



Welcome to the 3rd Edition of the RethinkHR Newsletter!

We are excited to bring you the latest edition of the RethinkHR Newsletter, where we continue our mission to empower the HR community with insightful content and innovative practices. In this edition, we will be sharing fascinating case studies showcasing the latest HR practices implemented by leading companies in India, setting new trends and standards in the industry.

Additionally, we'll provide exciting glimpses of our events this month, where thought leaders and HR professionals have gathered to exchange ideas and insights. Our goal is to keep you informed, inspired, and connected to the vibrant HR fraternity.

As we navigate the ever-evolving landscape of human resources, we invite you to explore the transformative strategies being adopted by organizations and engage with the broader HR community. Together, we can drive meaningful change and elevate the standards of HR practices across the industry.

Thank you for being a part of the RethinkHR community. Let's embark on this journey of learning and growth together!



Embracing Hybrid Work Models

The shift to remote work during the pandemic has fundamentally changed how organizations operate. As businesses adapt to this new normal, hybrid work models have emerged as a viable solution, allowing employees to enjoy the flexibility of remote work while maintaining the benefits of in-person collaboration

Deloitte.

In 2024, Deloitte India launched a comprehensive hybrid work model with the following steps:

- 1. **Assessment of Employee Needs:** Deloitte conducted surveys and focus groups to understand employee preferences regarding remote and in-office work. This data informed their hybrid work strategy.
- 2. **Technology Integration:** The company invested in advanced collaboration tools, such as Microsoft Teams and Zoom, to facilitate seamless communication between remote and in-office employees.
- 3. **Flexible Work Policies:** Deloitte introduced flexible work hours, allowing employees to choose when and where they work, thus accommodating personal needs and preferences.
- 4. **Wellness Programs:** They implemented wellness initiatives, including mental health resources and virtual fitness classes, to support employees' well-being.
- 5. **Feedback Mechanisms:** Regular feedback loops were established through quarterly surveys to assess employee satisfaction and make necessary adjustments to the hybrid model.

This initiative not only enhanced work-life balance but also set a new benchmark for hybrid work practices in the industry.

AI-Driven Talent Management

As organizations strive to stay competitive, leveraging technology for talent management has become essential. Artificial Intelligence (AI) can streamline various HR processes, from recruitment to employee development, enabling companies to make data-driven decisions.



In 2024, Wipro embraced AI to revolutionize their talent management strategy through the following steps:

- 1. **AI Platform Development:** Wipro developed an Al-driven platform that analyzes employee performance data to identify skill gaps and training needs.
- 2. **Personalized Learning Paths:** The platform recommends personalized training programs based on individual performance metrics, ensuring that employees receive targeted development opportunities.
- 3. **Engagement Analytics:** Wipro utilized AI to assess employee engagement levels, providing insights that help HR proactively address any concerns or areas for improvement.
- 4. **Integration with Existing Systems:** The AI platform was integrated with Wipro's existing HR systems to ensure a seamless flow of data and enhance decision-making processes.
- 5. **Continuous Improvement:** Wipro established a framework for continuous monitoring and improvement of the AI system, ensuring it evolves with changing business needs and employee feedback.

By integrating AI into their talent management processes, Wipro has not only enhanced employee growth but also improved retention rates, setting a standard for the industry.

Focus on Diversity and Inclusion

Diversity and inclusion (D&I) have become critical components of successful organizational culture. Companies that prioritize D&I benefit from a wider range of perspectives, which can lead to increased innovation and improved employee satisfaction.



In 2024, **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** launched a comprehensive D&I initiative with the following steps:

- 1. **Diversity Assessment:** TCS conducted an internal audit to assess the current state of diversity within the organization, identifying areas for improvement.
- 2. **Targeted Recruitment Strategies:** They implemented targeted recruitment campaigns aimed at attracting diverse talent, including partnerships with organizations that focus on underrepresented groups.
- 3. **Mentorship Programs:** TCS established mentorship programs designed to support the development of underrepresented employees, pairing them with senior leaders who can provide guidance and support.
- 4. **Employee Resource Groups (ERGs):** The company created ERGs to foster community and provide a platform for employees to share their experiences and insights related to diversity and inclusion.
- 5. **Training and Awareness:** TCS rolled out training sessions focused on unconscious bias and inclusive leadership, ensuring that all employees understand the importance of D&I and how to contribute to a more inclusive workplace.

