

Kiran Karnik

Kiran Karnik, born on March 16, 1947, B.Sc.(Hons) and Post Graduate Diploma in Business Management, IIM (Ahmedabad), is widely recognized for his work in the IT sector, as President NASSCOM from 2001 to 2008, and for helping to put Satyam Computers back on track – as Chairman of its government-appointed Board –after it suffered the biggest corporate fraud in India's history. Currently, he is a member of a number of government committees, including Scientific Advisory Council to Prime Minister, National Innovation Council and Central Employment Guarantee Council. He is involved with a number of not-for-profit organizations in the fields of education and development, and also serves as an Independent Director on the Board of a few companies. He writes regularly in major national dailies.

Before his last full-time job in NASSCOM, Karnik was CEO of Discovery Communications India (1995-2001) and launched Discovery Channel and Animal Planet in India and South Asia. As Founder-Director of Consortium for Educational Communication (1991-95), he oversaw production and transmission of UGC's Countrywide Classroom TV programmes. Earlier, he spent over two decades in ISRO and was deeply involved in the use of space technology, especially for education and development, including the path-breaking SITE and Kheda projects. Karnik has been conferred many awards, including the Padma Shri.