

30 years and beyond

India alumni newsletter

November 2023

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CEO's foreword

Yezdi Nagporewalla Chief Executive Officer KPMG in India

In September, we completed 30 glorious years since KPMG in India was set up. From a handful of people to today's thousands and growing, the Firm has come a long way, achieving milestones at every turn. To make this milestone sweeter, we continue to win more accolades and recognitions in the industry for our efforts planned under various focus areas relevant to business and people, which is a testament to the power our brand holds. We are also winning big with our clients and upping the ante on the way we work to counter emerging challenges for our clients and communities.

Celebrating our legacy in the country, we held an All India Townhall which was brought together by our incredible teams to commemorate three decades of success, growth, and collaboration. Our cover story, '30 years and beyond – A celebration in the making' gives you a glimpse into how we have been coming #together all year around to make an impact, elevate our people and our brand.

We recently closed the 14th edition of ENRich, our flagship energy and natural resources conclave which focused on the theme 'Growing with less', considering that we live in a world characterised by increasing populations, dwindling resources, and environmental concerns. This uniquely curated platform featured the Firm's sector capabilities, innovation and digital prowess, and the vision of a sustainable future. It was also a great opportunity to launch our report on 'Pivoting to Leadership – Re-imagining supply chains for India's emergence as a credible alternative for global clean energy manufacturing', at the hands of Honourable Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Housing & Urban Affairs, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri.

Our alumni community continues to grow stronger each year, with several of you making a homecoming at the Firm. In this edition, get to know your fellow alumni, Mumkesh Awasthi and Rahil Uppal, reminiscing about their days at the Firm, sharing their notes on living fulfilling lives, and realising personal and professional ambitions. We are also delighted to welcome back Sachin Sharma to the KPMG family, as he joins our Clients and Markets team.

This year has been truly inspiring to witness the remarkable progress we have made as a team, and to envision the limitless possibilities that lie ahead. As we pass through this year-long milestone celebration, do stay connected, and share with us your nostalgic journey with the Firm and how KPMG has made a difference to your lives.

I wish you and your families the best of this festive season.

Warm regards,

Yezdi Nagporewalla Chief Executive Officer KPMG in India





Alumni speak

Straight from the heart

Mumkesh Awasthi Head Sales Intelligence, Enablement & Sales Analytics Redington Group

Mumkesh is a seasoned veteran of sales operations and analytics, with over 17 years of experience in the field. He has worked at some of the most successful companies throughout his career and managed diverse projects within numerous industries including technology distribution (software), engineering and design, consulting, enterprise IT, and content products.

What are the values from KPMG in India that have stayed with you and shaped you as the professional you are today?

When it comes to professional growth, the importance of integrity, passion for your work, and entrepreneurship in your own space cannot be overstated. These qualities serve as essential catalysts for success in any career. Reflecting on my own experience at KPMG in India, I found it to be both exhilarating and fulfilling. This invaluable opportunity allowed me to cultivate these vital attributes and further my personal and professional development. Undoubtedly, these values have played a monumental role in shaping who I am today.

What do you miss most about working at KPMG?

When reflecting on what I miss most about working at KPMG, a few aspects immediately stand out. To begin with, the solidarity and teamwork among my colleagues played a significant role in fostering a positive work environment. This allowed me to benefit from the knowledge and expertise of highly skilled professionals. Moreover, the firm undertakes a

diverse range of challenging projects which granted me the opportunity to continuously broaden my abilities and acquire new skills. Lastly, I found the comprehensive support and resources offered both on personal and professional levels, truly instrumental in encouraging ongoing growth and career advancement.

What is your success mantra?

My success mantra revolves around three key principles setting clear & realistic goals, maintaining a positive mindset, and consistently striving for self-improvement. By following these principles, I can stay focused on my objectives, overcome obstacles, and grow both personally and professionally.

How have you balanced the demands of your personal and professional life?

Balancing personal and professional life is vital for overall happiness and success, as it allows an individual to manage the demands of both aspects without compromising their well-being. Prioritise tasks based on importance. Identifying and prioritising tasks that are crucial for both your personal and professional life facilitates better time management and prevents stress that results from last-minute rush. Begin by creating a list of tasks for both aspects of your life, then categorise them based on importance or urgency. This method enables you to allocate time and energy appropriately.

