



Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India



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MODERN ENERGY COOKING FORUM 2023

Nov 3rd, 2023 - New Delhi









Speakers Profiles – Modern Energy Cooking 2023

<image/>	Nick has over 20 years of experience of working in UK Government – his final role was Head of International Innovation Strategy at the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills. Nick led the innovation strand of the Newton programme and Government to Government policy dialogues. Nick's consultancy, Unconventional Connections, focuses on innovation collaboration included work funded by DfID on harnessing the UK's strengths in clean energy technology to increase access to clean energy in Africa and SE Asia. Nick has a personal interest in sustainable solutions to local and global food-related challenges – in 2015 he set up the Woven Network – UK-based network for those working on insect protein. Nick holds BA, MSc and PhD degrees in psychology from the universities of Cambridge, Loughborough and Sheffield with a focus on psychology and user- centred system design. Within the MECS project, Nick is one of the International Liaison Managers for India.
With the second seco	Sri Abhay Bakre is the Director General of BEE. He is a Post Graduate (M. Tech.) in Elect. Engineering from IIT, Kharagpurand belongs to 1988 Batch of Indian Railways Electrical Engineering Services. He was associated with Delhi Metro & Kolkata Metro extension projects worked as Joint Development Commissioner in the Ministry of MSME and was Nodal officer for National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme. As ED PCRA, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, he was engaged in petroleum & energy conservation in industry, transport, domestic sector etc. He also worked as Executive Director in the Environment Directorate of Ministry of Railways and was the nodal officer for developing INDC for the Railway sector. He also participated at the transport sector events of COP 21 held in Paris and COP 22 held in Morocco.

Wishal Kapoor, CEO Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL)	Mr Vishal Kapoor is the CEO of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL). With over 24 years of experience he has a proven track record of managing large & diverse teams. At EESL, Mr. Kapoor oversees programmes to enhance India's energy transition and conservation efforts. Before joining EESL, Mr. Kapoor was the Joint Secretary at the Ministry of Power (MoP) for power distribution and reforms, IT & Cyber Security, OL and social media. Prior to MoP, Mr. Kapoor was the Director at the Research Designs & Standards Organization (RDSO) under Ministry of Railways (Gol). Mr. Kapoor is a graduate in Mechanical Engineering from Indian Railways Institute of Mechanical & Electrical Engineering with a post-graduate degree in Public Administration from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore. Mr Gaya Prasad belongs to the 1996 batch of the Indian Statistical Services (ISS). Since October 2018, he is working as Deputy Director General in the Ministry of Rural Development. Under his present assignment, he is responsible for implementation of Pradhan
Mr Gaya Prasad Deputy Director General (RH), Pradhan MantriAwaasYojana - Gramin (PMAY- G) Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD), Govt of India	MantriAwaasYojanaGramin (PMAY-G) in the country, one of the high-budgeted, centrally sponsored schemes of the government. Mr Gaya Prasad has vast experience of more than 20 years of working in the social security, poverty alleviation, and rural development sectors. His significant contribution to the rollout and implementation of Gram SwarajAbhiyan (GSA) has also been acknowledged by the Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development &Panchayati Raj, Government of India.
	Mr. Raj Pal is Sr. Advisor in Power Foundation of India (PFI). Prior to joining PFI, worked as Policy Advisor in Indo-German Energy Programme of GIZ and Advisor in International Solar Alliance. Mr. Raj Pal was Senior Advisor in Ministry of Power, Government of India. In Ministry of Power he was bureau head responsible for energy efficiency & conservation; training & research; policy planning; and coordination. He has about 10 years' experience in Power Sector; and more than 34 years of experience of working in different