By actively promoting diversity and inclusion, TCS has seen a marked improvement in employee engagement and retention, setting a new standard for organizations striving to create a more equitable workplace.



Exciting HR Developments in India - July 2024 Highlights



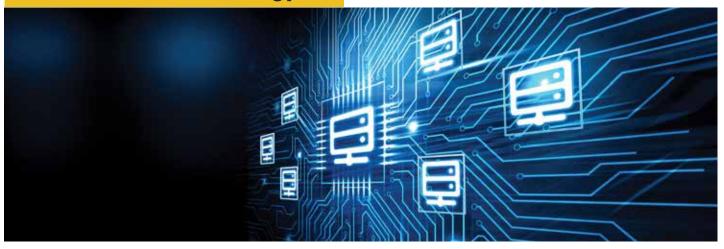
As we continue to witness rapid changes in the HR landscape, July 2024 has been a month filled with significant developments across various industries in India. Companies are increasingly adopting innovative strategies to enhance their recruitment processes, improve employee engagement, and foster inclusive workplaces.

In this section, we bring you the latest news from different sectors, showcasing how organizations are navigating the challenges of talent acquisition and retention. From advancements in technology-driven recruitment to initiatives aimed at promoting employee well-being, these updates reflect the dynamic nature of the HR fraternity in India.

Let's dive into the noteworthy HR-related news from July 2024, segmented by industry.

Here's a summary of exciting HR-related news and updates from India in July 2024, segmented by industry:

Information Technology



Wipro: Al-Driven Recruitment Enhancements

Wipro has taken significant strides in leveraging artificial intelligence to enhance its recruitment process. In July, the company implemented an Al-driven applicant tracking system that streamlines candidate sourcing and selection. This system utilizes machine learning algorithms to analyze resumes and match candidates with job requirements more effectively. As a result, Wipro has reported a 30% reduction in time-to-hire, allowing them to secure top talent faster in a competitive market.



Healthcare



Apollo Hospitals: Focus on Employee Well-being

Apollo Hospitals launched a new initiative aimed at improving employee well-being and retention. In July, they introduced a comprehensive mental health program that includes counseling services, wellness workshops, and stress management resources. This initiative is part of Apollo's broader strategy to enhance employee engagement and reduce turnover rates, which have been a challenge in the healthcare sector. Early feedback indicates a positive impact on employee morale and productivity.



Manufacturing



Tata Steel: Upskilling for Future Readiness

Tata Steel announced a major upskilling initiative in July, aimed at preparing its workforce for the future of manufacturing. The program focuses on reskilling employees in advanced technologies such as automation and data analytics. Tata Steel has partnered with leading educational institutions to provide specialized training sessions, ensuring that their workforce is equipped with the necessary skills to thrive in a rapidly changing industry. This initiative not only enhances employee capabilities but also positions Tata Steel as a leader in innovation within the manufacturing sector.



Retail

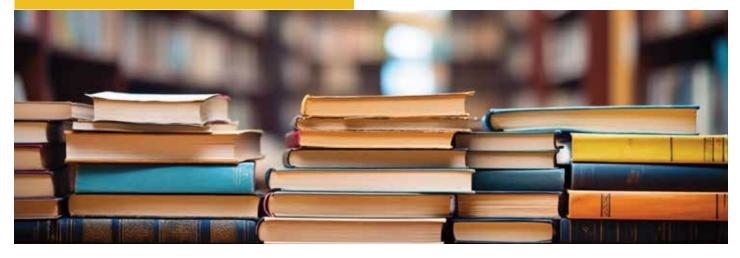


Reliance Retail: Enhanced Recruitment Strategies

Reliance Retail has revamped its recruitment strategies to attract a diverse talent pool. In July, the company launched a campaign targeting women returning to the workforce after a career break. This initiative includes tailored job postings, flexible work arrangements, and mentorship programs to support these candidates. Reliance Retail's commitment to diversity and inclusion has garnered positive attention and is expected to strengthen its workforce and enhance company culture.



Education



BYJU'S: Innovative Hiring Practices

BYJU'S has introduced innovative hiring practices to attract top talent in the education technology sector. In July, the company hosted a virtual job fair that allowed candidates to interact with recruiters and learn about the company culture in real-time. This approach not only increased engagement but also provided candidates with a unique opportunity to showcase their skills through interactive sessions. BYJU'S reported a significant increase in applications as a result of this initiative, demonstrating the effectiveness of modern recruitment strategies.



