

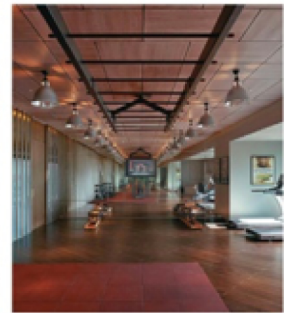
Members Only



India's first business and lifestyle club with curated services for the city's top leaders and achievers, the Indus Club opens at One, BKC, with plans for Delhi, Hyderabad, and Pune. We speak to its founder.

Sitting in the heart of the poshest business district in the country, at One, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai, the 20,000 sq ft Indus Club is one of those discreet, members-only clubs that caters to members' business and lifestyle needs, offering fine dining and spa services, as well as exclusive curation of events and activities. "I like to call it a new-age modern business club," says Harish Thawani, founder of the Indus Club. For the global, 30-plus Indian who wants a place to spend some leisure time among like minded people, try their hand at indoor golf, enjoy fine dining (there's pan-Asian, European and Caribbean, headed by celeb Chef Ajay Chopra), a Bodhi Tree spa session, and even score VVIP tickets to the next World Cup in Russia (\$1,200 per match, including food and wine), go see the Master's Golf Cup (which has a 42-year waiting list on tickets), or just take sailing or tennis lessons in Mumbai, the Indus Club can arrange it for you. "We don't accept applications for membership," says Harish. "Either we invite you, or an existing member will refer you to us." He insists that being wealthy is not enough. "You need to be an achiever, you could be a CEO, an art filmmaker, a copywriter, or a top doctor, or partner in a law firm."

Designed by Zubin Master of Design Matrix, each meeting room is a tribute to an achiever – so the Martin Scorsese room is dedicated to the American film maker. Then there is an aviation theme room dedicated to Charles Lindbergh, a study and office



Clockwise from top left: One of the restaurants, Caesar's; Indus Club founder and owner Harish Thawani; The Bodhi Tree spa; The gym; The reception; The Sinatra Bar.

dedicated to JRD Tata. There's also a DCI-compliant 32 seat auditorium that screens the latest Hollywood and Bollywood films. But there's more. "Sudhir Mishra will curate the best 10 Hindi films of the 21st century, as he's a member, as is Subhash Ghai who wants to do a festival of his own movies," says Harish who plans to invite speakers like economist Amartya Sen and Rajiv Kaul, former CEO of Microsoft, as well as Ravi Shastri. "People should network," says Harish. "In the words of Tim Sanders, your network is your net worth."

Membership costs ₹10 lakh for 20 years, and so far, there are 250 members. Harish will open clubs in Delhi, Hyderabad, and Pune, by end 2018. "We have global tie-ups with leading clubs such as St James Club in London, Tower Club in Singapore, the Griffin Club, LA, and we're building a network of 14 cities globally. ■