

## 2. PROFILES OF JURY MEMBERS

<b>Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran</b> Chief Economic Advisor, Government of India	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Anantha Nageswaran, the 18<sup>th</sup> Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India since January 2022, holds Degrees in Commerce, Management, and Finance from American College (Madurai), IIM Ahmedabad, and University of Massachusetts Amherst. His extensive career spans over 17 years in global banking (UBS, Credit Suisse, Bank Julius Baer), alongside academic roles at IFMR, SMU, and Krea University.</li> <li>A prolific Economist and writer, he has authored multiple books, contributed regularly to Mint for 15 years, and remains an active voice in policy discussions. His term as CEA was extended till March 2027, underscoring his key role in shaping India's Economic trajectory, including the projected 6.3–6.8% GDP growth in FY 2025–26.</li> </ul>
<b>Dr. Ashok Khosla</b> , Founder and Chairman, Development Alternatives Group	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Ashok Khosla is the Founder and current Chair of the Development Alternatives Group, an organization established over thirty years ago with a mission to promote sustainable development by balancing social equity, environmental quality, and economic efficiency.</li> <li>He involves for policy formulation, strategic planning, and overall supervision of the Group's operations. His work has focused on the development and dissemination of effective environmental management systems, as well as the design and advocacy of policies and institutions aimed at sustainable development—both within India and on the international stage. In addition to his role at Development Alternatives, Dr. Khosla serves as the President of Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA) and People First, both based in New Delhi.</li> </ul>
<b>Dr. G. “Anand” Anandalingam</b> Professor, University of Maryland	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Anandalingam is the Ralph J. Tyser Professor of Management Science at the University of Maryland's Smith School of Business, with prior leadership as Dean at both Maryland and Imperial College Business School. Educated at Cambridge and Harvard, he has held key academic roles at the University of Pennsylvania and led global initiatives across Asia and the Middle East.</li> <li>A distinguished scholar and academic leader, he has published over 100 papers, authored four books, and raised substantial philanthropic funding. He continues to serve on advisory boards of premier institutions including IIM Bangalore, Zhejiang University, and the American University in Cairo.</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. Anand Deshpande</b> , CMD of Persistent Systems Ltd & Founder Trustee deAsra Foundation	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Founder, Chairman &amp; Managing Director of Persistent Systems Ltd, a globally recognized IT services and solutions company established in 1990, known for its innovation in digital transformation and product engineering.</li> <li>Holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Indiana University and a B.Tech. from IIT Kharagpur and is widely respected for his thought leadership in India's technology and startup ecosystem.</li> </ul>
<b>Mr. R. Dinesh</b> , Founder of TVS Supply Chain Solutions	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Executive Chairman and Founder of TVS Supply Chain Solutions, a global leader in end-to-end supply chain management operating in over 25 countries.</li> <li>President of CII (2023–24) and a prominent industry leader known for driving innovation, digitization, and operational excellence in the logistics and supply chain sector.</li> </ul>

**Mr. Sashidhar Jagdishan MD & CEO of HDFC Bank**

- Managing Director & CEO of HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank, where he has led major initiatives including the historic merger with HDFC Ltd.
- A Chartered Accountant with a Master's in Economics, he has been instrumental in driving the bank's financial strategy, digital transformation, and inclusive banking growth.

**Ms. Jennifer JordanSaifi, M.V.O., MBA CEO of the Sustainable Markets Initiative**

- The SMI is the world's 'go-to' private sector organization focused on accelerating a sustainable future across industry, finance and countries. As a CEO-led organization with over 250 global CEOs, the SMI works to put Nature, People and Planet at the heart of global value creation.
- A humanitarian-turned-diplomat-turned-business leader, Ms. Jennifer, served as Assistant Private Secretary to His Majesty King Charles III (then Prince of Wales) from 2018 to 2023, spearheading sustainability, Commonwealth, and foreign relations further helping to establish the Sustainable Markets Initiative, founded by His Majesty, along with its mandates that Terra Carta and the Astra Carta.
- Since becoming the CEO of the SMI in 2023, she has championed 'private sector diplomacy' and the recognition that the transition to a sustainable future is the growth story of our time.

**Mr. Raj Chengappa Group Editorial Director of India Today Group**

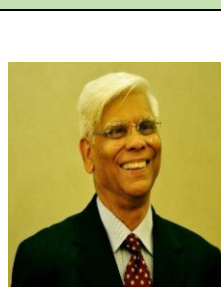
- Group Editorial Director (Publishing), India Today Group, overseeing major publications like India Today, Business Today, Reader's Digest, and more, with over four decades of journalistic experience. Award-winning journalist and author, known for his expertise in politics, foreign affairs, environment, and defence, and recipient of honours like the Prem Bhatia Award and Rajyotsava Award

**Ms. Shobhaa De is a prominent Indian Novelist, Columnist, and Social Commentator**

- Ms. Shobhaa De began her career as a journalist and magazine editor, later becoming a bestselling author known for novels like Socialite Evenings, Starry Nights, and Strange Obsession, which delve into urban life, relationships, and the Indian elite.
- A prominent columnist and cultural commentator, her sharp takes on politics, society, and women's issues have made her both influential and controversial – cementing her role as a significant voice in contemporary Indian media and literature

**Ms. Shereen Bhan Managing Editor of CNBC-TV18**

- Managing Editor at CNBC-TV18 since September 2013, she previously anchored and produced flagship programs like India Business Hour and Young Turks, and has over two decades of experience in business and policy journalism
- Award-winning journalist, including FICCI Woman of the Year (2005), named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum (2009), and winner of multiple Best Business Talk Show and Best Anchor awards

**Mr. Shreekant Somany Chairman & MD of Somany Ceramics Ltd.**

- Mr. Shreekant Somany is the Chairman & Managing Director of Somany Ceramics, India's leading manufacturer of Tiles, Sanitaryware and Bath fittings. He has spearheaded Brand SOMANY to become a household name in India and abroad.
- Joined the family business in 1970 and has led major innovations, including pioneering the patented "VC SHIELD" abrasion-resistant glaze—earning him the Corporate Technical Achievement Award from the American Ceramic Society.
- Holds prominent leadership positions in key industry bodies like CII (National SME Council, National Council, Centre of Excellence) and the Indian Ceramic Society.
- An avid photographer, trekker, music lover, he has also exhibited his works internationally, reflecting his vibrant artistic spirit.