	Ministries and Organizations of Government of India as Officer of Indian Economic Service. He superannuated after working at the level of Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India from Ministry of Power on April 2021. He also worked as Advisor (Economic Regulation) in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and as Principal Advisor in National Housing Bank. During his tenure at the Ministry of Power, he was government nominee director on the boards of the power sector PSUs and member of the Executive Committees of the National Power Training Institute and Central Power Research
Mr Raj Pal	Institute. Mr. Raj Pal received Master's degree and M Phil in Economics from Kurukshetra University
Senior Advisor	Kurukshetra (Haryana) and Diploma in
Power Foundation of India (PFI)	Development Studies from Institute of Developing
	Economies, Tokyo (Japan).
Dr Sanjay Kumar	Dr. Sanjay Kumar retired as Director General of Forests and Special Secretary to the Government of India. He holds a PhD in Poverty and Rural Livelihoods from the University of Cambridge and has represented India in various global environmental negotiations. Dr Sanjay previously served as Executive Director of the Climate Parliament, where he pursued the vision of powering the global economy with one hundred percent renewable. In his current role as Deputy Secretary-General, he leads Climate Parliament's global work with the CEO & Investor Council and international collaborations to pursue the objectives of the One Sun Declaration under the Green Grids Initiative -
Honorary Advisor, Climate Parliament,	One Sun One World One Grid announced by Hon.
Former Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to the Government of India	Prime Ministers Shri Narendra Modi and Johnson at COP-26 of UNFCCC.



Mr Vimal Kumar, MECS India Lead & Cofounder Finovista



Dr DebajitPalit Professor NTPC School of Business Mr Vimal is Co-founder of Finovista, works extensively in the of In-country areas Representation, Program Management Consulting, Technology Transfer and Capacity Building. He possesses extensive expertise and experience in managing various National, Bilateral and Multilateral programs and Indo-German GINSEP's Ambassador. At Finovista, he leads prestigious programs viz, India-UK Future Telecom Partnership Prog (UK Govt), UK-India Innovation Partnership Initiative (UKIPI) under COP26 (UK Govt), Tech4Good Innovation Challenge (German Govt), Social Enterprise (So Enterprising) Development (Indian Govt), Promotion of CSIR Knowledgebase etc. Additionally, during the association with Global Innovation & Technology Alliance (GITA), as a Head of Strategy & Partnership, conceptualized and managed Bilateral Collaborative Industrial R&D Programs with Canada, Finland, Israel, Italy, Spain, South Korea, UK etc. Vimal believes in integrating Innovation and Finance for societal development and economic growth.

Dr. DebajitPalit has more than 26 years of experience working in the domain of renewable energy, clean energy access, rural electrification, distributed generation, micro-grids and energy transition. He is featured in the Top 2% World's Scientists Ranking by Stanford University for the last 4 years in a row. Presently, DrPalit is a Professor of Energy at the NTPC School of Business, Noida. He was earlier with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), a global research and policy think tank, as a Director & Senior Fellow, and led the Rural Energy & Livelihood Division in TERI for almost a decade. DrPalit has published 3 books and around 150 research papers in reputed scholarly journals, conference proceedings, books, and magazines. DrPalit holds a Master's degree in Physics, Post Graduate Diploma in Non-conventional Energy Technology and Ph.D. in Energy Policy.

Mr PC Sharma, Joint Director, International Solar Alliance (ISA)	Mr. Sharma is a distinguished professional with an extensive career spanning over three decades and is presently the Joint Director at the International Solar Alliance (ISA). In addition to his current role, Mr. Sharma also serves as the Coordinator for ISA National Focal Points, effectively overseeing activities and collaborations involving all 116 ISA member countries. He plays a crucial role in supporting the implementation of demonstration projects aimed at benefiting 27 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) within the ISA member countries. His academic accomplishments include a Master's degree in Technology from the NIT, Jamshedpur,
	India. Mr. Sharma has conducted successful country missions in various ISA member countries, including DR Congo, Malawi, Niger, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Nepal, Cambodia leaving a lasting impact with his expertise.
Frequencies Director General, The Energy Resource Institute (TERI)	DrVibhaDhawan's long association with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) dates back to 1985. During 2005-2007 she led TERI School of Advanced Studies in the capacity of Vice- Chancellor. She has served on the boards of prestigious organizations in India and overseas including JawaharLal Nehru University. She was the key lead for the DBT-TERI Centre on Integrated Production of Advanced Biofuels and Biocommodities. She is a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, India and is currently also
	serving as an Adjunct Professor, at Consul General South Asia Partnership, Michigan State University. DrDhawan has authored 6 books and over 50 publications. She is currently a task force member of National Committees with the Department of Biotechnology, the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council, and the Biotech Consortium India. She has been also conferred with the Social Impact Leadership Award early this
Prof Jyoti Parikh	year. DrJyoti K Parikh, Executive Director and Founding Director of IRADewas a Member of the former Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change – India. She served as energy consultant to the World Bank, the U.S. Department of Energy, EU, Brussels, and U.N. agencies. She has served as an advisor to various ministries for the Government of India and has held national and international appointments, . She was on the Board of directors

