

October 2022

kma NEWS

Spearheading Management Movement



OFFICIAL MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF KERALA MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

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President Speaks

Dear Member,
Greetings from KMA!

It is with great honour and pride that I look back at the first six month of this KMA year. We had several interesting events and programs catering to the diverse profile of our members. Each member of the EC, MC & Committees took extra efforts in making the last six months memorable for all KMA members. The committees were fully empowered and they worked as a cohesive team to make it a success. I congratulate them for their tireless efforts to make it fruitful for all.

I would like to share some key highlights of the last six month after starting the year with Mr. Shyam Srinivasan in conversation with our past President Mr. SR Nair on Managerial challenges in the current global economy. Since then, we have had six evening lectures from different spheres of professional fields. I must place on record the efforts of Program committee chair Bibu Punnooran and Vice Chair Past President SR Nair, in not only the choice of the topics in vogue but also the apt speakers for the same.

This year's Digital summit organised under the able leadership of senior VP A. Balakrishnan was a full day event for the first time. It was very well attended and highly appreciated by all delegates for the content and stature of the speakers. Similarly the CEO talk arranged by Harikumar, Memorial lecture by ACK Nair and all the three Women managers' forum events arranged by Lekha Balachandran were really outstanding and received good feedback from several members.

We also had some excellent new initiatives this year. Campus to Corporate (C2C) is a noble CSR initiative to give the economically weaker students from Management schools the skills required to do well in the corporate world. This is a weekly 2 hour session for 10 weeks organised free to the students, covering interpersonal communication, Business communication, grooming, interview skills and creating a profile in LinkedIn. The program was conceived by Anil Varma and was inaugurated by Past KMA leader Venugopal C Govind. It is indeed making a big transformation in the students. Another new initiative

is the KMA friendly cricket match which kindled the idea for KMA Corporate Cricket tournament under the chairmanship of Raghu Ramachandran. The purpose is to bring young managers into the KMA and make them active members. We have got a very good response and the matches are scheduled for 15th & 16th of October.

Our Joint Secretary and Editor Dileep Narayanan has come out with 4 excellent issues of the KMA newsletter. All of which were rich in content and received great reviews. Similarly we had a colourful evening function to release the book "Diamonds are forever and morals are more" by Govind Dalaokia. It was jointly organised by TiE and ISTD. We also had 3 other joint meetings. One with Cochin Chamber of Commerce and another 2 with KSUM.

It is very heartening to see a major increase in the membership to be just shy of 2000 members. I must place on record the tremendous & tireless efforts of Past President SR Nair in this regard. If this trend continues, we may well reach the dream number of 3000. I request everyone to support the membership chair to achieve this landmark this year.

We also celebrated Onam in KMA house after a gap of 10 years. Most of the EC and MC members attended the celebration and actively participated in the entertainment and enjoyed the sumptuous sandya. Similarly, after a gap of 4 years we had the Innovation experience tour to Synthite Taste Park. 27 members participated in this full day tour which was arranged by Secretary Algiers Khalid and was highly appreciated by all.

The icing on the cake was the great honour to receive the AIMA award at the AIMA annual convention along with IPP R. Madhav Chandran and Hon Secretary Algiers Khalid.

Overall a great first half, especially the camaraderie of the EC and MC at its best. Looking forward to continued support and guidance from all to make it even better in the balance half of the year.

L Nirmala
President

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L Nirmala, President,
Kerala Management Association



From the Editor's Desk

Dear Reader

September has ended, and we have swung into the second half of the KMA year. As always, the time has flown, but at KMA, we have made the most of every moment. We are delighted to share with you everything that took place in September 2022.

The 49th AIMA Convention was held in New Delhi on September 19th, and KMA was well represented by an enthusiastic delegation led by President Nirmala Lilly. The convention had many thought-provoking sessions and speeches that were moderated, attended and delivered by the who's who of Indian business and politics. Mr Algiers Khalid, our Honorary Secretary, gives us a detailed account of this memorable convention. The icing on the cake was KMA being awarded the 'Best LMA' Award for 2021-22.

KMA had the honour of organising a spectacular event to launch the autobiography of the diamond baron Shri. Govind Dholakia, a well-known philanthropist. The autobiography titled "Diamonds are Forever, so are Morals" was launched on the 15th of September at Crowne Plaza, Kochi, in the presence of Kerala's foremost academia, entrepreneurs, managers, management students and intellectuals. KMA News carries all the details of the event and conversations with Kakaji, as Shri Govind Dholakia is fondly called. Past president Mr S R Nair encapsulates the spirit, values and life lessons of Kakaji's autobiography succinctly in the book review that follows.

