



## SPEAKERS' PROFILE



# 37<sup>th</sup> CACCI Conference Kathmandu, Nepal

Helping Business get SET for the Future

6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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**DR. BABURAM BHATTARAI**  
Former Prime Minister of Nepal

Dr. Baburam Bhattarai is the former Prime Minister of Nepal and Chairperson of the Nepal Samajwadi Party. He served as prime minister from August 2011 to March 2013. Dr. Bhattarai was the Minister of Finance (2008) and played an instrumental role in the finalization of the new constitution (2015) as Chair of the Constitutional Political Dialogue and Consensus Committee.

Dr. Bhattarai received a bachelor's degree in architecture from Punjab University (1977) and a master's degree from School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi (1979). He completed his PhD in regional development planning from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi in 1986. His doctoral thesis was published in 2003 as *The Nature of Underdevelopment and Regional Structure of Nepal: A Marxist Analysis*. He has also contributed a number of books and articles published in English and Nepali. His areas of interest include development planning, inclusive and participatory democracy, and latest advances in science, technology and philosophy. As a visionary politician, he champions the need for radical transformation of Nepal's economy by enhancing production and stimulating economic growth alongside just distribution and sustainable green economy.



**DR. PRAKASH SHARAN MAHAT**  
Honorable Finance Minister of Nepal

Dr. Prakash Sharan Mahat is a distinguished Nepali politician with a career spanning over three decades. He is currently serving as the Minister of Finance, having taken office on March 31, 2023, following his previous role as the Minister for Foreign Affairs and various other significant positions in Nepal's government. Born on November 5, 1959, in the Nuwakot district of Nepal, he has been an active force in the country's political landscape. Dr. Mahat's journey in politics began through his involvement in student politics during the 1970s, eventually leading to his role as the General Secretary of the Nepal Students' Union from 1983 to 1987. He has held numerous key positions within the Nepali Congress, a major Democratic Party, serving on the Central Executive Committee from 2002 until 2021. Dr. Mahat has made significant contributions to Nepal's democratic movement, conflict resolution, and peace process. His active participation in various committees, including the Constitution Drafting Committee of the 2nd Constituent Assembly, reflects his commitment to the country's legislative and executive branches. As a highly educated individual, he holds a Ph.D. in economics from Southern Illinois University, along with degrees in policy economics and economics from renowned institutions. Dr. Prakash Sharan Mahat's extensive political and academic background positions him as a prominent figure in Nepal's economic development, peace process, and contemporary political development.



**MR. CHANDRA PRASAD DHAKAL**  
President, FNCCI (Nepal)

Mr. Chandra Prasad Dhakal, an esteemed figure in Nepal's business sphere, holds a position of significant authority as the Co-Founder and Chairman of the IME Group. This conglomerate has rapidly grown and diversified its investments across various sectors, such as banking, remittance, energy, tourism, automobile, insurance, and information technology, among others.

In addition to his role at IME Group, Mr. Dhakal holds the prestigious position of President of the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) for the term 2023-2026. FNCCI, as the apex body of private sectors in Nepal, possesses a vast network both within the nation and globally. Under Mr. Dhakal's leadership, various business chambers and forums have witnessed substantial expansion of domestic investments, and successful attraction of foreign direct investment, fostering a business-friendly environment in Nepal. Moreover, since 2010, Mr. Dhakal has also been dutifully serving as the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Indonesia in Nepal.

Embarking on his entrepreneurial journey in 1987 with a humble grocery store, Mr. Dhakal's pivotal role in the establishment and expansion of the IME Group's portfolio has been commendable. Among the notable achievements is the founding of IME Remit, Nepal's first remittance company. What began in a single room has now evolved into an industry-leading enterprise, offering secure and efficient cross-border money transfer services, significantly contributing to the formalization and institutionalization of remittance inflow in Nepal. Notably, as Chairman of Global IME Bank, Mr. Dhakal's leadership expertise facilitated the successful merger and acquisition of five commercial banks, ten development banks, and six finance institutions, resulting in Global IME Bank becoming the largest bank in the country. This accomplishment further solidified his role in formalizing and institutionalizing remittance inflow in Nepal. Moreover, IME's visionary leadership has brought widespread financial access, even to remote

areas, and has connected people globally through the digital wallet, IME Pay. This transformative approach has positioned IME as a key player in Nepal's socioeconomic development.

With a vision of developing at least one large infrastructure project in each province, the IME Group is diligently working on building cable car systems in various provinces to promote tourism and hospitality in the country. Notable examples include the Chandragiri Cable Car, Maulakali Cable Car, and Lumbini Cable Car, operational in the Bagmati, Gandaki, and Lumbini Provinces, respectively.

Under Mr. Dhakal's visionary leadership, the IME Group has played a crucial role in driving economic growth and generating over 20 thousand direct and indirect job opportunities in Nepal, making a positive impact on the nation's employment landscape.

In addition to their remarkable success in business, both Mr. Dhakal and the IME Group exemplify a strong commitment to corporate social responsibility. The IME Foundation actively engages in philanthropy, focusing on education and healthcare initiatives for economically underprivileged children throughout Nepal. Moreover, during times of crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic and the 2015 earthquake, the foundation has been at the forefront, providing humanitarian aid and support to affected communities.

Mr. Dhakal's exceptional contributions to Nepal's economic growth and prosperity have been recognized and honored by the Government of Nepal with prestigious awards such as the 'Sukritimaya Rastradeep,' 'Prabal Janasewashree (Fourth),' and 'Gorkha Dakshin Bahu IV.' Additionally, he has been acknowledged as a 'Commercially Important Person' by the government on multiple occasions.

Mr. Chandra Prasad Dhakal's leadership and success are driven by three fundamental priorities when investing in any enterprise: direct service to people, alignment with government priorities, and business viability. His achievements and dedication to ethical and impactful entrepreneurship make him an inspiring role model for aspiring business entrepreneurs in Nepal. As the head of the IME Group and holding other esteemed positions, he continues to drive economic development and create a positive impact on society, leaving a lasting legacy in Nepal's business landscape.





**MR. PETER MCMULLIN AM**  
President, CACCI (Australia)

Peter McMullin AM has an extensive legal and business career encompassing prominent roles in both the public and private sectors.

In business Peter is the Chairman and Director of McMullin. A diversified family business based in Melbourne, Australia. Peter is President of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) spanning 26 countries in the region.

In 2019 Peter established the Good Business Foundation (GBF) which focuses on supporting inclusive and sustainable small and medium sized businesses in the Asia-Pacific region. In 2022 he was appointed by the President of Timor-Leste, Jose Ramos-Horta to the position of Presidential Envoy - Private Sector and Investment Co-operation for Timor-Leste.

In his legal work Peter is Special Counsel for Cornwalls, specialising in improving outcomes for the firm and its clients by facilitating meaningful connections between like-minded people in the area of business, politics, philanthropy and the arts within Melbourne and throughout Australia.

In his representative and governance roles Peter holds Board positions with WorkSafe Victoria and the Melbourne Recital Centre. He is also the Honorary Consul of Georgia in Victoria and former Honorary Consul for Timor-Leste in Victoria.

