



Session 1 - Inaugural Plenary

Thursday, September 22, 2022

1015 - 1100 Hrs

Moderator



Virat Bhatia

President, PAFI and
Managing Director,
Apple India

Virat Bhatia serves as the Managing Director at Apple India. He spearheads strategy and policy in India, supporting all of Apple's investments and business operations. These include Manufacturing, Retail, App Store, Maps, Content, Services and Digital Payments.

Always one to foster collaboration, teamwork, innovation and support young talent, Virat's career in the ICT sector spans over 25 years across multiple functions. These include general management, strategy, operations, communications and policy. Uniquely, he has led both the Services and Manufacturing side of businesses in Fortune 500 companies. Before Apple, he served in multiple, senior positions at AT&T, including as the Chairman of AT&T in India and later, as AT&T's Regional President for South Asia. Prior to that, he was part of the team that was responsible for Coca Cola's return to India in the mid-90s.

Virat currently serves on the India Executive Leadership Board of the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF). He chairs the FICCI National Committee on ICT and Mobile Manufacturing and serves on its National Executive Committee. In 2014, the UN Secretary General appointed him to the Multistakeholder

Advisory Group of the UN Internet Governance Forum (UNIGF). In the past, he has held the position of Vice President of the Commission on ICT of the Paris-based International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and that of the Vice Chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce in India.

He is an alumnus of the Delhi University and John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Virat has also completed Advance Management Programmes at Kellogg's School of Management, and Wharton Business School.