

EDITION - 1

2024 – 2025

# NETWORK NEXUS



## ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



CONNECTING  
AND  
STRENGTHENING  
THE GROWING  
COMMUNITY

Know Your  
**ALUMNI**

**BOARD TALK**

**STAR  
ALUMNI  
AWARDS**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
MESSAGES**

**DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNUS AWARDS  
OVER THE YEARS**

*Connecting the Dots...*

# SMRITI 2024

# BOARD TALK



**SHRI H.K. CHAUDHARY**

**Founder Chairman,  
Heritage Group of Institutions**

*“An institution's alumni are the reflection of its past, representation of its present, and a link to its future.”*

The launch of the HBS Alumni Network marks a proud milestone for Heritage Business School, celebrating two decades of outstanding graduates who have excelled across the globe. Our alumni, who have pursued higher education at premier institutions and achieved remarkable success in their professional journeys, are a source of immense pride for their faculty, families, and friends.

Your accomplishments are a testament to the strong foundation of knowledge and values instilled at HBS. The impact you've made in your respective fields fills me with satisfaction and reaffirms the institution's commitment to nurturing leaders prepared to soar in the limitless sky of possibilities.

The HBS Alumni Association strives to maintain this lifelong bond, fostering collaboration between alumni, students, and faculty through diverse events and initiatives. I urge you to strengthen this invaluable association, contributing to the continuous evolution of our academic programs and institution.

Together, let us build an enduring legacy that stands the test of time. As you embrace this opportunity to reconnect, may your journeys inspire and motivate future generations.







## SHRI H.P. BUDHIA

Chairman, Heritage Business School

It is with great pleasure that I connect with you through the inaugural issue of *Network Nexus*, the HBS Alumni Newsletter. As we move forward together towards new milestones, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing support and encourage your continued involvement in the years ahead.

The Alumni Association is a vital link between HBS and its accomplished alumni, fostering engagement and collaboration. Your knowledge and expertise in diverse fields are invaluable to enhancing the institution's academic excellence and overall growth.

I urge you to remain connected and explore the many opportunities for collaboration with your alma mater. From guest lectures, research presentations, and participation on key committees to events such as the Business Excellence Summit, alumni reunions, and social gatherings across the globe, your active involvement enriches the HBS community.

Your contributions inspire our students and faculty, reinforcing the strong bond between HBS and its alumni. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant, interconnected network that upholds the legacy of Heritage Business School and drives it to even greater heights.

*Let us unite to strengthen this cherished association and create a lasting impact as proud ambassadors of HBS.*





**SHRI PRADIP  
AGARWAL**  
CEO,  
Heritage Group of  
Institutions

“

It is with immense pride and joy that I congratulate the Heritage Business School Alumni Association on the launch of the annual newsletter, Network Nexus. This wonderful initiative reflects the enduring bond between the Institute and its esteemed alumni, fostering collaboration and shared growth.

By highlighting success stories, hosting corporate talks, panel discussions, and alumni meets, Network Nexus creates a vibrant platform for knowledge-sharing and engagement. It beautifully captures the spirit of unity and celebrates the remarkable achievements of our alumni, who continue to inspire and uphold the legacy of HBS.

As we mark 20 illustrious years of the MBA program at Heritage Business School, I extend my heartfelt wishes to the Alumni Association for this noble endeavour. May Network Nexus flourish as a beacon of connection and collaboration, further enriching the journey of our Heritage Business School family.

”

I am ecstatic to learn that the Alumni Association of Heritage Business School (HBS) has released Network Nexus, its first newsletter. This effort is a great step in connecting our institution's past and present.

HBS is fortunate to have a lively, successful alumni community that serves as our global Brand Ambassadors. Your achievements not only boost the reputation and brand image of HBS but also inspire and guide the next generation of students. Your guidance is vital to our students' confidence and career paths.

This newsletter represents a lasting link that everyone who enters HBS will treasure forever. In today's fast-changing world, the combined expertise of business leaders is invaluable. Your practical expertise and advice provide a depth of understanding that can't be taught in class or found in books.

I wish the Alumni Association well on this great project. I eagerly look forward to exploring the first issue of Network Nexus and celebrating this new chapter in our shared journey.



