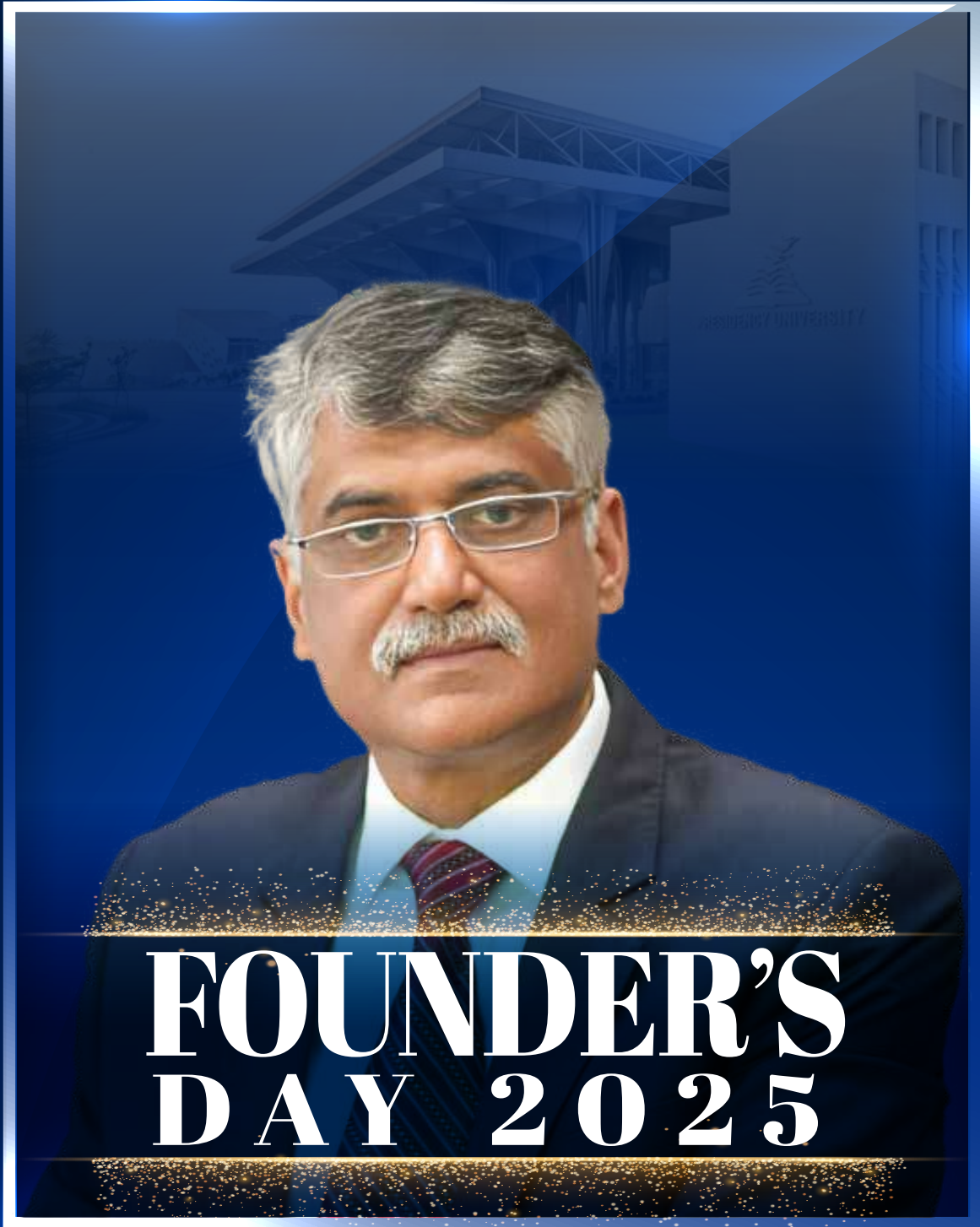




**PRESIDENCY  
UNIVERSITY**



# FOUNDER'S DAY 2025

SPECIAL EDITION

**KALEIDOSCOPE**

FEBRUARY 03, 2025

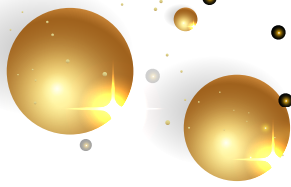


HAPPY

*Birthday*

DEAR SIR





# Uptake

It is with immense joy and profound admiration that we present this special birthday edition celebrating the extraordinary life and contributions of a visionary who has illuminated the lamp of knowledge in the lives of countless students who are now spread across the globe and recall their formative years in the portals of the institutions set up by our most beloved and respected Chancellor and Chairman, Dr. Nissar Ahmed.

Knowledge is power; it is the most powerful tool for change. At a time when schools were few and far between in the city of Bengaluru, setting up institutions that could provide quality education to children from the middle classes in their immediate vicinity proved to be a boon to parents who knew that providing good education to their wards was the only passport to success. The Chairman's belief in the transformative power of education has empowered countless individuals to reach their fullest potential. Education is not a profession that he chose but a calling, a lifelong mission to unlock the doors of opportunity for all. And for this, there are legions of parents in this part of the world who would forever be grateful and hold the Chairman in their hearts in silent gratitude for having provided an enabling education.

Establishing colleges, and eventually a university as the jewel in the crown, was a natural

progression for someone who dares to dream big and reaches for the stars with unwavering dedication to the cause of education. But that is not all. Wearing many hats with ease, juggling various commitments, ranging from philanthropic endeavors to creating opportunities for the underprivileged, supporting groundbreaking initiatives, and silently inspiring others, the Chairman has balanced all these and much more with grace, embodying the spirit of leadership.

And as the poet Robert Browning would say, **'Grow old along with me; the best is yet to be.'** There are many more milestones to be reached and frontiers conquered in this inspiring journey.

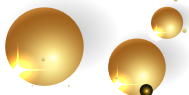
This special edition of Kaleidoscope is a labor of love, a heartfelt tribute to someone whose unwavering spirit and vision have touched many lives. As we celebrate this special day on the occasion of the Chancellor's birthday, we wish you, on this day and always, immense joy, good health, continued success, and great happiness in your incredible journey.

