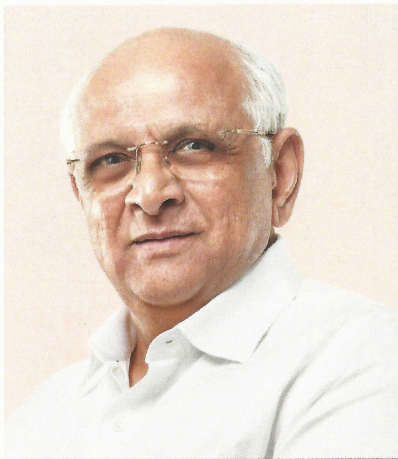


દિવ્ય ભાસ્કર

ECHOES
OF *Gujarat*



Bhupendra Patel

Chief Minister, Gujarat State



Dt. 29-08-2023

High regards for Mother, Mother Tongue and Motherland is the quality imbibed in the blood of Gujarati. The land of Gujarat has been the land of poets like Narsinh Mehta, Narmad, The land of patriots like Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel, The land of Artists like Tana-Riri, The land of Acceptance where all the communities from all the states live harmoniously, The land of loving, caring and sharing people, and what not. Gujaratis are best travelers and migrating people to other countries but they always carry the Fragrance of Gujarat. They always love to remain connected to their roots and that's why it is said that where ever there is Gujarati, the Gujarat remain alive there. This is unique spirit of this land.

Gujaratis have the special insight for the business. Gujaratis have captured many fields like Pharmacy, Construction, Manufacturing of fabric and different industrial goods, art and culture, and so on and so forth.

The wisdom, Friendliness, Sincerity, Hospitality and caring culture of Gujarat have earned special place across the globe. Since the tenure of Hon'ble Shri Narendrabhai Modi as Chief Minister of Gujarat, Gujarat has gained a remarkable momentum in overall development. Its vibrancy (Vibrant Gujarat) has attracted many countries for investment in business and other knowledge sharing areas.

The skill, will and zeal of Gujaratis have contributed a lot in the development of the state. We really feel proud of such dynamic and talented Gujaratis who have paved a new path of progress.

I am much pleased to learn that the **Coffee Table Book** of **Divyabhaskar** contains success stories of different Gujarati personalities whose contribution in their field is unparalleled. These are the path finders or path makers for the next generation to come for the bright future.

I am delighted to know that Divyabhaskar has well depicted the success stories of the eminent personalities of different fields. These are the persons who have contributed in the growth of Gujarat by their unique ways. They make all Gujaratis feel proud with their achievements. Gujarat has earned the glory across the globe by works of these real heroes and echoes of their brilliance and hard work will always be heard on land of Gujarat. These success journeys are presented nicely in the Coffee Table Book.

This book will be very inspiring for the youth and will be a matter of pride for all Gujaratis. I congratulate Divya Bhaskar for creation and publication of such Coffee Table Book which glorifies Gujarat and inspires youth while making all Gujaratis feel proud.

(Bhupendra Patel)



તમારી મરજીનું અખબાર!

Twenty years is a long time - two decades shape an entire generation. I am happy that Divya Bhaskar has successfully served Gujarat by creating a first-ever Gujarati paper that was shaped by people's choices and priorities. This was done at the dawn of a new millennium - the 21st century.

Divya Bhaskar arrived in Gujarat at a time when the state was on the cusp of a major change. This state has always seen prosperity, but the 21st century heralded a new era. Economic progress and development were taking Gujarat way ahead of many other states. It had started to emerge on the global scene with its development.

We carried out many surveys and held extensive interactions with people of Gujarat, to understand their choices and preferences. Almost every Gujarati felt that they needed a world-class newspaper that reflected their aspirations - a paper that was capable of giving them a better worldview. And all these, while providing the best quality and dependable local news. People expected credible independent journalism, high-quality printing and newsprint, from a newspaper. These are the needs that we fulfilled - providing the readers with a smarter choice.

