

Challenge Lecture Series

by

Dr. Hemant Kanakia

President

Kanakia Ventures LLC

**Title: "How Can You Become a
Champion Innovator"**

Venue: Lecture Hall - 3



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद
Indian Institute of Technology
Hyderabad

Date & Time: 30 January at 3:30 pm
All Are Welcome!

Abstract of the talk

Many people believe that one is born as an inventor and there is very little one can do to coach people to become innovative after they reach the age of 16. I believe that nurture and not nature determines how inventions occur. Based on my experience of working alongside some of the most innovative minds in Stanford University, Bell Laboratories and my own start-up that build a new generation of Routers, I will try to isolate and explain things you can do to become next Larry Page or Sergey Brin - founders of Google. The lecture will explain principles but also use an example to illustrate how principles work in practice.

Biography of the Speaker



Hemant Kanakia received his B.Tech. from Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, his M.S. from Case Western Reserve University, and his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University.

He is currently focused on making angel investments in India through India Angel networks and has invested in 11 early stage companies since Jan 2010. These are in sectors ranging from Education, Technology and healthcare areas. He is also a founding partner of Infinity Innovation Fund, an early stage fund that makes investments in the range of Rs. 5 crore to Rs. 25 crore in technology companies in sectors ranging from online commerce, internet technology, value-added manufacturing, healthcare IT, financial services, bottom of the pyramid focused plays, etc. Hemant has been an active advisor in upcoming government policies on improving competitiveness of India's telecommunication equipment, electronic systems and semiconductor manufacturing industries.

Most recently, Hemant has been a partner with Columbia Capital (2004-2009), an East Coast of USA based Venture Capital Firm. At Columbia he had focused primarily on early-stage technology investments. After retiring

from Columbia, he switched his focus to making investment overseas, particularly, India from his own investment fund, Kanakia Ventures LLC. Hemant has been on Board of Directors of Enpirion, Teranetics, WiNetworks, and Tiler. He was previously founder and CEO of Torrent Networking Technology (acquired by Ericsson for \$500 M in cash) and co-founder of Photuris (acquired by Meriton) and Gemplex, inc. (acquired by Tata Telesystems). Prior to joining Columbia Capital, Hemant served on the Board of Directors of Photuris, Viagate, Price Hawk, Gemplex, and Torrent Networking Technology. Prior to starting Torrent, Hemant worked at AT&T Bell Laboratories and Tata Consultancy Services, India.

Hemant is a member of board of Trustees at Case Western Reserve University and ex-trustee at Virginia Polytechnic. He was elected president of Washington DC chapter of TiE and also on the global board of trustees of TiE.