MADRAS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
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KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

REIMAGINING LEADERSHIP IN AN AI DRIVEN WORLD



NOV 26 2026

THURSDAY
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
MMA MANAGEMENT CENTER



MR NITIN PARANJPE
Vice Chairman and
Independent Director, Infosys
& Non-Executive Chairman
Hindustan Unilever Limited



MR LAKSHMI NARAYANAN
Chancellor & Chairperson, Governing Council
Krea University



MS ANU OZA
Leadership Development Consultant

Synopsis

MMA–ICT Academy Leadership Lecture Series | Third Edition

Theme: “REIMAGINING LEADERSHIP IN AN AI-DRIVEN WORLD”

Will AI End the Indian IT Story, or Begin Its Next Chapter?

A candid look at the critical choices that will shape the future of India's IT industry.

Will Artificial Intelligence disrupt India's remarkable IT success story, or unlock an exciting new chapter of growth and opportunity?

In this thought-provoking address, Mr Nitin Paranjpe presents both the bear case and the bull case for India's IT industry with equal seriousness and candour. He explores how both perspectives emerge from the same set of facts, yet point towards vastly different futures—depending on the strategic choices companies and their leaders make today.

This promises to be a distinctive and insightful conversation, offering candid reflections from an experienced business leader rather than pronouncements from a technology expert.

An opportunity to gain fresh perspectives on the challenges, choices and possibilities that lie ahead for India's IT industry in an AI-driven world.

Program

5:15 PM — Registration & High Tea

6:00 PM — Welcome Address

Mr Manoj Joseph
Honorary Treasurer, MMA &
Managing Director, Thejo Engineering Ltd

Overview & Introductory Remarks –
"Reimagining Leadership in an AI driven world"

Mr Lakshmi Narayanan
Chancellor & Chairperson, Governing Council
Krea University and Founder, ICT Academy

Address by the Chief Guest

Mr Nitin Paranjpe
Vice Chairman and Independent Director, Infosys &
Non-Executive Chairman, Hindustan Unilever Limited

Mr Nitin Paranjpe in conversation with

Mr Lakshmi Narayanan
Moderated by

Ms Anu Oza
Leadership Development Consultant

Q&A

7:25 PM — Vote of Thanks

Gp Capt R Vijayakumar (Retd), VSM
Executive Director
Madras Management Association

7:30 PM — End of the Programme

Profile



Mr Nitin Paranjpe

Vice Chairman and Independent Director, Infosys &
Non-Executive Chairman, Hindustan Unilever Limited

Mr Nitin Paranjpe is the Vice Chairman and Independent Director, Infosys.

Simultaneously he is Non-Executive Chairman of Hindustan Unilever Limited.

Nitin was a part of the Unilever Leadership Executive for over a decade. He was Unilever's Chief Transformation and Chief People Officer from 2022 to June 1, 2024. Earlier, he was Unilever's Chief Operating Officer (COO), delivering in-year results (P&L) for Unilever globally, leveraging synergies, building future capabilities, and accelerating the organisation's digitisation.

Before becoming Unilever's COO, he was President of Foods & Refreshment for Unilever. From 2013 to 2017, he was President of Unilever's Home Care Division.

Nitin joined Hindustan Lever Limited in 1987, where he held various marketing and sales roles. In 2000, he moved to Unilever London and was involved in reviewing the organisation's structure. In 2001, he was Executive Assistant to the Chairman and Unilever Executive Committee.

On his return to India in 2002, Nitin held several senior positions in Laundry and Household Care, including Vice President of Home Care (2004) and Executive Director of Home and Personal Care (2006). In April 2008, he was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Hindustan Unilever Limited, India, and Executive Vice President of Unilever, South Asia.

In 2019, he won the GG2 Hammer Award for his efforts in blazing a trail for diversity. In 2020, the Women of the Future Network gave him a Kindness Award in recognition of his leadership, guidance, and empathy. Nitin holds a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA in Marketing from Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management (JBIM) in Mumbai.

Profile



Mr Lakshmi Narayanan
Chancellor
Chairperson Governing Council, KREA University

Mr Lakshmi Narayanan is the Co-Founder of Cognizant and Director, ICT Academy, Chennai Mathematical Institute. He is a Technology industry professional, who has spent over 40 years in the IT industry, with the last few years in a leadership and governance role in Cognizant's Board. He is passionate about encouraging young minds to seek a larger purpose in life and encourages them to realise their potential through higher education and entrepreneurship. He plays an active role in ICT education and promotes research in Math and Computer Science.

His association with ICT Academy, Chennai Mathematical Institute, and Thiagarajar School of Management is aimed at promoting excellence in higher education. He is also actively involved in nonprofits, such as United Way, CHILDS Trust Medical Research Foundation, and others, to advance the cause of disadvantaged people and create meaningful livelihood opportunities in areas of technology and healthcare. He supports young entrepreneurs through angel investments as part of The Chennai Angels and the TiE Organisation. His recent investments include deep tech startups, space startups and energy ideas.

Profile



Ms Anu Oza

Leadership Development Consultant

Ms Anu Oza is a Leadership Development professional with over three decades of experience advising CEOs and senior teams across India and internationally. Her work spans leadership development, executive facilitation and coaching, and is grounded in a career that has moved across multiple sectors, three continents and some of the most respected institutions in business and academia.

Her career began at Hindustan Unilever, where she spent nine years and where her understanding of how organisations build leaders was formed. Hindustan Unilever is widely regarded as one of India's finest talent factories, and the rigour it brings to people development has stayed at the centre of her work ever since. Over the years her career has spanned three of the world's major financial capitals, New York, London and Mumbai, an arc very few leadership professionals have in a single career. At the United Nations in New York, she directed CSR and Communications projects for the Global Compact and led the first-ever project on Public-Private Partnerships for UNFPA. She built and led the Leadership Development practice for Mercer in India, where she also carried revenue generation responsibilities, running it as a business and not only as a practice. She has designed senior leadership pipelines at Accenture, and headed Human Resources at Foster Wheeler through a significant organisational transition.

Her academic foundation spans the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, the London School of Economics, where she completed an MSc in Development Studies, and Harvard Kennedy School, where she completed her Master in Public Administration. The immersion at Harvard, in particular, shaped how she thinks about leadership: not as a set of competencies to be trained, but as a capacity to be developed across systems, sectors and the full complexity of organisational life.

She bring a T-shaped perspective to her work, broad across industries, sectors and geographies, and deep within leadership development itself. She has worked across retail, power, pharmaceuticals, media, software and the non-profit sector, with leaders at every level. She was also selected to the Marshall Goldsmith 100 Coaches, a global group of one hundred chosen for measurable impact in their field.

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