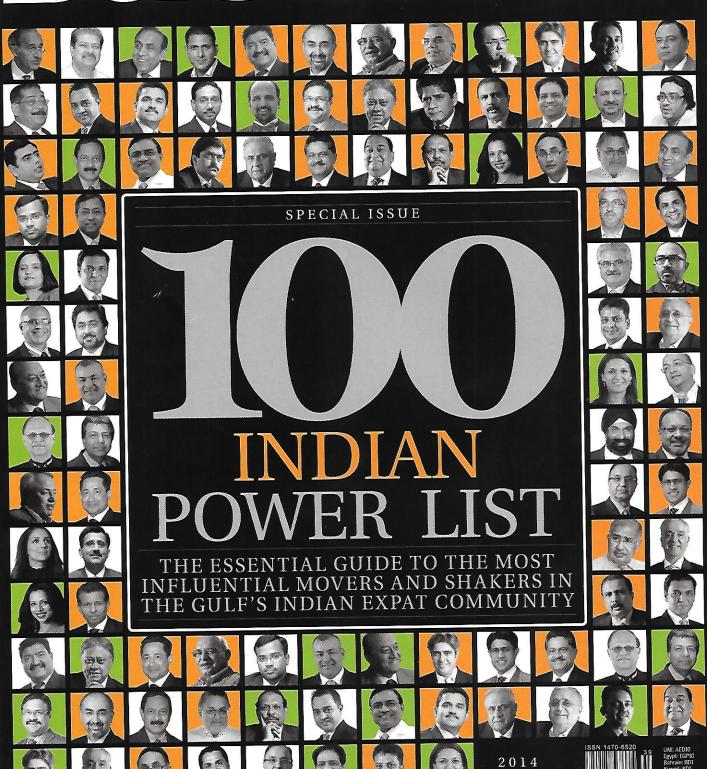
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GCC

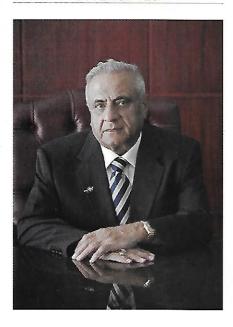




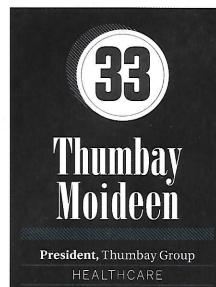
## Asgar Shakoor Patel

Group chairman, House of Patels

DIVERSIFIED



alf a century ago, a Mumbaibased salesman borrowed enough money to buy a lorry and enter the trucking business. That man was Asgar Shakoor Patel, and the company swiftly turned into Patel Roadways, one of India's biggest transport and logistics names. Patel has used his business acumen to grab massive slices out of other global markets, including cargo, finance and remittances, through Wall Street Exchange Centre. He is now in the process of setting up a venture capital fund in Dubai.



y 1997, Thumbay Moideen had been travelling to the UAE on business for five years. A third-generation businessman, he was well aware of the Gulf state's growing acumen for money-making opportunities.

But it was not until a chance meeting with the ruler of Ajman, Sheikh Humaid Bin Rashid Al Nuaimi, that the middle-aged father of two decided it was time to move.

"It was an accidental meeting with His Highness," Moideen told us last year.

That meeting resulted in Moideen setting up the Gulf Medical University. Nowadays, the group employs more than 1,500 staff, and is hoping to hire more than 7,000 in the next five years.





Chairman, Regal Group

RETAIL



Traders was set up on the banks of the Dubai Creek, to deal in wholesaling and indenting of fine fabrics from Japan and India. Now best known as one of the UAE's largest fabric chains, Regal Group is the preferred source of quality fabrics to leading local couturiers. Shroff has largely handed control of his business over to sons Raju and Vikram.

\$17.5BN

The estimated annual sales of the UAE's textile industry.