

Biography of Gopal Krishna (ECE 1988)

With over 14 years of experience in the US and India, Gopal has been a successful serial entrepreneur. Prior to starting a new stealth mode venture focused on India and China recently, he was the Country Manager (India) for Pipal Research Corporation, a Chicago based high-end, custom business research and analytics company (an affiliate of ICICI OneSource).

Gopal was the Founder, Chairman & CEO of thinkIndia.com, a venture backed Silicon Valley new media start-up that merged with Rediff.com (http://www.mosaicvp.com/Home/newsclip/Oct_27.htm). ThinkIndia.com, a destination for expatriate Indians, was a pioneer in bringing local and global content & services together with cross-border teams (operations in US and India). In addition to accolades for its user experience and design, thinkIndia.com won several awards for journalism. Post merger, Gopal ran the US operations as its President and General Manager. He was also the founding President & CEO of SkyWare Inc; a Bay Area based funded and growing broadband technology start-up. Earlier, he founded and ran a Houston based television production company called New Vision that produced more than 100 weekly TV shows over the period of two years.

Besides being a strategy consultant with McKinsey & Company (US), Gopal served in various management and software engineering positions at Schlumberger (US) and Bharat Electronics Ltd (India).

He earned a B.Tech. in Electronics & Communications Engineering from Institute of Technology, BHU, India (in 1988) with highest honors, where he was adjudged the Best Student, an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Hawaii (in 1991) with highest distinction and an MBA from the Harvard Business School (in 1998). He was also enrolled in a PhD program in Space Physics at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Gopal has authored several technical papers in the areas of communications, compression and space physics. He is a member of the American Mensa Society.

An avid traveler, Gopal has undertaken over 60 leisure and adventure trips in Asia, Americas, Europe and Caribbean, including Amazon jungles, China, Japan and Brazil. Besides investments and mentoring, he has keen interest in photography, philosophy, psychology and movies.

For him, life has been a constant process of finding a new target and then latching on to it like radar, until achieving it. As he recalls: "I wanted to be a scientist, but somewhere along the way stumbled upon entrepreneurship and haven't looked back since."

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