Message for alumni

Over the years, our paths have diverged, leaving the time we spent at KPMG in our past. Nevertheless, it is undeniable that the shared experiences and achievements continue to be a wellspring of pride for all of us. As I look back on our journey, I am filled with immense gratitude for the unforgettable memories and enduring friendships that were created during our tenure at KPMG. Should the right opportunity present itself, I would cherish the chance to make a triumphant return and once again be a part of the exceptional KPMG team.







Alumni speak

Up close and personal

Rahil Uppal Assistant Vice President Prudent Insurance Brokers

- If not your current profession, what would you be?
 My father and brother both are IT professionals and they had the same expectations from me. If I had an option, I would have gone into software testing.
- If you could go back in time what would you do differently?
 If I could go back in time, I would like to meet my wife early as we later realised that we were part of the same family friend circle.
- A gadget you cannot do without...
 My phone.
- Your favorite food...
 Chinese.
- Best childhood memory...
 Went to Kedarnath with my family, I ended up making and eating Maggi with Bisleri bottle throughout my stay and fed everyone in the group.

- In your free time where can we find you?
 Spending time with my kid.
- Who is your role model?
 My father. He is a self-made man who has always given us the right values to face the world.
- A habit you cannot live without...
 Be on the phone when there is nothing else to do.
- An ideal weekend for you would mean...
 Play golf in the morning, and watching a movie in the evening with family.
- What is your success mantra?
 Be true to yourself, do what you like and success will follow.
- Two qualities you look for in an individual...
 Hunger to learn and utmost integrity in everything you do.





Homecoming

Sachin Sharma Executive, Markets **KPMG** in India

What brings you back to KPMG?

In a simple sentence – the opportunity to make KPMG my own. This place offers its employees the platform and resources required to shape your own path through learning and development. Apart from the world-class professional environment, the organisation provides you volunteering opportunities outside your dedicated role which could help drive a significant impact in the long run.

Tell us what you missed most about KPMG?

People. I joined KPMG right out of college, and it was overwhelming to see the warmth and compassion people had for each other. My performance manager, along with the team, created an atmosphere that was warm and truly conducive for my professional journey with the firm.

How do you think KPMG has changed over the years?

Although I was away for a brief time, I have been quick to notice the positive changes that the firm has embedded like flexibility to work from home, increased emphasis on employees' wellbeing and continuous effort to stay invested in our growth within the firm.

Do you have a message for our readers?

I would like to say that it is never too late to come back. KPMG, as always, values its people above and beyond everything.







Know our Leader

Namrata Rana, National Head, ESG, KPMG in India

Describe your first day at KPMG in India.

As I stepped into the office, it felt like I was starting an exciting journey. I am truly thankful for the warmth and the welcome from the people I met that day. I want to add, the warmth continues.

What are your biggest takeaways from your journey at the firm?

I am still new but already one thing is clear, KPMG is a solution oriented and entrepreneurial firm. Within the structure, you get a wide canvas and the opportunity to connect ideas, build solutions that matter for our customers and stakeholders.

KPMG's biggest impact on you and your biggest impact on KPMG?

The ESG shift necessitates new thinking. The shift is about mapping the change, defining the ambition, paying attention to the details, building trust, collaboration and taking everyone along. I believe that KPMG is a big enabler of this kind of thinking. There is a lot to be done and the journey has definitely started. KPMG has the opportunity to build ESG horizons in the dynamic and rapidly evolving environment that we find ourselves in.

If you had to describe yourself in three words, what would they be:

Author, nature lover, futurist

One thing that nobody knows about you:

I have written case studies featured in Harvard Business Review and have been short listed for the Financial Times Sustainability Teaching Award.

Your favorite:

- Holiday destination: Discovering offbeat Indian destinations
- Cuisine: Local food wherever I go
- **Book:** The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race by Walter Isaacson
- Sport: Badminton

If you could go back in time what would you tell your 25-year-old self?

Your career is a marathon and not a sprint. Keep learning and connecting the dots.

If you could trade lives with someone for a day, who would it be and why?

Chris Evert Lloyd during her tennis playing days. Loved the energy, enthusiasm, perfection and desire to succeed.

What does Dream Big, Think Big and Act Big mean to you, both personally and professionally?

The sustainability transition will impact jobs, business models and the way we work and live. While we aspire to do more, we need small incremental steps as well as big changes in our personal and professional lives in making our world better.





Cover story

30 years and beyond -

A celebration in the making

This year has been special for KPMG in India, as the Firm turned 30 in September. Over three decades of our presence in India, we have traversed unchartered trails, made a difference in the lives of others in the communities we serve, and continue to make a real impact to be a partner in growth and development, be it for our nation, its economy, or our clients.

