

My Personal and Professional Story

Mohan Kumar

Personal Background

From an early age, I have strived towards excellence in both the professional and academic aspects of my life. After my graduation from high school, I attended the prestigious University of Kerala, India where I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Physics, Mathematics, and Chemistry, while also excelling as an athlete at state and university levels and serving as the commanding officer of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) for my college. This helped to pave the way for me to secure a career for myself in the pharmaceutical industry, and as an entrepreneur in the later phases of my life. Although I loved mastering the sciences, I knew my true passion lay in creating and driving value through business. As such, I decided to pursue higher studies. I did my post-graduation in Business Administration from the University of Calicut, India in 1978.

This led to a whirlwind of a professional career that eventually brought me to Singapore in 2006. I was well aware of the career and business opportunities I will be presented with in Singapore, as it is the financial hub for business in Asia. It was because of this that I chose to take over the operations as CEO & Managing Director when my organisation acquired a Singapore based Pharma company.

I relocated to Singapore in 2006 together with my wife.

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My wife, who is currently a homemaker, has academically and professionally established herself as well. She graduated from the University of Kerala with a Master of Arts in English Language and Literature in 1986. She then started her career as a college lecturer at the same university.

We have two children. Older son Sabarinath did his master's in Political Economy from Birmingham University, UK and currently working in Singapore. Second son Abhinav did his Honours Degree in Hotel Management and Marketing in Switzerland and currently settled in India.

Career Achievements & Contributions

I started my career in pharmaceutical marketing in 1978.

In 1990, I had the opportunity to move to Mumbai and be part of a new venture - "Strides Pharmaceuticals". From that humble beginning, Strides pharmaceuticals spread its operation to a conglomerate of global manufacturing and sales companies. Strides is listed on Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange in India.

In the year 2000, I moved to Brasil to head the operations of Strides.

In 2006, Strides had the opportunity to acquire Drug Houses of Australia, a Singapore based pharmaceutical company and a subsidiary of Haw Par. As the CEO and Managing Director of DHA, I moved to Singapore and was independently responsible for running the entire business operations. With the phenomenal growth DHA, was merged with an Australian Pharma company and then sold the entire business to Watson Pharmaceuticals USA for USD 393 Million, Now it is part of Teva pharmaceuticals.

Following this, I returned to Bangalore India in the beginning of 2013 as the CEO of Strides with a global responsibility. In 2015 Strides decided to establish an international headquarters in Singapore. With my previous years of experience, I have moved back to Singapore and established the international Head Quarters for Strides with support from the Economic Development Board.

Since 2015, I continue to take care of international HQ operations as CEO & MD of Strides Pharma Global based in Singapore.

Position Held in addition to the role in Strides Pharma Global

1) Chairman, Singapore Manufacturing Federation's Life Sciences Industry Group (LSIG).
2) Council Member, Singapore Manufacturing Federation (SMF).
3) Member, National University of Singapore Medicine International Council (NIC).
4) Member Charity Fund Raising Committee, Sree Narayana Mission (SNM).