

2024

SILVER JUBILEE GALA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 • 6:00 PM • HILTON AMERICAS





Dhanani Private Equity Group





Company Overview

Dhanani Private Equity Group (DPEG) is a Houston-based real estate development and private equity firm that provides investment opportunities through various development and acquisition methods. Returns from our portfolio of multifamily, retail shopping centers, office buildings, land, hotels, and convenience stores have ranged between 7.7% and 266.7% annually. However, our target annual return remains 20-35%, and we have consistently met or outperformed that benchmark.

DPEG has provided investors with weighted-average returns of 33% in 2021, 46% in 2022, and 47% in 2023, based on the equity raised over numerous exited projects. Overall, DPEG's blended weighted-average annual return is 38% over the course of multiple exits made over the last few years.

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In 2023, we acquired assets totaling \$226.9 million and exited projects with a total value of \$105.7 million. DPEG closed 2023 with a total of \$1.3 billion in transaction volume. DPEG allocates 1% of net profit for charitable donations and 1% of net profits for employee bonuses upon exit.

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HOST SUB-COMMITTEE





भारत का प्रधान कौंसल
ह्यूस्टन
**CONSUL GENERAL OF INDIA
HOUSTON**

21 August 2024

It is heartening to learn that Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston (IACCGH) is celebrating its 25th Anniversary and organizing its Annual Gala on 21 September 2024.

Over the past 25 years the Chamber has been playing a significant role in enhancing the economic engagement between India and United States. The Chamber has been working closely with the Consulate in organizing various joint activities in promoting this engagement.

I would like to commend the IACCGH for their numerous initiatives and activities, which resulted in increased bilateral trade and a greater awareness of the growth potential of this economic relationship. The chamber has also been a pillar of strength for the Indo-American business community as well as the larger Indian diaspora. I am confident that the Chamber's good work will continue to benefit the strategic partnership between both the countries.

I wish to convey my warm greetings to all the members of Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston and best wishes for all their future endeavors.




(D.C. Manjunath)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

AL GREEN
9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
HOUSTON, TEXAS



September 21, 2024

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome the attendees of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston on its 25th Annual Awards Gala. On behalf of the constituents of the Ninth Congressional District of Texas, I salute all organizers and participants for their commitment to making this a memorable event.

I commend the leaders of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston for their commitment to promoting trade opportunities between the United State and India. I congratulate them as they celebrate Indian culture as well as being a voice for the Indo-American business community to ensure a brighter future.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston on future endeavors and serving you well as a Member of Congress. Best wishes to all for an exciting and enjoyable event.

Sincerely,

Al Green
Member of Congress
Progenitor of Aug. 20th as
Slavery Remembrance Day

Scion of the Enslaved Africans –
Sacrificed to Make America Great

BRIAN BABIN, D.D.S.
36TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,
AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SPACE AND
AERONAUTICS
CHAIRMAN

BORDER SECURITY CAUCUS
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PRO-LIFE CAUCUS

MILITARY VETS CAUCUS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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WOODVILLE, TX 75979
(409) 331-8066

2004 N. CLEVELAND ST
DAYTON, TX 77535
(832) 780-0966

September 4, 2024

Thank you to the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston for the invitation to speak at its Power Dialogue luncheon at Noon Mirch in Clear Lake!

After spending the month traveling across the district, it was a pleasure to conclude the annual August Congressional Work Period with an update to the chamber and many regional economic development leaders.

Make no mistake about it: the U.S.-India relationship is critically important. I'm proud our two nations have maintained such a prosperous partnership for so long. I pray that friendship will only strengthen as the years pass.

The U.S.-India alliance has proven to be incredibly and mutually fruitful through:

- Our massive trade relationship, seeing the exchange of billions of dollars in goods and services yearly.
- Our global security partnership efforts to combat terror worldwide and keep a check on China and other emerging threats.
- Our shared goals in human space flight and exploration continue to create new opportunities, such as last month's announcement by Houston's own Axiom Space that they are working to send an Indian astronaut to the International Space Station.

These are but a few of the benefits added daily by the millions of Indians and Indian Americans across our nation who support communities socially, culturally, and, of course, economically.

To close, I offer my sincere congratulations to the Indo-American Chamber on its Silver Jubilee! For twenty-five years, this Chamber has dutifully facilitated commerce between the United States, one of the world's oldest democracies, and India, the world's largest democracy.

Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



LIZZIE FLETCHER
7TH DISTRICT, TEXAS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY, CLIMATE,
AND GRID SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS
AND TECHNOLOGY
REGIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



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FLETCHER.HOUSE.GOV

July 31, 2024

Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston
One Riverway, Suite #1700
Houston, TX 77056

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Texas' Seventh Congressional District, I am proud to celebrate the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston's (IACCGH) 25th Annual Gala.

I have been so impressed by the work the IACCGH has done to support our diverse, inclusive, and welcoming community in Houston. For 25 years, your dedication to strengthening ties between India and the United States has contributed to our community in important ways. Your critical work on behalf of the Indo-American community reminds us of the benefits that a diversity of experience brings to our community – one that is innovative, collaborative, and connected.

Congratulations to IACCGH on its 25th Annual Gala and another year of valued service. I look forward to continuing to work together to foster engagement and collaboration between people across our community and around the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lizzie Fletcher", written in a cursive style.

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4338

September 21, 2024

It is an honor to welcome you to the 2024 Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston Gala (IACCGH), celebrating 25 years of service. The 38th Congressional District of Texas extends its warmest and heartfelt congratulations as you celebrate this outstanding milestone of service and contribution to our community.

I am honored to highlight the Indo-American chamber, which has been fundamental in fostering the economic relationship between the United States and India. For 25 years, your dedicated efforts have helped facilitate access to community, commerce, and culture that significantly impacts the Houston community. The advocacy of the IACCGH on behalf of their membership is a crucial piece to our local business community. Through IACCGH's efforts to collaborate and empower their partners, they have affirmed the voice and strength of community united.

I applaud the great work that IACCGH does that can often go unpraised, and I look forward to continuing to work with you for the betterment of the wonderful city we call home: Houston, Texas.

Sincerely,



Wesley P. Hunt
Member of Congress





CITY OF HOUSTON

John Whitmire

Mayor

P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

Telephone – Dial 311
www.houstontx.gov

September 21, 2024

Greetings,

As the Mayor of Houston, I extend a warm welcome to all attendees of the Silver Jubilee Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston Gala (IACCGH). The IACCGH has been instrumental in fostering economic partnerships and facilitating bilateral trade between the U.S. and India.

This year marks a significant milestone as the IACCGH commemorates its 25th anniversary. The City of Houston commends the IACCGH for its enduring commitment to the United States, India, and particularly Houston since its establishment in 1999. Special recognition is also due to Mr. Jagdip Ahluwalia, the Executive Director of the IACCGH, for his exemplary leadership and unwavering dedication.

I stand in solidarity with the Indo-American community in honoring the numerous accomplishments of the IACCGH throughout the years. My association with the Indo-American Community has been longstanding, and I have actively supported the IACCGH, having participated in last year's gala, engaged in insightful discussions with their business leaders, attended a special dinner honoring their distinguished individuals, and hosted their 25th anniversary kick-off event at City Hall in January. It was a privilege to proclaim July 16, 2024, as Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston Day in Houston, Texas.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations on this significant anniversary and wish you a successful and memorable gala event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Whitmire".

John Whitmire
Mayor





TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GENE WU

STATE REPRESENTATIVE · DISTRICT 137

June 1, 2024

Dear Friends:

I am honored to welcome you to the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston's Silver Jubilee Gala.

Since its inception in 1999, the IACCGH has helped to facilitate commerce between the U.S. and India, enhance access to the Indo-American market, and support the success of professionals, businesses, and corporations across Greater Houston. Moreover, the chamber continues to work tirelessly to serve as a voice to the Indian American community, help its members flourish, and advance the American dream.

Your work does not go unnoticed and this occasion presents a welcome opportunity to recognize the IACCGH for its outstanding efforts. Best wishes to all for a meaningful and memorable event!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Wu", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gene Wu
State Representative
Texas House District 137





COUNTY JUDGE
Fort Bend County, Texas

The Honorable KP George
County Judge

(281) 341-8608
Fax (281) 341-8609

August 26, 2024

Dear Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston,

On behalf of the entire Fort Bend County community, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston (IACCGH) on the occasion of your 25th Annual Gala. This milestone celebration is a testament to your unwavering dedication and leadership in fostering stronger economic and cultural ties between the United States and India.

For 25 years, the IACCGH has served as a beacon of success, actively promoting trade, investment, and mutual understanding between our two great nations. Your efforts have created numerous opportunities for commerce and collaboration, strengthening our economic bond while also fostering cultural exchange and friendship.

Through your initiatives, the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston has played an instrumental role in driving growth and development for businesses on both sides of the globe. Countless entrepreneurs and professionals have benefited from the platforms you provide to explore new opportunities, expand their networks, and build lasting partnerships.

As you celebrate this significant milestone, I want to express my deepest appreciation for the remarkable impact the IACCGH has had on our community. Your vision, commitment, and tireless efforts have not only enhanced the prosperity of the Indo-American business community but have also enriched the social and cultural landscape of Greater Houston.

We wish you continued success in all your endeavors and look forward to witnessing the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston's ongoing contributions to promoting bilateral trade, cultural understanding, and economic growth for many more years to come.

Congratulations once again on this remarkable achievement!

Sincerely,

KP George
County Judge
Fort Bend County



301 Jackson Street • Richmond, Texas 77469-3108



Marilyn Burgess

HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK

201 Caroline | P.O. Box 4651 | Houston, Texas 77210-4651 | 832-927-5800 |
www.hcdistrictclerk.com

Dear members of the Indo American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston,

I feel honored to attend your Silver Jubilee Gala, as your organization plays a pivotal role in fostering economic growth in Houston and Harris County, and promotes cultural exchange. It is admirable that a chamber that started small has been active for a quarter of a century, growing your membership and increasing your prominence the way you have. Your chamber is a beacon of shared prosperity that unites India and the United States, two of the world's biggest economies.

I also commend the chamber for successfully combining the traditions of the countries of origin of its members with celebrating and promoting American values, one of which is our justice system. Jury service is an indispensable element of our justice system, as it is established in the United States Constitution. As Harris County District Clerk, working towards juries that reflect the diversity of our population is one of my top priorities. Indo-American immigrants who become United States citizens, as well as their descendants, are an important part of this diversity and I applaud those who answer their call to serve when they receive a jury summons from my office.

Coming from the private sector and being familiar with the challenges small businesses face every day, as fulfilling as they are for their owners and employees, makes me respect even more the work of this chamber and its members. Your work demonstrates a vision and an entrepreneurial spirit that truly makes our community better.

Thank you all for your contributions to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marilyn Burgess".



Marilyn Burgess, Harris County District Clerk



August 18, 2024

It is my pleasure to greet you all and join everyone in celebration of the IACCGH Silver Jubilee Gala 25th Anniversary Gala. As the Founding President of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston, I am delighted to see that our Chamber is continuing to serve the community under the leadership of Rajiv Bhavsar and Jagdip Ahluwalia.

Our organization has always strived for community excellence. As Founding President, I was driven by a deep passion for fostering stronger ties between India and the USA. Creating the IACCGH was a result of recognizing the immense potential for collaboration. My journey with the Chamber began because of the encouragement of the Honorable Rinzing Wangdi, Consul General of India at that time and a vision to provide a platform where businesses and individuals could connect, share knowledge, and explore opportunities for mutual growth.

IACCGH empowers Indo-American businesses within the Greater Houston area and promotes our region as a promising environment for economic development. We support the Indo-American community in achieving excellence and civic service through our many programs and events.

We have worked with MD Anderson and Indo-American Chamber of Commerce Houston to lead delegations in India. We met with the President of India, Dr. Kalam and Health Minister of India, Shatrughan Sinha who were very supportive. Also, Dr. John Mendelsohn, former President of MDACC, told me and Dr. Sen Pathak that he was interested in an MOU with India. He took over ten of his most trusted Oncology Physicians for the delegation. They signed formal collaboration agreements between MDACC and the facilities at AIIMS, Tata Memorial Centre, and Delhi State Cancer Institute.

During my term, we started internships for the younger generation of students to start their careers. It involved reaching out to each company individually, which was incredibly rewarding. Those students are now adults doing very well in the real world. I encourage the Chamber to continue programs and internships to help the current generation start their careers.

IACCGH continues to host distinguished lectures from key figures such as the Honorable Consul General of India D.C. Manjunath, as well as several former Consul General of India, former Ambassador Richard Verma, CEO of LyondellBasell Bob Patel, Mayor John Whitmire, and UH Chancellor Dr. Renu Khator, who have shared their insights and experiences with our community. Additionally, the Business Hour Open Forum program has welcomed esteemed guests like Dr. Stephen J. Spann, Founding Dean of the University of Houston College of Medicine, to foster dialogue, learning, and insight into the community.

The relationship between India and the US has strengthened over the years thanks to the efforts of both communities. The Chamber aims to bring these business-minded individuals from both sides to further this goal. Several of us, including Arun Agarwal from Dallas, TX requested Governor Abbott to visit India to meet with high ranking officials, including Prime Minister Modi. The visit was so successful that Governor Abbott has made several more trips throughout his term to bolster the economic and cultural bond with India, including a recent visit in January 2024.