With trust and growth as our consistent mantra for success, entwined with our Values and Purpose, our journey continues to inspire and influence how we Dream, Think and Act beyond for our people, clients and communities.

Here is a little peek into what we have been up to, so far.













Our milestone year **All India Partners' Meet (AIPM)** was held in June in Dubai, in the presence of India firm and Global partners.

It was a refreshing and eventful look at our history, where we thanked the people who built the foundation of the Firm for their contributions and marked the beginning of a new era of building a strong legacy for our people.

To express our heartfelt gratitude for leading KPMG in India's journey into the future, it was a nostalgic moment to have the Firm's founders, former CEOs and Chairpersons grace us with their presence and be a part of the celebrations.

Further, we welcomed **86** new Partners and Associate Partners in their new roles. It was a pleasure to also hear from two influential guests – **Noah Raford**, a global futurist, and tennis legend **Sania Mirza** to inspire leadership by example and innovative foresight in our action and impact.





Making an impact

In 2023, for the first time, we catalogued our ESG commitments under Our Impact Plan, a report on which was released at AIPM 2023. We hope to make even more progress next year, with our efforts as a Firm and as individuals, and share more stories of our people leading with purpose in the editions to come. To add to our impact, we took this opportunity to restore the planet's green cover, with our Partners and Associate Partners pledging over 400 trees through a metaverse tree plantation at Kanha Shanti Vanam in Hyderabad.





Wellness, well-being, and happiness

Our '30 years and beyond' activities and initiatives were kicked off this year, encompassing a progressive stance with respect to wellness, well-being, creativity, innovation, passion and purpose, all rolled into one. Starting from an earnest look-back into our past, going well into the future 30 years from now, we are all united in pride, engaged and enthused about being a part of this milestone celebration.

Passion, wellness, and well-being: It was interesting to view the Firm from our people's perspective via the KLIX photography '30 through my lens' competition and watch them express themselves through the 'All I see is 30' art competition. With the thought to 'Nurture your Mind, Body and Soul', International Yoga Day was celebrated across 16 cities for over a week with a total of 43 camps.

Our first ever celebration of World Music Day also brought together colleagues to immerse themselves in their passion for music. With many such engagements and more in the offing, we are only getting started and are excited to bring together everyone, whether old or new, to celebrate the firm's journey.









Inclusion, diversity, and Pride: In a bid to cultivate more equity amid genders in the workplace and at home, we revamped our child day care policy to emphasise our commitment towards gender neutral caregiving, by partnering with a national service provider, backed by a model that has a 'wider choice utilisation'.

June was celebrated as Pride month in a hybrid way, to promote our commitment towards the LGBTQ+ inclusion at the workplace. It was a cultural blend of curated events and leadership participation, embellished with queer film screenings, fun kiosks, a flea market, a panel discussion on queer parenting, and Pride walks across locations.

Homecoming, with a purpose: Over the past few years, the firm has opened doors for our alumni to re-enter once again as KPMGers who want to realise their purpose, personally and professionally. As an annual endeavour, we invited our alumni to explore opportunities at KPMG in India and received close to 3 resumes for each job posted. If you are looking to rejoin the firm, or know of someone who does, do visit our **Careers page** to search and apply.

Accolades and recognitions

2023 has been a testament to the efforts of our people, their talent, and resilience. Any and all achievements that the firm has accomplished speak volumes of how we are poised to lead into the future as a professional services firm.

KPMG in India (including KGS) was recently recognised as one of the Top 10 'Best Companies for Women in India' by Avtar and Seramount (formerly Working Mother), amongst 375 applicant organisations. In addition, the firm won the coveted 'Champion of Inclusion' award in Most Inclusive Companies Index (MICI).





The firm has also been a recipient of nine awards at the 2023 Brandon Hall Group **Excellence Awards** for its commitment to its people and applying best practices to initiatives in learning and development, talent acquisition, human resources, sales performance, diversity, inclusion and equity, and the future of work.

Most recently, we were ranked by International Tax Review APAC Tax Awards 2023 as the Transfer Pricing Firm of the Year in India.

These achievements are the fruits of internal collaboration and camaraderie, an embodiment of our collective strength, and we intend to keep this momentum going as we grow #together.











