



ACADEMIC RESEARCH THESIS

Indian Business Community in Hong Kong

A Comprehensive Study of the Top 100 Indian Businessmen & Businesswomen,
Business Dynasties, Sectoral Analysis, and the 20 Most Iconic Indian Business Icons
Shaping Hong Kong's Economy from 1842 to 2026

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CHAPTER 1 · PART I

Abstract & Executive Summary

This thesis presents a comprehensive academic study of the Indian business community in Hong Kong, one of the most economically significant and historically rooted diaspora communities in Asia. Spanning more than 180 years of commercial activity, the Indian presence in Hong Kong has evolved from a small group of Parsee and Sindhi traders in the 1840s to a vibrant, multi-sector business ecosystem that today contributes billions of dollars to Hong Kong's economy annually.

This research brings together profiles of the top 100 Indian businessmen and businesswomen active in Hong Kong, a detailed breakdown of the 10 major industries in which Indians dominate, and exhaustive biographical profiles of the 20 most iconic Indian business leaders whose careers have shaped not only the Indian community but the broader commercial landscape of Hong Kong SAR.

~44,140

Indian nationals & persons of
Indian origin in HK (2021
Census)

US\$25.81B

India–Hong Kong bilateral
trade value, FY 2024–25

80+

Indian companies with
Regional Headquarters in
Hong Kong (InvestHK, 2025)

1952

Year of establishment of the
Indian Chamber of Commerce
HK

US\$4.83B

Cumulative HK investment
into India, April 2000 – March
2025

6

Major Indian public & private
sector banks operating in
Hong Kong

The Indian community today represents one of the most diverse and influential ethnic minority groups in Hong Kong. From the founding of iconic institutions like Sam's Tailor and the Harilela hotel empire to the founding of global maritime giants like Fleet Management Limited and artisanal gem empires like the KGK Group, Indian business families have demonstrated extraordinary entrepreneurial resilience.

Thesis Objective: *To document, profile, and analyze the contributions of Indian businesspeople to Hong Kong's economy across all major sectors, from the colonial era to 2026, and to provide a reference resource for academic, commercial, and cultural inquiry.*

The study draws on data from the Indian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong (ICCHK), the Consulate General of India Hong Kong, InvestHK, the Hong Kong Companies Registry, the Hong Kong Indian Diamond Association (HKIDA), Forbes Asia, the South China Morning Post, Tatler Asia, and official corporate biographies of the profiled individuals.

CHAPTER 2 · PART I

History of Indians in Hong Kong: Colonial Era to 2026

2.1 The Colonial Origins (1841 – 1941)

The Indian connection with Hong Kong predates the formal establishment of the British colony itself. When the British East India Company began consolidating trade routes through the South China Sea in the early nineteenth century, Indian merchants — particularly Parsees from Bombay and Calcutta, and Bohra Muslim traders — were already active intermediaries in the Canton trade. By the time Britain declared Hong Kong a Crown Colony in 1842, Indian traders were among the first wave of commercial settlers.

1840s

Parsee and Bohra Muslim traders settle in early Hong Kong. Approximately 25% of all foreign businesses in HK are Indian-owned. Key Parsee figures include Sir Hormusjee Naorojee Mody, who later co-founds the University of Hong Kong.

1865

The Ruttonjee family, Parsee merchants from Bombay, establish a trading and manufacturing presence. The family later founds the Hong Kong Brewery and donates Ruttonjee Hospital to the colony.

1880s–1920s

Sindhi Hindu merchants from the Sindh province (now Pakistan) begin arriving in Hong Kong. The Chellaram, Chanrai, Harilela, and Melwani families emerge during this era.

1930s

Sindhi traders become the dominant Indian trading community in HK. Their member firms constitute a significant portion of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce's Indian membership.

1941–1945

Japanese occupation disrupts business. Many Indian families temporarily relocate to India, returning after liberation in 1945 with renewed determination to rebuild.

2.2 Post-War Expansion (1945 – 1997)

The post-war decades saw an extraordinary transformation of the Indian business community in Hong Kong. Led by Sindhi entrepreneurs, the community pivoted from small-scale trading to building large conglomerates spanning hotels, real estate, manufacturing, and international retail.

The Harilela family is perhaps the most celebrated example of this era. Naroomal Harilela arrived from Hyderabad, Sindh in the 1930s and established the family's roots in military tailoring. His son, the legendary **Dr. Hari Harilela**, transformed the family's modest tailoring business into a multi-billion-dollar hotel and real estate empire after World War II, a story that has become synonymous with the Indian community's resilience and ambition.

1950s

Indian entrepreneurs pivot from tailoring/trading to hotels and real estate. Harilela Group acquires first hotel property. Indian Chamber of Commerce HK is formally established on 12 December 1952 by ten pioneering Indian businessmen.

1960s

KGK Group, founded by the Kothari family in Jaipur, establishes its Hong Kong operations as a hub for diamond and coloured gemstone trade with Asia. Sam Melwani founds Sam's Tailor in Tsim Sha Tsui, which becomes the most famous tailor in the world.

1970s

The Harilela Group opens Holiday Inn Golden Mile in TST, cementing its position as Hong Kong's premier Indian-owned hospitality group. Gulu Lalvani founds Binatone Electronics, expanding from HK to become a global consumer electronics brand.

1979

Lal Chellaram establishes Chellaram Shipping (HK) Ltd., adding maritime services to the family's diversified trading business.

1980s

Indian professionals begin arriving in Hong Kong's rapidly growing financial sector. Indian banks (SBI, Bank of Baroda) establish formal branch offices in HK. Indian community population surpasses 20,000.

1989

Harry Banga co-founds Noble Group with Richard Elman, laying the foundation for one of Asia's most powerful commodities and maritime companies.

1990s

Pre-handover anxiety causes some business families to diversify internationally. However, many Indian entrepreneurs, deeply integrated into HK's fabric, choose to remain and expand. ICICI Bank and Axis Bank begin preparations for HK offices.

2.3 Post-Handover & the New Economy (1997 – 2026)

The handover of sovereignty to China in 1997 proved to be a pivotal moment for the Indian business community. Unlike some Western expatriates who departed, the Indian community — with its deep roots and long-term orientation — largely remained and, in many cases, doubled its commitment to Hong Kong.

1997–2003

Post-handover adjustment period. Indian businesses adapt to the "One Country, Two Systems" framework. Many leverage HK as a gateway for mainland China expansion.

2002

Girish Jhunjhnuwala founds Ovolo Hotels, reinventing the family's hospitality business with a contemporary boutique hotel concept that becomes internationally celebrated.

2005–2010

Indian IT giants TCS and Infosys establish regional offices in HK. Indian diamond merchants consolidate dominance of the HK diamond trade. Fleet Management Ltd (Caravel) grows to become one of the world's largest ship management companies.

2013

Harry Banga founds The Caravel Group after departing Noble Group, creating one of Asia's most powerful family offices with interests in maritime, commodities, real estate, and philanthropy.

2016–2020

A new wave of Indian fintech and tech startups establishes itself at Cyberport and HKSTP. The India Tech HK association is founded to support this emerging cohort.

2021–2026

Post-COVID recovery accelerates Indian investment in HK. India becomes HK's 9th largest trading partner. 80+ Indian companies hold Regional Headquarters in HK. The Indian community reaches approximately 44,140 people (CGI data).

2.4 The Communities Within: Parsees, Sindhis, Gujaratis, Punjabis & Professionals

The Indian community in Hong Kong is not monolithic. It comprises several distinct sub-communities, each with its own history, business culture, and spheres of commercial influence:

Community	Historical Arrival	Primary Business Sectors	Notable Families/Individuals
Parsee/Zoroastrian	1840s–1880s	Banking, trading, philanthropy, brewing	Ruttonjee, Mody, Parekh families
Sindhi Hindu	1880s–1940s	Textiles, retail, hotels, real estate, electronics	Harilela, Melwani, Chanrai, Chellaram, Kothari, Chainrai, Lalvani
Gujarati	1920s–1960s	Trading, diamonds, pharmaceuticals	Shah, Patel, Mehta families
Punjabi (Hindu & Sikh)	1950s–present	Finance, legal, technology, defense	Banga (Caravel), Dhillon families

South Indian (Tamil, Malayalam)	1980s– present	IT, finance, education, healthcare	Rosha (HSBC), Sekhri (Dining Concepts)
Modern Professionals	1990s– present	Banking, law, consulting, tech startups	Multiple corporate professionals at HSBC, Standard Chartered, DBS

CHAPTER 3 · PART I

Indian Business Organizations & Institutions in Hong Kong

3.1 The Indian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong (ICCHK)

The most important institutional pillar of the Indian business community in Hong Kong, the **Indian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong (ICCHK)**, was established on **12 December 1952** by ten pioneering Indian businessmen. For over seven decades, it has served as the primary interface between the Indian business community and the Government of the Hong Kong SAR.

ICCHK — Key Facts

- Founded: 12 December 1952 | Address: 2/F, Hoseinee House, 69 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong
- Phone: (852) 2525 0138 | Website: icchk.org.hk
- Current Chairwoman (2025–26): Ms. Bharati S. Manek (B. Manek & Co., Solicitors)
- One of only FIVE government-approved bodies authorized to issue Certificates of Origin for Hong Kong exports
- Founder member of the Hong Kong Shippers' Council
- Member of the Council of Hong Kong Indian Associations

The ICCHK's mandate includes promoting and protecting trade between Hong Kong, Mainland China, and India; representing the Indian business community on official government consultative bodies; facilitating arbitration; and hosting an annual programme of networking events, trade missions, and business seminars. Its General Committee for 2025–2026 includes leaders across electronics, legal, diamond, tailoring, and trading sectors.

3.2 Indian Businessmen's Association (IBA)

Established in **1985**, the Indian Businessmen's Association (IBA) was formed as a fellowship and networking organization for Indian entrepreneurs, particularly those from the Sindhi community concentrated in the Tsim Sha Tsui and Jordan areas of Kowloon.

Detail	Information
Founded	1985
Current Chairperson	Mr. Gul Mirpuri
Primary Focus	Fellowship and networking for Sindhi entrepreneurs
Address	Car Po Commercial Building, 5/F, Room 5001, 18-20 Lyndhurst Terrace, Central, HK

3.3 Hong Kong Indian Diamond Association (HKIDA)

The **HKIDA** represents arguably the most economically powerful segment of the Indian business community in Hong Kong — the diamond and gemstone trade. India accounts for approximately 90% of the world's polished diamonds by number and 50% by value, and Hong Kong serves as the primary Asian distribution hub for these stones, with Indian firms controlling a dominant share of the trade.

Detail	Information
Primary Role	Represents Indian firms in HK's diamond and gemstone trade
Current President	Mr. Raju Shah
Vice President	Mr. Sohan Goenka (Goenka Diamonds)
Website	hkida.net
Key Members	Rosy Blue, KGK Group, Kiran Gems, Laxmi Diamond, Goenka Diamonds

3.4 India Tech HK

India Tech HK is a newer but rapidly growing professional association supporting Indian technology, fintech, and digital economy professionals in Hong Kong. Founded by **Syed Musheer Ahmed** of FinStep Asia, it bridges the gap between India's vast tech talent pool and Hong Kong's financial hub status.

Detail	Information
Founder	Syed Musheer Ahmed
Focus	Tech & fintech professionals, startup ecosystem
Website	indiatechhk.com
Location	Tower-1, 46F, Robinson Place, 70 Robinson Road, Mid-Levels, Hong Kong

3.5 Other Key Organizations

Organization	Leader	Focus	Contact
Council of HK Indian Associations	Mr. Raj Sital (President)	Umbrella body for Indian community groups	GPO Box 1910, HK +852 2522 2908
Forum of Indian Professionals HK	Mr. Gautam Bordoloi (President)	Professional networking for Indian expats	fiphk.com PO Box 20571, Hennessy Rd, HK
ICAI Hong Kong Chapter	Mr. Vinod Menon (Chairman)	Chartered accountants & finance professionals	icaihk.org
Consulate General of India, HK	Consul General (rotating)	Government liaison & community support	cgihk.gov.in 26 Consulate Drive, HK

3.6 Indian Banks in Hong Kong

Six major Indian banks maintain a formal banking presence in Hong Kong, serving both the Indian diaspora and facilitating India-HK bilateral trade and investment:

#	Bank	Type	Services	Website
1	State Bank of India	Public sector	Trade finance, retail, NRI services	hk.statebank
2	Bank of Baroda	Public sector	Corporate banking, trade finance	bankofbaroda.hk
3	ICICI Bank	Private sector	Wealth management, corporate banking	icicibank.hk
4	Axis Bank	Private sector	Treasury, trade, structured finance	axisbank.hk
5	HDFC Bank	Private sector	NRI banking, corporate services	hdfcbankhongkong.com
6	Punjab National Bank	Public sector	SME financing, diaspora banking	N/A

Economic Impact & Statistical Profile

4.1 Demographic Overview

According to the **2021 Population Census** conducted by the Census and Statistics Department of Hong Kong, there are approximately **44,140 Indians** residing in Hong Kong, comprising both Indian nationals and Persons of Indian Origin (PIO). This places the Indian community as one of the largest South Asian communities and among the most economically active ethnic minority groups in the territory.