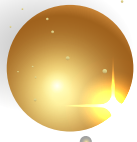
Dear readers, as you turn the pages of this commemorative volume, we hope you are inspired by the story of an individual who has not only envisioned a brighter future but has also worked tirelessly to make it a reality.

Happy birthday, Dear Sir.

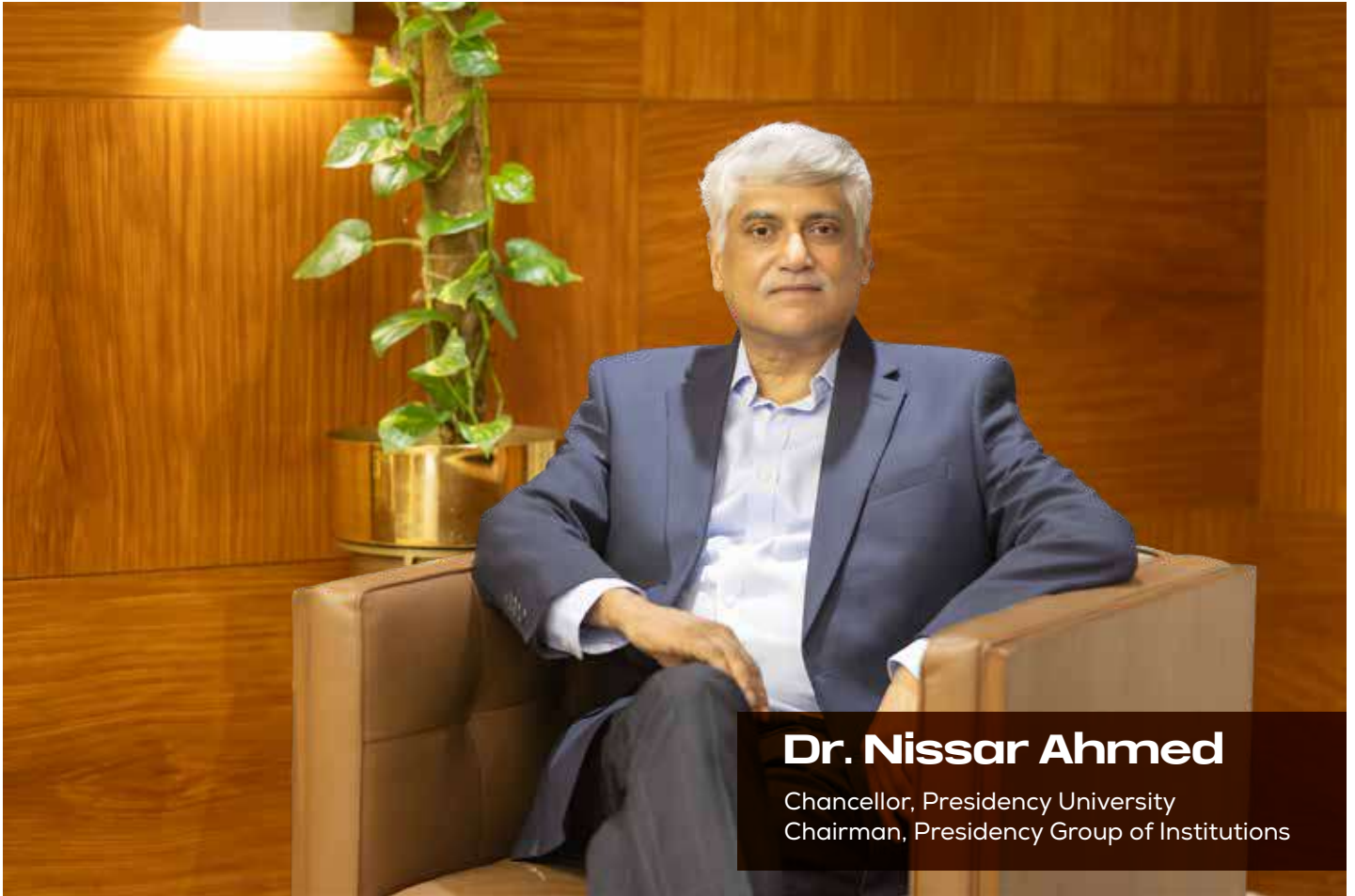
**Dr. Akila S Indurti**  
Editor

**Leadership is the capacity to translate a vision into reality.**  
Warren Bennis





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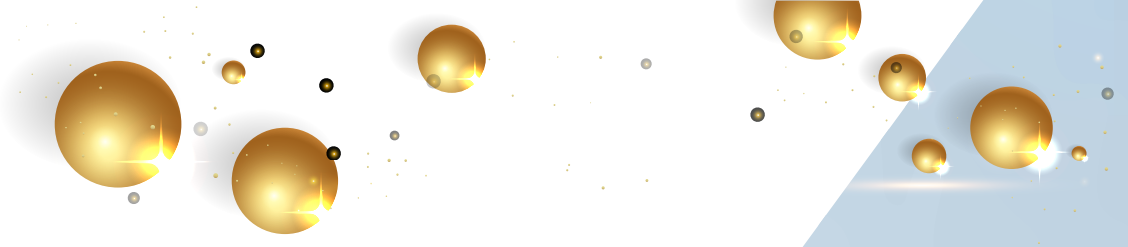
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If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.  
Isaac Newton





## The Blessed Parents



Mr. Mahmood and Ms. Nafisa

## Chairman with his Father





## The Founder

**Mr. Abdul Hameed  
(1941 – 1980)**

**'Great oaks from little acorns grow'**

A visionary leader who firmly believed in the power of education to uplift and empower the nation, he established the first Presidency School in Nandini Layout in 1976, leaving an indelible mark and serving as a lasting inspiration to his young nephew Nissar Ahmed.



