



India alumni newsletter

October 2022

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Yezdi Nagporewalla
Chief Executive Officer
KPMG in India

CEO's foreword

As we step into the third quarter of FY 2022-23, the momentum of client wins, and engagement delivery continues to remain consistently high. As a Firm, we have made good progress on several fronts.

Our client orientation is getting stronger every day and backed by our focus on inorganic growth channels like Alliances, GCCs and Family Enterprise, and our people-first approach, we have a strong strategy looking ahead into the next three years.

The business environment is evolving every day and we plan to continue to power forward, to seize the limitless opportunities the market has to offer. Digital first is a key focus area, as technology capabilities increasingly become a critical determinant of success. Accelerated sector convergence is leading to new and dynamic business models. The Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) responsibilities of corporations is creating a range of major opportunities. And these changes permeate assurance, tax and advisory.

As a Firm, we have been consciously contributing to building the market through institutions and initiatives which shape thinking and trends, enabling us to deliver on the pillars of Growth and Trust.

Our cover story in this edition of the Alumni newsletter, shares coverage from the firm's second virtual Alumni Week, held during 22-26 August 2022. This year, we had more of you join us, across several days filled with learning and professional growth sessions aimed at advancing your careers. We had an overwhelming response to our 'Homecoming' drive with many of you expressing a keen desire to be part of the KPMG in India family, again.

You will be happy to know that KPMG in India has been recognised at the Global CSR Excellence & Leadership Awards for its 'Outstanding contribution to the cause of education', for our Global Cyber Day initiative. As a global programme, this is a welcome acknowledgment of the efforts made by KPMG member firms worldwide in helping raise personal and professional defenses and awareness against cyber-attacks and their wide-ranging consequences.

We are proud of the strides our alumni are making in their careers and are ecstatic to share their wonderful memories and stories about their time at the Firm. In the pages ahead, read about what your fellow alumni Anshuman Mitra and Mihir Thakkar have to say about the impact KPMG has had on their lives. We are also happy to welcome back Sandeep Gill to the KPMG family as he joins our Governance, Risk and Compliance Services team.

Stay connected to let us know how we can support your journey to the fullest. We will continue to elevate ideas and discussions through this platform, and your contributions on this front will be valuable and welcome. Best regards,

Yezdi Nagporewalla
Chief Executive Officer



Mihir Thakkar
Social Media Consultant

Alumni speak

Straight from the heart

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

A: KPMG has a growth culture where it pushes individuals to always strive for doing better and achieve what they believe in. This has helped me to always do better than what is expected of me.

What do you miss most about working at KPMG?

A: Short answer - The tea breaks ...lol. Just kidding, it is the camaraderie I had with the people I worked with and interacted on a regular basis. Events where you get to interact and communicate directly with the larger team and senior leaders.

What is your success mantra?

A: Take everything in your stride. Never worry about what is going to happen tomorrow, and remember, everything is an experience.

Message for alumni-

Thank you to everyone who was part of my amazing experience with KPMG. I thoroughly enjoyed working and interacting with all of you. Though I am in a land and time-zone far away from India, I am grateful for all the memories we created and those moments are a big part of who I am today.

Alumni speak

Up close and personal



Anshuman Mishra
Director
Star TV Network

— **If not your current profession, what would you be?**

If not a consultant, I would have most definitely been a teacher, possibly teaching English and medieval history.

— **If you could go back in time what would you do differently?**

I would never want to go back in time and do things differently. No matter what. I would never want to undo my failures, as much as they hurt me. I would never want to unwind the clock and try to skip the past or painful moments or try to live a perfect life because it's my failures that have shaped and moulded me the most. I evolved, I unlearned from my mistakes and failures and pain, wouldn't want to change any of that.

— **A gadget you cannot do without...**

Currently a TV, since my career hinges on that, but jokes apart, I would find it difficult to be without my smartwatch. It is a great companion for my runs and workouts. It reminds me of sleep time (which I tend to ignore), other vital signs like stress (which again I'm learning to abide) and most importantly water intake and physical activity which I love to match up to.