Metric	Figure	Source
Total Indian population in HK	~44,140	2021 HK Census / CGI HK
Indian Regional Headquarters in HK	80+	InvestHK, 2025
India–HK bilateral trade (FY 2024–25)	US\$25.81 billion	CGI Hong Kong
Cumulative HK investment in India (2000–2025)	US\$4.83 billion	Ministry of Commerce, India
India's rank as HK trading partner	9th largest (2024)	HKTDC Market Profile
ICCHK member companies	Several hundred	ICCHK (exact count private)
Indian-owned SMEs (estimated)	Thousands	Estimated via chamber data

4.2 Trade Profile

The economic relationship between India and Hong Kong is multifaceted. Hong Kong serves as India's primary re-export and transit hub for goods heading to Mainland China, Southeast Asia, and the wider Asia-Pacific region. The most significant categories of India-Hong Kong trade include:

- Diamonds and precious stones** — approximately 50% of Indian exports to HK; HK functions as a re-export hub

- **Electronics and electrical machinery** — imports from China via HK
- **Pharmaceutical products** — Indian generic drugs transiting through HK to Asia
- **Textiles and apparel** — Indian garments entering Asian markets via HK
- **Financial services** — bilateral investment flows facilitated through Indian bank branches

Key finding: *Diamonds alone account for nearly 50% of Indian exports to Hong Kong, with Indian firms in the HK Indian Diamond Association controlling a substantial share of the city's re-export diamond trade to Greater China.*

4.3 Investment Flows

Hong Kong ranks as the **15th largest source of Foreign Direct Investment** into India (cumulative FDI of US\$4.83 billion, April 2000 – March 2025). Investment flows primarily into traditional Indian industries such as gems and jewellery, textiles, hospitality, and increasingly into technology and fintech sectors.

India's "Gateway to India" strategy, promoted by InvestHK, actively positions Hong Kong as the ideal launchpad for Indian companies entering the Greater Bay Area, Mainland China, and Southeast Asia. In 2025–2026, InvestHK reported an accelerating pipeline of Indian companies setting up Representative Offices and Regional Headquarters in Hong Kong.

4.4 Sectoral Distribution of Indian Businesses

Sector	Estimated Share of Indian Business Activity	Key Driver
Gems, Diamonds & Jewellery	Dominant (estimated 60–70% of Indian trade value)	Diamond polishing and re-export
Hospitality & Hotels	High (multi-billion dollar assets)	Harilela, Ovolo, Hind Group empires
Shipping & Maritime	High (global firm leadership from HK)	Caravel/Fleet Management, Chellaram Shipping

Banking & Finance	Moderate-High (6 banks, many senior professionals)	Trade finance, NRI services
Textiles & Tailoring	Moderate (historically dominant; currently niche)	Bespoke tailoring for luxury market
Electronics & Trading	Moderate (Sindhi trading houses)	Long-standing trading networks
IT & Technology	Growing (emerging cohort)	TCS, Infosys regional offices; startups
F&B & Restaurants	Moderate (long-standing restaurant culture)	Gaylord, Bombay Dreams, Spiga
Legal & Professional	Moderate (growing rapidly)	Partners at major international law firms
Real Estate	Moderate (family office level)	Harilela, Jhunjhnuwala, Chainrai property

CHAPTER 5 · PART II

Gems, Diamonds & Jewellery Industry

The gems, diamonds, and jewellery sector is arguably the single most economically significant area of Indian business activity in Hong Kong. India is the world's largest processor of rough diamonds — cutting, polishing, and grading more than 90% of all polished diamonds globally. Hong Kong serves as the primary Asian trading and re-export hub for these stones, connecting Indian manufacturers with buyers in Greater China, Japan, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East.

Industry Context: *The Hong Kong Indian Diamond Association (HKIDA) estimates that Indian firms are responsible for a dominant share of the city's annual polished diamond trade. Diamonds consistently rank as the largest single category of Indian exports to Hong Kong.*

5.1 Major Indian Diamond & Jewellery Companies in HK



Rosy Blue (HK) Ltd.

Rosy Blue Group

One of the world's largest diamond manufacturers and distributors

Managing Director (HK): Ravi Bhansali | **Director:** Raj Mehta

Rosy Blue is a Antwerp and Mumbai-headquartered diamond group with its Asia-Pacific hub firmly anchored in Hong Kong. The firm is vertically integrated — from rough diamond sourcing in Africa and Canada to polishing in India, and distribution through HK. It is among the top 3 diamond firms globally by volume.

Website: rosyblue.com



KGK Group (Hong Kong)

KGK Group

Vertically integrated global gemstone and diamond conglomerate

Chairman: Navrattan Kothari | **VP:** Sanjay Kothari | **MD:** Sandeep Kothari

KGK Group was founded in Jaipur and has grown into a global powerhouse with operations spanning rough diamond mining, polishing, coloured gemstone trading, and luxury jewellery retail. The HK office oversees the group's Greater China and North Asia sales.

Address: 18/F, Peninsula Square, 18 Sung On Street, Hunghom, Hong Kong | Phone: +852 2723 2222

Website: kgkgroup.com



Kiran Gems (Kiran Exports HK)

Kiran Gems Pvt. Ltd.

World's largest manufacturer of natural polished diamonds

Global Director (HK): Dinesh Lakhani | **VP:** Varun Lakhani | **CEO Regional:** Pritesh Patel

Kiran Gems, headquartered in Surat, India, is the world's single largest manufacturer of natural polished diamonds. Its Hong Kong hub manages distribution to the Greater China luxury market, including Mainland China's booming high-end jewellery sector.

Website: kirangems.com



Laxmi Diamond

Laxmi Diamond Pvt. Ltd.

Prominent HKIDA member and major diamond exporter

Laxmi Diamond is a Surat-based diamond manufacturer with a significant presence in the Hong Kong market through its trading operations. The firm is an active member of the HKIDA and a key contributor to India-HK diamond trade flows.

Website: laxmidiamond.com

5.2 Industry Table: Indian Diamond & Jewellery Firms in HK

#	Company	HK Leader	Specialty	Website
1	Rosy Blue (HK) Ltd.	Ravi Bhansali, Raj Mehta	Polished diamonds, global distribution	rosyblue.com
2	KGK Group	Navrattan Kothari, Sandeep Kothari	Diamonds, coloured gemstones, jewellery retail	kgkgroup.com
3	Kiran Gems HK	Dinesh Lakhani, Pritesh Patel	Natural polished diamonds (largest mfr)	kirangems.com
4	Laxmi Diamond	N/A	Diamond export, HKIDA member	laxmidiamond.com

5	Goenka Diamonds	Sohan Goenka	Diamond trading, HKIDA Vice President	goenkadiamonds.com
6	S.M. Diamonds	N/A	Polished diamonds distribution	N/A

CHAPTER 6 · PART II

Textiles, Tailoring & Fashion

Perhaps no industry better embodies the Indian commercial heritage in Hong Kong than bespoke tailoring. Concentrated in the Tsim Sha Tsui area, Indian-owned tailoring houses have served royalty, presidents, athletes, and celebrities for generations, creating a cottage industry that punches far above its weight in global brand recognition.

6.1 Sam's Tailor — The World's Most Famous Tailor



Sam's Tailor

Burlington Arcade, TST

World-renowned bespoke tailoring house, est. 1957

Founder: Ram Gulabrai Melwani (known as "Sam") | **Current Proprietor:** Manohar "Manu" Melwani, MBE, MH, JP

Sam's Tailor is the most internationally recognizable Indian-owned business in Hong Kong. Founded by Ram Melwani in 1957, the shop at Burlington Arcade on Nathan Road has dressed an extraordinary list of clients: Presidents George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama; Prince Charles; Rolling Stones; Michael Jackson; and hundreds of world leaders and celebrities. The business was built on a promise of fast, high-quality custom tailoring at competitive prices.

Manu Melwani took over the business and was awarded the **MBE (Member of the British Empire)** in 2022 for services to the community. His son Roshan Melwani has modernized the brand's digital presence, becoming the "TikTok Tailor" with millions of global followers.

Address: Shop K-L, Burlington Arcade, 90-94 Nathan Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, HK | Phone: +852 2367 9423

Website: samstailor.com

6.2 Raja Fashions



Raja Fashions

TST, Hong Kong

Major bespoke tailoring house with global trunk show operations

Current Director: Prashant Daswani (4th generation) | **Education:** BS Supply Chain Management, Northeastern University

Raja Fashions is a fourth-generation family-owned tailoring and fashion house in Hong Kong. Under Prashant Daswani's leadership, the business has expanded beyond traditional tailoring into contemporary menswear. In 2025, Prashant also founded **Atelier Aristo**, a bespoke footwear brand, and **Newbury**, a contemporary clothing line.

Address: G/F, 34-34C Cameron Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, HK | Phone: +852 2366 7624

Website: raja-fashions.com

6.3 Maxwell's Clothiers & Other Tailors

Company	Specialty	Location	Website
Maxwell's Clothiers	International mail-order bespoke tailoring	TST, Hong Kong	maxwellsclothiers.com
Bobby's Fashions	Bespoke suits, shirts; TST veteran	TST, Hong Kong	N/A
Irene Fashions	Ladies bespoke tailoring	TST, Hong Kong	N/A
Atelier Aristo	Bespoke footwear (new, 2025)	TST, Hong Kong	N/A

Cultural Legacy: *The cluster of Indian-owned tailoring shops in Tsim Sha Tsui's "tailor street" (Knutsford Terrace and surrounds) has been a defining feature of the TST retail landscape for over half a century, and its continued existence represents a tangible living heritage of the Indian presence in Hong Kong.*

CHAPTER 7 · PART II

Hospitality, Hotels & Tourism

Indian entrepreneurs have built some of Hong Kong's most celebrated and best-known hotels and hospitality brands. The Harilela Group, the Jhunjhnuwala family's ventures, and boutique innovators have collectively shaped the city's hotel landscape across decades.

7.1 The Harilela Group — Hong Kong's Premier Indian Hotel Empire



Harilela Group / Harilela Hotels

Harilela Group, Kowloon Centre, TST

HK's most prominent Indian-owned hotel and real estate conglomerate

The Harilela Group owns and/or operates approximately **19 hotel properties** globally, making it one of the largest Indian-owned hospitality groups in Asia. Key properties include:

- **The Hari Hong Kong** (flagship luxury boutique) — Tsim Sha Tsui | thehari.com/hong-kong
- **Holiday Inn Golden Mile Hong Kong** — Nathan Road, TST | ihg.com
- **InterContinental Grand Stanford Hong Kong** — Tsim Sha Tsui
- **The Hari London** — Knightsbridge, London
- **50 Bowery** — New York City
- **Holiday Inn Singapore Orchard City Centre**

Chairman & CEO: Dr. Aron Harilela, BBS, JP | **Vice Chairman:** Gary Harilela, JP

Address: 1/F, Kowloon Centre, 29-39 Ashley Road, TST, Hong Kong | Phone: +852 2376 2117

Website: harilela.com | thehari.com

7.2 Ovolo Hotels — The Design Boutique Revolution



Ovolo Hotels / Ovolo Group

Ovolo Group, Universal Trade Centre, Central

Award-winning contemporary boutique hotel chain

Founder & CEO: Girish Jhunjhnuwala | **Founded:** 2002

Ovolo Hotels revolutionized Hong Kong's boutique hotel scene when Girish Jhunjhnuwala transformed a traditional service apartment into a design-led lifestyle hotel. The brand now operates properties across Hong Kong, Australia, and Indonesia. Girish won the **EY Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2016**.

Ovolo's signature is art-filled interiors, free breakfast, complimentary minibar, and genuine "no surprises" pricing. The brand has won numerous Condé Nast Traveler, Harper's Bazaar, and Time Out awards.

Address: 15/F, Universal Trade Centre, 3 Arbuthnot Road, Central, Hong Kong | **Phone:** +852 2111 2222

Website: ovolohotels.com

7.3 Naumi Hotels — Hind Group



Naumi Hotels / Hind Group

Hind Hotels & Properties Ltd.

Luxury boutique hotels (HK, Singapore, Auckland)

Founder/MD: Surya Jhunjhnuwala (brother of Girish)

Operating under the Hind Group umbrella, Naumi Hotels operates luxury boutique properties in Singapore, Auckland, and Hong Kong. The Jhunjhnuwala family's hotel portfolio spans both the Ovolo and Naumi brands across different family branches.