On September 15th, 2022, a team of 32 members from KMA had the opportunity to visit the Synthite 'Taste Park' and have a sensory tour of the Synthite premises. Synthite is the number one Indian player in seasonings, flavours and Oleoresins. Dr Radha Thevanoor, Director of SCMS Group, captures all memories of this unforgettable day trip organised by KMA in association with Synthite.

This edition of KMA News also covers the C2C (Campus to Corporate) inauguration and the MKK Nair Memorial Lecture.

In this dynamic, fast-paced, geo-political-technological landscape, which is entirely changing the way entrepreneurs view their businesses, KMA News stands as the voice between individual entrepreneurs and the management community. We look forward to your views and comments to carry on this conversation.

Dileep Narayanan

dileep@organicbps.com

AIMA AWARD



Algiers Khalid
Honorary Secretary

AN ODE TO INDIA'S FLAGSHIP MANAGEMENT CONVENTION.

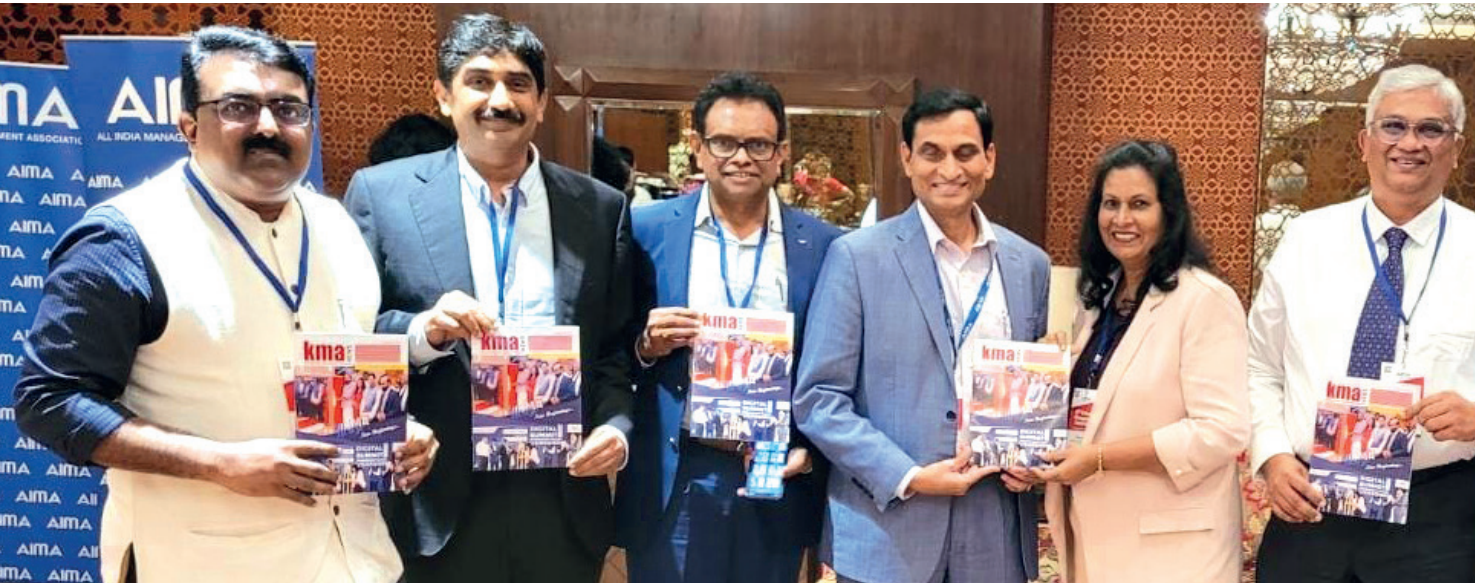
On the 19th of September, I had the honour and privilege of being part of the KMA delegation led by President L. Nirmala to attend the 49th AIMA Convention in Delhi. We and ED Jojob Jacob reached a day earlier to complete the registration formalities and witness the inauguration on the 20th morning. Senior VP A. Balakrishnan, VP Bibu Punnooran and Joint Secretary Dileep Narayanan joined us later on day 1.

The hall was jam-packed with delegates from all over the country for formal introductory remarks by Rekha Sethi, Director General of AIMA, that set the tone for the convention. AIMA President CK Ranganathan welcomed the delegates, followed by fellowship awards and the release of convention souvenirs. The fellowship of AIMA was awarded to Raman K Garg IRS, Commissioner of Income Tax, GOI and the honorary fellowship to Vijay Kelkar, former finance Secretary. The honorary life

fellowship was awarded to Harsh Pati Singhania, IPP of AIMA.

Honourable Vice President of India Shri Jagdeep Dhankar delivered the inaugural address. He was accompanied by his wife and current second lady of India, Dr Sudesh Dhankhar. He delivered an excellent address showcasing the positive direction the country is moving ahead in full steam.

