

# SECURITY TODAY

VOL. 18 NO. 08

JUNE 2022

The Magazine for Protection Professionals

## TIWIIS 2022

Honouring The Top Influencers in  
The First Physical Event



TOP INDIAN WOMEN  
INFLUENCERS IN SECURITY

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# TIWIIS 2022 HONOURS THE TOP INFLUENCERS IN ITS FIRST PHYSICAL EVENT



For the first time since its inception the much sought after Top Indian Women Influencers In Security 2022, popularly known as TIWIIS, became a physical event with a large gathering interacting with the women in the security industry who have made a mark and have influenced not just women but also men in the industry. Held at the ITC's Fortune Select Hotel in Gurugram, the exclusive audience cheered as the names of the top 21 influencers were announced.

SECURITY TODAY's event has annually honoured these women while reiterating that all women in the industry are equally important but these were the ones who had made a mark as leading influencers. They have successfully broken barriers set by society, they have paved the way for greater equality and laid the path for more women to enter the field of security. Through sheer hard work, grit and determination they have not only set examples for other women but have earned the respect and admiration of their male counterparts too.

SECURITY TODAY Group Editor Mr GB Singh set the tone for the event by stating what everyone felt. He said that physical events have a special feel which was

why this year's TIWIIS was special. Mr Singh clarified that TIWIIS was not an awards event, but a recognition of women security leaders who inspire and influence, those who have broken barriers and set examples of exceptional roles in the security industry.

He again reiterated that every woman in the industry was a source of inspiration because they had broken the barriers and made a name for themselves, and TIWIIS merely honours and recognises some, every year.

Mr Singh's address was followed by the traditional lamp lighting following which the jury who had selected the special 21 were introduced. The jury for TIWIIS 2022 included Mr. Rajan Luthra- Head Special Projects, Chairman's Office, Reliance Industries Limited, Mr. Akhilesh Tuteja, Global Head Cyber Security & Partner KPMG, Ms. Bonnie Butlin, Co-Founder & Executive Director Security Partners' Forum, Ms. Vandana Verma, Security Relations Leader- Apj Chair- OWASP & Infosecgirls, Ms. Lekshmi Nair, Senior Managing Consultant & Route To Market Leader IBM Security, Apac & Emea, Mr. Paul Devassy, Regional Vice President, ASIS International, and Ms. Aman Singh, Associate

Editor SECURITY TODAY, all leading and well known names in the private security industry. As the Judges were introduced to the audience they received an applause from the large gathering.

Giving the background, Mr Singh said, "It was on the 8th of March 2020, on the International Women's Day that we had formally announced the Top Indian Women Influencers In Security recognition, just as the pandemic was setting in. Although we had planned the event to be physical, we had to ultimately settle for an online interaction. Dr. Kiran Bedi the then Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Puducherry had agreed to be our Chief Guest, and Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament had agreed to be our Guest of Honour. The event was held on 27th of August 2020. It was a huge success, with us receiving a record number of entries."

The first keynote speaker at the event was Mr. Rajan Luthra who insisted that winds of change had started blowing strongly in the security industry. He said the profile of women in security was steadily increasing, with many of them playing pivotal C-Suite roles, which bode well for the future of the industry.



Mr Luthra then went on to enumerate the traits of a security professional. He gave the example of Late Gen. Bipin Rawat, former chief of defence staff, who he said was a perfect example of a leader. "It is essential for a good security leader to have integrity, mindset, interpersonal skills and be action oriented. A security leader needs bold leadership skills." he said. Mr Luthra also opined that as a nature women have better inherent capabilities which should help them rise faster whereas men have to hone these capabilities.

Mr Luthra also said that women were slowly and steadily beginning to break free and rise. "We have the largest number of female pilots in the world. Women's strength in cyber security has gone up from 11 percent to 24 percent in five years. This is something to be proud of," he said. He said the multiple professional opportunities were now emerging for women.

Mr Luthra said that in spite of the growth, it was still required that further efforts were made to enhance the role of women security professionals in the industry. Mr Luthra said this could be done by mentoring for which a women security professional needed to be eager to learn.

"It is also important to show confidence. Demonstration of confidence goes a long way in career development. Women should be constantly desirous of training further, rather than be satisfied with what they have achieved. It is also important to have the talent of de-escalation...which means the ability to stay calm while working under pressure and in times of crisis. This will help them in accepting challenges and keep growing," he said.

Mr Luthra emphasised the traits that security professionals should have in order to be counted amongst the leaders - Integrity (to gain trust), Mindset (for risk awareness and problem solving), Interpersonal Skills (to communicate effectively), Training (either formal, hands-on, or by certifications), Action Oriented (for process based execution), Bold (have courage to enforce policies and discipline), Leadership Skills (to lead from the front), Expertise (by gaining in-depth know how). He rounded up his address by saying that it was necessary to remain motivated and have the talent of working smarter.

