

# Srijan Pal Singh

## Executive Summary

Srijan Pal Singh is a public policy leader, education innovator and technology strategist with over two decades of experience across government, social sector and emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and immersive learning systems. An IIM Ahmedabad Gold Medallist, he began his career with global institutions before serving from 2009 to 2015 as Advisor and Officer on Special Duty to the 11th President of India, A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, contributing to several nationally significant development and innovation initiatives. He is the Founder of the Kalam Centre and the Founder and CEO of Homi Lab, through which he leads large-scale programmes in AI education, immersive laboratories and future-ready skills for students and teachers across India. His work has directly impacted hundreds of thousands of learners, supported grassroots innovation in governance, strengthened national capacity in digital and scientific education, and advanced inclusive development in areas such as water security, public policy and education reform.

## Professional Biography

Srijan Pal Singh is an IIM Ahmedabad Gold Medallist (2009) with over 20 years of experience in contemporary technologies, public policy, education transformation and social innovation, including artificial intelligence and machine learning. He completed his schooling at La Martiniere College, Lucknow, and holds a B.Tech. in Electrical Engineering. He later graduated from IIM Ahmedabad, where he was awarded the Gold Medal in 2009.

He began his professional career with the Boston Consulting Group and the United Nations World Food Programme. Soon thereafter, he chose to leave an international corporate career to serve the nation.

From 2009 to 2015, he served as Advisor and Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to the 11th President of India, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam. He also worked with the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), a research and education initiative of ISRO.

Working under Dr. Kalam's mentorship, he played a key role in the design and execution of several national and visionary initiatives, including the PURA (Providing Urban Amenities in Rural Areas) scheme, the Space-Based Solar Power Project, and advisory inputs on the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant, Neutrino Technology for Society, and the "What Can I Give" mission. Under his leadership, multiple PURA complexes were implemented across India, connecting more than 12,000 villages through a unified knowledge platform envisioned by Dr. Kalam.

The PURA model later evolved into the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee RURBAN Mission, for which he was appointed to the Government of India's Advisory Board.

In 2012, Dr. Kalam and Srijan Pal Singh co-founded the Kalam Foundation, where he served as Managing Director.

Between 2013 and 2015, he was appointed Advisor to the Government of Gujarat for the Loha Campaign related to the Statue of Unity and also continued to advise the Chief Minister on innovation and technology.

Following Dr. Kalam's passing in 2015, he carried forward his mentor's vision by establishing the Kalam Centre, where he currently serves as Founder and CEO.

Under his leadership, the Kalam Centre today operates more than 450 free libraries across 14 Indian states, serving highly marginalized communities. It also runs a multilingual animation laboratory to create educational content for underprivileged children and manages the Kalam Bharat Fellowship, which has recruited over 600 auxiliary teachers across 300 government schools and juvenile centres. These fellows have trained more than 250,000 children in emerging skills.

He founded the Right to Water initiative, focused on policy and technology interventions to ensure universal access to clean drinking water. In 2018, he launched India's first water startup incubator, InnoBlu, inaugurated by the Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog. The data generated through this initiative has significantly influenced national approaches to the clean water challenge.

He also initiated the Innovation and Governance Summit, which has engaged more than 100 senior civil service officers and promoted grassroots innovation in governance. The 2019 edition was graced by the Vice President of India.

In partnership with the UK Centre for Astrobiology at the University of Edinburgh, he initiated the UKCA Mars Mission India. The programme enables Indian students to work with global experts from the European Space Agency, NASA and Australian space agencies on technologies for human habitation on Mars by 2035. The mission operates from an underground research facility located 2.5 kilometres below the Earth's surface.

He is also a member of the Research Board of the Deendayal Research Institution, founded by Nanaji Deshmukh and formerly chaired by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Over the years, he has served in several national and state-level advisory and governance roles. The Government of Uttar Pradesh nominated him as a mentor for its ₹1,000-crore State Startup Policy. He serves on the Board of the Maharashtra Government's Centre for Innovation and Progressive Regulation under the Maharashtra Water Regulatory Authority and is a Governing Council member of the Institute for Management Studies, Ghaziabad.