The founder, Mr. Abdul Hameed, with his beloved mother, Khatija Bi, the guiding spirit of his life, and his nephew, Nissar Ahmed, who took on his mantle of leadership.







## The Benefactors: The Grandparents



### Mr. A Mustafa

Hailing from a family of freedom fighters, Mr. A. Mustafa played a crucial role in the formative years of young Nissar. He was a leading advocate, a municipal councillor, the District Board Chairman of Mangalore, and a board committee member of various prominent schools in Mangalore.

### Ms. Khatija Bi

Ms. Khatija Bi was the daughter of a landlord and fueled young Nissar's dreams by supporting him in his mission of establishing and expanding the Presidency footprint.





## Carrying Forward the Legacy

All of twenty-two years, the mantle of leadership fell on the shoulders of Mr. Nissar Ahmed by an unexpected turn of events, and the young man rose admirably to carry forward the legacy.



## A Match made in Heaven

A true partnership in every sense, marrying Ms. Kauser at the age of twenty-six marked the beginning of an eventful journey for Mr. Nissar Ahmed. United by a shared purpose, they built their lives on a foundation of trust, mutual respect, and shared dreams, supporting each other through joys and triumphs, challenges and struggles.









# THE MISSION

Outstanding people have one thing in common: An absolute sense of mission.  
Zig Ziglar





# The Institution Builder

With 48 years of excellence in education, the Presidency Group of Institutions has emerged as a leader in delivering quality education, spanning from K-12 to higher education—a testament to one man's visionary passion and dedication to turning his dream into reality.





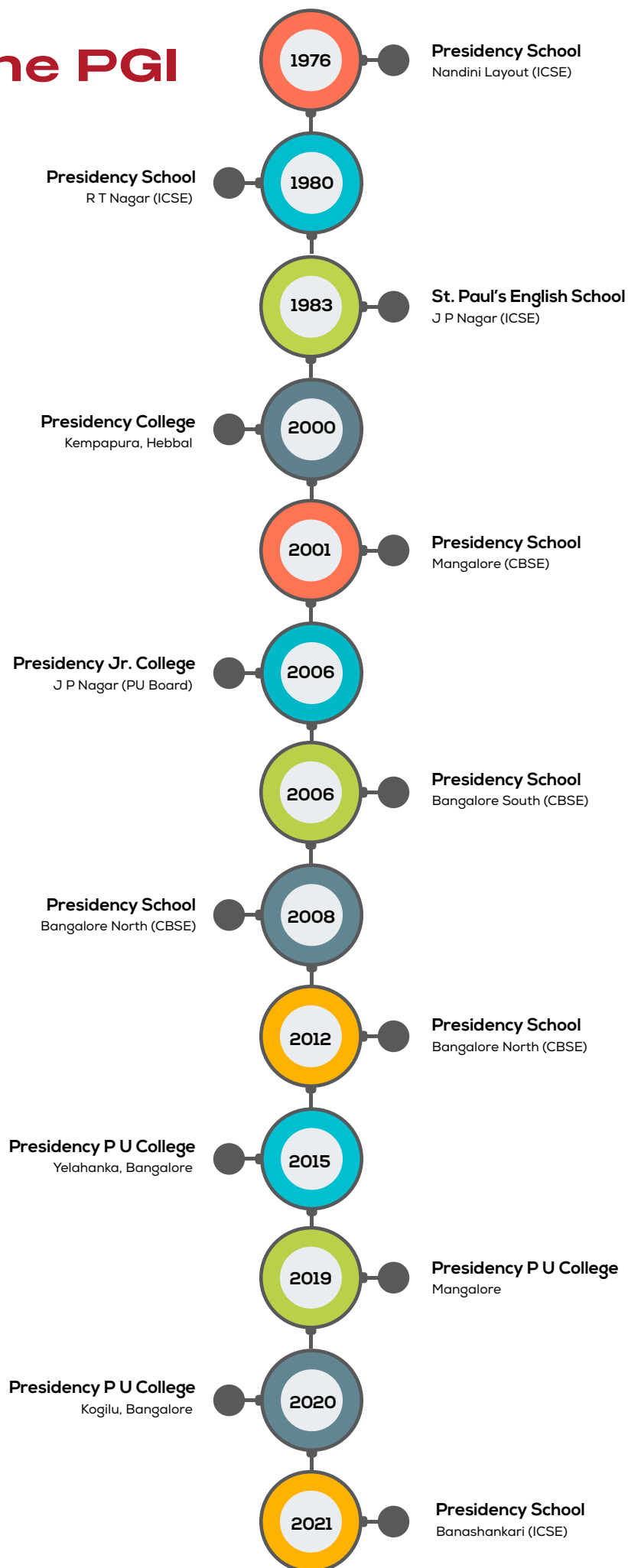


The Presidency Group of Institutions has under its umbrella – 8 schools, 4 colleges, one University.





# Timeline PGI







# Stately Visit

Former Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi commemorates her visit to St. Paul's English School with her signature



Phone: 369765



## St. Paul's English School

Post box 3204, Ravindranath Tagore Nagar  
Bangalore-560 032

Date.....