The next session was a fireside chat with Jyotiraditya M. Scindia on the convention theme "Advantage India:



Thriving in the new world order”.

It was followed by plenary session three on the topic “Road to Transformation: Building a fast and green economy”. The address by the honourable minister of Road Transportation & highways, Nithin Gadkari, with facts & figures, enthralled the audience.

Post lunch started with a panel discussion on “Beyond equity: Pushing Frontiers of choices and opportunities”. The panellist included Arshi Ayub Mohamed Zaveri, CEO & Senior advisor Royal family offices of UAE, Vinita Bajoria, Co-Chairperson of NICCO Cables Limited, Palki Sharma Journalist in foreign affairs and Milan Vohra Author & Advertising Professional. The session was moderated by only a male voice in the panel, Pranjal Sharma, Economic Analyst.

The next session was a mind-

blowing one on “India’s moment after a decade of structural reform” by Saurabh Mukherjea, Founder and CIO, Marcellus Investment Managers. It prompted the KMA Senior VP and myself to rush and invite him to speak at the forthcoming KMA Convention.

Admiral R Hari Kumar, Chief of Naval Staff, spoke at the penultimate session of the first day on “India’s Naval revolution to become an ocean power”.

The last session of Day 1 was an exciting panel discussion on “India’s Gen E- Start-ups, Upstarts and the next boom”, moderated by Sanjeev Bikhchandani, Founder and Executive Vice chairman of Info Edge. The panellist included Kartik Sharma, Director, Agnitio, Siddarth Pai, CFO & ESG officer 3one4 capital, Rahul Garg, Founder & CEO Moglix and Amit Shukla, Founder & CEO Easy Gov.

On 21st September, KMA’s contingent for the AIMA convention increased & became more vibrant with the arrival of PP Dinesh Thampi and IPP R. Madhav Chandran. The day started with a panel discussion on “Making a new strategy compass for navigating the unknown”, moderated by TV anchor Vikram Chandra. The panellist included the President of AIMA CK Ranganathan, Chairman Ambuja Neotia Holdings Harshvardhan Neotia, Vice Chairman & MD of JK Paper Harsh Pati Singhania and Chairman Nicco Engineering Services Rajive Kaul.

Plenary session 9 was a fascinating fire chat on “Leading with purpose” with Rishad Premji, Executive chairman of Wipro and Sunil Kant Munjal, Chairman of Hero Enterprise. It was so interesting that it kept the audience on the edge of their seats.





KMA GETS THE BEST LMA AWARD

Then came the much-awaited, most important announcement of KMA bagging the prestigious best LMA award for 2021-22. This is the second consecutive year that KMA has received this award during the tenure of IPP R. Madhav Chandran and the 11th time in its 65 years of history. It was a great moment of euphoria and pride for me to be on stage along with KMA President Nirmala L & IPP R. Madhav Chandran to receive the coveted award for KMA from Amitabh Kant, India's Sherpa for the G20. The presence on stage of Director

General of AIMA Rekha Sethi, AIMA President CK Ranganathan and Senior Vice President of AIMA Shrinivas Dempo made it memorable. The honour and recognition for KMA were amply evident from the congratulatory messages and greetings from several delegates I met for the first time.

Amitabh Kant delivered the concluding session on the "Importance of being India and changing roles in G20".

The icing on the cake was escorting

the KMA delegation for dinner to experience Delhi's much-talked-about culinary ecstasy. We relished the Mughlai delicacy on the first day at the renowned Karim's in old Delhi. Dinner for the second day was mouth-watering Punjabi cuisine at the famous Kake da Dhaba at CP. Overall, it was a great time listening to several leaders from diverse industries with lots of takeaways from the convention and also the trip down memory lane to revisit Delhi's famous food joints that rekindled memories of my college days. I will cherish my first AIMA convention for a long time.



An evening to cherish forever

A spectacular event was organised to launch 'Diamonds are forever, so are morals', an autobiography of Shri. Govind Dholakia, India's 'numero uno' diamond baron and philanthropist, on Thursday, the 15th of September, at Crowne Plaza, Kochi in the presence of academia, entrepreneurs, managers, management students and intellectuals of God's Own Country. The well-attended event was organised by the Kerala Management Association (KMA) jointly with TIE Kerala and The Indian Society for Training & Development (ISTD).

It is true, Shri. Govind Dholakia's story is that of 'rags to riches', but it is uniquely different. There wouldn't be a business person in the country who did base his enterprise completely upon moral values and spirituality as Shri. Dholakia did.

The spirituality element prompted him and his enterprise to have compassion for others, particularly those belonging to the lower strata of society.

