

# Forbes

MONACO

**ARUN KAR**

*Managing Director,  
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PATNAIK**

*Chairman, FINNEST*

**TWO UNSTOPPABLE INDIANS  
CHANGING THE WORLD**

**BrandVoice**



Biswanath Patnaik,  
Chairman, FINNEST

Arun Kar, Managing  
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**Two Visionary  
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are Transforming  
Sustainable  
Investments  
for Disruptive  
Innovations.**

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# The Clayton Thomas, Founder of The ROOT Brands, sits down with The Count of Monte Crypto

**NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH** others by the same name, The Clayton Thomas is the founder of ROOT Wellness, a company making products that tackle some of our biggest health challenges: a toxic environment, stress, and disease. Clayton's blended background enabled a conversation in which we were able to discuss a vision of total health through a convergence of leadership and success principles, eastern philosophy, and modern scientific research. Although diabetes, heart disease and cancer are among the leading causes of death, the numbers for many other types of illnesses are on the rise and Thomas is determined to fight them all, not by treating the symptoms, but by curing the causes.

Thomas is married to Dr. Christina Rahm, ROOT's chief formulator, whose scientific background along with her personal health history (conquering Lyme disease and multiple cancers) awakened in her a passion for helping people to heal themselves. Thomas describes ROOT's formulas as "better living through biochemistry." The approach is simple. First, detox. Then support the body to wellness by introducing what it needs to perform optimally.

His unique background in integrative therapies and business development combined with his out of the box thinking, wrapped up in a can-do attitude, then paired with Dr. Rahm's nutraceutical knowledge became the driving force behind the dynamic duo's enterprises. Their entirely new method of business combined ROOT's social sharing community platform and is based on the idea that growth is the natural byproduct of adding value.

However, he cautions young entrepreneurs to be wary of early success; it leaves the impression the road will be an easy one. Rather, his mantra is "Fail Forward" knowing that failure can propel you into true success. Quite simply, when life gets tough, you become tougher.

Growing up in a family-owned veterinary practice,

where dad was the vet and mom owned the clinic, Thomas recognized that some of the best mentors he had over the course of his life were women, citing his mom and Queen Elizabeth I, who he deemed as one of the greatest CEOs of all time. He describes his own wife as a savant and the woman he was made to serve.

With all the talk these days of moving into the cycle of the Divine Feminine, Thomas preaches the benefits of female energy and the principle of balancing the Yin and the Yang. He says it's not about women's empowerment, but rather "understanding the power of women." After all, most sales are driven by the buying decisions of women.

Although it took him over a decade of learning from his mistakes to find the path toward his definition of success, Thomas is just getting started. He now understands the thing that people want is the value you create for them in this moment. That's what drives sales. That's what inspires success. Therefore, the "ROOTiverse," as Thomas coined the company's global platform, aims to help people solve real problems with high quality products based on the core values of integrity, authenticity, simplicity, and education.

Just like his products, his philosophy on success is addition by subtraction. Removing toxins is the primary pathway toward optimal functioning in the body and in life, allowing you to resonate at higher levels. Getting in touch with this higher vibrational energy is the key to finding your tribe—like attracting like.

Ultimately, it's about living authentically and collaboratively.

The best investment advice he's ever received, and now gives, is to first invest in yourself and then invest in others. After all, your customers are your business's most valuable asset. If you invest heavily in them, their roots will grow deep, and their loyalty will be the greatest ROI you'll ever get.





## Sidelines

# The Titles They Are-A-Changin’

**IT ALL BEGAN IN 2018.** The cover of the inaugural *Forbes Monaco* was unveiled at an invitation-only cocktail at the Monaco Yacht Club. A select group of Monaco resident billionaires and celebrities attended the magazine’s historic pre-launch which brought together two of the world’s most prestigious brands: Forbes and Monaco.