*Indira Gandhi*

*15.10.1982*



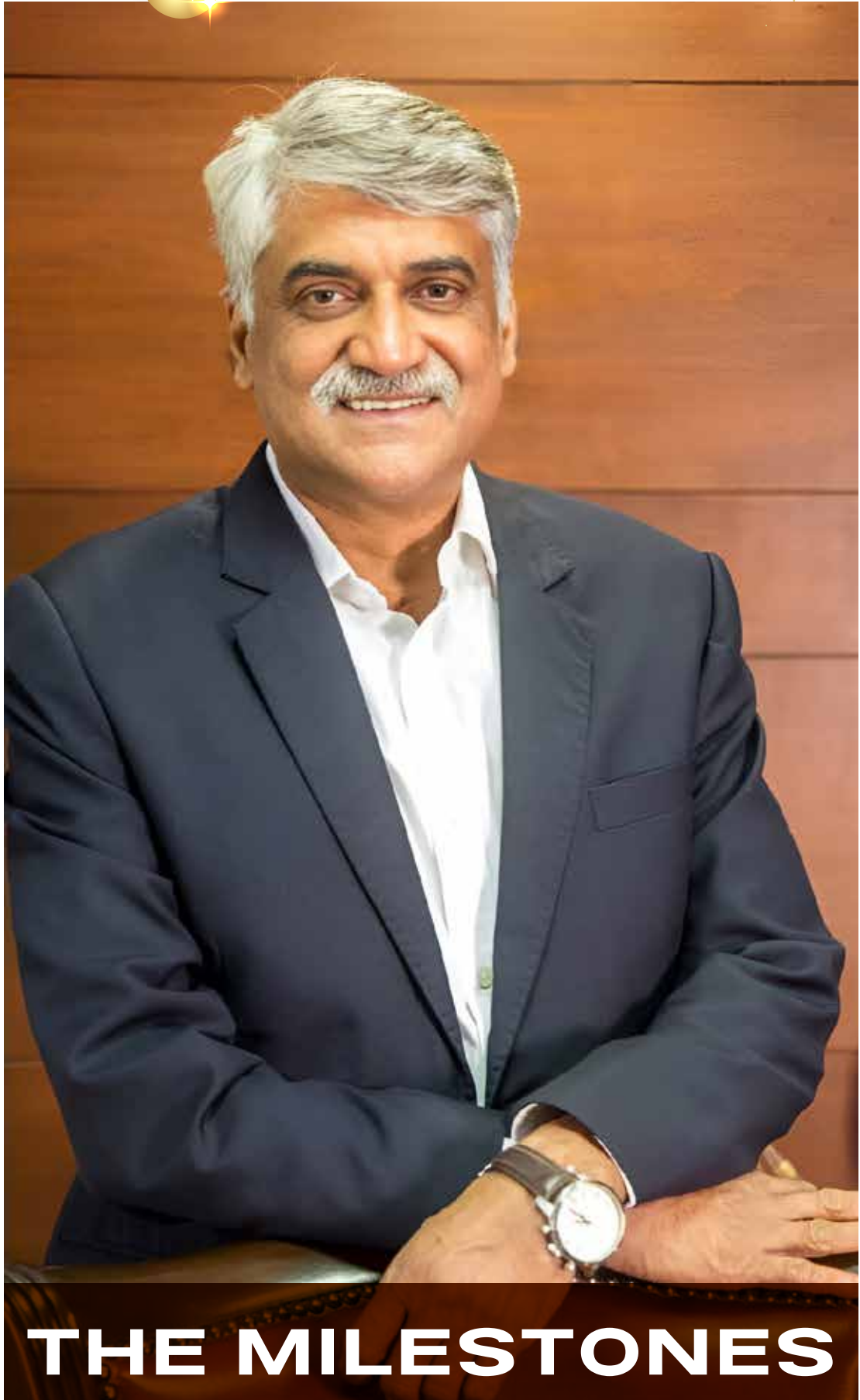


**The Crowning Glory**

# Presidency University

**A NAAC A Grade University**





# THE MILESTONES

Remember to celebrate milestones as you prepare for the road ahead.  
Nelson Mandela





# Accolades and Awards

Having dedicated nearly five decades to the cause of education, it is no surprise that the Chairman's life is adorned with numerous awards and accolades, reflecting well-deserved public recognition. Here are a few glimpses.

Education World- The Top 51 New Millenium Edupreneurs in India, 2013: Cover Story in a popular education magazine.

**EducationWorld**  
THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MAGAZINE  
November 2013 Rs. 90

**14th ANIVERSARY COVER STORY**

**Nissar Ahmed**  
Presidency Group, Bangalore

Nissar Ahmed is chairman of the Bangalore-based Presidency Group of Institutions (PGI) which comprises seven K-12 schools, two pre-university (classes XI-XII) colleges and Presidency College, Bangalore which offers undergraduate and postgrad programmes in business administration, commerce, humanities and sciences. Currently PGI has an aggregate enrollment of 15,000 students mentored by 1,000 faculty. Schooled in Bangalore and Mangalore, Ahmed was obliged to quit college and take over the management of a primary school promoted in Bangalore by his uncle, the late Abdul Hameed after his sudden death in 1980.

**What were your major early challenges?**  
My late uncle started our first school in Mahalakshmi Layout, Bangalore in 1976 in a rented house with four students and myself as a novice assistant. After his sudden demise four years later, I had to learn the nuances of education through hard work and perseverance. I left no stone unturned to make my learning and graduation as an edupreneur as complete as possible. I followed my uncle's advice that "the man who moves a mountain, begins by carrying away small stones".  
As for challenges, I had to face the usual ones

which confront new academic enterprises such as raising finance, building public confidence and facing competition.

**How did you confront these challenges?**  
Quick responses, networking with people and associates, carefully planning strategic initiatives, building a very supportive and selfless team of people, and always invoking the grace of Providence.

Also to never give in till success is achieved.

**How helpful/enabling are the Central and state governments?**  
The success of private enterprises in education depends on the promoter's planning and determination. Statutory protocols and bureaucratic red tape inevitably caused delays. But on the whole, our progress has been steady and peaceful.

**Future growth and development plans.**  
I am pleased to inform you that recently Presidency College has been conferred the status of a private university by the government of Karnataka. We plan to offer professional programmes in engineering and technology, medical sciences, biotechnology, business administration and management. We are also engaged in several social outreach programmes and take our CSR obligations seriously.

**Unwind/stress. Reading business biographies and business management classics when I travel.**

PGI awarded the most promising institute in South India at the British South India Council of Commerce Meet 2014, held at the House of Parliament, Westminster, London.

## Bangalore educational institution wins accolade in London



Salman Ahmed, Virendra Sharma, Lord Swraj Paul, Nissar Ahmed and Kauser Nissar





Conferred the 'Honoris Causa', an honorary doctorate degree by the renowned KEISIE International University, South Korea in 2016, for visionary leadership and contribution to quality education.



