

Deep Kalra is an Indian entrepreneur and the founder of MakeMyTrip, one of the largest online travel companies in India. He is a well-known figure in the Indian startup ecosystem and has played a significant role in shaping the Indian online travel industry. In this essay, I will discuss Deep Kalra's background, his entrepreneurial journey, and his contributions to the Indian startup ecosystem.

Deep Kalra was born in Hyderabad, India in 1968. He completed his schooling in Delhi and went on to pursue a Bachelor of Commerce degree from St. Stephen's College in Delhi. After completing his graduation, he went to the United States to study at the Indian Institute of Management in Ahmedabad, where he earned a post-graduate diploma in Business Management.

After completing his education, Deep Kalra worked for several years in the corporate sector, including stints at ABN Amro Bank and GE Capital. However, he always had an entrepreneurial spirit and a desire to start his own venture.

In 2000, Deep Kalra founded MakeMyTrip, an online travel company that provides a range of travel-related services, including flight bookings, hotel reservations, and holiday packages. At the time, the online travel industry in India was still in its infancy, and MakeMyTrip was one of the first companies to enter this space.

Deep Kalra faced several challenges in the early days of MakeMyTrip, including a lack of funding and a lack of awareness among consumers about the benefits of booking travel online. However, he persevered and was able to build MakeMyTrip into one of the largest online travel companies in India.

MakeMyTrip went public in 2010, listing on the NASDAQ stock exchange in the United States. The IPO was a huge success, with the company's market value reaching over \$800 million. Since then, MakeMyTrip has continued to grow and expand its services, including the launch of several mobile apps and the acquisition of several other online travel companies in India.

In addition to MakeMyTrip, Deep Kalra has also been involved in several other ventures in the Indian startup ecosystem. He is a founding member of the Indian Angel Network, one of the largest angel investor networks in India. He has also been involved in mentoring and investing in several other startups in India.

Deep Kalra's contributions to the Indian startup ecosystem have been widely recognized, and he has received several awards and honors for his work. In 2014, he was awarded the Entrepreneur of the Year award by the Economic Times, one of India's leading business newspapers. He has also been recognized by several other organizations for his contributions to the Indian startup ecosystem.

In conclusion, Deep Kalra is a prominent figure in the Indian startup ecosystem and an inspiration to many aspiring entrepreneurs. His entrepreneurial journey, from founding MakeMyTrip to becoming one of the most successful online travel companies in India, is a testament to his vision and perseverance. His contributions to the Indian startup ecosystem, including his involvement in mentoring and investing in startups, have helped to shape the industry and inspire a new generation of entrepreneurs in India.