

A P P E N D I X I

NANIK RUPANI — IN THE  
EYES OF OTHERS



“Through the Awards of Priyadarshni, Nanik has contributed a lot to enhancing India’s image abroad. He is humble, a friend of all and a very compassionate human being. He is a man of dynamism, perseverance and high sensitivity to the quality of human relationships.”

—Vijay Arora, *Film Artist*

“Nanik Rupani is one of the most remarkable persons I have met. What impressed me at first sight was his boundless optimism and unarming smile. He has invented a new mantra, “*Success is my birthright* and no one can stop me from claiming it.” Today, Nanik Rupani has attained unusual success in his life through sheer grit, determination, hard

work and limitless optimism and enthusiasm. His greatest strength is his power of networking with people from different walks of life, people from trade and industry, corporates, celebrities, politicians, scientists as well as spiritualists.

“Like many remarkable people, he had very humble beginnings and went on to build a cluster of telecom companies called Enkay Group which he chairs today. His outstanding accomplishment is Priyadarshni Academy, whose Awards have become the most coveted. The biennial glittering ceremony of these awards has become an event to be remembered.

“Nanik and I have come together to create a Vedic Research Center which will eventually culminate into a Vedic University for Vedic studies. We wish to bring about a synthesis of Indian Knowledge System with modern science and explore opportunities for new innovations in Science and Spirituality for the service of humanity. These days Nanik is particularly articulating the relevance of *Kautilya's Arthashastra* in today's national and corporate governance. Where will the resources come from? Nanik's answer is, 'God's Bank! If there is a sincerity of purpose, the resources will flow.'

“Nanik and I have unshakeable belief in India's great future. We believe that India will reclaim her glory in this century and no one can stop this.”

—Dr. Vijay Bhatkar, *Chairman, Dishnet DSL Ltd.*

“I am glad to know that my dear friend Nanik Rupani's biography is being compiled. It is indeed a positive step to document the life of an achiever like him for it may serve as

a guide for future generations. He is a man with wonderful qualities, of ethics and character. His business acumen and philanthropic spirit are really praiseworthy. His knack to maintain public relations with sincerity and transparency is one of the very important qualities — something we all need to learn.

“He is fortunate to have a wonderful family ably managed by his wife, Geeta. I am sure Nanik’s biography would be a philosophical treatise on business and life and that it would be a treat for those who will read it.”

—Dr. Ram Buxani, Executive Vice Chairman,  
*International Traders (ME) Ltd., Dubai*

“I have known my dear friend Nanikbhai for over a decade. He is an extraordinarily warm-hearted person, always helpful in any good cause. He is very social and charitable. In my association with him in IMC and MEDC programs, I found that I can always depend on him. For a good cause he always stands by you. He likes yoga, spiritual study and meditation, which probably describes his strength, humanity and his kind attitude.”

—M. N. Chaini, President,  
*Corporate Affairs, Reliance Industries Ltd.*

“I have had the privilege of knowing Nanik for quite a few years now, and I believe that he is a true *karma yogi* committed to the cause of society and the nation.”

—Arindam Chaudhuri,  
*Dean, Center for Economic Research & Advanced Studies*

The most important thing about Nanik Rupani is that he is a very great organizer. Whenever he takes up any project

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in his hand, he will ensure that it reaches its goal and takes care in execution of every minute detail. I learned how to manage things from Mr. Rupani. I was present at the IMC conference organized by Mr. Rupani in Singapore. He has taken up so many projects and done so much work since he became the President. At this conference 400 delegates, not only from India but also from all over the world were brought to Singapore. Most of them came because of the personal rapport they shared with him. He could bring in VIP's from all levels. He has a great knack of organizing anything from meetings to social work.”

—Pralhad P. Chhabria, *Chairman, Finolex Group*

“I happen to be one of his closest friends. In fact, we are like brothers and our relationship goes a long way. Both our families are in love with each other.”

—Dr. B. R. Chopra,  
*Renowned Producer & Director, B. R. Films*

“He is a leading light in the movement for making Mumbai a world-class city. He has been associated with many social organizations and he continues to do a lot of social work for the poor and the downtrodden.”

—Nana Chudasama, *World Chairman, Giants International*

“Nanik Rupani is a very influential person and makes you feel at ease about calling him up at any time. He has helped me and many of my friends in a lot of ways. To me he is a friend, an extraordinary person who behaves in an ordinary way, doing extraordinary work. I have seen plenty of instances where he had nothing to gain (perhaps more to lose in some cases), when he has gone out of his way to help people. He has always come to my aid when I have needed

it. What I cannot forget is that when there was nobody with me, he helped me and stood by my side.”