**PROF. ANUP K  
SINHA**  
Chief Mentor,  
Heritage Business  
School



**PROF. K. K CHAUDHURI**  
**Director,**  
**Heritage Business School**

I take this opportunity to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the HBS Alumni Association on the successful publishing of the first issue of Network Nexus. It is with great pleasure that I do so. This brings me a great deal of happiness, and I would want to offer my congratulations to you. Through the dissemination of this newsletter, the Institute is able to establish a vital relationship with its respected alumni, which in turn makes it possible for the Institute to establish a connection and partnership that will endure for the rest of one's life.

While we are in the midst of commemorating twenty wonderful years of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program at Heritage Business School, Network Nexus is a tribute to the remarkable accomplishments and achievements made by our fellow graduates. The strength of the foundation that was formed at Harvard Business School is mirrored in your accomplishment, which motivates future generations to strive for even better things. This is because of the accomplishment that you have achieved.

On behalf of the whole alumni community as well as the group that is responsible for this great achievement, I would like to express my most sincere and heartfelt best wishes to you. The operation of Network Nexus is something that I anticipate will take place in the future.

It is with immense pride and joy that I congratulate you on the launch of the maiden issue of the Alumni Newsletter of Heritage Business School, Kolkata. This milestone is a testament to the enduring bond we share and the unwavering spirit of our alumni community.



**PROF. ALOKE  
 KR. SEN**  
**Former Director,**  
**Heritage Business  
 School**

As alumni, you have always been a source of inspiration, and your achievements continue to bring honor to your Alma Mater. At this momentous juncture, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all those who dedicated their valuable time and effort to establish the HBS Alumni Association. Your dedication has been instrumental in creating a platform that fosters a strong and meaningful connection between the school and its alumni.

Finally, I take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for your role as our esteemed brand ambassadors. Your continued association with HBS is a matter of great pride for us.





### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF **PROF BANI KUMAR SINHA** (1941 – 2022)

Founding Director Heritage Business School  
(Management Education Centre, Heritage Institute of Technology)  
2003—2008

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Prof. Bani Kumar Sinha, Founder Director of Heritage Business School (formerly Management Education Centre, Heritage Institute of Technology). A visionary leader and academic, Prof. Sinha played a pivotal role in shaping the foundation of our institution and inspiring generations of students and educators.

Born on April 2, 1941, in Assam, Prof. Sinha completed his Bachelor of Science with Honours from Guwahati University in 1961, followed by a Master of Science from the University of Delhi in 1963. He earned his Ph.D. from the prestigious Wharton School, Philadelphia, in 1970.

Prof. Sinha's career began at the Wharton School as a Teaching Assistant and Management Research Analyst. In 1971, he joined the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva as a Systems Analyst. Upon returning to India, he became a Research Fellow at IIM Calcutta, where he later served as a Professor of Operations Management from 1976 to 2003, gaining recognition for his academic brilliance and mentorship.

In 2003, Prof. Sinha joined Heritage Business School as Director, where he led the institution until 2008. His vision and leadership laid a strong foundation for academic excellence and innovation, which continue to guide HBS to this day.

Prof. Sinha was a source of wisdom, kindness, and unwavering dedication. His guidance shaped not just an institution but also countless lives. The Heritage Business School community deeply mourns his loss and extends heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. His legacy of excellence and inspiration will forever remain a cherished part of HBS.

# SMRITI 2024

## HBS Annual Alumni Meet

### 20 years celebration

On 9th March, 2024, at 5 pm, the Annual Alumni Meet of Heritage Business School was hosted at S.V. Auditorium, Heritage Campus. More than a hundred graduates from across the world joined the gathering.

The program opened with a moving tribute to the departed members of HBS family. Dr. Bobby Basu, the faculty convener for HBS Alumni Association, welcomed everyone and reported the HBS Alumni Association's successful registration. She also stated that 19 full-time batches and 4 part-time batches have rolled out from the institute successfully, with over 1800 alumni members spread across the country and the globe. The subsequent event was the lighting of the lamp, followed by a charming welcome dance performance by the existing batch of students.