Each year, this gala provides us with the opportunity to celebrate achievements and excellence within our community. I would like to commend all members, including Officers, Directors, fellow advisors, and my dear friend in particular, Jagdip Ahluwalia, for their outstanding work.

Sincerely,



Durga D. Agrawal
Founding President, IACCGH
President, Piping Technology & Products Inc.





UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

RENU KHATOR
Chancellor and President

September 2024

Dear IACCGH Members and Friends:

On behalf of the University of Houston System, it is my honor to congratulate the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston on its 25th anniversary. Reaching a silver jubilee is a testament to IACCGH's tremendous success and steadfast commitment to the communities it serves.

As the chief advocate of greater Houston's Indo-American business community, this essential organization has driven the economic empowerment of numerous enterprises while fostering bilateral commerce between the U.S. and India. As an advisory member and longtime resident, I can attest to its immense cultural and economic impact.

Moreover, as the leader of the city's leading research university and the Gulf Coast region's largest university system, I am proud of its educational influence. From business coaching to hosting thought leadership lectures, the knowledge it imparts is priceless. UH, UH-Clear Lake, UH-Downtown and UH-Victoria collectively serve more than 75,000 students, and many are Indian or Indo-American future business leaders who will benefit from IACCGH's vast resources. And that brings me great joy.

Congratulations, IACCGH. To 25 more years!



With warm regards,

Renu Khator
President, University of Houston
Chancellor, University of Houston System

Dear Friends:

First and foremost, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the IACCGH for all that the organization does and congratulations to all of this year's honorees and attendees. This event always stands out as a highlight each year as it brings so many community leaders and all of us together to celebrate the honorees and as we look forward to a bright future in Indo American relations.

For years, the IACCGH has been instrumental in promoting commerce between the U.S. and India, supporting the Houston area's vibrant Indo-American business community, and driving economic success both at home and abroad. As a proud Advisor to the IACCGH over so many years, I continue to be impressed with the growing and outsized impact of the chamber. Relations between India and the US will continue to be crucial for a thriving global economy. As one of the most diverse cities in America, we have an incredible opportunity to influence positive outcomes.

Together with my fellow IACCGH members and advisors, I'd like to congratulate the award winners at this year's gala on your continued success and service to the Indo-American business community. Congratulations also to the IACCGH for a very successful 25 years and wishing the chamber many more decades of growing influence and success.

Bhavesh Patel

Former President of Standard Industries
Former CEO of LyondellBasell Industries



IACCGH Past Presidents



**Dr. Durga
Agrawal**
1999-2001



Ashoke Nath
2001-02



Ashok Shah
2002-03



Deepa Thakur
2003-04



**Dr. Randhir
Sinha**
2004-05



**Somesh
Singh**
2005-06



H.P. Bhagat
2006



**Subroto
Mukerji**
2006-07



**Dr. Atul
Varadhachary**
2007-08



Brij Kathuria
2008-09



**Madhukar
Prasad**
2010-11



**S. Mona
Parikh**
2011



Ajit Thakur
2012



Pankaj Dhume
2013



**Sanjay
Ramabhadran**
2014



Ashok Garg
2015



Joya Shukla
2016



**Allen
Richards**
2017



**Swapan
Dhairyawan**
2018-19



**Tarush R.
Anand**
2020-22

Executive Team



Rajiv Bhavsar
President



**Jagdip
Ahluwalia**
Executive
Director



Ashok Garg
Secretary



**Rimple
Mashruwala**
Treasurer



Malisha Patel
President Elect



**Tarush R.
Anand**
Immediate
Past President



Rajiv Bhavsar

IACCGH President 2023-2024

Celebrating 25 Years of Progress and Partnership: A Legacy Forged by Vision and Unity

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston (IACCGH), we reflect with pride on a journey of growth and achievement. Founded in 1999 by visionary leaders with a mission to strengthen economic and cultural ties between the Indo-American community and Greater Houston, the IACCGH has exceeded expectations in fostering business growth and community empowerment.

From humble beginnings, the Chamber has become a vital bridge between the Indo-American business community and the Houston economy. We've played a pivotal role in facilitating trade,

encouraging entrepreneurship and building strong business relationships that have enriched both our members and the wider community.

This milestone is about more than success—it's about the community we've built. The IACCGH is a family, united by a shared goal of mutual growth. Through networking events, trade missions, and educational initiatives, we have consistently brought people together to create opportunities that wouldn't exist in isolation.

Tonight, we honor the trailblazers whose vision and dedication made this journey possible. Their legacy continues to inspire us and future generations.

Looking ahead, the Indo-American community is poised to play a key role in shaping Houston's future. The IACCGH will continue to lead this evolution, advocating for members, supporting small businesses and fostering the next generation of entrepreneurs and leaders.

Our partnerships with leaders like the new Mayor and Indian Consul General demonstrate our commitment to shaping Houston's future while ensuring our members' success. By embracing change and adapting to the evolving business landscape, we've remained a relevant and vital part of Houston's diverse economy.

This 25th anniversary is not just a celebration of our past but a commitment to ongoing growth, unity and progress. We are proud of our Indo-American roots and positioned as a mainstream Chamber of Commerce.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has been part of this journey. Together, we will continue to build a brighter future for all.

Advisors



D.C. Manjunath
Consul General of
India, Houston



**Dr. Durga
Agrawal**
President & CEO,
Piping Technology
& Products



**Bhavesh (Bob)
Patel**
Former CEO
LyondellBasell



Vijay Goradia
Chairman, Vinmar
International Ltd.



Paul Hamilton
President & CEO,
pH Technologies,
LLC

Directors at Large



Dr. Renu Khator
President &
Chancellor,
University of Houston



Dr. Paul Klotman
President & CEO,
Baylor College of
Medicine



**Dr. David
Leebron**
Past President,
Rice University



Brij Agrawal
President & CEO,
VKC Group



Juuhi Ahuja
CEO,
Wise Men
Consultants



Asif Dakri
CEO, Wallis Bank



Swatantra Jain
Director, Vinmar



Jugal Malani
CEO,
Unique Industrial
Products



**Mahesh
Puducheri**
Chief Human
Resources Officer,
Dril-Quip



**Ashish M. Kamat,
MD, MBBS**
Endowed Professor,
Uro-Oncologic Surgeon,
University of Texas MD
Anderson Cancer Center

Board of Directors



**Dr. Subodh
Bhuchar**



**Swapan
Dhairyawan**



Karen Francis



**Sanjay
Ramabhadran**



Allen Richards



Joya Shukla



**Adiam
Tekeste**



Jagdip Ahluwalia

Founding Secretary & Executive Director

Celebrating 25 Years of Progress and Partnership: A Legacy Forged by Vision and Unity

As we gather to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston (IACCGH), it is with immense pride that we reflect on this remarkable journey. What we began as a small initiative in 1999 has blossomed into a thriving and influential organization that continues to drive business growth, create opportunities, and empower communities across Houston and beyond.

This milestone is particularly meaningful as it represents not just the passage of time, but the enduring connections that have kept our Chamber relevant and vibrant. Some of our earliest supporters and members, who believed in our vision 25 years ago, are here with us today, standing alongside a new generation of leaders who have joined our ranks. This continuity is a

proof to the Chamber's ability to evolve with the times while staying true to its core mission.

As we look to the future, our focus is on being a catalyst for growth and innovation. We are committed to supporting the visions of our new Mayor and the Indian Consul General, working closely with them to help achieve their goals while fostering the aspirations of the Indo-American community. Our partnerships with these leaders are prime examples of how we are building relationships that will help shape the future of our city and our members' success.

The reason we've remained relevant is clear: we have always understood the need to pivot and adapt to the changing needs of the business community. Whether it's fostering relationships with emerging leaders, like those in our NowGen initiative, or integrating our Chamber into the broader mainstream community, we've shown that we are more than just an Indo-American Chamber—we are a vital part of Houston's diverse and dynamic business landscape. Today, IACCGH represents a cross-section of the community, reflecting the rich tapestry of cultures and backgrounds that make up our city. We may leverage our Indo-American roots, but we are firmly positioned as a mainstream Chamber of Commerce.

This 25th anniversary is not just a celebration of our past, but a declaration of our ongoing commitment to growth, unity, and progress. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has been part of this journey, and we look forward to the next 25 years of shared success and prosperity.

Here's to the future, to the NowGen and to continuing our legacy of excellence in serving the Indo-American and Greater Houston business community. Together, we will create a future that is even brighter for all.

2024 IACCGH Annual Gala

Guests & Award Winners

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD FOR
PHILANTHROPY &
COMMUNITY SERVICE**



Col. Raj Bhalla

for his exceptional
dedication to
philanthropy and
community impact

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD FOR
PUBLIC SERVICE**



K.P. George

Judge, Fort Bend County,
for his transformative
public service
and leadership

**PIONEER AWARD FOR
ENTERTAINMENT**



Rajender Singh

Star Promotions,
for his innovative contributions to
the entertainment industry and
Indo-American cultural promotion

**2024 IACCGH INBOUND
INVESTMENT AWARD**



**JSW Steel USA
(Baytown)**

for significant investments driving
regional economic growth

**2024 IACCGH
PROFESSIONAL
OF THE YEAR**



Sindhu Menon

ED/CTO, Harris County,
for her leadership in
technology and
public service

**2024 IACCGH
BUSINESSPERSON
OF THE YEAR**



Miraj Patel

Chairman, AAHOA,
for his leadership and
business success



Malisha Patel

Incoming IACCGH President

I am grateful to the Chamber for entrusting me to lead this esteemed organization in the coming year, and I am extremely enthusiastic about the opportunities before us.

Over the past 25 years, under the leadership of dedicated business and community leaders, we've accomplished so much. We've supported small businesses. Tightened relationships between countries. Developed lasting trade relationships. Facilitated fruitful networking among members. Armed our members with relevant and timely education and tools. Established amazing programs, like NowGen and our women's and

health care initiatives. Helped our members navigate major events, including Harvey, the COVID-19 pandemic and, most recently, Hurricane Beryl. And so much more.

Looking ahead to the next 25 years, I believe we have a unique opportunity to support our next generation of leaders, many of whom are first-generation Americans, such as myself, while continuing to support our foundational membership, who brought us to where we are today.

In the coming year, we will sustain and build on our excellent programs, like NowGen, which brings young Indo-American professionals and entrepreneurs together and empowers them to make their mark. They will carry the torch for the next 25 years.

I also look forward to continuing to fuel the growth of our female leaders through our Women in Leadership initiatives. And through our health care initiatives, we'll help our members understand the ever changing health care business. In that regard, I look forward to bringing in thought leaders in the health care space to offer insight into what lies ahead. So much rides on the health of our health care industry.

I am deeply committed to helping IACCGH grow and evolve to support our growing and evolving Indo-American community here in the Greater Houston area. I look forward to getting to know our membership and to working alongside each of you to achieve our goals.

IACCGH Events

Since the Chamber's inception in 1999, remarkable changes have occurred in the realm of business and society in both the US and India. The risks and rewards of international collaboration, coupled with monumental shifts in foreign investment of the burgeoning Indian market have compelled the world to rethink economic policies and priorities. IACCGH operates in the forefront of this dynamic environment, with the goal of helping our members flourish in times of intense competition and change.

Our
annual awards,
the highlight of every
Gala, allow us to showcase
businesses and professionals
who make our region one
of the best places to
do business in
America.





2024

July 23

Past Award Winners Reception

Sponsored by



To kick off our yearlong celebration of the Chamber's Silver Jubilee, IACCGH invited past award winners and Chamber leadership, as well as current supporters, to a reception honoring all past IACCGH Award Winners. India's Consul General in Houston, DC Manjunath, made brief remarks and was invited to cut a cake to celebrate his birthday. Chris Olson and Mazda Denon from the Mayor's office, Judge Juli Matthew, Judge Ravi Sandill, Jay Guerrero from Senator Cornyn's office, Kelly Waterman from Senator Ted Cruz's office, Ruffi Natarajan from Commissioner Lesley Briones' office, Sindhu Menon, CTO of Harris County and other business and community leaders joined us, representing India Culture Center, India House, Houston Hospitality Alliance, IIT Alumni of Greater Houston, TiE Houston, US-India Strategic Partnership Forum, Eternal Gandhi Museum, Durga Bari, Houston, SBA Houston, Rotary Club, ICAI Houston, Commissioner Rodney Ellis's office, Indian Doctors Association, and HMSDC. The wine & cheese reception was hosted by the Hilton Americas, Houston, with Indian food sponsored by Daawat Catering.

2024

July 16

Proclamation at City Hall

Houston Mayor John Whitmire recognized the 25th anniversary of the Chamber with a proclamation at Houston's City Hall and declared July 16, 2024, as "Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston Day in Houston, Texas".



2024

June 23

Board & Advisors Appreciation Dinner



We thank event sponsor Nick Dhanani.



2024

Indian Independence Day at the Consulate



The Future is Texas Investor Summit



Celebrating Sanjay Ramabhadran

The Houston community recognized Sanjay Ramabhadran's exceptional leadership and service during an event organized by the American Leadership Forum (ALF) and IACCGH. Elected officials, civic leaders and industry professionals, lauded Sanjay's legacy of improving mobility and fostering collaboration.



IACCGH Inaugural Reception

Mayor Whitmire and Consul General Manjunath emphasized unity and collaboration as catalysts for Houston's growth. Their remarks highlighted the importance of diversity and bilateral relations in driving economic progress.