—Hafeez Contractor, *Renowned Architect*

“I met Shri Nanik Rupani when I was the President of the Indian Merchants’ Chamber in the year 2000-01. Shri Rupani was a member of the managing committee then. During this period, he was also the Chairman of the Telecommunications sub-committee. This was the beginning of my respect for him. I respected him for his sincerity and perseverance with which he took up a job and completed it. Not only that, he always takes on a job to help his friends, and he does a wonderful job of it.

“Under his guidance, an exhibition on Telecom was organized. This exhibition was a great success and everyone praised his capacity and leadership to arrange such an event. Later on, this exhibition became a role model for others to follow.

“Both Nanik and Geeta are close friends, and I wish I had met them earlier.”

—Sharayu Daftary,  
*Past President, Indian Merchants’ Chamber*

“I still recall our first meeting in early 1986, when Nanik was outlining his plans for Priyadarshni Academy. It was my proud privilege to share his dreams and plans about the Academy. He has been over-generous with his thanks and praise for his friends and associates who may have played a humble part. He is a sincere and dependable friend who would respond and do his best to help.”

—G. S. Dahotre, *Former Chairman, Bank of India*

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“He is not your typical South Mumbai socialite. He wears his wealth with such ease. He is not only rich and famous, but also humane and sensitive to his responsibility as a citizen and has been efficiently fulfilling his duties for decades. Priyadarshni Academy is a monument to Nanik’s remarkable social sensitivity and organising skill.”

—P. S. Deodhar, *Executive Chairman, APLABS*

“I remember the day when a cassette and a book was released by me on completion of six years of Priyadarshni Academy. Today this sapling has become a giant tree engaged in many socio-cultural activities. Nanik’s dedication towards social endeavours is an inspiration, not only to me, but to all. He has become a solid, glorious institution. I wish him grand success in life.”

—Vilasrao Deshmukh, *Ex Chief Minister, Maharashtra*

“My father was a good friend of Nanik’s. I recollect my association with Priyadarshni Academy and Nanik since its inception. He has a strange magnetic charisma. He is friendly and helpful. Over the years he has not changed his core values and simplicity.”

—Poonam Dhillon,  
*Former Miss India & Renowned Film Actress*

“He comes across as a friendly, amiable person, great in abilities and equally great in humility. His achievements in the industrial and social welfare fields are an inspiration for all.”

—Lord Navnit Dholakia,  
*Chairman, Liberal Democratic Party of Great Britain*

“I know Nanik Rupani as an affectionate, socially aware and active, close friend. His friend — circle spans the entire globe. He has always recognized merit and rewarded it.

When I was selected for the Priyadarshni Academy Award, by the time the date of the function arrived, I was in the Opposition. Nanik insisted that the Award should still go to me, in the teeth of pressure from the ruling side which felt that it would send the wrong signals to those in power. Such is his impartial and bold nature.”

—Nitin Gadhari,  
*President, Bharatiya Janata Party, Maharashtra*

“Nanik basically believes that nothing is impossible. And this is something he has proved through the activities of Priyadarshni Academy. He always acknowledges and meets everybody, and gives everything a personal touch. He does everything with conviction.”

—Ram P. Gandhi, *Managing Director, Beacons Pvt. Ltd.*

“Nanik is a great orator, having a lot of charisma. I have never ever seen him ruffled or angry. He is unbiased, least political, transparent and outspoken. He is admired the most by all political personalities and they feel safe and comfortable coming together on one platform for any event organized by Mr. Rupani. His basic inspiration is to belong to all in need and to do and give the best to others.”

—Pravin Ghatalia,  
*Former Senior Partner, Pricewaterhouse Coopers Ltd.*

“Simplicity is the hallmark of Mr. Nanik Rupani, my bosom friend. And this quality of his impresses me the most. He is blessed with a rare intellect. Even when he was young, he was known for his high thinking and his method of working. Suave and down to earth, every time I converse with him I am impressed by his forward-looking attitude, his wisdom and his capacity to see things and matters in wider perspective. With his wealth of knowledge and experience, he has a disarming simplicity. And this quality stood him in

good stead and made him what he is today.”