Website: naumihotels.com | hindgroup.com

7.4 Key Indian-Owned/Led Hotels in HK — Summary Table

Hotel	Owner/Leader	Location	Rooms	Website
The Hari Hong Kong	Harilela Group (Dr. Aron Harilela)	TST, Kowloon	~210	thehari.com

Holiday Inn Golden Mile	Harilela Group	Nathan Rd, TST	~600	ihg.com/holidayinn
InterContinental Grand Stanford	Harilela Group	Tsim Sha Tsui	~690	ihg.com
Ovolo Southside	Ovolo Group (G. Jhunjhnuwala)	Wong Chuk Hang	~162	ovolohotels.com
Ovolo Central	Ovolo Group	Central	~42	ovolohotels.com
Naumi Hotel HK	Hind Group (S. Jhunjhnuwala)	HK Island	N/A	naumihotels.com

CHAPTER 8 · PART II

Finance, Banking & Professional Services

8.1 Indian Professionals at Global Financial Institutions

Beyond the Indian banks, a remarkable number of senior executives at the world's most prestigious financial institutions in Hong Kong are of Indian origin. From HSBC's Asia-Pacific leadership to Standard Chartered's regional management teams, Indian professionals have risen to the pinnacle of the global financial services industry while being based in Hong Kong.

Name	Institution	Role	Background
Surendra Rosha	HSBC	Co-CEO, Asia-Pacific	MBA IIM Ahmedabad; joined HSBC 1991; CEO HSBC India 2018; Co-CEO Asia 2021
Vikas Seth	HSBC	Vice Chairman, Corporate & Institutional Banking	Senior HSBC leader covering M&A and financing

Aditya Gahlaut	HSBC	Regional Head of Trade	Heads HSBC's Asia trade finance business
Sunil Shah	HSBC	Managing Director (Strategy)	Senior strategy executive at HSBC HK
Manoj Piplani	Standard Chartered	Global Head, Consumer, Private & Business Banking	Veteran StanChart executive based in HK
Anshul Sabherwal	Standard Chartered	Head, Consumer Banking HK	Recognised by The Asian Banker
Rohit Gupta	ICICI Bank HK	Chief Executive	Leads ICICI's HK operations
Shrirang Ketkar	State Bank of India HK	Country Head & CEO	Oversees SBI's HK strategy
Amit Sinha	DBS Bank	Global Head, TMT	Leads technology, media & telecom banking

8.2 Indian Legal Professionals in HK

Name	Firm	Role	Specialty	Website
Bharati Manek	B. Manek & Co.	Principal Solicitor & ICCHK Chair	General practice, community leadership	bmanek.com
Mini Menon vandePol	Baker McKenzie	Partner	Asia Pacific Investigations, Compliance & Ethics	bakermckenzie.com
Neeraj Budhwani	Milbank	Partner	Private equity, cross-border transactions	milbank.com
Manas Chandrashekar	Kirkland & Ellis	Partner	Debt finance, leveraged buyouts	kirkland.com

Arun Nigam

Arun Nigam
Associates /
Fred Kan &
Co.

Senior
Consultant

HK, English, and
Indian law

arunnigam.com

8.3 Accounting & Consulting

Name/Firm	Role	Specialty	Website
Vinod Menon / ICAI HK Chapter	Chairman, ICAI HK	Chartered accountants community	icaihk.org
Manish Narain Sharma / Akin CPA Limited	Director	Accounting, audit, advisory	N/A

CHAPTER 9 · PART II

Shipping, Logistics & Maritime Trade

9.1 Fleet Management Limited — A Global Giant



Fleet Management Limited

The Caravel Group

One of the world's largest third-party ship management companies

Founder: Kishore Rajvanshy (MD Emeritus) | **Current CEO:** Captain Subramaniam

Fleet Management Limited, a subsidiary of The Caravel Group, is among the world's top three ship management companies, managing hundreds of vessels across bulk carriers, tankers, container ships, and offshore units. The company employs over 15,000 seafarers globally and is headquartered in Hong Kong.

Website: fleetship.com

9.2 The Caravel Group — Harry Banga's Maritime Empire



The Caravel Group

Central Plaza, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Multi-sector investment group: maritime, commodities, real estate, philanthropy

Chairman & CEO: Dr. Harry Banga (Harindarpal Singh Banga) | **Net Worth:** ~US\$2.8–3.1 billion (Forbes 2025)

Founded in 2013 after Dr. Banga's departure from Noble Group, The Caravel Group is one of Asia's most powerful privately held conglomerates. Beyond Fleet Management, it holds significant stakes in Pacific Basin Shipping (HK-listed) and a wide range of commodity, real estate, and private equity investments globally.

Address: 21/F, Central Plaza, 18 Harbour Road, Wanchai, HK | Phone: +852 2100 2000

Website: caravel-group.com

9.3 Chellaram Shipping



Chellaram Shipping (HK) Ltd.

Chellaram Group, Central, Hong Kong

Historic Indian-owned bulk carrier and ship management firm, est. 1979

Chairman: Lal H. Chellaram (Ship Owner of the Year, 2021/22) | **CEO:** Vishal Chellaram

Chellaram Shipping was established in 1979 by Lal Chellaram, grandson of the legendary trader Kishinchand Chellaram. The company has grown from a small bulker operation to an internationally recognized ship owner and manager, winning the Lloyd's List "Ship Owner of the Year" award.

Address: 1801, Dina House, 11 Duddell Street, Central, Hong Kong | Phone: +852 2973 6111

Website: chellship.com

9.4 KC Maritime



KC Maritime Ltd.

Chellaram Family Group

Ship owner, operator and asset manager

Chairman: Gautam S. Chellaram

KC Maritime is the ship-owning and asset management arm of the broader Chellaram family business group, operating in the dry bulk and tanker segments.

Website: kcmaritime.com

CHAPTER 10 · PART II

Technology, IT & Fintech

10.1 Indian IT Giants in Hong Kong

Company	India Parent	HK Focus	Website
Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)	Tata Group	BFSI digital transformation, banking IT	tcs.com
Infosys	Infosys Ltd.	Cloud, AI services for HK financial sector	infosys.com
HCLTech	HCL Technologies	Engineering R&D, digital transformation	hcltech.com
Wipro	Wipro Ltd.	Financial services IT consulting	wipro.com

10.2 Indian-Founded Startups & Fintech Firms in HK

Company	Founder	Focus	Website
FinStep Asia	Syed Musheer Ahmed	Fintech venture builder, India-HK corridor	finstepasia.com

Brushless.ai	Shikhar Khandelwal	AI-driven solutions (Cyberport alumnus)	brushless.ai
Seekr (Vidi Labs)	Lamia Sreya Rahman	Assistive technology for the visually impaired	seekr.hk

10.3 India Tech HK — The Emerging Professional Network

India Tech HK, founded by Musheer Ahmed, has become the primary professional association for the growing cohort of Indian technology professionals in Hong Kong. The organization runs events bridging Indian and Hong Kong startup ecosystems, facilitates introductions between Indian founders and HK venture capital, and advocates for better visa and business setup processes for Indian tech talent.

Website: indiatechhk.com

CHAPTERS 11–14 · PART II

Real Estate, F&B, Trading, Legal & Other Sectors

11. Real Estate & Property Development

Company/Individual	Role	Focus	Website
Harilela Group	Dr. Aron Harilela (Chairman)	Hotel & commercial real estate, TST landmark holdings	harilela.com
Hind Group / Ovolo	Girish Jhunjnuwala	Boutique hotel properties, HK Island & Kowloon	ovolohotels.com
Chainrai Group	Balram Chainrai	Global real estate investment, commercial properties	chainrai.com

Mordril Properties	Vikram Chellaram (CEO)	Sustainable HK property projects	N/A
Mordril Investments	Sham Chellaram (Chairman)	Private equity and real estate strategy	N/A
Sonam Thadani / Okay.com	Award-winning agent	Luxury residential brokerage	okay.com

12. Food, Restaurants & F&B Industry — Comprehensive Directory

Hong Kong's Indian F&B sector is one of the most dynamic, diverse, and innovative in all of Asia. From century-old tandoor establishments to Michelin-starred progressive Indian fine dining, from cloud-kitchen delivery brands to bespoke wedding catering empires, Indian entrepreneurs have profoundly shaped the city's culinary landscape. This expanded chapter documents 25+ Indian-owned and Indian-led F&B companies operating in Hong Kong as of 2026.



Buttar Hospitality Group

Part of Buttar Group of Companies — Jordan, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Founder & Chairman: Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar | Est. 2016

Full Company Name: Buttar Hospitality Group (under Buttar Group of Companies)

Founder & Chairman: Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar — visionary entrepreneur and community leader; founder of the broader Buttar Group since 1996

Established: Hospitality Division founded 2016; Parent Group since 1996

Head Office: Mau Lam Commercial Building, 16-18 Mau Lam Street, Jordan, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Phone: +852 9834 9222 / +852 2312 0148 | **Email:** info@buttar.hk

Website: buttarhospitality.com

Restaurant & Food Brands Operated:

Brand Name	Cuisine / Concept	Notes
Curry Leaf	North Indian Fine Dining	Flagship restaurant; authentic Indian flavors with gourmet presentation
Tandoori	Classic North Indian / Mughlai	Traditional clay oven cooking; signature kebabs and breads

Matka	Indian Street Food / Clay Pot Specials	Named after the iconic Indian clay pot; street food inspired menu
Biryani 101	Specialist Biryani	Dedicated biryani concept covering all regional biryani styles
Mirchi	Spicy Indian Snacks & Bites	Chaat-style small plates and Indian street bites
Jain Food HK	Jain Vegetarian Cuisine	HK's dedicated Jain food concept; strictly no root vegetables
Turkeyano	Turkish / Mediterranean Fusion	Cross-cultural brand combining Indian and Turkish flavors
Habibi	Middle Eastern Cuisine	Halal Middle Eastern dishes; shawarma, mezze, grills
Al Kebabi	Middle Eastern / Halal Kebabs	Specialized kebab concept; delivery-focused cloud kitchen
Father of Pizza	Italian-Indian Fusion Pizza	Creative pizza concept with Indian-inspired toppings

Key Services: Fine Dining | Luxury Catering | Grand Weddings | Corporate Galas | Private Events | Cloud Kitchen Delivery | Community Catering

Awards & Recognition:

- Asia's Greatest Leaders Award (2017) — Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar
- Most Trusted Name in Business Excellence Award (2017)
- 5x "Caring Company" Award — Hong Kong Council of Social Services (HKCSS)
- Freshlane Featured Business Partner (2022) — recognised for cloud kitchen innovation

Catering Philosophy: "Where Tradition Meets Modern Elegance" — the group positions itself as HK's premier luxury Indian catering provider, handling everything from royal-style Indian weddings to high-profile corporate dinners for multinational companies.

Social Media: Facebook: ButtarHospitality | Instagram: @buttarhospitality | LinkedIn: Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar

Fine Dining

Wedding Catering

Cloud Kitchen

10 Brands

Jordan HK



Dining Concepts Holdings

Hong Kong — Multiple Locations

Founder: Sandeep Sekhri | Est. 2002

Pioneer of celebrity chef restaurant concepts in HK. Founded by Sandeep Sekhri in 2002 after stints at Taj Mahal Hotel and Harilela Investments. The group manages multiple upscale international and Indian dining brands across Central, Lan Kwai Fong, and TST.

Key Brands: Bombay Dreams (Indian fine dining, 4/F, 77 Wyndham Street, Central), Spiga (Italian), Steak & Co, multiple international chef-led concepts

Awards: Restaurateur of the Year, 2015

Phone: +852 2147 9000 | **Website:** diningconcepts.com

Celebrity Chef

Fine Dining

Central HK



S&S Hospitality Group

Hong Kong — Multiple Locations

Managing Director: Sandip Gupta | Est. 2000s

One of HK's largest Indian-owned restaurant groups, operating 9+ established dining concepts. The group's standout brand Bombay Dreams has become a beloved fixture of Hong Kong's Indian dining scene in Central.

Key Brands: Bombay Dreams (North Indian), Braza (Brazilian BBQ), Spiga (Italian), multiple others

Website: sandshospitality.com

Multi-Brand

Indian Cuisine

9+ Outlets



Silver Spoon Restaurants / Gaylord Group

Tsim Sha Tsui & Multiple Locations, HK

Founder: Tony Brar | MD: Rajeev Bhasin | Est. 1972

Home to **Gaylord** — Hong Kong's oldest and most iconic Indian restaurant, established in 1972. Gaylord has served generations of HK residents and is credited with introducing North Indian cuisine to mainstream Hong Kong. The Silver Spoon group today operates five distinct restaurant brands.

Key Brands: Gaylord (classic North Indian), Jojo (contemporary Indian), Gunpowder Indian RestoBar (modern small plates), and Thai/vegetarian concepts

Address: 5/F, Prince Tower, TST | Phone: Multiple outlets

Website: silverspoon.com.hk

Gaylord 1972

Oldest Indian Restaurant HK

TST



New Punjab Club

34 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong

Founder: Syed Asim Hussain (Black Sheep Restaurants) | Chef: Palash Mitra | Est. 2017

New Punjab Club is one of Hong Kong's most celebrated Indian restaurants — a **Michelin-starred** Punjabi tandoor-focused fine dining establishment. Operated by Black Sheep Restaurants (founded by Syed Asim Hussain, who is of South Asian heritage), the restaurant is renowned for its wood-fired tandoor and premium cuts of meat.