The audience was then addressed by Prof Basab Chaudhuri- Principal, Heritage Institute of Technology and Prof K.K. Chaudhuri- Director Heritage Business School, respectively. They shared



**Welcome dance by existing students**

the memories of their pleasant association with HBS and welcomed everyone to the event. Few of the distinguished Alumni members were felicitated on this evening. Post the felicitation of the Alumni members, the first Evening batch and the fifth Full-time batch commemorated their 15th year of post-graduation. A cake-cutting ceremony was held after the screening of a beautiful little film celebrating the loving memories of these two batches. Exciting prizes were given out and overwhelming participation was seen during the Fashion Show, Interactive Audience Quiz and Band performance. Dinner and music spun by the DJ marked the end of the evening. Pop and Bollywood songs were played, and everyone joyfully joined in, on the dance floor. HBS T-shirts with new 20 years celebration HBS emblem were distributed to every guest.

The delight and pleasure on the faces of the alumni as they spoke about their experiences and fond memories of their time at HBS was heart-warming. For the alumni, it was undoubtedly a fantastic chance to reconnect with old friends and batchmates, network, and form new relationships. Current students have demonstrated active participation, and it was encouraging to see how eager they were to meet the alumni members.

Many of them were observed taking pictures with HBS faculty members, administrators, and classmates to preserve the memories of the day. The reunion evoked a mixture of feelings in the alumni as they felt a sense of kinship and nostalgia.



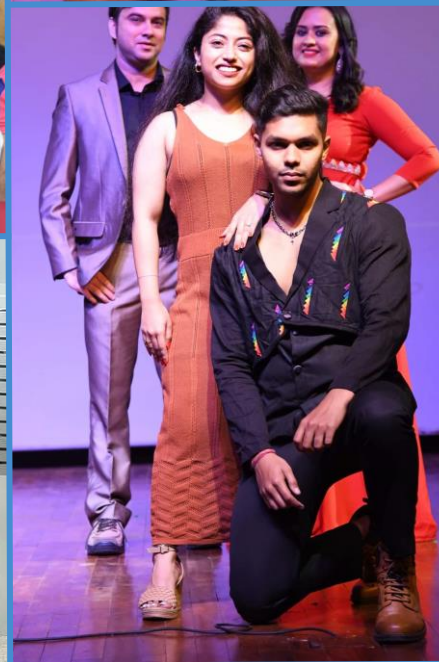
**Prof Basab Chaudhuri- Principal, HIT, Prof K.K. Chaudhuri- Director HBS, Dr. Bobby Basu - Faculty Convener –HBS Alumni Association, Mr Kaushik Bhattacharya, Head – Training & Placement Cell, and the existing core committee members, participated in the auspicious lamp lighting ceremony and announced the launch of the alumni meet.**



**15<sup>th</sup> year celebration for 5<sup>th</sup> full-time batch and 1<sup>st</sup> evening batch.**



GLIMPSES OF SMRITI 2024





# CONGRATULATIONS!

The distinguished Alumni members who were felicitated during the event:

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMUS**

- **SUMANTA PANTI**  
(1<sup>st</sup> Batch 2003-05)  
Director, Deloitte

**STAR ALUMNI MEMBERS**

- **CHIRANJIB DATTA CHAUDHURI**  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Batch 2004-06)  
Lead Consultant, Infosys BPM

- **UTPAL RAY**  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Batch 2005 – 07)  
Vice President, HSBC

- **PRAVEEN KUMAR JHA**  
(5<sup>th</sup> Batch 2007-09)  
General Manager, Vikram Solar

- **SUSHWETA BHADURI**  
(11<sup>th</sup> Batch 2013-15)  
Country Manager (Bangladesh),  
Area Manager (South Bengal),  
Colgate Pamolive



SUMANTA PANTI



CHIRANJIB DATTA CHAUDHURI



UTPAL RAY



PRAVEEN KUMAR JHA



SUSHWETA BHADURI

## CONNECTING THE DOTS



Heritage Business School has been organizing Panel Discussions every year on the theme, **“Connecting the dots”** where our distinguished alumni share their stories of success and failure. This initiative aims to enhance the practical knowledge of our students by exposing them to real-world experiences, the challenges faced, the innovative solutions devised, and the journeys undertaken by our panelists. This year, the panel discussion was organized on 17th May 2024 and the panelists were



- **Mr. Rajat Das**, 2nd Batch (2004-2006)  
Distribution Head – West Bengal, Voltas Limited



- **Md. Zeeshan**, 4th Batch (2006-2008)  
Regional Sales Manager, Himalaya Wellness



- **Mr. Utsav Banerjee**, 9th Batch (2011-2013)  
Manager, IDFC First Bank



- **Mr. Bidipta Mazumder**, 15th Batch (2017-2019)  
L & D Consultant, PwC



- **Mr. Anindya S Bera**, 16th Batch (2018-2020)  
Senior Auditor, EY India

## PANEL DISCUSSION

The session was compered by Indrani De Sarkar, 2nd Year and moderated by Arko Mahato, 2nd Year MBA student.