The bedrock of Bhaskar's success in Gujarat was the professionalism that its journalists showed. Always in people's interest, free and fair. This was the edge that gave us immediate acceptance - in Gujarati households and hearts too!

But it was a daunting task for the entire leadership team, including the proprietors and directors. We all took lessons in Gujarati. Many of the new colleagues from Gujarat were shocked to see that the leadership of the paper could even proofread Gujarati. This was about honouring our commitment to the people of Gujarat, for whom this paper was launched.

On this historic occasion, my heart is filled with gratitude towards the people of Gujarat - our readers - who made this possible. Divya Bhaskar's growth story has been running parallel to that of Gujarat's own growth path during the last two decades. And we decided to express it through a book that identifies and celebrates the people who have contributed significantly in the last two decades of its growth.

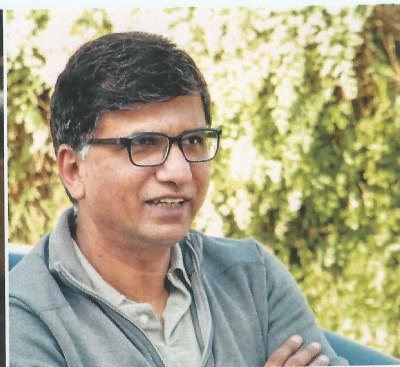
This book also attempts to capture and celebrate the essence of Gujarati spirit of entrepreneurship. Every person profiled here has done exceptionally well in their profession, business or industry. This is not the only reason they are here. It is how they have achieved that, which gives them the pride of place in this book. I sincerely hope that you will welcome this book and appreciate our effort to present stories of illustrious Gujaratis.

Sudhir Agarwal
Managing Director, DB Corp Ltd.d.

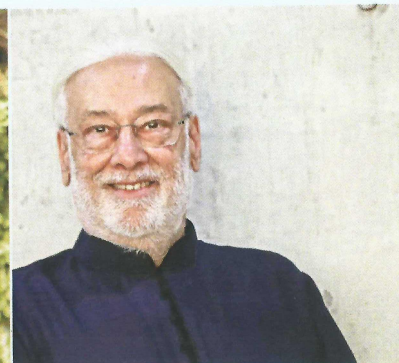
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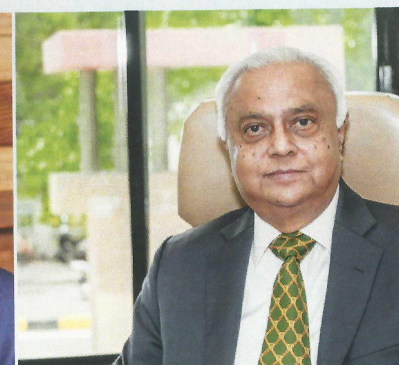
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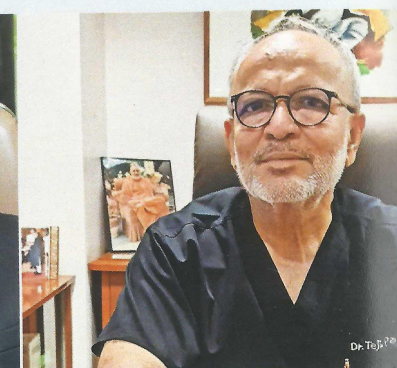
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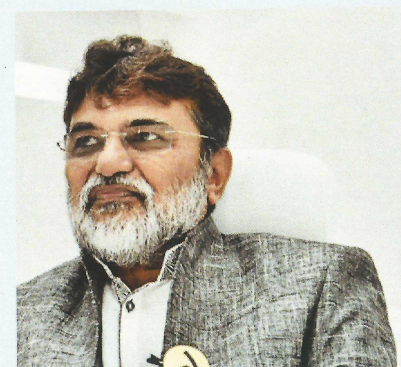
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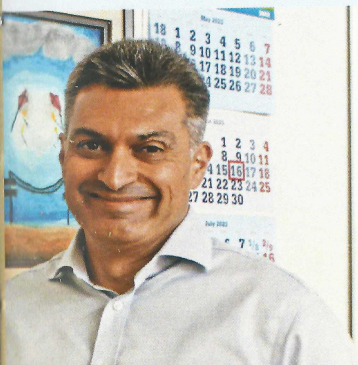
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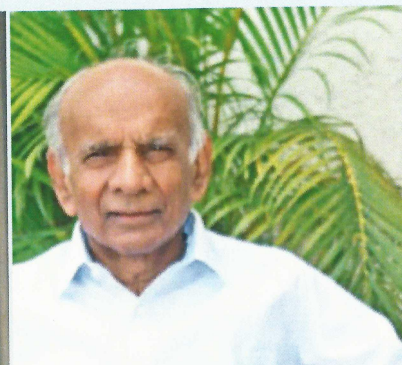
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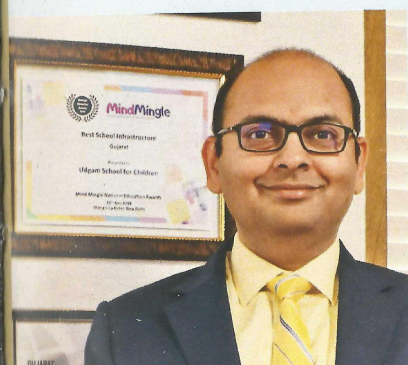
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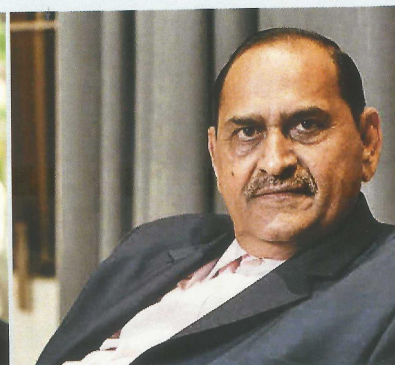
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દિવ્ય ભાસ્કર
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ARJUN HANDA