Evecutive Director	of Indian Ronowable Energy Development Agency
Executive Director Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe)	of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA) 2001-2004 and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), MoUD, Gol. She has served on several International Journal editorial boards, and as a reviewer. She obtained her M.Sc. from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1964 and Ph.D. in Theoretical Physics from the University of Maryland, College Park in 1967. She has guided 12 Ph.D. theses and given lectures in more than 40
	countries worldwide. In 2019, Animesh embarked on his illustrious journey at EESL, assuming the mantle of Head of Sales and PR. With a trove of two decades of experience glistening in his repertoire, he had previously graced telecom and manufacturing giants like Airtel, Sleepwell, and Vodafone. At EESL, Animesh's virtuosity shone, orchestrating triumph after triumph in the realm of campaigns. He pioneered the Channel Partner Program, expertly weaving partnerships, expanded the Distribution Network, and painted vibrant portraits of brand presence through Digital
Shri Animesh Mishra, Chief General Manager, Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL)	Marketing. Animesh's pièce de résistance, however, lay in his fervent commitment to advancing the Digital India program, earning him accolades across numerous platforms, a testament to his dedication in shaping EESL digital destiny.
Dr Umish Srivastava , Executive Director, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL)	 Dr Umish is B.E. in (Mechanical Engineering), M.E. in (Mechanical Engineering) and Ph.D. in Energy Studies from IIT Delhi. He is an IGBC Certified GREEN Accredited Professional. He has 31 years of R&D experience in Indian Oil Corporation Limited. Presently heading Alternate Energy Department comprising of: Solar Energy Research Group Implementing IOC-R&D plans in solar energy Setting up laboratory facilities Spearheading the projects and product development Battery Research Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Research Group Gasification Research Bitumen Research Group New R&D Campus Project encompassing iCARE (IndianOil Centre for Alternative & Renewable Energy)

	R&D and has over 50 publications in technical journals of repute with over 20 patents granted and several are under filing.
With the second secon	MrChandru began his journey with front-line sales of test and measuring instruments and office automation at BPL Limited. His journey at TTK Prestige began in 1993 as product manager, and grew to General manager marketing in two years. His work here was inspired by his biggest passion in life – cooking. When the company was in trouble and turned loss making in 2003,he formulated a high growth strategy, challenging every norm and played a key role in envisioning and transforming the company to where it is today. Today TTK Prestige has grown from 113 crores top line in 2003 to over 2500 crores in FY 22. He was promoted as the managing director in 2015 and the company has continued to grow at a blistering pace. He has won several accolades in his journey.
With the second seco	Meredith Muthoni is the Head of Electric Finance at BURN, leading strategy and funding for the electric cooking product suite. She is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and is the point person of contact between BURN's executive team and its electric cooking business. She has over 10 years of experience in designing business models, structuring and implementing innovative financing options to help businesses meet their growth goals. Prior to BURN, she worked as a product manager at Tustawi Professional Education, as a Financial Modeller for Growth Africa and as a corporate finance and strategy analyst at Lattice Consulting. Meredith holds a Bachelor of Business
	Science from Strathmore University, specializing in financial economics.
With the second seco	Sheetal holds over 15 years of experience in developing strategy and execution roadmaps for new business initiatives. She has a diverse background of working with leading firms in Banking & Finance, Manufacturing, and Specialty Retail. At Finovista, Sheetal has been leading strategy and programme execution has led to the execution of multiple innovation support and entrepreneurship development programmes in Finovista, some of which were on specific
Finovista	thematic areas like Clean Cooking, Bamboo Innovation Challenge, and Women entrepreneurship programmes. Under MECS Programme, in India, Sheetal has been