In 2019, he was invited to present before the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Protection of Data Privacy Bill.

He is the author of 15 books, including three co-authored with Dr. Kalam. His books have sold more than 400,000 copies and have been translated into 12 languages. Two of his books were shortlisted among the top five titles in their respective categories at the Raymond Crossword Book Awards in 2016 and 2017.

As Executive Chairman of the Dr. Vikhe Patil Foundation, he has led the transformation of teaching pedagogy through global curricula, activity-based learning and experiential

education. The foundation supports more than 7,000 K–12 students and actively contributes to education and skills policy.

He is a frequent speaker at leading institutions and platforms and has delivered lectures at IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Indore, IIT Delhi, IIT Mumbai, Maa Shakumbhari University, Chaudhary Charan Singh University, and at more than 1,000 national and international forums, including TEDx, the Sharjah Book Fair, the Qatar Book Fair and the Bahrain Book Fair.

He has conducted masterclasses on artificial intelligence and addressed vice-chancellors and institutional leaders at the Association of Indian Universities on the role of AI, the future of education and next-generation learning systems. He has addressed more than 120,000 youth globally, appears regularly as a television commentator and contributes to national newspapers.

In 2021, he founded Homi Lab, India's first Future Learning Lab, focused on transforming education through immersive, VR-enabled laboratories and advanced learning technologies. With 11 immersive centres across India, Homi Lab has trained over 450,000 learners in emerging future sciences and technologies.

As a social business strategist, he developed business and market strategies for master artisans under the Atmanirbhar Centre for Design (ABCD) at the Red Fort, hosted by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts. The programme supports 23 rare Indian art forms through product design and technology-enabled interventions.

As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, he contributed to *Dhara: An Ode to Indian Knowledge Systems*, an initiative of the Ministry of Culture, bringing together ministries, academia and industry experts to develop frameworks for preserving and promoting traditional Indian knowledge systems.

He served as Chief Mentor of *Jigyasa – A Quiz Dedicated to Bharat*, where he conceptualised a generative-AI-based quiz delivered in 17 languages and played by more than one million users across 102 countries and over 500 Indian districts, including participation by persons with disabilities.

He has established a suite of immersive virtual-reality science laboratories that replicate advanced scientific instruments such as Scanning Electron Microscopes, Transmission Electron Microscopes, X-ray Diffraction systems and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance equipment. These virtual laboratories enable university students to conduct complex experiments safely and cost-effectively. These immersive research labs, developed in collaboration with Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur, currently serve more than 6,000 students across the Kanpur district.

He has also set up an immersive, case-study-based learning laboratory in collaboration with Lucknow University for management students, enabling simulation-driven decision-making and real-world problem-solving. This is the world's first case-study-based simulation lab and caters to over 10,000 students across the university and its affiliated colleges.

In partnership with the New Delhi Municipal Council, he led a capacity-building programme on artificial intelligence, delivering a hands-on training programme for government school

teachers and students focused on foundational AI literacy and classroom integration. The programme reached 300 students and 240 teachers, delivering a total of over 8,000 hours of training.

He is the lead architect of the one-of-its-kind *AI for All* programme, implemented with Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur. The initiative delivers a 75-hour AI course in Hindi to more than 150,000 students across science, commerce and humanities streams. Designed for non-coding learners, the programme integrates gamified learning, hands-on projects and mentorship, and has collectively delivered more than 100 million learning hours.

In addition, he leads large-scale teacher and student capacity-building programmes across multiple states, focusing on the integration of artificial intelligence, ethics and creativity in education. These initiatives have empowered over 150,000 learners and more than 500 educators.

He has been honoured with the Young Alumni Achiever's Award (2021–22) for Social Impact and Public Service by IIM Ahmedabad and was the first recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam Technical University.

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Link to video profile narrated by Shri Amitabh Bachchan: [link](#)