this note, I would like to mention here that I am a proud nominee of International Fashion Model-2021

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

We all experience obstacles in life, things don't always go according to the plan. I have learned to let it go and I find new ways or alternatives. The goal should be the same, just replace the executing method. Accept and trust the process just because something didn't work out at a particular moment , it doesn't mean it will never. I keep working forward with resilience and make it happen anyway. Best way to deal is to avoid dwelling on what went wrong and focus on how to change the situation. Give yourself a break and relax by doing things that will lift up your liveliness.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

There are many definitions of the word "Success" but no matter how you define success for yourself, I believe certain principles of how to be successful remain the same. One of the most important principles for achieving success is get out of your comfort zone and not giving up until your desired goal is accomplished in spite of challenging situations. Take action on your dreams even if it is a small step. Be Consistent and show commitment everyday. Always have a positive attitude towards life.



### **IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

First of all, the world we live in is already beautiful. If I get the chance to change 3 things, I would create an equal educational & training opportunity for all children including under-privileged so that they can achieve their dreams and become who they want to be. I would eliminate gender discrimination. I would make people practice compassion because we can see the outer change in the world only if people change from within themselves.

### **IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Be willing to sacrifice something to build the career you want. Be focused and driven. Be authentic in your own way, Do it for yourself and not because everyone is doing it. Don't ever let your doubt get in the way of your dreams. Embrace & Learn from your failures, it helps you figure out the ways that don't work out. Follow your intuition and believe in yourself.

### **HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I feel glad that I took the right step to be a part of the biggest Tree Plantation Drive in India. I planted 100 trees, my generous contribution would definitely inspire and motivate others to join this noble movement. Yes, Planting trees is a great way to combat Global Warming and Climate change. My message to the readers about Planting trees: I encourage everyone to do something good today for a better tomorrow! It is our responsibility to make the society that we live in, a best place for all of us. When you volunteer to plant more trees you are actually building a sustainable future for everyone. So, dedicate a tree and transform the community.





## RAINA KSHETRY

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST,  
FOOD BLOGGER, DIGITAL CREATOR

### *A PINCH OF SALT: FOOD. FUN. FUNCTIONALITY*

- Certified Professional Food Blogger and Creator by International Council of Specialized Online Certifications (ICSOC)
- Born On Instagram Reels Edition: Creator and winner
- 2 awards at IFBA (India Food Blogger Awards) 2021 felicitated by Chef Varun Inamdar and Kunal Vijayakar.
- Finalist: SOCIAL SAMOSA Superwomen of Social Media 2021
- 7 awards Top Food Blogger Awards: 2018, '19, '20 and '21
- Journalism Awards- Runner up Best Blogger
- Recipe Contributor: "What's In Your Dabba?"- a Celebrity cookbook by Juggernaut Books and Tweak Books by Twinkle Khanna
- Featured in Chef Saransh Goila's Sadak Chef series Kolkata edition on September 2021
- Featured on Local Samosa Top Kolkata blogger, CNN Nes18, Tweak India and Food photos featured on Brut India.

📷 @a\_pinch\_ofsalt    ✉️ raina.kshetry@gmail.com



Raina has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth

**WINNERS**  
2023

## Q & A

### **CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?**

Coming from a multicultural family with diverse food cultures, it won't be cliché to say that food was most definitely in my DNA. Clubbed with this amazing love for food was a flair for the written word and writing came naturally to me at a very early age. While everyone in the family has earned their merits in some form of science and business management, I continued my journey with writing starting with studying journalism and thereon taking vocations associated with writing and communication respectively. Alongside managing my profession, the passion for food caught on. It started with me visiting a new cafe every weekend and writing about my experience on my personal social media space and a third party food delivery platform. I was lauded for not just my wordplay, but also for my honest critiquing of fine dine and casual dining alike. It was in 2016 when a renowned Indian food blogger Ms Rukshana Kapadia encouraged me to start my own blog. Coming from the hospitality industry herself, Rukshana emphasised how important connecting with your audience is and no form of formal hospitality training was required to be a food blogger, your love and sound knowledge of food was enough. Thus, in June 2016, my food blog website *A Pinch of Salt: Food. Fun, Functionality* – was officially born. Why this name? To commemorate love from those who respect my honesty and criticism. I haven't looked back ever since.



### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

I was born in a cosmopolitan family with indigenous cultures, so I guess Food Blogging and I had to cross paths someday since I already held a lot of knowledge of cuisines across the country and the globe. Food reviewing initially started out as mere exploring new places with friends during weekends or after college and writing about it on a third-party platform. As was the situation back in 2016, creative arts including Food writing was a niche that was slowly gaining momentum, and yet it was not considered a respectable line of work. I thus embraced the corporate line, keeping my passion for food writing on the parallel. The juggling of passion and profession has been a Herculean task from the word go, but I love challenges and the feeling of overcoming them over and over again always motivates me to do better than yesterday. Today I can proudly say that I have managed my passion and profession successfully.

### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

In all honesty, it feels surreal having been selected as one of the top 99 achievers of India. I can only credit my consistent hard work and continued support of my loved ones and audience which has led me to this very prestigious platform.

### CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?

Balancing an 8-5 job alongside Food Blogging is not easy. While weekdays are mostly dedicated to my professional front, weekends are dedicated to my Food blogging: attending events, planning the week ahead in terms of content curation, especially for my weekly Trivia segment #infostorywithapinchofsalt and the Salt Quiz Food Quiz. When I'm covering events in Bangalore, I have a dedicated team looking after events in Kolkata for me. To top it all, my family has always given their continued support in what I do and I couldn't be more blessed.

### IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?

Every little milestone is important for growth and I have been blessed to have attained quite a few noteworthy achievements below:

Certified Professional Food Blogger and Creator by International Council of Specialized Online Certifications (ICSOC), Born On Instagram Certified Creator, IFBA (India Food Blogger Awards) 2021: Best Food Blog Website and Best Instagram Profile (Runners Up) elicited by Chef Varun Inamdar and Kunal Vijayakar, Finalist Nominee: SOCIAL SAMOSA Superwomen of Social Media 2021

Eastern India Top Food Blogger Awards :

- 2018: Best Drinks Blog, Best Style and Design Blog, Best Health Food Blogger of the Year
- 2019: Best Food Videos, The Obsessive Award: Special Interest Blog
- 2020: Best Storytelling Blog of the Year
- 2021: Best Food Videos



8th Journalism Awards 2019: Best Blogger Runners up, Felicitated by Former President of India, Late Shri Pranab Mukherjee

Recipe Contributor: "What's In Your Dabba?"- a Celebrity cookbook by Juggernaut Books and Tweak Books by Twinkle Khanna

Featured in: Brut India, Indulge Express Bangalore, Times of India, CNN News18 and Tweak India. I was also a part of Internationally acclaimed Chef Saransh Goila's video series #SadakChef Kolkata edition in 2021

### **HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Throughout this gastronomical journey, the only obstacle perhaps was maintaining a balance between my profession and passion. With an 8-5 job in hand, food blogging from not one but two cities while keeping the quality of its content intact is a Herculean task. However, God was kind and I was blessed with individuals who respected both facets and provided support when required which makes me indebted to them

### **WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

The principles I abide by is honesty, hard work, dedication, creativity consistency, patience and humility. If you can align these together, nothing can stop you from becoming successful.

### **IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

If I had a magic stick I would definitely like to do the following:

- a) Bring about more tolerance and harmony back into a world that is hateful
- b) Make basic education free and compulsory for all
- c) Ensure our planet is back to being healthy again with minimal waste or pollution/climate change

### **IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

There is a false notion that anyone can become a food blogger, create an Instagram page, buy some followers, write one line captions and doors of restaurants and hospitality open up for you. Food Blogging is so much more. Nothing comes for free, fast or easy. If you're ready to put aside some hard work, dedication, creativity and consistency, there are loads of opportunities waiting for you. The most important aspect however is patience and humility. You do not become smarter by blowing your own horn. You become smarter by being humble.



### HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

If there is one thing the Pandemic taught us, it is the value of respecting our ecological balance. When the world was in lockdown, apart from the population, pollution too came to a standstill. Marine life and flora were thriving again, devoid of dust and harmful chemicals. I am hence honoured to be a part of the Biggest Tree Plantation Drive in India because I believe that there must be an equal balance between man and nature. The natural jungle and the concrete one must coexist harmoniously in order to combat climate change and Global Warming. Trees help clean the air we breathe, filter the water we drink, and provide habitat to over 80% of the world's terrestrial biodiversity. What's more? Forests provide jobs to over 1.6 billion people, absorb harmful carbon from the atmosphere, and are key ingredients in 25% of all medicines. Have you ever taken an Aspirin? It comes from the bark of a tree! As trees grow, they help absorb and sink the carbon that would otherwise contribute to global heating. In the end, trees end up feeding themselves with the carbon we desperately need to avoid getting to the atmosphere. In addition to the carbon dioxide trees capture, they also help the soil capture and store carbon. I would hence like to conclude that even 0.1% people reading this believe in the power of nature, plant a sapling today.