Cuisine: Refined Punjabi / North Indian — tandoor meats, breads, and classic north Indian preparations elevated to fine dining standard

Chef: Palash Mitra — one of HK's most acclaimed Indian chefs

Address: 34 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong

Website: blacksheeprestaurants.com

Michelin Star

Punjabi Fine Dining

Tandoor

Central



Rajasthan Rifles

The Peak Galleria, G01, Central, Hong Kong

Black Sheep Restaurants (Syed Asim Hussain) | Est. 2019

A romantic Anglo-Indian brasserie inspired by the Indian colonial officer's mess tradition. Rajasthan Rifles occupies a prime location at The Peak Galleria with stunning panoramic views of Hong Kong. The menu blends traditional Indian recipes with British colonial-era cooking styles — curries, roasts, and classic Indian desserts in an elegant mess-hall setting.

Cuisine: Anglo-Indian / Colonial-era Brasserie | **Setting:** The Peak, HK (iconic elevated location)

Website: blacksheeprestaurants.com

Anglo-Indian

The Peak HK

Colonial Brasserie



Chaat

5/F, Rosewood Hong Kong Hotel, Tsim Sha Tsui

Chef: Gaurav Kuthari | Est. 2020

Chaat is one of Hong Kong's most lauded Indian fine dining restaurants, located within the luxurious Rosewood Hong Kong Hotel. The restaurant reimagines Indian street food (chaat) as a sophisticated fine dining experience. Under Executive Chef Gaurav Kuthari's direction, it has received widespread critical acclaim and multiple Michelin recommendations.

Cuisine: Progressive Indian / Elevated Street Food | **Address:** 5/F, Rosewood Hong Kong, Victoria Dockside, 18 Salisbury Road, TST

Recognition: Michelin recommended; Tatler Asia Best Restaurants; multiple international culinary awards

Michelin Recommended

Progressive Indian

Rosewood Hotel

TST



Leela (JIA Group)

Lee Garden Three, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong

Chef/Founder: Manav Tuli | JIA Group: Yenn Wong | Est. 2023

Leela is Hong Kong's newest entry into the world of progressive Indian fine dining. Opened in 2023 by celebrated Indian Chef Manav Tuli in partnership with JIA Group (led by Yenn Wong), Leela brings a modern culinary narrative to traditional Indian cooking — inspired by the word "leela" (divine play in Sanskrit). The restaurant explores regional Indian cuisine through a contemporary lens.

Cuisine: Contemporary / Progressive Indian | **Website:** jiagroup.co

Progressive Indian

New 2023

Causeway Bay

Fine Dining



Jashan Restaurant

1/F, 23 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong

Owner: Vicky Uppal (UH Group) | Est. 2003

One of Central's long-standing Indian restaurants, Jashan (meaning "celebration" in Hindi/Urdu) has served the business and diplomatic community of Central, Hong Kong for over two decades. Popular for corporate lunches, diplomatic entertaining, and casual Indian dining in a warm atmosphere.

Cuisine: Contemporary North Indian | **Location:** Hollywood Road, Central

Contemporary Indian

Central HK

Since 2003



Bengal Brothers (Audace Group)

Wan Chai & Central, Hong Kong

Founders: Vidur Yadav & Tanvir Bhasin | Est. 2021

Bengal Brothers is a popular modern Indian street food concept specializing in Kati Rolls — the beloved wrapped street sandwich from Kolkata. Founded in 2021 by Vidur Yadav and Tanvir Bhasin, the restaurant quickly built a loyal following among Hong Kong's young professionals and Indian diaspora. With outlets in Wan Chai and Central, it represents a new wave of casual-format Indian dining in HK.

Cuisine: Indian Street Food / Kati Rolls | **Locations:** Wan Chai, Central

Indian Street Food

Kati Rolls

Est. 2021

Casual Dining



Spicebox Organics

Mid-Levels, Kennedy Town, Tseung Kwan O, HK

Founder: Punam Chopra | Est. 2012

Spicebox Organics is a pioneer of Indian-infused organic health food in Hong Kong. Founded by Punam Chopra in 2012, it combines Indian culinary traditions with a health-conscious, organic philosophy. The concept operates as both a cafe and a retail health food store, offering Indian-spiced soups, salads, tiffins, and organic pantry products.

Cuisine: Organic Indian Health Food / Cafe | **Outlets:** Mid-Levels, Kennedy Town, Tseung Kwan O

Organic

Health Food

Indian Cafe

Multiple Outlets



Woodlands Restaurant

Wing On Plaza, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Hong Kong

CEO: Arun PE | Est. 1981

Woodlands is one of Hong Kong's oldest and most respected Indian restaurants, established in 1981. It has the distinction of being HK's pioneering South Indian Vegetarian restaurant — serving authentic South Indian cuisine including dosa, idli, sambar, rasam, and extensive thali menus. For over 40 years, it has been the go-to destination for the Gujarati, Jain, and South Indian vegetarian communities in HK.

Cuisine: South Indian Vegetarian (Dosa, Idli, Vada, Thali) | **Address:** Wing On Plaza, TST East

South Indian Vegetarian

Established 1981

TST

Heritage



Kailash Parbat HK

Prat Avenue, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong

Manager: Nilesh Prakash Mulchandani | Est. 2014 (HK)

Kailash Parbat is a beloved global Indian chain famous for its Sindhi cuisine, chaats, and Bombay-style street food. The HK branch brings to life the authentic flavors of Mumbai's Kailash Parbat institution — known worldwide for its pav bhaji, bhel puri, and traditional Sindhi dishes.

Cuisine: Sindhi / Mumbai Street Food / Chaats | **Address:** Prat Avenue, TST

Sindhi Cuisine

Mumbai Street Food

Chaat

TST



Saravanaa Bhavan

Ashley Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong

Global Chain (Founded by P. Rajagopal, Chennai) | HK Branch Active

Saravanaa Bhavan is arguably the world's most famous South Indian vegetarian restaurant chain, with over 100 locations globally. Its HK branch in TST serves the South Indian diaspora and adventurous diners with authentic Tamil Nadu cuisine — dosas, uttappam, pongal, curd rice, and extensive vegetarian thalis.

Cuisine: Authentic South Indian / Tamil Nadu Vegetarian | **Address:** Ashley Road, TST, HK

South Indian

Vegetarian

Global Chain

TST



Curry Culture HK

5 Minden Avenue, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong

Founder: Sandeep Sachar | Est. 2012

Curry Culture HK positions itself as a contemporary Indian dining destination on Minden Avenue — the heart of TST's Indian restaurant district. Under Sandeep Sachar's leadership, the restaurant offers a modern take on Indian curries with a rotating seasonal menu and a strong focus on fresh, quality ingredients.

Cuisine: Contemporary Indian Curries | **Address:** 5 Minden Avenue, TST

Contemporary Indian

Minden Avenue

Est. 2012



Gunpowder Indian RestoBar

18 Ship Street, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Mayfare Group / Rajeev Bhasin | Est. 2018

Gunpowder Indian RestoBar is a trendy modern Indian tapas and small plates concept located in Wan Chai's vibrant Ship Street dining corridor. Inspired by the bold, robust flavors of Indian spice-route cuisine, the restaurant offers creative Indian dishes designed for sharing — a departure from traditional subcontinental menus.

Cuisine: Modern Indian Tapas / Small Plates | **Address:** 18 Ship Street, Wan Chai

Indian Tapas

Wan Chai

Ship Street

Modern Concept



Spice Bazaar

Minden Avenue, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong

Founders: Balram Yadav & Imran Khaleel

Spice Bazaar is a specialist tandoor and barbecue restaurant located on Minden Avenue — the culinary heart of TST's Indian restaurant strip. The restaurant is known for its exceptional live tandoor cooking, with chefs working the clay oven in view of diners, and for its generous portions of marinated meats and classic Indian breads.

Cuisine: Tandoor / Indian Barbecue | **Address:** Minden Avenue, TST

Tandoor

Indian BBQ

Minden Avenue



Namaste Kitchen

38 Queens Road West, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

Independent Indian Owner | Authentic Regional Indian

Namaste Kitchen is a neighbourhood Indian restaurant in Sheung Wan offering authentic regional Indian dishes that represent the full breadth of Indian culinary tradition — from Rajasthani laal maas to Kerala fish curry to Hyderabad biryani. Popular with Indian expats and HK locals seeking a genuine home-style Indian meal away from the tourist circuit.

Cuisine: Authentic Regional Indian | **Address:** 38 Queens Road West, Sheung Wan

Regional Indian

Sheung Wan

Authentic



Hello India Restaurant

Hankow Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong

Owner: Alex P.E. | Halal Indian & Catering

Hello India is a popular halal Indian restaurant in TST catering to both the Indian and Muslim communities in Hong Kong. The restaurant offers a wide menu of North Indian halal dishes and provides catering services for corporate events and community gatherings.

Cuisine: Halal North Indian | **Address:** Hankow Road, TST

Halal

Indian

TST

Catering



Masala Train

146 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Founder: Katy Yam | Indian Meal Boxes & Healthy Tiffin

Masala Train occupies a unique niche in HK's Indian F&B scene — a healthy Indian meal-box and tiffin service that caters to health-conscious professionals in Wan Chai and surrounding areas. The concept has gained a loyal following among Indian expat professionals and HK locals interested in Indian nutrition-based cuisine.

Cuisine: Healthy Indian / Tiffin Delivery | **Address:** 146 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai

Healthy Indian

Tiffin

Wan Chai

Meal Boxes



Punjab Kitchen

21-31 Wharf Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Independent Indian-Led | Community Restaurant

Punjab Kitchen is a community-focused Indian restaurant in North Point serving the Indian diaspora community in that neighbourhood. Known for its generous portions, family-style service, and authentic Punjabi home cooking — dal makhani, butter chicken, sarson da saag, and freshly-made makki di roti.

Cuisine: Authentic Punjabi / North Indian | **Address:** 21-31 Wharf Road, North Point, HK

Punjabi

North Point

Community

Home-Style

Complete Indian F&B Directory — Hong Kong (2026)

#	Company / Restaurant	Founder / Leader	Cuisine / Concept	Location	Website / Contact
1	Buttar Hospitality Group	Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar	Multi-brand: Fine Dining, Catering, 10 brands	Jordan, Kowloon	buttarhospitality.com +852 9834 9222
2	Dining Concepts Holdings	Sandeep Sekhri	Celebrity Chef / Bombay Dreams	Central, HK	diningconcepts.com +852 2147 9000

3	S&S Hospitality (Bombay Dreams)	Sandip Gupta	North Indian Fine Dining + 9 brands	Central & Multiple	sandshospitality.com
4	Gaylord / Silver Spoon Group	Tony Brar / Rajeev Bhasin	Classic North Indian (est. 1972)	TST, Multiple	silverspoon.com.hk
5	New Punjab Club	Syed Asim Hussain / Chef Palash Mitra	Michelin-Starred Punjabi Tandoor	34 Wyndham St, Central	blacksheeprestaurants.com
6	Rajasthan Rifles	Syed Asim Hussain (Black Sheep)	Anglo-Indian Brasserie	The Peak Galleria	blacksheeprestaurants.com
7	Chaat	Chef Gaurav Kuthari	Progressive Indian / Michelin Recommended	Rosewood Hotel, TST	rosewoodhotels.com
8	Leela (JIA Group)	Chef Manav Tuli / Yenn Wong	Contemporary Progressive Indian	Lee Garden Three, Causeway Bay	jiagroup.co
9	Jashan Restaurant	Vicky Uppal (UH Group)	Contemporary North Indian	Hollywood Road, Central	N/A
10	Bengal Brothers	Vidur Yadav, Tanvir Bhasin	Indian Street Food / Kati Rolls	Wan Chai, Central	N/A
11	Spicebox Organics	Punam Chopra	Organic Indian Cafe	Mid-Levels, Kennedy Town, TKO	N/A

12	Gunpowder Indian RestoBar	Rajeev Bhasin (Mayfare)	Modern Indian Tapas / Small Plates	18 Ship Street, Wan Chai	silverspoon.com.hk
13	Woodlands Restaurant	Arun PE (CEO)	South Indian Vegetarian (est. 1981)	Wing On Plaza, TST East	N/A
14	Kailash Parbat HK	Nilesh Prakash Mulchandani	Sindhi / Mumbai Street Food	Prat Avenue, TST	N/A
15	Saravanaa Bhavan	Global (P. Rajagopal founder)	South Indian Vegetarian	Ashley Road, TST	N/A
16	Curry Culture HK	Sandeep Sachar	Contemporary Indian Curries	5 Minden Avenue, TST	N/A
17	Spice Bazaar	Balram Yadav, Imran Khaleel	Tandoor / Indian BBQ	Minden Avenue, TST	N/A
18	Namaste Kitchen	Independent Indian Owner	Authentic Regional Indian	38 Queens Road West, Sheung Wan	N/A
19	Hello India Restaurant	Alex P.E.	Halal Indian / Catering	Hankow Road, TST	N/A
20	Masala Train	Katy Yam	Healthy Indian Tiffin / Meal Boxes	146 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai	N/A
21	Punjab Kitchen	Independent Indian-Led	Authentic Punjabi	21-31 Wharf Road, North Point	N/A

22	Indian Spices Catering	Mastu	High-end Indian Catering	48-78 High Street, Sai Ying Pun	N/A
23	Sandy's Kitchen (Tiffin)	Sandy	Home-Style Indian Tiffin Delivery	HK-wide delivery	Via social media
24	Zunaka Kitchen	Independent Indian-Led	Indian Meal Boxes / Delivery	HK-wide delivery	Via social media
25	Curry Leaf (Buttar)	Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar	Fine Dining Indian / Flagship Brand	Jordan, Kowloon	buttarhospitality.com

13. Retail, Trading & Consumer Goods

Company	Leader	Sector	Website
Style Asia Ltd (Sital Group)	Raj Sital (GBS, BBS, JP)	Electronics, watches, consumer goods	styleasia.com.hk
T. Choithram & Sons	Choithram family	Food trading and distribution	choithrams.com
Kewalram Chanrai Group	Gulu Chanrai, Murli Chanrai	Agricultural commodities (co-founded Olam)	kewalramchanrai.com
PNS Group	Rajkumar Sabnani	International trading, electronics	pnsinternational.com
Binatone Electronics	Gulu Lalvani	Consumer electronics (cordless phones, smart home)	binatoneglobal.com
Progressive Group	Patrick Kaknani, Dinesh Hathiramani	Garments and textile trading	progressivehk.com

14. Accounting, Audit & Professional Services — Comprehensive Directory

The accounting, audit, and professional services sector represents one of the fastest-growing areas of Indian business activity in Hong Kong. Indian-origin Chartered Accountants (CAs), Certified Public Accountants (CPAs), and management consultants have established independent practices, specialist boutique firms, and India-focused desks within the world's top professional services networks. This chapter documents 15+ firms and professionals, anchored by the landmark Buttar & Associates practice.