	
<image/>	instrumental in leading the executions of the various initiatives under the programme, planning and strategizing new initiatives and concepts "Talk Series" & "Modern Energy Cooking Forum 2022". She has also been the lead for the work under building strong evidence on electric cooking through India eCookbook – Cooking Study Design & Development, project In-depth exploration of 100% cooking with electricity, field trail of electric cooking for 14 households, electric cooking appliance mapping. DrTripta Thakur is Director General, National Power Training Institute (NPTI), under the Ministry of Power, Government of India. She was earlier Head and Professor, Electrical Engineering Department at the National Institute of Technology, MANIT-Bhopal, India. She is a graduate in Electrical Engineering with Master's degree in Power Electronics from IIT-Kanpur, and has a PhD from IIT-Delhi. She has been recipient of several awards such as Commonwealth Research Scholar at University of Dundee (2005-2008), UK, Commonwealth Academic fellow at Durham University Business School (2014), UK, COFUND Senior researcher at Durham University Business School (2016), Visiting Faculty at Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok (2010), technical member for International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), SEG4 Group, ISGF (MoP) working group member etc. She has teaching and research experience of 28 years, and has nearly 100 publications to her credit.
With the second seco	 Mr. SoumitraChakraborty, currently heading Marketing Strategy Function at Marketing Division Head Office of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. This strategic vertical exclusively covers following segments New business opportunities in E-Mobility, Energy storage, Battery Charging/Swapping, clean cooking etc. through strategic alliances. Spearheading Advanced data analytics initiative "I-DEA" for Marketing division to generate insights for data driven business for various functions. Strategy formulation of Marketing Division for strengthening the core business areas. He was also heading LPG-Strategies Function at Marketing Division Head Office of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Mr. Chakraborty has over 3 decades of experience in Oil & Gas Industry. He was on deputation with Indian Oil PetronasPvt Ltd

With the second seco	(IPPL) - a Joint Venture company between IOCL and Petronas, Malaysia as General Manager (Marketing and Operations) for 5 years during 2015-20. He holds a degree in Bachelor of Electrical Engineering & also Master of Business Administration in Human Resources. Akanksha leads the energy access vertical at NRDC India focusing on issues related to energy security, climate policy, finance, and green jobs. Akanksha works at the intersection of policy, technology, and finance to scale up the implementation of clean energy solutions in India.In her previous role, Akanksha has designed programs that facilitated distribution sector reforms and enhanced energy access in India. She is an avid researcher and has published in leading journals and digital magazines. Akanksha is a qualified Chartered Accountant and is trained in public policy at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.
	Soumanil is a highly motivated and organized individual who will use 15+ years of management experience and skilled leadership to maintain productivity and quality of service. Capable of handling national level turnkey projects in Ed-Tech segment with technical know-how and expertise, he loves to take challenging roles and has good learning skills. He is well experienced in Market Research, Content Writing, Product Marketing, and Business Development. He comes with a strong background in project management and customer relations. During his stint with CII, he spent more than 6 years working towards the socio-economic impact through national level CSR projects in Skilling and Livelihood for DFCCIL (Saksham), HPCL (Swavalamban), Aditya Birla Group (Kaushalya) under European Union Mission (jointly with British Council) and IOCL impacting
Mr Soumanil Mukherjee, Consultant, Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India	5000+ beneficiaries. He also led the team to manage over 7 lac assessments under PMKVY, PMKVY 2.0, RPL and other employment linked incentive training schemes launched by the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Gol& Ministry of Rural Development, Gol, and piloted SamagraShiksha NSQF Training & Assessment Project in schools of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. He was also instrumental in anchoring pilot assessments of