KMA's connection with Kakaji (as Shri. Dholakia is reverently addressed) goes back some years. He came to Kochi to address its CEO Forum earlier. He also partially sponsored the renovation of the KMA building last year. So when the association realised that his autobiography had been launched, it requested him to please launch it in Kochi, and he gracefully acceded to the request.

The function started with the lighting of the lamp in the presence of the leaders of the participating organisations, Shri. Govind Dholakia, Shri. Kamlesh Yagnik - the co-author; by our beloved Member of Parliament Shri. Hibi Eden. The MP

also spoke about the spiritual basis of Dholakia enterprises and the yeomen services rendered by Kakaji to the people, industry, state and the country.

KMA President Ms Nirmal Lilly delivered the presidential address. Mr Dinesh Thampi, the Chairman of the ISTD Kochi Chapter, introduced Shri Dholakia to the audience.

The book was launched jointly by M/s. Hibi Eden, Govind Dholakia, Kamlesh Yagnik, Nirmala Lilly, Dinesh Thampi, Damodar Avanoor (Sr. VP, TiE:Kerala) & SR Nair, the moderator of the show.

Mr Kamlesh Yagnik, the co-author instead of reading the book, dwelt on the essence of the book, its genesis, its relevance, the special features and about the values that helped Kakaji lead the SRK enterprise with aplomb.

In the next half an hour, a conversation took place between Kakaji and SR Nair on the content of the book. In his own inimical manner, Shri Govind Dholakia talked in English, Hindi & Gujarati. The connect between him and the audience was absolute and as he spoke, the audience lapped it up enthusiastically with empathy. There was no need for any translation or interpretation. His direct communication went to their heart straight.

Though many questions were answered, two very interesting aspects of his life need special mention:

One was him attending a discourse by Shri. Dongreji Maharaj, based on the advice of the seer, him taking an instant decision (at the age of 17) to address everyone, irrespective of age or position, with the utmost respect. Kakaji said with pride that thereafter, he was never insulted by anyone!

The second was an emphatic confirmation from Kakaji that in the fifty-five odd years of his married life, he and his beloved wife (Smt. Champaben Dholakia), never had a quarrel. It was an incredible jaw-dropping moment for the audience.

A visual of the Dholakia clan of around 1500 people, all meeting on



a particular day of October every year at Surat, made the audience stand up and applaud. It is such a close-knit family, and it could even be a record of sorts for every one of it to attend it from all over the globe, this yearly get-together of mammoth size.

Shri. Damodar Avanoor, representing TiE:Kerala, felicitated Kakaji.

Kakaji also gracefully invited Mr Jose Dominic, Mr Geemon Korah & Mr M P Joseph for the IAS officer (ret'd) to the podium to hand over a signed copy of the autobiography.

The Cochin Gujarati Mahajan felicitated him by giving him a

memento.

The crescendo of the show was the bestowal of the Great Leader award upon Shri. Govind Dholakia jointly by KMA, TiE and ISTD leaders.

Hon. Secretary of KMA Shri. Algiers Khalid proposed the vote of thanks.

Kakaji stayed back to patiently sign the autobiography to every person who bought it at the venue by specifying their name along with his signature.

A sumptuous high-tea preceded the function.

The press and media covered the program well through the news the very next day.





DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER, SO ARE MORALS

By **Govind Dholakia**
Chairman Shree Ramkrishna Exports
As told to Arun Tiwari & Kamlesh Yagnik

Published by
PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE INDIA,
ISBN. 9780670095728



S R Nair

Author, Adjunct faculty,
Startup Mentor & Past President KMA

"Diamonds are Forever, so are Morals" is a new-age book that tells the life story of Govind Dholakia (also known as Govind kaka), the Founder and Chairman of Shree Ramkrishna Exports Pvt. Ltd. (SRK), India's lead diamond company. Authored by Arun Tiwari (Indian Missile Scientist, Author of APJ Kalam's "Wings of Fire") and Kamlesh Yagnik (President of Sarvajanic University), the book is published by Penguin Enterprise, an imprint of Penguin Random House.

The autobiography revisits a substantial part of Govindkaka's life, struggle and professional journey. With the book, Govindkaka wanted to share his life experiences with all to be reassured that a life of honesty and ethics helps achieve great success and gives immense satisfaction. The simile between morals and diamonds in the title of the book itself sets the tone.

The autobiography is endorsed by Hon. Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, who called the work a "source of inspiration" for the coming generations. The book's

preface is crafted by Lord Bhikhu Parekh, Member, House of Lords, United Kingdom.

The triad of honesty in all walks of life, the existence of invisible power and the role of the family is depicted in the book. Govind Dholakia is a person who thinks from the heart, which qualifies him to write an autobiography. He has provided a narrative that facilitated exploring his journey of self-discovery. The reader can then take this journey and use it for his benefit. The mystery of human existence lies not just in staying alive but in finding something to live for. Everyone lives for a reason. The issue is that not everyone is fully aware of this reason. This autobiography allows all its readers to explore his life's purpose.

