

AN ANANTA ASPEN SEMINAR



27TH TO 31ST AUGUST 2014 AT TAJ DECCAN, HYDERABAD

**ananta**  
centre

(Formerly part of ASPEN INSTITUTE INDIA)

“I TOOK PART IN A WEEK-LONG ASPEN SEMINAR ABOUT TWO DECADES AGO. IT WAS A PERIOD OF INTENSIVE STUDY OF CLASSICAL READINGS, THOUGHT AND ARGUMENT, MADE POSSIBLE BY A TRULY SOCRATIC MODERATOR WHO CAREFULLY LED THE GROUP TO KEY INSIGHTS THAT ARE APPLICABLE IN MANY CONTEXTS, AND WHICH HAVE REMAINED WITH ME EVER SINCE.”

—T N NINAN, CHAIRMAN & CHIEF EDITOR, BUSINESS STANDARD

**I**n the trajectory of life, we rarely take the critical step to pause and reflect on what we are creating of our lives and what we would like to be different.

For more than 60 years, the Aspen Leadership Seminars have challenged leaders in every field to think more critically about the good society and our leadership roles in it. It raises questions about the meaning of life, the processes of self-discovery, self and community and about creating our legacy.

An Ananta Aspen Seminar builds on that tradition with a curriculum that is specifically designed for India and its leadership challenges.

In a setting conducive to thought and fellowship, each seminar convenes a diverse group of approximately 20 leaders for lively, intensive, roundtable discussion led by skilled moderators. Classic and contemporary texts and themes – specifically geared to the Indian context – form the starting points of a rich conversation in which the questions posed by the group are frequently as illuminating as the varied, timeless wisdom of the texts.

### WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE

The Seminar has tremendous transformative power in cultivating the understanding of others' values, as well as one's own. We encourage all to embark on this journey.

- Senior leaders from all walks of life who are looking for a challenging professional development program;
- Successful leaders who want to clarify their core values;
- Visionary leaders who are looking to understand better the tensions inherent in conceptions of the good life;
- Concerned leaders who wish to be challenged to





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THE ASPEN SEMINAR IS LIKE AN  
ENCAPSULATED TONIC TO THE  
INTELLECT AND SOUL”

— **MANOJ KUMAR**, CEO, NAANDI FOUNDATION

“RIGHT FROM OUR PARLIAMENT, AS A NATION WE HAVE FORGOTTEN  
THE ART OF LISTENING. AT THE ASPEN SEMINAR YOU LEARN THE ART  
OF LISTENING PATIENTLY WITHOUT REACTING. YOU MAY AGREE OR  
DISAGREE, BUT ONLY AFTER TRULY LISTENING TO WHAT IS BEING SAID.  
THIS WAS IN CONTRAST TO OUR USUAL HABIT OF REACTING WITHOUT  
DIGESTING WHAT IS BEING SAID WHICH IS HARMFUL FOR RELATIONSHIPS,  
ORGANISATIONS AND NATIONS. I AM CONVINCED THAT WE NEED TO  
FOLLOW THE ASPEN PRACTICE OF GENUINE LISTENING.”

— **Ms. ANU AGA**, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, RAJYA SABHA



think more deeply and act more justly;

The Seminar is designed to enable its participants to become better leaders by understanding the goals that motivate us and how our values both coincide and conflict with those of others.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The seminar will call for extensive participation and will require prior preparation. Each participant will receive a set of readings (both Modern and Classical) in advance. These readings form the basis for the exploration. Coupled with each participant's experiences and perspectives, they form a challenging brew to explore deeply-held opinions and behaviour. The facilitators will moderate rather than lecture, allowing the richness in the room come out.

## MODERATORS

This Seminar will be moderated by Aspen trained moderators **James Abraham**, Managing Director & CEO, SunBorne Energy, **Govind Ethiraj**, Founder, Ping Digital Broadcast and **Sudha Iyer**, Chairperson & Managing Director, Srijana Group of Companies.

## BRIEF PROFILE OF MODERATORS

**JAMES ABRAHAM** is the founder and director of SolarArise, which will own and operate one of the largest portfolios of solar-power plants in India. Prior to this, he was the Managing Director of SunBorne Energy, which focuses on making solar energy as low-cost as other sources of power in India.



James and the team led the development of solar policy in India and launched the largest public-private partnership in solar R&D with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. James is currently a member of the Confederation of Indian Industry's Renewable Energy Council, the US-India Track 2 Dialogue on Climate Change, and serves on several boards. Prior to SunBorne, James was a senior partner at The Boston Consulting Group in India. He started his career with BCG in Toronto before moving to India in 1998, and then founded BCG's New Delhi office. James has a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Waterloo, an MBA (Baker Scholar) from the Wharton School, and an MA (international relations) from the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies. He is a Fellow of the third class of the India Leadership Initiative and a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.

**GOVINDRAJ ETHIRAJ** is a television & print journalist and Founder-Editor of Indiaspend, a public interest journalism

effort which utilizes open data to analyze a range of issues. Recently Indiaspend won second place at the BMW Foundation Responsible Leaders Awards 2014. He is also a Co-Founder at Ping Digital Network, a next generation television network building content on the digital platform in the information, news and infotainment space. He also anchors seasonal shows on Indian news television and writes for Forbes India and Business Standard. Previously, he was Founder-Editor in Chief of Bloomberg TV India. He has also worked with Business Standard newspaper as Editor (New Media) and with television channel CNBC-TV18. He is a Fellow of the Inaugural Class of Ananta Aspen India Leadership Initiative and trained in the Aspen style of moderating.



**SUDHA IYER** has two MS degrees in Molecular Biology and Genetics and a PhD in Health Education. After working for 13 years at The Johns Hopkins University and Sinai Hospital, she returned to India with a view to establish a strong group of companies that do both business and service in India. Sudha serves as the Chairperson and Managing Director of the Srijana Group, focussing on Web Business, Knowledge Services, Health Services, Storage Maximization and Family Services. She also heads the Haritas Health Services that focuses on delivering health education to people with diabetes and other chronic ailments. She conceptualised CII's Yi Bridge program and built the e-Yi platform. She is a Fellow of the Inaugural Class of Ananta Aspen India Leadership Initiative and trained in the Aspen style of moderating.



## DATES & FEES

- Seminar Dates: **27th – 31st August, 2014** at **Taj Deccan**, Hyderabad.
- Seminar fees per participant is INR 85,000+ 12.36% service tax = INR 95,506. This amount is payable to “**Ananta Centre**” either by cheque or wire transfer. Should you want to make a wire transfer, bank details are available on the attached form to be filled out by you.

## NOMINATIONS

Nominations as per the enclosed nomination form should reach latest by **5 Aug, 2014** as we have a limited number of seats. Nominations will be confirmed subject to receipt of Participation Fee.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation charges of 50% can be avoided by sponsoring organization by sending a suitable replacement by **4 Aug '14**.

THIS IS TRULY A UNIQUE PROGRAM, SO PLEASE DO CONSIDER NOMINATING HIGH POTENTIAL INDIVIDUALS FROM YOUR ORGANISATION TO PARTICIPATE — **Kiran Pasricha**, CEO & Executive Director, **Ananta Aspen Centre** and **Ananta Centre**