Nanda Padmanabhan

Head, Corporate Communications

SCMP[®] Certified Corporate Communications Leader with more than 20 years of experience in PR, Content Strategy, Reputation Management, Media Strategy, Crisis Communications, and Policy Advocacy for BFSI and Technology.

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Areas of Expertise

Corporate Communications

- ♦ External Communications
- Strategic Communications
- Crisis Communications
- Internal Communications
- Brand Storytelling
- Content Strategy
- Media Strategy
- Media Relations
- Public Policy
- ♦ Thought Leadership

Editorial and Marketing

- Brand Marketing
- ♦ Brand Communications
- Marketing Communications
- ♦ SEO
- ♦ Social Media
- Developmental editing
- Academic editing
- Content Development
- Ghostwriting

Industry

- Personal Finance
- BFSI
- Technology
- Technology Services
- ♦ STMS
- Higher Education

Key Achievements

- Spearheaded BankBazaar's recognition as India's most-read personal finance brand with 13,000+ organic mentions in traditional, digital, TV, and radio channels pan India.
- Crafted and executed content and media strategies that ensured the highest media share of voice for the brand in its category for the last five consecutive years.
- Conceptualized and executed 10+ extensive research reports including the award-winning signature PR campaign, BankBazaar Aspiration Index.
- Led multiple content strategy revamps, and brand guideline and SOP development for Brand Marketing, Communications, and Social Media.
- Successfully managed crisis communication initiatives, reducing response time by 50%.
- Strategised and executed public policy for BankBazaar, shaping policy outcomes on FinTech and BFSI regulations around digital lending.
- "Top 30 Corporate Communications Teams" in 2023 and 2024 by Reputation Today.

Experience

Head, Corporate Communications (AVP, Communications)

BankBazaar.Com, Bangalore

Sep 2015 till date

I currently lead corporate communications for BankBazaar and am instrumental in setting up the function from scratch and building up BankBazaar as the most widely read personal finance brand in India.

- Established and implemented internal and external communication strategies for domestic and international functions, establishing strategic brand presence in new and emerging markets.
- Managed media relationships with more than 80 journalists and editors, securing features in Tier-1 financial and mainlines, digital platforms, television, radio and improving coverage benchmarks by 10x.
- Directed cross-functional, multi-lingual, and multi-format nationwide PR campaigns, achieving 30% increase in partner engagement.
- Led DEI and crisis communication initiatives, supervised the development of the crisis playbook and SOPs, and conducted crisis management trainings for multiple functions.

Needle movers

Directed PR activities for Singapore and Malayasia from 2016 to 2019 and established BankBazaar's presence in media and events in these markets for the first time

Awards

- 30 Top Corp Comm Teams in India 2023 by Reputation Today
- ◆ <u>30 Top Corp Comm Teams</u> in India 2024 by Reputation Today
- PR Awards Asia 2019 for BankBazaar Aspiration Index
- BankBazaar Excellence Award 2019
- India Content Leadership Award 2018
- BankBazaar Excellence Award 2017
- ♦ HP Excellence Award 2009
- ♦ HP Excellence Award 2008

Other Projects

- ♦ ICG Salary Survey 2024
- PR Agency Salary Survey Report 2025

Qualifications & Certifications

Strategic Communication
Management Professional (SCMP)®
Global Communication Certification
Council (GCCC)

Crisis Communications
PRomise Foundation

Academic Writing and Editing (Non-credit Course) Duke University (via Coursera)

Certification in Technical Writing and Editing

STC (via K-9 Technologies)

B.Sc. Physics Ram Narain Ruia College, Mumbai University

- Organised high-profile industry events, such as the two editions of the BankBazaar Digital Banking Conclave, where senior leadership from top banks, FinTechs, RBI, NITI Aayog, and international lawmakers participated
- Acted as a public policy advocate and liaison for industry bodies to influence policy discussions on digital lending through advocacy and 10+ high-impact opinion pieces published in top media

Independent Consultant, Corporate Communications

TCS, IBM, WNS, Volvo India

April 2011 till date

Progressed from editorial roles and grew into a communications leader, using content skills for high-impact brand strategy and storytelling.

- Developed internal and employee communication plans for multiple MNCs and start-ups.
- Created detailed branding guidelines and marketing ad social media plans for productbased start-ups.
- Established executive communication plans and developed op-eds and thought-leadership pieces.

Analyst, Business & Marketing Communications (Business Analyst)

Hewlett-Packard, Bangalore

Sep 2007 - Jul 2010

Spearheaded the development of editorial process for HP Marcom from scratch.

- Handled complete editorial requirements of seven business units of HP.
- Led and oversaw training process for Content and Editorial teams to deliver a 95% accuracy rate.
- Worked on the HP Style guide and created the HP Writing Guidelines for Marcom.

Needle movers

- Redefined processes to bring down the number of edit cycles from three to one while maintaining a 95% accuracy rate.
- Worked as the only editor on Technical and Business Whitepapers for DSAS.
- Recieved two excellence awards in 2008 and 2009.

Media & Editorial

IDG Media, Wiley India; Packt Publishing; OUP; CUP; Elsevier; IEEE, Springer August 2010 – Sep 2015; Aug 2004 – Jul 2007

Managed editorial calendars and issue closures for prominent technology magazines and collaborated with authors and reviewers to deliver 40+ high-impact STMS and P&T titles and 80+ academic papers as a seasoned development and academic editor.

- Commissioned new titles and supervised the editorial lifecycle through publication, ensuring quality and consistency.
- Mentored junior journalists in content development for print and digital platforms.
- Trained new editors and mentored first-time authors to craft best sellers.

Needle movers

- First Indian editor promoted as Commissioning Editor at Packt Publishing.
- Managed a team of five editors who worked on 15 titles.
- Led the digital news team that enhanced online readership by 30%.