For six decades, SRK has been the epitome of sophisticated simplicity, transparency and ethics in diamonds. Founded by Govind Dholakia, the SRK Group is a strong family of nearly 6,000 members. It is involved in the crafting of natural diamonds at its facilities- 'SRK

Empire' and 'SRK House' in Surat, Gujarat. SRK is also diversified into

the jewelry segment with a total annual turnover of over US \$1.8 billion.

Govind Dholakia's ideologies, like "I Am Nothing, But I Can Do Anything" and "Problem is Progress", have laid the foundation for his success and inspired many others.

"I want to put God-centered devotion at the centre of all my business activities", so says Kakaji. Identifying God & humanity, the defining feature of Vedantic humanism, has been the basis Shri. Dholakia's approach to life.

Ultimately, the reader of his book will imbibe genuine emotions on every page. This autobiography is an inspirational work and deserves a warm welcome. And, of course, the outcome of this autobiography will indeed have a lasting impact on people across generations to come, not only in India but across the globe.



C2C inauguration

KMA is implementing the Campus to Corporate (C2C) initiative for economically disadvantaged business school students as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility.

The project aims to develop the student's skills and make them eligible for better job opportunities after completing their studies. The project duration is eight weeks, including two hours of training and one hour of lecture per week. After the completion of the program, the exam will be conducted,

and the certificate will be issued. The program covers many aspects like communication, etiquette, manners, resume writing, group discussions, etc.

The C2C project was inaugurated by Venugopal C. Govind, Chairman, Ex-Managing Partner, Mentor, Varma & Varma. There are 30 students in the first batch. Anil Varma is the chairman of the project. KMA President Nirmala Lilly presided over the inaugural program. Honorary Secretary Algiers Khalid proposed the vote of thanks.





HE gives food to every creature.

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Dr Radha Thevannoor
Director, SCMS Group

Chicken masala is no chicken! Veg chicken fry! Yes, what you read is true. Believe it. We, a team of 32 from KMA, were privileged to visualise and listen from the number one Indian player on seasonings, flavours and oleoresins – The Synthite – at the Taste Park on Sept 15th, 2022. Synthite Group is the world's largest producer of value-added spices and is ISO certified and HACCP compliant. It makes every Indian proud, more so a Keralite.

Our one-day trip was flagged off by the KMA President, Ms L. Nirmala and Secretary, Mr Algiers Khalid, at 9.30 AM from the KMA House.

We took almost 45 minutes to reach Taste Park. At the entrance, we were welcomed by a team directly for a welcome drink and later to the seminar hall of Synthite.

Well-manicured lawns and pruned plants were a wonderful treat to our eyes, and the wind brought different flavours that titillated our senses. We were welcomed into the seminar hall by Mr Ninan Philip, former Board Member of Synthite Group.

Praveen Venkataramanan, CEO, Synthite Spice Division, Paolo George, Director – Symega Food Ingredients, Santhosh Stephen, Managing Director – Symega Food Ingredients, Jacob Ninan, Managing Director, Herbal Isolates, Lijo George, HOD – EHS, Maju A J, EHS Officer – Synthite Taste Park, Joy K M, DGM – Synthite Taste Park, Johnson K P, Sr. Manager – Herbal Isolates led the interactions and a detailed audio-visual presentation was screened for us.

We took a Bus tour to this massive

32-acre park. On the way, we were shown their eco-friendly initiatives of 'nakshathra vanam', which is an area for plants and trees representing 27 stars of Malayalam nakshathras like Ashwathy, Bharani, Karthika etc. Equally interesting was their Miyawaki forest where, in 30 cents of land, they are developing a forest of 300 trees! The commitment of the management on zero emissions was seen by the long solar panels over the car parking areas generating an output of 350 KV electricity.

Our bus stopped in front of a high-end, state of the art lab with facilities that support LC-MS-MS, GC-MS-MS and many more techniques. These are analytical techniques used to identify and quantify low-level analytes and unknown volatile components in solids, liquids and gases. These



and many more similar techniques available at their research labs ensure purity of materials used in processing. The place was spick and span with every staff in their uniform, willing to explain every query we had.

The Kitchen Treasures, a place of aromatic fusion for us and the ultimate friend to many in our kitchen was our next stop. Due to hygiene protocols to be followed, we restricted our entry to the warehouse, where we found huge cartons just waiting to be transported locally and internationally. That is where many of us learnt that chicken masala contains nothing but veg!