—Tarun Gogoi, *Chief Minister, Assam*

“I was introduced to Mr. Nanik Rupani about 20 years ago. I think his efforts to unite all overseas Indians and invest in India brought a lot of foreign exchange to the country. I strongly feel that he deserves to receive proper recognition from the government than any one else for all the outstanding work he has been doing for India.”

—Bob N. Harilela,  
*Director, Harilela Group of Companies, Hong Kong*

“I met Nanik about 20 years ago in Mumbai. My younger brother Bob introduced us. Since then I have met him on many occasions in India and Hong Kong. My first meeting with Nanik left me with an impression of a dynamic person full of energy. His kind-heartedness and friendly disposition endears him to people from all walks of life. I was particularly impressed with his love for India and his genuine concern for the betterment of society. This is evident from the fact that he established the Priyadarshni Academy, which is doing an excellent job in helping needy and less fortunate people.

“Recently, as President of the IMC, he organized the India Calling Summit in Singapore to attract foreign investment in India, which turned out to be a great success. This emphasized his great leadership skills and organizing capabilities with large delegations from a range of countries attending the summit. My best wishes are with him for his continued good health, abundant happiness and success in his endeavours.”

—Hari N. Harilela,  
*Chairman, Harilela Group of Companies, Hong Kong*



“We go to Mr. Rupani with all our problems and we are always in touch with him through his mobile. In accordance with our work culture, we have review meetings every two months. We tell him the happenings of the past two months and then he gives us guidelines on what needs to be done. Otherwise, all three companies run independently. But for policy matters, he gives ideas. His main thing is customer satisfaction. If any complaint goes to him, he ensures speedy remedy.”

—Dayal Hemrajani,  
*Managing Director, Enkay Technologies (India) Pvt. Ltd.*

“Nanik Rupani has been a family friend for decades. We know him as an energetic and a dynamic person of flair and enterprise who brings commitment with devotion to whatever he takes up. Over a score of years Nanik has created a successful business in sunrise sectors of the economy. He is the first Sindhi to lead the Indian Merchants’ Chamber. He has also led Priyadarshni Academy which recognizes personal achievement. On behalf of the Hinduja Group, Gopi, Prakash, Ashok and I wish Nanik continued good health and the fulfilment of his aspirations over many happy years.”

—Srichand Hinduja, *Chairman, Hinduja Group*

“Nanik is friendly, humble and down-to-earth. He is everybody’s friend. His amazing quality is that he can interact with everyone, from an ordinary man to a top politician to take up any cause, not necessarily concerned with his own benefit, and fight for it. Through Priyadarshni he has done remarkable social service, and in the process has enhanced India’s image globally.”

—Niranjan Hiranandani,  
*Managing Director, Hiranandani Developers Pvt. Ltd.*

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“Mr. Nanik Rupani is a pleasing personality. He makes friends with everybody quickly — He is a friend indeed! His Priyadarshni Awards have given him eternal fame.”

—Manohar Joshi, *Former Speaker, Lok Sabha*

“The Priyadarshni Global Awards will serve as an inspiration for Indians. The selections are not influenced either by politics or by personal bias. Nanik himself is never involved in the selections, which are done by a Committee. Nanik’s contribution to society, and to humanity at large, is incomparable. A true man of vision.”

—Vithal Kamat,  
*Chairman & Managing Director, Kamat Hotels (India) Ltd.*

“He is a power engine — the best part about him is his never-say-die attitude.”

—Rajesh Kapadia,  
*Past President, Indian Merchants’ Chamber*

“A true visionary and a man of commitment. His simplicity and transparency are unique.”

—Dinesh Khanna,  
*Director, Eastern International Hotels Ltd.*

“Nanik Rupani’s first impression on me was very good — he was very easy to talk to, very friendly in approach. He was a person always trying to do something and build relationships. I observed him during the event India Calling in 1999, for which he took a leading part and went out of his way to do most of the work. I could see that even reputed national leaders respected him. The best quality in him is his good Samaritan nature — he will be helpful to and guide any person without exception. His basic nature is such.

“The other thing that attracts me is his way of solving

problems. He is a student of human emotions. He will not only help you solve the problem but also put you at ease. Nanik is also a very good organizer — the greater the complexity of the program, the more he is at ease. When I look at him I remember the saying, a friend in need is a friend indeed. When I was the President of IMC, there were unique kinds of conferences organized by him. I was only the supporter. His contacts with the who's who in various fields is a striking feature. To maintain relationships is not so easy — you have to sacrifice time, money and energy and sometimes even yourself to satisfy the egos of others. This is very difficult.