As an active philanthropist, Peter seeks to collaborate with other individuals and organisations to maximise the impact of his contributions. Examples include supporting the establishment of the world's first academic Centre dedicated to the issue of Statelessness at Melbourne University Law School as well as the establishment of the Science Gallery Melbourne.

Peter has always had a deep-seated interest in community affairs and has used his experience and networks wherever possible to further these causes. His belief is the private sector has an important role to play in leading to a resolution of many pressing social and environmental issues.



**MR. PRADEEP KUMAR SHRESTHA**  
Vice President, CACCI / Former President, FNCCI (Nepal)

Mr. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha is a distinguished business leader, currently serving as the Managing Director of Panchakanya Group, a prominent industrial and trading house in Nepal. His visionary leadership has elevated Panchakanya's status in Nepal, and he has garnered numerous accolades, including the distinction of being the youngest President of FNCCI. Mr. Shrestha's commitment to excellence and his exceptional ability to connect with others exemplify his remarkable leadership. His motto, "To be born poor isn't one's fault, but to die poor is," underscores his dedication to securing a better future. He holds key roles, including Vice President of CACCI, and he is a passionate golfer and former President of the Nepal Golf Association and Rotary Club of Kasthamandap.

In addition to his business achievements, Mr. Shrestha has made substantial contributions as the Honorary Consul of South Africa and as the former Dean of HCCN. Mr. Shrestha is highly regarded for his business acumen and visionary leadership, earning him the Best Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2003-2004. He remains actively engaged in various social and business organizations and holds key positions in various enterprises and associations.



**MR. ANJAN SHRESTHA**  
Senior Vice President, FNCCI (Nepal)

Anjan Shrestha is the executive director of Laxmi Group, a prominent business house in Nepal, diversified in the manufacturing of food, dairy, confectioneries, steel, and packaging and trading. He and his group have played a pivotal role in catalyzing Nepal's economic growth and has fueled substantial industrial expansion, catalyzing job creation in Nepal. Anjan Shrestha's experience spans various sectors, including industrial goods, motor vehicles, electronics, and the hospitality industry. These sectors not only deliver essential services but also play a pivotal role in driving economic activity and attracting investments in Nepal.

His affiliations with organizations supporting national trade, commerce, and economic growth are further emphasized by his positions, most notably as the Senior Vice President of the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI). He is also a Board Member of Salt Trading Limited and the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) operated by the Government of Nepal. In addition to these roles, he served as the Executive Vice President of Kathmandu Jaycees in 1999 and as the President of NADA (Nepal Automobile Dealers Association) from 2016 to 2018.

Anjan Shrestha has significantly influenced Nepal's business landscape and economy. His active involvement in various professional groups and organizations has played a crucial role in the country's economic growth. His contributions extend beyond economic stimulation and job creation; they also foster international connections with renowned companies and organizations. Anjan Shrestha enjoys a strong reputation and holds a notable position within Nepal's business community, given his active engagement in various industries and his steadfast commitment to enhancing the nation's economic well-being.



**MR. ABHUSHAN JYOTI KANSAKAR**  
Board Member, Nepalese Young Entrepreneurs Forum (NYEF) (Nepal)

Abhushan Jyoti Kansakar is a dynamic entrepreneur. He is the CEO of Jeevee, Nepal's fastest-growing & largest homegrown E-commerce. Along with it, he oversees sixteen other subsidiaries that fall under the DebaJyoti Group that cover a wide range of sectors from heavy equipment trade to lifestyle-defining products, to those that are shaping the future of Nepal's economy and helped in the upliftment of the youth and their entrepreneurial mindsets to another level.

He also serves as an executive member of 'Nepalese Young Entrepreneur' that aims to empower young and aspiring entrepreneurs of Nepal, as well as a network of more than 700 young entrepreneurs across the country.



**MR. ALLEN JOHN KU**  
Vice-President, EVERIII & Partners / Director, Startup Island Taiwan (The Intersection of Innovation & Technology) (Taiwan)

Allen has over 15 years of professional experience in business development and sales. He is currently the Operations Director at Taiwan Startup Stadium. Previously, he was an entrepreneur in the U.S., an advisor of startups and has extensive experience in overseas outreach, cross border matchmaking, and internal controls.





#### **PROF. ANDREW KOH**

President, Singapore Chapter, Government Blockchain Association (Singapore)

Professor Andrew Koh is a multiple award-winning finance and technology expert with 30 years of working experience covering credit risk, market risk, operational risk, cards, payments, regulatory, sovereign, portfolio, reputational and enterprise risk management roles, along with cross-functional roles in audit, compliance, cybersecurity, fraud risk and technology risk management.

Among his career milestones, he had implemented fully automated and regulated treasury, trading and enterprise risk management frameworks for China's state-owned banks, and Singapore's national payment operator, NETS, incorporating the industry's first Technology Risk Management notice issued by The Monetary Authority of Singapore.

In the field of technology, Andrew has published a ground-breaking article on Blockchain Risk Management. He is a strong advocate in various volunteer roles as president, board member, governor, advisors, and co-founders in blockchain start-ups, digital banking, health-tech, payments, virtual cities, accelerators, incubators, and selected not-for-profit associations.



#### **MR. BINAYAK SHAH**

President, Hotel Association Nepal (HAN)

Mr. Shah is a Tourism Expert and President of Hotel Association Nepal and Managing Director of The Airport Hotel Kathmandu.

He is also the International Director of Nepal Promotion Centers in Germany & China. Shah also the National Coordinator of Nepal's National Participation at World Expo worldwide.

Additionally, Mr. Shah is also the Immediate Past President of European Economic Chamber Nepal.

Mr. Shah is the Board Member of Nepal Academy of Tourism & Hotel Management (NATHM) Govt. of Nepal, International Convention Center (BICC), Kathmandu, National Skill Testing Board, Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) and other Skill Development Projects promoted by Nepal Government & Foreign Donor Agencies.

Similarly, Mr. Shah is also the Promoter of Real Estate, Bank, Finance & Development Investment, IT, and International Business Companies.



#### **MS. DEBORAH LOCKHART**

Chief Executive Officer, Australian Disputes Centre (Mediation/Dispute Resolution) (Australia)

Deborah Lockhart was appointed CEO of the Australian Disputes Centre in 2013. ADC is an independent, not-for-profit company that works to help businesses, government instrumentalities and communities thrive, by accessing world-class conflict management skills and dispute resolution processes.

Prior to joining the not-for-profit sector, Deborah worked for over 20 years as an executive, consultant and expert to a range ASX 100 and Fortune 500 corporations as a change agent and dispute resolution specialist, primarily focused in the financial services sector.

Deborah's background is in law, and she was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand. Deborah first trained as a mediator with Harvard Law School in the early 1990's. She gained accreditation as an Advanced Mediator with the Australian Disputes Centre in 2009 and is a Nationally Accredited Mediator in Australia.

Deborah leads the Australian Disputes Centre's international training faculty and speaks regularly on the commercial and personal benefits of upskilling to resolve conflict and disputes using timely, cost-efficient, and private dispute resolution processes.

Deborah is a founding member of the Council for Australian Dispute Resolution and an Editorial Panel Member for the LexisNexis Australian Dispute Resolution Bulletin.