Symega food ingredients was our next stop which showed us another world of flavours. They specialize in designing and producing sweet and savoury flavour solutions. Symega does wonders to the

cakes we eat, sauces we dip, the pastas we savour, the mayo we lick off our fingers! Felt proud to see many national and international player's logos and product samples displayed on their showcase as their clients. We were accompanied by Mr Jacob Ninan, MD, Herbal Isolates to the various labs where flavours are crafted and customised for different products of multiple companies.

Pepper to us is invariably black or white. We heard about green, red, black & white pepper from Herbal Isolates, our final stop. They bring to the world the aroma and taste of pepper!

Mr.Jacob Ninan, the third generation family member, explained how backward integration works to procure good quality pepper, turmeric and fenugreek and the heat sterilisation technique they use to obtain the best outcome.

A quick peep into taste pyramid and umami-the fifth taste - took us by surprise about the unlimited opportunities in this sector and the untapped potential Kerala has. In school we were all taught about sweet, salt, sour and bitter, but now it is understood that there is one more taste which is umami meaning 'savory'. This Japanese word describes taste as meaty, savoury and delicious that deepens flavour. The tour came to an end by Mr.Ninan Philip gifting all of us with chocolates and Kitchen Treasures Palada mix. What more can you ask for?

Not to forget was the sumptuous meal and tea and coffee breaks that were so well integrated into the plan thus ensuring no wastage of time. The simplicity and humility of the whole team are truly inspiring.

May they win more accolades and add more feathers to their cap.





MKK Nair

Memorial lecture



KMA organised the M K K Nair memorial lecture on 22 September. FACT former CMD and Director of Chittilappilly Foundation Dr. George Sleeba gave a touching remembrance speech. He recalled that M K K Nair was a visionary leader. Nair was a personality who made invaluable contributions to the progress of the industry. It was M K K Nair's hard work that built FACT into its present form. George Sleeba opined that it was MKK Nair who changed the view of society towards public

sector undertakings.

KMA President L. Nirmala recalled that M K K Nair was the person who convinced the workers and society about the importance of management of an industry. She said that M K is a role model for the Management students.

KSPIFC Chairman Preman Dinraj was the chief guest. He said that the basic principle of management is the ability to adopt agile, accurate and prompt action at critical junctures. It is important

for management and workers to identify what the objective of any organization is. Any organization succeeds when it works together to achieve this goal. He said that if the management and the workers work together to achieve the exact goal, better results can be achieved

M K K Nair Memorial Lecture Chairman and CIAL Former Airport Director and State Electricity Ombudsman A C K Nair and KMA Honorary Secretary Algiers Khalid spoke.



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by pitting it against your peers in the industry.



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home to their institution. With a mix of Business and Management Questions; and traditional General Knowledge rounds, the quiz is guaranteed to pump your adrenalin and get your brain juices flowing.

KMA brings its Quiz 2022 - KMA Quest to the Corporates of Kochi. Teams of 2/3 may participate to joust and bring glory and the winners trophy

Just brush up your General Knowledge and Management Awareness and get ready for a tussle for the crown!



23rd Sept 2022

Dear Shri S R Nair Saheb,

Namaste

With the Grace of the Almighty, we got an opportunity to be among the finest persons on Thursday, 15th September 2022, in Kochi, the best city of "God's Own Country", on the occasion of the Book Launch of my autobiography, 'Diamonds are forever, so are morals' jointly organised by KMA, TIE and ISTD at Crowne Plaza. The success of an event can only be attributed to your efforts. We are all delighted and thankful to you for providing a platform for excellent interaction.

I am aware that you have relentlessly worked towards the success of this event for over a month. In a very befitting manner, all guests were invited. All relevant pages of the book were marked separately, which indicates that the entire book was read by you. Our conversation on the stage was conducted in a lovely way. I am very delighted to be a part of the discussion.

I am deeply impressed with your meticulous planning and the team spirit of all concerned. From the moment we landed at Kochi airport on the 14th Sept your hospitality was visible. At the Hotel, we were well received by Ms Lilly Nirmala, President, KMA, ensuring appropriate accommodation for all of us.

It was my immense pleasure meeting the office bearers of organising associations. With my over three decades of experience in public speaking, I can say, without hesitation, that it was one of the best events of this kind. Press conference before the main event speaks volumes about journalism in your state. I found all journalists present very disciplined and well-informed. The positivity experienced when we entered the Ballroom still reverberates around me.

The moment we entered the venue, the enthusiasm and eagerness of all present were visible. Vibrancy was experienced when you and your colleagues welcomed us in a very cordial manner.

I was pleased interacting with Shri Hibi Eden, a very learned and erudite Member of Parliament from the Ernakulam Lok Sabha constituency. You have built an excellent team which will take your institution to greater heights. I am very thankful to all of you for honouring me with a 'Leadership Award.' Despite my limitation in English, all present listened to me in a very passionate manner in Hindi.