Felicitated as 'Doyen' in the field of education by the Hindu Group in 2018







Presented with the Education World Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019





Featured in the Cover Story of Education World Magazine, 2020 Edition, as one among the 50 leaders across India from the education industry who could revive education during the pandemic in 2020.

www.educationworld.in

# EducationWorld

THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MAGAZINE June 2020 Rs.100

**50 LEADERS WHO CAN REVIVE INDIAN EDUCATION**

### Dr. Nissar Ahmed

Chairman, Presidency Group of Institutions, Bangalore

**D**r. Nissar Ahmed is chairman of the Bangalore-based Presidency Group of Institutions (PGI, estb. 1976) which comprise seven CBSE/CISCE-affiliated schools, three undergrad/postgrad colleges and Presidency University, Bangalore, with an aggregate 25,000 students and 1,300 teachers.

**PGI's Covid-19 response.** After the mandated closure of our institutions in mid-March, we immediately began preparing to take teaching-learning to the online mode with faculty receiving intensive training in digital skills and pedagogies. Online classes commenced in end March and have proved a success. Credit for this success story should also accrue to our parents who extended full support by creating supportive home environments to facilitate smooth transition to digital learning.

**Major challenges confronting Indian education in the Covid era.** Most parents don't want to send their children, especially to kindergarten and primary school.

School managements need to win parents' confidence by creating safe learning environments for children. Moreover, there's the big challenge of poor Internet connectivity and access to digital devices.

**State government fee waiver/deferment circulars to private school managements.** Government should have weighed the ground realities of private education before issuing these circulars. All private schools are dependent on fees for paying teachers salaries and other capex and opex expenses. And the Covid-19 pandemic has severely affected their cash flow.

#### Top 3 proposals for reforming higher education in India.

The draft National Education Policy 2019 has made some important recommendations for reforming the higher education system. My proposals:

**Deregulation.** The government should deregulate higher education, encourage promotion of private higher education institutions and grant them full autonomy

**Syllabus and curriculum reform.** Universities should be incentivised to offer new-age programmes and invest in research and development

**Quality assurance.** Government must ensure all higher education institutions provide acceptable quality tertiary education and enabling infrastructure.

**Future plans.** Our main focus right now is to tide over the Covid-19 crisis and ensure our campuses are compliant with the health and safety norms prescribed by WHO and government.







Bestowed with the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Lit.) during the second annual convocation of Bangalore City University in 2023







Recognized as one of the prominent “Visionaries of the \$5 Trillion Economy” in India by Outlook Magazine in its anniversary special edition of January 2024.

## VISIONARIES OF \$5 TRILLION ECONOMY

# Outlook

initiative







## 5 VISIONARIES OF TRILLION ECONOMY

# Pioneering A New Vision: Dr Nissar Ahmed and the Presidency Group's Remarkable Journey

The Presidency Group of Institutions led by Dr Nissar Ahmed has left an indelible mark in the field of quality education in India



### A Visionary's Dream: Dr. Nissar Ahmed's Journey to Revolutionize Education

Presidency Group of Institutions, a chain of innovative Educational Institutions in Bangalore and Karnataka, has a remarkable journey from its humble beginnings to becoming leaders in the field of education in India. Established by the AH Memorial Educational Trust, Presidency Group has evolved and grown under the diligent leadership of Dr. Nissar Ahmed, the current Chairman of the Trust, since taking over the mantle of management, in 1981.

Dr. Nissar Ahmed commenced his educational journey in 1976 with the establishment of first of the Presidency Chain of Schools at Bangalore. This ultimately led to the establishment of Eight Schools offering CBSE and ICSE Curriculum. The exceptional quality of education, offered by the School, resulted in a significant increase in student- enrolment, necessitating the

expansion of facilities.

Dr. Ahmed strived to uphold the best educational standards for the students. Under the diligent Leadership Team ensured that the schools under the esteemed banner, operated smoothly, on a day-to-day basis. Presidency Group of Institutions (PGI) comprises a University, a Degree College, three [3] Pre-University Colleges and Eight [8] Schools.

Presidency University, a renowned State Private University, offers a wide range of Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Doctoral and various other Programs through their diverse Schools of Study. These Programs span across disciplines such as IT, Engineering, Law, Management, Design, Media Studies, and more.

Offering Forty-Eight [48] Programs across Eight [8] Schools, the University is located in a sprawling lush Campus, across 100 Acres, with around 17000 Students on its Rolls. Taught by more than 800 Faculty Members with the most accomplished blend

of Academic Qualification coupled with strong Teaching and Research expertise, the University has carved a niche for itself as an Institution of Eminence. The State of the Art Campus has around 15 Lacs Sq. ft. of Built up Space with a Teaching-Learning Ecosystem of Modern Well-ventilated Spacious Classrooms, Auditorium, Seminar Halls, State of the Art Laboratories, Amphitheatre and Cafeteria/Food Court all leading to a vibrant Campus Student-experience

### Philanthropist to the Core of His Heart

Dr. Nissar has, over the last 5 decades of his life, spared no efforts in ensuring the propagation of affordable education, across the social fabric, irrespective of caste, creed, race, religion, gender or social status. Free Education in the Presidency Schools, College and University have always been extended by Dr. Nissar.

Dr. Nissar Ahmed also has established the Philanthropic arm of the Presidency Group, Presidency Foundation which is focused on extending Employment-generating Vocational and Skill-Inducing Training to Underprivileged Youth in and around Bangalore, through a few Skill Development Canthers.

Believing in the intrinsic value of an efficient and effective Human Capital Base, Mr. Nissar Ahmed built a dedicated team around him and is endeared to one and all, right from the Students to the Parents, not mentioning the Teachers and other Employees.

Under the astute leadership of Dr. Nissar, all the Group Institutions have been bestowed with Accolades, Recognition for Excellence and Awards, National & International.