Four years on, and despite the pandemic, *Forbes Monaco* has gone from strength to strength. We have increased sales a whopping 1000% and the title’s content has received praise from the community across the board, from the public to private sector. As soon as Covid restrictions were lifted, we hosted our first event, a Crypto Gala, followed by a Metaverse and Technology Gala and, most recently, the first *Forbes Monaco* Power Women’s Summit (see page 38). Earlier this year the sister publication, *Forbes Netherlands*, was launched.

What outsiders looking in can never fully grasp is that running a magazine in Monaco is in no way like running a business in another country. Despite proximity, advertising and readership in the Principality cannot be lumped into France or Italy. Success comes down to the trust Monegasques and residents have in the people running the publication—and that includes from the Prince’s government. Those outsiders may gruff at this suggestion, but a reputation is currency here.

Personally, I hit the ground running in 2018 and was lucky to have a brilliant Editor-in-Chief, Nancy Heslin, by my side. While we have learned from the numerous hurdles one encounters as part of a magazine franchise licensee, our accumulated know-how has raised the bar in the Principality. The unprecedented pool of talent brought together at our first *Forbes Monaco* Power Women’s Summit on December 1 at the Hotel Hermitage serves as proof.

There is no turning back. Our media philosophy as owners as well as our values as publishers will take this new-found knowledge and achievement up a notch to expand partnerships with other media brands. Look for an official announcement in the first half of 2023.



Luiz F. Costa Macambira  
CEO & PUBLISHER.

—LUIZ F. COSTA MACAMBIRA  
CEO & PUBLISHER

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• FACT & COMMENT •

By Steve Forbes, Editor-in-Chief

# Saving Election Day

The recent midterm elections raise several questions regarding issues that threaten the integrity of our electoral system.

Why can't states such as California count votes as quickly as Florida does? Why can't most of the voting take place on Election Day, like it once did? Do new systems, such as ranked-choice voting, undermine the democratic process?

Our electoral system in several states is already broken. Days after Election Day, the results from many critical races remained unknown, not because those races were close but because the counting process was—and is—interminable. California is the worst offender, but other states, such as Oregon, are sluggish.

For a fair and highly efficient electoral process, Florida is the model, the gold standard, in election management. It's the third-most-populous state in the country—and along with Texas is one of the fastest-growing. Even so, ballots in the Sunshine State were all counted within hours after the polls closed. No fuss, no big court challenges.

Florida enacted important reforms after the fiasco of the 2000 presidential election, when its sloppy procedures and badly designed ballots led to protracted litigation and the notorious “hanging chads.” After that the state cleaned up its act by passing several reform bills.

In Florida, for instance, a mail-in ballot must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day, period. There's no controversy over postmarks. The counting of mail-in ballots begins 22 days before Election Day. The count must be posted within 30 minutes after the polls are closed. Some states don't even start the count until Election Day itself.

Besides the inexcusably slow counting in California and Arizona, another thing that stands out, particularly since the pandemic, is how extended the voting process has become and—prodded by “temporary” pandemic measures—is growing. In fact, the words “Election Day” are misleading. Voting in some states starts a month or more before Election Day and, given particular mail-in voting rules, doesn't end until well after.

The purpose of having an Election Day is so voters can make decisions about particular candidates and issues at a given time. And the whole point of a campaign is for candidates to make their case to voters. Early voting, especially when it starts in September, distorts the campaign process. It puts underdogs and lesser-known candidates



at a disadvantage. Often aspirants create momentum as Election Day nears. But now it's not an anomaly for a candidate to win the balloting on Election Day but still lose the election.

Another bad consequence is that candidate debates seem to be a thing of the past; at most there may be one verbal contest. In Pennsylvania, a telling—and the only—debate for the U.S. Senate race was held well after hundreds of thousands of ballots had already been cast.