As you rightly mentioned, SR and SRK are now united for a long time. Accept our gratitude from us, including my grand-son and other team members of SRK who accompanied me to a function.

May the Almighty be with you forever in your journey, and May He give you immense strength... May your health be maintained ... and May God's Grace be upon your family forever...!

Regards,

Govind Dholakia Jai Ramji Ki...!!

srk.one

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KMA Woman Managers' forum conducting a Panel Discussion

on 6th October 2022

by Mr. Krishnakumar Ramanathan at 6 pm online.



Algiers Khalid
Honorary Secretary

A One-Day Workshop on Communicating for Business Leadership Success

by Mr. Shainu Varghese, Senior Leadership Development Trainer,
Tata Consultancy Services Ltd., Kochi on 13th October 2022.

KMA Corporate Cricket League schedule to be held

on 15-16 October, 2022 at Parkway, Kalamassery

CEO Talk on the topic: Steering across sectors

on 20th October 2022

By Mr. Malay Chatterjee, Member, OREAT Tribunal at Govt of Odisha

Secretariat NEWS

Dear Members

Greetings from the Secretariat!

Hope you and you families had great Onam celebration. As usual this month also was hectic with lots of activities. On 2nd September our President inaugurated the Onam celebration at St. Josephs School Kadavanthara and had lunch with the children. On 5th September we had Onam celebration at KMA House. We had good representation from the Managing Committee attending the celebration. On 19th September our Senior Vice President Mr. A Balakrishnan addressed the students of the first year MBA. On 24th September President Nirmala was the moderator for a panel discussion on the topic "Leaders of Tomorrow" organized by KSUM. On 28th September again President L Nirmala had an interaction with the students of FISAT on the topic "Business Leadership & Industry Expectations". A delegation of 8 Managing Committee members (L Nirmala, A Balakrishnan, Bibu Punnooran, Algiers Khalid, Dileep Narayanan, R Madhav Chandran, Dinesh Thampi & Lt. Jojoe Jacob) attended the 49th All India National Management Convention held from 20-21 September at New Delhi.

We have lots of programs lined up for the month of October. Looking forward for your support, guidance and participation in all the programs.

Always at your service.

Lt. Jojoe Jacob
Executive Director



Memoir as President of KMA & AIMA



T. T. THOMAS

KMA President 1991-92

AIMA President 2000-01

In the seventies, management was not a well-accepted discipline to pursue, except in IIMs. There was considerable demand from working managers for orientation courses like MDPs, Training programs etc. KMA however had limited space to offer these courses. Therefore, programs were conducted at productivity council hall in Kalamassery or at any affordable hotel. Among them, the International hotel was the favorite place at that time. The quest for an own building started before I became KMA President. However, KMA did not have the adequate resources to go ahead at that time with such a major project. Even the flagship program of annual convention was often hand to mouth and did not generate enough money for building its own KMA house. It all started after getting the land allocated from government authorities with the tireless efforts of many KMA members. Presidents & members then initiated a massive fund collection drive within Kerala and outside. One of the leading companies among them was FACT. They were in the forefront by not only directly contributing a large sum but also through its vast network of associates across south India. I vividly remember, the well-wishers of the management movement of FACT's Marketing network spread from Kanyakumari to Visakhapatnam earnestly participating in the fund-raising effort. From within our state of

After a couple of stints as committee member, I was elected as President of KMA for the year 1991-92. It was a great honour to take the mantle of this prestigious management association which had in the past several stalwarts of FACT like Padmashre Paul Pothen (Secretary 1960-65), Shri MKK Nayar (1960-71), Shri BK Khanna (1971-72), Shri Dr. P.K. Narayanaswamy (1978-79), Shri NB Chandran (1986) et al.

Kerala, we got a large-hearted response to KMA's appeal for funds to build the KMA house from several leading companies. I must place on record the unforgettable contribution by Shri P. Kesavan (President 1983), Shri VN Venugopal (President 1987), Shri KP Philip (President 1989-90), Shri AK Mathew (President 1997-98), Shri N. Sreekumar (President 1998-99), Shri AK Nair (President 1999-2000), Shri MK Koshy (President 2000-01) and all others. One of the major contributors then was Cominco Binani Zinc Limited. I also remember a group of us consisting of Shri George Varghese MD of OEN Connectors Limited, Shri NP Gopalakrishnan (President 1981) and Shri Thomas Oommen (President 1988-89) and myself went by car all the way to Kannur to meet Shri. A.K. Khaderkutty Founder and then Managing Director of The Western India Plywoods Limited. He too then contributed a large sum of money to support our efforts for an own Management house.