The experiences shared by our panelists were both motivational and practical, providing valuable lessons in resilience, creativity, and the importance of following one's passion.





# DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD

Since 2019, Heritage Business School (HBS) has been celebrating the accomplishments of its alumni by presenting the prestigious “Distinguished Alumnus Award” during the Annual Reunion Day, *Smriti*. This award is conferred to an alumnus who has demonstrated exceptional achievements and contributions.

To ensure a fair and inclusive selection process, alumni are encouraged to participate by nominating themselves or their batchmates who have excelled in their professional careers, made significant contributions to society, or positively impacted the business world.

The final selection is made by a distinguished faculty jury, which carefully evaluates the nominees based on their contributions across these key areas.

## YEAR - 2019

On February 16, 2019, during the Annual Alumni Meet Smriti 2019, **Mr. Vishal Sinha**, an esteemed alumnus from the inaugural batch (2003-05), was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. Serving as the President & CIO of Tranzlease Holdings India Pvt. Ltd., Vishal has garnered numerous accolades for his exemplary leadership and innovation.

His notable achievements include:

- Innovative CIO Award, 2018
- Change Agent CIO 200 Award, 2018
- Cyber Security Sentinel Award, 2018
- CIO Excellence Award: 100 Most Innovative CIOs of India, 2018
- ICONS of the Digital Era CIO 3.0: The Game Changer Coffee Table Book, 2018

This recognition underscores his outstanding contributions to the field of technology and digital transformation.



Vishal Sinha (2003-2005 batch) receiving the award from Prof. Anup K Sinha

## ALUMNI RECOGNITION

### YEAR - 2020

On February 8, 2020, during the Annual Alumni Meet *Smriti 2020*, the *Distinguished Alumnus Award* was proudly presented to **Mr. Karuna Kant Singh**, a distinguished member of the inaugural batch (2003-05) and Vice President at IndusInd Bank.

Karuna's exemplary career is marked by remarkable achievements, including:

- Consistently earning the Excellent Performer rating for 14 consecutive financial years at IndusInd Bank.
- Successfully serving as the **Zonal Implementation Manager - East** for Project Udaan, overseeing the migration to the Finacle core banking software by Infosys.
- Leading the seamless transition from the Equation system to Finacle in 2012 for the bank's Eastern Zone.



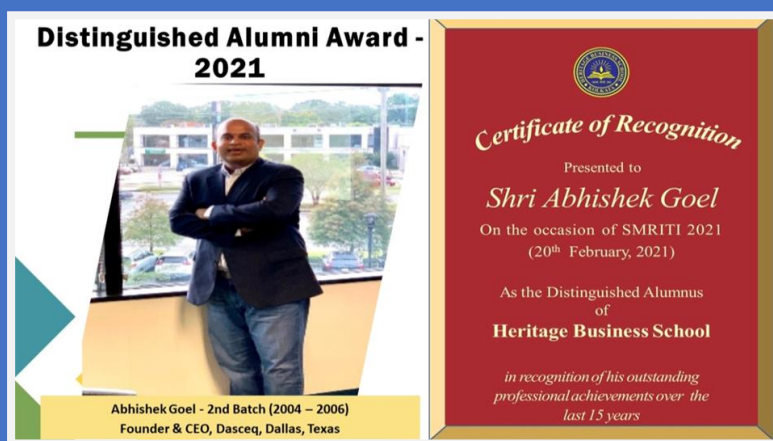
In addition to his professional accomplishments, Karuna was awarded the **Gold Medal** for MBA by MAKAUT (formerly WBUT), reflecting his academic excellence. This recognition celebrates his outstanding contributions to the banking industry and his enduring legacy as an alumnus of HBS.

