

4
A true leader's influence continues to guide and inspire even after their physical presence is gone, creating a lasting impact on the organisation and its people.

Life is indeed unpredictable, but a firm belief that each event is for our own good helps us to accept and embrace them with resilience.

A Bolt Out of the Blue...

It was nearly 12 years ago, on 26th December, 2012, while in a meeting in Rajkot, I received the devastating news: my elder daughter, Disha, and her husband, Adeep, had met with a serious car accident, a head-on collision near Trivandrum. It felt like the heavens had crashed. Holding a 'jaap mala' in her hands as always, she was unharmed, but Adeep bore the brunt and was thrown out of the car. Villagers rushed them to the nearest hospital, where Adeep was admitted to the ICU with life-threatening injuries. The next morning, I hurried from Rajkot to Trivandrum while the rest of the family had already managed to reach or were on the way. Adeep spent nearly a month in the ICU in a touch-and-go situation. Couple of days later, we were informed that he was paralysed waist down and would need spine surgery to support his back with titanium rods. And to this day, he is a paraplegic and in a wheelchair, but life continues.

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Embracing Life's Trials Lessons in Resilience and Faith

Embracing life's challenges with the belief that each event serves a purpose empowers resilience. My experience highlights how faith, a strong support system and unified leadership can transform personal tragedies into possibilities for growth and organisational strength, ensuring enduring legacies and continued success.

It Got Tougher...

Throughout this ordeal, Chandrakant Bhai Doshi (Chandu Bhai as he was fondly called), the Chairman of Rajoo Group, elder brother to me, and my mentor, remained in constant touch. On 4th January, 2013 during a late-night call, he decided to be with us and reach Trivandrum on the next day despite my insistence that it wasn't necessary. Next morning, around 9:30 am, while waiting outside the ICU, I received a call from one of our senior staff. He broke the news that Chandrakant Bhai had passed away from a massive heart attack. Once again, it felt like the heavens had fallen. Khushboo (the eldest child in the family and daughter of Chandrakant Bhai) was in Bangalore

and called me. I couldn't muster the courage to tell her the truth, and I still recall she was so very upset with me.

With Adeep in the ICU in a critical condition, I consulted the family and was allowed to rush to Rajkot on the next available flight. I could reach Rajkot from Trivandrum late in the evening, after the cremation; all of us were devastated. Within ten days, we faced two tragedies. Despite this, we went ahead with the already postponed wedding of my younger daughter, Dhruvi, on 23rd January, 2013 with the consent of the Doshi family and Adeep's family. Sorrow and happiness went hand-in-hand.