Buttar & Associates

Part of Buttar Group of Companies — Jordan, Kowloon, HK

Founder & Chairman: Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar | Est. 1996

Full Company Name: Buttar & Associates (part of Buttar Group of Companies)

Founder & Chairman: Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar — pioneering Indian accounting entrepreneur and community leader in Hong Kong

Established: 1996 — Pioneer in Indian accounting and professional services in HK for 30 years

Head Office (Hong Kong HQ): 1/F, Mau Lam Commercial Building, 16-18 Mau Lam Street, Jordan, Kowloon, HK

Accounts & Business Development Office: 6/F, Mau Lam Commercial Building, 16-18 Mau Lam Street, Jordan, Kowloon, HK

Immigration & Documents Processing: 10/F, Mau Lam Commercial Building, 16-18 Mau Lam Street, Jordan, Kowloon, HK

Phone (HQ): +852 2312 0148 | **Fax:** +852 2375 6513

Phone (Accounts): +852 2740 9091 | **Phone (Immigration):** +852 2384 9500

Email: info@buttar.hk | **Website:** buttar.hk

Complete Services Offered:

Service Category	Details
Accounting & Audit	Weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual accounting; full audit arrangements; financial statement preparation; management accounts
Tax Consultancy & Filing	Hong Kong profits tax, salaries tax, and property tax returns; tax planning; Inland Revenue Department (IRD) liaisons; tax investigations

Company Formation	Onshore (HK) and offshore company incorporation; registered office services; full company setup end-to-end
Secretarial Services	Annual returns, board resolutions, statutory filings, company registers, AGM management
Banking & Finance	Banking relationship setup, account opening advisory, financing advisory, cash management structuring
Immigration Services	HK visa applications (Employment, Investment, IANG, Dependent), Canada immigration, Mainland China permit services
Representative Office in China	Full setup and management of Representative Offices in Mainland China for foreign/Indian companies
Offshore Company Setup	BVI, Cayman, Seychelles, and other offshore jurisdiction company formation
Trademark Registration	HK and international trademark filing and management
Sino-India Business Development	Specialist cross-border China-India business consulting; market entry, partner matching
Business Directory Services	india.hk portal — HK's dedicated Indian business directory and marketplace
Travel & Tourism	Travel services for Indian businesses and diaspora in HK

Awards & Recognition:

- **5x "Caring Company" Award** — Hong Kong Council of Social Services (HKCSS) — recognising consistent corporate social responsibility
- **Mediazone "Service within Service" Award (2015)** — for outstanding client service and community contribution
- **Most Trusted Name in Business Excellence (2017)**
- 90% referral rate — exceptional client retention reflecting service quality
- Featured in IndianDirectoryHK as a "Top Indian Professional Services Provider"

Scale & Reach:

- 2,100+ happy clients served across Asia

- 25+ years of market expertise
- 24/7 availability and customer support
- 6 self-owned offices in Hong Kong
- Operations across HK, Mainland China, India, and Canada

Tax Calculator App: Buttar & Associates has developed its own Tax Calculation Application — available on Android and iOS — allowing clients to estimate HK tax obligations independently. This technology investment distinguishes the firm as a digitally forward Indian professional services provider in HK.

Community Role: Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar is a prominent figure in Hong Kong's Indian business community, actively participating in Punjabi and North Indian diaspora events, and maintaining close links with the Indian consulate and business associations.

Group Companies: The broader Buttar Group of Companies includes Buttar & Associates (professional services), Buttar Hospitality Group (F&B), India.hk (business directory/marketplace), and immigration/travel services divisions — making it one of the most diversified Indian-owned business groups in HK.

Est. 1996

Accounting

Audit

Tax

Immigration

5x Caring Company

Jordan HK



Akin CPA Limited

Sheung Wan, Hong Kong

Director: Manish Narain Sharma | Est. 2008

Akin CPA Limited is an HKICPA-registered professional accounting firm led by Indian CPA Manish Narain Sharma. The firm provides a comprehensive range of accounting, audit, tax, and secretarial services with a particular focus on SMEs and startups expanding into Hong Kong from India and Southeast Asia.

Services: Audit & assurance, tax advisory, company secretarial, business advisory, visa/immigration support

Address: 20/F, Champion Building, 287-291 Des Voeux Road Central, Sheung Wan, HK |
Phone: +852 2503 8000

Website: akincpa.com

HKICPA Registered

Audit

Tax

SME Focus



V-Concepts Limited

Central, Hong Kong

Founder: Arti Sahani (Indian-origin Accountant)

V-Concepts Limited is a boutique accounting and tax advisory practice led by Indian-origin accountant Arti Sahani. The firm specializes in small-to-medium business accounting, tax compliance, and secretarial services, with particular expertise serving Indian entrepreneurs and SMEs entering the HK market.

Services: Accounting, tax compliance, company secretarial, bookkeeping

Address: Room C, 3/F, Wing Yee Commercial Building, 3-7 Wing Kut Street, Central, HK
| Phone: +852 2815 1168

Website: v-concepts.hk

Boutique Practice

Indian-Led

Central HK



Prosmart Consultancy Limited

Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Founder: Anoop Gidwani | Est. 2001

Founded in 2001 by Anoop Gidwani — a senior figure in the ICAI HK Chapter — Prosmart Consultancy offers management consulting, fraud investigation, and risk advisory services. Gidwani's background combines Indian CA qualifications with deep HK market experience, making Prosmart a respected boutique firm for complex advisory mandates.

Services: Management consulting, fraud investigation, risk advisory, internal audit, due diligence

Address: Unit B, 15/F, Kingpower Commercial Building, 409-413 Jaffe Road, Wan Chai, HK
| Phone: +852 2507 3766

Website: prosmartconsultants.com

Management Consulting

Fraud Investigation

ICAI HK

Est. 2001



GMC International Limited

Two IFC, Central, Hong Kong

Founder: Gagan Gahlot | Est. 2018

GMC International is a cross-border finance and M&A advisory firm founded by Gagan Gahlot, operating from a prestige address at Two IFC in Central. The firm specializes in India-HK cross-border transactions, structured finance, and investment advisory for high-net-worth individuals and institutional clients. Its premium Central location reflects the firm's positioning in the upper tier of Indian-owned professional services in HK.

Services: Cross-border finance advisory, M&A, structured finance, investment advisory, India-HK corridor expertise

Address: Level 19, Two International Finance Centre, 8 Finance Street, Central, HK |
Phone: +852 2251 1888

Website: gmc.international

M&A Advisory

Two IFC

Cross-Border Finance

India-HK



KNAV (HK Affiliate)

Hong Kong

Partner: Shishir Shrivastava | International Tax & Transfer Pricing

KNAV is a leading India-headquartered international accounting and advisory network with a presence in Hong Kong. Founded by Indian CAs, KNAV specializes in international tax, transfer pricing, and cross-border advisory — services in high demand among Indian multinationals using HK as a regional hub.

Services: International tax, transfer pricing, assurance, advisory for Indian multinationals

Website: knavcpa.com

International Tax

Transfer Pricing

Indian-Founded Network



ICAI Hong Kong Chapter

Hong Kong

Chairman: Vinod Menon | Professional Association for Indian CAs in HK

The Hong Kong Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) represents Indian CAs and finance professionals based in Hong Kong. The chapter organizes professional development events, networking, and advocacy for Indian accounting professionals across the city's banking, audit, and advisory sectors.

Chairman: Vinod Menon | **Notable Members:** Anoop Gidwani (Prosmart), Manish Sharma (Akin CPA), K.V.R. Subramaniam and others

Website: icaihk.org

ICAI

Chartered Accountants

Professional Association

Big 4 Firms — India Desks in Hong Kong

All four of the world's largest accounting and professional services networks maintain dedicated "India Desks" in their Hong Kong offices. These desks are led by senior Indian-origin partners and provide specialist services to Indian companies in HK, Indian multinationals using HK as a hub, and to local HK companies with significant India exposure.

Firm	India Desk Leader (HK)	Services	Address	Phone	Website
PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)	Jayant	M&A tax	21/F,	+852	pwchk.com
	Kumaar	advisory,	Edinburgh	2289	
	(India	family office	Tower, 15	8888	
	Desk	services,	Queen's		
	Lead)	India-HK	Road		
		deal	Central,		
		structuring,	HK		
		audit			

Ernst & Young (EY)	Vrudhi Jain	Assurance, international tax, India-Desk	27/F, One Taikoo Place, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, HK	+852 2846 9888	ey.com
	Lead)	transaction services, ESG advisory			
KPMG	Darren Bowdern	Asset management, international tax, deal advisory, India regulatory compliance	8/F, Prince's Building, 10 Chater Road, Central, HK	+852 2522 6022	kpmg.com/cn
	(India practice)				
Deloitte	India Desk	Audit, tax, risk	One Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty, HK	+852 2852 1600	deloitte.com/cn
	Partner (HK)	advisory, India-China corridor consulting			

Specialized Legal & Tax Practices with Indian Leadership

Firm	Indian Leader	Specialty	Website
B. Manek & Co. Solicitors	Bharati S. Manek (Principal)	General legal practice, ICCHK Chair, India-related legal matters	bmanek.com
Arun Nigam Associates / Fred Kan & Co.	Arun Nigam (Senior Consultant)	HK, English and Indian law; cross-border disputes	arunnigam.com
Edwin Coe (India Tax Desk)	Jinesh Timbadia (Desk Lead)	India tax advisory, NRI tax planning, international tax	edwincoe.com
Baker McKenzie	Mini Menon vandePol (Partner)	Asia Pacific Investigations, Compliance & Ethics	bakermckenzie.com

Kirkland & Ellis	Manas Chandrashekar (Partner)	Debt finance, leveraged buyouts, private credit	kirkland.com
Milbank	Neeraj Budhwani (Partner)	Private equity, cross-border India-HK transactions	milbank.com
Pinsent Masons	Debopam Dutta (Partner)	India Desk, international arbitration, construction law	pinsentmasons.com

Complete Indian-Led Accounting, Audit & Advisory Firms Directory — HK (2026)

#	Firm Name	Founder / Leader	Services	Address	Phone / Website
1	Buttar & Associates	Dr. Kuldeep Singh Buttar (Chairman)	Accounting, Audit, Tax, Company Formation, Immigration, Sino-India Services	1/F, Mau Lam Comm. Bldg, Jordan, KLN	+852 2312 0148 buttar.hk
2	Akin CPA Limited	Manish Narain Sharma (Director)	Audit, Tax, Secretarial, Business Advisory	20/F, Champion Bldg, 287-291 Des Voeux Rd C, Sheung Wan	+852 2503 8000 akincpa.com
3	V-Concepts Limited	Arti Sahani	Accounting, Tax Compliance, Secretarial	3/F, Wing Yee Comm. Bldg, 3-7 Wing Kut St, Central	+852 2815 1168 v- concepts.hk
4	Prosmart Consultancy	Anoop Gidwani (Founder)	Management Consulting, Fraud Investigation, Risk	15/F, Kingpower Comm. Bldg, 409-413 Jaffe Road, Wanchai	+852 2507 3766 prosmartconsultants.com