While early voting via mail-in ballots is entrenched in many states, the time it begins should be minimized to two to three weeks before Election Day itself. Moreover, states shouldn't send out ballots to one and all, as Nevada does, as this invites fraud. Mail-in ballots should have to be specifically requested.

There's another trend that makes a mockery of the concept of candidates' winning by receiving more votes than their opponents: ranked-choice voting. Nevada just approved it. Alaska and Maine already have it, as do several cities. Under this weird arrangement, voters don't just cast ballots for individual candidates; they also rank the other candidates in a particular race in order of preference—second choice, third choice and so on.

If no one receives more than 50% of the first-choice vote, the candidate with the fewest number of votes is eliminated, and the second-choice picks for the eliminated candidate are redistributed. The process goes on until a candidate gets more than 50%.

This becomes really complicated for voters when there are a number of contests on the ballot.

In the real world, the ranked-choice system is very undemocratic. The deep-red state of Alaska elected a Democrat to the House of Representatives, even though that person would have been clobbered in a straight head-to-head contest.

Another electoral perversion is the so-called jungle primary that's practiced in various forms by California, Louisiana and Washington. There are no party primaries; instead, all candidates for an office are on one ballot. The top two in that round—even if they're from the same party—then face each other in the general election. This ends up reducing party accountability.

All these changes—way-too-early voting, ranked-choice voting and jungle primaries—erode the democratic process.

# THE FORBES ALL-STAR EATERIES IN NEW YORK

Pandemic? What's that? A bit over the top, yes, but Big Apple restaurants have made a remarkable comeback from the grim days of 2020-21, when an extremely trying situation was made even more intolerable by the hostility of a buffoonish, insufferable mayor. Now many fine eateries are packed, impressive new ones are opening and eye-popping creativity abounds. The artistry of the offerings at some of these eateries would impress Michelangelo. You pay for what you get; inflation is no stranger here. Our stellar team of ever-discerning tasters—*Forbes'* chief content officer, Randall Lane; *Forbes* contributor Richard Nalley; preeminent media maven Monie Begley; and brothers Bob, Kip and Tim—herewith unveil their list of where you can enjoy the city's most savory comestibles.



Aquavit  
Atera  
Bâtard

Daniel  
Gabriel Kreuther  
Gramercy Tavern

Jean-Georges  
Le Bernardin

Le Gratin  
Le Pavillon  
The Modern

Momofuku Ko  
Per Se  
Perry St

This year **Le Bernardin** is celebrating its founding 50 years ago in Paris. This super-superb seafood restaurant started out there and then expanded to New York. It has long been celebrated as one of the world's best of the best, a tribute to its always



Le Bernardin

refreshing variety and nuance. If you haven't experienced dining there, do yourself a favor and go. **Atera's** tasting menu is a pure delight with carefully composed dishes that present a remarkable and subtle array of flavors and textures. Daniel Boulud has knocked it out of the park with **Le Gratin**. The word *fabulous* doesn't begin to describe the food on offer in this beautifully tiled setting with superb acoustics. That same word also doesn't do justice to the dinners served at **Perry St**: Tempura chefs, for instance, should all aspire to have their batter as light and crispy as that which encases the calamari here, and the steak frites is as good as it gets. Another of the Big Apple's great dining experiences is at **Per Se**, which is still very difficult to get into. Its nine-course tasting menu is stunning.



Le Gratin

## CLASSICS

If there were a New York City restaurant hall of fame, these outstanding long-established eateries would be in it. Their variety is a testament as to why the city became the cuisine capital of the world. **Wallsé**, for instance, has been around forever, and rightly so. Its Wiener schnitzel, red cabbage and apple strudel are in a league all their own.

