

PROFILE OF MR. HIMANSHU KAPANIA



Mr. Himanshu Kapania, an alumnus of IIM Bangalore and BIT Mesra, is the former Managing Director of erstwhile Idea Cellular renamed 'Vodafone Idea Limited' (VIL) after merger with Vodafone India and is presently on the Board of VIL.

Mr. Kapania is the Non-Executive - Vice Chairman of 'Aditya Birla Fashion & Retail Limited' and the Business Head of 'Birla White Limited'.

Mr. Kapania is also leading Grasim planned entry into Paints category with initial investment of US\$ 800 Million.

Mr. Kapania is a member of the 'Business Review Council' for Aluminum business of Hindalco and Cement business of UltraTech, Indian listed companies promoted by the Aditya Birla Group.

Mr. Kapania has over 36 years of work experience primarily in Management Leadership, Technology, Operations, Sales & Marketing etc., with deep understanding of Indian consumers and society.

His tryst with the Indian telecom industry dates back to over two decades and has been a key contributor to the exponential growth of the sector while assisting Indian government in formulating Mobile Services Policies & Regulation.

During his tenure as MD of Idea Cellular, Mr. Kapania steered Idea from just being a 'Voice only Mobile Operator' to an '**Integrated Communication Service Provider**' building Digital infrastructure across 2G, 3G & 4G technologies. Under his leadership, Idea grew from mere 14 million customers in Year 2010 to over 200 million Subscribers and Revenues & Profits in Financial Year 2016-17 grew to US\$ 5.5 billion and US\$ 600 million respectively.

Besides Telecom, Mr. Kapania brings with him rich diverse experiences across Automobile, Consumer Durables, Office Automation & Digital Services industries.

Mr. Kapania served on the Global GSMA Board and was Chairman of COAI during the period 2012-14 and 2015-16 under whose vision the Association conceptualised the 'India Mobile Congress' largest South East Asia Digital & Telecom event.

Mr Kapania has been consistently recognized for his leadership skills and is a recipient of many prestigious awards including - 'Business Today' and 'Voice & Data' India's Best CEO Award in 2014 & 2015; CNBC India Business Leadership Award in 2015 and ET Telecom Award in 2014 & 2016 etc.

Currently, Mr. Kapania is Chairman of FICCI Council on 'Telecom, Electronics and Digital Economy' and 'FICCI Task Force on Privacy and Data Security'.
