



**Praj organizes 'Maha Intrapreneur 2008' to recognize the spirit of enterprise
& encourage Intrapreneurship**

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Pune, December 20, 2008 : Praj Industries, global biofuels technology and engineering Company is celebrating its Silver Jubilee. To commemorate this milestone, Praj will be organizing a series of events which will focus around its central theme of sustainability through entrepreneurship and innovation. The first in the series is the Maha-Intrapreneur 2008 program held on 20th December, 2008 in Pune. This program featured eminent professionals who have displayed excellence in their respective fields, traversing from 'employee-manager' towards a more 'entrepreneur-manager' approach in their careers.

The six distinguished 'intrapreneurs' shared the highlights of their journey towards intrapreneurship. Delegates comprised of senior and middle management professionals from various organizations and academicians who have shown similar potential in their respective careers.

Pramod Chaudhari, Chairman, Praj Group, himself a well-known entrepreneur shared his thoughts on this program saying, "While entrepreneurs create new businesses, we require professionals who display a high level of entrepreneurial qualities while in service as well as the same passion and leadership qualities as any entrepreneur. The term 'intrapreneurship' has not received as much recognition as it should. What better way to celebrate Praj's twenty fifth anniversary than to introduce a revolutionary concept which will prove its mettle in times to come. Introduced almost twenty five years ago, this term assumes even more importance in today's challenging times".

'Maha-Intrapreneur' addressed various aspects of intrapreneurship, its importance in career building, organizational perspective, long and short term impact, risk-taking ability, mentoring of intrapreneurs and many other nuances of this paradigm in talent management and organizational development.

'Maha-Intrapreneur' featured eminent personalities like Kishor Chaukar, MD, Tata Industries, Milind Sarwate, Chief of HR and Strategy, Marico, Vikas Shirodkar, VP-HR, Johnson & Johnson; Gautam Nagvekar, Chief Operating Officer, Mahindra & Mahindra; Ravi Deshpande, Chairman & Chief Creative Officer, Contract Advertising and Yashashree Gurjar, General Manager (CSR), BILT.

"Entrepreneurship and Intrapreneurship are complimentary concepts that put innovative ideas to work thereby promoting growth and transformation in any enterprise or society. The difference lies only in the degree and form of risk-taking", added Mr. Pramod Chaudhari.

In the coming years, Praj will continue to enhance its focus on sustainability through entrepreneurship/intrapreneurship and innovation as the key drivers of its business.

To promote 'intrapreneurship' more strongly, Praj Industries has instituted an award called the 'Maha-Intrapreneur' Award. This award will identify and reward professionals who display 'intrapreneurial' qualities in terms of actions and results in various organizations. The award will be implemented in partnership with Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune and will be called the 'Praj-Symbiosis Maha-Intrapreneur' Award. Initially, this award will invite nominations from organizations within Maharashtra.

Winners of 'Praj Maha-Intrapreneur Awards 2008'

For the year 2008, the Praj Maha-Intrapreneur Award has been bestowed upon three intrapreneurs who are at the fore-front of their profession - **Dr. Sivaram, Director, NCL, Pune, Mr. Prakash Kulkarni, Executive Chairman, Gaberial India (formerly MD, Thermax Ltd) and Dr. Dhananjay Kelkar, Medical Director, Dinanath Mangeshkar Hospital & Research Centre and a Trustee of Jnana Prabodhini Medical Trust, Pune** for their exemplary achievements in their respective professions. Mr. Kishor Choukar gave away the awards.

Dr. S. Sivaram, Director, NCL, Pune



Dr. Swaminathan Sivaram, an alumnus of IIT-Kanpur, is a polymer chemist, mentor and science manager of distinction. He received his Ph.D in Chemistry from Purdue University, W. Lafayette, Indiana, USA. He is presently the Director of National Chemical Laboratory (NCL/CSIR), Pune, India, one of the largest publicly funded research and development laboratories devoted to chemical sciences. Dr. Sivaram has over forty years of experience in basic research, process/product R&D and S&T management, both, in industry and academia. He is widely recognized for his contributions to polymer science, technology development, institution building and management of innovation in publicly funded organizations.

Dr. Sivaram built an impressive portfolio of polymer research activities at NCL, both, with Indian companies and global multinationals, making NCL a preferred destination for companies far and near to explore research collaboration through a partnership model. He also built a globally recognized research group in polymer science at NCL. He has lectured widely around the world and has been Visiting Professor. He has mentored the Ph.D thesis of 35 graduate students. He has to his credit close to 200 publications in peer reviewed scientific journals and is cited as an inventor in over ninety patent applications and forty granted US patents.

Dr. Sivaram was awarded the Padma Shri by the President of India in 2006. He is also the recipient of J.C. Bose Fellowship of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India for the period 2007-11.

Prakash Kulkarni, Executive Chairman of Gaberial India Ltd (a Unit of Anand Group)



Prakash Kulkarni graduated in Engineering from VJTI, Mumbai in 1968. After a brief stint with Kirloskar Oil

Engines, Pune her joined Thermax as a Design Engineer where he superannuated in 2007 in the capacity of Managing Director.

In a span of 38 years of his work life, Prakash has grown from managing operations to large scale project management to leading businesses through Transformation and Turnaround.

During his tenure as the Managing Director, he successfully managed Technology Transfer, Joint Ventures, and Licensing of Technology. This is not withstanding his ability to identify opportunities in the environment, create them into viable projects and later in to a successful businesses. He successfully conducted businesses in diverse geographies such as Japan, USA, UK, South Africa and Western Europe to Russia, SE Asia, Middle East, Brazil and SAARC Countries.

Prakash has a superb strategic mind coupled with leading edge negotiation skills and is an outstanding mentor with an ability to develop leaders internally. His passion for speed, imbibing processes, mental agility & high energy level – is comparable to that of people half his age, if not younger.

Dr. Dhananjay Kelkar, Medical Director, Deenanath Hospital & Research, Pune.



Dr. Dhananjay Kelkar completed his MS from Sassoon Hospital Pune and his post graduation from Tata Memorial Hospital. He also underwent several specialized training in the area of cancer treatment in different parts of the world including Japan, Israel, Germany and USA.

He has had a long innings with Sanjeevan Hospital followed by Deenanath Hospital where he is currently engaged as Medical Director as well as the trustee of Lata Mangeshkar Medical Foundation. Apart from that he is also a trustee with Jnana Prabodhini Medical Trust and Adishakti Ashamshala Trust, Pune.

He holds special interest in Cancer treatment, especially the surgical procedures as well as hospital management.