— **Your favorite food...**

It used to be pizza and biryani but having seen 20 years of travel and corporate life, I would kill for some simple home-cooked dal-palak and chawal with ghee and podi.

— **Best Childhood Memory...**

Many such fun memories – being a three-year-old scared to death of a tree growing in my tummy after swallowing a tamarind seed; my four-year-old self getting orange candies on crying to not go to school; trying to balance an electrical switch between on and off. Best of all, during summer vacations, helping my mum set mango pickles and stealing some of the mangoes in the bargain to eat, thinking mum doesn't notice

while she was smiling at my antics all the time.

— **In your free time where can we find you?**

In my free time, I'm usually found with my kid reading a book (while she reads her own) or we're both finding the next rock music track which we can convert into an instrumental piece.

— **Who is your role model?**

My role model is my mother, who taught me the true meaning of loving, caring, and sharing. She ingrained in us, the twin values of responsibility of our actions and honour for our duties.

— **A habit you cannot live without...**

A good night cuddle from my kid and a good morning hug from my loved one

— **An ideal weekend for you would mean...**

A run by the lake, a visit to the Cubbon Park, dog park with my kid, a swim, a good OTT binge watch and a couple of good beers, not necessarily in that same order :).

— **What is your success mantra?**

To achieve the extraordinary, you have to put in that little extra

— **Two qualities you look for in an individual...**

Loyalty to the cause and a desire to be that little extra.

— **What according to you is JOSH, both personally and professionally?**

Personally, JOSH is the ability and willingness to get up at six in the morning to drive the kid to the dog park, come back at eight and help cook a family breakfast with my wife – after having closed your laptop at three in the morning. Professionally, JOSH is the concept that my team, whether they're marketing or content or sales, should always find me behind them whenever they're in a tough spot while also making sure they find the right reasons and occasions to party.

Welcome back



Sandeep Gill
Associate Director
Governance, Risk and
Compliance Services
KPMG in India

1. What brings you back to KPMG?

I have realised that you can take an employee out of KPMG, but you cannot take KPMG out of that employee. The diversity, work culture and learning spectrum that the firm has to offer is unparalleled. Coming back to KPMG is like reuniting with my family, and I have been lucky enough to be a part of this prestigious organisation once again.

2. Tell us what you missed most about KPMG?

I believe that KPMG gave me the opportunity to grow professionally as well as personally, where I was exposed to international standards. I love how KPMG offered learning opportunities and seemed to care about helping their employees develop and grow professionally.

3. How do you think KPMG has changed over the years?

Coming back to the firm after 4.5 years, I noticed the new solutions which we are offering to our clients, especially in the areas of digital transformation. I was very fascinated to know and learn about KPMG working on new emerging technologies like IoT, RPA, etc. I strongly feel these solutions will be a key differentiator in our market positioning.

4. Do you have a message for our readers?

KPMG provides an excellent platform to excel and constantly learn with the wealth of knowledge and numerous trainings. The firm encourages you to learn and grow every day, respect, and draw strength from our differences, giving you the best working environment.

Know our leader



Anindya Basu
National Managing Partner
Head – Advisory and
Clients & Markets

1. Describe your first day at KPMG in India –

Cool! Since I joined during the pandemic, I got a home office for the first time

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

There are pockets of brilliance everywhere. All we need to do is collaborate to make the real impact

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

There is an excitement stemming from the potential transformation poses, both in terms of quality of relationship with the Board/CEO Level and the width of collective ambition.

4. If you had to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

Bold and free spirited

5. One thing that nobody knows about you.

In BITS Pilani, I created an Inter-university multi - disciplinary sport festival which runs till today.

6. Your favorite:

- **Holiday destination:** Goa, Ranikhet (Uttarakhand)
- **Cuisine:** Purani Dilli chat
- **Book:** To kill a Mocking Bird
- **Movie:** Sholay, History of the World
- **Sport:** Soccer

Cover story

Thankyou for being a part of KPMG in India Alumni Week

We were delighted to have our alumni join us for our second virtual Alumni Week during 22-26 August 2022. This year, our endeavour was to honour the relationship we have, bolster the KPMG experience, and be a partner in growth for you all, so you can flourish in your careers.

