

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CHANGE OF GUARD AT FADA AS MR. VINKESH GULATI HANDS OVER THE BATON TO MR. MANISH RAJ SINGHANIA, FADA'S 36<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT**

**Raipur, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022:** The Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA), the apex national body of automobile retail in India, today announced the appointment of **Mr. Manish Raj Singhania as FADA's 36<sup>th</sup> President and for the years 2022-24**. The decision was made at the 307<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting, which was held immediately after the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting at Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

Mr. Singhania is the Managing Partner of Ralas Motors based out of Raipur, Chhattisgarh and has dealership of Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. Besides a strong presence in the automobile business, Ralas Group, which was established in 1975 is one of the leading Real Estate Developers of Chhattisgarh. The group also has significant interest in Agriculture. Over the past two decades, the Ralas Group has grown significantly both in terms of assets and turnover establishing a considerable presence in the State of Chhattisgarh.

Mr Singhania has also been the President of Raipur Automobile Dealers Associations (RADA) for the last nine years. For over 12 years, he has been a key member of the FADA Governing Council, holding different positions and roles, particularly in accelerating the expansion of the association's network.

The Governing Council also elevated the following for the years 2022-24:

- **Mr C S Vigneshwar**, DMD – Anaamalais Toyota, (Dealer for Toyota, VECV and Ather) based out of Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, takes over as the **Vice President**.
- **Mr Sai Giridhar**, MD Saisha Motors Pvt. Ltd. (Dealer for Skoda and Volvo Cars) based out of Jaipur, Rajasthan, take over as **Secretary**.

The Council unanimously elected **Mr Amar Jatin Sheth**, as **Treasurer** for the years **2022-24**. Mr Sheth is the Managing Director for Group Shaman (Dealer of Honda Cars, Volkswagen, and Triumph) based out of Mumbai, Maharashtra.

FADA India places on record its gratefulness for the immense contribution of its outgoing President Mr. Vinkesh Gulati. Under his able leadership, FADA took multiple initiatives during the pandemic like Auto Dealers Protection Act, Model Dealer Agreement, creation of 2W, GenX and Women in FADA vertical and initiating Dealership Satisfaction Study as it was one of the most challenging times not only for the Auto Retail Business but the entire global economy. During his term, Auto Dealers once again came under the ambit of MSME.

While handing over charge to Mr. Singhania, Mr. Vinkesh Gulati said, *"The past two years have been an enormous honour and source of pride for me as the head of India's apex association of Automobile Dealers. It is truly said that necessity is the mother of invention, and COVID-19 made our association even stronger. I received incredible support and energy from my team of Office Bearers, Executive Committee, Governing Council and all the State Chairpersons as this journey wouldn't have been possible without their support.*

*I congratulate my friend and colleague Mr. Manish Raj Singhania on taking over as the 36<sup>th</sup> President of FADA. After working with him for several years, I am confident that he will take the association to a*

*newer orbit of momentum and growth. His unique working style and convincing approach will continue to help resolve Dealers' issues and challenges faced by the community. I strongly believe that the association will be even more unified and stronger under his leadership."*

Commenting on his appointment as FADA 36<sup>th</sup> President, Mr. Manish Raj Singhania said, *"I am grateful and honoured that the Federation has placed its trust in me as I take the position of the next FADA president.*

*Apart from putting in all my effort to strengthen Auto Retail across the length and breadth of the country and continuously striving to bring in a balanced approach towards Dealer related issues, I along with my team consisting of Mr. C S Vigneshwar, Mr. Sai Giridhar and Mr. Amar Jatin Sheth, will also work towards the implementation of Auto Dealer's Protection Act, getting in a balanced OEM - Dealer Agreement and continue to further strengthen FADA across all aspects.*

*Despite the current challenges, India has the potential to become the global leader in Automobile Industry. If the Government, SIAM, ACMA and FADA whole heartedly work in unison, this dream will become a reality well before its time."*

Brief profiles of all the FADA Office Bearers for 2022-24 can be found in Annexure 1, Page No. 03

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#### About FADA India

Founded in 1964, Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA), is the apex national body of Automobile Retail Industry in India engaged in the sale, service and spares of 2/3 Wheelers, Passenger Cars, UVs, Commercial Vehicles (including buses and trucks) and Tractors. FADA India represents over 15,000 automobile dealers having 26,500 dealerships including multiple Associations of Automobile Dealers at the Regional, State and City levels representing the entire Auto Retail Industry. Together we employ ~4 million people at dealerships and service centres.

FADA India, at the same time also actively networks with the Industries and the authorities, both at the Central & State levels to provide its inputs and suggestions on the Auto Policy, Taxation, Vehicle Registration Procedure, Road Safety and Clean Environment, etc. to sustain the growth of the Automobile Retail Trade in

## Annexure 1

### Brief Profiles of FADA Office Bearers for 2022-24

#### Mr Manish Raj Singhania – President, FADA and Managing Partner – Ralas Motors



Mr. Manish Raj Singhania is the President of FADA and Managing Partner of Ralas Motors, which has dealership of Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd. He was also the President of Raipur Automobile Dealers Associations (RADA) for the last 9 years. Possessing B.Com and MBA degrees, he is also engaged in Real Estate & Agriculture Business.

