

Shri Suresh Kumar Neotia



He is a reputed Industrialist widely known as Promoter and Chairman of 'Ambuja Cements Ltd'. 'Gujarat Ambuja Cements Ltd' was promoted with Mr Narotam Sekhsaria which bench marked the cement industry on various parameters and it earned Blue Chip Status in a short period of three years. It got rated as the most efficient profitable cement company in the country and the lowest cost cement producer in the world. It won several awards on manufacturing, mining and for Corporate Excellence. He is presently Chairman Emeritus of the Company.

He was born in a very old business family in Kolkata on 8th September, 1936. He graduated in Commerce and obtained Law Degree from Kolkata University.

Business Association:

He is on the Central Board of Directors of Reserve Bank of India. Also Director in some reputed Companies.

Business Interests:

He is a Director of many family owned companies including the one which is the largest petroleum dealers of the country with turnover of Rs.500 Crores annually, apart from franchisee of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.

Cultural Interests:

In Kolkata he promoted 'Anamika Kala Sangam' in 1970s which is an impresario unit hosting cultural programmes. In 1980 he promoted 'Padatik Culture Centre' which is engaged in promotion of theatre and dance and he is a life-time trustee. He also promoted a musical institute by the name of 'Sangeet Ashram' of which he is the Chairman.

He was a collector of Indian Antiquity, Miniatures, Bronzes, Terra-Cotta, Textiles etc in early 60s and 70s. His collections were acknowledged in the publications of various Museums. He gifted the collection to 'Jnana-Pravaha' – Centre for Cultural Studies, an institute of which he is the Chairman, promoted by him and his family. The collection is on public view. 'Jnana-Pravaha' published a major catalogue of his collection and has reached many interested people. 'Jnana-Pravaha' has emerged as a premier institution for preservation and dissemination of Indian heritage.

Social and Philanthropic Initiatives:

He and his family founded a hospital for woman and child, named after his mother at a cost of Rs.25 Crores through a non-profit organization.

Promoted 'Ambuja Cement Foundation', which currently employs over 200 people. A major NGO working in rural areas on water, health, sanitation, women empowerment, primary education, Self-Help Group, HIV-Aids etc. The proposed budget for the year 2008-09 is about Rs.55 Crores.

He also promoted 'Ambuja Educational Institute' which has been running a number of schools. Recently it took over the management of 'Indian Institute of Crafts & Design' under the Public-Private Partnership with Rajasthan Govt. He has been appointed as Chairman.

'CII – Suresh Neotia' Centre for Excellence in Leadership at Salt Lake, Kolkata is gaining excellent reputation. The land is provided by CII and the infrastructure at the cost of Rs.8 Crore is funded by Neotia family.

He is closely associated and assisting many NGOs, particularly 'Udayan Care' based at Delhi. This NGO runs homes for the destitute children and gives support for education for economically weaker sections of women for their higher education.

Over the years, he has contributed and funded a large number of institutions and educational bodies.

Association with Other Important Academic Bodies:

Past: Served as Board of Governors of Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. Trustee of Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata. Member of the Court of JNU, Member of the Governing Council of Asiatic Society and Member on the Governing Council of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

Presently: Member of National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council of the Prime Minister and Member of the Court of Banaras Hindu University, Trustee of International Roerich Memorial Trust, Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust, Member of the Council of New Delhi Institute of Management and Member of Council for the National Culture Fund.

Sh. Neotia was conferred with "Padma Bhushan" by Hon'ble President of India in year 2008.