



THE TIMES OF INDIA

YOUNG LEADERS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 09, 2018 | CIRCULATED WITH THE ECONOMIC TIMES, ALL KERALA

CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

THE BUSINESS OF LEADERSHIP

The success of every organisation undoubtedly depends on the leader at the helm. A good leader plays a catalytic role in ensuring sustained business development, along with a strong team of energised individuals, working to achieve organisational goals. It is important to take appropriate business decisions that take into account its effect on all the stakeholders including the employees, customers and the society at large. Though there are several case studies of exemplary leadership one could refer to, experts say that in order to be a successful leader, it is not enough to only go by the books. Here are a few **young leaders of Kerala Inc.**, sharing their individual leadership styles, success stories and how they are steering the way forward



TOUCHING LIVES

Gokul Gopinath
CEO
Edappal Hospitals Pvt. Ltd. and CIMAR



Leadership style

I believe in delegating and sharing the work with my team. I respect their decisions and take inputs from them. I am very clear that the final verdict should be based on deliberations and conviction of my team. In a way it helps me in dividing responsibilities amongst peers, while also sharing the success or failure of its outcome. I am accessible to everyone and have given them the liberty to voice their opinions. I am very particular about punctuality, and always a firm believer that what needs to be done today should never be kept for tomorrow.

Handling challenges

During the initial years, I had to do a lot of unlearning and suffered severe loss at the cost of wrong decisions. I believe in

being a hands on person to understand the business better and strongly feel that you can never run a business by sitting within the four walls of your room. You need to get out there, interact with the team, and be a part of the external environment. This approach also gives an insight into the business strategy and helps in making better judgements.

Success mantra

I strongly believe in planning and have great respect for time. Everything may not go as per plan, but at least you know where you went wrong if you have a plan. It is something that I try and encourage my team and also my children to practice.

The balancing act

Unfortunately, running one's own business comes with the challenge of having a 24/7 work schedule. Though I am accessible over the phone any time, I never take work home unless it is necessary. Weekends are for family and I indulge in my passion for badminton and biking. I love going for long drives and exploring places. Being a foodie, I take every opportunity that comes my way to visit a new restaurant or try a new cuisine.

The inspiration

Undoubtedly my father, Dr K K Gopinath, a pioneer in his field of medicine. He demonstrates a tremendous acumen for administration and often surprises me with his financial skills. I want to grow up to be someone who shares a similar enthusiasm towards life.

To the youngsters

I believe luck favours those who work hard, there is no shortcut to success. Period!

Economic Times
9th November 2018