Balthazar  
Grand Central Oyster Bar  
Katz's Delicatessen  
Keens Steakhouse  
La Grenouille

Nippon  
Nobu Downtown / Nobu 57  
Peter Luger Steak House  
The River Café  
Wallsé



Wallsé

SCALLOP-CAVIAR FROM LE BERNARDIN BY NIGEL PARRY; GRATIN DAUPHINOIS FROM LE GRATIN BY BILL MILNE; HOLIDAY SEASON COURTESY OF WALLSÉ

WHAT'S  
NEW

# FRONTRUNNER

WHO'S  
NEXT

BY NANCY HESLIN

Al Angel

## Let's Make A Deal

As Seed investment points to a strong early-stage market, Monégasque Ian Sosso heads to Brussels to talk up the transfer of technology.



**M**ore than 500 delegates across Europe headed to Brussels for the European Business Angels Network (EBAN) yearly fall summit. Angel, early-stage investors and various branches of the European Commission discussed assorted fields from financing research to regulation.

"EBAN organizes anything from conferences to pitch training sessions for entrepreneurs, and helps with training of new angel groups," explains EBAN board member Ian Sosso. "I recently gave a talk to the newly-formed Qatari angel network."

At the annual gathering, EBAN focused on how startups and investors can leverage science to build global companies. "It is a topic of particular interest to me," says Sosso, who spoke on stage to address a number of topics linked to transfer of technology from universities to startups. "I am a very active investor in tech startups coming out of universities, particularly in the U.S. Europe has great research but tech transfer into successful business remains a topic that still requires a lot of work."

The Monegasque, who won the 2019 award for Best European Angel Investor, added, "Tech is one of the strongest trends of our lifetime, and the latest economic and geopolitical developments are likely to further accelerate this trend." He also pointed out Covid's effect on the acceleration of digital adoption as well as the deflationary impact of tech. "A low unemployment rate and the repatriation of jobs from China, both inflationary, can be met by further increase in productivity and efficiencies that innovation brings about. The increased polarization of the world means that each of the protagonist needs, more than ever, to invest in tech to keep the upper hand. In fact, China president Xi Jinping recently emphasized the importance of technology in his address to the party congress."

On the venture investment side, Sosso believes pre-Seed and Seed investment is the ultimate stock picking. "We

invest in highly disruptive businesses valued anywhere between \$5 million to \$20 million, with exit potentials in five to seven years. We invest in businesses that solve big problems or are highly disruptive, in a very big market, backed by a strong entrepreneurial team. We are very much taking a view on what the business could become by the time we exit. In fact the very early stage market remains relatively shielded from the volatility experienced by later stage venture capital or the public markets. Despite a lower number of deals, valuations and ticket size at Seed keep going up.

"In truth, Seed companies will be affected by the amount of growth capital available, as well as the health of the exit market when we are seeking a liquidity event. But no one can foretell what the economic cycle will look like at that point. By then, what matters is having built a resilient business, and having an investor pool with the resources to keep financing the businesses if need be. A delayed

exit, or a lower valuation for a growth financing, will not be such a big deal when one invests at the very early stage.

"On the other hand, growth equity is highly correlated with the public markets. A correction in public market will mean lower valuations for the company, and a delayed exit, which will have a much strong impact on returns for investors than those who came in early.

Sosso founded Monte Carlo Capital (MCC) in 2009 after 16 years working as an investment banker on trading floors in London, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore. With an instinct in building a strong investment strategy around early-stage companies, MCC has become one of the most active groups of HNWIs and family offices, co-investing together as a syndicate and via funds, in disruptive tech businesses, both in Europe and the U.S. "In essence, we are seeking businesses solving big problems, in a big market and with a strong team. We have invested in business ranging from medical devices to fintech, from AI to e-commerce."

EBAN's next congress takes place in Athens in April 2023.

