

Harish Mehta Profile

Mr. Harish Mehta, a doyen of Indian IT, is known to be the driving force behind galvanizing the IT industry in India by co-founding NASSCOM in 1988. He was elected as the first Chairman of NASSCOM and continues to be the Convener of NASSCOM's Chairman's Council.

Mr. Mehta is also the award-winning author of the 2022 national bestseller 'The Maverick Effect' which has cemented his reputation as a master storyteller. Soon the message of 'The Maverick Effect' is slated to reach the masses through several translated versions in Gujarati, Marathi, Hindi and even a low-cost English special edition.

Through NASSCOM, Mehta played an instrumental role in building an independent, neutral, trustworthy and consensus-driven platform, where diverse stakeholders and fierce competitors could come together and harness the true potential of the Indian IT industry. He was also instrumental in bringing Silicon Valley's The Indus Entrepreneur or TiE to India in 1999, to promote innovation driven entrepreneurship. He has played a seminal role in attracting exceptional talent to non-profits, with the likes of bringing Dewang Mehta in to NASSCOM in 1991, and Rajiv Vaishnav in to TiE Mumbai around 1999. Today, NASSCOM and TiE stand as a testament to his exceptional leadership, both enabling startups and tech-companies to flourish, and empowering India's digital transformation.

Beyond his groundbreaking contributions to NASSCOM, Mr. Harish Mehta's entrepreneurial spirit is embodied by the Onward Group of Companies. Under his astute guidance, Onward Technologies has flourished as a global engineering and analytics . services organization - making its mark amongst the largest 2000 global companies in North America & Europe.

He was the founding member of the Infinity Ventures Fund, India's first corporatized venture fund in 2000, as well as promoted the Indian Angel Network (IAN) in Mumbai, one of the largest angel networks in the world. IAN has since bolstered investments in early-stage ventures with the potential of scaling exponentially, creating wealth and generating a huge number of jobs.

Mr. Mehta's pioneering efforts have earned him the respect and admiration of peers and professionals alike. In the realm of IT and entrepreneurship, Mr. Mehta is a beacon of inspiration, a strategic visionary, and a catalyst for growth. His relentless pursuit of excellence, coupled with his unwavering commitment to transforming the Indian IT landscape, has solidified his position as an influential leader. The NASSCOM model he proposes in 'The Maverick Effect' has the potential to impact existing associations, associations of new age industries, nonprofits and can eventually contribute towards transforming the lives of eight billion people.

Mr. Mehta's remarkable journey is a testament to the transformative power of perseverance, passion, and a steadfast belief that technology and collaboration can change the world.