All India Townhall

Our recently held **All India Townhall** on 12 October was a true reflection of the spirit and dedication that has propelled our Firm forward over the last 30 years. The offices were transformed into a vibrant space, filled with laughter, memories, and a palpable sense of pride. The turnout was simply outstanding, with team members across all functions and levels coming #together in great numbers to celebrate this significant milestone.

Yezdi Nagporewalla, CEO, KPMG in India, expressed his gratitude for the collective efforts that have shaped our Firm's journey, making us the second largest employer in Global member firm after the United States member firm by headcount. As a celebratory milestone, the event commemorated our incredible journey of **30 years and beyond.** Our people were witness to the Firm's remarkable achievements and future aspirations. We also featured captivating performances by our talented colleagues, who expressed their various passions and inspired many to pursue what they love.

While the leadership team answered pertinent questions posed by our colleagues, our respective Office Managing Partners from each region made the most of this opportunity, bringing people together at various offices to celebrate the Firm's birthday with a ceremonious cakecutting and facilitating colleagues who had completed 25 years and more, along with sharing region-wise success and way forward.

The event was also a great launchpad for the Firm's first music band 'Anhad', who entertained our people live with some popular tunes. The energy in the office was infectious, and it was evident how much joy and passion Team KPMG brings to everything they do!



Click on the video to view All India Townhall highlights



Partner notes

Nurturing the Innovation agenda

Our flagship KPMG Innovation Kaleidoscope centre, inaugurated in July 2022, is a collaborative workspace aimed at providing immersive experiences, insights and solutions for our people and clients. Since its inception, the centre has grown from **40+ solutions to over 200 solutions**, **while being experienced by 400+ clients, internal and global teams' visits**. This initiative is steered by Anindya Basu – National Managing Partner, Advisory, with Purushothaman KG, Partner and Head, Digital Solutions & Telecommunications Industry Leader and Suneel Vora – Partner, Business Consulting as sponsors and founding members for the initiative, along with Vidya Mohan- Head, Innovation Centre

KPMG Innovation Kaleidoscope turned 'ONE'

To commemorate this milestone, we launched a 'Firm-wide Innovation Hackathon' and received an overwhelming response with over 125+ ideas submitted across sectors and services. An interactive live-session was hosted where Anindya Basu and many other partners shared their vision for innovation in the firm.

The journey so far has been exciting and eventful, where we also had the opportunity to host the **first advisory wide Hackathon** and also showcase our solutions at three **marquee events**, namely

ESG Conclave: The event successfully hosted interactive experience zones created by the KPMG Innovation Kaleidoscope team, marking a new chapter in our sustainable development journey. We also showcased tools developed for organisations looking for compliance, adherence, and reporting (GRI, SASB, BRSR)

The participants at the event, who were mostly CXOs, were encouraged to act on the need of the hour, by planting trees in metaverse and make a real impact at the Heartfulness centre in Hyderabad.



KPMG Innovation Kaleidoscope team at the launc



















ENRich 2023: At the 14th edition of ENRich, KPMG innovation Kaleidoscope presented firm's point of view on information and technology and wide-ranging futuristic applications in the energy sector. We presented solutions in the areas of Cyber Security, Industrial Automation and Digitalisation, Metaverse as well as ESG.

The Innovation Kaleidoscope lounge was visited by Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister, Petroleum and Natural Gas and Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education, and Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India.

India Mobile Congress 2023: As knowledge partners for the 6th consecutive year, we got the opportunity to showcase several of our solutions at our booth which was aligned with the theme of 'Global Digital Innovation'.

KPMG innovation Kaleidoscope displayed solutions in the areas of Cyber Security, Digital Solutions, Metaverse as well as ESG which led to engaging conversations with the visitors during the event.

Tapping the startup community: Through ENRich, Open Innovation platform (OIP) and IMC we also tapped into the startups space who can complement our capabilities KPMG in India's OIP supports the most promising early-stage start-ups from various corners of the country in a bid to nurture the most innovative solutions. 5 start-ups shortlisted through the OIP invited to a discussion with a client to collaborate on their service platforms to achieve maximized financial inclusion with the retail customers.























To know more, view the Innovation Kaleidoscope playbook.





1. Sensitising students on environmental sustainability

The firm is committed towards climate action and with the help of volunteers, we invest time and knowledge to sensitise students on environmental sustainability.

i. Best out of waste

On the occasion of World Environment Day 2023, volunteers conducted 'Best out of waste' activity which helped utilise the creative skills to discuss importance of recycling and reusing.



