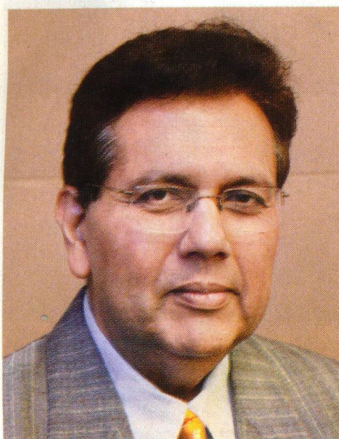


Change of guard

Dilip G. Piramal, vice-president (2014-15), Indian Merchants' Chamber (IMC), has been elected the Chamber's president for 2015-16, with Deepak Premnarayan replacing him



Piramal: top honour

as vice-president for 2015-16. They will be ushered into their new offices in June 2015, when Prabodh Thakker, president, steps down from office. Piramal, chairman, VIP Industries Ltd, began his business career in Morarjee Mills, a Piramal family concern. Piramal is also involved in various professional and social fora. He is a former president of The All India Plastic Manufacturer's Association, The Organization of Plastics Processors of India and the Rotary Club of Bombay Mid-Town. He is involved with the Piramal Education Trust in Bagar, Rajasthan, which runs a School and College for deserving students.

Premnarayan is the founder of the ICS group, focussing on real estate, asset management, financial services and hospitality. He has led the group's ventures into diverse sectors and continues to serve as the executive chairman of the group. Premnarayan also serves on the board of FirstRand Limited, a banking and financial services group from South Africa listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and is also a member of the Directors' Affairs and Governance Committee. He is convener of

the India-South Africa CEOs forum, co-chair of CII National Committee on GCC and MENA countries and member of CII India - Qatar CEOs Business Forum.

Shaping priorities

Wipro last fortnight announced that it has expanded its Group Executive Council, a forum for the core group of Wipro leaders to deliberate and strategise the long-term vision for the corporation, with the induction of four additional members: Abid Ali Neemuchwala, group president & chief operating officer; Anand Padmanabhan, chief executive & president, energy & utilities; G.K. Prasanna, chief executive & president, global infrastructure services; and Bhanumurthy B.M., chief executive & president, business application services. "The Group Executive Council carries the charter of providing thought leadership across the Wipro group and is the driving force behind shaping its strategic priorities. These leaders bring with them a rich global experience and we are confident their induction will bring more plurality of ideas and add more heft to the deliberations of the Council," said Azim Premji, chairman, Wipro Ltd, and non-executive chairman, Wipro Enterprises Ltd.

Angel on board

Omaxe Limited, one of India's leading real estate companies, headquartered in Delhi, has named Padmaja Ruparel as an independent director on the board of the company. As a current member of Omaxe's Board of Directors, she brings more than two and a half decades of industry experience to the role. Ruparel, an entrepreneur and an Angel Investor, is today the President of Indian Angel Network (IAN), building it from just a gleam in the eye to India's first and Asia's largest group of business angels, comprising the who's who of successful entrepreneurs and dynamic CEOs from India and overseas. She operationalised the TiE Universe's best chapter - TiE Delhi chapter - and revived the Indian Venture Capital Association.

New initiatives

Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited (ZEEL) has appointed Piyush Sharma as CEO, new initiatives for India and APAC. He will lead Zee's new initiatives, which will showcase programming and content across multiple media platforms including TV, web, mobile and an on-demand streaming service. Prior to this role, Sharma was serving as CEO for India operations of Burda International, a German multinational operating in 18 markets with more than 300 consumer magazine brands.

Strong on tech

Flipkart has announced that Peeyush Ranjan will join the company as senior vice-president and head, engineering. Ranjan spent the last nine years at Google in its Mountainview, Calif, headquarters, where most recently he managed Google's Android One engineering group. He has also managed Motorola's Value Devices engineering group and was Managing Director of Google India for research & development. Ranjan will work closely with Mukesh Bansal, head, Flipkart Commerce Platform, and the Commerce Platform's leadership team to build on Flipkart's strong technology expertise and support its commitment to excellence as a world-class technology company.

Veteran in

Nissan last fortnight announced the appointment of Satinder Singh Bajwa as vice-president, sales, network & customer relations, effective 13 April 2015. Bajwa will report to Arun Malhotra, managing director, Nissan Motor India Pvt Ltd. He will be responsible for accelerating sales, expanding the reach and ensuring customer satisfaction for both Nissan and Datsun across India. Bajwa comes to Nissan with an impressive 20-year experience in functions like sales, marketing, dealer management and key account management in the automobile industry. Prior to joining Nissan, he has worked with Hyundai Motor India Ltd as group head, sales.