#### **MR. DHANANJAY REGMI (PHD)**

CEO, Nepal Tourism Board (Nepal)

Nepal Tourism Board

Tel: +977-1-4412441/9851105518

Email: dj.regmi@gmail.com

#### **QUALIFICATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE**

Dr. Dhananjay Regmi, born in 1975 in Nepal obtained his PhD in Environmental Earth Science from Hokkaido University, Japan in 2006. Then, he served as a Post Doctoral Research Fellow for the Global Land Project, NODAL office in Sapporo, Japan. He completed a three-month Post- Doctoral course on Deochronological Research from Arizona University, USA as a Haury Fellow.

Dr. Regmi has served as an adjunct professor in TU as glacier and periglacial geomorphologist. He has been working as a VC of Nepal Geographical Society since 2018. Dr. Regmi has been involved in the field of ecological restoration activities as a President of the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) Nepal chapter. In addition, as a Chairperson of Himalayan Research Expedition (HRE) and The Himalayan Research Center (HRC) Nepal, he has been working for the betterment of the livelihood of the high mountain people through his intensive research activities in the Himalayas.

He is also serving as the CEO of Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) since January 2020.



**MR. GEORGE ABRAHAM**

Chairman, The GA Group Pte. Ltd. (Singapore)

Mr. George Abraham is Chairman of The GA Group Pte Ltd, comprising George Abraham & Associates Pte Ltd, which is into SME Development and Consultancy; Asia Pacific Business Pte Ltd, which organises country-focussed conferences; and Global Indian Business Network Pte Ltd, which assists cross-border trade and investment within the region. He serves on various government and civic organisations. He is also a consultant to various UN Agencies in SME development and private sector capacity building in and outside the region. He has worked extensively in various business associations articulating the views of the private sector and representing these organizations at international fora.

**PROF MR. GÜVEN SAK, PhD**

Founding Managing Director, TEPAV (Turkey)

Güven Sak holds a Ph.D. degree in Economics from the Middle East Technical University and M.A. degree from University of East Anglia. He worked as a senior researcher at the Capital Markets Board of Turkey, as a faculty member of the Department of Public Finance at the Faculty of Political Sciences, Ankara University and as an external founding member of the Monetary Policy Council of the Central Bank of Turkey. He became Professor of Public Economics in 2003. In 2006, he was transferred to the newly established TOBB University of Economics and Technology. He was the founding

Managing Director of the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV) in 2004 which is the first and only economic policy think tank in Turkey.

Güven Sak, writes on economic issues for Nasıl Bir Ekonomi.

**MR. GYANENDRA LAL PRADHAN**

Chairman, Asian Council on Water, Energy, and Environment (ACWEE) (Nepal)

Gyanendra is a Hydropower Specialist and Entrepreneur and Executive Chairman of Hydro Solutions Group, Nepal.

He successfully established credibility as a hydropower developer and a credible partner in integrated consulting businesses and industry-related extended services, and has been playing a significant role in awareness building and policy dialogue on Hydropower and sectoral issues. He was awarded the 'Best Entrepreneur Award' by BOSS in 2005, 'Manager of the Year Award' by Management Association of Nepal (MAN) in 2006, 'HYDRO Nepal Excellence Award in Energy (Hydropower)' in 2010, 'Best Entrepreneur Award' by the Engineers' Association Nepal in 2011, and 'Asia's Honesty Entrepreneur Award 2014' by Asia Excellence Entrepreneur Federation, Malaysia in 2014.

Gyanendra is a Senate Member at Kathmandu University (KU) and Chairman of the Asian Council on Water, Energy and Environment of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) and the Energy Development Council (EDC) of the Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI).

Additionally, he is Vice President of the Nepal German Chamber of Commerce & Industry (NGCCI), Senior Vice president of the Nepal Indigenous Chamber of Commerce (NICC), Executive Member of the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA) – Nepal, Canada-Nepal Business Chamber (CNBC), Nepal China Chamber of

Commerce & Industry (NCCCI), Nepal Britain Chamber of commerce & Industry (NBCCI), SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SAARC CCI), Nepal, and IHP (International Hydrological Program) Committee- Nepal National Commission for UNESCO, Electricity Tariff Fixation Commission Board Member. He previously served as advisor to the Prime Minister Office.

**MR. HEM RAJ DHAKAL**

Vice President (Commodity), FNCCI (Nepal)

Hem Raj Dhakal is a prominent business leader who currently holds the position of Vice President at the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI) and serves as the Chairman of Heritage Group. He also previously held the position of Chairman at Excel Development Bank Limited from 24th September, 2016 to 25th March, 2019.

Mr. Dhakal has a diverse portfolio of companies under his leadership, including Heritage Flooring Carpet Industries Pvt. Ltd., Balaji Coir Industries Pvt. Ltd., Heritage Foreign Trade Company Pvt. Ltd., Heritage Tea Industries Pvt. Ltd., and Jhapa Tea Estate Pvt. Ltd. He has demonstrated his expertise in various Sectors.

Additionally, he holds the esteemed position of President of the Nepal Mattress Manufacturers and Distributors Association, further highlighting his extensive involvement in the business community. His influential positions and remarkable leadership abilities have earned him recognition as a respected figure in the business community. He actively advocates for the interests of Nepalese business, contributes to economic growth, and fosters entrepreneurship.

**MR. HOMER YU**

Vice President, Kowloon Chamber of Commerce (KCC) (Hong Kong)

Vice President, Kowloon Chamber of Commerce (KCC) Homer Yu serves as the Vice President of the Kowloon Chamber of Commerce (KCC) in Hong Kong. He holds a Master of Science degree from NUI University and a Postgraduate Degree from Oxford University in the UK.

Homer Yu has actively participated in the activities of CACCI, representing KCC. He has traveled to various countries as part of CACCI initiatives.

Recently, Homer signed a MOU with the Aceh Government in Indonesia in cooperation with Unisof. Unisof is an international NGO dedicated to promoting Halal Excellent Muslim Friendly products and services. The MOU aims to develop and invest in tourism for the Takengon lake district, leveraging its green forest and mangrove resources as a means of financing.

Homer Yu has been honored with the Chevalier - de L'Order National du Mérite by France and the Medal of Honour by Hong Kong.

**MR. JAMES SHI CHU**

Secretary General, Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce (CNAIC), (Taiwan)

Mr. James Chu was appointed Secretary General of the Chinese National Association of Industry & Commerce, Taiwan (CNAIC) in January 2022. Prior to that, he had many years of experience helping promote Taiwan trade and investments in other regions. He served in Taiwan's



representative offices in the Philippines, Hong Kong, Australia, and United Kingdom. He also worked in various capacities with the Bureau of Foreign Trade of Taiwan, and served as Deputy Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Switzerland.



#### MR. JEMAL INAISHVILI

President Emeritus, CACCI / Former CEO, Poti Sea Port (Georgia)

Mr. Jemal Inaishvili is a Georgian businessman. He is a former president and advisory board member of the Confederation of Asia Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI).

In the past, Mr. Inaishvili had served as CEO of the Poti Sea Port (1997-2004) and as President of the Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (2004-2010).

In 2004 -2008 Mr. Inaishvili occupied the state political position, being elected the deputy chairman of the Georgian Parliament.

Mr. Inaishvili has extensive business experience in shipping and logistics. At present, he is a chairman of the board of Tbilisi Dry Port LLC and a board member of MSC Georgia LLC, Medlog Georgia LLC and Wilhelmsen Port Service Georgia LLC.