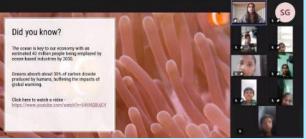




ii. World Oceans Day

Volunteers also conducted a session where they talked about the impact of human actions on the ocean and importance of protecting oceans.









iii. Nature Club

With help of our people, we have assisted our partner NGO schools to set up a Nature Club – a platform for students to learn and practice environmental sustainability. The volunteers taught the students how to grow plants from roots, shoots and seeds, and process of composting waste. Later, with help of volunteers, students set up a 'kitchen garden' at their school.



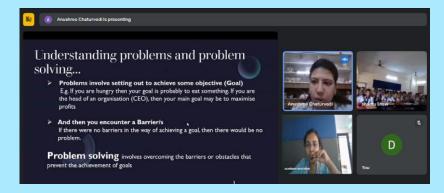






2. Session on problem solving and decision making

Life skills and soft skills play an important part in improving students' abilities and can have a positive influence on furthering their careers. Our volunteers conducted a session on problem solving and decision making for students from our partner NGO schools. This involved an interactive discussion on how this can be helpful in everyday life and tips on how to nurture the skill.

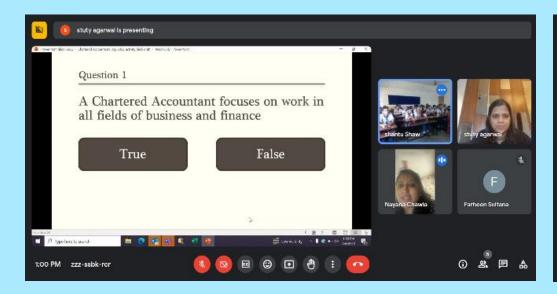


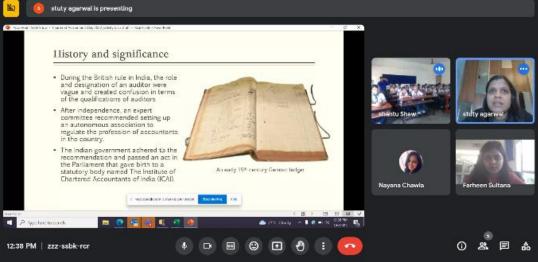




3. Celebration of Chartered Accountants Day

To commemorate Chartered Accountants Day, our people conducted informative sessions for students from our partner NGO schools about Chartered Accountancy as a profession and discussed career opportunities in the field. It gave the students an opportunity to seek mentorship and guidance from volunteers who are professionals in the field.







4. Visit to Mother's Wax Museum

Members of ICoE team in Kolkata accompanied students from our partner NGO, Samaritan Help Mission, for a fun-filled day at Mother's Wax Museum in Kolkata. This gave the students an opportunity to explore the world beyond their textbooks and step out of the traditional school environment and form memories that will last a lifetime.









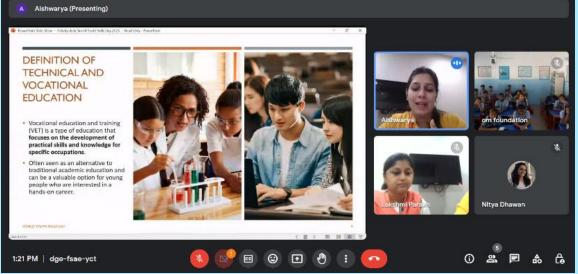




5. World Youth Skills Day

Volunteers conducted awareness sessions on World Youth Skills Day with students from not-for-profit schools about the importance of equipping oneself with skills that are essential for employment, decent work, and entrepreneurship. Further, these sessions focused on the value of technical and vocational education and training, and offered tips and techniques to students on building core skills to excel in their chosen field.





6. Sapling plantation drive

Environment conservation and protection lies at the heart of the firm's commitment to achieve environment sustainability. To achieve this, our people along with their families, planted saplings across locations and created a positive impact on the environment.



















7. Independence Day Quiz

Realising that teaching children about the significance of Independence Day helps to develop a sense of patriotism and greater awareness about India's rich history, our people conducted a quiz for the students from our partner NGO schools on the Indian Independence movement and key freedom fighters. Such awareness sessions not only foster love and pride for one's country but also sensitise students about the sacrifice made by the freedom fighters to make India a free nation.





