

TOASTMASTERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Balraj Arunasalam

2014-2015 Second Vice President

Balraj Arunasalam of Colombo, Western Province, Sri Lanka, is founder and chief executive of Gemtrans Engineering Company, a maker of industrial belts. He also serves as President of the lyyappan Temple management board and as Vice President of the Aarunadu Velalar Society of Sri Lanka. He also belongs to the local Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club.

In 2011, Arunasalam helped establish an English course titled Rural Voices Unlimited, a project designed to educate youth in rural Sri Lanka. His work earned him an award from the U.S. Embassy in Colombo. Arunasalam holds an advanced level General Certificate of Education from Trinity College in Kandy, Sri Lanka, and is earning a master's degree through the Australian Institute of Business Administration.

A dedicated Toastmaster for 25 years, Arunasalam is a member of three clubs, including the Colombo Toastmasters club. He served on the Toastmasters Board of Directors from 2011 to 2013. He has held a number of distinguished leadership positions within the organization and has attained the Distinguished Toastmaster designation—the highest level of achievement in Toastmasters.

"Toastmasters is a way of life," he says. "It helped me understand the philosophy of leadership, to give and receive respect, and to be humble."

As a member of the Toastmasters International Board of Directors, Arunasalam is a "working ambassador" for the organization. He works with the Board to develop and support the policies and procedures that guide Toastmasters International in fulfilling its mission.

About Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of meeting locations. Headquartered in Rancho Santa Margarita, California, the organization's membership exceeds 313,000 in more than 14,650 clubs in 126 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people of all backgrounds become more confident in front of an audience. For information about local Toastmasters clubs, visit **www.toastmasters.org**. Follow **@Toastmasters** on Twitter.