“He is very hardworking. I could describe him with context to the Japanese people. They have got two great virtues — tenacity of purpose and a positive attitude. I think he has imbibed these qualities. He is a genuine person. His philosophy is ‘people who do not dream cannot do anything.’ After dreaming about things, you have to think on them and plan and organize ways to achieve them.”

—Suresh A. Kotak, *Chairman, Kotak Ltd.*

“A man of impressive ideas and has the capacity to turn them into reality.”

—Gul Kripalani,  
*Chairman & Managing Director, Pijikay Group of Companies*

“He has provided inspiration, guidance and help to thousands of people. He was the prime mover behind the Laughter Club. He brought before the public the physical, emotional and spiritual benefits of laughter, a fact that has been propounded in *Ayurveda*.”

—Kishor H. Kuvavala,  
*Chairman, Priyadarshni Laughter Club International*

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“I first came to know Shri Nanik Rupani over 22 years ago when he came forward to help in the daily nourishment and feeding program of the undernourished poor children of the Dharavi slum who attend the numerous *Balwadis* of SHED (Society for Human & Environmental Development.) I have admired him for his dedication through the years, for he has continued with his caring philanthropy, and supports numerous worthy causes, far and wide, with genuine and sincere zeal.”

—Begum Bilkis Latif,  
*President, SHED & Society for Clean Cities*

“He is an amiable person with foresight and vision. I admire his philanthropic efforts and work. This Award will bring our two countries closer together.”

—Loren Legarda,  
*Former Member, Senate of the Philippines; Recipient of the  
2004 Priyadarshni Academy Global Award for Outstanding  
Contribution to Environment & Afforestation.*

“Nanik believes that examinations should not be the criteria for judging a student’s capabilities. He always rooted for an alternative method that would take into account the entire personality and aptitude of a student.”

—Prakash Mahadkar, *Childhood friend*

“Nanik Rupani is a great man who has devoted most of his time to social, cultural and charitable causes. I first got to know this great visionary in 1997, when he wrote to me on behalf of Priyadarshni Academy. In a far-sighted move, he asked for my help to bring Ibu Megawati Soekarnoputri to Bombay to receive the Award for her outstanding contributions to promotion of international understanding. This

was before she became President of Indonesia in 2001. Mr. Rupani's move went a long way in building relationship with Indonesia when she became the President.

“Mr. Rupani is also a good organizer and has to his credit several get-togethers. I had the pleasure of visiting Ladakh to attend the *Sindhu Darshan* function two years back, an event organized by him. Recently, Mr. Rupani organized the Asia Pacific Business Summit in Singapore, which was very well-attended with the participation of entrepreneurs from all over the world. It contributed in the strengthening of business relationship between India and Singapore. He is a widely respected figure in India, particularly in the Sindhi community — always ready to help others.

—Haru M. Mahtani,  
*Chairman, Wearwel International, Jakarta*

“Nanik Rupani has the talent for getting along with and making friends with a vast variety of people. He uses his networking abilities to good effect in his social service endeavours. His achievements in social welfare schemes are unparalleled, and are still going on in full strength.”

—Vijay Mansukhani, *Director,*  
*MIRC Electronics Ltd.*

“The first time we got to know each other was when he was in a Jaycees program of sweeping the municipal chawls. Dr. Gupte, the mayor, was also present. That was probably the first time Nanik's photo appeared in the Times of India. I was also with him. I was then President of the Sion Jaycees and he of the Wadala Jaycees. We became good family friends.

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“Nanik has always shown keen foresight, as can be seen from the way he entered the field of electronics and telecommunications far ahead of anyone else in the country. He also has a keen sense of social responsibility, as can be seen from his social activities to which he devotes most of his time and resources.”

—Shantilal Meckoni,  
*Nanik's friend from the Junior Chamber*

“Shri Nanik Rupani is a worthy son of India. He is everybody's friend. I have not met a person so well connected as Nanik Rupani. His greatest achievement has been Priyadarshni Academy, which has brought India to the international socio-cultural map. Today, these Awards are internationally acclaimed. He has taken the lead in various initiatives in making Mumbai a world-class city. He has remarkable energy to organize events and a knack for bringing uniqueness to them. He is a capable leader, a devout friend and great human being. His wife Geeta and his two daughters are a perfect family.”