Innovative Entrepreneurship

This Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Claris Ltd - an Indian company worth US\$200 Million - is a dynamic entrepreneur and a passionate philanthropist. Arjun created a company that was a global leader in sterile injectables, which was acquired by Baxter Inc. (USA). This avid investor and corporate leader can be found playing football on the ground, with the same panache that he shows while signing multi-million dollar contracts for his company.

What makes Arjun Handa an inspiring personality is his commitment to using his business to initiate change, not just with the products and solutions that his company offers, but also with his own entrepreneurial and cultural interests. He has been incubating art and promoting young artists. His initiative to promote football at school level by initiating interschool tournaments for boys and girls has seen huge success. Other flagship programs under his guidance and leadership include mentoring young budding entrepreneurs and providing them with long-term growth capital from his venture capital company.

His list also includes promoting environmentally friendly production methods of producing green power from waste, and many other ideas that focus on education, cultural events, and sports. In this way, not only does a business grow, but so do communities - in more ways than one, he believes.





PHARMA PIONEER

Like a true sportsperson, this CMD was never deterred by the obstacles he encountered. He took them as an opportunity to learn and transformed the trajectory of his business. He did this, keeping in mind that taking the company forward would mean investing in research and expanding the global sales network.

While successfully navigating business deals across the globe, Arjun also made sure that various aspects of producing medical and pharmaceutical solutions were being explored under his leadership. This includes manufacturing and supplying innovative injectable products. Creating intellectual properties globally and implementing innovative processes to circumvent global patents. This resulted in bringing affordable lifesaving medications to the world. Claris' mark on the pharmaceutical world stems from Arjun's nurturing, innovative and broad mindset.

GREEN GUJARAT

Along with his younger brother Aditya Handa, Arjun contributes to Abellon Clean Energy Ltd, a company that works on sustainable models. It aims to make cities garbage-free under the Swachh Bharat Mission and providing cleaner and greener environments across India. Their focus is on converting waste into clean energy, reducing carbon footprint and keeping emissions low. This will help achieve COP26 goals and provide improved air quality and better living conditions for local communities. Handa sees this as integral to the growth of Gujarat.