### YEAR - 2021

On February 20, 2021, during the Annual Alumni Meet *Smriti 2021*, the Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to **Mr. Abhishek Goel**, an accomplished alumnus from the second batch and the Founder & CEO of Dasceq, based in Dallas, Texas.

In addition to his entrepreneurial success, Abhishek has also made significant contributions to academia, serving as an Adjunct Professor at Southern Methodist University (SMU), Dallas, TX, and at the Naveen Jindal School of Management (JSOM), University of Texas at Dallas.

This award recognizes his exceptional achievements in business and education, and his inspiring journey as an alumnus of HBS.





## ALUMNI RECOGNITION

### YEAR - 2022

On February 12, 2022, during the virtual Annual Alumni Meet *Smriti 2022*, the *Distinguished Alumnus Awards* were presented to three exceptional alumni in recognition of their outstanding achievements in diverse fields:

- **Mohammad Zeeshan**, from the 4th Batch (2006–2008) and Deputy Regional Sales Manager at Page Industries (Jockey), was honored for his *outstanding professional achievements*.
- **Ms. Rusha Das**, from the 6th Batch (2008–2010) and a Research Scholar at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, received the award for her *outstanding academic achievements*.
- **Mr. Indrayuddh Majumder**, from the 10th Batch (2012–2014) and a renowned sarod player, was recognized for his *outstanding contributions to the field of Performing Arts*.

These awards celebrate their remarkable accomplishments and enduring legacy as alumni of HBS.

### YEAR - 2023

On February 18, 2023, during the Annual Alumni Meet *Smriti 2023*, the Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to **Mr. Ishandeb Chatterjee**, an alumnus of the 2nd Batch (2004–2006) and the Director of Sales & Marketing at Hyatt Regency, Kolkata. This honor recognized his exceptional achievements and contributions to the field of hospitality and marketing.

### YEAR - 2024

On March 9, 2024, during the Annual Alumni Meet *Smriti 2024*, the Distinguished Alumnus Award in the field of Business & Profession was presented to **Mr. Sumanta Panti**, an esteemed alumnus from the 1st Batch (2003–2005) and Director at Deloitte. This award recognized his remarkable professional achievements and contributions to the business world



# Know your **ALUMNI** :



## **SUMANTA PANTI**

**Director**  
**Deloitte Touche**  
**Tohmatsu Limited**

HBS batch:  
**2003 - 2005**

Current Location:  
**Kolkata**

Years of Experience:  
**18+ years**

- **Short summary of your life post passing out from HBS:**

**Sumanta:** After passing out from HBS, individuals typically embark on various career paths depending on their interests, skills, and specialization. My career evolved around financial advisory services from the onset with stints in banking, consultancy, advisory, etc.

- **Please share that one incident in your life that has changed perspectives for you and the learning from that experience have become your life mantra now:**

**Sumanta:** Not to be afraid to confront any situation at any time. An internal loan sanction committee meeting was once set to consider whether to approve a loan from an Indian multinational while I was employed at IDBI Bank. That day, since my seniors weren't there, I was tasked with presenting the committee with the loan request. The committee was made up of the MD and EDs of IDBI Bank, an RBI delegate, and additional independent directors. The meeting went so well that I was able to complete the sanction and was also commended for my excellent handling of the situation by the bank's top officials.

- **Outside work how do you love to spend your time?**

**Sumanta:** Travelling, listening to music, playing indoor games

- **What is the current work environment in general? And what is your advice to our current HBS students to start at the right note?**

**Sumanta:** Good, gives a sense of belongingness. Advice will be to work hard and try to learn new things. Should strive for more responsibility. And always have the right kind of attitude in everything.

- **Short summary of your life post passing out from HBS:**

**Abhishek:** I have 20 years of experience in strategy, agile data science, and consumer behaviour. My area of experience is creating and executing cutting-edge solutions for the Fintech, healthcare, and data science, analytics, and Gen AI. A strategist who leads companies in staying competitive and successful. I also serve as an adjunct professor and advisor, teaching data science concepts and applications to various professional, corporate, and graduate programs in Springboard.com, Southern Methodist University (SMU), and the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) and others.

- **Please share that one incident in your life that has changed perspectives for you and the learning from that experience have become your life mantra now:**

**Abhishek:** I have been in sales for a long time. I recently got reminded again that in Sales presentation Less is More. Secondly show vs tell. These two skills performed together within professional life can bring significant results.

