

# Speaker



कर्मयोगी सप्ताह  
NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK



## **B. V. R. Subrahmanyam**

**Designation:** CEO of NITI Aayog

**THEME:** Administration/Judicial Systems

**TOPIC:** Viksit Bharat

B.V.R. Subrahmanyam is the CEO of NITI Aayog, India's apex public policy think tank. He holds a B.E. degree in Mechanical and an MBA from London Business School. Over his career as a 1987 batch IAS officer from the Chhattisgarh cadre, Subrahmanyam has held significant positions including 'Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce & Industry', 'Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir', 'Principal Secretary-Government of Chhattisgarh'. He has also served in senior roles at the PMO serving under Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Shri Narendra Modi. As the CEO of NITI Aayog, Subrahmanyam played a significant role in the discussions related to the G20 meetings, focusing on green and sustainable growth for the global economy. Subrahmanyam's involvement in these discussions underscores his role in shaping India's stance on global economic and environmental issues, contributing to the India's active participation in international forums like G20.



## **Sri Sri Ravi Shankar**

**Designation:** Founder of The Art of Living Foundation

**THEME:** Health

**TOPIC:** Secrets of Living a Stress Free Life

Sri Sri Ravi Shankar is the Founder of "The Art of Living Foundation" and serves as the President of Sri Sri University. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Science from St. Joseph's College, Bengaluru, and has been awarded numerous honorary doctorates from international institutions. As a global spiritual leader, he founded the International Association for Human Values (IAHV) and the World Forum for Ethics in Business. He has played a significant role in global peace efforts, advocating for non-violence and conflict resolution. His work in humanitarian aid has earned him prestigious accolades, including the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian award, and the highest civilian honors from countries like Colombia, Mongolia, and Paraguay. Shri Sri Ravi Shankar's initiatives such as "India Against Corruption" have driven ethical practices in public life, while his teachings on meditation and yoga have transformed millions of lives around the world.



## **Dr. S Somanath**

**Designation:** Chairperson, ISRO - Indian Space Research Organization

**THEME:** Science & Technology

**TOPIC:** Aiming for the Stars: India's Journey in Space

Dr. S. Somanath is a prominent aerospace engineer who holds a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from TKM College of Engineering, a Master's in Aerospace Engineering from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), and a PhD in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Madras. Somanath has previously held key positions including Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) and Director of the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC). Under his leadership, ISRO successfully achieved significant milestones, including the soft landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon, marking a historic achievement in India's space exploration. He was honored with the prestigious Rajyotsava Award by the Government of Karnataka. He has also received the Performance Excellence Award from ISRO for his role in the realization of GSLV Mk-III. He was felicitated with the esteemed K.P.P Nambiar Award, reflecting his invaluable contributions to the field of space technology and research.

# Speaker



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## Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj

**Designation:** IAS and Indian para-badminton player

**THEME:** Sports

**TOPIC:** From Adversity to Achievement: Journey of serving the nation on the court and in Governance

Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj is an Indian para-badminton player and the World No.1 in men's singles. He is also an IAS officer of the 2007 batch of Uttar Pradesh cadre, and has served as District Magistrate of Gautam Buddha Nagar & Prayagraj. He graduated in Computer Science and Engineering from the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Surathkal. Beyond his distinguished civil service career, Suhas made history as the first IAS officer to win a Paralympic medal by securing a silver at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics. His sporting achievements have earned him numerous accolades, including the Arjuna Award and the recognition of being ranked among the top para-badminton players globally. Suhas's dedication to both governance and sports exemplifies his commitment to excellence, resilience, and inspiring leadership.