#### MR. JOHN DENTON AO

Secretary General, ICC (Australia)

John W.H. Denton AO is the Secretary General of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC). He is a global business leader and international advisor on policy and a legal expert on international trade and investment.

In 2022, Mr. Denton was appointed by United Nations Secretary General to represent the global private sector on the newly formed Steering Committee of the UN

Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance.

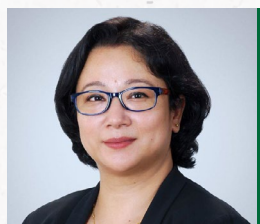
He currently serves on the WHO Foundation Strategic Advisory Group and the Global Task Force on Refugee Labour Mobility and is currently chair of the UN Business and Human Security Initiative of the London School of Economics and Political Science's foreign policy think tank LSE IDEAS.

Mr. Denton is a Board member of the UN Global Compact and Co-chair of the B20 finance and infrastructure taskforce, as well as a founding member of the Business 20 (B20), Co-founder of the Australia-China CEO Roundtable and Patron of UNHCR in Australia.

He serves on the Board of IFM Global Investors, a leading institutional investment manager, and is Chair of the Moeller Institute Advisory Board at the University of Cambridge.

He additionally serves on the Boards of the UN Development Programme's Impact Investing Steering Group and UNICEF's global education initiative, GenU, and he is a member of the Advisory Board of the African Green Infrastructure Investment Bank (AfGIIB) and the G7 Working Group on Impact Investment.

A former diplomat, Mr Denton co-led the Australian Government's 2012 White Paper on "Australia in the Asian Century" and previously chaired the APEC Finance and Economics Working Group.



#### MS. JUNA MATHEMA

Chairperson, Startup and Innovation Forum, FNCCI (Nepal)

Juna Mathema is an entrepreneur and a researcher who holds a firm belief in making significant contributions to both the professional and personal development of her community. She is the Executive Committee Member of the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) and the Chairperson of Startup & Innovation Forum at FNCCI.

In 2002, she co-founded Blitz Media, an advertising and research agency, and has since embarked on the successful establishment of other ventures, including Sewa Securities, a reputable stock brokerage company No.54, Consult One, a provider of management consulting services, Golden Ratio, a firm offering digital and multimedia solutions and A.J. Investment, an investment company.

For the past decade, she has been deeply committed to promoting and nurturing entrepreneurship in Nepal. Her efforts have resulted in the organization of numerous impactful programs focused on networking, mentoring, and fostering leadership and entrepreneurial skills.

Juna has held several leadership roles, including Former Co-Chair of the Women Entrepreneurship Development Committee at FNCCI and Former Vice-President (Women) of the Nepalese Young Entrepreneurs Forum (NYEF). Her dedication to fostering education equity is evident in her role as Vice President of Teach for Nepal, an esteemed fellowship program promoting equal access to education. Furthermore, her unwavering commitment to societal well-being led to the establishment of Nepal Social Lab, a not-for-profit organization with a focus on empowering women, and youth, and facilitating employment opportunities. Her deep interest lies in the issues of reintegration of labour migrants as well.

Her academic pursuits have also contributed to her success. Armed with a Master's degree in both Business Administration and Sociology, she has harnessed her expertise to drive innovation and positive change in the Nepali landscape.



#### MS. JYOTSNA SHRESTHA,

Vice President (Associate), FNCCI (Nepal)

Over 25 years experience as jeweller and entrepreneur. Expertise in areas ranging from business administration to marketing financial products and services to recruiting and training sales staff.

#### Key Accomplishments

Entrepreneur who grew many businesses from start-up to millions in annual sales through effective business planning, creative sales techniques and innovative marketing. Recognized by clients and colleagues as a consummate professional with a high degree of personal integrity. Known for a contagious passion for excellence, a talent for resourceful business solutions and a capacity for motivational leadership. Also, participated in international conferences, summits, entourage to China, India, Bhutan, Sri Lanka etc.

#### Professional Experience

Sayapatri (Marigold) Jewellers, Newroad, Kathmandu, Nepal - **Proprietor**

Marigold Jewellers Pvt.Ltd., Durbar Marg, Kathmandu Nepal - **Director**

SJS International Pvt. Ltd. (Export and Import), Newroad, Kathmandu, Nepal - **Director**

Aurum Hallmarking and Refinery Pvt. Ltd., Newroad, Kathmandu, Nepal - **Managing Director**

Hotel Mechi Crown, Jhapa, Nepal - **Director**

#### Organizations Involved

Trade Board (Government of Nepal) - **Member**

Federation of Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI) - **E.C. Member & Chairperson of Tourism and Air Transport Committee.**

Nepal China Non-governmental Corporation Forum - **Executive Member**

SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry - **E.C. Member**

Nepal Gems and Jewellery Association - **President**

Federation of Woman Entrepreneur Association of Nepal (FWEAN) - **Member**

Nepal Brazil Chamber of Commerce and Industry - **Secretary**

Nepal Egypt Chamber of Commerce and Industry - **E.C. Member**

Nepal Australia Chamber of Commerce and Industry - **E.C. Member**





### MR. KUSH KUMAR JOSHI

Past President, FNCCI /Managing Director,  
Nepal Ekarat Engineering Co. Pvt. Ltd. (Nepal)

#### Business Involved.Chairman

Nepal Ekarat Engineering Company Pvt. Ltd.  
(First ISO, N.S and CPRI Certified Electrical  
TransformerManufacturing Company of Nepal)

- Liberty Energy Hydro Power Pvt. Ltd.(25MW upper  
DordiAHydro Power Developer
- Energy Engineering Co. Pvt. Ltd (6.5MW Upper  
Mailung Hydro Power Developer)
- Himalayan Bamboo Pvt.Ltd. (Manufacturer of Bamboo  
and wooden products)

#### Chairman

Road Safety society of Nepal (RSSN)

#### Organizations Involved President

National Business Initiative (NBI).

Non-profit making organization established by major  
business associations and private companies of Nepal in  
2005 with a vision to establish sustainable peace in Nepal  
through responsible socio-economic growth

#### Past President

- Federation of Nepalese Chamber of  
Commerce and Industry (FNCCI):2008-2011
- Nepal Electrical and Electronic Manufacturer  
Association (NEEMA)

#### Position hold in various organization

- Board Member Industrial Development  
Management, MOICS: 2002- 2005
- Committee member: Technical Committee Dept.of  
Ind. MOICS: 2001-2005
- Board Member Security Board Nepal: 2005-2008.
- Board Member Nepal Investment Board: 2011  
Advisory Member of Industry Commerce Promotion  
of Dialogue Concil: 2023

#### Leading Nepalese Business Delegation

- Australia 2010MoU signed with Australia Chamber of  
commerce and Industries,Canberra.
- USA 2011MoU signed with World Trade Centre  
(WTC) New York.