Here's what happened during the week.

Discovering exciting new paths, #Together

The evening began with **Sunit Sinha**, Head – People, Performance and Culture, welcoming all alumni and marking KPMG's presence of 29 years in India. Addressing the group for the first time, our CEO,



Nitin Atroley, Head of People, Strategy and Corporate Affairs, emphasised on how our work has changed over the years, and the Firm's focus on shaping diverse experiences. He spoke on ways we have recharted our growth journey in the face of unprecedented challenges.



Yezdi Nagporewalla, spoke on the Firm approaching 30 years in 2023 and how the 30,000+ alumni are a part of our proud legacy. Moving to the Firm's progress and long-term plans, he emphasised on our strategy to be relevant in the 'new reality' and how, as our extended family, the alumni are a crucial part of our success and celebration.

For our Leader Speak session, we invited **Devika Thapar**, Co-Founder, COO and Partner, Wilbe – a firm that helps scientists and researchers commercialise frontier innovation. She spoke about her multifaceted career journey, from being salaried to leading her own organisation, fueled by her passion to empower the scientific community with business knowledge, as well as girls and women in STEM through dance.



Cover story

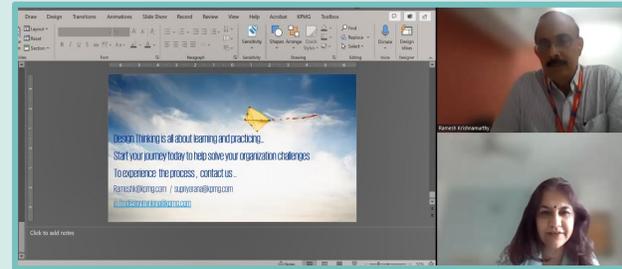
A 'Homecoming' like no other



This year's Alumni Week year was all about helping our alumni realise their passions and advance in their careers.

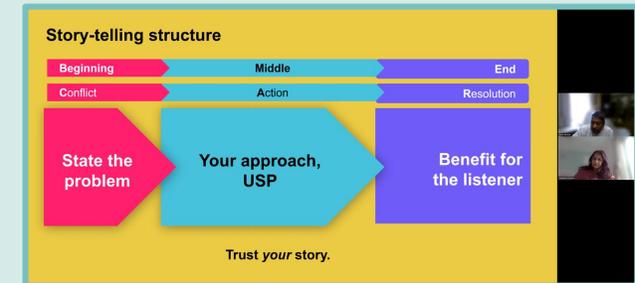
For the first time, under the Alumni programme, we held a 'Homecoming' recruitment drive, inviting all to explore and reshape their careers with us. We shared some inspiring opportunities at the Firm and received over 100 applications to rejoin the KPMG family, which are currently being evaluated by the HR/Talent team. If you missed the window and are looking to reshape your career with us, or know of someone who does, you can visit KPMG in India's Careers page to see what fits you best.

Learn and grow with KPMG in India



Ramesh Krishnamurthy from our Design Thinking team hosted the 'Redesign that thinking' session to help our alumni get oriented on this human centered approach and learn how to solve complex business challenges, drive design led innovation and unique customer experience.

Arjun Kariyal took our alumni through various ways of 'Storytelling with a purpose' that puts the user at the centre, so businesses can gain competitive advantage, enhance efficiencies, and improve engagement to achieve desired outcomes with the audience in focus.



Rohin Nadir and Nishath Usmani talked about various short and long term personal strategies that can help enhance cognitive, leadership and digital skills and capabilities requisite for today's changing talent expectations in hybrid workplaces.