These developments highlight the dynamic nature of the HR landscape in India, with companies across various industries adopting innovative practices to enhance recruitment, employee engagement, and workforce development. As we continue to navigate the evolving world of work, these trends serve as valuable insights for HR professionals looking to implement effective strategies in their organizations.



Event Spotlight

July 2024 was an exhilarating month for the HR community as we hosted the RethinkHR Conclave in Delhi, where industry leaders and HR professionals gathered to explore pressing issues and innovative strategies in human resources. This year's conclave featured a series of engaging sessions designed to inspire and equip attendees with the tools needed to navigate the complexities of today's workplace.

Exciting Sessions That Made an Impact

CEO Panel Discussion: Leadership and Change Management



This dynamic session brought together top CEOs to discuss effective leadership strategies during times of transformation. Panelists shared their insights on fostering a culture of adaptability and resilience, emphasizing the importance of clear communication and vision in guiding teams through change.

Panel Discussion: HR 2.0 - Navigating Digital Transformation in the Modern Workplace

As organizations increasingly embrace digital tools, this panel explored the challenges and opportunities presented by digital transformation. Experts shared best practices for integrating technology into HR processes, ensuring that organizations remain agile and responsive to evolving employee needs.



Fireside Chat: Future-Proofing Talent



This conversation focused on strategies for seamless onboarding, reskilling, and upskilling in HR. Thought leaders discussed the importance of continuous learning and development, highlighting innovative approaches to talent management that prepare organizations for future challenges.

Prioritizing People: Fostering Well-being & Inclusion for a Dynamic World

Recognizing the critical role of employee well-being, this session addressed the need for inclusive practices that support diverse workforces. Speakers shared actionable strategies for creating a supportive environment that prioritizes mental health and fosters a sense of belonging.



Sharing Findings of CXO Moves 2024



Attendees gained valuable insights from the latest study on C-suite movements in India, exploring trends and patterns that shape leadership dynamics. This session provided a comprehensive overview of the evolving landscape of executive talent and its implications for organizations.

Masterclass: Trust, Tech, and Talent

This masterclass offered a deep dive into the triangular approach to HR growth, focusing on the interplay between trust, technology, and talent. Participants engaged in interactive discussions, gaining practical knowledge on how to leverage these elements for organizational success.



The RethinkHR Conclave not only provided a platform for knowledge sharing but also fostered networking opportunities among HR professionals, industry leaders, and experts. Attendees left inspired and equipped with new ideas to implement within their organizations. As we reflect on the success of this Delhi, we are excited to continue our journey of transformation and innovation in the HR space in Hyderabad on 27th September, 2024.



BLOGS



Safeguarding Your Organization Through Digital Transformation & Third-Party Risk Management

Picture your organization as a ship sailing through the vast, uncharted waters of digital transformation. The horizon is filled with promises of enhanced efficiency, innovation, and growth. However, beneath these promising waves lurk hidden threats—third-party risks—that can breach your ship's hull if not vigilantly monitored. As an HR leader, how do you ensure your ship sails smoothly in these digital waters?

The Allure of Digital Transformation

Digital transformation is no longer a choice but a necessity. Organizations across various industries are leveraging cutting-edge technologies to streamline operations and drive growth. Take, for instance, a manufacturing firm that integrated advanced robotics and AI into its production lines. Within a year, the firm saw a 40% increase in productivity and a 30% reduction in operational costs. According to a 2023 McKinsey study, companies that fully embrace digital transformation are 23% more profitable than their less-digitized peers.



The Unseen Perils of Third-Party Risks

As companies embrace digital transformation, they often rely on third-party vendors for software solutions, data storage, and cybersecurity. These partnerships are essential but come with inherent risks. Consider the widespread impact of the SolarWinds hack in 2020, where over 18,000 organizations, including Fortune 500 companies and government agencies, were compromised due to vulnerabilities in a third-party vendor's software. This breach cost billions in damages and underscored a critical lesson: in a connected world, your security is only as strong as the weakest link in your third-party network.

Identifying and Mitigating Risks

So, how can you, as an HR leader or executive, safeguard your organization?