2023

IACCGH Holiday Party

Our holiday party recognized 24 years of collaboration with sister chambers. Special recognition was extended to various sponsors and leaders and emphasized collaboration and diversity.



Welcome Reception for Consul General D.C. Manjunath at Wortham House

Dr. Renu Khator, alongside the Chamber, welcomed CG D.C. Manjunath to a special reception at her residence, expressing appreciation for his efforts in Houston. The event showcased Houston's commitment to ties between India and the US.



Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce Reception for Swapam Dhairyawan

IACCGH and the Fort Bend CC hosted a reception in honor of Swapam Dhairyawan. The event celebrated his recent appointments to the boards of the Fort Bend Toll Road Authority and Grand Parkway Toll Road Authority.



IACCGH Welcome Reception for CG Manjunath

IACCGH hosted a reception to welcome D.C. Manjunath, the newly appointed Consul General of India to Houston. The event served as a testament to the city's anticipation of enhanced Indo-American collaboration and helped the Chamber connect the new Consul General to the who's who of Houston's business community.

2023

July 15
IACCGH Annual Gala
& Awards Banquet





The Chamber introduced the new Consul General of India, **D.C. Manjunath** and welcomed back long-term supporter **Diane Farrell**, who in her current role as Deputy Under Secretary for International Trade, delivered the Gala keynote.

Mayor Sylvester Turner was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Gala.



The 2023 award recipients (from left to right): "Business of the Year", Bobby V. Singh, Isani Consultants; "IACCGH Woman of the Year", Pooja Jesrani, Flight Director (represented by her mother); "Community Service Award", Swatantra Jain; "Trade Champion of the Year", Shuchita Sonalika, CII, USA

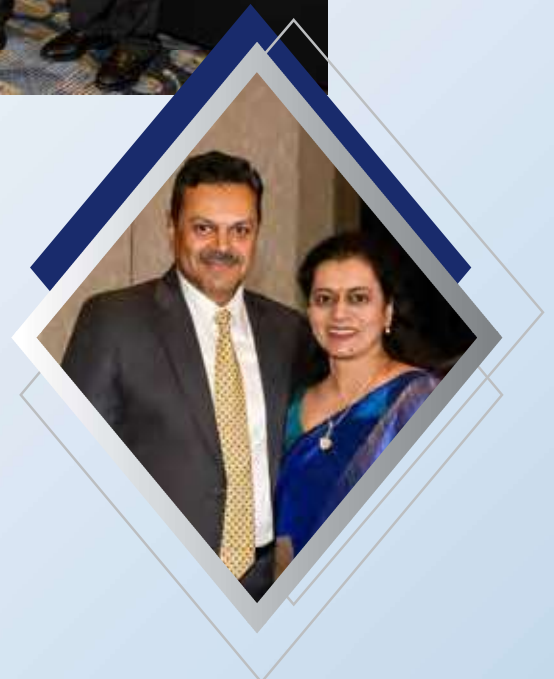


2023

July 15

IACCGH Gala VIP Reception





2023

July 15
IACCGH Annual Gala
Highlights







Texas Tribune Festival

Jagdeep Ahluwalia and Mayor Sylvester Turner share a moment at the Texas Tribune Festival in Austin.



AAOHA Conference

IACCGH President Rajiv Bhavsar joined Jagdeep Ahluwalia, Hasu Patel, and other members in congratulating Miraj Patel on assuming Chairmanship of AAOHA at this year's convention.



Asian Chamber Awards



Meeting with Carlecia Wright



Meeting with Congressman Al Green



Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce



IDA Gala in Houston



Meeting with Houston Hospitality Alliance and Jorge Franz



Meeting with Japanese Consul General



Meeting with President of Air India, Campbell Wilson



Memorial Day event at Bear Creek Park hosted by Commissioner Leslie Briones



SelectUSA Investment Summit

At the summit, we reconnected with SelectUSA Executive Director Jasjit Singh and 2022 keynote speaker Arun Venkatraman, and we invited 2023 keynote DUS Dianne Farrell to Houston.



IACCGH Inaugural Reception

Mayor Sylvester Turner and other elected officials joined chamber members, community and business leaders at the Legacy Room at City Hall to introduce 2023-24 IACCGH President Rajiv Bhavsar and his board of directors.



2022

IACCGH Holiday Party

Chamber members and community and business leaders gathered to celebrate the holiday season at a reception at the Junior League of Houston.



Behind the Scenes at Houston Transtar

Deputy EMC & Public Information Officer Brian Murray of TranStar offered us an interesting look at traffic and disaster management in the Houston area.

"As the largest delegation globally at the summit, we're set to explore investment opportunities in the US."

Eric Garcetti

Ambassador-Designate to India,
speaking at the 2023
SelectUSA summit

Chief Guests & Keynote Speakers

Each year at our annual gala and awards show, our members have the privilege to hear from the notable dignitaries, business leaders, and distinguished experts who honor us by serving as our keynote speakers and chief guests.



2023

Diane Farrell

Deputy Under Secretary for International Trade
US Department of Commerce



2022

Arun Venkataraman

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets
Director General, US and Foreign Commercial Services



2021

Dr. Peter Hotez

Dean, National School of Tropical Medicine
Professor, Departments of Pediatrics, Molecular Virology, & Microbiology
Health Policy Scholar, Baylor College of Medicine



2019

Honorable Kenneth I. Juster

US Ambassador, Republic of India



2018

Greg Abbott

Texas Governor



2017

Bhavesh (Bob) Patel

CEO and Chairman of the Management Board
LyondellBasell



2016

Bruce Culpepper

President
Shell USA



2015

Richard R. Verma

US Ambassador to India



2014

John Cornyn

US Senator

Judge Ed Emmett

Harris County



2013

Honorable Parvathaneni Harish

Consul General of India

Robert E. Beauchamp

CEO, BMC Software



2012

Ambassador H.E. Arun K. Singh

Indian Ambassador to the US

Jim Compton

Executive Vice President, United



2011

**Ambassador
H.E. Nirupama Rao**

Indian Ambassador to the United States



2010

Sanjiv Arora

Consul General of India



2009

Jason Few

President
Reliant Energy



2008

S.M. Gavai

Consul General of India

Judge Ed Emmett

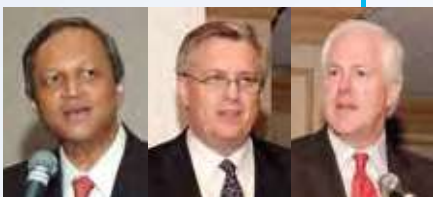
Harris County



2007

Shashi Tharoor

United Nations
Under-Secretary General



2006

Ambassador H.E. Ronen Sen

Indian Ambassador to the US

Paul Hamilton

President

Shell USA

John Cornyn

US Senator



2005

Ambassador H.E. Ronen Sen

Indian Ambassador to the US

Tom Delay

US Congressman

Mayor Bill White

Houston



2004

Vijay Amritraj

Tennis Ace & Media Entrepreneur

Dr. John Mendelsohn

President

MD Anderson



2003

Shatrughan Sinha

Minister of Shipping

India

Dr. Katy Dinshaw

President

TMC, Mumbai



2002

Ambassador

H.E. Lalit Mansingh

Indian Ambassador to the US



2001

Ambassador H.E. Lalit Mansingh

Indian Ambassador to the US

Michael Capellas

CEO & President

Compaq



2000

Ambassador

H.E. Naresh Chandra

Indian Ambassador to the US

Distinguished Lecture Series



The IACCGH Shell USA Inc. Distinguished Lecture Series focuses on market trends, industry standards and economic impact. Keynote speakers include a diversity of industry leaders; government, policy, and law makers; medical experts; educational directors; and CEOs.



2024

February 26

Dr. Renu Khator and Malisha Patel headlined a lecture on “Transformational Leadership.” Dr. Khator shared her own journey of elevating the University of Houston, emphasizing resilience. Malisha Patel discussed innovation in medical education. This event inspired attendees with insights into the transformative power of these two qualities in leadership.

Left:

Dr. Durga

Agrawal, Rajiv

Bhavsar, Consul

General D.C. Manjunath,

Dr. Renu Khator, Malisha Patel,

Jagdip Ahluwalia

Right: **Ana Moreno Kopf,**

Shell USA, Consul

General D.C.

Manjunath



2023

Lorenzo Simonelli
CEO
Baker Hughes



2022

Dr. David Leebron
President
Rice University



Sanjay Ramabhadran
Chairman
Metropolitan Transit
Authority of Harris County
(Houston METRO)



2021

Scott McClelland
President
H-E-B Food/Drug Stores



Troy Finner
Chief Of Police
City Of Houston



2019

Neil Bush
Chair
Points of Light Board



2018

Scott McClelland
President
H-E-B Food/Drug Stores



Dr. Alan Lumsden
Co-founder
Pumps and Pipes Society



2017

Lori Ryerkerk
Executive Vice President
Shell



Art Acevedo
Chief Of Police
City Of Houston



Rinzing Wangdi
Former Consul General
of India & Ambassador
to Mexico



2016

**Honorable
Dr. Anupam Ray**
Consul General of India



2015

Dr. Mukesh Aghi
President, US India
Business Council



2014

Nandita Berry
Secretary of State of Texas



2013

Annise Parker
Former Mayor
City of Houston



2012

Diane Farrell
Vice President
US India Business Council



2011

Dr. Renu Khator

Chancellor
University of Houston



2010

Ed Daniels

President & CEO
CRI/Criterion Inc.
Shell Global Solutions



Dr. David Leebron

President
Rice University



2009

Drayton McLane, Jr.

Chairman
McLane Group



2008

Phil Wilson

Texas Secretary of State



2007

John Hofmeister

President
Shell USA



Chip Carlisle

President
Wells Fargo



Larry Kellner

CEO
Continental Airlines



Bob Beauchamp

President & CEO
BMC Software



2006

Rajiv L Gupta

Chairman & CEO
Rohm and Hass

Thought Leadership

IACCGH seeks to enrich our landscape of ideas and aspirations through recognizing examples of intelligent leadership. Himadari and Harish Katharani hosted a reception to honor four accomplished Indo-American judges, who have made significant strides in Texas courts and set a milestone for the Indian community. The event celebrated their contributions, inspiring the next generation of Indians to continue the legacy of representation in the judiciary.



Judge Ravi Sandill paved the path on which these three others have since followed. We are proud of their service to the justice system.

2023

February 7

Top row: Left side of each picture, from left—**Judge Ravi Sandill**, 127th District Court, Harris County; **Judge Juli Mathew**, County Court at Law 3, Fort Bend County; **Judge Manpreet Singh**, County Court at Law 4, Harris County; **Judge Surendran K. Pattel**, 240th District Court, Fort Bend County. Right side of each picture—**Commissioner Andy Meyers**, Fort Bend Precinct 3

Bottom picture: The reception gathering at the home of Himadari and Harish Katharani

Women Mean Business



The Chamber is committed to helping emerging business leaders develop the skills they need to succeed. The IACCGH Shell USA Inc. Women Mean Business Series brings together female professionals from across many industries to cultivate strategies and tools for empowerment and connection with other successful women.



Left: Mayor Annise Parker

Below: Rimple Mushruwala, Ashok Garg, Swapan Dhairyawan, Malisha Patel, Kathy Hubbard, Mayor Annise Parker, Joya Shukla, Karen Francis, Rajiv Bhavsar, Sanjay Ramabhadran, Jagdip Ahluwalia



2023
September 5

Three-time former mayor of Houston, Annise Parker, joined by Malisha Patel, Senior Vice President and CEO of Memorial Hermann Southwest and Sugar Land Hospitals, headlined a compelling event, exploring Mayor Parker's remarkable journey from Houston's oil industry to the political arena. The audience heard her reflections on adaptability, resilience, and self-advocacy, which resonated profoundly and offered valuable insights for leaders facing challenges.



2023

Pooja Jesrani

Mission Control
NASA



2022

Navratan Mahajan

Wife of India's Consul General
in Houston, Aseem Mahajan



2022

Aparna Kamat, MD, MS

Director of Gynecologic Oncology
Houston Methodist Hospital



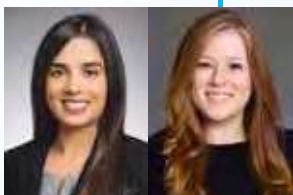
2020

Cheryl Creuzot, CFP, JD, L.I.M.MBA

President Emeritus, Wealth Development Strategies LLC

Gita Chakrabarti

Vice President, Bed & Bath Merchandising, Walmart

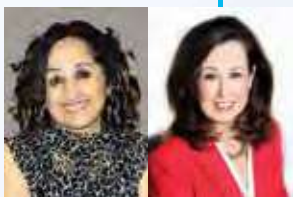


Malisha Patel

Senior VP and CEO, Memorial Hermann SW
and Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospitals

Alyssa Parish

Senior Council, Rite Aid Corporation



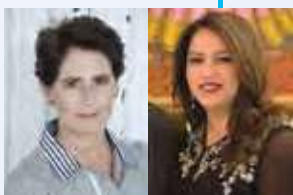
2019

Meena Datt

Radio Star; If It's Music, It's Meena; KXYZ1320AM

Susan Davenport

Sr. VP, Economic Development, Greater Houston Partnership



Gabriella Rowe

CEO, Station Houston

Arpita Bhandari

VP of Human Affairs
Biourja Group



2018

Sangeeta Pasrija

Community Service

Vinita Gupta

Co-founder, Apex Resources, Inc.



