

Pune City Dialogue – Panelists Biographies

BAJAJ, Mr Madhur



Mr. Bajaj is Director and Vice Chairman of Bajaj Auto Limited – a leader in the motorised 2 and 3 wheeler sector. He is also the Chairman of Maharashtra Scooters Limited, besides being Director of Bajaj Electricals Limited and other companies of the Bajaj Group.

He is an alumni of Doon School, Dehra Dun. After obtaining his B.Com Degree from Sydenham College, Bombay, in 1973, he did his MBA at International Institute of Management Development (IMD), Lausanne, Switzerland, in 1979.

He is the immediate President of SIAM, the apex association of Indian automobile manufacturers.

He is the current National Council Member of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Past-Chairman of its Western Region.

He is the President of Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA), the apex Industries Association of Pune.

PARDESHI, Mr Praveensingh

Shri Praveensingh Pardeshi, is the Municipal Commissioner, Pune. He has acquired his Masters from London School of Economics. He started his carrier at 1991 as a Collector at Latur and Solapur. He has been the Municipal Commissioner, Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation. He has been associated with United Nations – Development Programme, and Regional Programme – United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. He has been the Head of Post Conflict Recovery Programme.

CHAVAN, Ms Vandana Hemant



Adv. Ms. Vandana Hemant Chavan is a practicing advocate. She has been equally active in legal, social, political and academic arenas and has been recognized widely in Pune, state and National level for her exemplary work.

She was elected to the post of Secretary, Pune Bar Association, 1987 – 88, worked as Member, District Legal Aid Committee, Pune and Legal Aid Committee Symbiosis Law College.

Have delivered talks/lectures at Rotary, Lions, Jaycees, Innerwheel Clubs Asia Society, USA, in 2000. She has been resource person at The All India Institute of Local Self Government, Mumbai, for the various training programs for elected representatives and

officials of the Local self-governments in India and at YASHADA, a premier training Institute for Senior Government Officials.

Most significant of her political achievements are being elected 'MAYOR OF PUNE', thrice as Councillor to the Pune Municipal Corporation.

She is involved in SPECIAL INITIATIVES IN THE CITY OF PUNE such as Cleanliness Drive for the city, initiative to involve youth and educated women in social activities in the city, recreation Centre for the Senior Citizens. And ALERT – a network initiative to bring about dialogue between government, elected representatives and the citizens.

CHAUDHARI, Mr Pramod



Pramod Chaudhari is Chairman, Praj Industries Limited, India - a business that specializes in clean, green and renewable alternate fuel with a focus on ethanol and biodiesel technology. After graduating as a Mechanical Engineer from IIT Bombay, he established Praj Industries Ltd. in 1984 that now extends across 5 continents.

He has contributed to the National Biofuels Policy as a member of the Committee on Development of Biofuels – Planning Commission, Government of India, for introduction of renewable fuels in India.

He believes in continuous learning and to strengthen his own expertise. He blends entrepreneurial spirit with professional management style to perfection. His ability to channelize the energy of individuals from different walks of life towards their chosen goals is remarkable. He has the rare quality of being able to look beyond and build a picture of the future. Pramod has been profiled in a book called 'Thought Leaders' by a leading Indian Author, which focuses on visionary entrepreneurs. He co-authored a book '*As is what Is*', a story of the journey of Praj which recounts its trials, tribulations and achievements. He is the recipient of several award for his innovation and distinguished entrepreneurship.

BONAGIRI, Mr Sekhar

Shekhar Bhonagiri is a graduate in law & Business Management & has been practicing law for the past 18 years. He is a Legal & Human Resource consultant to various companies in Pune & Bangalore. He has also been teaching Legal aspects of Business & Industrial relations at Symbiosis Institute of Management, Indira Institute for Management, & IMDR.

He conducts outdoor nature camps for children between 7-15 years called Camp Chameleon. He was the coordinator of the Citizens Initiative against De reservation which campaigned against the Municipal Corporations policy of allowing construction on hill tops in Pune. He is actively involved in social causes & supports NGOs involved with education for the girl child in rural areas.