

Honouring Distinguished Alumni at SAAM 2026

The Somaiya All Alumni Meet (SAAM) 2026 proudly celebrated alumni who have excelled across diverse fields and continue to bring honour to their alma mater through meaningful contributions to society and industry. The selection followed a structured, merit-based process, beginning with each institution creating a pool of possible contenders for the award along with a detailed profile of accomplishments and impact. A committee at each institution reviewed the pool and the selected alum's profile was forwarded to Alumni Relations. These nominations were carefully reviewed and subsequently approved by the Distinguished Alumni Committee comprising the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor and Secretary. This thoughtful and transparent process ensured that each recognition reflected excellence, integrity, and alignment with the values of Somaiya. The alumni felicitated at SAAM 2026 represent inspiring journeys marked by dedication to Alma Mater, leadership, and meaningful societal impact.



From left to right: Ms. Hemali Mehta, Mr. Hiren Shah, Mr. Birud Katrani, Mr. Raghunandan Jagdish, Mr. Subhash Bagale, Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Shri Samir Somaiya, Mr. Jaideep Kewalramani, Mr. Prakash Chawla, Mrs. Sushila Kotwal, Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Dr. Rajesh Jadhav, Mr. Nitin Jain, Lt. Col Satish Kumar Singh & Ms. Fatima Sawant.

Photograph Link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZQjcvDIb2MGh84a5B5GWg3ZRVyAQKiSo/view?usp=drive_link

1) Justice Abasaheb Dharamaji Shinde

Shri Sharda English Medium School (Class of 1991)



From Left to Right: Shri Samir Somaiya, President ; Justice Abasaheb Dharmaji Shinde, Honorable judge - Bombay High Court, Aurangabad Bench; Mr. Kalyan Waghcure, Principal, Shri Sharda English Medium School

A distinguished Somaiya alumnus, Justice Shinde was felicitated for his inspiring journey marked by integrity and dedication to law. An alumnus of SSGM College, Kopergaon and a Symbiosis Law College topper, he began his career at the Bombay High Court and later served as a Judge at the Aurangabad Bench. An accomplished cricketer as well, he has represented the Bombay High Court at state and national levels.

He travelled from Ahilyanagar, Aurangabad to attend SAAM, highlighting his strong bond with his alma mater.

2) Ms. Hemali Mehta

K J Somaiya College of Physiotherapy (Class of 2012)



From Right to Left: Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVU; Dr. Hemali Shah, Founder, Proline Human; Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Dr. Shweta Manwadkar, Principal, K J Somaiya College of Physiotherapy

A leader in sports physiotherapy and fascia therapy, Ms. Hemali Mehta holds over 30 national and international certifications. She has supported the recovery journeys of 5,000+ families and works with leading public figures like Ritu Phogat, Shah Rukh Khan, Alia Bhatt, and Ranbir Kapoor, reflecting the immense trust she commands across professions. As the founder of a women's health startup, she champions injury prevention and lifelong wellness.