- RUSSIA 2004 MoU signed with Russian Chamber of  
Commerce and Industries.
- CHINA 2006 MoU signed with Gwanzhou Province  
Chamber of Commerce
- THAILAND 2010 OTOP visit.
- MALAYSIA 2010MoU signed with Malaysian Chamber  
of Commerce and Industries, Kuala Lumpur

#### Corporate Office:

Jaycees Marg, Thapathali, P.O.Box: 1939,  
Kathmandu

Tel: (00977-1) 4243436, 4244857

Fax: (00977-1) 4253612

E-mail:kush@neek-transformer.com/  
kush.kumar.joshi@gmail.com

#### Education

Diploma in Electrical Engineering from Society  
of Engineers UK in 1984

#### State visit (entourage member)

- King Gyanendra visit to china 2002.
- Deputy Prime Minister K.P. Oli visit to China.  
2007.
- Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala. SAARC  
Summit Sri Lanka. 2008
- Prime Minister Puspa Kamal Dahal visit to India. 2008
- Prime Minister Puspa Kamal Dahal visit top UN Summit  
New York.2008
- Prime Minister Puspa Kamal Dahal visit to Finland,  
Norway and Denmark.2009
- Prime Minister Madhab Kumar Nepal Visit to  
China.2010
- President Dr. Ram BaranYadav visit to Shanghai Expo  
China.2011

#### National representation on

International seminar and events

- WTO accession symposium for LDC's , Sanna, Yeman
- WTO: 2003
- WTO ministerial Meeting HONGKONG2005
- WTO Ministerial meeting Geneva Switzerland: 2010.
- Symposium on Industrial Relation Geneva, ILO: 2011.

#### Achievement

- CEO Magazine: First Nepalese executive to get in the  
CEO Magazine Global: 2023
- FNCCI President Award: 2023



### MR. LENNON TAN

President, Singapore Manufacturing Federation  
(SMF) (Singapore)

Mr. Lennon Tan is the Group Chairman of ADERA  
Global. Lennon started his career as an engineer in the  
Petrochemical industry before spending 10 years with  
the American

Multinational 3M. In 2001, he decided to pursue his  
dream of being an entrepreneur. After taking over a  
small smart card manufacturing business in China, he  
tapped on technology and innovation to transform the  
manufacturing outfit into the top 10 global smart card  
producers in the world, and thereafter transforming  
the company's capabilities to lead in fields of artificial  
intelligence, biometric authentication, automation,  
fintech and data analytics, supporting major sectors  
ranging from banks, insurance, government, healthcare,  
telecommunications and transport worldwide. The group  
was awarded ASEAN Business Award Overall Winner  
for Priority Integration Sector (ICT) in 2018. In 2016,  
Lennon was awarded ASEAN Teochew Entrepreneur  
Award and in 2017, he was named EY Entrepreneur of  
the Year (Financial Technology Enablement) from global  
professional services firm Ernst & Young. He is also the  
President of the Teochew Entrepreneurs Club, he sits  
on judging panel of Women Entrepreneur Awards, and  
serves as advisor to the Women Entrepreneur Club.



### MR. MANGESH LAL SHRESTHA

Immediate Past Chairman, CACCI YEGAP /  
Global Vice President (Growth & AI) at Frost &  
Sullivan (Nepal)

Mangesh is Global Vice President of Growth at Frost &  
Sullivan and an Entrepreneur with close to two decades  
wealth of experience in multiple diversified industries  
from Banking & Financial Institutions, ICT, ITES, Data  
Center, Cloud Technologies, A.I. & Big Data, Fintech,  
International Business, Healthcare, Entrepreneurship  
Development, Startup, Investments & Capital Market,  
Distribution, Manufacturing, Telecommunication,  
Heavy Equipment, Research, Consulting & Advisory,  
Public Sector, Development Sector etc. With MSc in  
Business & IT, from Aston University, United Kingdom,  
The Corporate Entrepreneur: Driving Innovation & New  
Ventures from Stanford University, USA and MIT Sloan  
& MIT CSAIL Artificial Intelligence: Implications for  
Business Strategy from MIT, USA. He has been involved  
in projects and enterprises that promote his passion  
for innovation to contribute and have positive impact  
on the social-business era. He is also current Executive  
Committee Member of Federation of Nepalese Chamber  
of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI); Founding Member,  
Member of Advisory Leadership Group & Past President  
of Nepalese Young Entrepreneurs' Forum that promote  
and encourage youth & entrepreneurship; Vice Chair  
in SAARC Young Entrepreneurs Forum and General  
Assembly Member of SAARC Chamber of Commerce  
& Industries, member of Young Entrepreneur Group  
Asia Pacific which is under Confederation of Asia Pacific  
Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) and  
Member of Young Presidents' Organization (YPO) -  
Nepal Chapter.



**MR. MANOJ PAUDEL**

Chairperson, Investment & International Affairs forum/EC member FNCCI (Nepal)

Manoj Paudel is an entrepreneur and economist with extensive experience in providing strategic advisory, nurturing collaborative leadership, and fostering partnerships in government, private, and development sectors. He leads the Investment and International Affairs Forum at the FNCCI, Nepal's apex private sector. Manoj Paudel is an entrepreneur and economist with extensive experience in providing strategic advisory, nurturing collaborative leadership, and fostering partnerships in government, private, and development sectors. He leads the Investment and International Affairs Forum at the FNCCI, Nepal's apex private sector body as its elected Executive Committee member. In 2021, Manoj launched Aadhyanta, a pioneer fund mobilization platform (private equity/ venture capital) in Nepal, to become the most impactful homegrown solution for financing growth. He also serves as a director at Prime Commercial Bank Limited. Additionally, he provides strategic advice to multiple organizations and leaders. His core competencies include investment mobilization, deal structuring, policy design and leadership, and research, with a focus on infrastructure and investment. He is passionate about creating positive economic change and fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in Nepal and beyond. He holds an MSc from the London School of Economics where he was a Chevening Scholar.

**MR. MICHAEL LEE**

Chair, Membership and Partnership Alliance Committee, YEGAP / CEO, CreBiz Factory (South Korea).

Michael is a nomadic entrepreneur with a diverse national and international outreach, constantly inspired and motivated by empowering people to achieve their dreams and mobilizing people to develop global entrepreneurship ecosystem. He has a strong background in innovation, design thinking, entrepreneurship, startups, leadership, globalization, digital economy & so on. He has been contributing to make a better world through B20, World Union of Small & Medium Enterprises, Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia Pacific, Young Entrepreneurs Organization of the European Union, G20 Young Entrepreneurs Alliance, YES! Camp, Hack for NOW and so on. He is a CEO of CreBiz Factory, an international training company which seeks to empower both the current and the emerging generation of the entrepreneurs around the world through a unique strategy of training, relational focus and mentoring, enabling them to grow thriving businesses committed to making the world better.

**MR. MICHAEL LIM**

Founder, Beyond Value (Australia)

Michael Lim is the Executive Director of Sedo Group (Social Value), a consultancy that helps businesses win government work. In this role, he helps business diversify their supply chain and navigate the social value policy ecosystem. Michael is also the co-founder of SocialPro, a cloud-based reporting tool for monitoring social and

sustainable procurement performance in construction. Michael currently holds a range of professional appointments including being a member of the Western Metropolitan Partnership, Tarneit Revitalisation Board, Melton Revitalisation Board and Community Member of the Sunshine Transport Precinct. Michael was the 2018 Brimbank Young Citizen of the Year, the 2017 Victorian Premier's Volunteer Champion in the Impact category, Finalist for the 2023 Victorian Young Achiever Award (Social Impact) and the 2023 University of Melbourne Rising Star Alumni Award (Faculty of Arts).

