



Bio

Name
S. Purushothuman Kesavan Swaminathan

Nationality
Malaysian

Company
Flextronics Technology Penang Sdn Bhd

Position
Vice President, Operations

Years overseas
11

GIVING BACK

Making good on home ground

Having worked abroad for more than eleven years in the Electronics sector, S. Purushothuman Kesavan Swaminathan was ready to return and contribute to the growth of the industry and nurture Malaysian talent.

You've been working in the E&E industry for 27 years, in Malaysia, Singapore, China, India and Vietnam. How would you rate our E&E industry now?

If you look at the overall industry, I believe it has grown to be stronger than what it was many years back with renewed product inceptions, new opportunities, and it looks like levels of activities in plants in Malaysia is picking up in terms of investment. At the same time, many Electronics multinationals including

Flextronics are growing and with that more job opportunities for talents.

How has your work experience abroad made an impact on your professional work?

Being Malaysian, it was a very good learning experience for me, with a lot of advantages coming from a multicultural environment and getting into different countries. I adapted much easier compared to my counterparts who came from the U.S. or Europe. At the same time, learning about the start-up environment and trying to build the overall operations and organisation within each country had put me in a much better spot in terms of the experience gained. As I began to understand the commercial part of it, the legal entity, while also looking at the

overall financial mechanism – I had the opportunity to learn different things from each of the countries I worked in.

What made you decide to come home?

Being away from my family was one of the biggest challenges. Also, rather than simply perusing my knowledge and skills outside of the country, I decided to come back and help our fellow Malaysians as the point is becoming rather critical where we need to strengthen our overall skill sets rather than being complacent about where we are right now.

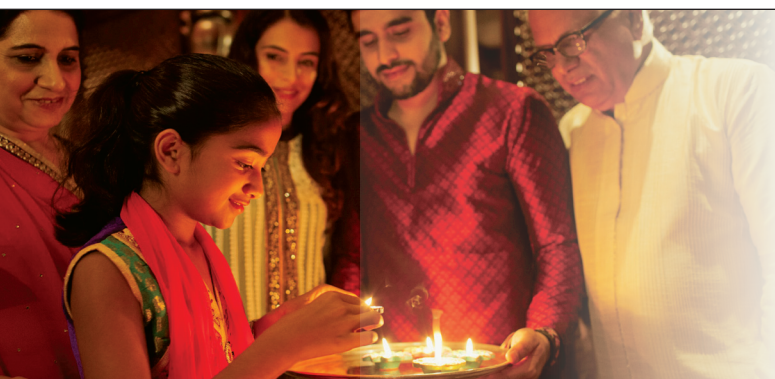
We're celebrating Deepavali this month. What does this mean to you now after spending so many years abroad?

It is going to be very sentimental for me because for the past 11 years I did not have a chance to celebrate Deepavali because in most of the countries apart from India, it's a normal working day. Now that I am back home I can spend more time with my family, relatives and my friends.

What would be your advice to experienced Malaysians working abroad thinking of returning home?

It's high time for many of our skilled Malaysians to return home. There are a lot of opportunities in Malaysia and contributing to our own country is the way forward. The compensation and benefits are pretty much as competitive as what you can get overseas. The facilitation that the REP provides for returning Malaysians like me certainly helps enhance career opportunities on offer, in attracting us Malaysians to come home.

Employers recruiting experienced Malaysians from abroad can take advantage of the Fast-Track REP application process. Get in touch with us at rep@talentcorp.com.my



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