

**Prof. M. M. PANT** is a Ph.D. in Computational Physics with a professional degree in Law. After a long innings of 50+ years as an academic researcher, a lawyer and an educational entrepreneur he is now exploring new pedagogy, technology and curricula for the future, with focus on the period heralding the fourth Industrial Age.

His special focus is on mobile WhatsApp-based lifelong learning, transcending traditional education, and blending personalised and social learning.

His research interests include the development of scientific reasoning processes and the intersection of cognition and instruction. Some of his current educational initiatives are: Making sense of Artificial Intelligence, Coming of Age in the 4th Industrial Age, Smart Parenting and Developing Teacher-Preneurs.



**Dr Sanjaya Mishra** joined Commonwealth of Learning as Education Specialist: eLearning at its headquarters in Canada on 2 January 2015. Previously, he served COL as Director of the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia. Dr Mishra is one of the leading scholars in open, distance and online Learning. Prior to joining COL, he was Programme Specialist (ICT in Education, Science and Culture) at UNESCO, Paris.

Dr Mishra has over 25 years of experience in design, development and management of open and distance learning programmes. During his service in different capacities at the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), amongst many innovative activities and programmes, he developed the OER-based one-year Post-Graduate Diploma in eLearning. As a staff developer and trainer, Dr Mishra has received the ISTD-Vivekanand National Award for Excellence in Human Resource Development and Training in 2007, and has facilitated over 1000 hours of training in distance education, information and communication technologies, educational multimedia, eLearning and Open Educational Resources in over 30 countries. He is involved in developing technology-enabled solutions for increasing the quality of and access to educational opportunities at all levels. Dr Mishra's vision is to unleash the potentials of every learner by providing an enabling environment for excellence through innovative use of educational technologies.



**Prof. Neela Dabir** is Dean, SVE, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. She has a Master's degree in Social Work and PhD in Sociology and has a professional experience of more than 25 years in the field of social work. She has mainly worked with children in difficult circumstances and women in distress through her research, teaching and extension work. Her previous publication *Women in Distress* (2000) grew out of her own PhD thesis. She has also published many research papers in different social work journals and newspaper articles related to social work.



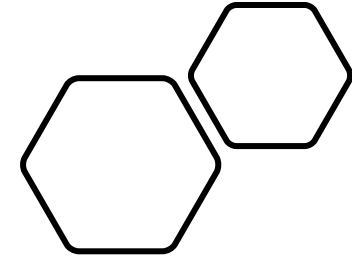
**Dr. Rajesh Khambayat** is Fullbright Scholar 2014, presently working as Joint Director, PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education, Bhopal. He was working as a Professor & Head of the Education & the Research Department at the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research (NITTTR) in Bhopal, India, where he was in charge of the induction training program of teachers, curriculum design and development for both Graduate and Undergraduate Courses. He is also engaged in undertaking research studies and consultancy, policy planning, monitoring and promotional evaluation for the department. He worked as an Individual Consultant with UNESCO-UNEVOC, International Centre, Bonn, Germany. He was involved as International Specialist, Skills Standards and Curriculum [ICT/Business Sector] for the Asian Development Bank (ADB) funded TVET Project. He was also associated as a Faculty Consultant of Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC) appointed by the Governing Board of CPSC an Inter-Governmental International Organization in Asia and the Pacific region based in Manila, Philippines. He was actively involved in various joint activities with UNESCO-UNEVOC and GIZ, Germany.



**Prof. Mukti Mishra** is the Founder of Centurion University of Technology and Management – the first multi-sector; multi-campus State Private University established through an Act of Odisha Legislature. Opting out of a successful corporate career in Fortune 500 companies, today Prof Mishra devotes himself to building institutions in some of the most challenging rural and urban geographies of India. Ranging from universities and schools to cutting-edge skill labs and community-based entrepreneurship development centres, the vast institutional network created by Prof. Mishra focuses entirely on creating transformative opportunities for the socioeconomically marginalised and excluded youth of India by building their competency, dexterity, ability and capacity through skills development and vocational training.