**MR. PADMA JYOTI**

Chairman, Jyoti Group / Past President, FNCCI (Nepal)

Padma Jyoti is a graduate of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur in Mechanical Engineering in and Sloan School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.

His professional career has been in his family business, Jyoti Group, one of the most respected pioneering business houses in Nepal, which is now four generations old. He is the Chairman of Jyoti Group which is engaged in industry, trade, hydropower, financial and health sectors. He is currently the Chairman of Butwal Power Company Ltd (BPC), a leading public limited company of Nepal engaged in Hydropower generation, distribution, design and engineering, model testing and repair maintenance facilities. He also serves in a number of other company Boards.

He has also served in high positions in a number of national and international Business Organisations; as the President of Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FNCCI), President of SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI). He has worked with CII of India as Co-Chair of Nepal India Joint Economic Council and with FICCI of India on SAARC and South Asian regional economic issues.

He has served his country in various capacities in economy, industry, social and peace building activities at national level. He is the founder President of National Business Initiative (NBI), a coalition of major business associations and companies, set up during the violent insurgency, for conflict resolution and peace building in Nepal. NBI is currently working on issues related to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Responsible Business, and sustainable peace through economic opportunities.

He was nominated from the business sector to the first Constituent Assembly and Legislative Parliament of Nepal after the Peace Accord and served for four years (2008-2012) during the making of the new Constitution amid the political change of the country to a Republic. He is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the newly established Madan Bhandari University of Science and Technology (MBUST), striving to become a world-class research based university serving the Nepalese economy. In the past he has served as a member of the Senate of Tribhuvan University and Kathmandu University in Nepal, and the World Buddhist University, Thailand. He is devoted to developing Lumbini, the birthplace of Buddha in Nepal. He is a Vice President of World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB) with headquarters in Thailand and of Dharmodaya Sabha, Nepal.

He is happily married to Meera for the last 52 years and greatly enjoys his family of two sons, daughters-in-law and four grandchildren.

**MR. PARAG SHRESTHA**

Managing Director, Fuse machines Inc. (Nepal)

Joined Fusemachines in 2020 and have been responsible for overseeing the delivery of AI Strategies, Solutions, Research, Products and expanding Fusemachines' growing footprint in South Asian countries. Previously worked extensively with large global



Joined Fusemachines in 2020 and have been responsible for overseeing the delivery of AI Strategies, Solutions, Research, Products and expanding Fusemachines' growing footprint in South Asian countries. Previously worked extensively with large global tech companies such as Salesforce, 360Insights, Initiate Systems (IBM), Fidelity Information Services and AON Hewitt in North America. Close to two decades of experience that spans multiple industries, including Finance, Healthcare, Government, Commercial Retail, Logistics and more. As a business strategist and growth leader, Parag has helped solve critical business problems for customers like Coca-cola, Delta Airlines, FedEx, General Motors, etc. and is passionate about establishing foundational processes that are imperative for an organization's growth.



**PRAMOD B. SHRESTHA, PH.D.**  
Professor, Kathmandu University (Nepal)

In the last 48 years, Dr. Shrestha has held several important posts such as Professor, Campus Chief, Project Co-ordinator/Project Chief and International/ National Consultant with various World Bank/Asian Development Bank/Bi-Lateral financed projects aimed at the improvement of engineering and technical education and training system in Nepal, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Iran, the Philippines, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, South Korea, Japan, Canada, Norway, Australia and Thailand.

Dr. Shrestha is the first Professor (1993) in Mechanical Engineering (Tribhuvan University system – The oldest and the biggest University) in Nepal and retired as a Professor from the Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University in 2007 after 32 years of service at the Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University. Dr. Shrestha is also a visiting Professor at Kathmandu University in Nepal.

Prof. Shrestha has written several papers on Technology and Innovation Management, Technology Transfer, Total Quality Management, Strategic Management, Management of Organizations, Entrepreneurship Development, Impact of Technology on Society and Curriculum Development. Prof. Shrestha also specializes in developing strategic organization designs and helping institutions bring them to fruition. As a Professor specialized in Engineering Management, he works with students and research fellows/teams to define winning strategies, align their organization and innovation/ technology models for success.

In 1999, Government of Nepal awarded Prof. Shrestha with an "Education Day Gold Medal" for his Meritorious Service at the Institute of Engineering and the students of the Institute of Engineering also selected him as the "Best Teacher" in 1998 and 1999. Prof. Shrestha was also awarded letters of appreciation from the Government of Iran, Bangladesh and Bhutan for his outstanding contribution in the field of Technical and Vocational Education during his service at the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education in Manila.

In 2010, Prof. Shrestha was awarded with the title of Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary International on the recommendation of a Rotary Club of Belgium for his contribution in bringing some smile and hope in the life of the visually and hearing challenged people in Nepal through his organization, the Early Rehabilitation Centre (ERC) [www.erc.org.np](http://www.erc.org.np) in Nepal.



**DR. POSH RAJ PANDEY**  
Executive Chairman, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (Nepal)

Dr. Pandey has more than 25 years of experience working on issues of trade, economy and development. Currently, Dr. Pandey is serving as a senior advisor at the Ministry of Finance, Federal Government of Nepal. He is also the Chairman of South Asia Watch on Trade

Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), a consortium of South Asian NGOs, working to build capacity of concerned stakeholders in the context of liberalisation and globalisation. He holds a PhD in economics and has master's degrees in business management and economics.

Dr. Pandey has served as a member of the UN Secretary-General High-Level Panel on Technology Bank. He is listed as the Indicative Panelist of the Dispute Settlement Body of the WTO. He is a member of various committees of the Government of Nepal, including the Board of Trade and Nepal Business Forum. Dr. Pandey has served as an economic expert on Prime Minister's Advisory Board and was a member of the National Planning Commission. He was one of the negotiators for Nepal's accession to the WTO. Dr. Pandey has also worked for the UNDP in Nepal on the issues of multilateral trade integration and trade-related capacity building.

He was a faculty at the Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University and has extensively published on the issues of international trade, macroeconomics and development.



**MR. ROMMEL GERODIAS**  
President, A101 Innovation Inc. "Food Safety" (Philippines)

Rommel Sim Gerodias, a prominent figure in the world of entrepreneurship, is recognized for his dedication to fostering young business leaders across the globe. He holds the prestigious title of Chairman Emeritus at the Philippine Young Entrepreneurs Association, and concurrently serves as the Chairman of the Young Entrepreneurs Group of Asia Pacific (YEGAP) and the Deputy Secretary General of the International Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs Associations (IAYEA).

Throughout his illustrious career, Rommel has left an indelible mark on various youth-led organizations, including:

- Founding President of the ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Association
- 2017 Chair of the ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Council
- National Board Member of the JCI Philippines
- Founding President of JCI San Pedro Portal Key
- Current President of JCI Senate San Pedro

He has received numerous accolades, including the esteemed titles of ASEAN-China Outstanding Young Entrepreneur in 2011 (Vietnam) and 2015 (Laos), as well as the 2014 Most Outstanding JCI Senator in JCI Philippines Area 3.

Boasting over 25 years of expertise in the realms of Food Safety, Cleaning, and Sanitation, Rommel is currently at the helm as the President of A101 Innovations Inc. His commitment to nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs and his impressive track record in industry leadership make him a true luminary in the field of business and a stalwart advocate of Youth Entrepreneurship.