Dr. Rathna Kumar

Artistic Director
Samskriti

Sunanda Nair

Founder/Director
Sunanda Performing Arts Center



2017

**Women Mean Business
Speakers**



2016

Ingrid M. Robinson

President
Houston Minority Supplier
Development Council (HMSDC)



Annise Parker

Former Mayor, City of Houston
Fellow, Doerr Institute for New Leaders



Indrani Goradia

Founder
Indrani's Light Foundation



April Day

President
Women's Business Enterprise Alliance



2015

Asha Dhume

President
Club 24 Plus



Chitra Divakaruni

Author & Poet

**Y. Ping Sun**

University Representative,
Rice University
Of Counsel,
Yetter Coleman, LLP

**Neeta Sane**

HCC Trustee

**2014****Sonal Bhuchar**

Former Fort Bend ISD Trustee

**Malisha Patel**

COO
Memorial Hermann
Sugar Land

**2013****Latha Ramchand**

Dean
C.T. Bauer College of Business
University of Houston

**Dr. Marie Goradia**

Scientist, Philanthropist

**Juuhi Ahuja**

Founder & CEO
Wiseman Consultants

**Francene Young**

VP, Shell US
Pastor, St. Luke the Evangelist
Episcopal Church

**Omana Abraham**

Owner
Abrahams Oriental Rugs

**Nandita Parvathaneni**

Spouse, Consul General of India

**2012****Stacey Methvin**

VP, Downstream Refining
Margin Optimization
Shell, USA

**Karen Horn**

VP, Corporate Communications
& Employee Commitment
BMC Software Inc.

Upcoming Events**October 2024****Kim Tran, DVM**

Dexter & Evie/Baxter
& Cleo Veterinary Clinics
6 – 8 PM
Junior League Houston

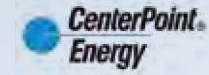
**January 2025****Simran Kotak**

Director
Ethos Creations

Small Business Series

Co-Hosted by:

WALLISBANK



The small business outreach programs provide entrepreneurs with access to relevant knowledge required to establish and strengthen their business. We also offer opportunities for networking and collaborating; forums for learning and capacity building; and a platform to share successes, challenges, and support with like-minded professionals.



2024

August 14

The Chamber hosted a reception honoring Mark Winchester on his appointment as the new District Director of the US Small Business Administration's Houston office. Attendees learned about programs and services offered by the SBA to help businesses start, grow, expand, and recover.

Above: **Mark Winchester**, District Director, Houston District Office, US Small Business Administration

Below: **Rajiv Bhavsar**, **Gary Ownes**, Wallis Bank, **Mark Winchester**, District Director, SBA, **Jagdip Ahluwalia**, **Asif Dakri**, Wallis Bank, **Valerie Meher**, Lead Economic Development Specialist, SBA, **Dr. Lalitha Raman**, SCORE, **Ashok Garg**, **Arlene Good**, IRS, **Meece Thorne**, IRS, **Winston Labbe**, Deputy District Director, SBA Houston





2024

Small Business Series Roundtable

IACCGH was honored to host a meeting with Cabinet Secretary ranking SBA Administrator Isabel Casillas Guzman and members of our business community thanks to the local SBA office. Though the Administrator's flight was redirected, the attendees and the local SBA leadership had a very meaningful dialogue.



Small Business Series Featuring Port of Houston

This event, sponsored by Wallis Bank and CenterPoint Energy, included insights from Sabeeta Singh, Director of Business Equity at Port Houston. Attendees learned of Port Houston's contributions, future projects, and opportunities for small, minority and women-owned businesses.



Small Business Series Featuring City of Houston OBO

The Interim Director of the Office of Business Opportunity for the City of Houston, Cylenthia Hoyrd, emphasized the importance of supporting small businesses through certifications and capacity building programs, highlighting the city's commitment to fostering an inclusive economic environment.



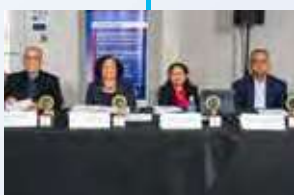
Small Business Series Featuring HCC

In an effort to bolster, small businesses, Houston Community College and IACCGH cohosted this event showcasing entrepreneurial initiatives and experiences. Dr. Maya Durnovo outlined the college's initiatives aimed at supporting entrepreneurs, emphasizing successful programs made possible through strategic partnerships and grants.



Small Business Series Featuring SCORE

The Service Core of Retired Executives (SCORE) shared the services it provides, including guidance and mentorship to prospective and existing small business owners. Dr. Lalita Raman and Ruchi Gupta gave an overview and held a Q&A session.



12th IACCGH Tax Seminar

Our annual tax seminar featured speakers like Arlene Good from the IRS and CPAs Rimple Mashruwala and Mahesh Desai. They provided insights into IRS resources and handling audits. IACCGH Board member and CPA Swapan Dhairyawan moderated the event, emphasizing the importance of staying informed about evolving tax laws.



Small Business Series Featuring Jason Wilson & Lisa Philip

Jason Wilson is the Director of the US Commercial Service office in Houston which assists U.S. companies on trade and exporting to global markets. Lisa Phillip is the Houston Minority Business Development Agency Export Center Operator that provides free training and technical assistance to business owners.



2023

GHBPF Awards

Our members, Wallis Bank, MD & Associates, R&S Oilfield, Innowatts, Centerpoint Energy were honored at the 32nd Annual Greater Houston Business Procurement Forum.



Lone Star College Featuring HMSDC

Houston Minority Supplier Diversity Council President and CEO, Ingrid Robinson, held a conversation with Monica Campana, Director of Business Opportunity at Lone Star College. HMSDC actively involves its members in efforts to increase and expand business opportunities and growth for Minority Business Enterprises while driving excellence in supplier diversity and supplier development.



SBA & IACCGH Conversation with Dilawar Syed

Deputy US-SBA Administrator Dilawar Syed highlighted Houston's status as a top global startup city. Discussing the SBA's SBIC program evolution for early-stage companies, Syed praised the city's diversity and dynamic economy.



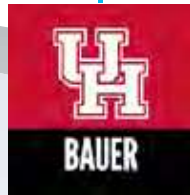
Lone Star College Small Business Workshop

Tim Jeffcoat, District Director Houston SBA, and Carlecia Wright, Chief Culture and Engagement Officer of Lone Star College System discussed the challenges faced by small businesses during the pandemic, the SBA's role in diversification, and insights on leveraging resources. Tim highlighted SBA's proactive approach and provided valuable information on loans, partnerships, and building relationships for sustained growth. Carlecia emphasized leveraging SBA's resources and partnerships for success.



Lone Star College Supplier Diversity Seminar

The strategic alliance between IACCGH and Lone Star underscores a shared commitment to fostering inclusivity in procurement processes, promoting economic growth, and strengthening the business community. By championing supplier diversity, we aim to create a more equitable business landscape.



UH International Student Roundtable

Jagdip Ahluwalia, Executive Director of IACCGH spoke at this event for the University of Houston's C.T. Bauer College of Business, where he highlighted the value of networking and introduced students to the platform IACCGH provides for students to gain insights into the business world and form meaningful connections.



11th Annual IACCGH Tax Seminar

IACCGH hosted its 11th annual tax seminar at India House, Houston, where attendees gained valuable insights into the latest tax regulations, strategies, and solutions.



2022

Indian Independence Day Proclamation

Presented by Commissioner Jack Cagle



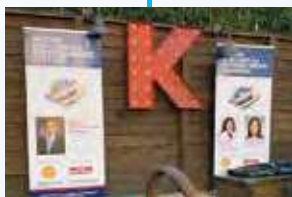
World Premiere of Mahatma Symphony in Houston

IACCGH was proud to support and attend the Houston Symphony and IAA's presentation of the World Premiere of Mahatma Symphony. The event celebrated 75 years of India's Independence at the Hobby Center with violin maestro, Dr. L. Subramaniam accompanied by vocalist Kavita Krishnamurti.



Higher Education Delegation

A higher education delegation from Rishihood University led by Suresh Prabhu met to build business connections across borders.



Happy Hour at Kirby Icehouse

Leveraging the power of personal contact, the networking event offered members and our local business community a chance to connect.



Reception for Dr. Milton Rahman

IACCGH hosted a reception to celebrate the appointment of Dr. Milton Rahman, PE as Executive Director/County Engineer at Harris County. Harris County Commissioners Rodney Ellis and Adrian Garcia joined the business community at the Hilton Americas.



2021

Finding Financial Balance Seminar

Amir Dodhiya educated attendees on merging asset allocation with tax diversity. Amir advised a foundation of protection, goal assessment and strategy, and diversification of assets.

Small Business: Open Forum



The IACCGH Business Hour on Open Forum addresses relevant topics for the benefit of the community. The popular radio talk show airs live in Houston, Austin, and online, with a combined listenership of 50,000.



2024

Ingrid Robinson

President & CEO
Houston Minority Supplier Development Council



Ashish M. Kamat, MD, MBBS

Endowed Professor of Urologic Oncology
and Cancer Research
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



Mark Winchester

Deputy District Director
U.S. Small Business Administration

Jonathan Horowitz

President
Houston Hospitality Alliance



Sanjay Ramabhadran

Past President & Board Member, IACCGH
Chairman, METRO Houston
Founding Principal, Versa Infrastructure



Shammi and Mithu Malik

Owners
Musafer Restaurant

**Siddhartha Sachdeva**

Founder & CEO
Innowatts

2023**Aisha Fareed**

President
Hindustan Associates North America

Azmat Siddiqui

Vice President & Treasurer
Hindustan Associates North America

**Mohan Kuruvilla, PhD, CPA, ACA**

Chair 2024 – 2025, Texas Society of CPAs
Director, Graduate Programs in Accounting,
C.T. Bauer College of Business,
University of Houston

**Dr. Atul Varadhachary**

Past President, IACCGH
Managing Partner, Fannin Partners LLC

**Somesh Singh**

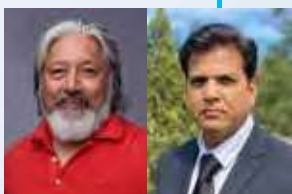
Past President, IACCGH
Retired Chief Product Officer,
Emerson Electric

**Subroto Mukerji**

Past President, IACCGH
CEO, Integreon

**Malla Makela**

President
Infodat, Inc.

**Rick Pal**

Senior Partner
Zuhnë

Ajay Choudhary

Founder and President
Awake Solar

**Manisha Gandhi**

Head of Communications and Marketing
EDGE196

**Eric Merchant**

Vice President
Middle Market Banker
Truist Bank

**Vinita Bhagia**

Chief, Endocrinology
Kelsey-Seybold Clinic

**Nasr Khan**

Executive VP
Chief Lending Officer
Wallis Bank

**2022****Emily Neumann**

Managing Partner
Reddy and Neumann P.C.

**Arun Venkataraman**

Asst. Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets
Director General U.S. and Foreign Commercial
Services

**Tax Seminar: Individual & Corporate Updates**

Swapn Dhairyawan, CPA, MD & Associates LLP

Tupil Narasimhan, CPA, Exxon Mobil

Mahesh Desai, CPA, CFP, CFA, SagePoint Financial

**Dr. Yasmin Wadia**

Chairman & CEO,
Laser Tissue Welding Inc.

**Fakhruddin Sabir**

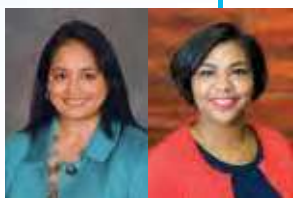
Managing Partner,
FS Group Architects & Developers

Nish Sabir

Executive Director,
Village Green Alzheimer's Care Home

**Charles Foster**

Chairman
Foster LLP

**Indira Vishnampet**

Board of Directors, St. Luke's Health

Tiffany Kobashigawa

Division VP, Marketing & Communications, St. Luke's Health

**Carlecia Wright**

Chief Culture and
Engagement Officer
Lone Star College

**2021****Viren Popli**

President and CEO
Mahindra Ag
North America

Upcoming Events



October 12, 2024

Aparna Kamat, MD

Gynecologic Oncology,
Gynecology Division Chief
Houston Methodist
Gynecologic Oncology
Associates
4 – 5 PM on FM 103.5

Small Business: Power Dialogue

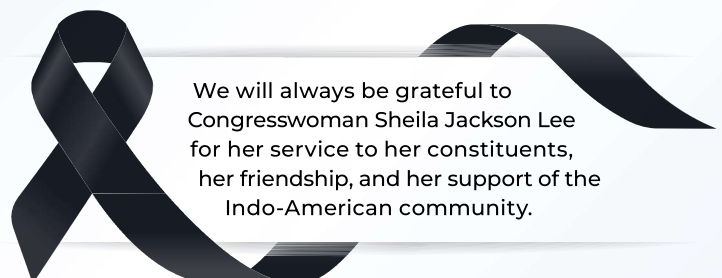
The IACCGH Power Dialogue series invites elected officials, business owners, and professionals to engage and grow our region's economy.