	10000 Street Food Vendors in Delhi NCR & UP in less than a months' time on behalf of Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council (THSC) and in consultation with NSDC, NASVI, FSSAI and Ministry of Labour& Employment, GoI.
With Provide and Provi	Deepak brings with him extensive experience of over 20 years in the clean energy and environment sector. He has specialized in various aspects of carbon mitigation, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste management, air pollution control, and global climate policy. Deepak has played a significant role in creating enabling frameworks for clean energy investments in India. Deepak's contributions have helped shape strategic initiatives such as "India's Wind Potential Re-assessment Committee," "Renewable Energy Roadmap 2030," "The India Innovation Lab for Green Finance (India Lab)," and "Green Power Market Development Group (GPMDG)." Deepak has served as a part of a global network of organizations working on climate change at Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation from 2010 to 2018. Currently, he is spearheading Green Credit Business in ReNew and working on multiple projects.Deepak is an alumnus of IIT Delhi, Faculty of Management Studies-Delhi University, and Delhi College of Engineering (now DTU).
Dr RK Singh Chief General Manager Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)	Dr R. K. Singh, PhD (JRF UGC- MSME Entrepreneurship), MBA (B&F) & Fellow, IIBF has experience of 32+ years in development banking. Presently he is Head, Green Climate, Energy Efficiency and International Cooperation, SIDBI. Before this assignment, he was head of Promotion and Development and Clusters wherein he founded & ran for 3+ years Mission Swavalamban. From 2005-06 to 2012-13, he had managed the multi-partnership MSME Financing and Development (MSMEFDP) project supported by the World Bank, GIZ, KfW and DFID, UK.



Ms PamliDeka, Regional Coordinator South Asia, Private Financing Advisory Network (PFAN)



Mr DebalMitra, Senior Manager, Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)



Mr Krishna Kumar Sinha Advisor Finovista & Former Industrial Advisor,Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP),Govt of India.

PamliDeka is the Regional Co-ordinator for PFAN, South Asia, where she works with the teams across India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka to strengthen the network of climate projects, while reaching out to investors and ecosystem members to support adoption of clean energy and sustainable solutions in the region. Prior to PFAN, Pamli helped in building the energy access body of work at the World Resources Institute, India (WRI India) where she supported end users to integrate sustainable energy solutions into their strategy. She has also facilitated investments in social enterprises in India, Nepal and Bangladesh with New Ventures India, a program incubated by WRI. A chemical engineer from IIT Roorkee and MBA graduate from INSEAD, Pamlihas co-authored reports, research papers and many widely read articles on the role of energy in development.

DebalMitra is a Senior Program Manager at Climate Policy Initiative, a global non-profit research and advisory institution engaged in the field of climate action. He leads project preparation facilities designed for unlocking private commercial capital for enterprises in distributed renewable energy, especially those focused on livelihood-centric productive uses. He is also engaged in research and program management in green finance and industrial decarbonization. Debal comes with over 20 years of experience across varied domains of financial and consulting services including credit rating, project finance, transaction advisory and equity research, across multiple sectors like energy, infrastructure, and natural resources. Debal is a Bachelor of Technology in Chemical Engineering from IIT Delhi and a Post Graduate in Management from IIM, Calcutta.

A graduate in Mechanical Engineering and Post graduate in Production Engineering from IITD, he ioined Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India as an Indian Engineering Services officer.He served the ministry in various capacities for 35 years and retired in 2017 as an Industrial Adviser in the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP, now known as DPIIT). His core area of competence is foreign direct investment promotion,FDI Policy and its implementation, promotion manufacturing of activities in Indian industry through industrial

	policy and the National Manufacturing Policy .In particular,he was closely associated with the development of light engineering and automobile ancillary industry in India.He also served on the Board of Central Power Research Institute,Bengaluru , National Institute of Industrial Engineering , Mumbai and National Institute of Industrial Engineering , Mumbai, and National Institute of Advance Manufacturing ,Ranchi.
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