5	GMC International	Gagan Gahlot (Founder)	Cross-border Finance, M&A Advisory	Level 19, Two IFC, 8 Finance Street, Central	+852 2251 1888 gmc.international
6	KNAV (HK Affiliate)	Shishir Shrivastava (Partner)	International Tax, Transfer Pricing, Assurance	Hong Kong office	knavcpa.com
7	PwC India Desk	Jayant Kumaar	M&A Tax, Family Office, Deal Structuring	21/F, Edinburgh Tower, 15 Queen's Rd C, Central	+852 2289 8888 pwchk.com
8	EY India Desk	Vrudhi Jain	Assurance, International Tax, ESG	27/F, One Taikoo Place, 979 King's Rd, Quarry Bay	+852 2846 9888 ey.com
9	KPMG India Practice	Darren Bowdern	Asset Management, Tax, Deal Advisory	8/F, Prince's Building, 10 Chater Road, Central	+852 2522 6022 kpmg.com/cn
10	Deloitte India Desk	India Desk Partner	Audit, Tax, Risk, India-China Advisory	One Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Admiralty	+852 2852 1600 deloitte.com/cn
11	Edwin Coe India Tax	Jinesh Timbadia	India Tax Advisory, NRI Tax Planning	HK Representative Office	edwincoe.com
12	ICAI HK Chapter	Vinod Menon (Chairman)	Professional development, advocacy for Indian CAs in HK	Hong Kong	icaihk.org

13	Taxtran Limited	Arti Sahani	Tax Advisory, Accounting	Wing Yee Comm. Bldg, Central	Via LinkedIn
14	Mordril Investments (Advisory)	K.V.R. Subramaniam	Financial Advisory, PE/Real Estate structuring	Suite 2101, 28 Hennessy Road, Wanchai	+852 2526 6606
15	Pinsent Masons India Desk	Debopam Dutta (Partner)	International Arbitration, India Desk Advisory	50/F, Central Plaza, 18 Harbour Road, Wanchai	+852 2216 7000 pinsentmasons.com

Industry Note: *The Indian accounting and professional services community in Hong Kong is anchored by the ICAI HK Chapter, which regularly organizes CPD events, knowledge-sharing, and networking. Indian CAs are prominently placed across the Big 4 networks, boutique advisory practices, and as founders of independent firms. Buttar & Associates, with its 30-year history, remains the most recognized independent Indian-owned professional services brand in Hong Kong.*

CHAPTER 15 · PART III

The 20 Most Iconic Indian Business Leaders in Hong Kong

The following twenty individuals represent the most significant, celebrated, and impactful Indian business leaders in Hong Kong's modern history. These profiles are compiled from corporate biographies, official award citations, government records, and media sources.

Icon #1 — Dr. Aron Harilela, BBS, JP



Dr. Aron Harilela, BBS, JP

Harilela Hotels Ltd. / Harilela Group

Chairman & CEO | Hospitality & Real Estate

Education: PhD in Political Philosophy, BA in Law and Politics — University of Hull, UK

Career: Joined the Harilela Group in 1994 after completing his doctorate. Became Chairman and CEO of Harilela Hotels in 2012 following the passing of his father, the legendary Dr. Hari Harilela. Has since led the modernization and global expansion of the hotel group.

Companies: Harilela Hotels Ltd., Harilela Group, non-executive roles in various HK boards

Awards & Honours: Bronze Bauhinia Star (BBS, 2014); Justice of the Peace (JP, 2014); Honorary Fellow, HKU; Honorary Fellow, PolyU; former Chairman, HK General Chamber of Commerce (2018–2020)

Philanthropy: Honorary Patron, HKU Foundation; donor to HKUST and HKBU; Harilela Foundation scholarships

Address: 1/F, Kowloon Centre, 29-39 Ashley Road, TST, Hong Kong | Phone: +852 2376 2117

Website: harilela.com | thehari.com

Hospitality

Real Estate

BBS

JP

HKGCC Chairman

Icon #2 — Dr. Harry Banga (Harindarpal Singh Banga)



Dr. Harry Banga

The Caravel Group / Fleet Management Ltd.

Chairman & CEO | Maritime, Commodities, Asset Management

Education: Master Mariner Certificate; Honorary DBA — City University of Hong Kong

Career Timeline:

- 1970s: Started as a seafarer, working his way from deck officer to master mariner
- 1989: Co-founded Noble Group with Richard Elman, which grew to be one of Asia's largest commodity trading companies
- 2007: Built Fleet Management into one of the world's largest ship management companies
- 2013: Founded The Caravel Group after departing Noble Group; expanded into private equity, commodities, real estate, and philanthropy

Net Worth: ~US\$2.8–3.1 billion (Forbes 2025)

Awards: Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (India's highest civilian honour for overseas Indians, 2011); Honorary DBA (CityU); Lloyd's List Asia Award

Philanthropy: The Caravel Foundation — scholarships at Dartmouth, Duke, and Princeton; donations to Indian maritime education

Quote: "All that you have made in your lifetime was at risk. You have to be at peace with that."

Address: 21/F, Central Plaza, 18 Harbour Road, Wanchai, HK | Phone: +852 2100 2000

Website: caravel-group.com | fleetship.com

Billionaire

Shipping

Commodities

Pravasi Bharatiya Samman

Icon #3 — Navrattan Kothari



Navrattan Kothari

KGK Group

Chairman | Global Diamonds, Gemstones & Luxury Jewellery

Education: St. Xavier's School, Jaipur; business education through industry mentorship

Career: Joined the family gem business in the 1960s in Jaipur. Moved the company's operations to Hong Kong in the 1970s, recognizing HK's strategic position as Asia's gemstone trading hub. Built KGK from a regional player into a vertically integrated global company spanning rough diamond mining, polishing, coloured gemstones, and luxury jewellery retail under the Entice brand.

Net Worth: Family net worth ~US\$2.2 billion (2025)

Awards: JNA "Extraordinary 40" Award (2023) — recognizing transformative contributions to the global jewellery industry

Philanthropy: Bhagwan Mahaveer Cancer Hospital (Jaipur); Jal Mahal restoration project; multiple educational scholarships

Quote: "Integrity and innovation are the two pillars upon which a global legacy is built."

Address: 18/F, Peninsula Square, 18 Sung On Street, Hunghom, HK |
Phone: +852 2723 2222

Website: kgkgroup.com

Diamonds

Gemstones

JNA Award

Jaipur-HK

Icon #4 — Girish Jhunjhnuwala



Girish Jhunjhnuwala

Ovolo Group / Hind Group

Founder & CEO | Boutique Hospitality Innovation

Education: BSc Business Administration — University of Southern California (USC)

Career:

— 1984–1998: Managed Hind Group's watch manufacturing operations in Hong Kong

— 2002: Founded Ovolo Hotels, starting with a single converted service apartment in Sheung Wan

— 2016: Won EY Entrepreneur of the Year award; by this point Ovolo operated 8 properties across HK and Australia

— 2020s: Continued expansion in Australia and Southeast Asia; Ovolo became HK's most internationally recognized boutique hotel brand

Awards: EY Entrepreneur of the Year (2016); multiple Condé Nast Traveler, Harper's Bazaar Travel Awards

Quote: "We would rather have three proper Ovolo hotels than six that are hit-and-miss."

Address: 15/F, Universal Trade Centre, 3 Arbuthnot Road, Central, HK |
Phone: +852 2111 2222

Website: ovolohotels.com

Boutique Hotels

EY Entrepreneur 2016

Design

Icon #5 — Manohar "Manu" Melwani, MBE, MH, JP



Manohar "Manu" Melwani, MBE, MH, JP

Sam's Tailor

Proprietor | World's Most Famous Bespoke Tailor

Career: Joined Sam's Tailor in the 1970s and took full control of the business in 2002. Has dressed three US Presidents (Bush, Clinton, Obama), Prince Charles, Michael Jackson, the Rolling Stones, and hundreds of world leaders and celebrities. Credited with turning a HK tailor shop into a global luxury brand.

Awards: MBE — Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (2022), for services to the Hong Kong community; Meritorious Honour (MH); Justice of the Peace (JP)

Quote: "I treat every customer who walks into the shop like a celebrity."

Address: Shop K-L, Burlington Arcade, 90-94 Nathan Road, TST, HK |
Phone: +852 2367 9423

Website: samstailor.com

MBE

Bespoke Tailoring

Global Icon

JP

Icon #6 — Shalini Mahtani, MBE, MH



Shalini Mahtani, MBE, MH

The Zubin Foundation / Community Business

Founder & Social Entrepreneur | Ethnic Minority & DE&I

Advocacy

Education: BSc Economics — London School of Economics (LSE, 1993)

Career:

— 1993–1996: PricewaterhouseCoopers

— 1997–2003: BNP Paribas

— 2003: Founded Community Business (now one of Asia's leading DE&I advisory organizations)

— 2014: Founded The Zubin Foundation, focusing on mental health, education, and social mobility for HK's ethnic minorities and South Asians

Awards: MBE (2008) — for services to business development in HK; Meritorious Honour MH (2023)

Quote: "Humanising difference is important."

Address: 5/F, High Fashion Centre, 1-11 Kwai Hei Street, Kwai Chung, HK | Phone: +852 2540 9588

Website: zubinfoundation.org

MBE

Social Enterprise

DE&I

Ethnic Minority

Icon #7 — Gary Harilela, JP



Gary N. Harilela, JP

Harilela Group

Vice Chairman | Harilela Group Patriarch

One of the six legendary Harilela brothers, Gary Harilela has served as Vice Chairman of the Harilela Group and is one of the most senior and respected figures in Hong Kong's Indian business community. His decades of leadership have been characterized by strong community engagement, philanthropy, and support for Sindhi cultural organizations.

Philanthropy: President, All Sindhis Hope Association (ASHA) — an organization supporting Sindhi cultural heritage and diaspora welfare

Address: 1/F, Kowloon Centre, 29-39 Ashley Road, TST, HK | Phone: +852 2376 2117

Website: harilela.com

Harilela Dynasty

JP

Sindhi Community

Icon #8 — Raj Sital, SBS, BBS, JP



Raj Sital, SBS, BBS, JP

Style Asia Ltd / Style Asia Group

Director | Community Ambassador & Former ICCHK Chairman

Education: University of Michigan

Career: Has led Style Asia Ltd since 1974, growing it from a local electronics trading business into a diversified group with real estate and consumer goods interests. Former Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce HK and President of the Council of Hong Kong Indian Associations — effectively the umbrella body for all Indian community organizations in HK.

Awards: Silver Bauhinia Star (SBS, 2023) — the 2nd highest civilian honour in HK; Bronze Bauhinia Star (BBS, 2003); Justice of the Peace (JP)

Quote: "Indian diaspora succeeds because it combines entrepreneurial resilience with respect for local culture."

Address: 79 Wyndham Street, 2nd & 3rd Floors, Central, HK | Phone: +852 2810 0330

Website: styleasia.com.hk

SBS

BBS

JP

ICCHK Chairman

Council President

Icon #9 — Lal H. Chellaram



Lal H. Chellaram

Chellaram Shipping (HK) Ltd.

Chairman | Shipping & Healthcare Philanthropy

Education: Economics — University College London (UCL)

Career: A third-generation descendant of the legendary Sindhi trader Kishinchand Chellaram, Lal established Chellaram Shipping in Hong Kong in 1979. The company grew from a modest bulker operation to an internationally respected ship owner, winning the Lloyd's List Asia "Ship Owner of the Year" award in both 2021 and 2022.

Awards: Lloyd's List Asia Ship Owner of the Year (2021, 2022)

Philanthropy: The Chellaram Foundation; Chellaram Diabetes Institute (India) — funding diabetes research and treatment

Address: 1801, Dina House, 11 Duddell Street, Central, HK | Phone: +852 2973 6111

Website: chellship.com

Shipping

Lloyd's List Award

Philanthropy

Sindhi

Icon #10 — Bharati S. Manek



Bharati S. Manek

B. Manek & Co. / ICCHK

Principal Solicitor & First Female Chairman of ICCHK

Education: LLM — University of Hong Kong

Career: Founded B. Manek & Co. Solicitors in 1992 after completing her LLM at HKU, following earlier practice at Yun and Co. In 2021, she became the first female Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong — a historic milestone for the organization. Currently serving as Vice Chairlady (2025–26).

Address: Unit 1801-2, 18/F, Nathan Centre, 580G-K Nathan Road, Mong Kok, HK | Phone: +852 2390 7418

Legal

First Female ICCHK Chairman

LLM HKU

Icon #11 — Surendra Rosha



Surendra Rosha

HSBC Asia-Pacific

Co-CEO, Asia-Pacific | HSBC — Highest-Ranking Indian at a
Global Bank in HK

Education: MBA — IIM Ahmedabad (one of India's most prestigious
business schools)

Career:

- Joined HSBC 1991 as a graduate
- Held successive leadership roles across Retail, Commercial, and
Corporate Banking
- CEO, HSBC India (2018–2021)
- Co-CEO, HSBC Asia-Pacific (2021–present) — based in Hong Kong,
overseeing HSBC's entire Asia business

Boards: Director, Saudi Awwal Bank; senior advisory roles across Asia

Quote: "We continue to look at India from a long-term perspective."