—Jayawantiben Mehta,  
*Former Minister of State for Power, Government of India*

“We started Adino in 1993-94. We became good friends. We are neighbours at Khandala and so have a great relationship. He is very endearing and likeable, and it is fun to be with him. He is always there to help; this is his most important quality. And he likes people, he is a people's man, in fact I think he should be a full-time politician. He is not a loner, he is always communicating with people.

“His ability to communicate with anybody is great. He is also very well networked: even if he doesn't know a person,

he will find a way to get to him. The wide circle of well-wishers that he has is always ready to help him.”

—Gulu Mirchandani,  
*Chairman & Managing Director, MIRC Electronics Ltd.*

“Nanik Rupani has given a new dynamism to IMC. He has made its role in industry and commerce much more significant and proactive. He also pursues issues of national interest, ever hopeful that repeated queries and discussions would ultimately lead to changes in policies.”

—P. N. Mogre,  
*Secretary General, Indian Merchants' Chamber*

“Nanik’s expertise and vast experience in industry and commerce means a lot to the development and progress of IMC. His efforts, sincerity, active participation in each and every matter, have given a reputation to the Chamber. His loving nature, intimate friendship and affection always touch my heart deeply.”

—Vijaysingh Mohite-Patil,  
*Minister for Rural Development & Tourism, Maharashtra*

“I have known Nanik Rupani since his younger days. Even at the first acquaintance I was impressed by his foresight, his determination and his propensity to think big and make things come true. It is his drive that has sustained his phenomenal growth, taking him to where he stands today.”

—Jawahar Muchhala,  
*Nanik’s business partner, Eastmen Art Emporium*

“I have always treasured and cherished the association

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that I have shared with Nanik over the years. I have always admired him as a great human being who always strives for excellence and perfection in whatever he undertakes. I am touched by his sense of responsibility towards society and by the various community initiatives that he undertakes.”

—Gopinath Munde,  
*Former Deputy Chief Minister, Maharashtra, and Leader,  
Bharatiya Janata Party*

“Every time I meet him I discover something new about his multi-dimensional personality. To me he is not just a friend, but also my guide and philosopher. To many others he either is a godfather or a reliable brother, a loving father or a supportive son. Nanik Rupani is more of an institution of different colours. Always down to earth, he has a large circle of friends from the classes and the masses. Nanik is a Past President of the Indian Merchants’ Chamber, besides holding several responsible positions in many other influential organizations. Even so, he has always remained a good and caring friend.”

—Pramod Navalkar,  
*Former Minister for Cultural Affairs, Maharashtra*

“My association with Mr. Nanik Rupani dates back to the time when I first met him for the Celebration of “Meatless Day.” Since then I have had the privilege to know, admire and respect the man, the entrepreneur, the social activist and the art lover that he is.

“A multi-faceted personality, he is equally involved in all pursuits. He acts from the heart, be it as the Chairman of Priyadarshni Academy in supporting educational activities or as a committed member of several welfare organizations.



“He caused the entire Sindhi community to raise its head in pride by being the first Sindhi to be appointed as the President of the Indian Merchants’ Chamber. A perfectionist to the core, his eye for detail has always amazed and floored me. When he took a group of overseas Indians on a visit to Ladakh, it was his detailed organization which made our entire trip so enjoyable and hassle free.

“In spite of being successful in so many paths he chooses to tread, Mr. Rupani is a very humble and generous man. He gave new life to the Golden Jubilee celebrations of K.C. College, and gives unstinting support and sponsorship to the annual Sindhi festival of the College.

“His work has been recognized far and wide by national and international bodies, and the number of awards conferred upon him corroborates his untiring and unceasing efforts to promote various cultural and social activities.

“It is said that wisdom is knowing what to do next, virtue is doing it. Mr. Nanik Rupani embodies a perfect blend of wisdom and virtue. I am fortunate in having him as a friend, guide and mentor. Long live our friendship.”

—Manju Nichani, *Principal, K.C. College, Mumbai*

“I have seen him organize events relating to Bombay Development. I have watched him closely in that sector. Because of the quality of Mr. Rupani to do everything he takes up with sincerity, he has enhanced the IMC as its President.”

—Dr. K. K. Nohria, *Chairman, Crompton Greaves Ltd.*

“It was truly a great honour for me to meet with Nanik during my visit. I deeply value our close relationship with

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IMC and I am grateful for the business delegations to Israel arranged by his organization.”