For his relentless efforts to provide affordable gender egalitarian Pre-School to Ph. D Education in India, and for the inclusive culture he has infused in the Presidency Groups over the past five decades, Mr. Nissar has been bestowed with many awards and accolades.

*This is testimony to the contribution of Dr. Nissar Ahmed to the USD 5 Trillion Global Economy*



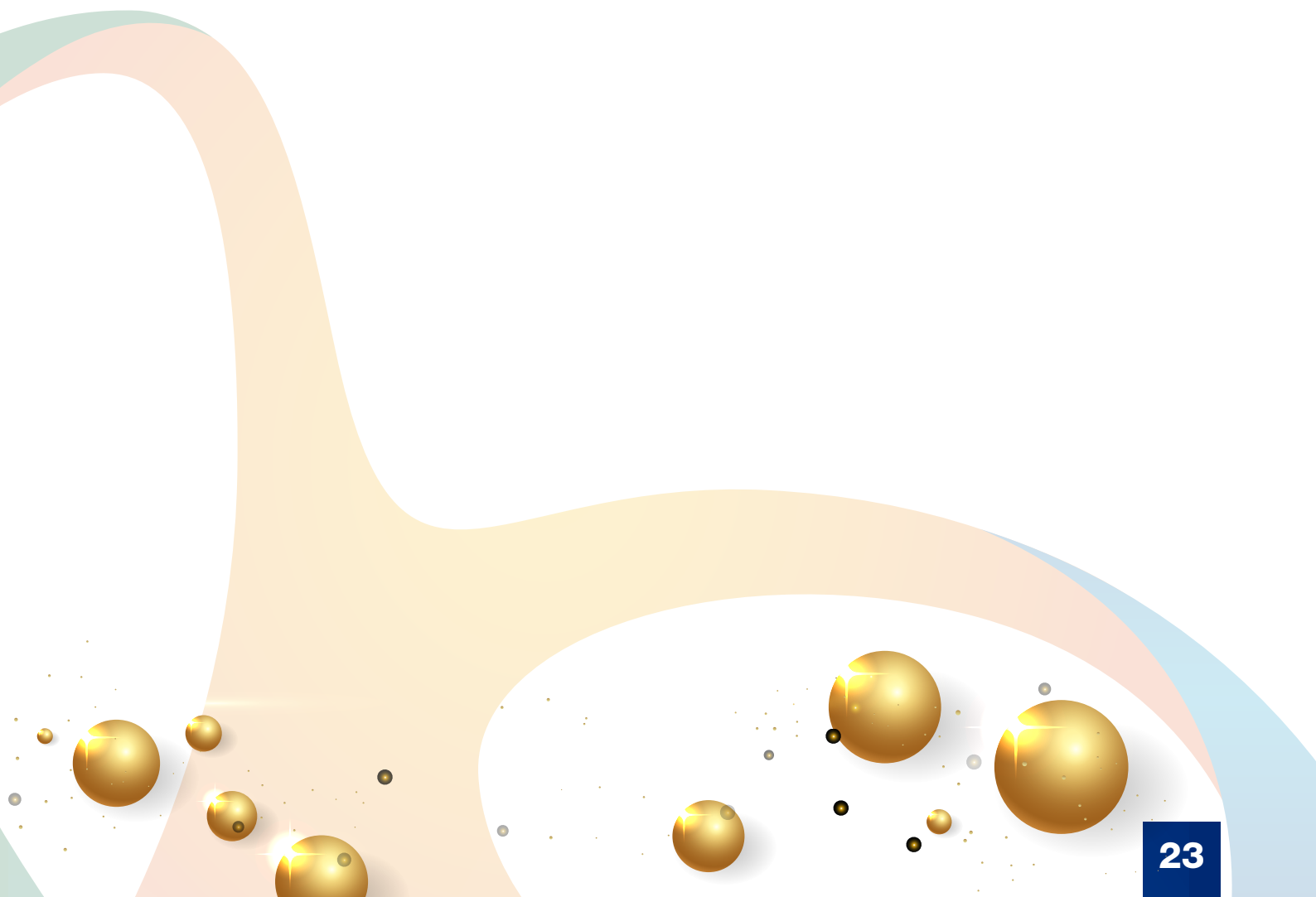
Featured in the December 2024 edition of Forbes Magazine for remarkable contributions to education and philanthropy.