2023

Power Dialogue with Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee

In a dialogue with the Chamber, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee outlined her vision for the city. Acknowledging IACCGH's role in educating Houston about India, she emphasized the need for continued U.S.-India collaboration, particularly in counterterrorism. Congresswoman Jackson Lee shared insights into her historic role in improving U.S.-India relations during the Cold War and advocated for fair immigration policies for the Indian American community. Addressing fiscal responsibility, she expressed commitment to increase revenue, collaborating with IACCGH to attract businesses from India, boost tourism, and position Houston as a research capital. Her economic strategies align with her vision for Houston's diverse and prosperous future.



We will always be grateful to Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee for her service to her constituents, her friendship, and her support of the Indo-American community.



2024

Power Dialogue with Congressman Brian Babin

Guests included IACCGH Past President Dr. Randhir Sinha; Brian Freedman, President BAHEP; Judit Haracsek, Harris County EEO; and others. Past President Swapan Dhairyawan and Past President and current Board Secretary Ashok Garg presented the Congressman with a commemorative peacock.



2023

Power Dialogue with Senator John Whitmire

Addressing Houstonians' concerns, Senator Whitmire expressed his commitment to enhancing the city's livability, safety, and fiscal health. He advocated for transparent finances and emphasized public safety. **(The Chamber congratulates John Whitmire and looks forward to working with him as Houston's new Mayor!)**



Power Dialogue with U.S. Attorney Hamdani

Alamdar Hamdani, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas (SDTX) and chief federal law enforcement officer for SDTX, spoke about the priorities of SDTX, from dealing with the scourge of Mexican cartels to disrupting terrorists to battling Medicare and general corporate fraud.



Power Dialogue with Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher

The congresswoman invited Jagdip Ahluwalia to be her guest at the address by Indian Prime Minister Modi at the joint session in Washington DC.



2021

Power Dialogue with Congressman Troy Nehls

Congressman Nehls connected with business and community leaders and discussed how he could support our business community.

NowGen

The mission of IACCGH's NowGen initiative is to engage with the next generation of professionals and entrepreneurs. These young business men and women come together to share their stories, make connections, and celebrate their contributions.



2024

March 5 IACCGH NowGen Premier Experience at Musaafer

A culinary tour of India's gastronomic heritage united young professionals and entrepreneurs, promoting cultural connection and collaboration. Consul General D.C. Manjunath highlighted the importance of empowering the next generation of leaders. Speakers like Malisha Patel, Simran Kotak, and Tarush Anand discussed Indo-American relations and the role of young professionals. The event showcased IACCGH's commitment to fostering meaningful connections and inspiring future leaders.



2023

Nowgen Committee Meeting

The IACCGH NowGen Committee recently convened, fostering a dynamic platform for the next generation of leaders. The meeting was marked by collaborative discussions and strategic planning, showing the committee's dedication to empowering young professionals. Through initiatives aimed at professional development, networking, and community engagement, the NowGen Committee will play a vital role in shaping the future of the Indo-American business community in Greater Houston. The vibrant exchange of ideas and enthusiasm during the meeting bodes well for the committee's impactful contributions ahead.



IACCGH NowGen Reception at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston

In association with the MFAH, IACCGH held a private reception and gallery tour for young professionals. This unique experience commenced with remarks by the Consul General of India in Houston and included a special panel discussion for young entrepreneurs and professionals, "Bridges to Deepen the India-US Economic Partnership."



2022

IACCGH NowGen Initiative at Houston Ballet

The NowGen initiative first kicked off by inviting young professionals and entrepreneurs to a reception and an exclusive full dress rehearsal of *Originals* hosted by the Houston Ballet.

Business of Medicine

IACCGH has been committed to its focus on healthcare, starting with the MD Anderson/Tata India Initiative in 2002. The Chamber has continued to engage with and build on the strength of the Texas Medical Center, leveraging Houston as the home of the world's largest medical hub.



2024

Kelly Hackett

Chair, St. Luke's Health System Board

Indira Vishnampet

Vice Chair, St. Luke's Health System



Ashish M. Kamat, MD, MBBS

Endowed Professor of Urologic Oncology
and Cancer Research

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center



2023

Vinita Bhagia

Chief, Endocrinology
Kelsey-Seybold Clinic



2022

Indian Doctors Association Mixer

Dr. Atasu Nayak, president of IDA, addressed the gathering as IDA and IACCGH members had an opportunity to engage and connect.



9 Ways To Reduce Your Cancer Risk **Parijatham Thomas, MD**

Associate Professor
University of Texas
MD Anderson Cancer Center



2021

Making Cancer History Ashish M. Kamat, MD, MBBS

Endowed Professor, Uro-Oncologic Surgeon
University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center



Covid-19 Vaccination and Return to Normalcy—If and When Vivek Kavadi, MD, FASTRO

Chief Radiation, Oncology Officer, US Oncology
Peter Hotez, MD, PhD, FASTMH, FAAP
Dean, National School of Tropical Medicine
James McDeavitt, MD, SVP
Dean Of Clinical Affairs, Baylor College of Medicine



2020

How to Keep Our Community Safe Bradley Lembcke

Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer
CHI Texas Division

T. Douglas Lawson

Senior VP, Divisional Operations, CEO
CHI St. Luke's Health

Indira Vishnampet

Senior Vice President, Xtivia Inc.
Board of Directors, CHI St. Luke's Texas Division

Liz Youngblood Fache

COO, CHI Texas Division
President, Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center



Mental Health and Anxiety During the Pandemic Shama Rasheed, MD

American Board Certified Child, Adolescent, and Adult Psychiatry
Chief Medical Officer, Medical Director, New Horizon Hospital



Breast Cancer: Learn How to Reduce Your Risk Miral Mahesh Patel, MD

Assistant Professor
University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center



Covid-19: What's Next? Vivek Kavadi, MD, FASTRO

Chief Radiation, Oncology Officer, US Oncology

James McDeavitt, MD, SVP

Dean of Clinical Affairs, Baylor College of Medicine



BCG COVID-19 Assoc. Findings & the BADAS Study Ashish Kamat, MD, MBBS

President, IBCG, Endowed and Tenured Professor Uro-Oncologic Surgeon, University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center

Jeffrey D. Cirillo, PhD

Regents' Professor & Director Center for Airborne Pathogens Research and Imaging, Texas A&M College of Medicine

Andrew Dinadro, MD, PhD

Associate Professor, Infectious Disease, Global & Immigrant Health Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children's Hospital

Dr. Paul K. Hegarty

Consultant Urologic Surgeon, Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin, Ireland



COVID-19 Science Implications for Business Vivek Kavadi, MD, FASTRO

Chief Radiation, Oncology Officer, US Oncology

Paul Klotman, MD, FACP

President & CEO, Baylor College of Medicine

Peter Hotez, MD, PhD, FASTMH, FAAP

Dean, National School of Tropical Medicine

James McDeavitt, MD, SVP

Dean of Clinical Affairs, Baylor College of Medicine

Ashok Balasubramanyam, MD

Professor Of Medicine, Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism Baylor College of Medicine



2019

The Business of Medical Education, Paul Klotman, MD

President & CEO

Baylor College of Medicine



2017

Reception for Indian Doctors Attending Global Academic Program Conference

Hosted by CG Dr. Anupam Ray



Business of Medicine

Women's Executive Leadership Panel



2016

Michael Covert
President & CEO
CHI St. Luke's Health



Healthcare: The Next Major Area of Collaboration Between the US and India
Consul General
Dr. Anupam Ray



2014

Memorial Hermann Life Flight Focus



Making Cancer History in Texas, the Nation, and the World
Ronald DePinho, MD
Department of Cancer Biology,
Division of VP, Research
University of Texas,
MD Anderson Cancer Center



2012

Investment Opportunities in Healthcare



2011

Healthcare Reform Legislation
Dan Wolterman
CEO Memorial Hermann



2009

R.A. Badwe, MBBS, MS
Director
Tata Memorial Center



2008

Business of Medicine
Series launched



2007

Ketayun Dinshaw, MB
Tata Memorial Center
Director visits Houston



2005

Launch of Annual Reception for Indian Doctors Visiting MD Anderson



2003

MOU signed Tata Memorial Mumbai & MD Anderson



2002

Govind Agrawal Sponsors MDACC Doctors Trip to India



2001

MD Anderson Explores Alliance with AIIMS and Tata

Trade Missions

IACCGH has been an essential driver in fostering economic links between American and Indian businesses, as well as coordinating efforts between organizations like sister chambers in India and the US. Trade missions focus on expanding markets, diversification, meetings with business organizations, investment opportunities, and networking events.



2024

August 8
Visit to the White House

The Chamber was honored to join the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce, the Asian Chamber, the GLBT Chamber and other Texas business leaders for a lunch followed by a visit to the White House hosted by President Biden.



2024

August 26

Trip to Austin

The Chamber was invited to attend “The Future is Texas” investors summit in Austin and the Reunion and Recognition Luncheon. We reconnected with Aaron Demerson, President & CEO, Texas Economic Development Corporation, Adrianna Cruz, Executive Director, office of the governor’s economic development tourism office. Arun Agarwal, who headed the Governor’s delegation to India was introduced as the new Chairman of the board of TEDC. The highlight was luncheon keynote by Governor Abbott and opportunity to reconnect with long term Chamber supporters Jeff Moseley and Tracye McDaniel.





Above left: **Jagdeep Ahluwalia** with President USIBC Ambassador (Rtd.) **Atul Keshap**

Above middle: **Jagdeep Ahluwalia** with US Ambassador to India **Eric Garcetti** at the CII reception during the SelectUSA summit

Above right: **Jagdeep Ahluwalia** with Indian Chargé d'affaires **Geetika Srivastava** at the reception the embassy cohosted on the sidelines of SelectUSA

2024

June 23 – 26

IACCGH attended the annual SelectUSA Investment Summit in Washington DC, along with attendees from 96 international markets. The summit offers entrepreneurs and investors looking to establish or expand their businesses in the United States opportunities for networking and informative programming on key industry topics pertaining to foreign direct investments.



Jasjit Singh is the Executive Director of SelectUSA, a US government-wide program that works to attract foreign direct investment to the United States. The delegation from India led by Ambassador Garcetti was the largest to attend this year's event.



Above: **Josh Davis**, Chief Economic Development Officer and Senior Vice President, Greater Seattle Partners, **Jagdeep Ahluwalia**

Right two photos, from left: **Arun Venkatraman**, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets and Director General of the US and Foreign Commercial Service, **Adriana Cruz**, Executive Director, Office of the Governor's Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office, and our 2022 Gala Keynote Speaker, **Diane Farrell**, Deputy Under Secretary for International Trade, and our 2023 IACCGH Gala Keynote Speaker, **Jagdeep Ahluwalia**





2024

June 24

Triveni Turbines, an Indian company that manufactures, assembles and repairs rotating equipment for power generation was a major win for the Greater Houston Partnership and IACCGH when the company signed a lease for office and manufacturing space in northwest Houston. The facility will create 40 jobs and have the potential for further expansion in three to five years.

IACCGH prides itself on our partnerships with the Greater Houston Partnership and other local Chambers and our long-term relationship with our sister chambers across India.

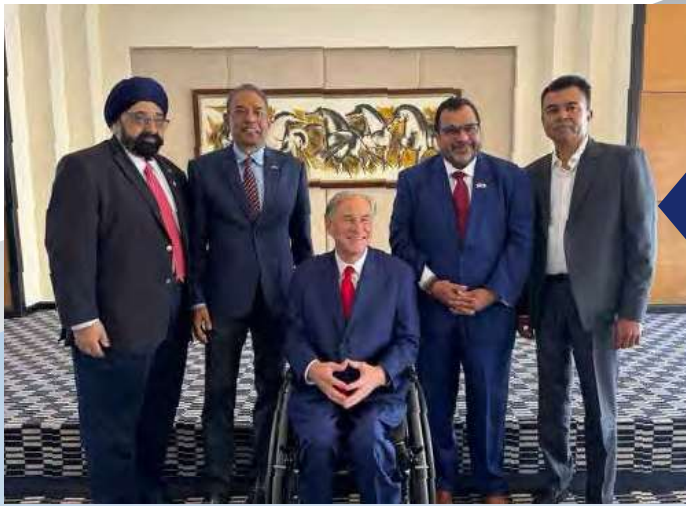


2024

January 30

IACC North India Council held a conference in New Delhi entitled “Strengthening Indo-US Relationship in Amritkal-Aatmanirbhar Bharat”. Speakers included the chief guests Rajnath Singh, Minister of Defence of India, and Eric Garcetti, Ambassador of the United States to India, as well as Arun Karan, Regional President, IACC-NIC, Managing Director & CEO, AT&T Global Network Services India.





Left:
Jagdip Ahluwalia, IACCGH,
 Houston, **Sanjeev Khanna**, USJCOC,
 Dallas, **Governor Abbott**, **Arun Agarwal**,
 Vice Chair, TEDC, **Jignesh Patel**,
 USJCOC, Austin



2024

January 20 – 28 Governor Abbot's Trade Mission to India

Governor Greg Abbott led the TxEDC International Texas India Business Mission to Mumbai and New Delhi. The delegation was chaired by Arun Agarwal, Vice Chair, Texas Economic Development Corporation (TEDC), who was joined by Texas Secretary of State Jane Nelson. Delegation leaders included Aaron Demerson, President and CEO of TEDC and Adriana Cruz, Executive Director, Office of the Governor's Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office. Delegates included: Jagdip Ahluwalia (India American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston), Neil Bjorkman (Tata Consultancy Services), Mario Diaz (City of Houston), Sanjeev Khanna (US India Chamber of Commerce DFW), Zeljka Momirovic (City of Houston).