**"TODAY'S MARKET SENTIMENT IS HARDLY RELEVANT IN MAKING A FIRST INVESTMENT SO THE KEY IS FINDING THE RIGHT BUSINESSES."**

**IAN SOSSO**

## Conversation

# MEDS MAVERICK

**Call it the Cuban Medicine Crisis.** Checking in at No. 227 on this year's Forbes 400 ranking of the wealthiest Americans (October/November), Mark Cuban—Web 1.0 lottery winner, *Shark Tank* alpha predator, outspoken Dallas Mavericks owner and full-time gadfly—is now tackling spiraling prescription prices through Cost Plus Drugs, which offers big discounts on a small but growing number of medications. Is the man whom his family said grew up "always hustling to make a buck" no longer in it solely for the money—willing to spend, as he put it, "whatever it takes" to bring down the cost of needed medicines? Said Peter M. Delmas on LinkedIn, "Someone has to take on big pharma. Cuban has the courageous spirit, the money and the relationships to make a major difference." Vincent Ling of Takeda Pharmaceutical Company agreed. "[Cuban's] strategy aims at the low end of generics, but it's an interesting place to start, compared to billionaires who create extravagant organizations with lofty goals to 'cure disease' or 'extend life,'" Ling wrote on LinkedIn. "Nor is he betting on exotic therapeutics that cost \$3 million a dose. Rather, he's tilting at the opposite end, away from the hype."



New Billionaire

## THE GURU OF GREENSBORO

Like the Oracle of Omaha, real estate developer Roy Carroll buys low and rarely sells. He's biding his time now, waiting for the collapse.

**W**hen he was 14, Roy E. Carroll II bought an 800-square-foot house in Danville, Virginia, using \$1,000 in savings (equivalent to about \$5,000 today) that he had cobbled together from odd jobs like mowing yards, returning bottles and selling candy. He fixed the place up and sold it a year later, using the profits to buy a Ford Mustang that he wasn't even old enough to legally drive.

That turned out to be the first of many properties Carroll bought on the cheap. In 1984, at age 22, the college dropout and his father, a laid-off grocery store supervisor, started building custom homes in Greensboro, North Carolina. Business boomed, and he bought out his dad in 1991 and started developing subdivisions. Within 10 years, Carroll switched to more-lucrative apartment complexes and eventually expanded along the Sun Belt from Tennessee to Texas.

Now 60, he has built a \$2.9 billion fortune largely made up of real estate, including more than 13,000 apartments and 29 self-storage facilities, as well as industrial land and mixed-use projects. He has also parlayed that Mustang into a collection of Ferraris, including one that raced at the 24 Hours of Le Mans last summer.

Carroll's simple explanation for his success: "Warren Buffett looks for great companies and doesn't trade a lot. That's our philosophy in real estate," he says. "Let's find a good location and keep it. Why sell the golden goose?"

Indeed. Since that first house back in 1976, he has sold only two apartment buildings, in South Carolina. ("I regretted selling both and tried to buy them back," he says.) That plus the fact that he has never brought in any outside investors and has kept debt levels relatively low—about 40%—means he can move quickly when opportunity strikes. That's what he did in the wake of the housing crash in 2009, and what he hopes to do again. "[The market] is very frothy," he says. "It feels a whole lot like 2006–2007. The deals just don't make sense."

If prices collapse, Carroll will be ready. If they don't, he maintains high rents will keep his business steady. Either way, he's in the catbird seat: "It's hard to time some markets, but real estate is a slow mover—so you can see the train wreck coming."

### *Holiday Gift Guide*

**BOWMORE x ASTON MARTIN + 52 YEARS = \$75,000**

The latest collaboration between Bowmore whisky and Aston Martin may look like it came from the future, but it took the long route from the past to get here. Distilled in 1968, Arc-52 spent 52 years maturing (50% in European oak sherry butt, 50% in American oak ex-bourbon hogshead)—and it's worth the wait. The result is 100 bottles of a mellow Islay single malt that's light on smoke, allowing the sweet fruit and citrus flavors to come through. As for Arc-52's unique decanter, it was designed by Aston Martin engineers and requires a magnetic key fob to unlock its mysteries. And at \$75,000 a bottle, you'll be in no rush to finish it.