## Abhinav Bindra

**Designation:** CEO of Abhinav Futuristics Private Limited, Chairperson of the Abhinav Bindra Foundation

**THEME:** Sports

**TOPIC:** India as a sports superpower in Viksit Bharat

Abhinav Bindra is an Indian former sport shooter and a present businessman. He is an Olympic gold medalist and the first and one of only two Indians to win an individual Olympic gold medal. He is currently the Chairperson of Abhinav Bindra Foundation, focusing on advancing sports and athlete development in India. He holds a B.B.A. degree from the University of Colorado, USA. Bindra's historic gold medal win in the 10m air rifle event at the 2008 Beijing Olympics marked a defining moment in Indian sports history. He has held significant key roles including membership in the International Olympic Committee's Athletes' Commission and being a part of the Athletes' Advisory Committee of the Indian Olympic Association. Abhinav's contributions to sports have earned him the prestigious Padma Bhushan and Arjuna Award. He continues to inspire future generations through his commitment to excellence, resilience, and the development of India's sporting ecosystem.



## Vikram Misri

**Designation:** Secretary MEA

**THEME:** Internal Security & Foreign Affairs

**TOPIC:** Leveraging Diplomacy for National Development and Security

Vikram Misri is an Indian diplomat currently serving as the 35th Foreign Secretary of India and previously served as the Deputy National Security Advisor (NSA) of India from 1 January 2022, where he played a key role in shaping the nation's strategic and security policies. He holds a Bachelor's degree in History from Hindu College, University of Delhi, and an MBA from XLRI, Jamshedpur. A seasoned diplomat, Misri has held several significant positions in the Indian Foreign Service, including his role as the Ambassador of India to China, Myanmar, and Spain. His career also includes pivotal assignments in the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of External Affairs. Vikram Misri's diplomatic expertise has been crucial in managing complex international relations, particularly during his tenure in China. His extensive experience in foreign policy and strategic issues continues to influence India's approach to global diplomacy and national security.



# Speaker



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NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK



## Srikanth Velamakanni

**Designation:** Co-Founder, Group Chief Executive & Executive Vice-Chairman- Fractal

**THEME:** Science & Technology

**TOPIC:** AI to revolutionize governance and society

Srikanth Velamakanni is a global leader in AI and analytics solutions for Fortune 500® companies. With over 20 years of experience, he has been dedicated to enhancing decision-making through data and AI, while fostering a culture of excellence and innovation at Fractal. Srikanth leads the Fractal group of companies, which includes Fractal.ai, along with other ventures like Qure.ai, Eugenie.ai, FinalMile, Crux Intelligence, Neal Analytics, Theremin.ai, and Asper.ai.

Beyond his role at Fractal, Srikanth serves as an Independent Director at Metro Brands, BARC India, and NIIT Ltd., and as the Non-Executive Chairman at ideaForge, where he leverages his expertise and network to support growth and innovation. He is also the founder and trustee of Plaksha University, contributing to the field of education. He has also served as an Executive Council at NASSCOM for the past five years, demonstrating his commitment to advancing technology and AI in India.



## Kris Gopalakrishnan

**Designation:** Chairman Axilor Ventures

**THEME:** Science & Technology

**TOPIC:** Making India an R&D Superpower

Mr Senapathy "Kris" Gopalakrishnan is the Chairman of Axilor Ventures, an accelerator that helps start-ups during the early stage of their business journey. Kris served as the Vice Chairman of Infosys from 2011-2014 and the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Infosys from 2007-2011. He is one of the co-founders of Infosys. Recognized as a global business and technology thought leader, he was voted the top CEO (IT Services category) in Institutional Investor's inaugural ranking of Asia's Top Executives and selected as one of the winners of 2nd Asian Corporate Director Recognition Awards by Corporate Governance Asia in 2011. He was elected President of India's apex industry chamber Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2013-14 and served as one of the co-chairs of the World Economic Forum in Davos. He is the chairman of Itihaasa Research and the Co-author of "Against All Odds – The IT Story of India".



## Puneet Chandok

**Designation:** President, Microsoft India & South Asia | Chair CII AI Council

**THEME:** Science & Technology

**TOPIC:** AI – Hyped or Underhyped?

Puneet Chandok is the President of Microsoft India and South Asia, responsible for driving Microsoft's overall presence and business in the region. He leads the company's mission of empowering every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more by accelerating digital transformation through AI and the intelligent cloud. Puneet heads a team focused on boosting growth in India & South Asia, helping businesses harness intelligent data and technology to create value in a digital-first world. With a proven track record, Puneet has built and scaled several high-growth technology businesses in leadership roles at AWS, McKinsey, and IBM. He is passionate about 'Performance with Purpose', leveraging technology to create large-scale impact while leading with empathy. Puneet is a member of the NASSCOM Executive Council, the CII National Council, and also serves as the Chair of CII's AI Council.