# RIYA MAYUR PARALKAR

INFLUENCER ENTREPRENEUR

*Mrs.Dadar2021Seabuzz*

✉ [riyamayur7129@gmail.com](mailto:riyamayur7129@gmail.com)



*Riya has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

## Q & A

### **CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?**

Life has evolved gracefully for me, I am a 39-year young lady with an Unstoppable attitude, Mommy of Two healthy Sons and a Golden retriever, Wife to Captain Mayur Paralkar. Only Daughter to my parents from being a team player as critic writer for book MUMBAI By Night by Rashmi Uday Singh, GRE in Renaissance Hotel, Inflight cabin crew for Jetairways, Director and Promoter to Smeralines NVOCC. To the journey of Becoming MRS Dadar2021Seabuzz.

Life is a unique gift. Living it with a lot of Integrity and Respect.

### **HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?**

Anyone who keeps learning lives young. I am learning Ariel yoga and live passionate to pursue the same. The reason I started to learn is to present myself for talent round for beauty pageant Mrs. Dadar 2021 Seabuzz, my unique fitness mantra.

Thank you Seabuzz for the opportunity Which leads me to my passionate journey.





**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

I am an incredibly Down to Earth person. I feel humbled and blessed. Gratitude to you for choosing me. It's an honor. Thank you.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

Every day is a new Beginning I wake up touch the ground beneath my feet to say Thankyou to Mother Earth I practice this daily so do my kids. Cup of coffee good meal Laugh Ariel yoga .keeps me active. I am blessed with an abundance of love and support from my family and friends which has helped me to be successful as a human on a personal and professional front.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I tend to be alert in emergencies  
During my flying and sailing days as the First aider Trained given a CPR procedure to save a life.  
Won as Mrs. Dadar2021Seabuzz from Seabuzz Community  
Looking forward to having a pets park in Dadar.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

Every second counts. Respect Time, sleep, dance, meditate, scream if you wish to. You are a human it's natural to have all emotions, however, Getup again more Stronger with focus and a calm mind and continue to Achieve the Growth you deserve.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Be Grateful for what you have  
Master your mind with time management  
Build powerful habits.  
THANKYOU, SORRY, PLEASE manners

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

Magic is beneath our feet that is Soil.  
Soil is our legacy so I wish to save Soil and plant more trees. World to be wealthy to reproduce healthy food so we can have Progressive mindset.  
Wish no Homeless people/animals on the streets  
Healthy energy Vibration to our Universe.





**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Stay Grateful Focus, small wins lead to Success filled with positive impact.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

Join together embrace to be unconditional towards our Nature. Let's plant more healthy trees in our Soil.

I hold a lot of pride to be an insignificant part of the Biggest Plantation Drive in India. I strongly believe when you cut a tree you cut a life when you plant a tree you care and give birth to a life. It's an honor to give back to society. Let's build healthy roots for our Future Generations.  
Stay Safe Unique.



## LINA ASHAR

CO-FOUNDER  
KORROBOREE

*Educator, Tedx Speaker, Visionary*

*Co-founded Korroboree, a knowledge and parenting platform conceptualised to make self-directed learning accessible to all*

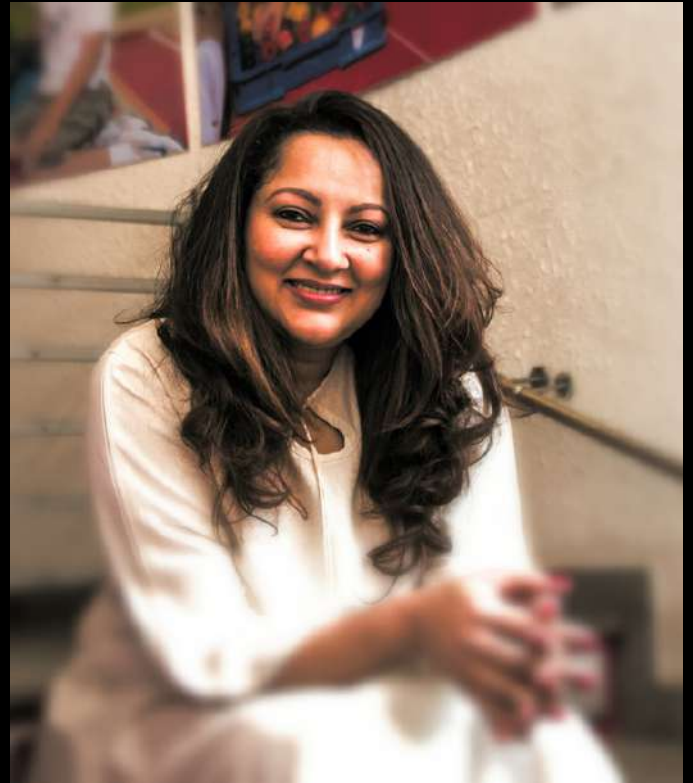
*Won 'People Who Inspire India' – Education Iconic Award 2021*

