

Forbes
Leadership
Awards
2026

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INDIA Forbes

A MIND OF THEIR OWN

FILA winners Anish Shah,
Peyush Bansal and
Lalit Keshre do what
they believe in, even
if it goes against
conventional
wisdom

Lalit Keshre (left), CEO, Groww;
Anish Shah, group CEO, Mahindra
& Mahindra; Peyush Bansal
(seated), CEO, Lenskart



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PG. **48**

LOOKING AROUND CORNERS

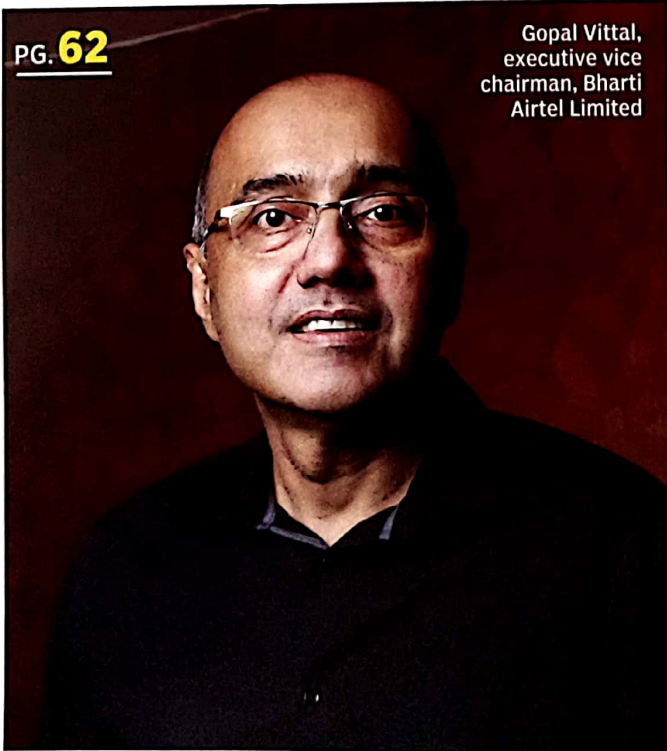
Anish Shah, the first non-family group CEO at Mahindra & Mahindra, is making a name for himself with his bold moves and for putting the group's businesses on a path of sustained growth



Anish Shah, group CEO & MD, Mahindra Group

PG. **62**

Gopal Vittal,
executive vice
chairman, Bharti
Airtel Limited



NETWORK EFFECT

Bharti Airtel answered telecom's biggest disruption by playing to its strengths. Now it is building a digital ecosystem on top of its network

PG. **72**

Peyush Bansal,
co-founder and CEO,
Lenskart



THE SOMEHOW FOUNDER

Peyush Bansal did not know it was impossible to build a multinational, product-focussed startup based in India. So he went ahead and did it

PHOTO BY ANISH SHAH: MEXY XAVIER; GOPAL VITTAL: MADHU KAPPARATH; PEYUSH BANSAL: AMIT VERMA

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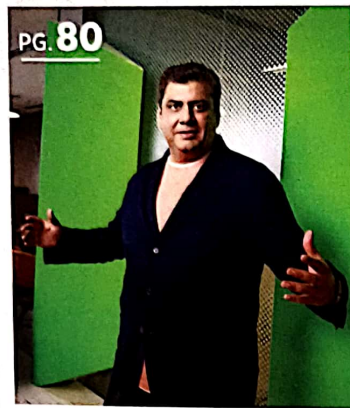
Investments in new platforms, operational discipline and renewed strategic focus helped Force Motors turn the pandemic shock into a period of rapid growth

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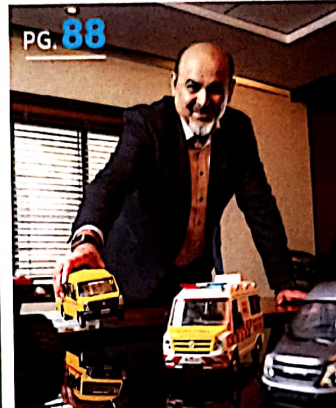
The fintech platform is widening its playbook—expanding into asset management business, margin trading facilities, commodities and wealth management

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With nearly 6 million users and \$100 million ARR in eight months, Emergent is turning vibe coding from an experiment into a new way to build software



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GenNext entrepreneur: Abhimanyu Munjal, managing director and CEO, Hero FinCorp



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Turnaround star: Prasan Firodia, managing director, Force Motors



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Startup of the year: (from left) Harsh Jain, Lalit Keshre, Ishan Bansal and Neeraj Singh, co-founders, Groww



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Promising startup: Mukund Jha, founder & CEO, Emergent



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A walk through our photo archives, featuring industry stalwarts and business leaders who have received the Forbes India Leadership Awards since its inception

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