

## ARUL BALAN R FOUNDER CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR CALS RENEWABLE ENERGY INDIA

Arul Balan R, Founder Chairman & Managing Director of Cals Renewable Energy India, has built a remarkable journey from a college student passionate about renewable energy to a trailblazer in the clean energy sector. Driven by his middle-class background and a deep commitment to sustainability, Arul's early fascination with wind energy led him to establish Cals Renewable Energy, a company now recognized for its innovative renewable energy solutions. Under his leadership, Cals Renewable Energy has become a key player in the global shift toward sustainable energy, making significant contributions to the industry's growth and the world's transition to cleaner energy.

#### **ARUL BALAN R**

# FUELLING INNOVATION IN RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR A BETTER FUTURE

emarkable leadership is crucial to the growth and success of any organization, especially in the renewable energy sector, where innovation and strategic vision are essential for driving sustainability. With over 20 years of experience, Arul Balan R, Founder Chairman & Managing Director of Cals Renewable Energy India is a prime example of leaders setting benchmarks with such leadership. Arul has played a pivotal role in shaping Cals Renewable Energy into a leader in wind and solar energy solutions. Under his guidance, the company has emerged as a key player in the renewable energy transition, committed to sustainable development. Prior to founding Cals, Arul held leadership roles at Siemens Gamesa India, Vestas Wind Technology, and NEPC. His philosophy of continuous growth, inspired by Martin Luther King Jr.'s words, "You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step", has driven his success. Let's get to know more from him in this one-on-one interaction.

## You have more than 23 years of experience. Can you share the journey that led to your success and the key principles that have guided you?

With over twenty-three years of experience in my career, I have consistently embraced a mindset focused on continuous growth, perseverance, and adaptability. Each phase of my journey presented unique challenges, but I always saw them as opportunities to refine my skills and evolve professionally. My guiding mantra has been simple yet powerful, which is to "Stay committed, stay adaptable, and uphold integrity". I believe these principles, namely consistency, flexibility, and ethics, are the foundation of true success. By staying true to these values, I have overcome obstacles, learned valuable lessons, and achieved meaningful milestones throughout my career.



### Can you describe your leadership style? What principles or strategies do you apply in your role as a leader?

In a renewable energy company, empowering employees plays a vital role in driving innovation and accountability, establishing a culture where trust and ownership enable creativity to thrive. Fostering open communication, setting clear objectives, and offering regular feedback are key strategies that motivate teams to create impactful solutions. This approach not only improves team dynamics but also propels the organization toward its goal of advancing sustainable energy initiatives. By promoting a sense of ownership and collaboration, companies can enhance both employee engagement and their overall mission of contributing to a greener, more sustainable future.

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### How do you stay informed about current industry trends to guide your organization toward future success?

In our pursuit of continuous growth and success, staying ahead of emerging industry trends is essential. I actively engage with a variety of resources, such as e-magazines, government reports, LinkedIn, and insights from thought leaders at industry conferences. This proactive approach keeps me informed about market changes and reveals opportunities for innovation within our organization. By aligning our strategies with the evolution of the industry, we can adapt to shifts in the market, improve operational efficiency, and meet the changing needs of our customers. This helps ensure the long-term sustainability and success of our organization.

#### What is the ultimate goal or destination you are working towards in the future?

Our commitment to providing high-quality products and innovative solutions in renewable energy is

central to our proactive strategy for achieving netzero carbon emissions by 2050. With a focus on creating long-term positive impacts through every project, we aim to contribute significantly to a cleaner, more sustainable future for generations to come. By prioritizing both excellence and sustainability, we are positioning ourselves at the forefront of the transition to renewable energy. This dedication not only helps advance global sustainability efforts but also drives meaningful change in the energy sector, ensuring a better, greener world for the future.



## Given your extensive experience in the industry, what advice would you offer to emerging leaders in the field?

Embracing challenges as opportunities for growth is crucial for both personal and professional development. When you trust in your abilities, you build the resilience needed to overcome obstacles, turning difficulties into stepping stones. Actively seeking solutions not only fosters creativity and innovation but also sharpens your problem-solving skills. Each challenge you conquer brings you closer to your goals, boosts your confidence, and equips you for future endeavors. Remember, the journey is just as valuable as the destination, and every experience along the way contributes to your growth and shapes your path forward. Keep pushing forward, and success will follow.