- 1. Thorough Vetting: Imagine hiring a new crew member for your ship. You wouldn't bring someone on board without a background check. Similarly, vetting third-party vendors is crucial. Investigate their security protocols,
- 2. compliance with industry standards, and past incident reports.
- Continuous Monitoring: Sarah implemented continuous monitoring tools that provided real-time insights into her third-party vendors' activities. According to Gartner, 60% of organizations will use cybersecurity risk as a primary determinant in conducting third-party transactions by 2025.
- Robust Contracts: Establish clear security expectations in your contracts. Include clauses that mandate regular security assessments and immediate notification of any breaches.
 Training and Awareness: Equip your team with the knowledge to identify and respond to third-party risks. Regular training sessions and awareness programs are essential.
- 4. **Training and Awareness:** Equip your team with the knowledge to identify and respond to third-party risks. Regular training sessions and awareness programs are essential.

Real-World Success Stories

Let's look at a few companies that have mastered third-party risk management:

Microsoft: After the SolarWinds incident, Microsoft ramped up its third-party risk management protocols. They now require vendors to undergo stringent security assessments and use Al-driven tools to monitor potential threats continuously.

Procter & Gamble (P&G): P&G implemented a comprehensive third-party risk management framework that includes regular audits, continuous monitoring, and detailed contracts. This proactive approach has significantly reduced their risk exposure, ensuring smoother and more secure operations.

The Future of Digital Transformation and Third-Party Risks

As we look to the future, the landscape of digital transformation will continue to evolve, bringing new opportunities and challenges. Companies must remain vigilant and adaptable, continuously refining their strategies to mitigate third-party risks. This requires a dynamic approach that balances innovation with security, ensuring that the benefits of digital transformation are fully realized without compromising on safety.

Proactive Measures for the Future:

- Adopting Advanced Technologies: Leverage AI and machine learning to predict and mitigate third-party risks.
 These technologies can analyze vast amounts of data to identify potential vulnerabilities before they become threats.
- 2. Enhancing Collaboration: Foster stronger collaboration between departments, such as IT, HR, and procurement, to ensure a cohesive approach to third-party risk management.
- 3. Staying Informed: Keep abreast of the latest trends and best practices in third-party risk management. Participate in industry conferences, webinars, and training programs to stay updated.
- 4. Building a Risk-Aware Culture: Cultivate a culture where risk management is everyone's responsibility. Encourage employees to be vigilant and proactive in identifying and addressing potential risks.

In the journey of digital transformation, navigating third-party risks is like steering through stormy seas. It requires vigilance, adaptability, and a proactive approach. By implementing robust third-party risk management strategies, organizations can ensure that their voyage towards digital innovation is smooth and secure.

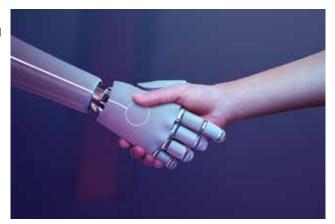
Ready to dive deeper into safeguarding your organization in this connected world? Join us at the upcoming RethinkHR Conclaves, where industry leaders and experts will share their insights, strategies, and success stories on navigating digital transformation and managing third-party risks. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, network, and equip your organization for a secure and prosperous future. Register now and be part of the conversation that shapes the future of HR and digital innovation.

Navigating Generative AI Adoption in India

In recent years, the adoption of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) has taken center stage in the realm of technological advancements, with its potential to revolutionize various sectors, including Human Resources (HR). As India, the world's largest democracy and one of the fastest-growing economies, continues to embrace digital transformation, Generative AI stands out as a pivotal tool that HR leaders must explore and understand. This blog delves into the opportunities and challenges that come with Generative AI adoption in India, providing insights and real-world examples to paint a comprehensive picture of its impact on HR practices.

The Rise of Generative AI in India

Generative AI refers to AI systems capable of generating text, images, and other content based on learned patterns from vast datasets. Unlike traditional AI, which focuses on analysis and predictions, Generative AI can create novel content, making it a powerful asset for HR leaders. According to a report by NASSCOM, the AI market in India is expected to grow at a CAGR of 20% and reach \$7.8 billion by 2025, indicating a significant investment in AI technologies, including generative models.



Generative AI and the Opportunities for HR Leaders

1. Enhanced Recruitment Processes

Imagine a world where resumes are not just screened but also enriched with insightful candidate profiles generated by AI. Generative AI can analyze a candidate's public online presence, including social media and professional networks, to create a comprehensive profile that goes beyond the resume. For instance, a major IT company in Bangalore implemented an AI-driven recruitment tool that increased their hiring efficiency by 40%, as it could quickly identify and rank potential candidates based on skill matching and cultural fit.