Mr Luthra's address was followed by the guest of honour, Ms Chhaya Sharma IPS, the Joint Commissioner, currently serving in the Economic Offences Wing of Delhi Police who, quite in contrast, to how a high ranking police officer would normally address a gathering, was candid, casual and struck the right chord with the audience, speaking from her start. Also, noteworthy to mention would be that Ms. Chhaya Sharma headed the team that had investigated and solved the infamous 2012 Nirbhaya gang rape case, and subsequently, the serial 'Delhi Crimes', available on Netflix was pictured around her.

She admitted that women in security had a tougher path to tread, and definitely needed the support of both their family and professional colleagues. "We have to work harder to prove ourselves. But that's in the initial phase when one is breaking into a new fold. Once that barrier is crossed, things start falling in place and stay

relatively smooth” she said.

Ms Sharma admitted that policing is predominantly a patriarchal set up but added that with time things were certainly changing. “We definitely need to recognise women who are doing well. We need to break the bias and accept a person as a good professional rather than a woman or man,” she said.



Ms Sharma said that while it was a fact that there were some areas where women had restrictions because of being physically weaker, they can easily compensate for fields that they excel in. “This way what they lack in physical strength, can be made up,” she said.

“To ensure that they develop constantly, women need to pick up challenges that are thrown at them. In fact more the challenges, more is the chance of growth and being able to prove themselves. Buckling under pressure is not an option,” said Ms Sharma.

Delving on the issue of sexual harassment, Ms Sharma agreed that it still exists at work places. “So it is necessary not to endure it but to stand up against it. The law is there to help, but will help only when you stand up and oppose the harassment,” she said.

Punctuating her address with multiple examples from day to day life, Ms Sharma’s address received a thunderous applause from the sizable number of women security professionals openly admitting that they were inspired by her. What caught the audience’s interest was Ms Sharma’s ease of address and ability to take up subjects that everyone identifies with. She even sought to explain how premeditated the roles were for women by saying that often her cook calls her up in the office to ask “what should I cook for dinner”. Ms Sharma laughed

and said she has often insisted that the same query be posted to her husband too!

Ms Sharma was followed by the man that the large gathering had waited for since morning. A man who needs no introduction and whose words have inspired people for years. Mr Shiv Khera, the chief guest of TIWIIS 2022, was at his best at the event.

Mr Khera’s unique talent is that he inspires and encourages individuals to realise their true potential. He has taken his dynamic personal messages to opposite sides of the globe, from the U.S. to Singapore. His 40 years of research and understanding has put millions on the path of growth and fulfilment.

Over 8 million copies of his books have been sold globally including his international bestseller, ‘You Can Win’, in 21 languages. His clientele includes many of the top global organisations.

He began his keynote address by giving examples from his own life and struggles where he juggled multiple professions. But did not give up in spite of constantly failing to make a mark. The general highlight of Mr Khera’s speeches have always been not trying to preach but to quote incidents that can inspire people. And by the end of his address it was clear that he had inspired those who did not particularly follow him. Mr Khera also hailed Ms Chhaya Sharma’s address and said he completely identified with it. He then proceeded to do what he does best. Speaking about life lessons.

“I am a B.Com, third division, I failed in my 10th. In school I was a backbencher, troubling the frontbenchers. I come from a business family that owned coal mines in India. The mines were nationalised and the government took them over. Right from being mine owners, we came on the streets. And by streets, I mean literally streets. I did not create the mines, I only inherited them,” he said, recounting experiences of his early life.

“Some families had money but ours did not. My father passed away when I had just graduated from college and we were left with the liabilities. All the assets were gone. I had been married just four weeks then. I remember that a year later my daughter was born and I had to sell some of the last pieces of my mother’s jewellery to get a release from the hospital. I did not have even 10 bucks to buy milk” leaving the audience mesmerised with his honesty and candour.

Mr Khera says he tried his hands in three businesses and failed in all three. “Finally, on November 13, 1975, I left India. Initially, I went to Toronto and started life with a bucket in my hand, washing cars door to door for



about a year and a half. Then totally by accident, I got into selling life insurance where I was almost fired within the first three months for non-performance” he said.

“While selling life insurances I was on commission and would only get paid if I sold but there were many people on salary who were not doing their job. That is the time I understood the difference between making money and earning money. That’s the time I understood that making money is criminal and earning money is spiritual, because when you earn money then you put your energy and ethics behind it,” he said, once again using his own life story to elucidate some home truths.

It’s important to have skills and constantly hone them, said Mr Khera. He said most of the problems in a business were not business problems but people problems and once that is sorted business problems are

solved too. He also said that most problems arise from attitudes in businesses. That attitude needs to be fixed.

