

Capt. Nikunj Parashar

Mr. Nikunj Parashar is a well-deserved leader and the proficient founder of Sagar Defence Engineering PVT. LTD. which has been recognized by the Ministry of Electronics as one of the Ten Best Start-ups in the country in the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing, in Strategic Electronic Sector (Unmanned vehicle systems). The company has been acquiring new heights with innovative approaches and strategies that are designed for success. Under his guidance, the company operates with great zeal and he manages the team with utmost enthusiasm. With over 14 years of experience in Shipping Operations, Ship construction, Cargo and Port Operations, along with Safety Management, Mr. Parashar is supremely skilled and is highly accomplished. There are a number of education qualifications that support his firm foundation. After completing his Bachelors in Nautical Technology, he went on to take up a certificate of Competency in Navigation and, adding to his strong engineering base, he also did his Masters in (F.G.) – India, and Chief Mate (F.G.) – India. He has also done a course on entrepreneurship from IIM Ahmedabad.

In the course of his fulfilling career, Mr. Nikunj Parashar has been bestowed with numerous awards, appreciations, and accolades. He is well deserving of all the recognition that comes his way. His line of work and service activities speak for itself. He has an impressive portfolio for which he has received immense appreciation from renowned and celebrated institutions not just in India but also abroad. Mr. Parashar has represented India on multiple occasions internationally. He has made the country proud with his list of glorious achievements.

Here are some of the major awards that as a founder he has been conferred with:

- I. Represented India at Global Cleantech Summit in LA, USA
- II. Awarded as the Best Start-up of the country in Aerospace and Defence by Indian Electronic and Semiconductor Association in July 2017.
- III. Awarded by MIT, Texas, US as one of the top five disruptive technology companies in June 2017.
- IV. Awarded as the Most Promising Start-up of the Country by Indian Electronic and

semiconductor association, February 2017.

- V. Awarded as one of the top ten maritime start of the world by Port XL, Netherland in February 2017.
- VI. Awarded by Prime Minister of India as the Best Maritime Start-up of the country in April 2016.
- VII. Awarded by DP World Prize as the Best Maritime Start-up during Maritime India Summit in April 2016.
- VIII. Awarded by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, the Grant of 5 Lakh in February 2016.
- IX. Awarded by IIM, Ahmedabad as one of the top ten start-ups out of 19000 Ideas in September 2016.
- X. Selected by the Ministry of Electronics as one of the top ten start-ups in Electronic System Design and Manufacturing in September 2015.

Mr. Nikunj Parashar has been associated with the following companies at respected positions in India and abroad:

Founder – M/s Oceanos BV, Rotterdam Netherlands

Founder - M/s Sagar Defence Engineering PVT. LTD.

Master Mariner (Captain) on VLCC (Very Large Crude Oil Tankers).

Chief Officer on VLCC – Shipping Corporation of India and Wallem Ship Management.

Second Officer on Product and Crude Oil Tankers - Maersk Tankers.

Third officer on Product and Crude Oil Tankers – Maersk Tankers.

Being an ardent learner and an advocate of gaining knowledge, Mr. Parashar believes in keeping himself up to date with the latest technological advancements. Since it is vital that all the latest technologies are used to their highest potential, he ensures that learning is a constant practice. Especially in such high-risk areas like shipment and shipping operations, where being quick and equipped is key. Being a hoarder of knowledge, he has studied several shipment subjects in detail. Following are the significant paper presentations made by him on national as well as international platforms.

Presented a Technical Paper Autonomous Shipping at Rotterdam, Netherlands, Haven congress on shipping in April 2017.

Presented a Technical Paper at the Confederation of Indian Industries International Seminar on the subject of Unmanned Systems in September 2016.

Presented a Technical Paper at the Confederation of Indian Industries International Conference on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in October 2015.

Other Accolades

- February 2019: Winner of Surveillance Fixed VTOL category in Drone Olympics hosted by AERO INDIA 2019 show
- February 2019: second in supply drop challenge in in Drone Olympics hosted by AERO INDIA 2019 show
- February 2019: Most Innovative Startup 2019 by NASSCOM National Technology and Leadership Forum 2019
- December 2018: Selected by Government of Andhra Pradesh to Represent India at Slush 2018 held at Helsinki, Finland
- September 2018: Best Electronics manufacturing Company in A&D in Spactronics Deftronics Awards 2018 by IESA
- June 2018 : Selected as top 24 Startups in the Maharashtra Startup Week and Signed LOI with Govt of Maharashtra
- February 2018: Selected as the best 6 Startups in Magnetic Maharashtra 2018 by Honorable CM of Maharashtra.
- January 2018: Selected by Development Commissioner, Ministry of MSME , GOI, to represent India at Cleantech Open 2018 Global Forum, Los Angeles, USA
- December 2017: Top 4 finalists of Global Cleantech Innovation Programme
- August 2017: Awarded as the most promising Startup in Aerospace and Defence by IESA Deftronics Awards 2017
- June 2017: Winners of disruptive technology by IC2 Lab, University of Texas, Austin, USA.
- February 2017: Awarded as the most promising Startup by IESA Technovation

Awards 2017

- February 2017: Selected for the second cohort of XLR8 Andhra Pradesh Technology Business Accelerator
- February 2017: Selected in top 10 Maritime Startups in PORTXL- World Port Accelerator held at Rotterdam, Netherlands
- April'2016: Adjudged as the Best Maritime Start by government of India &Shipping Ministry
- April'2016: Adjudged as the best Maritime time start up by Audience Poll during Maritime India Summit 2016
- April 2016: Grant from CIIE, IIM (Ahmedabad)and selected as the top ten start up by Economic times in the Power of Ideas contest out of 19000 startups
- October 2015: Electropreneur Park as one of the top startup in ESDM sector