—Ehud Olmert,  
*Vice Prime Minister, Minister for Industry, Trade, Labour &  
Communications, Israel*

“Success is my birthright and I shall have it.” When Nanik says these words, his face lights up. In all probability, Rupani must have said these words to himself again and again, which led to his success.”

—Anant Pai, *Editor, India Book House Ltd.*

“Nanik offered himself for public service as soon as his need to be a successful businessman had been fulfilled. Nanik is a *jobari* — a connoisseur of people. He has that keen sense of spotting diamonds from rough stones. He is also an outstanding mobilizer of resources such as men, money and great minds.”

—Dr. Vaijayanti Pandit,  
*Secretary, Indian Merchants' Chamber*

“Priyadarshni Academy is our common and continuous interest. Any good activity that Nanik takes up is mine and I believe my commitments to any social causes are his. Nanik by nature is above politics. This is because his only objective is to develop friendships, do public good and create opportunities for social, education and cultural development.”

—Mohanbhai Patel, *Former Sheriff, Mumbai*

Every time I think of him, the only image that conjures in my mind is that of an excellent man whose frankness and outspoken nature adds to his personality. I have always known him to be a person whose dreams are gigantic and

the one who works towards achieving his goals and accomplishes them.

Friendship to him means to give in abundance. His ever-helping nature describes it all. In times of turbulence or crisis it has always been good to have him around, helping me find solutions to the most complex issues. He radiates confidence, commitment and showers motivation.

His well-versed phrase always seem to arise into my mind time and again, which reads as: “*Log Chamatkar Ko Namaskar Karte Hai*” and in true words, he has always made *chamatkars*.

I could go on and on speaking volumes about him, but in short I would like to pen down that I am proud, privileged and honored to have a dynamic, charismatic and zealous friend such as Nanik Rupani.

—Nayan Patel,  
*Current President, Indian Merchants’ Chamber*

“It is worth observing how Nanik not only maintains, but nurtures and cultivates a human relation. In those days, I was learning the facts of Mumbai life. Nobody simply had time at his disposal. Most of the acquaintances were simply commercial and were inspired by some motive. Nanik was the first human face in Mumbai to assure me that some traits of humanity still prevailed in the city. Nanik is my Guru in picking up a person, nurturing a relation, and protecting it.”

—Ashok Patil,  
*Former Minister of State for Sports, Maharashtra*

“Mr. Nanik Rupani is a man full of sincerity and kindness, in the truest sense of the word.”

—Teresa Quadros, *Personal Assistant to Nanik Rupani*

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“Shri Nanik Rupani is the toast of the town. His personality shines like a glow-worm. His style is a pleasing blend of verve and vitality, of sweetness and strength. He is a luminous star on the social firmament. In the pantheon of Indian culture, he occupies one of the highest pedestals. In him, there is a spark of genuine creativity which makes him a runaway success. He is effusive and exuberant, full of versatility and vigour and exudes charisma. He is a bubbling volcano of energy, enterprise and entertainment.

“Shri Rupani is a man of singular moral and intellectual probity. The key to his success is hard work. His commitment has propelled him to the top of the charts and put his career on fast forward. His achievements add up to a quintessential success story.”

—Chandru L. Raheja, *Chairman, K Raheja Corp.*

“Nanik is a very nice and down-to-earth person. He is always professional and I have a really good rapport with him.”

—S. Ramchandra,  
*Chief Operating Officer, Adino Telecom Ltd.*

“The first thing one notices about Nanikbhai is his bubbling enthusiasm and ever helping nature. He is not a person to remain inactive. He is remarkably noticed by his unique and thoughtful ideas. The activities of Priyadarshni Academy initiated by Nanikbhai have crossed the shores of India and gained appreciation from all over the world. I am delighted to have been associated with the Academy since its inception. Nanikbhai deserves appreciation for his sincere hard work and organizational capabilities that he has so well demonstrated in every walk of life.

“His mildness, compassion, sincerity and ever helpful nature make him an adorable and unforgettable person. It is not surprising therefore, to see him blessed with two beautiful, intelligent daughters over whom he dotes and a loving wife Geeta, who is an ever dependable pillar of strength.”

—Prabha Rau,  
*President, Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee*

“Besides being an able elder brother, Nanik has been a guide and friend to me. It is through his visionary zeal, that our businesses have prospered over time. He occupies a special place in our hearts.”