Mr. Khera says he has always paid special emphasis on five types of strengths that are essential for attaining and sustaining success, namely – physical, financial, mental, emotional and spiritual. Khera elaborated upon each strength. First of all, he said that a healthy body is a necessary prerequisite for all our endeavours in life, thus physical strength is something that should never be ignored. Financial strength pertains to wealth and financial security, and contrary to the general understanding that money can’t buy happiness.

He asserted that money earned through fair means did, in fact, bring happiness. “Mental strength and fortitude keeps us from drowning in the tides of hardships and when it comes to emotional strength, relationships are of prime importance” he said. He said integrity is a part of each one of their programmes and they guard it closely since it is the basis of their effort.

When he declared that he was now ending his address, the entire gathering clearly was still wanting more. The applause that he got was deafening and continued for some time. Mr Khera then moved on to take over the responsibility of bestowing the honours on the 21 women influencers of 2022, as their names were announced in alphabetical order. The influencers who were present at the event came forward and received their certificates from Mr. Shiv Khera, Mr. Rajan Luthra, Ms. Vandana Verma Ms. Aman Singh, and Mr. GB Singh.








## TOP INDIAN WOMEN INFLUENCERS IN SECURITY 2022

 <b>Dr. Abhilasha Vyas</b> Business Unit Head, Cloud Security & BI CloudThat Technologies	 <b>Alka Bawa</b> Director, Gardvel Pvt Ltd	 <b>Babitha B P</b> Chief Information Security Officer, CSB Bank	 <b>Bishaka Jain</b> Senior Security Consultant, IBM	 <b>Hyacinth D'Sena</b> Deputy General Manager, Vodafone Intelligent Solutions
 <b>Jaspreet Kaur</b> Phd Researcher at IIT Jodhpur, Faculty at SPUP Jodhpur	 <b>Juhi Agarwal</b> Associate Security Consultant, Synopsys Inc	 <b>Jyoti Meena</b> Data Centre Security Operations Manager, Microsoft	 <b>Dr. Lopa Mudraa Basuu</b> Vice President Cybersecurity & Technology Controls for APAC, EMEA & GENEVA, JPMorgan Chase & Co	 <b>Major Aditie Mohan</b> Vice President & Head Corporate Services, Fidelity National Financials
 <b>Meetali Sharma</b> Corporate Head - Risk, Compliance & Information Security, SDC Corporation	 <b>Mehnaz Perveen</b> Associate Vice President- Trust & Safety, LERT, Urban Company	 <b>Neha Dhyani</b> Senior Security Consultant, Nokia Solutions & Networks	 <b>Nirali Bhatia</b> CyberBAAP- Founder, V4WEB- Director	 <b>Preeti Bhisikar Soni</b> Route to Market Leader- APAC & MEA, IBM India Pvt Ltd.
 <b>Puneet Bhasin</b> Proprietor/Founder, Cyberjure Legal Consulting	 <b>Radhika Halder</b> Regional Intelligence Analyst, India & South Asia, Pinkerton	 <b>Rashmi Dastidar</b> Country Director - India and Head, South Asia, Hill & Associates, a G4S/Allied Universal Group Company	 <b>Ratna Pawan</b> Program Director- Risk Advisory, Ernst & Young	
 <b>Seema Sharma</b> Head of Information Security & Data Privacy, Senior Director, Servify	 <b>Shifa Cyclewala</b> Director, Hacktify Cyber Security	<b>CONGRATULATIONS</b> Names placed in alphabetical order		

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This year's honoured influencers include:

- **Dr. Abhilasha Vyas**, Business Unit Head, Cloud Security & BI, CloudThat Technologies
- **Alka Bawa**, Director, Gardvel Pvt Ltd
- **Babitha BP**, Chief Information officer, CSB Bank
- **Bishaka Jain**, Senior Security Consultant, IBM
- **Hyacinth D'Sena**, Deputy General Manager, Vodafone Intelligent Solutions
- **Jaspreet Kaur**, Phd researcher at IITJ, Faculty at SPUP Jodhpur, IIT Jodhpur,
- **Juhi Agarwal**, Associate Security Consultant, Synopsys Inc
- **Jyoti Meena**, Data Centre Security Operations Manager, Microsoft
- **Dr. Lopa Mudraa Basuu**, Vice President- Cybersecurity & Technology Controls for APAC, EMEA & GENEVA, JPMorgan Chase & Co
- **Major Aditie Mohan**, Vice President & Head