Honored to be invited for a private meeting to reconnect with former L&T Chairman A.M. Naik at his office and invited Dallas Chamber Chair Sanjeev Khanna to the meeting.







Above: The delegation at the office of Reddy & Neumann, P.C.
Right top: 2nd from left—Lori Wheaton, NASA
9th from left—Nicholas Page, NASA



2023

April 25

IACC India Trade Delegation to Houston

IACCGH hosted a trade delegation from sister chamber IACC WRC India. Consul General Aseem Mahajan was briefed by the delegation. Greater Houston Partnership, the Indian Consulate, and IACCGH hosted a meeting at Partnership Towers. The delegation then visited Johnson Space Center and NASA and had a meeting with the leadership of the Bay Area Economic Partnership and the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region. The next day, immigration attorney Emily Neumann hosted the delegation at her offices and guided them on US immigration law. The evening ended with a dinner reception.



Above: 3rd from left—Brian Freedman, BAHEP President; 5th from left—Dan Seal, BAHEP Executive Director - Economic Development; 6th from left—Kim Morris, BAHEP Aerospace Marketing Manager; 9th from left—Chad Carson, Port Alliance Houston Region Vice President of Economic Development Below: Indian delegation briefing Consul General Mahajan at Greater Houston Partnership.





2020

February

Trade Mission with Commissioner Adrian Garcia

The Commissioner led a trade delegation to India facilitated by IACCGH. Past President Sanjay Ramabhadran, Executive Director Jagdip Ahluwalia, and business leader Bobby V. Singh joined the Commissioner to boost trade ties between Houston and India. The delegation worked together to make Houston a port of choice for US-India trade.



Top: Kamal Vora, Secretary General IACC-India, Rajalakshmi Rao, National President, IACC-India, Commissioner Adrian Garcia
Middle: Abhishek Banwara (PHD Chamber), Jagdip Ahluwalia, Commissioner Garcia, Bobby V. Singh, Sanjay Ramabhadran
Right: Commissioner Garcia, Sanjay Aggarwal, President PHD Chamber, Dr. Ranjit Mehta, Deputy Secretary General, PHD Chamber at PHD Chamber Delhi





2018

Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner's Trade Mission to India



Jorge Franz, Senior Vice President of Tourism, City of Houston hosted a lunch and one-on-one meetings with local tour operators in New Delhi. He was joined by William Harris, President & CEO, Space Center Houston.



Mayor Sylvester Turner with Indian Minister of Tourism, Alphons Kannanthanam



Mayor Turner's meeting with Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri, recently named India's Civil Aviation Minister



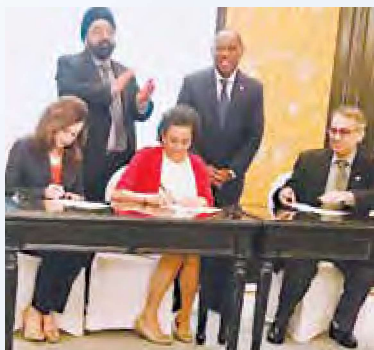
Briefing by the U.S. Consulate in Mumbai



VISIT**HOUSTON**



Houston Reception Dinner with and at the residence of Deputy Chief of Mission US Embassy in New Delhi MaryKay Carlson was hosted by the US India Business Council (USIBC)



Above 2 photos:
Upper—Mayor Turner met Kenneth I. Juster, US Ambassador to India. The Mayor and IACCGH invited the Ambassador to the Chamber Gala as Keynote Speaker.
Lower—The World Trade Center-Mumbai hosted a reception for the delegation with several follow up meetings resulting in a large inbound delegation in the coming months. An MOU was signed between WTC Mumbai and IACCGH.

Left: Signing of A MOU between GHP, IACC Western Regional Council and IACCGH

Above
2 photos:
Meeting with the
Vice President of India,
The Honorable
Venkaiah
Naidu

2015

Mayor's delegation leads to inbound delegation from India

Mayor Pro Tem Ed Gonzalez welcomes
Dr. Rajyalakshmi Rao, President IACC-Mumbai



Delegates and guests on the Houston Ship Channel



Left: Delegates and guests explore trade opportunities on the Houston Ship Channel



Middle: Walter Van Dvijver President & CEO Reliance USA



Right: Jorge Franz, Senior VP Houston First & Greater Houston Convention & Visitors Bureau



Business Briefing at Greater Houston Partnership



Bayport Container Terminal



Chamber Board members and Past Presidents with the delegation at Battleship Texas



Bob Pertierra of GHP with visiting delegation at the "top of Houston"



Behind the scenes at NASA



Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership welcomes IACC-Mumbai delegation



2015

**Mayor Parker's
Delegation to India
encourages inbound
investment to Houston**



Upper right: IACCGH hosts a Welcome Reception for Mayor Annise Parker and the delegates at Khyber, Mumbai.

Lower right: The delegation visits the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.

Upper left: Mayor Annise Parker and members of the delegation speaking to the Indian media.

Lower left: The Consul General of Mumbai briefs the delegation on India's political and economic developments.

Top row: The delegation meets with senior members of GAIL, India.

Second row: Left—Delegation showcases investment opportunities in Houston to members of the World Trade Center in Mumbai. Middle— Mayor of Mumbai, Snehal Ambekar, welcomes the delegation. Right— Mayor Annise Parker is welcomed at Leopold's Café, Mumbai.

Third row: Left— IACCGH invited the US Ambassador to India Hon. Richard R. Verma to visit Houston. Middle— Mayor Annise Parker addresses members of the Asia Society, Mumbai. Right— IACCGH President Ashok Garg along with the delegation visits the L&T facility, Mumbai.

Bottom row: Left— IACC Mumbai hosts Houston delegation at Cricket Club of India. Middle— Mayor Annise Parker & Senior VP of CHP Bob Pertierra with the PHD Chamber of Commerce.





Above: Left—IACC Mumbai meeting with JNPT Chairman N.N. Kumar, preceding the MOU with Port of Houston. Right—Discussion on Houston-India Maritime Trade.

Right: Upper—Meeting with Hon. Thomas L. Vajda, US Consul General & Camille Richardson, Chief US Commercial Service Officer-Mumbai
Lower—Briefing by US Commercial Service in New Delhi



2014

**Judge Ed Emmett's
Trade Mission to India**

Below: BMC and IACC-Pune host reception & meeting for visiting delegation from Houston





Encouraging expansion and investment in the Greater Houston region with Mahindra & Mahindra



Right:
Meeting
the Dalai Lama.

Left column:
Top—IACCGH GAIL Meeting.
Second—IACC Pune Roundtable.
Third—Meeting with the Honorable Nitin
Gadkari, Minister of Road Transportation & Highways.
Bottom—IACC Delhi Infrastructure Summit.

Below: Middle—Briefing by Secretary Department of Transportation.
Right—Naval Academy Near Malavli-Pune.



15+ YEARS OF INITIATIVE

This spread represents a snapshot from IACCGH history in 2015.

HOUSTON BUSINESS JOURNAL

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houston.bizjournal.com

Business spirit of Mumbai survives attack

BY DR. ATUL VARADHACHARY AND JAGDIP AHLUWALIA

STAFF WRITERS FOR HUSTON BUSINESS JOURNAL

All Houstonians were shocked by events in Mumbai, and people of Indian origin were especially comforted by the outpouring of support and sympathy.

Some view this [hundreds of thousands] weekend massacre as a wake-up call much like 9/11. New York and the World Trade Centers were important targets in the 9/11 outrage as a global commercial center and a symbol of the world's oldest democracy.



Varadhachary



Ahluwalia

Similarly, Mumbai is India's commercial capital and the city epitomizes the openness, inclusiveness and the spirit of the world's largest democracy. We cannot let this spirit be destroyed, otherwise the terrorists win.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of the people affected; all those whose family members were killed, wounded or held hostage. These have been difficult days for those of us with friends or family in Mumbai. But the outpouring of love and support from the United States was overwhelming. But the anguish of those personally impacted by these events can only be amplified by a hit on commerce which is Mumbai's and India's lifeblood. In the past weeks, the indirect economic toll on Mumbai has been substantial.

December is a peak month for tourism in India and, understandably, there has been a sharp drop in people wishing to travel to India. Similarly a number of trade conventions scheduled for December have been canceled and businesses in a broad range of industries are seeing

an abrupt slowdown. The United States is India's largest trading partner and Houston itself has extensive trade, commercial and educational linkages with India. This is driven in part by the 100,000-plus population of Indo-Americans in the greater Houston area and the 36-plus Houston-based firms with operations in India.

Harish Katharani is a board member of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Greater Houston (IACCGH) and a founder of Southside group of companies. Katharani, who is based in Houston, has a medical billing and collection company in Mumbai serving physicians, emergency rooms and hospitals.

When the Mumbai incident happened, Southside employees in Mumbai kept working to keep serving their customers in the state of Texas. Southside employees represent the true spirit of Mumbai.

Katharani does not feel threatened by the terrorists and the attacks have not changed his travel plans or his investment plans. His partner flies to Mumbai this week and he is himself planning a trip later this month. It is business leaders like Katharani who represent the true resilience of the people of Mumbai.

The IACCGH is totally committed to respond to the terrorist attack by working toward enhancing bilateral trade between Houston and Mumbai even further. The IACCGH joins local and world leaders in condemning this recent act of cowardice and is determined to build a recovery process as soon as possible.

In the wake of the recent killings, businesses from around the world including American companies may be tempted to suspend or pull back trade operations and visits to India. This will be giving in to the terrorists and giving them the victory they seek.

The IACCGH will be encouraging local businesses to join the chamber in the first

week of January on a trade mission to Mumbai and Delhi to attend the first annual Indo US economic summit in Delhi on Jan. 7-8, 2009.

Terrorism is a global scourge that threatens free societies everywhere. The United States and its allies have been repeatedly confronted by this threat. India has faced its own series of terrorist attacks, planned and coordinated from outside its borders, culminating in this latest outrage in Mumbai.

Mumbai may have been chosen for this attack for two reasons. As India's commercial capital, Mumbai represents India's economic growth and successes and as India's most cosmopolitan city, it epitomizes India's tolerant and multiethnic society. These are precisely the values which the terrorists would like to destroy and we must not let that happen.

Although we need to get to the bottom of this latest terrorist outrage, it is equally important that these attacks do not undermine India's uniquely open society, its confidence in itself, or the economic vitality that is making India an important contributor to global growth — if not, the terrorists will have won.

The chamber is committed to facilitate the return to normalcy in the relations between two of the great democracies in the world and we will offer all of our capabilities and relationships in both countries to make this happen.

DR. ATUL VARADHACHARY is president and JAGDIP AHLUWALIA is executive director of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Greater Houston.

COMMENTARY

Houston Business Journal welcomes contributions to the Commentary section. Submissions should be no more than 1,500 words in length.

All submissions become the property of Houston Business Journal and will not be returned; submissions will be edited and may be published or otherwise reused in any medium.

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HARRIS COUNTY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO INDIA: APRIL 2008

Harris County Business Development Mission to India

APRIL 2008

Judge Emmett Announced Trade Delegation to India in April 2008 at the State of the County Address

"With the Port of Houston, the Texas Medical Center, and the headquarters for so many international companies located here, Harris County is a major player on the global stage. While the City of Houston and the convention and visitors bureau have done much to raise the area's profile, Harris County is getting more directly involved. The first week of April, my office, working with the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Houston Partnership, and organizations and companies in both countries, will sponsor a trade mission to Mumbai and Pune, India."



Greater Houston Partnership President Jeff Moseley, IACCGH Executive Director Jagdip Ahluwalia, Harris County Judge the Honorable Ed Emmett and IACCGH President Dr. Atul Varadhachary at the State of the County annual address hosted by GHP. (Photo Courtesy of Greater Houston Partnership)



HARRIS COUNTY DELEGATION

Breakfast Meeting in Honor of the Harris County Business Development Mission to India

The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACCGH) organized a Breakfast Meeting in honor of the visiting Harris County Business Development Mission to India 2008 at the Taj President, Mumbai on April 30, 2008.

The Harris County Delegation was led by Judge Ed Emmett and was supported by Harris County, Greater Houston Partnership, and Indo-American Chamber



of Commerce of Greater Houston (IACCGH).

The breakfast meeting commenced with a welcome address from Mr. R.K. Chopra, Secretary General, IACCGH, who highlighted the trends in Indo-US trade and the opportunity it presents. He expressed hope that more delegations like this are organized since they help build mutual partnership between Indian and American companies. Mr. Hemant Sonawale in his speech welcomed the delegates from the Harris County and remembered the long-standing relationship that the businesses in the two countries share. Judge Emmett recalled his numerous visits to the state of Maharashtra and how meetings with businessmen there convinced him of the underlying commonality of the businesses in India & USA. He invited Indian businesses to Harris County and offered all help that they may need to conduct business there. Mr. Jagdip

Ahluwalia of the IACCGH mentioned the enthusiastic response he received from businesses in this delegation.

Mr. Jeff Moseley, President & CEO, Greater Houston Partnership deliberated on 'Opportunity Houston'. He noted that trade between India and Houston totaled more than \$2.6 billion in 2007, placing India among Houston's top 25 trading partners. He added that Houston also has the ninth-largest Asian population in the U.S., with the Indian community totaling 74,068. Also spoke on the occasion were Mr. Jim Fonteno, commissioner, Port of Houston and Mr. Sanjay Ram.

