

M A YUSUFFALI

M A YUSUFFALI born on 15 November 1955 (age 57) Nattika, Thrissur district, is an NRI businessman. He completed his schooling from Nattika and moved to Gujarat where he did his diploma in Business Management & Administration. After the studies he left India in 1973 to Abu Dhabi where his paternal uncle, MK Abdullah, the Chairman and the founder of the EMKE Group of companies was doing business. He developed the import and wholesale distribution of the group and ventured in to the supermarket business by launching Lulu Hypermarket. He started his first Lulu Hypermarket in 1990s, a time when the UAE's retail sector witnessed a major change, with the traditional groceries and supermarkets yielding place to large neighborhood stores and hypermarkets. While the entry of Continent (now Carrefour) in 1995 changed the face of retail business in Dubai, Yousuffali took charge of Abu Dhabi's retail sector by rolling out LuLu Hypermarket in Abu Dhabi.

His astute business vision and strategic mind have evolved ambitious growth plans for the Group and ensured their materialization through a team of people who share his drive and dynamism. Headquartered in Abu Dhabi, the capital city of United Arab Emirates the Group is best known in the Gulf through a chain of popular Shopping Malls, Hypermarkets, Supermarkets and Department stores which serve the widest segments of multi-ethnic residents in the region. Foremost among them is the Lulu Chain of outlets, followed by Al Falah Plaza and Emirates General Market. The Group's formidable position in retailing is ably supported by an integrated network of import, distribution and whole-sale marketing operations, apart from a cross-continent network of outsourcing operations.

Emke Group, with its 31,000 strong workforce from 29 different nations and operational bases extending over the U.A.E., India, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Yemen, Egypt, Kenya, Benin, Tanzania, Senegal, Uganda, Nigeria, Ghana, Ivory Coast, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, and United Kingdom is one of the most successful corporate of the times with a steadily ascending growth curve over the years. With an annual turnover of US \$ 5.1 billion globally, the Group employs more than 26,000 Indians.

With an annual turnover of US\$ 4.5 billion globally, the Group employs the largest number of Indians outside India. According to the recent Forbes Listing, Yusuffali is currently the 34th wealthiest Indian and the 974th richest in the world, with a personal wealth of \$1.5 billion. He recently acquired 4.99 per cent shares of the 93-year-old Thrissur-based Catholic Syrian Bank (CSB). Recently he has increased his stake in the Kerala-based Federal Bank to 4.47 per cent.

LuLu Shopping Mall in Kochi, Kerala was opened on 10 March 2013. It is the group's first retail venture in India is the Asia's biggest shopping Mall.

Yusuffali is very closely involved in many social, charitable and humanitarian activities both in India as well as in the Gulf countries. He has done various philanthropic activities across the globe. As part of its Global CSR policy, the LuLu Group joined hands with Dubai Cares and adopted schools in Gaza and Nepal. Yusuffali contributed and took initiative to open a multi-faith funeral centre for the Indian community in Sharjah that spread across 8.3 acres. He also took initiative to sell and promote organic products grown by the special needs community in UAE through LuLu Hypermarkets . Yusuffali donated generously towards the Gujarat Earthquake, Tsunami Relief Fund in Asia, and Typhoon and flood relief in other parts of the world. He is also actively involved in ensuring the social, economic and religious welfare of expatriate Indians in the Gulf. He played a major role in finding land for the Christian community in the region to build churches and secure cremation grounds for the Hindu populace in the Gulf. M. A. Yusuffali also extended help to Indians during the amnesty period in the Gulf when hundreds of Indians lost their livelihood. He helped rehabilitate people who lost their livelihood in the Calicut market fire as well.

Yusuffali is married to Shabira Yusuffali and has three daughters.