2. Personalized Employee Engagement

Generative AI can create personalized content for employees, such as tailored newsletters, training modules, and feedback reports. This personalization can lead to higher engagement and satisfaction levels. Consider the example of a leading Indian pharmaceutical company that used AI to personalize training programs for their sales teams, resulting in a 25% increase in training completion rates and improved sales performance.

3. Advanced Workforce Analytics

HR leaders can leverage Generative AI to analyze vast amounts of workforce data and generate predictive insights. These insights can help in strategic decision-making, such as identifying potential skill gaps, forecasting future hiring needs, and understanding employee sentiment. A Mumbai-based financial services firm used AI analytics to predict employee turnover, which allowed them to proactively address issues and reduce attrition rates by 15%.

Challenges associated with Generative AI

1. Data Privacy and Security

While Generative AI offers immense potential, it also raises concerns about data privacy and security. HR departments handle sensitive employee information, and any AI system used must ensure robust data protection measures. The implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in Europe has set a precedent, and similar regulations in India, such as the Personal Data Protection Bill, highlight the importance of compliance.

2. Ethical Considerations

The use of AI in HR processes brings ethical challenges, such as bias in AI algorithms. If not carefully managed, AI systems can perpetuate existing biases, leading to unfair hiring or promotion practices. For instance, an AI-driven recruitment tool in the US was found to favor male candidates over females due to biased training data. Indian HR leaders must ensure that AI systems are trained on diverse and unbiased datasets.

3. Integration with Existing Systems

Integrating Generative AI with existing HR systems can be complex and require significant investment. HR leaders need to ensure that AI solutions seamlessly integrate with their current HRIS (Human Resource Information Systems) and other platforms. A phased approach, starting with pilot projects, can help in managing this transition smoothly.

Real-World Examples and Case Studies

Example 1: Infosys

Infosys, a global leader in consulting and IT services, has been at the forefront of AI adoption. Their AI-powered platform, Infosys Nia, uses generative models to automate and enhance various HR processes. From recruitment to employee engagement, Infosys Nia has demonstrated how AI can drive efficiency and innovation in HR practices.

Example 2: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)

TCS has leveraged Generative AI to enhance their employee onboarding experience. By using AI to create personalized onboarding content, TCS has significantly reduced the time taken to onboard new employees and improved their initial engagement levels. This approach has also enabled TCS to scale their onboarding process efficiently across their global operations.

The Road Ahead

The journey of Generative AI adoption in India's HR landscape is filled with both opportunities and challenges. HR leaders must navigate this dynamic environment with a strategic approach, focusing on ethical considerations, data privacy, and seamless integration. By embracing AI, HR leaders can transform their functions, driving efficiency, personalization, and strategic insights.

As India continues to grow as a global economic powerhouse, the role of HR leaders in adopting and leveraging Generative AI will be crucial in shaping the future of work. The potential is immense, and with careful planning and execution, HR leaders can harness the power of AI to create a more agile, responsive, and employee-centric workplace.

Generative AI is not just a buzzword; it's a transformative force that can reshape HR practices in India. From enhancing recruitment processes to personalizing employee engagement and providing advanced workforce analytics, the opportunities are vast. However, challenges related to data privacy, ethics, and integration must be addressed proactively. By learning from real-world examples and adopting a strategic approach, HR leaders can lead their organizations into a future where AI-driven innovation and human-centric strategies coexist harmoniously.

Stay tuned for more insights and updates on the intersection of AI and HR, as we continue to explore the future of work in India at our upcoming RethinkHR Conclaves.



Top Movements



BFSI

Munindra Verma joins M1 NXT as chief executive officer

Neo Asset Management appoints Neeraj Sanghi as the MD and operating partner

Pooja Thakran appointed as executive & leader- public affairs for Wells Fargo in India & Philippines

Quotient Ventures elevates Adarsh Atal to group chief creative officer

Consumer E-Commerce

Yugandhar Madidi joins Diagonal Design as chief growth officer (CGO)

Mercer appoints Siddhartha Gupta as India president

82°E's chief marketing officer Keerthana Ramakrishnan quits
Inderniel Shivdasani joins Pepperfry as head of strategy and investor relations

GOVERNMENT

Partha Sinha appointed as president and Chief brand officer; Surinder Chawla named Head of Response at BCCL

FSIB names CS Stty as the new chairman of SBI
RBI elevates Charulatha S Kar to executive director
National Securities Depository appoints Meghna Gupta as CHRO