# Two Unstoppable Indians changing the world

## ABOUT FINNEST

Founded by Global Indian investor, Mr Biswanath Patnaik and UK-based Indian entrepreneur, Arun Kar, FINNEST is an early-stage Private Equity investment firm that invests in visionaries with disruptive ideas. FINNEST brings more than just capital and is focused on Renewables, EVs and Hydrogen Locomotives, Innovative Technology, Consumer Market Places, Fintech, Smart Cities and Public Sector.

FINNEST is governed by eminent industry experts from banking, technology, healthcare, renewables, and is led by partners, who have been founders and CEOs of successful companies, and who have domain expertise ranging from banking to telecom to consumer marketplaces.

Keeping new technology at the forefront, their team are helping founders and their companies towards a better world for the mankind. They are at the forefront of the change which they believe will benefit the society at large. Visionary Founders with strong Investor Networks, they believe in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and with the target talent pools they aim to connect entrepreneurs, executives, engineers, academics and industry experts in the technology ecosystem.

FINNEST is associated with Fortune 100/Global 500 top companies for the resources in relation to technology decision makers, influencers, and key opinion leaders. FINNEST uses this elite network as a part of company's preamble to help and grow portfolio companies with access to insights across the entire diversified spectrum.



Arun Kar, Managing Director, FINNEST,  
Biswanath Patnaik, Chairman, FINNEST.

FINNEST model of investment is primarily based on a structure like Compulsorily Convertible Preference Shares (CCPS), Compulsorily Convertible Debentures (CCDs), Optionally Convertible Preference Shares (OCPS), Optionally Convertible Debentures (OCDs), and Debt-based Equity.

FINNEST has an extensive track record of investing in some of the fastest growing companies across Europe, the UK, USA, Middle East and Asia-Pacific.

'From Our Founders To Our Own Team, We Partner With The Best And Brightest - No Matter Their Background, Our Door Is Open to New Talent and Disruptive ideas' says the Chairman Mr Biswanath Patnaik.

## RECENTLY SECURED INVESTMENT FOR FINNEST

FINNEST has committed capital of £150m for an Innovative Technology

and Hydrogen Logistic Locomotive in the UK. FINNEST has recently secured and shortlisted two niche heritage properties estates on the South-West coast of England to promote the hospitality industry. FINNEST has recently invested in the real-estate asset at the Home of British Grand Prix and Motor racing, Escapade Silverstone. FINNEST has recently authorised to invest £200m for local government and councils in core sectors like 5G technology, Fibre, Port Marina and Smart Cities in the UK.

FINNEST has promised a fund of £25m towards social welfare causes and charitable activities as part of Corporate Social Responsibility.



FINNEST has secured £500m investment for upcoming & innovative technology-driven ventures across industries like Renewable Energy, Hydrogen based logistic locomotives, Environmental & Sustainability, and Economic Social Governance with non-financial factors as part of the material risk and growth opportunities. FINNEST focuses on companies that can harness techniques like green hydrogen and/or solutions that reduce the dependency on rare earth metals in battery technology. Offering the potential combined with Smart Connected vehicle technology to redefine how goods are moved primarily.

FinNest also has a number of ongoing investment negotiations looking at green energy solutions with a particular emphasis on new commercial models which include local communities establishing energy service capabilities. Whilst looking to support technologies including, solar, heat, wind and tidal, FINNEST are also aware that many of the barriers to decarbonisation lay outside the pure technical challenges of energy generation.

## ABOUT THE FOUNDERS

### Mr Biswanath Patnaik

Mr Biswanath Patnaik, fondly known as BNP, is an accomplished serial entrepreneur, investment banker, legal counsel, and philanthropist. Mr Patnaik has completed his graduation in Economics in 1997 and MBA in 1999 from Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India. BNP has completed his LLB from Arunoday University, New Delhi.