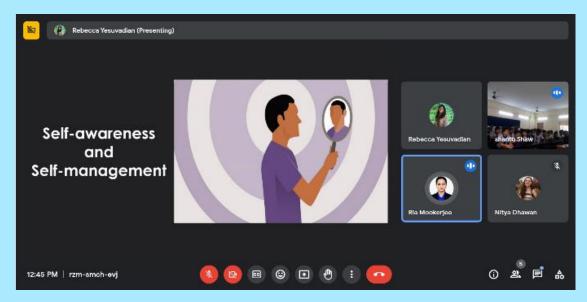






8. Session on self-awareness and self-management

Our people conducted a life-skills session on self-awareness and self-management for students from our partner not-for-profit schools. Such life-skills are crucial for a student to thrive both academically and professionally. The informative session by volunteers gave students insights on how to be self-aware, offered tips on self-management by developing effective time-management skills, being flexible and being self-motivated, coupled with case studies and discussions. These case studies helped students to practice and implement all the learnings from the session.







KPMG in focus

KPMG's Global Tech Innovator Competition (GTIC) 2023 – India Finale

GTIC 2023 is a marquee event anchored by KPMG globally to recognise top talent in the tech innovation space of startups. This year, the competition witnessed participation from over 25 countries. In India, the initiative was led by the Emerging Giants team at the firm. The application process and screening saw large participation by innovative companies from the startup community in India. Competitors, whether pure technology companies or techenabled, tech-led, or tech-driven were invited to present their innovations and pitch their growth plans to a panel of top business and technology leaders, both from KPMG in India and external industry experts. Basis multiple evaluation rounds, the finals saw participation from five tech innovators in India.

KPMG in India announced Lynkit Solutions Pvt. Ltd. as winners of the third edition of the GTIC 2023 – India Finale. Lynkit Solutions Pvt. Ltd. will now represent India at the global finals scheduled to take place during the Web Summit 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal, where they will be given the opportunity to highlight their innovations and pitch their growth plans to a panel of international judges and receive global recognition in the KPMG Private Enterprise "2023 Winners' Report".







The competition was judged by an esteemed panel of jury members from the industry. The jury members included:

- Anas Rahman Junaid (An award-winning entrepreneur, angel investor, and Founder and Chief Researcher, Hurun India)
- Manish Johari (Consulting Director, Maple Capital Advisors)
- Pranjal Sharma (Economic analyst, advisor and author)
- Naveen Mathur (CEO, Maithri Aquatech)
- Pranav Bajaj (Co-founder, Medulance Healthcare)
- Naveen Aggarwal (Office Managing Partner Delhi-NCR, U.S.-India Corridor Leader, KPMG in India)
- Imran Hague (Partner, M&A, KPMG in India)

This is a unique platform that helps early-stage startups gain global recognition and enables their growth journey. The India winner will be recognised as one of country's most unique and innovative technology innovators and will also have the opportunity to build global peer-to-peer connections as an alumnus of a growing Global Tech Innovator Fellows' network where high-achieving entrepreneurs can come together to share ideas and challenges and build important professional relationships.



Publications



KPMG 2023 India CEO Outlook 2023



IMC-Expanding tech horizons



Enrich-2023-pivoting-to-leadership



Global Construction Survey 2023 – India edition



Cybersecurity considerations 2023



KPMG: Our Impact Plan



Publications



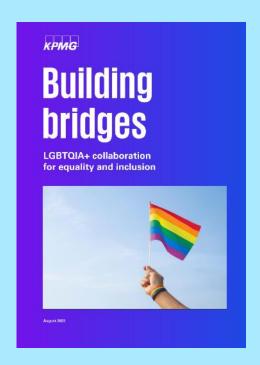
Elevating the event management landscape: Interventions for India's event industry's growth



Deciphering risks in investment deals



India's open data initiative: opportunity for states



Building bridges: LGBTQIA+ collaboration for equality and inclusion



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Connect with team KPMG in India at: https://social.kpmg/contactus

Our Alumni website

Registrations continue to pour in for our alumni website - a forum for ex-KPMG employees to connect with each other and the firm!



Our flourishing alumni network not only helps you in establishing contact with your former colleagues, friends and KPMG in India, but also keeps you abreast of our alumni programmes, news and events, as well as latest services and offerings.

By registering with the network on our **Alumni portal**, you can also actively participate and contribute to our Citizenship programme and other initiatives of the firm, wherever you are based.

Follow us on: kpmg.com/in/social<u>media</u>



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