Corporate Services, Fidelity National Financials

- **Meetali Sharma**, Corporate Head - Risk, Compliance & Information Security, SDG Corporations
- **Mehnaz Perveen**, Associate Vice President- Trust & Safety, LERT,Urban Company
- **Neha Dhyani**, Senior Security Consultant,Nokia Solutions & Networks
- **Nirali Bhatia**, CyberBAAP- Founder, V4WEB- Director
- **Preeti Bhisikar Soni**, Route to Market Leader- APAC & MEA,IBM India Pvt Ltd.
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- **Seema Sharma**, Head of Information Security & Data Privacy, Senior Director, Servify, and
- **Shifa Cyclewala**, Director, Hacktify Cyber Security

The announcement of names was followed by the launch of the 'Women in Security Survey Report 2022' by IIRIS Consulting in collaboration with SECURITY TODAY. Mr Gulpawan Singh, President, IIRIS Consulting, explained the idea behind this pioneering survey. He said that he hailed all women in security because each one was marking a niche for herself and inspiring a set of people around her. This, he said, would eventually create a situation where the ratio between men and women serving in the security industry would be at par and excellence would determine the rise to the top.

The event's success could be gauged by the fact that long after the speakers had finished sharing their vision, the points of view were widely discussed by the security professionals at the gathering. The biggest advantage of an event of this nature being physical is that it gives a chance for attendees to interact with speakers informally following the culmination of the event.

Each speaker was seen surrounded by eager listeners who shared their ideas and did lengthy brainstorming sessions with them over a sumptuous lunch. Needless to say the largest gathering stayed with Mr Shiv Khera who



obliged the attendees by not only getting selfies clicked with them, but also autographing his books and other merchandise that could be purchased at the stall at the event.

The vote of thanks by Ms Aman Singh again reiterated what was said at the beginning of the event that women were now going into arenas where they did not think of going some years back. And not only were they going but making a mark for themselves and influencing both men and women into aspiring for excellence.

Divulging some interesting statistics gathered from the whole process this year, she revealed that:

- The lowest score given by a Judge to a nominee was 3, whereas the highest score was a perfect 10
- The Top 21 fell in the scoring range of 49.5, which is 82.5% to 38, which is 63.3%
- The highest total obtained by a nominee was 49.5, which is 82.5%, and the lowest score is, 23 which is (38.3%)
- 35% of the Top Influencers belonged to the Physical Security Domain

- 25% belonged to the Cyber-Physical Security Domain, and
- 40% belonged to the Cyber Security Domain

Clearly, we are finding more and more women associated with the cyber security domain.

It's indeed been the constant effort of TIWIIS over the years, to create a platform for women in security to to be recognised, and to inspire others. The large number of women security professionals present at the event doubtlessly returned back to work inspired and determined that for them, sky was no longer the limit and the concept of being satisfied with what they had was no longer an option. There are new challenges to tackle and new heights to achieve!

Last but not least, Ms. Singh expressed her gratitude to the event sponsors, SIS Group Enterprises, a leading Indian multinational security conglomerate, which has given unstinted support to SECURITY TODAY in its various industry initiatives and the well-known global firm, GENPACT, a leader in rendering professional services to its top notch clientele.

TIWIIS generated considerable buzz on the social media, and some of the comments received on social media were as follows:

*Heartiest congratulations to all the winners from ICISS. You have brought a paradigm shift in the security sector and made it an equal opportunity provider. Today we can proudly claim that India's industrial security sector is without gender bias. You have played an immensely important role in this direction. More power to you!*

**-Prof. (Capt.) SB Tyagi,  
Chief Councillor at International  
Council for Security & Safety  
Management**

*Women are excelling in their career in the cybersecurity space, this is a moment of pride for the industry. Congratulations to all for this accomplishment.*

**-Sudhanshu Chauhan,  
Director & Co-Founder,  
Red Hunt Labs**

*It was a well organised and splendid event with a galaxy of renowned speakers who showered the audience with their unmatched views and guidance. The lunch was delicious and had ample space for the audience. Furthermore,*

*congratulations to all the women who were recognised during the event.*

**- Harvindra Singh, CPP,  
Chapter Chairman  
ASIS New Delhi - 207**

*A brilliantly organised event, thanks to SECURITY TODAY. Thanks for providing a fabulous platform for women Security professionals!*

**- Ratna Pawan,  
Transformation Director -Risk  
Advisory, EY**

*It was a day well spent listening to some great speakers and meeting some amazing people. Thanks to SECURITY TODAY for a great event!*

**-Capt Jaipreet Joshi,  
Founder Chief Mentor -  
FITCOMB**

*It was, as always, a very well thought out event. It was a lucky break that one was in town to attend it. Thanks to SECURITY TODAY for organising it and heartiest congratulations to all the wonderful ladies for the recognition accorded.*

**- Col. Harjinder Singh,  
Head of Training Raxa Security  
Services**