**MR. SAMIR MODI**  
Immediate Past President, CACCI / Executive Director, Modi Enterprises (India)

Samir Modi, Modi Group Scion, is a Maverick who thinks differently to achieve ground-breaking results. A Harvard alumnus, make-up junkie, innovator, gadget buff, art connoisseur, chef, thought guru, globetrotter, brand builder, and promoter of the concept of Meraki.

Samir Modi, Founder & President of 24SEVEN, Modicare, Colorbar and Modicare Foundation, is an intuitive entrepreneur, constantly striving to bring new and radical ideas to life. He is also the Executive Director of Godfrey Phillips India Limited and Indofil Industries Limited.

He launched 24SEVEN Convenience Stores, India's first of its kind round-the-clock convenience retail chain, in 2005. The outlets have more than 3000 retail products



to choose from including wide range of international food & beverages.

Modicare, India's first Direct Selling Company, was launched by him in 1996. Modicare today has more than 5 million strong consultant network Pan-India. Changing the direction by him, the Company has seen growth of 1500% in the last 7 years.

Colorbar Cosmetics, launched by him in 2004 is India's third largest cosmetics brand. The key focus of the company is to provide extensive makeover knowledge. Recently, it was honoured for breaking two Guinness World Records™

Executive Director at Godfrey Phillips India Limited. Godfrey Phillips is the flagship company under the KK Modi Group, and is counted as one of India's largest cigarette manufacturers. Godfrey Phillips is the name behind some of the largest selling brands, including Four Square, Red & White, and Cavanders, as well as the recently launched Hawk Eye brand of premium cigarettes. It exports its own cigarette brands, like Jaisalmer, Stellar and Black Jack among others, all over the globe. The company also manufactures and markets Marlboro cigarettes in India, under a license agreement with Philip Morris, USA.

Shouldering the responsibility of continuing his family's philanthropic tradition, he set up the Modicare Foundation in 1996. The Foundation undertakes extensive work in HIV/AIDS Awareness and gender-related issues while working proactively for children's education.

Being Immediate past President of Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI), he served as the chief executive officer of the Confederation. He has taken various initiatives like CMI and carrying out a Study on 'Achieving a Successful Trading System'.



**MR. SANJEEB PANTHEE**

Good Return (Nepal)

Sanjeeb completed his postgraduate degree from University of Technology Sydney (UTS) Australia. Immediately after my graduation, I came to Nepal and started working in the area of skill development. I would like to call myself a skill development practitioner and Technical and Vocational Education and Training learner. I am currently working as Nepal Training Coordinator for Good Return. In my previous roles, I was leading organizations and coordinating with the Government of Nepal, and development partners to implement skill development projects across the nation. I have worked in the training and development sector for more than a decade - working with a range of government agencies, private sector and development partners. While working with development partners, I got the opportunity to lead many skill development projects. My area of expertise: project management, designing and implementing training programs, community mobilization, and skill development.



**MR. SAURABH JYOTI**

Chairman, Syakar Trading Co. P. Ltd. (Nepal)

Saurabh Jyoti is the chairman of Syakar trading company pvt. Ltd and a director of a jyoti group of companies. He is graduated from the B.M.S collage of Engineering, Bangalore India.

He is the Past president of Nepal Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) and NYEF .Past chairperson OF SAARC. He served 15years in various positions in FNCCI. He has been awarded by Youth Ambassador for Peace Award, Competent Communicator -Everest Toastmaster.

He loves Automobiles, Motorsports, travelling.



**MR. SHAILENDRA GURAGAIN**

Executive Committee Member, FNCCI (Nepal)

Mr. Shailendra Guragain boasts an illustrious career in the energy sector, highlighted by his distinguished roles in various hydropower ventures. Serving as the Former Chairman of Barun Hydropower Company Ltd., he oversaw the successful execution of the Hewa Khola Hydropower project, generating 4.5 MW of clean energy. Shailendra's expertise is further demonstrated as the Director at Ngadi Group Power Limited, and played a vital role in the Siuri Khola Small Hydropower Project, delivering 5.0 MW of sustainable energy. His pinnacle achievement was ascending to the position of Executive Chairman at Siuri Nyadi Power Ltd., where he oversees Siuri Nyadi Hydropower Project, generating 40.27 MW. Furthermore, his leadership extends to Samriddhi Energy (P) Ltd., generating a substantial 216 MW where

he serves as Chairman, solidifying his status as a luminary in Nepal's energy sector.

Shailendra's commitment to the industry is not limited to his roles in the hydropower sector; he has also served in the board of two banking institutions, Janata Bank limited and Sunrise Bank Limited. He has actively contributed to the Independent Power Producers' Association Nepal (IPPAN) as its Past President as well as served as an Executive committee member as the Co-Chairperson for the FNCCI's Energy Committee. Currently, he holds the position of Chairperson at the Capital Market Forum of FNCCI.

Shailendra Guragain, a visionary leader in the energy sector, combines a wealth of experience, academic prowess, and a steadfast commitment to sustainable energy solutions. His dynamic career and dedicated association leadership reflect his enduring impact on Nepal's energy landscape.



**MR. SHEIKH FAZLE FAHIM**

Vice President, CACCI / Former President, FBCCI (Bangladesh)

Sheikh Fazle Fahim is an entrepreneur and community leader with extensive experience in business development and social impacts in the economy, education, arts, health, sports, innovation, and entrepreneurship. He received prestigious domestic and international awards including Commercial Important Person, Government of Bangladesh, a Certificate of Merit from the World Customs Organization, and an International Construction Business Award from the Global Trade Leaders' Club to name a few.

He is the President of the D-8 Chamber of Commerce and Industries (D-8 CCI). Chair, Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum, trade and investment body of Indian Ocean Rim Association. In addition, he is Vice President of the Confederation of the Asia Pacific Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CACCI), and Vice President of the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Chamber of Commerce and Industries (SCCI) representing eight South Asian countries.



Fahim's contributions towards regional, bilateral, and multilateral initiatives are evident through his leadership at private-public platforms of the WTO, D-8, ASEAN, SAARC, BIMSTEC, BBIN, SRCIC, OIC, APTA, and the Commonwealth. Fahim served as President (2019-2021), of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FBCCI), a national umbrella trade and investment organization. Global Advisor (2019-2020), Commonwealth Enterprise Investment Council (CWEIC), trade and investment wing of Commonwealth. Executive Committee Member (2018-2020), Silk Route International Chambers of Commerce (SRCIC).

Fahim is currently the Managing Director of Obsidian Bangladesh Ltd, a conglomerate with business interests in technology, education, healthcare, manufacturing, distribution, EPC, and trading. He is the Chairman of RHS Group Ltd, a conglomerate engaged in energy, new media, construction, FMCG, etc.



**MR. SUMIT KEDIA**  
Executive Director, Kedia Organization /  
Commodity Council Advisor , FNCCI (Nepal)

Mr. Sumit kedia has pursued his MBA from symbiosis Institute of Business Management (India) with Hons in Marketing thereafter he joined his family business which has extensive Interest in food Industries and Trading. He is currently looking after a milk processing plant called Sitaram milk and also served as president of Nepal Dairy Association, Executive Committee member of Fncci and also Advisor to commodity Council. He has also worked extensively in Human Resource skill development front.



