

PROFILE OF Mr. SUNIL KUMAR R (Travel Advisor and Consultant)

- **GLOBAL PRESIDENT, UFTAA (United Federation of Travel Agents Association)**
- **PRESIDENT (2104-2019) - TAAI (Travel Agents Association of INDIA)**

Education: Sunil is a graduate of Commerce & Graduate of Law from Osmania University. He later on took up Masters with specialization in Constitution Law.

Profession

Founder & CEO of a leading Travel & Tourism agency, established during 1987 - Travel World, Hyderabad and Travel World Holidays which focuses on on leisure and luxury. Led India's older conglomerate, Interserve Travels Pvt. Ltd, with over 48 agencies across India and beyond. To impact online presence, a new global company, OK2GO Travel Services Pvt. Ltd, was started during 2020, and awaits its unleash.

Industry Leadership

- Sunil's role as active industry leader involved promoting travel and tourism as an important industry is noteworthy. He also encourages educational institutions to offer MBA and other certification programs, in Travel & Tourism.
- Sunil currently serves as the Global President of **UFTAA** - United Federation of Travel Agents Associations. He is recently reelected to this office. UFTAA is a global federation of National Travel and Tourism Associations. It has an outreach to 70+ countries. UFTAA represents Travel Industry on the Global Joint Council of IATA and debates on matters pertaining to Agencies. UFTAA promotes Tourism and B2B initiatives, in favour of its members, that connects UFTAA with leading organizations like ITB Asia; SATTE; IMTM; ".travel"; WATA and other organizations and authorities.
- Sunil serves on IATA's PAPGJC – Passenger Agency Program Global Joint Council, representing UFTAA. PAPGJC meets 3-4 times a year and is involved with regular debates on subjects of governing resolutions on the Agency Program. In the wake of the pandemic, PAPGJC's virtual meetings, which are, now held, monthly, on most occasions, addresses member challenges.
- Sunil's accomplished role as the President of TAAI – Travel Agents Association of India, for six years is well known and a record. (2014-2019). TAAI is India's oldest and largest Travel & Tourism Association. Served on its Managing committee, continuously and consistently for 20 years – 1999 to 2019, which is a record, again. His prominent role to help industry colleagues to offer Joint Bank Guarantee to IATA is one among his outstanding contributions. Sunil chaired, SIX most popular TAAI Conventions (A.K.A India Travel Congress) in Sri Lanka; Dubai; Bali; Abu Dhabi; Srinagar & Kunming – China.

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- Sunil offered extensive industry leadership, which featured regular dialogues with IATA & Airlines; Bi-Lateral agreements/MOU's with Tourism Boards (national & globally) promoting Tourism; organizing Knowledge Conclaves for travel agencies across the country; encouraging travel agencies embrace technology and was consistently involved with innovation and industry pro-active programs.
- In order to bring TAAI to forefront, Sunil was instrumental in the launch of NAMASTAAI, a magazine on travel & tourism industry, which turned popular.
- He continues to serve as a speaker at several Global and National events and delivered presentations on the industry; its future and the opportunities.
- As President of TAAI, Sunil initiated "TAAI CONNECT" - the concept of "Online for all" without any major investment by the Travel Agents. He continues to advocate to all agencies that that the future without online presence would be an incomplete role of a travel company.

More outstanding facts of Sunil

- Sunil is a well-known public speaker and a qualified International Trainer. He conducted over 1600 Programs in 18 countries to corporates; executives; professionals; business leaders and entrepreneurs; and others including members of the organizations he has led.
- Specializes in Trainer for Train-The-Trainer program – Trained over 600 Trainers during last 30 years.
- Sunil authored and led publication of several books for his programs including Broadband your Benchmarks; Best and Beyond; Success ... No matter what; Unlocking Uncertainties and more. His recent and most innovative publication "Where's my Couch? Is on its journey to gain popularity. He published Meeting Specialist, which hi-lights Parliamentary Procedures for societies.
- He also served as the 1991 World Vice President and 1992 World Executive Vice President (Second Rank) of Jaycees International.
- He served as the District Governor of Lions Clubs International and as the International Director Lions Clubs International during 2012-2014.
- Visited 89 countries and over 360 cities beyond India
- Sunil continues to discover the world and discover himself. He continues to creatively associate with his thought leadership and regularly publish articles and books.

- Sunil and Kavitha are blessed with two sons – Arjun & Akshay - Both are post graduates in Engineering & Management from USA.