



Mr. P. Kaniappan

Head – Assessment & Counselling, IFQM

Mr. P. Kaniappan is the Head of Assessment and Counselling at the Indian Foundation for Quality Management (IFQM), where he oversees initiatives designed to promote quality-driven leadership and capability development within the Indian industry. He also serves as an Independent Director on the Board of Sundaram Clayton Limited.

With more than four decades of experience in the automotive sector, Mr. Kaniappan has held several senior leadership positions at prominent organizations including Sundaram Clayton, WABCO India, and the ZF Group's Commercial Vehicle Solutions Division. From July 2014 to June 2025, he served as Managing Director of ZF Commercial Vehicle Control Systems India Limited (formerly WABCO India). Prior to this, he was Whole-time Director at WABCO India from 2009, before advancing to the role of Managing Director in 2014. Mr. Kaniappan joined the Brakes Division of Sundaram Clayton in 1992, subsequently leading its Foundry Division and later serving as President (Operations) for the Brakes business. He commenced his professional journey as a graduate engineer trainee in the Moped Division of Sundaram Clayton in 1982, which eventually became part of TVS Motor Company.

Mr. Kaniappan holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the National Institute of Technology, Suratkhal, a master's degree in manufacturing systems engineering from the University of Warwick, UK, and an Executive MBA from the Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai. Additionally, he is an alumnus of the Advanced Management Program at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Kaniappan has received multiple prestigious accolades for his contributions to the manufacturing and automotive sectors, including:

- Recognition among the Top 100 and Best CEOs by Business Today (2016)
- Lifetime Achievement Award by Frost & Sullivan IMEA (2018)

- Ashoka Award by ISQ (2022) for championing quality management
- Outstanding Quality Man by NIQR (2023)