**MR. SURAJ VAIDYA**  
Past President, FNCCI / President, Vaidya's  
Organization of Industries & Trading Houses  
(Nepal)

Mr. Suraj Vaidya is the President of Vaidya's Organization of Industries and Trading Houses (VOITH). He is also the Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Philippines and the Advisor to the Prime Minister's Economic Council. He was appointed as the National Program Coordinator by the Government of Nepal for the Visit Nepal Year 2020 campaign.

He is an entrepreneur, a graduate of MBA from George Mason University, a business leader and a passionate advocate for economic growth and reform in Nepal. Mr. Vaidya runs industries in Nepal based on agriculture, construction, education and trading sectors as the President of VOITH, which was established in 1967. In the agricultural sector, his major industries are built around tea, flora, poultry, feed, etc. In these agricultural sectors, his companies' works have been recognized for their community development approach while creating economic value.

Besides being an active member of the business community and leading change by setting examples of growth, Mr. Vaidya has been a promoter of economic growth and an avid advocate for dealing with Nepal's most critical development constraints. According to him, "Economy should speak louder than politics." He is the Immediate Past President of the SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry (March 2016 - March 2018) as well as the Former President of the Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce & Industry.



**MR. SUSHIL CHANDRA TIWARI**  
Secretary, Water and Energy Commission  
Secretariat, Government of Nepal

**Qualification:** BE (Civil Engineering) in 1992 from Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University, Nepal Master's Degree in Urban Planning in 2001 from ITC, Netherlands

**Profession:** Governemnt services since 1993 under various infrastructure development offices, departments and Ministries of GoN with different positions including Engineer, Senior Divisional Engineer, Superintendent Engineer/Joint Secretary and Secretary (Technical)

**Experiences:** Almost 30 years in infrastructure planning, development and management including local/ rural roads, disaster management/reconstruction, water resources and irrigation, hydro-power, energy planning/ transition etc.)



**MR. UMESH RAGHUBANSHI**  
Vice President, Federation of Computer  
Association Nepal (CAN Federation) (Nepal)

Mr. Umesh Raghubanshi is a highly accomplished professional with a rich and diverse background in the field of information technology. As a dedicated and skilled individual, he has made significant contributions to the development of IT systems and solutions in Nepal. Currently, he holds the esteemed position of Vice President at the Federation of Computer Association Nepal (CAN Federation), a testament to his leadership and expertise in the field.

Mr. Raghubanshi's academic journey began with a Bachelor of Science degree from Tri-Chandra Multiple Campus, Tribhuvan University, Nepal, in 1988. He continued his education by earning a Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application from Kantipur City College and Purbanchal University in 2004. His dedication and commitment are reflected in his academic achievements, and he has consistently pursued opportunities for learning and growth.

Since December 2008, Mr. Raghubanshi has been leading InfoDevelopers Pvt. Ltd. His role as CEO reflects his leadership abilities and his capacity to manage a company in the IT sector. Previously, he worked at Prime Commercial Bank Ltd. as the Head of the IT Department and at Rastriya Banijya Bank. His experience also includes a role as a Switching Supervisor at Nepal Telecom and as an Instructor, teaching Oracle Database Software.

Mr. Raghubanshi's remarkable career includes contributions to projects and initiatives that have left a lasting impact on Nepal's IT landscape. Leadership in developing microfinance core banking application software for InfoDevelopers Pvt. Ltd. Successful management and implementation of core banking software in Nepalese banks. Active involvement in enhancing rural financial intermediation for the Asian Development Bank (ADB) program. Implementation of various systems and projects for banking and financial institutions in Nepal.

Mr. Umesh Raghubanshi's career reflects his dedication to the field of information technology and his commitment to driving innovation and growth in Nepal's IT sector. His expertise and contributions have played a significant role in shaping the IT landscape of the country. As Vice President of CAN Federation, he continues to lead and contribute to the advancement of the IT sector in Nepal.





#### MR. YOGENDRA SAKYA

Chairman, Club Himalayan Resort, Nagarkot  
(Hotel Ambassador) (Nepal)

Mr. Yogendra Sakya is a prominent figure in Nepal's business and tourism sector. He is widely recognized as the Founder Chairman of multiple esteemed establishments, including Ace Development Bank, Ace Institute of Management, Ace Hotels and Resorts, Club Himalaya, Nagarkot Resort, and Hotel Ambassador in Lazimpat. With an extensive background in the hospitality industry, Mr. Sakya also held the prestigious position of Former President of the Hotel Association Nepal. Notably, he played a pivotal role as the National Coordinator for the successful Nepal Tourism Year 2011, a campaign that not only propelled the country's tourism sector but also ignited a wave of investments from international chain hotels, leaving an indelible mark on Nepal's tourism landscape. His remarkable contributions have significantly enriched the nation's business and tourism sectors.



#### DR. YUBRAJ KHATIWADA

Former Finance Minister of Nepal

Dr. Khatiwada has held the position of Minister of Finance, Government of Nepal from March 2018 to September 2020 and also Minister of Communication and Information Technology and Spokesperson of the Government of Nepal from February 2020 to September 2020. In that position, he undertook the key responsibility of implementing fiscal federalism along with engaging in the institutionalization of the

federal system as per the Constitution of Nepal; chaired Economic and Infrastructure committee of the Cabinet for 2 years and a half; led various reforms in the areas of fiscal, financial, and private sector investment policies, regulatory reforms and public finance management. He held several responsibilities related to Covid-19 responses and economic recovery and undertook the role of ICT infrastructure up-gradation, IT reform and good governance in ICT area.

He was nominated by Rt. Honorable President of Nepal as Member of National Assembly in February 2018 and served the Parliamentary role till March 2020.

He held twice the position of the Vice Chairperson of the National Planning Commission of Nepal during 2015-16 and during 2009-2010. He had also served as a Member of the National Planning Commission for the Government of Nepal from 2002 to 2005.

He has served the country as the Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank during 2010-15. Prior to this, he was a career central banker and retired from the position of Executive Director of Nepal Rastra Bank in 2008. In between, he worked as a Senior Economist in the UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo for three years (2006-2009).

He also served the nation as Resident Ambassador of Nepal to the United States of America since February 6, 2021. Prior to that, he was briefly Special Economic Advisor to the Rt. Honorable Prime Minister since September 15, 2020 to January 2021 and played the role of advising the PM on economic policies, business and investment issues, budget implementation and its monitoring.

He was a postgraduate teacher at Tribhuvan University in 1982, and intermittently a visiting faculty member at Tribhuvan University and Kathmandu University from 1992 to 2001.

He has received his Master's degrees in Economics and Public Administration from Tribhuvan University in 1981 and 1984, respectively, and a PhD in Monetary Economics from Delhi School of Economics in 1991.

He has carried out a considerable amount of research and has authored and co-authored many books and articles. His outstanding contribution to the development of Nepal in the capacity of senior official has led him to be honored with national awards such as the Suprabal Gorkha Dakshin Bahu (2001), Sukirtimaya Rastra Deep (2013) and Prasiddha Prabal Jana Sewa Shree (2016) conferred by the President of Nepal.



### FEDERATION OF NEPALESE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (FNCCI)

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