—Balam Rupani,  
*Managing Director, Neutron Electronic Systems Pvt Ltd.*

“Nanik is a national figure in the social and cultural fields of the country. His stature has grown higher and higher in my eyes. I have rarely seen a more sincere, honest, untiring and selfless social servant in our country of innumerable so-called leaders. Over the years, Nanik has become a family member. I am reminded of Lala Lajpat Rai who named his organization as ‘Servants of the People Society.’ May this missionary called Nanik Rupani live long in his mission of service.”

—Dr. Ramanand Sagar,  
*Renowned Film Producer & Director*

“Nanik Rupani was a big dreamer in a good sense, and that is what he is even today for that matter — a dreamer and then an executor. That has been his methodology as well as temperament. Once you have a name and reputation, money is bound to come. But it doesn’t always work vice-versa. Money without status is not well earned.

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Nanik has always been a great philosopher. He knew and portrayed his ideas very clearly. The way he handled the public — known and unknown, acquainted and unacquainted, was beyond anybody's perception. And now as he gains in years and maturity, he is getting better and better in this regard. This is what helps him keep unwanted people at bay or get people from two opposite sides and make them sit together. People go to him to ask favours regarding house, money, admissions, etc. He doesn't know the art of saying 'no.'"

—Sushil Sain,  
*Former Chairman & Managing Director, National Textile Corporation, Maharashtra*

"Whenever he would be in Delhi, Nanik would make it a point to go to the Parliament gallery and watch the session in progress. He would then do his best to get acquainted with those ministers he felt could be of help to further the cause of IMC."

—Jitendra Singhvi,  
*Senior Secretary, Indian Merchants' Chamber*

"I first met Nanik Rupani in the sixties, through the Junior Chamber movement. He was always willing to take up responsibilities with a friendly smile. I knew he had great potential, but wondered how far his mental and physical stamina would allow him to go. And then many years later, his 'baby' came into being: Priyadarshni Academy. And it grew and grew, until each annual function became a national and international event. Luminaries from all over the world attend the functions, and being invited to them became a matter of high prestige.

"I have been to many of the seminars Nanik has

organized on various aspects of commerce, industry and civic affairs, and have been fascinated by the amount of response and interaction he has been able to generate.

And yet, in spite of all his excellent achievements and stature, he still remains the same Nanik we used to know and like years ago. He still retains his sunshine smile.”

—Ameen Sayani,  
*Renowned Commercial Broadcaster*

“The first thing that comes to your mind when you think of Mr. Nanik Rupani is ‘Action — a passion for achieving results with very clear goals. Mr. Rupani wastes no time in getting to the crux of the situation, and with unbelievable enthusiasm he pursues the goal, speedily leading to brilliant results. Having worked with him on many projects, I have closely observed the clarity in thinking and meticulous approach in everything he undertakes.

“Another area in which I have learnt a lot from Mr. Rupani is his skills in Public Relations. He has genuine interest in people and goes out of his way to help others from students, teachers to businessmen and politicians. Helping people comes naturally to Mr. Rupani and most often it is accompanied wholeheartedly with his *Tan Man Dhan*. Mr. Nanik Rupani is a rare example of passion for excellence coupled with sincerity for public service along with devotion to his wife Geeta and family members.”

—Dr. Indu Shahani  
*Principal, H.R. College, Mumbai*

“I have watched Nanik grow from the proverbial straw to a majestic Banyan tree. I now look forward to the close co-operation between IMC and ICTC for the advancement

of our trade ties with China, and Nanik will be a major contributor in this effort.”

—Suresh Sharma, *Long-time friend*

“I still remember my first glimpse of Nanik Rupani. It was over three decades ago. In those days, Nanik was a struggling entrepreneur. I gradually grew fond of this young man. This was for two reasons. Firstly, we had one trait in common. This was our struggle in our early lives. Nanik’s family, after it was uprooted because of Partition, came to Mumbai. Instead of grieving over the loss, Nanik began to explore various avenues to settle in business. The second bonding factor between us is the importance we attach to personal relationships above everything else.

“It is said that a man is known by the company he keeps. Nanik likes to be in the company of achievers. I think this is the secret of his success. No wonder, Nanik is a welcome addition to any gathering; be it of professionals, business magnates or political workers. He is equally comfortable in each environment. Similarly, he can handle any role with the same aplomb – as a convenor, organiser or as a master of ceremonies. Needless to say, he does full justice to each such event.