Address: HSBC, 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong | Phone: +852 2233
3000

Website: hsbc.com.hk

Banking

HSBC Co-CEO

IIM Ahmedabad

Icon #12 — Gulu Lalvani



Gulu Lalvani

Binatone Electronics / Royal Phuket Marina

Founder | Consumer Electronics Pioneer

Education: Leeds, UK; Harvard Business School Management Development Programme

Career: Founded Binatone Electronics in 1958 from Hong Kong, pioneering the mass-market cordless telephone business globally. Built Binatone into an internationally recognized consumer electronics brand present in over 50 countries. Later diversified into luxury real estate, founding Royal Phuket Marina in Thailand.

Net Worth: Estimated £435 million (Sunday Times Rich List, 2008)

Philanthropy: Oceans For All Foundation — ocean conservation; multiple education and youth causes

Address: Floor 23A, 9 Des Voeux Road West, Sheung Wan, HK | Phone: +852 2116 3611

Website: binatonetelecom.com

Electronics Pioneer

Binatone

Harvard

Icon #13 — Balram "Balu" Chainrai



Balram "Balu" Chainrai

Chainrai Group / Hornington Enterprises

Chairman | Electronics, Real Estate, Entertainment

A prominent Sindhi businessman with roots in the electronics trading community of Hong Kong's early post-war era, Balu Chainrai has built the Chainrai Group into a diversified conglomerate spanning electronics, global real estate, and entertainment. He gained international recognition as the former owner of **Portsmouth Football Club** (2009–2011), during a turbulent period in the club's history.

Net Worth: Estimated ~US\$1.2 billion

Companies: Chainrai Group, Hornington Enterprises, Hiroshima Ltd., real estate investments globally

Address: 13/F, Chun Wo Commercial Centre, 23-29 Wing Wo Street, Central, HK

Website: chainrai.com

Electronics

Real Estate

Portsmouth FC

Sindhi

Icon #14 — David Harilela



David Harilela

David Harilela Group

CEO | Licensing, Entertainment & Hospitality

Education: BSc Business Administration — University of Southern California (USC)

Career: Founded the David Harilela Group in 1984 after recognizing the potential of brand licensing in Asia. Secured landmark exclusive licenses for Disney merchandise and the FIFA 1994 World Cup merchandise for Asia, helping introduce major Western entertainment brands to Asian markets. Also served as Rotary International District Governor (2011).

Philanthropy: David Harilela Group Foundation; Rotary leadership

Address: 1/F, Kowloon Centre, 29-39 Ashley Road, TST, HK

Website: dharilela.com

Licensing

Disney

FIFA

Rotary Governor

Icon #15 — Rajkumar "Raju" Sabnani



Rajkumar "Raju" Sabnani

PNS Group of Companies

Chairman & ICCHK Chairman | International Trading

Rajkumar Sabnani is one of Hong Kong's most prominent Sindhi business figures, leading the PNS Group — an international trading conglomerate operating across electronics, consumer goods, and general merchandise. He currently serves as Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong (2025–26), a position that places him at the apex of the Indian business community's institutional leadership.

Companies: PNS Group of Companies, PNS International

Community: Known for organizing high-profile community and diplomatic charity events; deeply connected to HK's Sindhi and Indian community networks

Address: Suite 8C, Kee Shing Centre, 74-76 Kimberley Road, TST, HK

Website: pnsinternational.com

ICCHK Chairman

Trading

Sindhi Community

Icon #16 — Sandeep Sekhri



Sandeep Sekhri

Dining Concepts Holdings

Founder | Pioneer of Celebrity Chef Restaurants in HK

Career Timeline:

- 1987: Began career at the iconic Taj Mahal Hotel, Mumbai
- 1995: Moved to Hong Kong to work with Harilela Investments in hotel F&B management
- 2002: Founded Dining Concepts, the company that would transform Hong Kong's restaurant landscape by introducing the world's top celebrity chef brands to the city

Dining Concepts brought international brands including **Gordon Ramsay** restaurant concepts, Zuma, Spiga, and dozens of others to Hong Kong. Sandeep Sekhri won **Restaurateur of the Year** in 2015.

Phone: +852 2147 9000

Website: diningconcepts.com

F&B Pioneer

Celebrity Chef Restaurants

Restaurateur of the Year

Icon #17 — Vivek Mahbubani



Vivek Mahbubani

Vivek Mahbubani & Associates

Comedian, Designer & Cultural Bridge-BUILDER

Education: BSc Creative Media — City University of Hong Kong

Career: Vivek Mahbubani is Hong Kong's most celebrated bilingual stand-up comedian, performing in both English and Cantonese to mainstream HK audiences — a cultural achievement that required extraordinary dedication to language and cultural integration. He simultaneously operates as a professional graphic designer through his creative practice.

Vivek has broken stereotypes about the Indian community in HK, demonstrating deep integration into Cantonese Hong Kong culture while celebrating his Indian heritage. He won the **Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong (2018)** award.

Awards: Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong (2018)

Philanthropy: Ambassador, Kely Support Group (youth drug prevention)

Website: funnyvivek.com

Comedian

Bilingual

Ten Outstanding Young Persons

Cultural Icon

Icon #18 — Prashant Daswani



Prashant Daswani

Raja Fashions / Atelier Aristo

Director | 4th Generation Luxury Fashion Entrepreneur

Education: BS Supply Chain Management — Northeastern University, Boston

Representing the fourth generation of the Daswani family's involvement in bespoke tailoring in Hong Kong, Prashant has modernized the legacy of Raja Fashions while expanding into new fashion categories. In 2025, he founded **Atelier Aristo** (bespoke footwear) and **Newbury** (contemporary menswear), signaling a strategic expansion beyond traditional tailoring.

Address: G/F, 34-34C Cameron Road, TST, HK | Phone: +852 2366 7624

Website: raja-fashions.com

Bespoke Fashion

4th Generation

Luxury

TST

Icon #19 — Mahesh Buxani



Mahesh Buxani

MBux International Ltd / M.Bux Group

Entrepreneur & Philanthropist | Community Champion

Education: BBA Marketing — University of Wisconsin-Madison

Mahesh Buxani is one of Hong Kong's most visible Indian philanthropists and community leaders. Through his trading and home furnishings business, MBux International, he has built a solid commercial foundation while dedicating significant time and resources to charitable causes.

Philanthropy: Treasurer, "Food from the Heart" — one of HK's largest food charity organizations, distributing millions of meals to elderly and needy residents

Address: Unit 4, 28/F, South Tower, Concordia Plaza, TST, HK

Philanthropy

Community Leader

Food Charity

Sindhi

Icon #20 — Syed Musheer Ahmed



Syed Musheer Ahmed

FinStep Asia / India Tech HK

Founder | Fintech Pioneer & India-HK Tech Bridge

Musheer Ahmed is the leading voice connecting India's vibrant technology and fintech ecosystem with Hong Kong's status as Asia's premier financial hub. Through FinStep Asia (a fintech venture builder) and India Tech HK (a professional association), he has built the infrastructure for an entire new generation of Indian tech entrepreneurs and professionals in Hong Kong.

He is registered with the Consulate General of India Hong Kong as the founder of India Tech HK, and advises numerous startups on their Hong Kong market entry strategy.

Address: Tower-1, 46F, Robinson Place, 70 Robinson Rd, Mid-Levels, HK

Website: finstepasia.com | indiatechhk.com

Fintech

Startup Ecosystem

India Tech HK

Innovation

CHAPTER 16 · PART IV

Top 100 Indian Businesspeople in Hong Kong — Complete Directory

The following table presents 100 prominent Indian businesspeople in Hong Kong with their key details, companies, industries, and website links. This is the most comprehensive publicly available directory of its kind.

#	Name	Company	Position	Industry	Website
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1	Dr. Aron Harilela, BBS, JP	Harilela Hotels Ltd.	Chairman & CEO	Hospitality / Real Estate	harilela.com
2	Gary N. Harilela, JP	Harilela Group	Vice Chairman	Hospitality / Real Estate	harilela.com
3	David Harilela	David Harilela Group	CEO	Licensing / Hospitality	dharilela.com
4	Mahesh Harilela	Harilela Group	Family Council Convenor	Investment / Hospitality	harilela.com
5	Bob N. Harilela, JP	Harilela Group	Director	Hospitality	harilela.com
6	Dr. Harry Banga	The Caravel Group	Chairman & CEO	Maritime / Commodities	caravel-group.com
7	Navrattan Kothari	KGK Group	Chairman	Diamonds / Gemstones	kgkgroup.com
8	Sanjay Kothari	KGK Group	Vice Chairman	Diamonds / Jewellery	kgkgroup.com
9	Sandeep Kothari	KGK Group	Managing Director	Diamonds	kgkgroup.com
10	Girish Jhunjhnuwala	Ovolo Group	Founder & CEO	Boutique Hospitality	ovolohotels.com
11	Surya Jhunjhnuwala	Hind Group / Naumi Hotels	Founder / MD	Hospitality	naumihotels.com
12	Manohar "Manu" Melwani, MBE, JP	Sam's Tailor	Proprietor	Bespoke Tailoring	samstailor.com
13	Roshan Melwani	Sam's Tailor	Brand Director	Bespoke Tailoring / Digital	samstailor.com

14	Raj Sital, SBS, BBS, JP	Style Asia Ltd	Director / Community Leader	Electronics / Consumer Goods	styleasia.com.hk		
15	Rajkumar "Raju" Sabnani	PNS Group	Chairman / ICCHK Chair	International Trading	pnsinternational.com		
16	Lal H. Chellaram	Chellaram Shipping	Chairman	Shipping / Healthcare	chellship.com		
17	Vishal Chellaram	Chellaram Shipping	CEO	Shipping	chellaramshipping.com		
18	Gautam S. Chellaram	KC Maritime Ltd.	Chairman	Maritime / Ship Management	kcmaritime.com		
19	Sham Chellaram	Mordril Investments	Chairman	Private Equity / Real Estate	N/A		
20	Vikram Chellaram	Mordril Properties	CEO	Property Development	N/A		
21	Shalini Mahtani, MBE, MH	The Zubin Foundation	Founder	Social Enterprise / DE&I	zubinfoundation.org		
22	Gulu Lalvani	Binatone Electronics	Founder	Consumer Electronics	binatoneglobal.com		
23	Anish Lalvani	Euro Suisse International	Chairman	Trading / Investment	N/A		
24	Balram "Balu" Chainrai	Chainrai Group	Chairman	Electronics / Real Estate	chainrai.com		
25	Bharati S. Manek	B. Manek & Co.	Principal Solicitor / ICCHK VC	Legal Services	bmanek.com		
26	Surendra Rosha	HSBC Asia-Pacific	Co-CEO	Banking	hsbc.com.hk		
27	Vikas Seth	HSBC	Vice Chairman, CIB	Banking / M&A	hsbc.com.hk		

28	Sandeep Sekhri	Dining Concepts Holdings	Founder	F&B / Restaurants	diningconcepts.com	
29	Prashant Daswani	Raja Fashions / Atelier Aristo	Director	Luxury Fashion / Tailoring	raja-fashions.com	
30	Vivek Mahbubani	Vivek Mahbubani & Associates	Founder / Comedian	Entertainment / Design	funnyvivek.com	
31	Ravi Bhansali	Rosy Blue (HK)	Managing Director	Diamonds	rosyblue.com	
32	Raj Mehta	Rosy Blue (HK)	Director	Diamonds	rosyblue.com	
33	Dinesh Lakhani	Kiran Gems HK	Global Director	Diamonds	kirangems.com	
34	Varun Lakhani	Kiran Gems HK	Vice President	Diamonds	kirangems.com	
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57	Harshil Bhasin	Silver Spoon Restaurants	Director of Operations	F&B	silverspoon.com.hk		
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65	Notan Hassanand Tolani	Solar Group	Director	Watches / Manufacturing	N/A		
66	Manohar Thakurdas Chugh, MH	Nisha Electronic Industries	Director	Electronics	N/A		
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69	Yazdi Viraf Parekh	K. P. Parekh & Sons	Director	Trading / Parsi Community	N/A		
70	Rajesh Gobind Shahani	Shahaneys (HK) Ltd	Director	Trading	N/A		
71	Prakash Moti Mahbubani	Moneta International (HK)	Director	Building Materials	N/A		
72	Mohini Gidumal	Town House / Gidumal & Sons	Director	Real Estate / Trading	townhouse.com.hk		
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82	Deepu Daswani	Raven's International	Director	Fashion / Retail	N/A		
83	Lamia Sreya Rahman	Seekr (Vidi Labs)	Founder	Assistive Technology	seekr.hk		
84	Sunil Kaushal	Standard Chartered	CEO, Corporate & Investment Banking	Banking	sc.com		
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92	Tony Brar	Silver Spoon Restaurants	Founder	F&B (Gaylord, est. 1972)	silverspoon.com.hk		
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97	Arjun Malhotra	HK Startup Ecosystem	Angel Investor / Mentor	Venture / Technology	N/A		
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100	Anita Singh	HK Indian Women's Network	Founder / Convener	Women's Business Network	N/A		

CHAPTER 17 · PART V

Great Indian Business Dynasties of Hong Kong

Some of the most powerful and enduring business legacies in Hong Kong belong to Indian business families whose stories span multiple generations and continents. This chapter profiles the seven most significant Indian business dynasties.