Cover story

KPMG in India wins ‘Outstanding contribution to the cause of education’ for Global Cyber Day

KPMG in India recently got awarded in the category ‘**Outstanding contribution to the cause of education**’ at Global CSR Excellence & Leadership Awards. We were felicitated for our initiatives on Global Cyber Day. The awards saw participation from some of the biggest names in the industry and recognises our efforts towards the cause of spreading cyber security awareness. It resonates our commitment to improving society and the communities in which we live and work which has always been core to our values at KPMG.

Cyber-attacks and cyberbullying have become a growing problem in countries around the world, making it a global issue. With everything going virtual due to the pandemic, the dependencies on internet have only increased resulting in not just making organisations but also the youth vulnerable to cyber-attacks. According to DigitalTrends.com, there has been a 70 per cent increase in the amount of bullying/hate speech among teens and children in the month since the COVID-19 lockdown began. While the government and corporate organisations have the means to protect themselves, the student community is the worst impacted.

The KPMG Global Cyber Day initiative is a Global Corporate Citizenship programme aimed at educating young people on how to stay cyber safe. This community initiative started in 2017 as part of October being the globally recognised International Cyber Security Awareness Month. When the programme was founded, we reached 30,000+ students in 32 KPMG member firms. This has grown to 60 member firms with a reach of 100,000+ students in 2021.

Cover story

Our impact:

At KPMG, we are cognisant of security, and understand the repercussions of any security loss. We also realise it's not an easy issue to solve. Thus, as a leading advisor and provider of cyber security, we bring in the right ingredients of technological expertise, deep business and industry knowledge. We have creative professionals who are passionate about helping protect not only our clients but society in general to anticipate tomorrow, move faster and get an edge with technology that is secured and trusted. We believe we have made a significant contribution to our communities and one such initiative which we took as a challenge, and is very close to our heart, was conducting the largest computer security lesson at multiple locations, at the same time, setting a new world record for us.

Cyber Day helps KPMG achieve the following:

- Aligns to our purpose to inspire confidence and empower change
- Supports KPMG's commitment to education and lifelong learning
- Plays an active role in bridging the cyber skills gap for young people
- Encourages our people to engage in meaningful community experiences that build capabilities

Giving back to our communities is one of our core values and this massive exercise is one unique example of how we successfully integrate a community programme with our business goal.



Partner notes



Lalit Mistry
Partner and Co-Head,
Healthcare Sector
KPMG in India

15 top priorities for transforming Indian healthcare: The 2024 agenda

The COVID-19 pandemic has become one of the biggest health emergencies faced by the global community, affecting not only health systems across nations but also economic structures. India also had to navigate through the pandemic and a myriad of other challenges by undertaking strategies to balance both the health and economic stability of the country. The pandemic has challenged us to think about the national priority areas that should be identified and given immediate focus to pave the way for the transformation of the healthcare industry.

As India advances towards a USD5 trillion economy by 2024–25, KPMG in India has come out with a report titled ‘**15 top priorities for transforming Indian healthcare: The 2024 agenda**’ that highlights the priority areas needed for transforming the Indian healthcare industry.

Dr. Anna van Poucke, Global Head of Healthcare, KPMG International released the report during her visit to India between 9-12 May 2022.

Commenting on the report, **Dr. Anna van Poucke** said, “KPMG International has proposed a 15-point strategy to help India transform its healthcare system by 2024 wherein the government, as well as the private players, need to accelerate on the journey they have started, and need an overarching programme, to ensure that the right steps are taken at the right time. To plan for the overall strengthening of the Indian healthcare system, the government, as well as the private players, need to kick-start their journey and ensure that necessary steps are taken at the right time.”

Lalit Mistry, Partner and Co-Head of Healthcare Sector, KPMG in India elucidated, “India is witnessing cohesive efforts post COVID-19 pandemic from all the relevant stakeholders towards building a healthy nation. We should continue the momentum and prioritise these systemic reforms in a phased manner by focusing on key areas for the next two years. This report highlights the top 15 priorities that will aid in strengthening the country’s healthcare system.”

