

# SHIFTING GEARS FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF GROWTH

IMA India's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual CEO Roundtable

5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty





Thursday, December 5th 2019

#### Welcome Dinner

7:30 pm

At the Colony, Rooftop restaurant, Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty

Raise a toast to the coming weekend. A pleasant evening in Kerala, the company of friends and peers – there could not be better way to bring in a weekend of learning and deep camaraderie. The IMA India team will detail plans for the weekend as we welcome early arrivals with some scrumptious food.

### Friday, December 6th 2019

#### Meet and Greet

At the Atelier

11:00 am - 11:30 am

Come together over tea to kick-off the 2019 offsite, a weekend of shared learning or, as we prefer to call it – collective wisdom.

#### The Handmade Effect

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Mala Dhawan, Co-Founder, A Hundred Hands



In a country like India, where culture and tradition have been preserved through rich craftsmanship, we take the term 'hand-made' for granted. We hardly give any credit to handicrafts and their creators but more to designers, retailers, and middlemen. That is where huge margins get swallowed up, with the actual creator earning a pittance and losing his window of exposure. This is the philosophy behind A Hundred Hands, a non-profit trust started by Dr Sonia Dhawan and Mala Dhawan in August 2010. It follows the principle of supporting craftsmen to build their own brands and businesses, thus helping them to be independent and self-sufficient. Today, the NGO has been able to expand this project to other groups like women's self-help groups and other initiatives. Engage with Mala as she shares her journey of grit, determination, empowerment and impact.

### Luncheon

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

### A Walk through Jew Street

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Cochin's Jews are the oldest group of Jews in India with roots that are claimed to date back to the time of King Solomon. Jew Street, Kochi is the best place in the state to experience the lifestyle and culture of the Jewish community in the sub-continent. Antique shops, traditional houses and art galleries will trigger a mellifluous trip down memory lane as we take a stroll through these streets. Their lives are colourful reminders of a once strong community whose numbers have dwindled considerably over the years. We will be exploring a new art gallery that has opened round the corner. We will round up the evening by visiting Brunton Boatyard to meet Jose Dominic, one of the pioneers of sustainable tourism in India.

Note: Assemble at Grand Hyatt jetty by 2:30 PM to depart latest by 2:45 PM. Please plan for comfortable clothing, walking footwear, sun shades and hats. The sun can get strong as the day progresses.



### **Responsible Tourism**

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Jose Dominic,** Co-founder and Director, CGH Earth Group (This will be hosted as a joint session with delegates)



CGH Earth, a five-decade-old hospitality group, stands for creating experiential holidays and rests on core values – sensitivity to the environment, inclusion of the local community and adoption of the local ethos. This eco-friendly hotel chain is often credited as one of the major contributors to Kerala's tourism industry. With a portfolio of 17 hotels comprising 409 rooms spread across Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, CGH Earth has been selling the concept of unique holiday experiences to both domestic and expat travellers. Jose Dominic, a Chartered Accountant by qualification, joined his father's business in 1978 at Casino Hotel, Cochin leaving an accounting firm in Mumbai. He took over the reins of the enterprise, which grew into a group of hotels that came to be known as Casino Group of Hotels.

Meet **Jose**, a pioneer of responsible tourism, at Brunton Boatyard as he shares his fascinating journey of creating a profitable business that is focused on preserving our ecology, heritage, culture and community.

Brunton Boatyard in Fort Kochi is inspired from its colonial history. A former shipyard in British times, it has been converted by us to faithfully reflect the symbols and signs of a historical period known for its stately grandeur and good taste as expressed through its ambiance, amenities, service and food.

Dinner

8:30 pm

At Thai Sol, next to pool side



Saturday, December 7th 2019

### Kerala: A Sneak-Peek into Life and Culture

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Set in Fort Kochi, Greenix Village is a popular cultural centre dedicated to presenting various facets of Kerala's culture. A cultural multiplex, it comprises theatres for performing arts and martial arts of Kerala such as Kathakali, Mohini Attam and Kalari Payatu. Walk around to see the display of art and culture, and enjoy local snacks and tea in a typical Kerala setting.

### Luncheon

At Grand Hyatt

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

### Heritage Handcrafted

2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

The grace and appeal of the pure gold borders of the Kerala 'kasavu' sari contrasting with the off-white handwoven fabric has come to symbolise Malayali women. Its origins trace back to the pre-Hindu, Buddhist-Jain culture that once flourished in Kerala. Step out to explore some traditional Kerala clothing – a mark of long standing traditions.

#### **Sunset Cruise**

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Enjoy a boat cruise at sunset Cochin Harbour, with spectacular views of Marine Drive, the Chinese fishing nets and Bolgatty Island. See the sunset from a point where the Kochi Lagoon opens out into the Arabian Sea.

### **Inspiring Change**

**Pradeep Sangwan,** Founder and Promoter, Healing Himalayas Foundation (This session will be hosted over snacks and cocktails)

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm



Pradeep Sangwan is an adventurist who trekked the Himalayas as a youngster and was appalled to see mounds of litter left behind by careless travellers, and an apathetic administration. He founded the 'Healing Himalayas Foundation' with a mission to restore India's prized mountain range to its pristine glory. The idea took birth a decade ago and today, several campaigns later, his organisation has cleared almost 400,000 kg of waste from the Himalayas. Pradeep will share the challenges he faced and the successes he achieved in his difficult but fulfilling journey.



Sunday, December 8th 2019

### Leadership Lessons from the Armed Forces

Captain Raghu Raman, Author, Columnist and Visiting Faculty

(This will be hosted as a joint session with delegates)



The military offer lessons in leadership like no other form of human organisation. Virtually any situation that individuals or organisations might face have already been encountered and resolved within the armed forces. The Army grooms its leaders to take men into battle without pay hikes, ESOPs or material incentives. They are expected to deliver each and every time, and the price of failure is high. Former Army officer **Captain Raghu Raman** will share lessons in leadership forged in the unforgiving climes of the Siachen glacier, considered by many as the hardest military posting in the world.

**Discussion Break** 

11:00 am - 11:30 am

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

9:00 am - 11:00 am

### Living Fully and Longer

Rahul Bhasin, Managing Partner, Barings Private Equity Partners

(This will be hosted as a joint session with delegates)



Healthy living and a balanced lifestyle are about a lot more than complicated diets, rigorous exercise routines, 'balancing work and life', and so on. It begins with a first-principles-based understanding of how the human body functions — why it weakens and how it can be strengthened. Disillusioned with the conflicting and often ineffective advise thrown about by self-styled experts and even medical doctors, **Rahul Bhasin** has invested considerable time and energy researching this subject. He will share insights from his work that can help us all live better and longer..

Luncheon and Close 1:00 pm



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To know more or to register for the Roundtable, write to **Tejaswini Rai** at <u>tejaswini@ima-india.com</u>

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