# Speaker



कर्मयोगी सप्ताह  
NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK



## Neelkanth Mishra

**Designation:** Chief Economist, Axis Bank and Head of Global Research, Axis Capital

**THEME:** Economy & Finance

**TOPIC:** International Financial Landscape And India's Role In It

Neelkanth Mishra is a gold-medalist and a distinguished Alumnus Awardee from IIT-Kanpur who began his career after being ranked fourth in the IIT entrance exam. He has earned a reputation as one of India's top analysts by consistently rated the best in investor polls over the years. He had a distinguished two-decade career at Credit Suisse, serving as Co-Head of Asia Pacific Strategy and the India Strategist. He is currently a part-time member of the Indian Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, Chairman of UIDAI (Aadhaar), and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). Additionally, he has advised government bodies like the India Semiconductor Mission and the 15th & 16th Finance Commission. Neelkanth is also a member of CII's Economic Affairs Council and frequently presents to corporate boards.



## Anand Ramamoorthy

**Designation:** MD, Micron India and Ex-MD Intel

**THEME:** Science & Technology

**TOPIC:** Semiconductors: The new oil

A technology executive with over two decades of global experience, Anand has a proven track record in building high-performance teams, introducing flagship products, driving nonlinear business growth, and leading organizational transformation. Under his leadership, Micron India achieved the fastest headcount and competency growth in Indian semiconductor history generating more than 200 patents. Anand's prior roles include leading Intel's South Asia business for semiconductors and cybersecurity, where he drove rapid growth in the mobile, tablet, and data center segments. He has also served as the Managing Director of Harman India. He is currently on the boards of BoAT, Uniken, and Hexagon and is also part of Telangana's investment council. Anand is also a frequent speaker at NASSCOM, CII, and AMCHAM events, mentors entrepreneurs, and has been featured in CNBC's 'Young Turk' and NDTV. He is an alum of Harvard Business School (AMP) and IIT Roorkee.



## Mridula Ramesh

**Designation:** Founder-Sundaram Climate Institute | Director- DTL|

Executive Director - Sundaram Textiles Ltd.

**THEME:** Environment

**TOPIC:** Climate Change and Water Security: Building Resilience for a Sustainable Future

Mridula Ramesh is an award-winning author of the critically acclaimed "The Climate Solution and Watershed", and the founder of Sundaram Climate Institute, which focuses on waste and water solutions. She is an active cleantech angel investor with a portfolio of over twenty start-ups, and is involved with several initiatives to spur climate tech entrepreneurship. A graduate with distinction from Cornell University and an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management, Mridula worked at McKinsey in Silicon Valley and is the executive director of Sundaram Textiles - the company was amongst the first textile companies globally to win the coveted TPM Excellence Award. She is part of the board of trustees of World Wildlife Fund, India, and chairperson of the board of governors at National Institute of Technology, Andhra Pradesh.

# Speaker



कर्मयोगी सप्ताह  
NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK



## **R. Venkataramani**

**Designation:** 14th Attorney General of India

**THEME:** Administration/Judicial Systems

**TOPIC:** Overview of India's Judicial System: Laws, Government and Courts

R. Venkataramani is the 14th Attorney General of India, a position he assumed in October 2022. He completed his Bachelor's degree in Law from Madras Law College. Over his distinguished legal career spanning more than four decades, Venkataramani has held significant roles, including Senior Advocate in the Supreme Court of India and Member of the Law Commission of India. He has also served as a part of numerous committees on legal reforms, contributing to the development of jurisprudence in the country. Venkataramani's expertise in constitutional law, taxation, human rights, and public interest litigation has earned him widespread recognition in the legal community. His dedication to justice and integrity has established him as one of the most respected figures in India's judicial landscape.