17.1 The Harilela Dynasty — Hong Kong's Most Famous Indian Family

Harilela Family — Key Facts

- **Origin:** Hyderabad, Sindh (now Pakistan)
- **Arrival in HK:** 1930s (Naroomal Harilela)
- **Founding Business:** Military tailoring and uniforms
- **Current Primary Business:** Hotels and real estate (global)
- **Estimated Group Wealth:** ~US\$11.2 billion (2025)
- **Hotel Properties:** ~19 globally (HK, UK, USA, Singapore)
- **Website:** harilela.com | thehari.com

The Harilela family story is one of the most remarkable tales of immigrant entrepreneurship in Asia. Naroomal Harilela and his wife Devibai arrived from Hyderabad, Sindh in the 1930s, establishing a small tailoring business serving the British military. Their son **Dr. Hari Harilela** (1922–2014) transformed this modest enterprise into a multi-billion-dollar empire, earning the title of Hong Kong's most prominent Indian businessman.

Dr. Hari Harilela received some of Hong Kong's highest honours: **GBM (Grand Bauhinia Medal)**, **GBS (Gold Bauhinia Star)**, and the **OBE (Order of the British Empire)**. He served on numerous government boards and was a personal friend of three generations of British royalty and multiple Hong Kong Governors.

The Six Harilela Brothers:

Brother	Primary Role	Notable Contribution
George Harilela	Founder of David Harilela Group legacy	Father of David Harilela (licensing entrepreneur)

Dr. Hari Harilela (d. 2014)	Patriarch & Group Founder	Built the hotel empire; GBM, GBS, OBE; personal friend of royalty
Peter Harilela	Director	Long-standing group director
Bob Harilela, JP	Director	Community leader; JP
Gary Harilela, JP	Vice Chairman	Community leadership; President of ASHA
Mike Harilela	Director	Group director

Third Generation: Dr. Aron Harilela (Chairman & CEO, Harilela Hotels), David Harilela (CEO, David Harilela Group), Mahesh Harilela (Family Council Convenor), Laila Harilela (PR Director)

17.2 The Jhunjhnuwala Dynasty — From Watches to World-Class Hotels

Family Member	Company	Role	Website
Girish Jhunjhnuwala	Ovolo Group	Founder & CEO (EY Entrepreneur 2016)	ovolohotels.com
Surya Jhunjhnuwala	Hind Group / Naumi Hotels	Founder / MD	naumihotels.com
Hind Group	Parent Company	Family holding company for hotel assets	hindgroup.com

17.3 The Chellaram Dynasty — Seven Generations of Commerce

The Chellaram family represents one of the longest-running Indian business dynasties in the world. Founded by **Kishinchand Chellaram** in the 19th century, the family business has now spanned over seven generations and multiple continents. Their Hong Kong operations include

maritime (Chellaram Shipping, KC Maritime), property (Mordril Properties), and commodities trading.

Family Member	Company	Role	Website
Lal H. Chellaram	Chellaram Shipping	Chairman (Ship Owner of the Year)	chellship.com
Vishal Chellaram	Chellaram Shipping	CEO	chellaramshipping.com
Gautam S. Chellaram	KC Maritime	Chairman	kcmaritime.com
Sham Chellaram	Mordril Investments	Chairman	N/A
Vikram Chellaram	Mordril Properties	CEO	N/A
Manesh Chellaram	D. Chellaram (H.K.)	Creative Director (7th gen.)	N/A

17.4 The Kothari Family (KGK Group) — Jewellers to the World

KGK Group — Key Facts

- **Founded:** Jaipur, India (multi-generational family business)
- **HK Operations established:** 1970s
- **Businesses:** Diamond mining, polishing, coloured gemstones, jewellery retail (Entice brand)
- **Family Net Worth:** ~US\$2.2 billion (2025)
- **Website:** kgkgroup.com

Family Member	Role
Navrattan Kothari	Chairman — JNA "Extraordinary 40" awardee
Sanjay Kothari	Vice Chairman — led retail expansion
Sandeep Kothari	Managing Director — manages HK & global sourcing

17.5 The Melwani Family — The World's Most Famous Tailor

Family Member	Role	Legacy
Ram Gulabrai "Sam" Melwani	Founder (d.)	Founded Sam's Tailor, 1957
Manohar "Manu" Melwani, MBE	Proprietor (2nd gen.)	MBE 2022; dressed 3 US Presidents
Roshan Melwani	Brand Director (3rd gen.)	"TikTok Tailor" — millions of global followers

17.6 The Lalvani Family — Consumer Electronics Pioneers

Family Member	Company	Achievement	Website
Gulu Lalvani	Binatone Electronics	Founded 1958; global consumer electronics empire; est. £435M wealth	binatoneglobal.com
Anish Lalvani	Euro Suisse International	Diversified the family business into trading and investment	N/A

17.7 The Chanrai Family — Commodity Trading Giants

The Kewalram Chanrai Group is one of the world's oldest Sindhi trading houses. The family is notably recognized as the founding shareholders of

Olam International, now Olam Group — one of the world's largest agricultural commodity companies listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange. Their journey from Sindh to Hong Kong to a global agri-commodity giant is one of the most remarkable stories in Indian diaspora business history.

Detail	Information
Company	Kewalram Chanrai Group
Key Family Members	Gulu Chanrai, Murli Chanrai
Most Famous Legacy	Co-founding Olam International (Singapore Stock Exchange)
Website	kewalramchanrai.com

CHAPTER 18 · PART VI

Analysis, Conclusion & Future Outlook
2026–2036

18.1 Key Analytical Findings

This research has revealed several striking patterns in the Indian business community's presence and impact in Hong Kong:

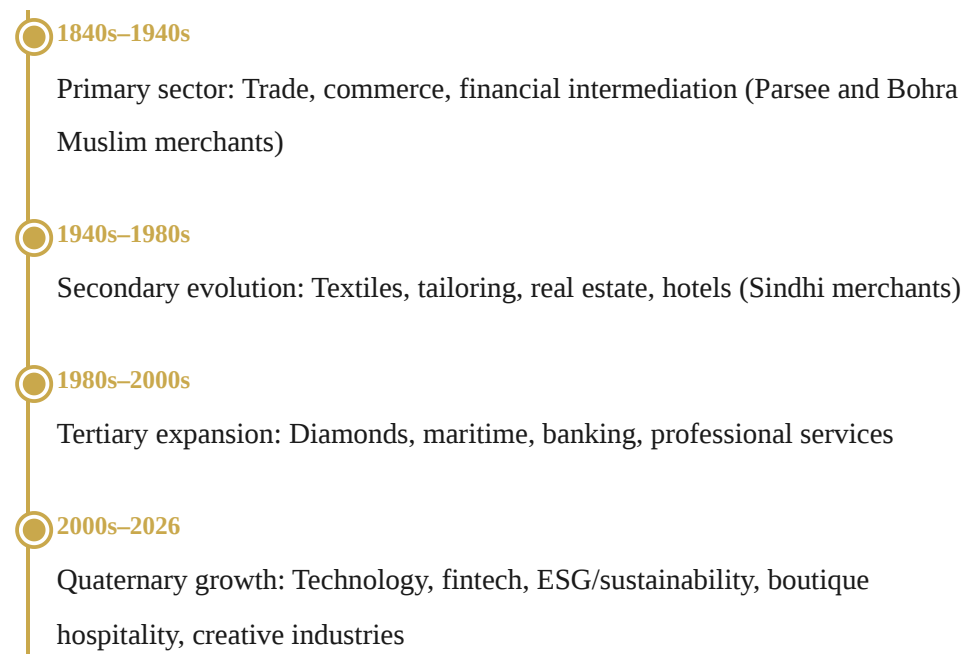
Finding 1: Multi-Generational Resilience

The most successful Indian business families in Hong Kong are not first-generation entrepreneurs but multi-generational dynasties. The Harilelas (4th generation), Chelarams (7th generation), Melwanis (3rd generation), and Kotharis (3rd generation) have all successfully navigated colonial rule, Japanese occupation, Cold War geopolitics, the 1997 handover, and

multiple global financial crises. This resilience speaks to a fundamentally long-term business philosophy rooted in family cohesion and institutional trust.

Finding 2: Sectoral Evolution from Trade to Services

The Indian business community has undergone a clear sectoral evolution:



Finding 3: Disproportionate Institutional Representation

Despite comprising less than 0.6% of Hong Kong's total population, the Indian community controls significant economic assets and holds disproportionately high representation in institutional leadership. Indian-origin leaders hold co-CEO positions at HSBC Asia-Pacific, senior leadership roles at Standard Chartered and DBS, chairmanships at HKIDA, ICCHK, and Council of Hong Kong Indian Associations, and board seats across numerous publicly listed companies.

Finding 4: The Diamonds Dominance

The single most economically significant contribution of the Indian community to Hong Kong's trade statistics is in the gems and diamonds sector. Indian-controlled firms account for a dominant share of Hong Kong's re-export diamond trade, with companies like Rosy Blue, KGK, and Kiran Gems being among the top three diamond companies globally by volume, all using Hong Kong as their Asia-Pacific hub.

Finding 5: Women's Rising Leadership

The appointment of Bharati Manek as the first female Chairman of ICCHK in 2021, the prominence of Shalini Mahtani (MBE, MH) in social entrepreneurship, and the growing presence of Indian women professionals in banking and law reflect a significant generational shift in the community's gender dynamics.

18.2 Challenges Facing the Community

- **Geopolitical uncertainty:** Hong Kong's changing political landscape requires ongoing adaptation of business strategy
- **Digital disruption:** Traditional trading and tailoring businesses face disruption from e-commerce and fast fashion
- **Competition from mainland Chinese firms:** In sectors like diamonds and retail, mainland Chinese firms are increasingly competitive
- **Succession challenges:** Transitioning family businesses to the next generation requires careful governance planning
- **Language and cultural barriers:** Integration with Cantonese HK society remains an ongoing challenge, though community figures like Vivek Mahbubani represent inspiring success stories

18.3 Future Outlook: 2026–2036

The Indian business community in Hong Kong is well-positioned for the decade ahead, with several structural tailwinds:

Key Growth Drivers for Indian Business in HK (2026–2036)

- **India's Rising Economy:** India is projected to become the world's 3rd largest economy by 2030. HK-based Indian businesses will benefit from being the bridge between India and Greater China.
- **Greater Bay Area Integration:** Indian businesses in HK are uniquely positioned to serve as gateways between India and the 86-million-person Greater Bay Area economy.
- **Fintech & Digital:** India Tech HK and the growing cohort of Indian fintech founders represent a new wave of high-growth businesses in HK's financial ecosystem.
- **Luxury Consumption in China:** Rising Chinese consumer demand for diamonds, luxury goods, and bespoke fashion directly benefits Indian-owned businesses in these sectors.
- **ESG & Sustainability:** Indian professionals in ESG roles (like Pratima Divgi at CDP) are positioning the community at the forefront of sustainable finance.
- **InvestHK "Gateway to India" Programme:** Active government promotion of HK as India's commercial gateway is expected to drive further Indian business formation in HK.

18.4 Conclusion

The Indian business community in Hong Kong is one of the most remarkable stories of diaspora entrepreneurship in modern history. From the Parsee traders of the 1840s to the fintech founders of 2026, from Dr. Hari Harilela's hotel empire to Dr. Harry Banga's maritime conglomerate, from Manu Melwani's tailor shop to Shalini Mahtani's social enterprise, the community has demonstrated extraordinary adaptability, ambition, and institutional loyalty to Hong Kong.

The 100 individuals profiled in this thesis represent not merely commercial success stories but cultural ambassadors who have enriched Hong Kong's society, diversified its economy, and connected it to one of the world's fastest-growing major markets — India. Their collective net worth runs into the tens of billions of dollars, their philanthropic contributions have built hospitals, funded scholarships, and fed millions, and their institutional leadership has made the Indian Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong one of the most respected business organizations in the city.

As Hong Kong navigates the complexities of the 2020s and beyond, the Indian community's combination of historical rootedness, sectoral diversity, and forward-looking entrepreneurialism makes it an indispensable part of the city's commercial and cultural fabric — and a community whose story is far from finished.

Final Reflection: *"The Indian community in Hong Kong is not just a guest in this city. After 180 years of commerce, philanthropy, community building, and cultural contribution, we are as much a part of Hong Kong as any community can be."* — Raj Sital, SBS, BBS, JP; President, Council of Hong Kong Indian Associations

CHAPTER 19 · PART VI

References & Bibliography

Updated Edition Note: *This revised edition (2026) includes expanded chapters on the F&B Industry (25+ companies) and Accounting, Audit & Professional Services (15+ firms), with newly added profiles of Buttar & Associates and Buttar Hospitality Group, plus 20+ additional F&B establishments and Indian-led accounting practices in Hong Kong.*

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End of Thesis

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Based on primary corporate sources, institutional records, government data, and
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2026

*This thesis is intended for academic, educational, and reference purposes. All
company websites and contact details are sourced from public records and
official corporate communications.*