# Forbes Glory

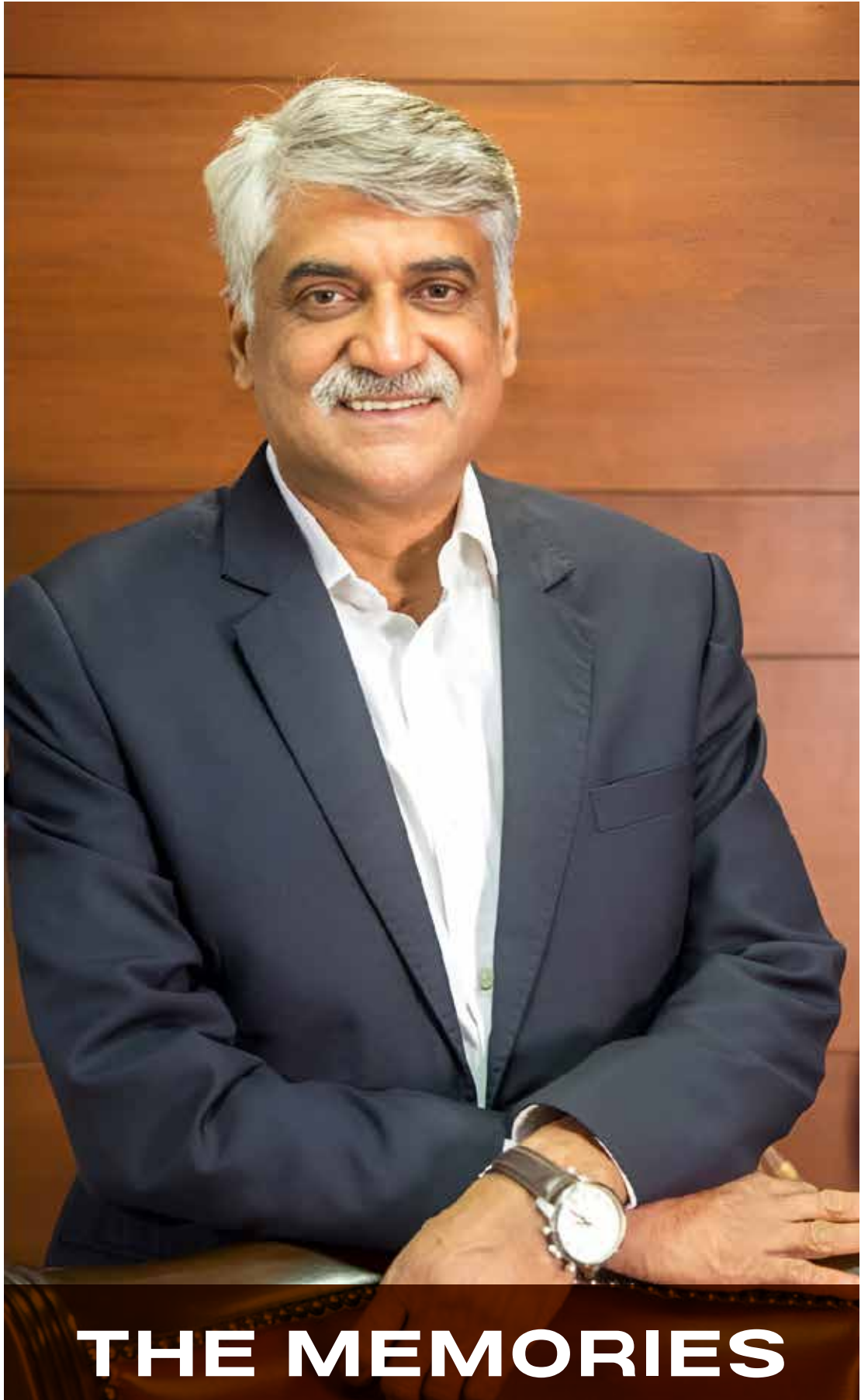
## Dr. Nissar Ahmed

Our Hon'ble Chairman, featured in **Forbes December 2024** for his exceptional vision, pursuit of educational excellence, & impactful philanthropy.

His legacy of excellence continues to inspire the future generations.







# THE MEMORIES

Memory is the diary that we all carry about with us.  
Oscar Wilde



# Reminiscences

In the quiet moments of reflection, memories of an eventful life serve as threads that weave together the rich tapestry of life. Looking back, these serve as reminders of the journey travelled thus far.