3) **Mr. Rajesh Jadhav**

K. J. Somaiya Vocational Training Institute (Class of 2008)

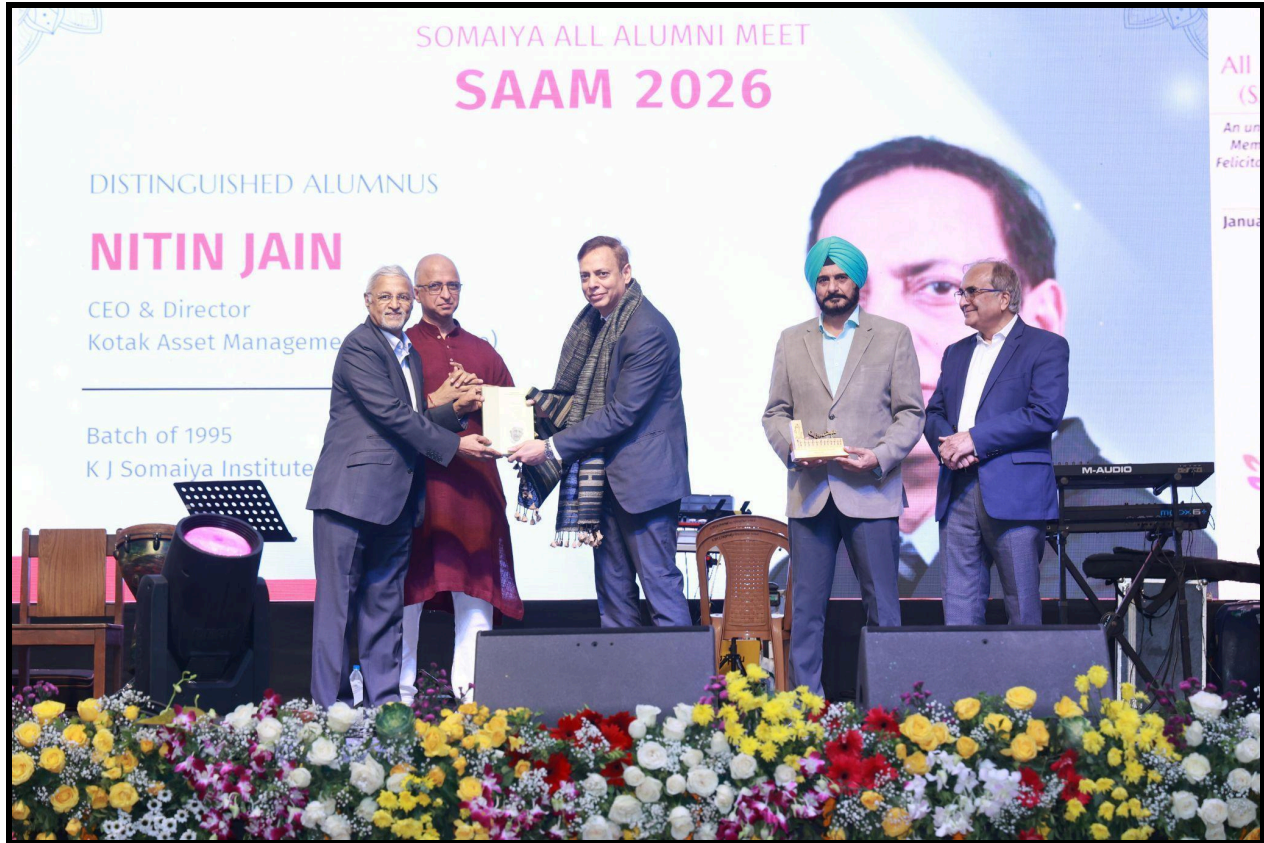


From Right to Left: Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVU; Mr. Rajesh Jadhav, Founder, TNI Controls; Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Mr. Shaji Mathew, Principal , K J Somaiya Industrial Training Institute

An entrepreneur in industrial electronics, Mr. Rajesh Jadhav began his career at Selec Controls Pvt. Ltd. and enhanced his expertise through technical training in Germany. In 2017, he founded TNI Controls, which now operates across India and exports to South Asia and Africa, with an annual turnover nearing ₹10 crore. Deeply connected to Somaiya Vidyavihar, he actively supports student placements and industry collaborations, demonstrating a strong commitment to nurturing future talent.

4) Mr. Nitin Jain

K J Somaiya Institute of Management (Class of 1995)



From Right to Left: Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVU; Mr. Nitin Jain, CEO and Director, Kotak Asset Management; Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Dr. Raman Ramchandran, Director and Dean, K J Somaiya Institute of Management

CEO and Principal Fund Manager at Kotak Mahindra Asset Management (Southeast Asia), Singapore, Mr. Nitin Jain is recognised for his leadership in global capital markets and risk management. A committed mentor, he actively promotes cross-border financial collaboration and leadership development. Nitin Jain stands out as a true leader and a role model for future generations.

He travelled from Singapore to attend SAAM.

5) **Dr. Subhash Vajinath Bagale**

Somaiya Vidya Mandir (Class of 1978)



From Right to Left: Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVU; Dr. Subhash Bagale, Entrepreneur, Dr. Bagale Hospital and ICU Centre; Sri Samir Somaiya, President; Mrs. Sunita Pare, Principal, Somaiya Vidya Mandir

Dr. Subhash Bagale is recognised for a journey defined by vision, discipline, and leadership. A recipient of multiple accolades, he considers the appreciation of his schoolteachers his greatest honour. Travelling from Ahilyanagar to attend SAAM, he exemplifies how strong educational foundations shape meaningful careers and lifelong values.

6) **Ms. Fatima Sawant**

K. J. Somaiya College of Education (Class of 2011)



From Right to Left: Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVU; Ms. Fatima Sawant, School Leader, Akansha Foundation; Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Dr. Hema Bhadawkar, Principal, K J Somaiya College of Education

A passionate educator and trainer, Ms. Fatima Sawant is known for her commitment to transformative learning. Her students have achieved national-level recognition, secured full-scholarship ADOR Fellowships, and reached Rugby Nationals. She also guided the development of HopeBot, an AI-based emotional support tool for children affected by trauma. Her work highlights the power of compassionate, purpose-driven education.

7) Lt. Col. Satish Kumar Singh

K. J. Somaiya College of Arts and Commerce (Class of 2001)



From Left to Right : Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Lt. Col. Satish Kumar Singh, Vice Principal, Sainik School- Imphal; Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVV; Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor,SVU

Felicitated for exemplary service to the nation, Lt. Col. Satish Kumar Singh was commissioned into the Army Educational Corps in 2005 and has served in key operational areas along the LOC. Currently Vice Principal at Sainik School Imphal, he has also served as an Instructor at the Indian Military Academy and AEC Training College.

Travelling from Imphal to Mumbai, he also had the honour of felicitating Mr. Samir Somaiya.

8)Dr. Raghunandan Jagdish

K. J. Somaiya School of Engineering (Class of 2001)



From Right to Left: Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVV; Dr. Raghunandan Jagdish, Founder & CEO, Nandan GSE Pvt. Ltd.; Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Dr. Suresh Ukarande, Director, KJ Somaiya School of Engineering

Managing Director and CEO of Nandan GSE Pvt. Ltd., Dr. Raghunandan Jagdish leads a company serving infrastructure, aviation, defence, and industrial sectors. Under his leadership, the organisation has become known for smart and customised engineering solutions. A strong advocate of continuous learning, he actively mentors students and professionals, embodying innovation and purposeful leadership.