Partner notes

Indian healthcare sector – time for the next big leap

The healthcare industry in the times ahead will be shaped by many forces. However, the top 15 priorities for transforming Indian healthcare and achieving the 2024 agenda include:

- Expanding financing for 'Healthy India', promoting 'Healthy India' as a mass movement
- Launching a Healthcare Sector Promotion Programme
- Ensuring health coverage for all
- Strengthening the primary care system
- Redefining and reviving public-private partnerships
- Driving Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) till the last mile
- National Health App for aggregating healthcare services across the value chain
- National Task Force for healthcare workforce development
- Building a National Medical Network
- Developing National Health Quality Index and transparency system
- Strengthening medical hubs/medicities across India
- Stepping up the national surveillance system
- Utilising telemedicine, virtual care, Metaverse
- Decarbonising healthcare

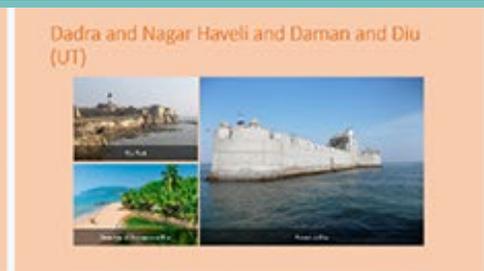
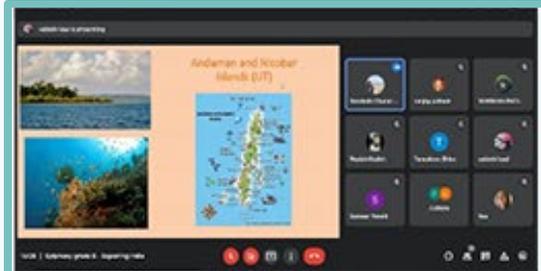
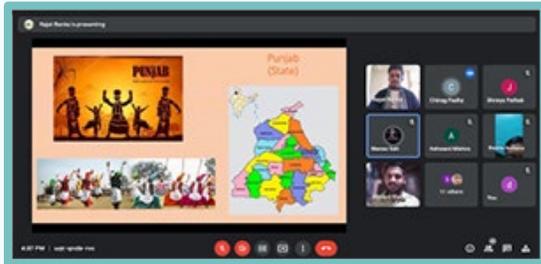
Dr. **Poucke** also interacted with Shereen Bhan, Managing Editor of CNBC TV 18, to present the new thought leadership publication and spoke at length on how focusing on the top 15 strategies can help India to revamp its healthcare system post-COVID-19. The government, as well as the private players, need to kick-start their journey and ensure that necessary steps are taken at the right time. This is the correct time for them to work in synergy towards translating the top priorities into a plan and target to achieve the 2024 agenda.



Corporate citizenship

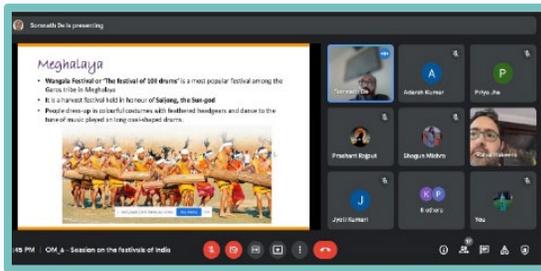
1. Exploring India series – Celebrating the Indian heritage

Through a series of informative session about India, our volunteers shared many popular and lesser-known facts about the Indian subcontinent. These sessions provided an opportunity for students to know more about the various union territories and states other than their home state. The students not only shared excitedly about the states where they live, but were also eager to learn new facts about the culture and heritage of other states.



2. Session on festivals of India

With an objective to make the students aware about the various festivals that are celebrated in different parts of India, our people conducted informative sessions on 'festivals of India'. The students and volunteers not only discussed popular festivals, but also discussed many other regional and local festivities popular in various states and union territories. The students were fascinated to know interesting facts, customs, rituals, and the scientific reasons behind celebrating the festivals.



Corporate citizenship

3. Setting up nature clubs at schools

With an endeavour to continue environmental consciousness amongst our students, our volunteers actively participated in setting up nature clubs at our partner NGO schools. They also undertook a training prior to initiating the process at the schools.