*Received Lifetime Achievement in Education Leadership Award 2014*

*Awarded for 'Exemplary Contribution in ECCE of the year working for young children and their education' by ECA Awards held at the Earlyed Asia Conference - Jaipur 2019*

*Received the 'Brainfeed Lifetime Achievement Award 2018-19'*

 @asharlina



*Lina has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

## Q & A

### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I am a teacher at heart and started my teaching journey in Australia. When I came back to India, I aspired to help students take a leap towards self-paced learning that directs their knowledge, energies and potential towards becoming their best versions. Thus, Kangaroo Kids and Billabong High were born from my heart and built with love. I developed a system where teachers are inspired to look at alternative ways of teaching 'outside of the textbook' based on instructional design through the lens of neuro, behavioral and energy science. To create a greater impact that I yearned for, I sold the company in 2016 and have dedicated my life to building Korroboree- a knowledge and learning platform that moves children towards self-directed learning and a journey of exploring their infinite potential. With Korroboree, I aim to make education inspiring and accessible to one and all.

### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

The possibilities within each child are limitless. Only self-directed education and conscious parenting can tap into their pool of potential and guide them towards becoming the best version of themselves. With this thought and determination, I started Kangaroo Kids and Billabong High where more than IQ, our area of focus was our children's EQ- their emotional wellbeing. After years now, I am still an educator driving the youth towards realising their infinite potential and making the world more giving, more abundant and a kinder place for generations to come.



**HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

Being selected among the top 99 Achievers in India I feel that the impact I have tried to create all my life is growing in momentum. To say the least, I feel elated and grateful to all who have inspired me to stride with confidence in this least-trodden path of conscious parenting and self-paced education in India.

**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

Because I love what I have been doing all my life, I never had to try to balance work and family life – Everything just happened. My family is in Australia and technology keeps us connected, continents apart but connected at heart. I ensure that I speak to my brothers daily and stay connected/

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I am a believer of an internal sense of achievement where if I accomplish the goals that I set internally I feel successful. Giving birth to Kangaroo Kids, Billabong High and Korroboree has been my greatest achievement. Born from my heart and built with unflinching support of people who believed in my vision of creating a world where children are motivated to dream, encouraged to chase them and guided to shape them to reality.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

For me every stumbling block on my way is a stepping stone to my destination, a lesson and an opportunity to become more resilient. 2006 was a rough year for me. I felt that I had hit the rock bottom only to realise that how we look at things is how things actually are. My mantra since then has been 'Change the way you look at things, and the things you look at change'.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

To me, success has a slightly different meaning than what the dictionary defines. I am a believer in an internal rewarding system- I set goals internally and once I achieve them I feel successful. My main principle to achieve success is don't let anyone define your success.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

1. Make quality education available to all children of the world.
2. Make emotional health a top priority for all individuals.
3. Wish for everyone to develop a growth mindset that propels them to thrive in every situation and grow through every experience.



**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Develop a growth mindset and embrace resilience- you will always hear the voice inside you telling you to keep moving forward no matter what.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

We need to nurture an army of trees for our future generations to save them from global warming, drastic climate changes, floods, poor air quality and so on. Even if each of us plant 1 tree a year, the impact would be immense. Plant trees on special occasions. Let's create a ripple effect and watch the world become greener and cleaner. As the saying goes, we don't have a Planet B.



## SHUCHITA VYAS

SINGER MUSIC COMPOSER  
& SONG WRITER

VERSATILE VOCALIST, MULTIFACETED PERFORMER,  
MULTI LANGUAGE COMPOSER AND SONG WRITER

*Received Best Music Director Critic Choice AWARD at  
the FILM EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2021*

*A Multi language Music Composer*

*Worked with all the renowned Music Labels*

*Quarterfinalist of India's got talent season 2*

*Travelled Globally for World Tour of Gujarati Garba*

📷 @shuchitavyassinger    ✉ contact@shuchitavyas.com



*Shuchita has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS  
2023**

### Q & A

#### **CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?**

I started her singing career with various Reality shows , backing vocals in lots of TV serials. She has shared stage with almost all the known Singers and actors.

#### **HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?**

My Father loves music and to be frank its his dream what I am living. He taught me basics of singing in my early childhood. Now The Peppy Girl (popularly called since her IGT Performance ) is one of the finest and most talented Live wire performers across the nation.