Finally, the foundation stone for the Management house was laid by Shri

G. Binani, Chairman of Binani Zinc Limited on 28th July 1991 and the new building was inaugurated by Shri SM Dutta, Chairman Hindustan Lever Limited on 29th May 1993 during the Presidentship of Smt Pamela Anna Mathew (1992-93).

Very many eminent personalities have addressed KMA members during the first part of the new millennium. Some of the luminaries who addressed KMA members were Sam Pitroda, S.M Datta and Mark Tully ex BBC India Chief, the latter released my book 'Story of FACT Ltd: A Study on Public Sector Management'. KMA then had nationally and internationally recognized management professionals who enhanced KMA's brand equity, which is its greatest asset. KMA hosted an AIMA council meeting at Cochin in 2000 with about 20 very senior industry leaders from all over the country attending it. Some of the industry leaders later told me that 'we like Kerala and Keralites, but not its industrial culture'.

One another event, that comes to my mind is a visit to Trivandrum



Left to right: Dr. Ram Tarneja Past President AIMA & Former chief of Bennett Colman & Co, TT Thomas President AIMA 2000-01, Mukesh Ambani Chairman Reliance Industries, Dr. AC Muthaiah Former Chairman & MD SPIC Limited, KV Kamath, Former Chairman & CEO ICICI Bank Limited

Doordarshan studio along with then Vice President Smt Pamela Anna Mathew and Dr Ranganathan, Director of School of Management studies, Cochin university. It was long before the cacophony of media discussions by 'experts' that we watch today. Our panel discussion at Doordarshan was on "Industrialization of Kerala, its problems and solutions". Interesting part of this discussion was about the problems and solutions. What was then discussed and brought out still continues to be narrated and discussed even today. Nothing has changed except for grandiose industrial policy announcements by successive governments and marginal changes due to application of IT solutions.

I was elected president of All India management association (AIMA) for the year 2000-2001 at its council meeting held in Calcutta along with the AIMA annual convention of that year. Prior to that, I was Vice-president of AIMA for two terms, representing South Zone in the Council. AIMA at that time had four regional councils North, West, South and East. I was egged on to join the SRC as a stepping stone to the AIMA hierarchy by Shri N.P Gopalakrishnan, KMA President. for the year 1981.

Election of AIMA President was always by consensus till then. However, in 2000-2001, there was an election for the Presidentship for the first time in the history of

AIMA. The candidate opposing me was Shri Venkataramani, Managing Director of India Pistons, a TVS Group company. There was an attempt by some senior members to dissuade me from contesting. I took counsel from Shri Jose Philip, who was Secretary of KMA in 1998-99 and later became KMA President 2001-02. He was then in Calcutta along with me attending the AIMA annual convention as a delegate. Shri Jose felt that and that I should not withdraw. Afterall, the choice was to be made by the Council members. Eventually after the voting, I was elected with a razor thin margin of one vote. This changed the election eco system for ever.

The year 2000 was very eventful for global business. That was the era of the Y2K phenomenon when the world transitioned from 19th century to 20th century requiring several modifications across the board in existing software. India and Indians became a noticeable software power in 2000, due to their contributions that made the smooth transition to the new millennium.

AIMA and its affiliated LMAs were enablers to conduct seminars and interactive sessions all across the country with senior executives and experts from within and outside the country. This was a challenging mission which AIMA executed very well. It gave a lot of confidence to the participants and the public at

large on the ability of India and the global system to face the challenges of Y2K.

A notable achievement during my Presidency was the establishment of affiliated LMAs outside the country in Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) countries at Qatar and Mauritius. This was a significant effort to consolidate India's soft power in the crucial IOR. The Qatar Management Association (QMA) was inaugurated by his excellency the prince of Qatar and the first President of QMA was Shri Nissar Kochery. I had the great honour and privilege to be present for this inaugural function. A notable recognition that AIMA had given to Kerala in 2000, was the Lifetime Achievement Award to doyen of Indian industry and patriarch of Management Education Shri K.T Chandy, Founder Director of IIM Calcutta, which is the first IIM in the country.

Several LMAs were started in a number of cities since post liberalization which gave tremendous confidence and excitement to industry and business in the country. LMAs were allowed to be start only with the approval of AIMA. During my Presidency a new LMA in Orissa wanted to name it as Orissa Management Association. We had a deliberation in the council when a number of members felt that city based LMAs should not be given State name. 'Kerala' in KMA came under the scanner as there was already an objection from one another Kerala based Management Association to KMA calling itself Kerala Management association. The matter was closed when I, as President, pointed out that KMA was functioning even before AIMA.

I am sure in the coming days under the able current and future leadership, KMA will scale even greater heights and glory. My good wishes to the President, MC and all KMA members.

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