



District Leader

Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **RANGANATHAN RAMANI**

Candidate's Office: **Division Director** District Number: **98**

Toastmasters member since: **2018**

Education:
PI5

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:
Area Director / Jan to June 24, Area Director Jul 22 to June 23 / President Chattertai Toastmasters Club Jan to Jun 2022 / VP Ed Chattertai Toastmasters Club Jan to Jun 2021 / Treasurer Chattertai Toastmasters Club / Jan to Jun 2020 & Jul to Dec 2020.

Toastmasters honors and recognition:
I had the privilege of serving as an Area Director during 2023–24, where I played my part in District 98 being recognized as a Smedley Distinguished District. Along the way, I actively participated in contests and achieved recognition at multiple levels—Division Level I Runner-Up in the Humorous Speech Contest (2024–25), winner at the Area Level HSC on several occasions.

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:
In three decades in corporate leadership, I've grown from an individual contributor to leading teams—directly up to 10 and indirectly up to 200—across business and delivery functions. As Secretary of my alumni association, I also lead projects that strengthen alumni–alma mater ties. These roles taught me that leadership means excelling in both task orientation and people orientation. It's not about balancing opposites, but achieving high standards in both. The same principle guides me in Toastmasters leadership.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?
Across three decades in corporate leadership and my role in the NIT Calicut Alumni Association, strategic planning has been a core responsibility—defining mission, setting direction, and aligning teams to achieve collaborative goals. I applied the same approach in Toastmasters, serving two terms as Area Director, where clear vision and team alignment proved effective in delivering results.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?
I may not have led formal finance functions, but my corporate and not-for-profit experience has taught me financial discipline—delivering more with less while staying within budget. This mindset, shaped by my upbringing, has guided me in professional roles, alumni initiatives, and as a Toastmasters Club Treasurer, where I ensured accountability and prudent resource management.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

In my roles with India's leading IT services MNC and a global financial institution, developing and documenting procedures was central to accountability and trust. I ensured teams followed "say what we do, do what we say," and consistently met rigorous audit standards with satisfactory ratings. This experience strengthened my ability to design and sustain effective, compliant processes.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

From my leadership roles, I've learned that success is equally about planning and execution. Balancing long-term vision with short-term goals requires clarity of purpose, while setting SMART goals keeps teams focused. During execution, separating tasks from results helps avoid overwhelm and ensures steady progress.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

I joined Toastmasters only six years ago, and in that time I've gained immensely—learning to pause before I speak, stepping beyond the label of introvert, and growing as a communicator and leader. Now, I want to give back by contributing my experience and energy to help our District thrive. This is also an opportunity for my continuous learning,

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

The District mission—"We build new clubs and support all clubs in achieving excellence"—captures both progress and growth. Excellence inspires members, while new clubs expand the positive network that strengthens excellence further. As a leader, I would focus on this cycle of growth and excellence, ensuring clubs thrive and the District sustains long-term success.

Additional information about yourself:

Alongside my role in the NIT Calicut Alumni Association, I support two startup ventures. These experiences have taught me patience and the value of enjoying the journey as much as the destination. Goals set the direction, but true growth comes from experiencing the process of execution.