#### **HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?**

To get acknowledged for the work I have done so far really feels amazing.

#### **CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY? HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

I am fortunate because Being an independent musician and a freelancer It gives me ample time spend time with family.



**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

I debuted as film Composer in the year 2018 Hindi Film I am Roshni and was noticed for her critically acclaimed work in the movie 47 Dhansukhbhawan which also earned her Best music director.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I am pretty philosophical in this case.. I believe in taking it as it comes. I am ambitious but not desperate so life becomes easy.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

Being truthful to myself and my job, and a no compromise theory to my work is what I believe is helping me out.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

I would like to eradicate Selfishness from people , Try to make everyone more compassionate and ofcourse would try to make the world pollution free.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Believe in yourself and things will start falling in place.

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I believe Planting trees is the only solution to the Global Warming and Climate change, maintaining a balance in the Universe. I would request readers to be more involved towards making our country Greener.





## NIYATI RASESH KANAKIA

EDUCATIONIST

RBK EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

She was felicitated by the esteemed magazine "Forbes India" in their March 2021 edition for her achievements and services rendered to the cause of education

The prestigious Economic Times awarded her with Emerging Leader of Tomorrow in Education for her visionary mindset

She was also awarded with Asia's Youngest Entrepreneur 2020-21, recognized by AsiaOne Group

📷 @niyatikanakia

✉️ niyatikanakia@rbkei.org



*Niyati has pledged to  
grow trees and help protect our mother earth*

**WINNERS**  
2023

### Q & A

#### CAN YOU PLEASE SHARE YOUR JOURNEY SO FAR WITH OUR READERS?

I obtained my bachelors in Business Management before pursuing an LLB.

My journey in the education sector as the Director for RBKEI began in 2019 a little before the pandemic struck. As a result, my major focus has been combating the challenge and shifting our school operations seamlessly from the classroom to online and now finally back to reopening.

#### HOW DID YOU GET INTO THE CAREER YOU ARE IN?

Through my own schooling and college experiences I developed an interest in education where I witnessed a gaping need for quality programmes. My family was already in the education business so it was a natural fit for me as a curious learner.

#### HAVING GOT SELECTED AMONGST MILLIONS TO THE TOP 99 ACHIEVERS OF INDIA, HOW DOES IT FEEL?

I feel humbled with this recognition and it motivates me to keep pushing and doing more.



**CAN YOU DESCRIBE/OUTLINE YOUR TYPICAL DAY?  
HOW DO YOU BALANCE WORK AND FAMILY LIFE?**

My typical day starts with visiting the schools and seeing the daily operations. I then have my scheduled team meetings and spend my evenings studying, reading and researching. In the initial days I would work 7 days a week without a break and that would leave me extremely burnt out. However, I have now learnt to manage my time better and find balance by pursuing my other hobbies such as reading, art and flying along with finding time for my family and my 3 dogs.

**IN RETROSPECT, CAN YOU SHARE SOME OF YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT TO BE PROUD OF?**

Successfully taking on the responsibility of 5 schools that cater to 10,000 students so early in my career along with planning new ventures for our group, especially during such turbulent times is something I am proud of.

**HOW DO YOU ENCOURAGE YOURSELF TO KEEP WALKING WHEN THINGS ARE NOT GOING AS SMOOTHLY AS PLANNED?**

I focus on the students and the employees and the community that I have the responsibility towards.

**WHAT ARE THE MAIN PRINCIPLES YOU FOLLOW TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS?**

I believe in staying focused and being creative. I try to be as open minded towards new methods and experiences and do extensive research to see any problem from different perspectives.

**IF YOU HAD A MAGIC STICK, WHICH ARE THE 3 THINGS YOU WOULD CHANGE IN THE WORLD?**

1) I would want more people to be aware of the importance of mental health and social emotional management 2) I would want citizens of the world to care more for the environment 3) I would want people to be more accepting of their own uniqueness.

**IF YOU HAD ONE PIECE OF ADVICE TO SOMEONE JUST STARTING OUT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

The same advice that my dad has given me since I was a kid. "There are no short cuts in life. Work hard and work honestly."

**HOW DO YOU FEEL BEING PART OF THE BIGGEST TREE PLANTATION DRIVE IN INDIA?**

*You think Planting of trees is a solution to the Global Warming and Climate change? Any message you wish to share with the readers about Planting trees and following the footsteps of an Achiever like you?*

I think the biggest tree plantation drive in India is a great and much needed initiative. Planting trees is a big factor towards combatting global warming and climate change. I encourage readers to participate, however, to those who may not be able to, just being more mindful and aware of our impact on our environment and our responsibility towards our community.