The objective of the nature club was to sensitise, educate and motivate students from grade 5 to 8 about environment conservation. This included encouraging students to start a recycling project both at home and in school as well as educating their peers on the importance of recycling.



4. Walk for Life

Our people across the country walked in solidarity to show their support for the Walk for Life 2022. The initiative is organised by CanSupport every year for raising awareness on cancer care. Due to the pandemic, the event was organised virtually this year.

5. National Safety Day

Our volunteers celebrated National Safety Day with over 120 students from five of our partner NGO schools. The objective of the session was to increase the awareness of all the guidelines of safety measures, including road safety, workplace safety, the safety of human health, as well as the environment. This also included discussing natural disasters, emergency situations and how to effectively prepare for them.



Enhance your vulnerability management programme with analytics, intelligence and automation

Traditional vulnerability management programmes are ineffective and inefficient. Organisations often deploy the best of the detection tools like network and application security scanners, software composition analysers and DevOps integrated security tools to detect vulnerabilities round the year. However, the challenge continues to be managing large number of vulnerabilities, relevant true and false positives, prioritisation for mitigation, escalation and near real-time reporting. Another critical challenge has been to leverage predictive analytics for prioritising risk-based vulnerability closure and adding vulnerability intelligence to top it from sources other than depending only on OEM and CVE sources. With the advent of analytics, automation of vulnerability intelligence capabilities and improvement in collaboration, the programme can be made efficient and effective. In the webinar, we looked at the evolution of risk-based vulnerability management programmes and how an integrated

platform like ServiceNow can provide asset management, analytics, vulnerability intelligence integration and its automation to help better manage risk and improve governance. We had Chandra Prakash, Partner, Cybersecurity, KPMG in India, who spoke about how to manage a vulnerability management framework. Venugopal S. Arcot of ServiceNow spoke about IT and Security team's interoperability to reduce security events and better address vulnerabilities. Ravi Kumar from ServiceNow showed a quick demo of the ServiceNow SecOps platform and its capability, while Tejaswini Hulyalkar, Associate Director from KPMG in India's ServiceNow Core group was involved in making sure the queries are addressed and coordinated throughout the webinar. Over 60 participants joined the webinar from our 25+ unique customer base.

Webinar on decoding Supreme Court judgement and CBDT instruction on re-assessment notices

The Finance Act, 2021 made significant changes to the procedure regulating the initiation of reassessment proceedings from 1 April 2021. However, the tax department issued reassessment notices under the old law during the period 1 April - 30 June 2021 relying on the extensions granted during the Covid pandemic by the Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Act, 2020.

These reassessment notices were challenged by the taxpayer before the high courts and after hearing both sides, several of them quashed these reassessment notices. On further challenge by the tax department of the high court order(s), the Supreme Court laid down that the tax department cannot be left remediless and invoked its powers under Article 142 of the Constitution of India and proceeded to give a fresh

lease of life to reassessment notices quashed by high court(s) by deeming them to be issued and subjecting them to the new procedure of reassessment.

Post this SC decision, the CBDT has issued its instruction, clarifying its administration's interpretation and laying down the uniform approach to be followed by field offices. To explore the impact of this historic judgement and CBDT instruction issued, KPMG in India had organised a webinar titled, 'Decoding Supreme Court judgement and CBDT instruction on re-assessment notices', where the speakers provided insights regarding this significant judgement and its impact on taxpayers. There were more than 200 live participants during the session. The webinar was successful and well received by the participants

Speakers

Gaurav Mehndiratta,
Partner and Head, Corporate
and International tax,
KPMG in India