Mr. Singhania has been associated with FADA since last 12 years as a GC Member, State Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and Vice President.

He has been invited by various organizations to speak on different topics like Budget, GST, etc., and under his leadership, RADA has organized four very successful Auto Expos in Raipur and many CSR initiatives for betterment of Society & Trade.

Mr. Singhania has also been awarded the “Automobile Person of the Year” by Think Media Inc. in the Chhattisgarh Leadership Awards 2014 and his dealership, Ralas Motors has received the Emerging Chhattisgarh Awards 2013 – THE GREEN BUSINESS AWARD by Think Media Inc. for the lavish Greenery of the dealership & his contribution to Environment. He was awarded for outstanding contribution in JD Power Study SSI (No. 1) & CSI (No. 3) – 2018. Ralas Motors received Excellence Award for Innovative Ideas in 3W ADEA 2016 awards.

With a special focus on environment, Mr. Singhania has distributed over 22,000 mango saplings along with every new vehicle delivered in last 12 years.

#### Mr Chittur Selvakumar Vigneshwar – Vice President, FADA and Deputy Managing Director – Anaamalais Toyota



Born into a business family in Coimbatore, Mr. C S Vigneshwar spent his childhood in Chennai. Schooled in Don Bosco Chennai, he later graduated in Commerce out of Loyola College Chennai. He later pursued his MBA from GRD College Coimbatore before adding an MSc in International Business from Manchester Metropolitan University.

He joined family business in the year 2004, representing the third generation in the family. Today the business group known as the ARC group has interests in goods transportation, automobile dealerships, drinking water, packaged foods, green energy alternatives, farming, FMCG distribution and education. The group has gained a strong environmental focus to add to its existing pioneering HR and CSR way of thinking.

Mr. Vigneshwar has been a member of the Apex Consultative Committee of Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicles for the last 14 years. He has been part of the Toyota dealer Council for 11 years and served the Head of the Toyota India Service Dealer Council for the 7 years. He has been a council member of the Federation of Automobile Dealers Federation for the last Six years. Having visited more than 70 countries, he loves travel. His personal interests include camping, nature photography and off-roading. Having a

day of learning at work and spending time with his family, friends and dogs is his definition of a fulfilled day.

***Mr Sai Giridhar – Secretary, FADA and Director, Saisha Motors Pvt Limited***



Mr. Sai Giridhar has been in the automobile business for 26 years. A veteran in the industry, Mr. Giridhar is the dealer principle of Volvo Rajasthan and Skoda (in 4 locations across Rajasthan).

An alumni of St Xavier's school (Delhi) he attained Bachelor of Commerce Degree, from Delhi University.

His journey in automobile started in 1995 with Daewoo Motors Dealership in Jaipur. After the closure of Daewoo Motors in 2003, he acquired the dealership of General Motors and thus began his entrepreneurial journey. The dealership quickly expanded in 7 cities in Rajasthan. In his ambitious zeal, Mr Giridhar became one of the first 13 dealers for Renault in India in 2011 and remained amongst the top performing dealers in both GM and Renault dealerships.

Similarly, in his current venture at Skoda, his dealership is among the top 5 performers in India, renowned for its exemplary customer services.

He has been serving as the Secretary of the Authorised Motor Association of Rajasthan since the past 8 years and has been associated with FADA for more than 10 years, holding posts of State Chairperson of Rajasthan for 4 years before joining central leadership team.

His recipe to success has many ingredients but customer satisfaction and inclusivity at workplace have always been the highlights.

Being a strong supporter of the right to education, he currently runs a program which provides financial support to his employees' children.

***Mr Amar Jatin Sheth Treasurer, FADA and Managing Director for Group Shaman***



A Postgraduate in Business Administration from SP Jain Institute of Management & Research- 2002 batch, Mr Amar at the age of 19 started Group Shaman in 1997 along with his father Mr. Jatin Sheth.

Shaman is now a leading brand in automobile dealerships representing Honda cars, Volkswagen & the British icon Triumph Motorcycles in Mumbai. The Group also provides Mobility & Car Rental Solutions through its venture Shaman Mobility across the country. It also runs a Pre-Owned Car division which caters to a diverse customer set across the city offering products of all makes and models.

The automobile facilities of Group Shaman are spread across 16 locations in the city. Amar is also a shareholder in Landmark Insurance which is one of the largest broking houses spread across the country for motor and general insurance. The group employees over 1,000 people in the Auto business and 800 people in the Insurance business.

His innovative business practices combined with a strong ethical approach & a passion towards building a customer centric business has won him several accolades & recognition.

Mr Amar has been the Chairperson for FADA Maharashtra Chapter for the third term. He is also a member of the 9 member FADA National Executive Committee.

Mr Amar spends his time out of office on activities like long distance cycling, running & swimming. Classic cars are also of keen interest to him.