He pioneered an approach to higher education that resulted in a market-relevant and socially meaningful educational model that could lead to employability, employment and entrepreneurship. This model has become a national and international reference point today. The NITI Aayog multiple agencies of the United Nations, World Bank, British Council and many other forums have applauded and cited the Centurion University education model eloquently as the educational model of the future, relevant not only for the Indian context but important to the globally changing education and labour market landscape.





**Prof. Parikshat Singh Manhas, PhD** is a Professor at the School of Hospitality & Tourism Management (SHTM), The Business School (TBS), Coordinator - Global Understanding Course (GUC), Promoter Director, University of Jammu Special Purpose Vehicle Foundation- A Section 8 Company, Director, University Business Incubation and Innovation Centre, President, Institution Innovation Council, University of Jammu, Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir, India

**Lawrence Fernandes** has a Masters in Marketing Management from the Welingkar Institute of Management, Mumbai. He began his career with the India Hotels Group and later moved to FMCG Sales & Marketing. He has over 25 years of Work Experience of which 17 years are in Retail. He is the Director – Retail Learning & Membership at the Retailers Association of India (RAI) and has been with RAI since its inception. He has been instrumental in setting up & driving its Retail Training, Education & HR Initiatives. Some of the key educational programmes initiated by him at RAI include the Professional Retailing Skills (PRS) for the front-end Sales Associates, BBA – Retailing in DLP along with IGNOU, Bachelor of Vocation (B Voc.) with Ambedkar University, Delhi and RAI's Post Graduate Programme in Retail Management (PGPRM).



**Venkatesh Sarvasiddhi** works with National Skills Development Corporation heading the Digital Skills, Innovation, Industry Partnerships & CSR engagements in building the policy & framework for Skilling motion in India. He also heads the eSkill India under the Digital India initiatives to empower youth, leads the Innovation Practice in engaging with Startup Ecosystem, partnering with Industry to foster growth by building scalable & sustainable technology skilling platforms to support nation's largest Skill India program- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) which are set up across various states & districts of India.

Prior to NSDC, he was working with Deloitte as Director Innovation leading the Deloitte Skill Academy which focused in bridging the gap between Industry & Academia.

He also worked with Microsoft for 10 years leading various roles centric around Developer Ecosystem, Academic Programs, Startup Ecosystem & Microsoft Innovation Centers.

He holds Electrical Engineering from the Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Master of Science holder from BITS Pilani, Management holder from IIM Calcutta, Executive Marketing Program holder from Kellogg School of Management (USA) & Chevening Gurukul fellow of Kings College London, prestigious commonwealth fellowship in the area of Education & Technology.



**Dr. Vinay Swarup Mehrotra** is Professor and Head, Curriculum Development and Evaluation Centre, Department of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry and Centre for International Relationship and Coordinator of UNEVOC Network Centre - India at the PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education (PSSCIVE). He holds a D.Phil. degree in Science (Botany) from University of Allahabad. He has been actively involved with the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India in the development and implementation of National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF). He has coordinated National Consultation Meetings for review and expansion of the Vocationalisation of School Education in States/UTs under Samagra Shiksha. He has worked as the Project Coordinator of MHRD funded projects for development of vocational curricula and courseware for more than 150 job roles. He has coordinated the development of curricula and textbooks on employability skills, published by NCERT. He has to his credit several articles, research papers and book chapters on vocational education in refereed Journals, books and magazines. He was Executive Editor of Indian Journal of Vocational Education (IJVE), published by PSSCIVE from 2013-2015. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the "Manpower Journal" of National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development.



**Dr. Ramesh Chander Sharma** is an Associate Professor at School of Global Studies, AUD. He holds a PhD in Educational Technology and has previously worked at the Open University, Malaysia as an Associate Professor of Educational Technology and Learning Resources. He has also worked as a Visiting Professor at the Universidade do Estado da Bahia, UNEB, Brazil and University of Fiji, Fiji.

He is also the Director of Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA) as well as the Director of the Institute of Distance and Continuing Education (IDCE). He specialises in ELearning, Instructional Design, Open Educational Resources, Open and Distance Learning, Teacher Education, Educational Technology, Educational Research and has published over 80 books chapters, course materials and articles.