Shabbir Motorwala –
Chartered Accountant

Ajit Kumar Jain –
Chartered Accountant

Jason Boaz –
Chartered Accountant

Publications



The game is on -are you ready – Cyber incident readiness

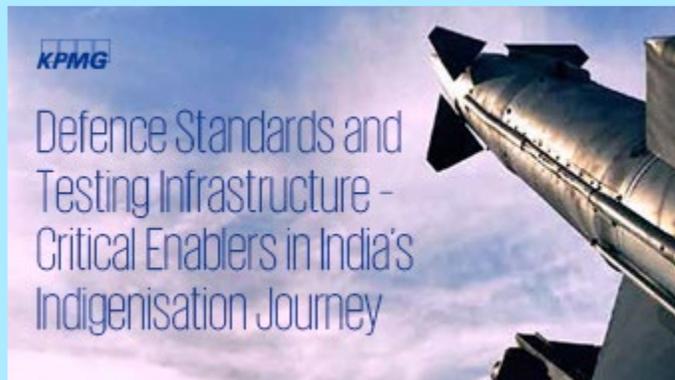


Carpe diem! Electric vehicle charging – the next big opportunity

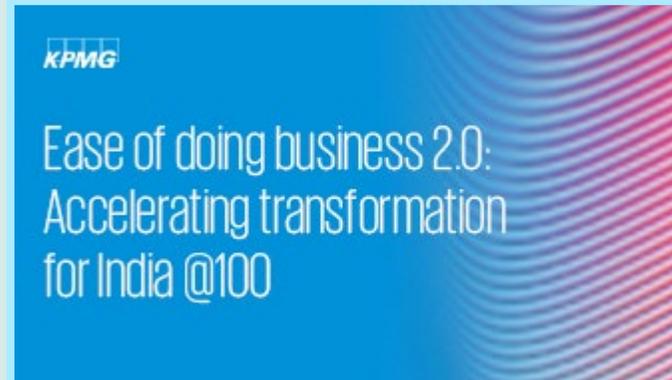


Accelerating the change: ESG reporting 2.0

Publications



Defence standards and testing infrastructure –
Critical enablers in India's indigenisation journey



Ease of doing business 2.0: Accelerating transformation
for India @100



Impact of the pharma industry on the Indian economy in
the post-COVID era

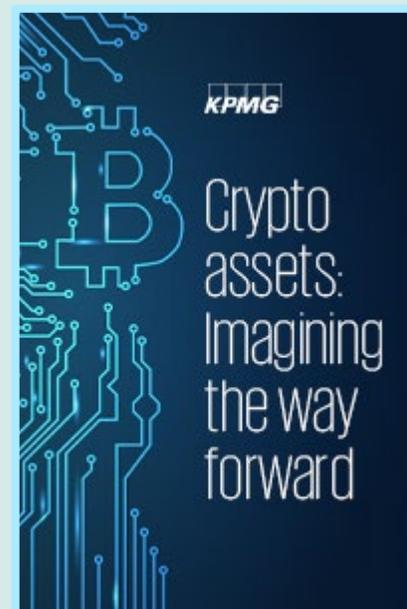
Publications



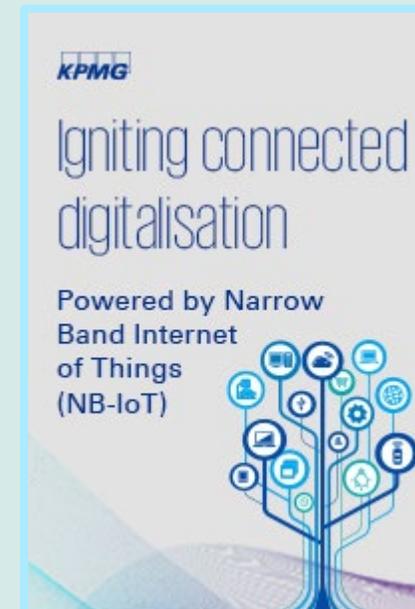
Customer experience: The key to sustained value creation



Decoding the modern enterprise: Content-centric digital transformation with low code is the new strategy play



Crypto assets: Imagining the way forward



Igniting connected digitalisation: Powered by Narrow Band Internet of Things (NB-IoT)

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

#KPMGjosh

Join KPMG in India's alumni network

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:
home.kpmg/in/socialmedia



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