Mr Patnaik, is active across multiple sectors with business interests in Finance, Healthcare, Startups, Solar Energy, renewable Energy, Real Estate, Home Appliances, FinTech, Manufacturing just to name a few. Apart from companies in India, through his investments he also has controlling stakes in several companies in London, Warsaw (Poland) Zurich, Singapore, UAE, Mauritius, Ghana and he is the member of Board in several companies in several sectors, among them few are stock exchange listed companies. Mr. Patnaik is the Director of Afrinex Clearing House, which is a stock Exchange in Mauritius.

Building on his vast network and business experience BNP is overseeing the expansion strategy of these companies in Asia, Middle East, Africa, GCC regions, Japan, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

Mr Patnaik is a prominent donor to several foundations and NGO's which deals with education, healthcare and upliftment of orphan girl and underprivileged girl child. Mr Patnaik is a regular donor at RBKL which works for the upliftment of poor, tribal and needy children, where he recently donated a huge fund for construction of five floor hostel for the under privileged orphan girls in the memory of his beloved mother which is known as 'Shrimati MAMATA DEVI CHATRAWAS' (Hostel). Mr. Patnaik is the Chairman of International committee of social action foundation (NGO) based out of Delhi. Mr. Patnaik has undertaken the yearly cost of 500 underprivileged girl children to give them vocational & nursing education. Mr Patnaik is the major

donor of Swaminarayan BAPS Hindu Te, Abu Dhabi. He is also a major donor to Vishv Umiya Mata Temple in Gujarat, Shree Jagannatha Temple in London and Iskcon Temple in Mauritius.

With his several start-ups and business investments, he has been facilitated multiple times in Parliament of the UK and featured in Economic Times award (2022) award for the best investment Banking category and he was recently felicitated with 'Pride of the Nation' honour in 'Emerging Investment Banking' category. Mr Patnaik has been featured in several Top International Magazines like Top '10 Unstoppable Business Leaders' of 2022 and in Forbes achiever's world with several Social Awards. Mr Patnaik was felicitated with 'Mahatma Gandhi Saman' at the House of Commons, British Parliament, Westminster, London. A few of his recently acquired companies have won national awards in the UK for sustainability.

### Mr Arun Kar

Born and brought up in the state of Odisha in India, Arun joined the Indian army in 2000 ( as an Army Officer) after passing the Combined Defence Services (UPSC) and the service selection board (SSB) interview. After serving seven and half years in the Artillery Division, he opted for early retirement owing to injury and medical concerns. On leaving the military, he studied business management at the Indian Institute of Management(IIM) in Bangalore.

The military veteran is now the Co-Founder of the Nest Group of companies, which is designed across five subsidiaries, including Multinational Digital & Technology Innovation companies (Xpertnest) specializing in Information Technology & Environment Sustainability ( Earthnest).

Arun's inner drive to make a difference to society has seen him develop innovative biobags to replace the ever pervasive plastic bags that are the cause of so much pollution around the world. His award-winning Earthnest biobags are 100 per cent plastic free and fully biodegradable and compostable.

Arun was felicitated with "MAHATMA GANDHI SAMMAN" in 2022 at the House of Commons, British Parliament, London. Arun has won the business person of the year award at the SME London Business awards. Arun has been featured (along with Elon Musk) on Fortune's cover page as one of the Top 40 "Unstoppable World's Brightest Business Minds" Arun, was also honoured and felicitated at The HOUSE OF LORDS - BRITISH PARLIAMENT, Westminster, the United Kingdom as "World's Best Emerging Business Leader". Arun is a Guinness World Record Holder and he has been awarded and felicitated as Times Visionary Leaders' by the Times of India Group, Times Ascent and Navbharat Times for his Outstanding Contributions to the world of Information & Technology; featured on ET NOW. Arun Kar was named as Global Indian of the Year by AsiaOne Magazine and United Research Services, chosen by consumers and industry research which was featured on CNBC.