9) Mrs. Sushila Kotwal

KJ Somaiya College of Science & Commerce (Class of 1972)



From Right to Left: Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVU; Mrs. Sushila Kotwal, Retired Lecturer, K J Somaiya College of Science and Commerce, Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Dr Pradnya Prabhu, Principal, K J Somaiya College of Science and Commerce

A respected alumna and retired faculty member, Mrs. Sushila Kotwal devoted over four decades to academia. Her legacy continues through a generous ₹50 lakh contribution to the Chemistry Department via the KJSSC Alumni Association. Even after retirement, she remains actively involved, exemplifying the spirit of scholarship, service, and giving back.

10) Mr. Hiren Shah

K. J. Somaiya Institute of Technology (Class of 2006)



From Right to Left: Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVV; Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Mr. Hiren Shah , Chief Business Officer, Satcom Infotech ; Shri Sameer Somaiya, President; Dr. Vivek Sunnapwar, Principal, K J Somaiya Institute of Technology

Mr. Hiren Shah, a distinguished alumnus of K. J. Somaiya Institute of Technology (KJSIT), is recognized for his expertise and leadership in cybersecurity. He has worked closely with CIOs, CISOs, and CXOs on endpoint, network and web security, cloud and data protection, and AI- and ML-driven threat intelligence. A committed alumnus, he actively supports KJSIT through career guidance, student engagement initiatives, placements in reputed organizations, and expert lectures, reflecting a strong spirit of giving back.

11) Mr. Birud Dilip Kathrani

Somaiya Vinay Mandir Bal Vatika & S. K. Somaiya Vinay Mandir Junior College (Class of 2000)



Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVV; Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Mr. Birud Kathrani, Vice President, Finance Risk and Control Citi Bank; Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Mrs. Minaxi Damania, S K Somaiya Balvatika Vidyavihar

An alumnus of two Somaiya institutions, Birud Kathrani studied at S. K. Somaiya Vinay Mandir Bal Vatika until Class 4 and then moved to S. K. Somaiya Vinay Mandir Junior College, where he completed Class 10. He is known for his compassionate community service, supporting students by donating books and uniforms, sponsoring education, mentoring learners, and conducting career guidance sessions. His contributions help remove barriers to education and inspire underprivileged students toward brighter futures.

12) Mr. Prakash Chawla

K. J. Somaiya Polytechnic (Class of 1981)



From Right to Left: Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVU; Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Mr. Prakash Chawla, Proprietor, Precicam Enterprise; Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Mrs. Sushila Kotwal, Retired Lecturer, K J Somaiya College of Science and Commerce

Recognised for technical excellence and leadership, Mr. Prakash Chawla heads Precicam Enterprises and serves on the Program Board of Studies. He actively strengthens industry-academia partnerships and creates internship opportunities for students. His efforts reflect a deep commitment to education and practical learning.

13)Dr. Rajesh Kateshiya

S. K. Somaiya College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Class of 2002)



From Left to Right: Shri Samir Somaiya, President; (Dr. Rajesh Kataria's Wife receiving the award on his behalf); Mrs. Avni Oak, Principal, K J Somaiya College of Nursing

A Ph.D. in Physical Education, Dr. Rajesh Kateshiya has represented India at the World Teachers' Games 2025 in France, winning 1st place in Air Badminton. He is also a Gold Medalist at the Laser Run National Championship 2023 (Masters 40+). His journey reflects discipline, perseverance, and dedication to sports and mentoring. The felicitation was received by his wife on his behalf.

14)Mr. Jaideep Kewalramani

K J Somaiya Institute of Management (Class of 2004)



From Right to Left: Lt. Gen H S Kahlon, Secretary, SVV; Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor, SVU; Mr. Jaideep Kewalramani, COO and Head of Employability Business, Team Lease Edtech; Shri Samir Somaiya, President; Dr. Raman Ramachandran, Director & Dean, K J Somaiya Institute of Management

Mr. Jaideep Kewalramani is the COO and Head of Employability Business at Team Lease EdTech, where he leads large-scale initiatives that bridge education and meaningful employment, impacting thousands of learners across India. A strong advocate of industry - academia collaboration, he works towards improving youth employability and career readiness. As the Founding President of the Somaiya Vidyavihar University Alumni Association, he plays a pivotal role in strengthening a vibrant global alumni network and advancing Somaiya Vidyavihar's legacy.

The felicitation of these distinguished alumni at SAAM 2026 stands as a testament to Somaiya's enduring legacy of nurturing leaders, innovators, and changemakers. Their stories not only reflect personal excellence but also the strong foundation laid by their institutions. By celebrating their accomplishments, Somaiya reinforces the importance of lifelong connection, mentorship, and giving back to the community. These alumni continue to inspire present and future Somaiyans to dream ambitiously, act responsibly, and uphold the values that define Somaiya spirit.

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