



BCC&I Step Forward

A Power Session with Major Gaurav Arya (Retd.)

2nd September 2021

MEDIA DOSSIER:

Print Media: The Telegraph

COMING UP

What: BCC&I Step Forward — A Power Session with Major Gaurav Arya.

This will be a series of motivational talks of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry's new 'Lifestyle Committee' focused on advocating 'good living' for everyone in these hard times.



Major Gaurav Arya

When: September 2, 11am

Where: Log on to the Facebook page of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry

<https://www.facebook.com/TheBengalChamber>

Expect: Major Gaurav Arya, an ex-army man, who is currently a commentator on defence and national security and strategy on national television, will speak on leadership and the qualities to be imbibed to develop into a true groundbreaker. The talk will have a CEO's Chat session moderated by Rupal Basu, MD and CEO, Woodlands Multipspecialty Hospital Limited and Atul Ashana, MD and CEO, Goodnoko Group Ltd. Former Air Chief Marshal Anup Baha will be the special guest.

Organiser speak: Rupal Basu (inset), chairman, Lifestyle Committee, BCC&I & managing director and CEO, Woodlands Multipspecialty Hospital Limited, said:

"The world is going through a very tough time for almost two years now because of the pandemic and many people have been adversely affected, directly or indirectly. Lives have changed drastically and livelihoods have taken a beating, pushing many people to the very edge. In this milieu, a few months back, the president of BCC&I, Deb A Mukherjee, approached me to chair a committee that would look into the mental health of people and cater to them aspirational and yet achievable, sustainable and rewarding approaches to good living."



THE BCC&I STEP FORWARD POWER SESSION SHED LIGHT ON TRUE LEADERSHIP

The newly formed Lifestyle Committee of The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry organised a virtual session on its Facebook page 'BCC&I Step Forward — A Power Session with Major Gaurav Arya' who was the first guest of the series of talks. The committee is focused on advocating 'good living' for everyone in these hard times.

Held on September 2, it was anchored by Rupali Basu, chairman, Lifestyle Committee, BCC&I, and managing director and CEO, Woodlands Multispeciality Hospital Limited. The session was graced by special guest former Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha. Atul Asthana, MD and CEO, Goodricke Group Ltd. was also a part of the talk.

The one-hour-plus digital event saw former Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha talk about the pandemic devastating lives and economies globally, and the imminent threat of climate change that looms over humanity. He also talked about the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

Major Gaurav Arya (retd) spoke on leadership and the qualities to be imbibed to develop into a true groundbreaker. He outlined the difference of leadership as practiced in corporates and the defence forces. "In the forces, leaders are created by honing them and taking them through challenges every day. The leadership structures in the Indian Army, air force and the navy are institutional. It is a



Major Gaurav Arya

(Clockwise from top left) former Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha, Major Gaurav Arya, Atul Asthana and Rupali Basu, at the session

system that nurtures and grooms — it's like a leadership factory. It's leadership by example," said the former army man.

He also enlightened the audience about the Chetwode Motto — "The safety, honour and welfare of your country come first, always and every time. The honour, welfare and comfort of the men you command come next. Your own ease, comfort and safety come last, always and every time".

He stated the difference between leaders and managers. Major Arya said leaders have to take responsibility for their actions. "Leadership is about

simple things that are actually very difficult to do. Leadership is about giving and not taking," he explained.

Elaborating further, he said that in corporate organisations, a manager is given the responsibility by someone superior to him/her but a leader is considered a leader and acknowledged as one by the juniors. He went on to add that there cannot be a formula to be a leader and that the job can be extremely difficult and thankless because at the top, the buck stops with you. He said that leadership doesn't come with an appointment letter, a salary slip, an insurance policy, or a corner

The inaugural session of 'Step Forward', an initiative by the Lifestyle Committee of BCC&I, was vibrant and to-the-point, with Major Gaurav Arya (retd) sharing anecdotes from the armed forces and also from the corporate sector to elucidate on the various facets of leadership. He also spoke of the need to forge ahead in the face of adversity as the army often does on the battlefield, weighing all the pros and cons, but sometimes in utterly despondent circumstances — an extremely relevant narrative at this difficult time — Rupali Basu, MD & CEO, Woodlands Multispeciality Hospital

office, it only comes with responsibility. "It's a lonely place and you will have to live with the consequences of your decisions," he said.

On how leadership is developed, Major Arya said: "I can talk about honour and courage but what beats logic is that why does a fighter pilot go

up 40,000ft in the sky, or why does a submariner go down hundreds of metres withstanding tonnes of pressure or why an infantry man goes with a rifle and stands at the LoC risking his life. It's not about money, it's about the pride associated with what you do."

He also told the audience about a term 'Fog of War' introduced by Prussian military analyst Carl von Clausewitz in his posthumously published book, *Vom Kriege* (1832) — be it in business or the battlefield, where things don't go according to plan and situations seem like questions out of syllabus. He said leaders can't be taught, they have to make spot-decisions. He also had a word of advice for corporate managers — internal strife is more dangerous than market rivals and competition and that value systems must be driven every day for a common greater purpose of the organisation.

Responding to a question by Atul Asthana on succession policies of companies, the decorated officer said that leaders also have a duty to create future leaders, which could only happen if the present leader had no ego and insecurities.

The talk ended with Major Gaurav Arya saying that a good leader needs to be fair and not necessarily right.

Text: Aniruddha Biswas

১২ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২১

আবগাণোফ

ইন্টারভিউ
মীরাবাই চানু

ADVANTAGE

নাম রত

ইন্টারভিউ

মীরাবাই চানু
কেলাশ খের
পাওলি দাম