## **Rajan Anandan**

**Designation:** Managing Director Peak XV & Surge

**THEME:** Business/Entrepreneurship

**TOPIC:** Indian's start up ecosystem: Powering India's Growth

As part of the leadership team at Peak XV Partners, Rajan is focusing on developing Surge into the world's top scale-up program for startups by acting as an investment advisor and mentor to the programme's founders. Surge aims to engineer rapid early progress for startups, by enabling disproportionate access to capital, talent, network and decades of company-building knowledge. Rajan's deep understanding of technology, operating expertise and a track record of growing tech businesses across the region will help Surge's founders scale and build the businesses of tomorrow. Prior to Peak XV, as Head of Google India and Southeast Asia, Rajan played a key role in expanding the region's internet ecosystem while accelerating Google's innovation and growth units. He has backed a large number of successful startups at very early stages. Rajan also led Microsoft and Dell in India and was earlier a Partner at McKinsey & Company in Chicago.



## **Prof. Bharat Anand**

**Designation:** Vice Provost for Advances in Learning at Harvard University|

Henry R. Byers Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School

**THEME:** Science & Technology

**TOPIC:** eLearning for a Billion People

Bharat N. Anand is an expert in digital strategy, media and entertainment strategy, corporate strategy, and organizational change. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University and a Bachelor's degree in Economics (magna cum laude) from Harvard College. Throughout his career, Anand has held key positions, including Senior Associate Dean at Harvard Business School and Chair of Harvard's Future of Teaching and Learning Task Force. His book, "The Content Trap," has received acclaim for its insights on strategy and digital transformation. Bharat Anand has been recognized with prestigious awards like the Apgar Award for Innovation in Teaching and the Greenhill Award for his outstanding contributions to Harvard Business School. His work continues to influence the way organizations approach strategy and digital learning.



# Speaker



कर्मयोगी सप्ताह  
NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK



## **Nandan Nilekani**

**Designation:** Co-founder & Chairman of the Board, Infosys

**THEME:** Science & Technology

**TOPIC:** Digital Public Infrastructure: At present and opportunities going forward

Nandan Nilekani is an Indian entrepreneur and the Co-Founder and Chairman of Infosys Technologies Limited. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay. Nilekani has held several key positions throughout his career, including serving as the Chairman of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), where he led the development and implementation of Aadhaar, the world's largest biometric ID system. He has also served as the President of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). He authored "Imagining India", co-authored "Rebooting India: Realizing a Billion Aspirations" and "The Art of Bitfulness: Keeping Calm in the Digital World". Nilekani's contributions to technology and public service have earned him numerous accolades, including the Padma Bhushan in 2006, being named one of Time Magazine's 100 most influential people in the world, and the Joseph Schumpeter Prize for innovative services in politics and economy.



## **Shankar Maruwada**

**Designation:** Co-founder and CEO, EkStep

**THEME:** Science & Technology

**TOPIC:** Digital Public Infra: How we got here, Opportunities Going Forward

Shankar Maruwada is the Co-Founder and CEO of EkStep Foundation, an organization focused on enhancing learning opportunities in India through technology. He is an entrepreneur and marketing professional with a wide range of experience working on large scale projects such as the AADHAAR, India's national identification programme, where he was the Head of Demand Generation and Marketing. He holds a degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT Kharagpur and an MBA from IIM Ahmedabad. Shankar pioneered data analytics in India through Marketics, a company he co-founded. He has been recognized for his contributions to driving social impact through innovation in education and technology.



## **Raghava Krishna**

**Designation:** Founder and CEO - BRHAT

**THEME:** Indic

**TOPIC:** IKS and the Multidisciplinary Mind for Complex Futures

Raghava Krishna is the Founder and CEO of BRHAT, a visionary organization dedicated to promoting Indian knowledge systems, culture, and values. With a deep passion for reviving and integrating traditional wisdom into modern contexts, Raghava has been instrumental in building BRHAT into a platform that fosters dialogue and engagement with ancient Indian philosophies. Under his leadership, BRHAT works on various initiatives that connect heritage, technology, and education to empower individuals and communities. Raghava Krishna's entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to preserving cultural heritage have made him a significant figure in the field of cultural innovation and leadership.