His contributions to Abellon's work in municipal solid and industrial waste reduction remain central to his larger vision of working towards social causes that impact communities. Especially in Gujarat, the state which he credits as instrumental in shaping his company's success story.

SPORTS AND CULTURE

Football is an important part of Handa's life, and as he plays the game, he recognises not just the delight he gets from it, but also the integral lesson of teamwork. This helps in overcome any challenge and of course, score goals! The sport also helps him keep his physical and mental abilities on track - a therapeutic exercise that he believes is making a big difference

GLOBAL FOOTPRINTS

Joining an already established company, Arjun took control of Claris Lifesciences Ltd and expanded it to create a truly diversified and innovative business, in the field of pharmaceuticals. The company came up with modern and innovative solutions for healthcare issues. Claris was one of India's largest manufacturers and suppliers of sterile injectables and other life-saving medical supplies, with an ever-expanding market.

to his life. He enjoys reading books, seeing the potential to expand his knowledge about management, health, and astrology - topics that he has developed a keen interest in. His interest in reading can also be seen in his involvement in social and cultural initiatives. Business and management are never distant from him. He is actively involved in various programs to mentor young people in entrepreneurship and innovation through platforms like TiE (The Indus Entrepreneurs) Ahmedabad.

BEACON OF GROWTH

Claris has been a key figure in the growth and development of pharmaceutical research and manufacturing over the years, with a focus on innovation and contribution to society. With many arms and programmes under the company, including the Claris Foundation, their work towards creating improved and sustainable communities remains important. With a growing business and an expanding market globally, the group continues to expand under the leadership of Arjun.

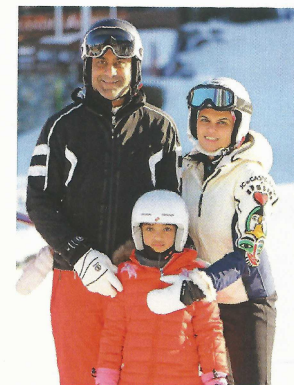
INNOVATIONS TO PROVIDE VALUE

Arjun Handa joined Claris, the flagship company of the Handa Group, in 2004 as a Director. He took over the reins of the company in 2007 and his venture has provided livelihood to over 5,000 people in the state and has attracted foreign investment of around a billion dollars.

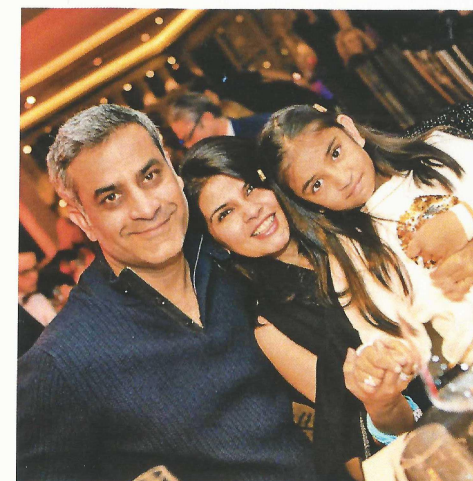
He embarked on a bold transformative journey that involved reorganising the business, divesting non-core assets, focusing on niche segments, investing in research and development, expanding into global markets, and launching new products.

He was also responsible for creating value for the shareholders by successfully selling the global generic injectables business to Baxter International Inc. for US\$625 million in 2017.

Arjun Handa is not only a pioneer of sterile injectables in India but also a pioneer of innovation. He has led Claris to new heights with a focus on management quality, innovative business models, and building an execution-oriented pride and camaraderie-based culture. His leadership abilities have resulted in Claris winning the 'Great Place to Work' award for 7 consecutive years while being the Number 1 company to work for in Healthcare.



“ I am thankful to the people and authorities of Gujarat for always supporting our spirit of growth and being instrumental in shaping our success story. ”



“ The game (soccer) helped me realise the importance of teamwork. It taught me how to overcome all the challenges and score the goals. ”