“I am sure Nanik’s life story can serve as a message of inspiration for our young generation. This is a Saga of Metamorphosis, in my view. Nanik has carved a niche for himself in Mumbai’s and India’s public life. I feel it is my duty to acknowledge the support extended by his loving wife Geeta to this gregarious soul.”

—Sushilkumar Shinde,  
*Governor, Andhra Pradesh*



“He is a true ambassador for connecting Indians globally. He comes up with new and brilliant ideas and has the capacity to bring them to reality.”

—Dr. B. S. Singhal,  
*Renowned Neurologist, Professor & Head, Department of  
Neurology, Bombay Hospital Institute of Medical Sciences*

“I have known Nanik for many years now, and enjoyed association with him very personally. We have worked closely through the Indian Merchants’ Chamber and Priyadarshni Academy. As an individual who places a lot of stress on teamwork, he has the admirable ability of bringing the best people together to achieve wonderful results.

“Today, Priyadarshni Academy commands tremendous respect and has become an institution with an international aura. The Academy is the materialisation of Nanik’s vision, one that does him proud.

“I am certain Nanik’s life story will bear overwhelming testimony to this quality in him.”

—Dr. Ram Tarneja,  
*Former Managing Director, Bennett Coleman Group*

“Apart from being an astute businessman, he is a warm and compassionate human being. Once his businesses became self-sustaining, he took up social work almost full time and devoted himself to public causes and social upliftment.”

—Prabodh Thakker,  
*Chairman, Aon Global Insurance Service Pvt. Ltd.*

“Nanik and I used to exchange books and notes on politics. We were both very active members of the Congress. He had once told me that he wanted an Indian organization

that would have honour and prestige abroad. I told him it would be a Herculean task, in view of the resources and fund raising it would require, but he said, 'I will build it up,' and he did so. Nanik has certain outstanding qualities and these include dynamism, leadership, the skill of bringing people together, and implementation of various ideas.

“Because of his selfless service, he is recognized and respected by all political parties. The main reason for this is that he does not seek any post. So they know that he is a man with no political aspirations. His only interest is in doing something good for the society. That is also the reason he is able to talk uninhibited with big industrialists or politicians — he is not seeking any personal favours.”

—Yogendra P. Trivedi,  
*Advocate, Supreme Court*

“I feel that the most important quality in him is that he is a very good person: *Unme aatmiyata hai*. He is a simple and straightforward person, he is not manipulative. He has a very friendly nature and we became friends very easily.”

—Girdharlal Vaid,  
*Chairman, Ashish Estates & Properties Pvt. Ltd.*

“He is unbiased, non-political, transparent and outspoken. For this he is most admired by all in the political arena. Mr. Rupani is the founder member of ‘Sindhu Darshan’. He has single-handedly been responsible for inviting great personalities from India and abroad and keeping up the work of national integration through ‘Sindhu Darshan’ and the celebration of the annual Sindhi ritual of *bebrana*. Priyadarshni helps Ladakhi children in education and trains them in Information Technology. Mr. Rupani is

committed to society, national integration and culture.”

—Tarun Vijay, *Editor, Panchjanya*

“Mr. Nanik Rupani is devoted to the cause of promoting excellence in social, cultural, educational, sports and arts activities. I have known him since the days of my entry into international cricket and I will always cherish that wonderful association of ours which motivated me to give my best on the field for the country. He is not only an astute businessman, but also a great human being with a sense of tremendous responsibility towards the society. I am positive that his biography will be a great inspiring force for many generations to come, to accomplish their social obligations unflinchingly for our great country.”

—Ajit Wadekar,  
*Former Cricketer, Indian Cricket Team*

“The Mumbai-Pune Expressway incident brings out the essence of Nanik Rupani’s character. His calmness in the face of looming calamity, his decisiveness and persuasiveness in being able to bring the political leaders of Maharashtra into the picture, his talent not only to highlight problems but to suggest viable solutions to them, and his ability to have them implemented are all brought out in that episode, as they are in all his actions and activities.”

—Dr. Shirin Wadia,  
*Renowned Homoeopath*

“Nanik Rupani is a warm, friendly person. In business and social service, his achievements are unparalleled. He is known and respected by all the important people. He is an organizer par excellence, and has pulled off seemingly

Success is Our Birthright

impossible feats in terms of events: the Priyadarshni Awards, the India Calling Conference at Singapore ... the examples are countless. He is contributing significantly to promoting India's image all over the world.”

—Gambhir Watts,  
*Managing Director, Poseidon Corp Pty Ltd., Australia*