- **Outside work how do you love to spend your time?**

**Abhishek:** Reading, cooking, learning new skills, socializing

- **What is the current work environment in general? And what is your advice to our current HBS students to start at the right note?**

**Abhishek:** For folks who are thinking of starting on your own. It is the perfect market to create deep products and attract customers and customers are more willing to listen due to deep challenges in the business. So, one's challenge is your biggest opportunity.



## **ABHISHEK GOEL**

**CEO &**  
**Serial Entrepreneur**  
**Dasceq Inc, Valtep Inc,**  
**IntelliTec**

HBS batch:  
**2004 - 2006**

Current Location:  
**Dallas, TX USA**

Years of Experience:  
**20+ years**



## MESSAGE BOARD

**DR BOBBY BASU**

### THE FACULTY CONVENER HBS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



The inaugural edition of the Alumni Newsletter of HBS AA celebrates the 20th anniversary of Heritage Business School, established as a Management Institute in 2003. The newsletter aims to honor the achievements of the esteemed alumni in business and academia. The strength of any educational institution lies in its alumni network, and the reputation of an alumnus is tied to the standing of their alma mater. The newsletter urges alumni to share their insights and ideas for continual enhancement and advancement, as well as guidance in job placements and summer projects for current students.

With 19 Full-Time Batches and 4 Part-Time Batches have successfully graduated from our esteemed institution, contributing to a robust alumni community numbering over 1850 individuals, dispersed across the globe. Our alumni family continues to expand and flourish, reflecting the enduring legacy of Heritage Business School.

### CHIRANJIB DATTA CHAUDHURI THE PRESIDENT HBS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Heritage Business School Alumni Association is launching a new newsletter to share news, inspire, and work together. The newsletter encourages sharing career stories and personal experiences to strengthen the community and make it smarter. The newsletter aims to provide new opportunities for growth, learning, and support. The community is about looking back at their time at HBS with pride and looking forward to what they can achieve together. The connection goes beyond professional networks, as it's about remembering college days and helping each other succeed. The journey is about growing together as a community that cares about each other and the world around us. The newsletter is just the beginning of a journey filled with inspiring stories, new opportunities, and a sense of unity.



## NEWS BOARD

Heritage Business School received the Assocham Award 2023 for Excellence in enabling preferred environment for placements-East from The Assocham National Council on Education

**Heritage Business School bagged The Education World Award 2023 for becoming #1 B-School in West Bengal and #31 in India**

Heritage Business School has been ranked as #2 private B-school in West Bengal and #5 in Eastern India by The Open SMRS B-School ranking survey 2023-24.



### Our Board Members

#### ***President***

Chiranjib Datta  
Chaudhuri

#### ***Vice-President***

Purbasha Roy

#### ***Secretary***

Vinay Chaudhary

#### ***Asst Secretary***

Kunal Mukherjee

#### ***Treasurer***

Arpit Chokhani

#### ***Asst Treasurer***

Anindya Sundar Bera

#### ***Alumni Student Members***

Utpal Ray  
Utsav Banerjee

#### ***Alumni Faculty Members***

Dr Bobby Basu  
Dr Rimu Chaudhuri

### **Editor's Note:**

Welcome to the very first newsletter from the HBS Alumni Association. We intend to publish this newsletter annually. This inaugural issue provides a quick overview of all the activities that have been held thus far, as well as the opinions and initiatives of our institution's and the committee's chairs to strengthen the ties between the current student batch and alumni. We also provide updates on the advancement and career recognition of our members.

This is only the beginning of a long journey that strives to inspire our students and get them ready for a prosperous future in the workforce. I extend my gratitude to the management and faculty of HBS for their kind and continued support in the progress of the Institution. I am looking forward to expanding the breadth of this newsletter in the future and adding articles from well-known industry experts to make it more educational. If you are interested in contributing, please let us know.

**Purbasha Roy**

(purbasha.roy@gmail.com)



Please send us alumni achievement updates, interesting articles for the newsletters, your success stories and other inputs regularly. **To join the HBS alumni family contact us:**



## **Heritage Business School Alumni Association**

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P.O. East Kolkata Township, Kolkata 700 107

**Email:** alumni@hbs.edu.in

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