HEALTHCARE

Niraamaya Life onboards Ashwani Gandhi as its CEO

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories elevated Neha Jain as Group HR Director

Aha elevates Rakesh CK as EVP & Head – SVOD & Marketing

T Gangadhar quits Quotient Group

HOSPITALITY

Tata Starbucks appoints Mitali Maheshwari as head of product and marketing for India SKAL International announces new board members for India The Ritz-Carlton, Pune appoints Sandip Nalawade as director of engineering The Fern Goregaon appoints Sanjiv Kumar as executive chef

Manufacturing

Ashmita Pillay joins Marico as head of communications

Nurjaha Arora joins Škoda Auto Volkswagen India as head – group communications

CEAT appoints Vishal Pawar as senior vice president- global sales and supply chain

Del Monte Foods appoints Abhinav Kapoor as chief executive officer

INFRASTRUCTURE

Piramal Realty appoints Abhijeet Maheshwari as CEO
Ena Chakravorty elevated to Communications Director at ROADIS
Karan Kumar joins BPTP as CMO
Harshika Dang joins DLF Limited as GM (Events & Experiences – Super luxury)

LEGAL_LAW

Trilegal gets 4 new Partners from these law firms

Claudia Salomon reappointed as President of the ICC Court of Arbitration

Joydeep Choudhuri joins Latham & Watkins as Partner

Nayona Roy joins Dentons Link Legal as Partner in the TMT practice

MEDIA

Suyash Khabya takes charge as chief creative officer at The Womb B Ramanathan joins Ogilvy India as chief client officer Network18 Media & Investments elevates Sahil Shetty as chief revenue officer JioCinema announces key additions to the technology leadership team

TECHNOLOGY

GOZOOP Group elevates Amyn Ghadiali as country head- India Zepto elevates Devendra Meel to chief business officer Adobe appoints Keith Eadie to lead its Asia Pacific business Himanka Das joins Tribes Communication as Chief Strategy Officer

Courtesy Power Moves





We want to hear from you!

Share your thoughts on the latest HR trends and practices by replying to this newsletter or connecting with us on social media. Your insights are invaluable to our community!

Subscribe to the RethinkHR Newsletter to stay updated on the latest HR innovations, case studies, and events. Together, let's shape the future of human resources!

Thank you for being a part of the RethinkHR community!



Stay Tuned for the RethinkHR Conclave in Hyderabad!

Date: September 27th 2024

We are excited to announce that Hyderabad is the newest addition to the list of RethinkHR Conclave cities! Don't miss out on this ground breaking event.

Register Now to secure your spot and be part of the future of HR.

For inquiries, write to us at: info@sapphireconnect.in

To explore more about us, including our Partnership Opportunities, Upcoming Conclaves, Actionable HR Strategies, and blogs, visit

www.rethinkhr.co.in

Got questions or ready to Enhance your HR experience?
Reach out to us

www.rethinkhr.co.in/registration

or give us a call at

+91 9967326206

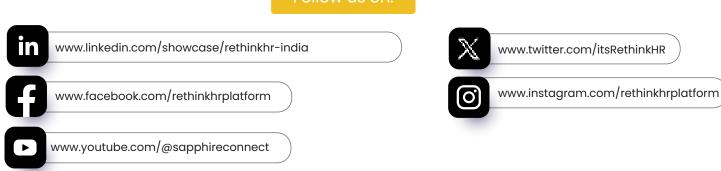
In addition, don't miss out on our exclusive content:

Ru Ba Ru: Dive into our exclusive interview series where HR leaders share their perceptions, strengths, and success stories. Read it www.sapphirehumansolutions.com/rubaru

About Sapphire Connect

Sapphire Connect, an initiative of Sapphire Human Solutions, is India's leading B2B meeting specialist focused on creating knowledge-sharing and networking platforms through conferences, business meetings, webinars, virtual conferences, bespoke events, and research papers. With over a decade of experience in CXO facilitation, Sapphire Connect aims to establish industry and function-specific destinations that encompass the entire ecosystem. They bring together industry leaders to share critical intelligence, network, and impart knowledge through bespoke platforms and business communities, fostering actionable intelligence and preparing senior leaders to navigate future challenges effectively.

Follow us on:



Thank you for joining us on this journey with The RethinkHR Newsletter community, and we look forward to hearing from you! We look forward to empowering your business success with actionable HR insights and strategic guidance in the months ahead! Until then, stay tuned!