# Speaker



कर्मयोगी सप्ताह  
NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK



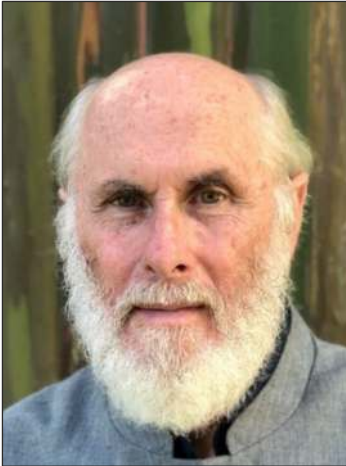
## Amritanshu Pandey

**Designation:** Director, Strategy and Ops at BRHAT

**THEME:** Indic

**TOPIC:** Building a Civilization through Sanskriti and Sanskrit

Amritanshu Pandey is the Director of Strategy and Operations at BRHAT, with over a decade of experience in product development, innovation, and business excellence. He has held leadership roles at boodmo, Dunzo, and ASSA ABLOY, showcasing his passion for building new ventures from the ground up. A thorough product management professional, Amritanshu excels in business development, customer relationships backed by deep analytics, and product marketing with a focus on innovation, life-cycle management, and consumer behaviour. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Jamia Millia Islamia and an International Baccalaureate in Physics from Mahindra United World College of India. His expertise lies in product management, business development, and driving innovation across sectors.



## David Frawley

**Designation:** American Hindu writer, Astrologer, Acharya, Ayurvedic Practitioner, and Hindutva Activist.

**THEME:** Indic

**TOPIC:** Striving for Excellence the Karmayoga way

David Frawley, also known as Vamadeva Shastri, is the Founder and Director of the American Institute of Vedic Studies. He holds a D.Litt in Yoga and Vedic Sciences from SVYASA, the highest possible degree in Yoga & Vedic science. Frawley is a prolific writer, having authored over 40 books on Ayurveda, Yoga, Hinduism, and Vedic astrology, which have gained significant popularity. He has also served as President of the American Council of Vedic Astrology and taught Chinese herbal medicine and Western herbology. In recognition of his contributions to Indian philosophy and education, he was awarded the Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian honor, in 2015. He has also been awarded the prestigious "National Eminence Award" by the South Indian Education Society (SIES) in Mumbai recognizing him as an international expert in Ayurveda, Yoga, and Vedic Astrology.



## Dr. M.K. Sridhar

**Designation:** Researcher, Teacher, Mentor and Social Activist

**THEME:** Social Development – Education

**TOPIC:** NEP

An inspiring academician and Professor in Management, popularly known as MKS, Prof. M. K. Sridhar is a Teacher, Researcher, Institution Builder, and Mentor to thousands of students across the world. He obtained Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Mysore. He served as Professor and Dean at Canara Bank School of Management Studies. He is a trainer and a Social Activist for Social and National causes. His life sketch was published as a book entitled 'Sahasra Padhi' in Kannada. Presently, he is the Executive Council Member of Central University of Kerala, VP of Indian Red Cross Society, Karnataka chapter, President of Centre for Educational and Social Studies (CESS), Yuvaka Sangha, member of a task force on NEP in Karnataka as well as the ICSSR Senior Fellow at ISEC, Bengaluru. He was conferred with Karnataka Rajyotsava Award by Government of Karnataka and General President Gold Medal by Indian Science Congress Association.



# Speaker



कर्मयोगी सप्ताह  
NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK



## Dr. Soumya Swaminathan

**Designation:** Chairperson, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF)

**THEME:** Health

**TOPIC:** India Public Health towards Viksit Bharat

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chairperson of M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), is a renowned pediatrician and global health leader, most recently served as the WHO's Chief Scientist. She received her academic training in India, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. With over 30 years of experience in clinical care and research, particularly in tuberculosis and HIV, Dr. Swaminathan has held key roles, including Deputy Director-General for Programmes at WHO and Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research. She has published over 450 peer-reviewed works and is a Fellow of multiple prestigious academies, including the US National Academy of Medicine, the Academy of Medical Sciences of the UK, and a Fellow of all the science academies in India. She has received several honorary doctorates, including from EPFL, Lausanne and the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.