Members of the Chamber also utilized the breakfast meeting for one-on-one business meetings with the visiting business delegation. The presence of Indian industries from all quarters were in full attendance for the breakfast meeting.

Harris County, Houston Seeks Long Standing Business Partnerships with India

Mumbai, 30 April, 2008 - FICCI organized an Interactive Meeting with Trade Mission from Harris County and Houston USA, led by Mr. Edward M. Emmet, Harris County Judge, in the city today. The trade mission is in India to promote business cooperation, investments and trade between India and Harris County, Houston.

Mr. Edward M. Emmet, Hon'ble Judge, Harris County, USA, said that Harris County, home to largest number of Fortune 500 company Headquarters (Rank 4); provider of world class infrastructure including multi-modal transportation and distribution; innovation capital of the world in healthcare, nanotechnology and space research; and Energy Capital of the World having more than 400 chemical plants and petroleum refineries accounting for 40.5% of USA's base petrochemicals manufacturing capacity, was an ideal place for business investment and long term partnerships with India.

He saw great potential for growth of trade with India. It may be noted that Houston's trade with India is over US\$2.6 billion, both

electrical machinery, equipment and parts, organic chemicals, iron and steel. Major exports to India include organic chemicals, industrial equipment and computers, plastics and plastic articles, mineral fuel, oils and waxes, iron and steel.

Mr. Jeff Moseley, President and CEO, Greater Houston Partnership, USA, outlined Greater Houston Partnership's 10 year Strategic Plan to create 600,000 net regional jobs, attract \$50 billion in capital investment and increase foreign trade by \$120 billion for the greater Houston area. He sought long standing partnerships with Indian companies in Aerospace and Aviation, Energy and Petrochemicals, Information Technology, Medical and Biotechnology and Nanotechnology.

Mr. Jim Fonteno, Port Commissioner, Port of Houston Authority, exhorted Indian shippers to take full advantage of the sea port facilities offered by Port of Houston Authority and benefit from Houston's central location to serve the USA market. He said POHA trade with India had increased significantly during the past five

container trade has increased nearly 145% and break-bulk traded between India and POHA has grown almost 100%.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Mr. Dilip Dandekar, Chairman, FICCI- MSC and Camlin Ltd., said that India was looking for investments and technologies in Energy, Biotechnology, Healthcare / Medicine, Electronics, Information Technology, Food Processing and Metal Manufacturing from Houston and Harris County. He saw a lot of potential for cooperation in these areas. He was confident that bilateral trade between India and Houston which was worth US\$2.5 billion in 2007 would get a further impetus with the visit of the distinguished Houston Trade Mission.

Mr. Jagdip Ahluwalia, Executive Director, Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston, USA and the distin-



The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Pune while playing host to a high powered business delegation from Greater Houston, Texas, celebrated its 'Annual Fellowship Nite' at the Le Meridien, Pune on 28th April 2008.

The delegation led by the Harris County Judge (CEO of the county) Ed Emmett and Greater Houston Partnership President Jeff Moseley was put together by the IACCGH, Greater Houston Executive Director Jagdip Ahluwalia and his colleagues. The delegation comprised of six industries from Houston representing diverse sectors such as energy, environment, engineering services, pharma etc. The Chamber was instrumental in setting up site visits and high level business meetings for the Delegation leaders with important members such as 'Bharat Forge', 'Finolex', 'Suzlon' etc. One-on-one business meetings for the delegation members were, also, set up by the Chamber with Pune members. However, the 'Annual Fellowship Nite' offered all the Pune members, on one hand, the business opportunities with Greater Houston, US while a great networking opportunity on the other. Judge

The Indo-American Chamber of Commerce Pune Branch Celebrates 'Annual Fellowship Nite' at Hotel Le Meridien, Pune

Earlier, Mr. Ashutosh Parasnis, Chairman, Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, Pune explained the various initiatives the Chamber has taken during last few months in fulfilling its objectives of enabling SMEs for globalization, in his welcome address. He projected Chamber's plans to expand its services to other cities of Maharashtra such as Ahmednagar, Nashik, Kolhapur etc.

The American Consulate General, Mumbai obliged the Chamber with the presence of guest of Honour Michael Newbill, Consul, Economic & Political Affairs. Earlier in the day he paid visit to 'Suzlon Energy's' facilities in Pune.

The event was sponsored by the City Bank and the IACCGH, Greater Houston. The participants included Pune business leaders such as John Deere, Finolex, American Axles, Compulink, Neilsoft, Sungard, Tata Autocomp etc.



Harris County Judge Ed Emmett presenting memento to the guest of honour Michael Newbill, Consul, Economic & Political Affairs, US Consulate General, Mumbai. He is flanked by BMC Software President Pankaj Dhume and Greater Houston Partnership President Jeff Moseley.



Harris County Judge Ed Emmett led an IACCGH delegation to India in 2008. Accompanied by GHP President Jeff Moseley, Port Commissioner Jim Fonteno and IACCGH leadership, the Judge met with and encouraged leaders of Indian industry in Mumbai and Pune to consider Harris County as a destination for investment and expansion.

The seeds sown by the 2008 delegation resulted in Mahindra USA, Inc. (MUSA) choosing Harris County to expand their US presence as part of the US \$ 14.4 billion Mahindra Group's Automotive and Farm Sector.

"On behalf of Mahindra USA, I would personally like to thank the Honorable Judge Ed Emmett and the Indo- American Chamber of Commerce, for their guidance, wisdom and support in helping bring Harris County to the forefront of international trade and more specifically, for helping Mahindra USA set the stage for Our Rise to the Future. Thank you." MANI IYER



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Tel : +91 (022) 7702 1111
Fax : (022) 7702 2090
E-mail : mahindra.ams@mahindra.com

October 24, 2011

Dear Jagdip,

I would like to thank Ms. Parikh and you for representing the IACCGH at the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new North American corporate headquarters of Mahindra USA in Houston, TX. Mahindra USA is proud to relocate its Corporate Headquarters, Parts Department and Production into a single Class A facility that will provide working environment that truly commensurate with being the #1 selling tractor in the world. The move signifies Mahindra's commitment to the North American market and also serves to further strengthen Mahindra USA's relationship with its home city of Houston and with Harris County Texas.

Mahindra - IACCGH relationship played a pivotal role in our decision to expand our presence in Harris County. In 2008, an IACCGH Mission led by Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, visited Mumbai and set forth the cornerstone for this relationship. The delegation's business experience, leadership and community involvement validated our belief that Houston and Harris County were truly global entities which could provide the foundation, resources and support to help the Mahindra brand "Rise" in the North American market.

We look forward to a long and promising relationship with the IACCGH as we both drive positive change for our respective organizations and communities.

Best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Anand G. Mahindra

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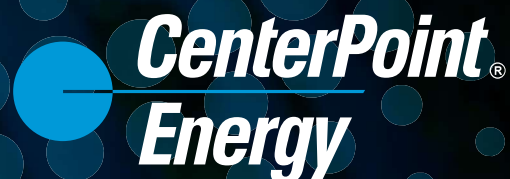


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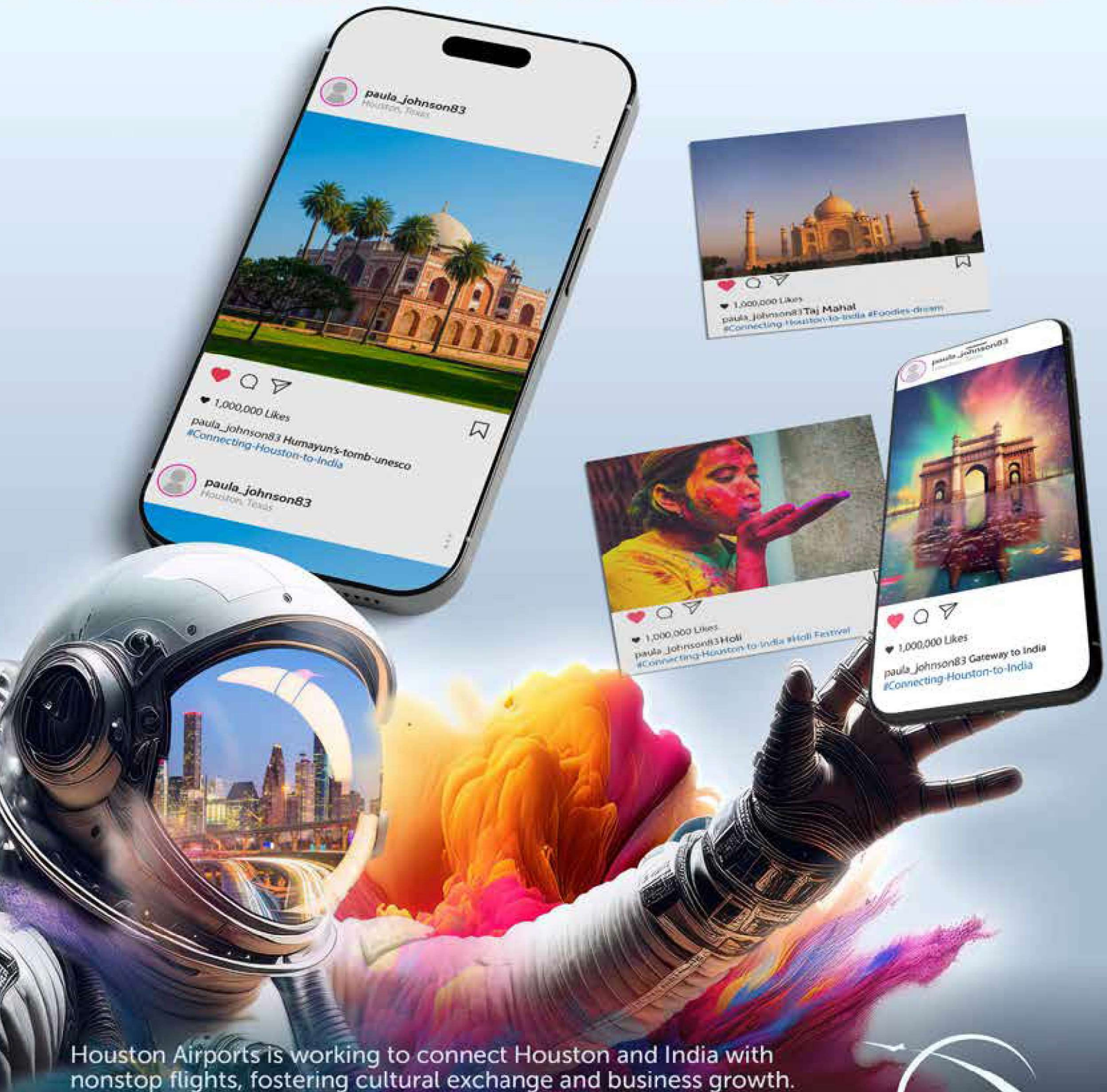
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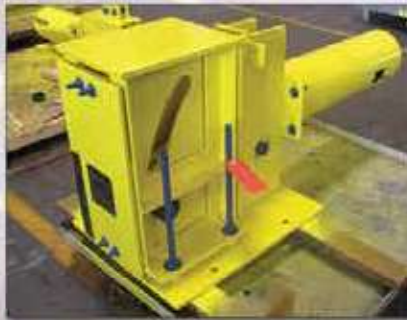


