

For Immediate Release

Karan Bajwa conferred with the SKOCH Challenger Award for Corporate Leader of the Year

New Delhi, 20th March 2020: Karan Bajwa, Vice President, Google Cloud APAC, for his contributions to the Indian IT industry, innovation and being a leading architect of digital India was conferred with the SKOCH Challenger Award as Corporate Leader of the Year in a glittering ceremony that took place virtually today.

While conferring the Award, Sameer Kochhar, Chairman, SKOCH Group and Secretary General, CEO's Association for Inclusive India (CAII) said, "Karan has advanced the digital transformation journey of India by propelling such large organizations and expanded the partner community with ease - a unique quality that helped him even beat the disruptions of 2020, converting them into opportunities." He further added, "He is a believer in product-led innovations and has encouraged adoption of technologies for SMEs in India and it is his endeavor to make India the SaaS capital of the world – SMEs being the major beneficiaries."

While receiving the award Bajwa said, "It's a privilege to be selected for this prestigious award. I look forward to helping drive digital efforts in India and empowering Indian businesses to innovate and scale through the cloud."

CAII is a voluntary association of CEOs working towards inclusive growth of India. The association actively participates in policy discourse and activities that could lead to 'Atma Nirbhar' Growth. This growth is defined as job generative, spatially dispersed, equitable and sustainable. Karan has ably guided the CAII as President over the past several years. "He now takes over as Chairman of CAII to help CAII get an APJ footprint and mindshare," announced Kochhar. Established in 2015, CAII's first Chairman was Mr S Ramadorai.

CAII partners with SKOCH Group for its Summits, research and publications to be able to contribute effectively to India's socio-economic development. Their combined voice is one of the most respected voices in public policy discourse both at the centre as well as the federal level.

About SKOCH Award

SKOCH Award, independently instituted in 2003, is India's honest civilian honour conferred by an independent organisation as a third party assessment. It is the only award in the country that is based on felt-needs assessment and outcome evaluation based on evidence. It therefore, recognises people, projects and institutions that go the extra mile to make India a better nation.

SKOCH Challenger Award is non-competitive and conferred for having made a definitive impact on governance improvement and growth of India. These are based on primary research and recommendations by the Collegium of past SKOCH Challenger Awardees and the Distinguished Fellows of SKOCH Development Foundation.

SKOCH Challenger Award comes with a backing of reputation of more than two decades. It is distinctive for its approach of selection of awardees. The SKOCH Challenger Award not only acknowledges exceptional achievers – organisations and individuals – but also spurs institutional guidance and best practices.

About SKOCH Group

SKOCH Group is India's leading think tank dealing with socio-economic issues with a focus on inclusive growth since 1997. The Group companies include a consulting wing, a media wing and a charitable foundation. SKOCH Group is able to bring an Indian felt-needs context to strategies and engages with Fortune-500 companies, State Owned Enterprises, Government to SMEs and Community-Based Organisations with equal ease. The



repertoire of services includes field interventions, consultancy, research reports, impact assessments, policy briefs, books, journals, workshops and conferences. SKOCH Group has instituted India's highest independent civilian honours in the field of governance, finance, technology, economics and social sector.

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