## Vinayak Chatterjee

**Designation:** Founder and Managing Trustee, The Infravision Foundation

**THEME:** Infrastructure

**TOPIC:** Stages of Infrastructure Development – The Indian Experience

Vinayak Chatterjee is the co-founder of Feedback Infra Pvt. Ltd., a consulting-engineering firm, where he served as Chairman from 1990 -2021. He holds a degree in Economics (Hons.) from St. Stephen's College, and an MBA from IIM Ahmedabad. Currently, he focuses on infrastructure policy, advocacy, and capacity building through "The Infravision Foundation", where he is the Managing Trustee. He has advised corporates and the Government of India on infrastructure and is a strong advocate of the Public-Private Partnership model. The World Economic Forum at Davos recognized him as one of the 100 Global Leaders of Tomorrow. IIM Ahmedabad conferred on him the "Distinguished Alumnus Award". He is on the board of Indraprastha Medical Corporation Limited, Apollo Healthco Ltd., KEC International, and LTI Mindtree. He is a well-read columnist, writes a monthly column on infrastructure for Business Standard called 'INFRATALK'. He has authored a book titled "Getting it Right – India's Unfolding Infrastructure Agenda".



## Sunita Bhuyan

**Designation:** A trained violinist and HR professional

**THEME:** Indic

**TOPIC:** Music: Inspiration for Learning

Sunita Bhuyan is an acclaimed Indian violinist and music educator, known for her expertise in both classical and folk music. Trained under her mother, renowned violinist Minoti Khaund, she holds a Master's degree in Hindustani classical music. Sunita has performed on prestigious platforms, blending traditional and contemporary styles, and has conducted workshops on music therapy and stress management. Beyond her musical career, she integrates music into corporate leadership programs, focusing on leadership and change management. Sunita's contributions have earned her notable accolades, including the Priyadarshini Award for excellence in music and the Rashtriya Gaurav Award for promoting Indian music globally. She continues to inspire with her performances and innovative workshops, making a significant impact in both the arts and social causes.



# Speaker



कर्मयोगी सप्ताह  
NATIONAL LEARNING WEEK



## **B.K. Shivani**

**Designation:** Brahma Kumari World Spiritual Organization

**THEME:** Health

**TOPIC:** Creating a Mindful Work Culture: Strategies for Leaders and Teams

BK Shivani is a practitioner of Rajyog Meditation of the Brahma Kumaris for over 25 years. Her practical application of spiritual principles on the TV programme 'Awakening With Brahma Kumaris', for over 15 years has empowered people to overcome issues of emotional distress, depression and relationship conflicts. In March 2019, she was awarded the prestigious Nari Shakti Puraskaar, the highest civilian honor for women in India, for her role in transforming human behaviors. Since 2017 she has been appointed as Goodwill Ambassador by the World Psychiatrist Association. She is an electronics engineer from Pune University.



## **Anurag Behar**

**Designation:** CEO of Azim Premji Foundation & Chancellor of Azim Premji University, Bhopal

**THEME:** Social Development - Education

**TOPIC:** Inclusive Education and Capacity Building for Public Service

Anurag Behar is the CEO of the Azim Premji Foundation and a recognized leader in the field of education and sustainability. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Engineering and an MBA from XLRI Jamshedpur. Anurag has played a pivotal role in shaping the Foundation's efforts to improve public education in India, working across several states to enhance the quality of education. He is also a key figure in Wipro's sustainability initiatives, serving as Wipro's Chief Sustainability Officer. Anurag has been deeply involved in education policy discussions and has contributed extensively to creating strategies for long-term educational reform. Under his leadership, the Azim Premji Foundation has made significant strides in improving access to quality education, especially in rural India. Anurag's work has earned him respect as a thought leader in both the education and sustainability sectors.