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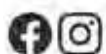
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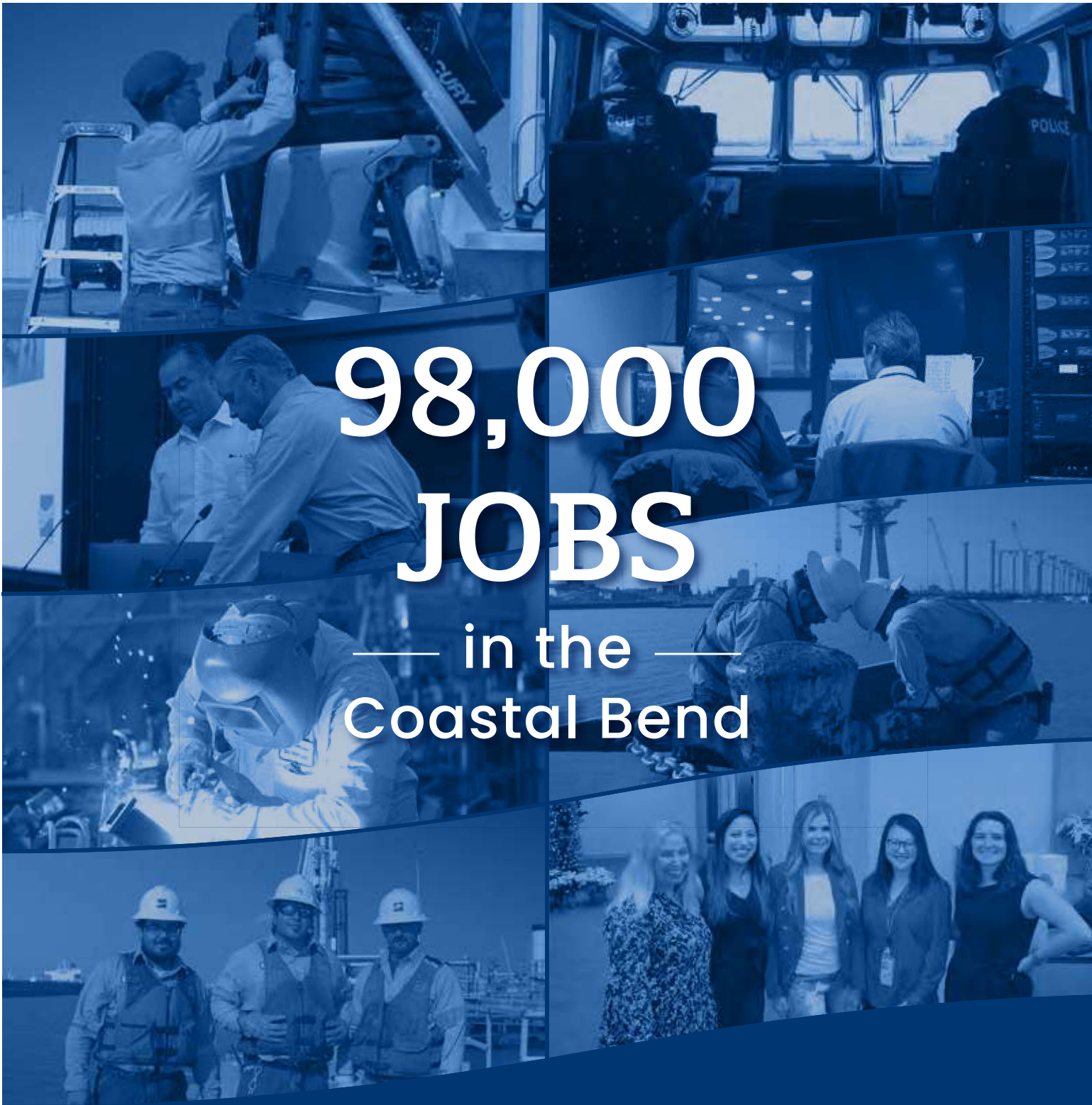
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Texas Hindu Campsite, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, is nestled on 37 acres of picturesque woodland near Columbus. It officially opened on July 23, 2024, with its inaugural Hindu Heritage Youth Camp. The camp aims to foster independent thinking, cultivate leadership qualities, and nurture youth into exemplary citizens, emphasizing community service.

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Amiralli (Amir) Dodhiya NAMED TO FORBES' TOP FINANCIAL SECURITY PROFESSIONALS BEST-IN-STATE LIST 2022

Texas, August 25, 2022 – Amiralli (Amir) Dodhiya from the Houston General Office of New York Life has been listed on the 2022 Forbes Top Financial Security Professionals Best-in-State list. The individuals named to this list of distinguished professionals were chosen based on many criteria considered by an independent research firm.

A New York Life agent for 14 years, Mr. Dodhiya received this recognition for helping his clients in a world in which wealth preservation and protection matter more than ever.

“We are honored that Amir appears on this prestigious list,” said Mychael Nguyen, managing partner of the Houston General Office. “New York Life has known for quite sometime what a valuable asset Amir has been to our family and to many families and businesses in our community.”

Amiralli (Amir) Dodhiya is a member of Court of the Table, Million Dollar Round Table (The Premier Association of Financial Professionals ®) and has a degree from Goa University. Amir has won several awards in the industry as well as earning LAPC designation and being a member of NAIFA. He and his family are residents of Sugar Land, Texas.

Data provided by SHOOK®Research, LLC. Data as of 12/31/21.

Source: Forbes.com (July, 2022).

Neither SHOOK nor Forbes receives any compensation in exchange for placement on its Top Financial Security Professional (FSP) rankings (including the Best-In-State Financial Security Professional rankings), which are determined independently (see methodology). FSP refers to professionals who are properly licensed to sell life insurance and annuities. FSPs may also hold other credentials and licenses which would allow them to offer investments and securities products through those licenses. Ranking algorithm is based on qualitative measures learned through telephone, virtual, and in-person interviews to measure best practices, client retention, industry experience, credentials, review of compliance records, firm nominations; and quantitative criteria, such as assets under management, sales figures, and revenue generated for their firms. Investment performance is not a criterion because client objectives and risk tolerances vary, and these professionals rarely have audited performance reports. Individuals must carefully choose the right FSP for their own situation and perform their own due diligence. SHOOK's research and rankings provide opinions intended to help individuals choose the right FSP and are not indicative of future performance or representative of any one client's experience. Past performance is not an indication of future results. For more information, please see www.SHOOKresearch.com. SHOOK is a registered trademark of SHOOK Research, LLC.



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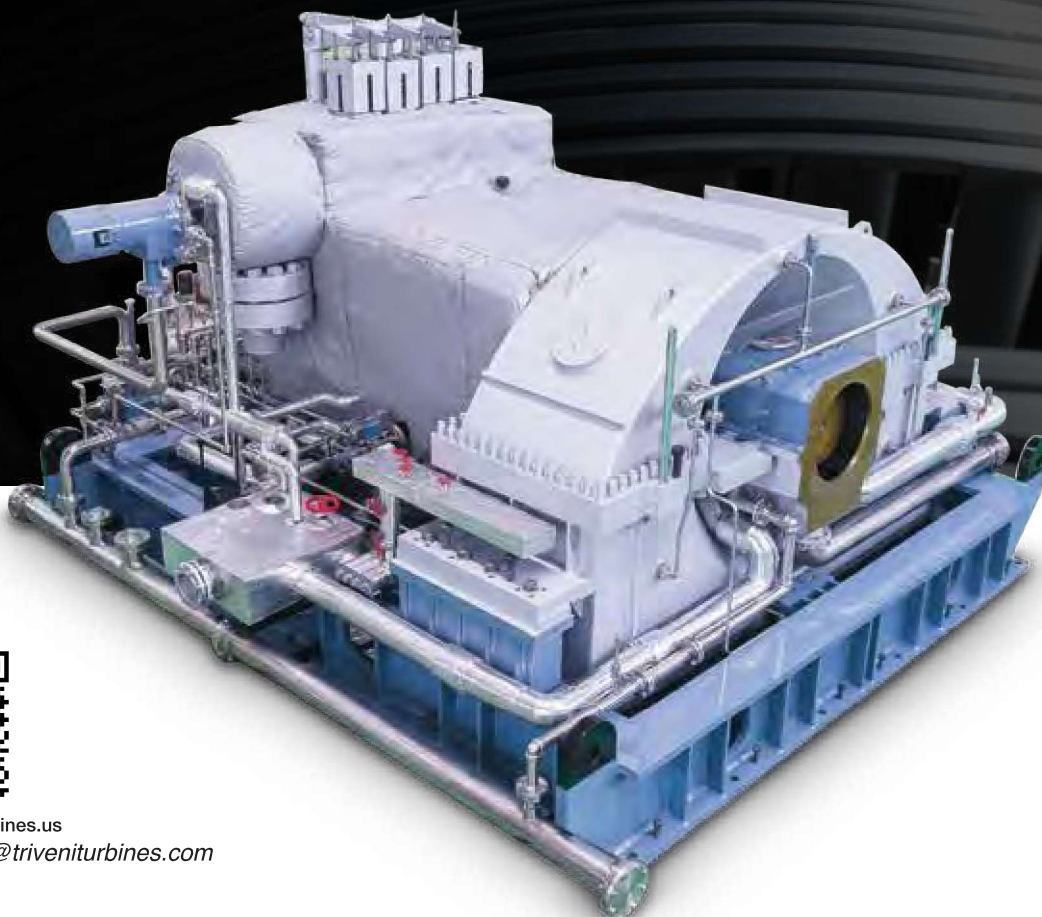
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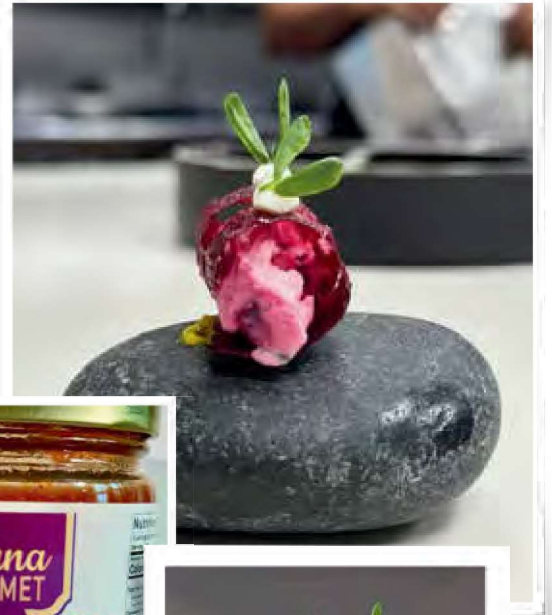


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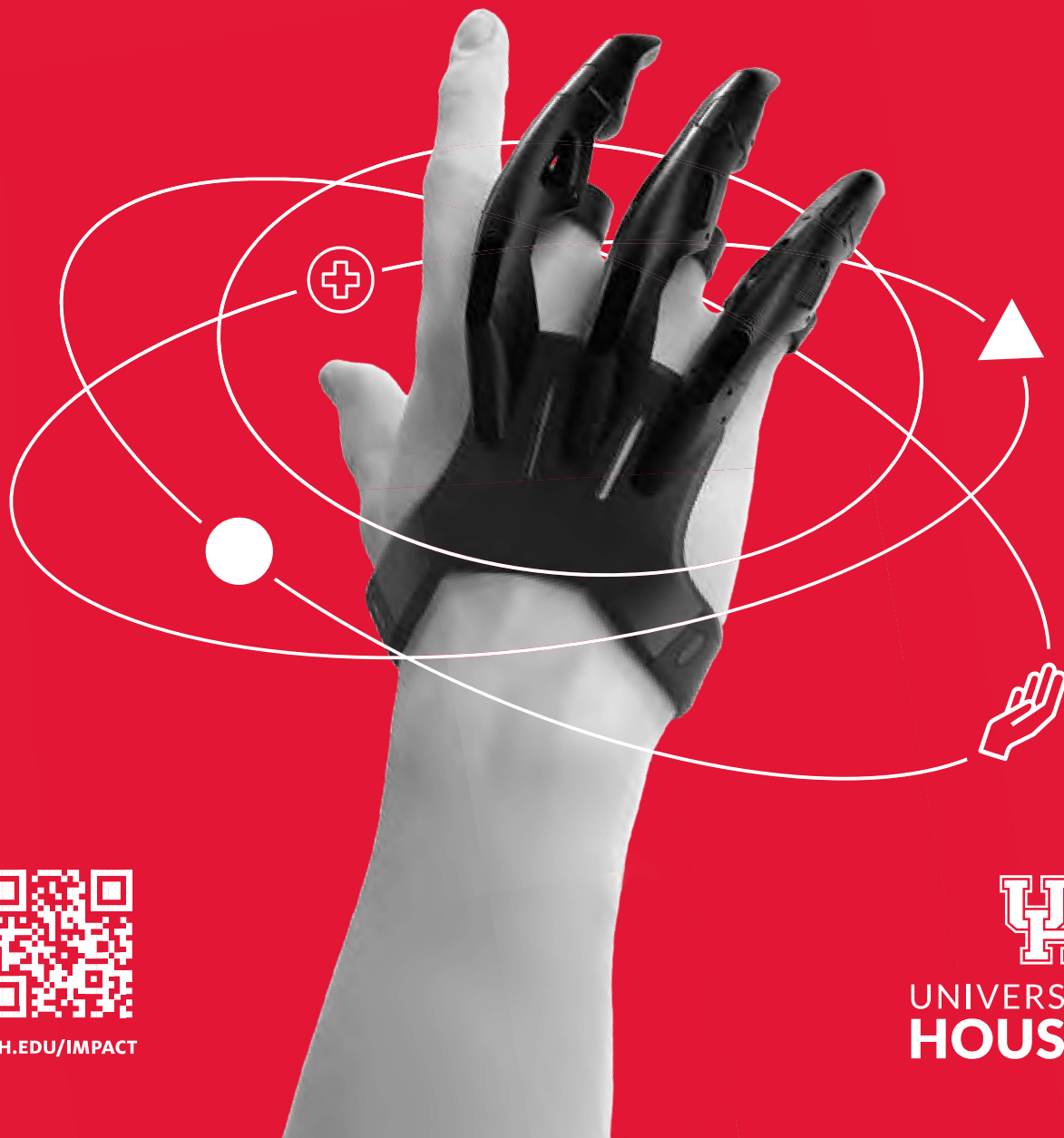
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Gopal Seyn, the esteemed Indian artist based in Houston, Texas, has left an indelible mark on the international art scene with his captivating exhibitions across the USA, Milan, London, Kolkata, and Bombay. His recent masterpiece, proudly displayed in the departure lounge of Terminal D at Bush Intercontinental Airport, not only showcases cultural fusion and artistic brilliance but also represents a historic milestone. His paintings proudly adorn the walls of Consulate General of India, Houston, Bush Family and the Texan owner Bob McCall's Foundation. As a director at the Redbluearts Academy in Sugarland, Texas, Gopal Seyn, also known as Neil, has dedicated over 25 years to shaping young minds, having taught and inspired over 5000 children. Currently, with a commitment to nurturing artistic talent, he conducts both online and in-person classes, impacting the lives of over 350 kids every week. Gopal Seyn's profound dedication to his craft and his mission to instill a love for art in the community solidify his standing as an inspirational figure and a trailblazer in the world of contemporary Indian-American art.

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Rakesh Verma, (Father of Parisha & Ruqa)

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