# Moments to Cherish

Former President Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam



Former Chief Minister Mr. Veerappa Moily, Mr. Abdul Rashid and Mr. Hemant Rao







# Notable Visitors to PGI Over the Years

Former Union Minister Mr. C. M. Ibrahim



Scientist Dr. Raja Ramanna







Cricketer Mr. Venkatesh Prasad



Cricketer Mr. Chris Gayle







Cricketer Mr. Anil Kumble



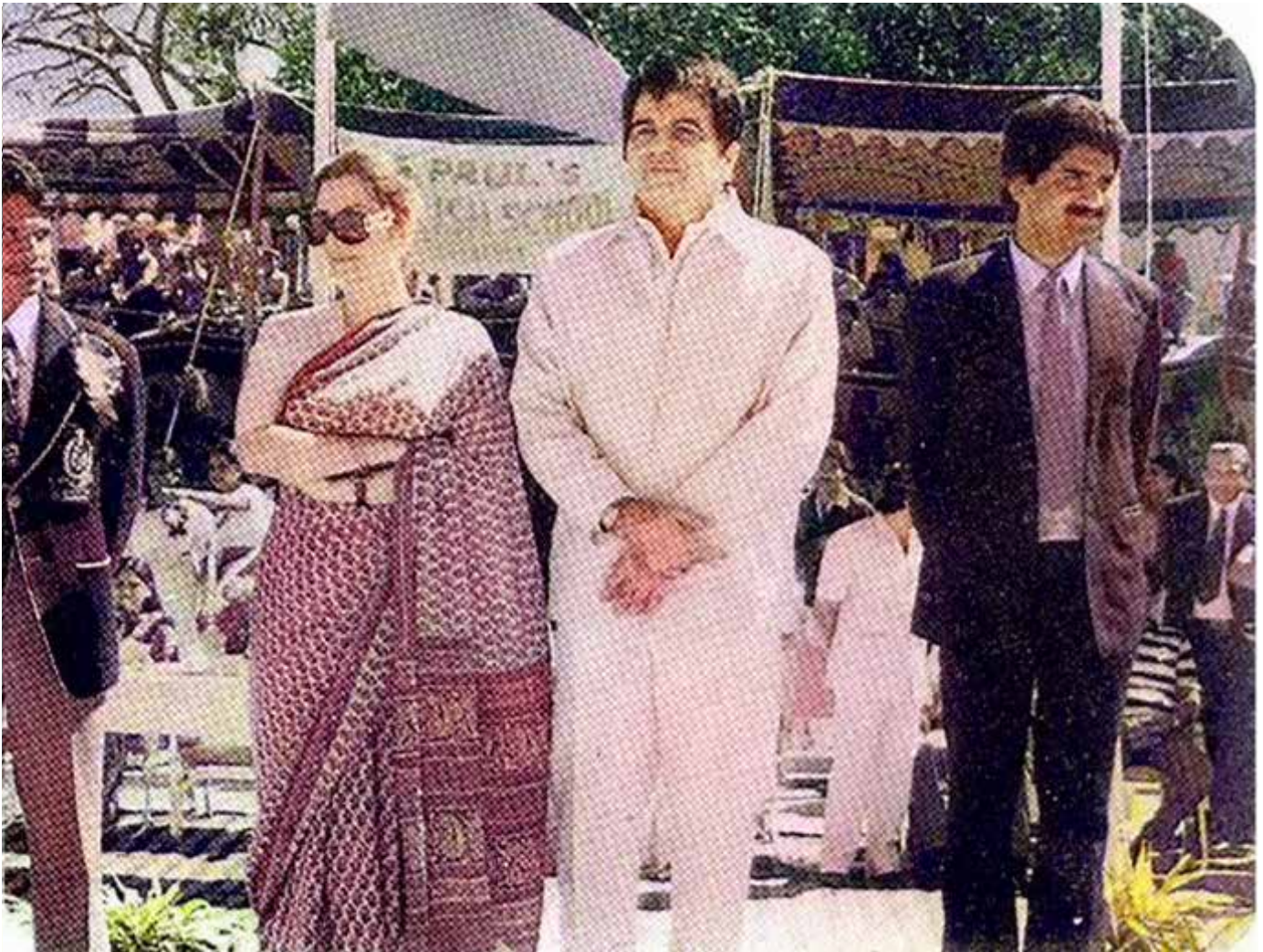
Cricketer Shane Watson







Actors Mr. Dilip Kumar and Mrs. Saira Bhanu



Actor Mr. Puneet Rajkumar and Mrs. Ashwini Puneet Rajkumar







## Doing the Alma Mater Proud

With the Chief Minister Mr. Siddaramaiah



## Lending a Helping Hand

Flood relief contribution with former Chief Minister Mr. Yediyurappa







# Presidency University: A blessed beginning

The foundation stone for Presidency University was first laid on December 29, 2012, by Sheikh Sayed Sabahuddin Al Rifaai Al Baghdad who unveiled the commemorative stone on January 24, 2023.







# In the Service of Society

Mega health camp at the University Campus in August 2023.



# Empowering Women

Transforming the educational landscape for young women in Mandya by providing a new look campus.







## Father's Pride



## Family's Joy

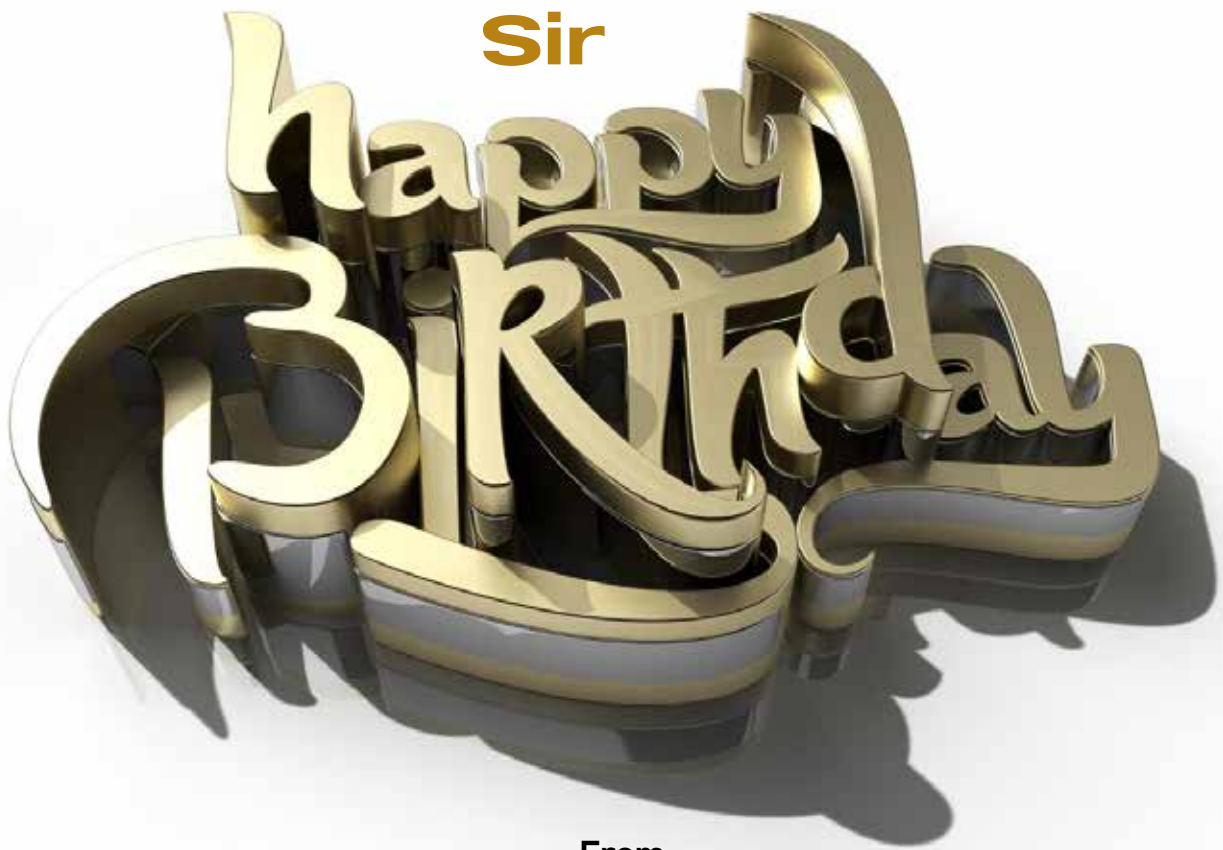


The journey is never about the destination reached or the milestones achieved but about the difference a person makes along the way.

The entire Presidency family prays to the Lord Almighty to confer health and happiness on our beloved Chancellor and Chairman and looks forward to his inspiring leadership and a glorious future.

Dear

**Sir**



From

**The Presidency Family**





# The Team

**Mr. Salman Ahmed – Chief Patron**

**Dr. Akila S Indurti – Editor**

**Mr. Abdulla T A – Designer**

**Kaleidoscope wishes to thank all those who have contributed to this edition of the magazine.**



HAPPY

*Birthday*

DEAR SIR







**PRESIDENCY  
UNIVERSITY**



# FOUNDER'S DAY 2025

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FEBRUARY 2025

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