

## The Founder



1922-2002

The life of **Dr. Raunaq Singh** is a tale of real hard work, sweat and sheer determination. He was amongst the first Generation Entrepreneurs of India. Mr. Singh's story is of a journey from Lahore to the by lanes of Delhi, first as a steel pipe distributor then as a steel pipe manufacturer and subsequently his foray into many engineering and allied industries at the times when the industrial development post independence was at a very nascent stage, a true Visionary in his own right. Dr. Raunaq Singh shared the dreams of millions in an era which was riddled with restricted/controlled economic policies, an era of license raj and controls, labour unrest & lower finances. His path was not smooth, but riddled with many obstacles; still he managed to carry the light of wisdom and a burning desire to succeed. Dr. Raunaq Singh was the only Industrialist to have headed two rival apex industry chambers- FICCI and ASCHOSAM during the 80s when they were considered as India's two biggest Industrial lobbies. He was the stalwart of India's old economy. Dr. Raunaq Singh was appointed as Maruti Udyogs' first Chairman, when the then Congress Government nationalized the car company in the early 80's. He always smelt opportunity and turned them into reality. His passion for his work is evident from the dizzying heights companies founded by him has touched during his lifetime. Through the late 80's and Pre-reforms 90s Mr. Singh sought to leverage the booming bottom line of his companies, to diversify to a number of unrelated businesses. Dr. Raunaq Singh founded many companies which still hold gloriously his bastion notably among them are Bharat Gears Limited, Apollo Tyres Ltd., Raunaq International Limited, Bharat Steel Tubes Ltd., Mr. Raunaq Singh was a strong advocate of Equal Opportunity Employment. Offering equality not just between the sexes, but also on parameters like religion, region, background and caste. His ideals are still practiced in companies founded by him and Bharat Gears is a live example of those ideals.

### Industry Association Responsibilities

With his dynamic leadership Dr. Singh was instrumental in strengthening the working of several Industry & Trade Associations in key leadership positions. **Some of these are:**

<b>President</b>	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry ( <i>FICCI</i> )
<b>President</b>	The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India ( <i>ASSOCHAM</i> )
<b>Chairman</b>	Engineering Export Promotion Council ( <i>EEPC</i> )
<b>President</b>	Punjab, Haryana, Delhi Chamber of Commerce & Industry.
<b>Chairman</b>	Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association.
<b>President</b>	Federation of Indian Export Organization (for 5 consecutive term)
<b>Chairman</b>	Indo-American Chamber of Commerce.
<b>Chairman</b>	Joint Business Councils. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Indo-USA</li><li>• Indo-USSR</li><li>• Indo-Canada</li><li>• Indo-Japan</li><li>• Indo-France</li><li>• Indo-Taiwan</li></ul>

He distinguished himself in each of these positions and made a significant contribution to the growth of the Industry. A widely traveled person, Dr. Raunaq Singh led Business delegations to well over 25 countries during the last several years.

He was a great advocate of economic liberalization and globalization of the Indian business. He strived to put the Indian industry on the global map and worked diligently towards this goal until the last day of his life.

## Indian government Nominations

Keen to utilize his business perception and inject a dynamic Management style the Indian Government nominated Dr. Singh in several important organization **namely:**

<b>Director</b>	Board of Trade.
<b>Director</b>	Export Import Bank of India.
<b>Director</b>	Export Credit Guarantee Corporation.
<b>Member</b>	National Integration Council.
<b>Member</b>	Indo-German Consultative Group (nominated by the Prime Minister of India).
<b>Member</b>	Government Council of National Federation for Communal Harmony.
<b>Member</b>	Executive Board of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade ( <i>IIFI</i> ).
<b>Chairman</b>	Committee to study establishment of a Free Port in India.
<b>First Chairman</b>	Maruti Ltd.

Dr. Raunaq Singh was the recipient of several awards for entrepreneurship business growth instituted by Government and Quasi – Government bodies. With his penchant for exports and export promotion for Indian Industry he was often referred to as "Mr. Exporter".

## International Recognition

Dr. Raunaq Singh was elected as a member of the Executive Board of the International Chamber of Commerce, Paris for a three-year term.