## Early Stage & VC Investing

### Sanjay Nath, Co founder & Managing Partner Blume Ventures

November 9, 2013

### Overview of PE and VC

#### Private equity (PE)

The provision of equity capital by financial investors – over the medium or long term – to non-quoted companies with high growth potential

#### Venture capital (VC)

Is a subset of private equity and refers to equity investments made for the launch, early development, or expansion of a business.

It has a particular emphasis on entrepreneurial undertakings rather than on mature businesses.

Often and especially in Silicon Valley, and now in India, many VC investments are into *technology & technology-enabled* businesses

**Blume Ventures** 

### India – VC Landscape & Evolution

Many VCs in India have moved upstream, into the realm of Growth VC and PE. Compared to the US which has several angel groups (with Silicon Valley alone having close to a dozen) -- India has only 2 large groups and a few angel funds

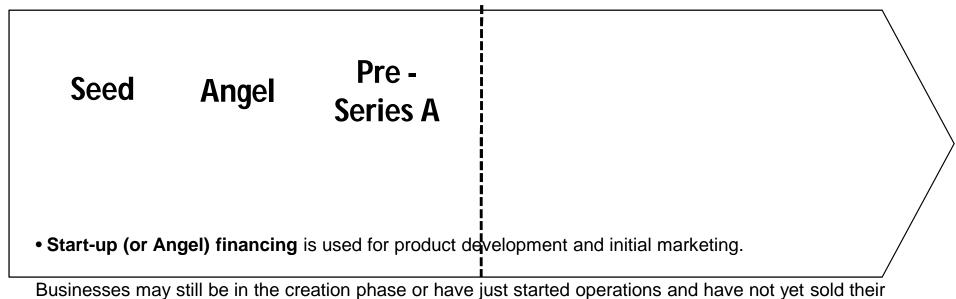
A majority of VCs have moved upstream

Seed	Angel	Pre - Series A	Series A	Series B / Growth	Series C / pre-IPO
<ul> <li>Angel groups</li> <li>Individual angels</li> <li>Angel funds (Blume, Kae, India Quotient)</li> <li>Incubators &amp; Accelerators</li> </ul>			<ul> <li>Inventus</li> <li>Accel</li> <li>Helion</li> <li>Sequoia Capital</li> <li>IDG Ventures</li> <li>Saama (formerly SVB)</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Nexus</li> <li>Canaan</li> <li>NEA</li> <li>Bessemer</li> <li>Norwest</li> <li>SAIF</li> </ul>
		Private	<ul> <li>Kalaari (forme</li> <li>Matrix</li> <li>Nirvana</li> <li>Omidyar</li> <li>Qualcomm</li> </ul>	erly IndoUS)	<ul> <li>Lightspeed</li> <li>Fidelity</li> <li>Tiger</li> <li>Vertex</li> <li>Intel</li> <li>Cisco</li> </ul>

### Phase I: Seed & Angel Investing

•Seed financing is designed to research, assess and develop an idea or initial concept before a company has reached the start-up phase.

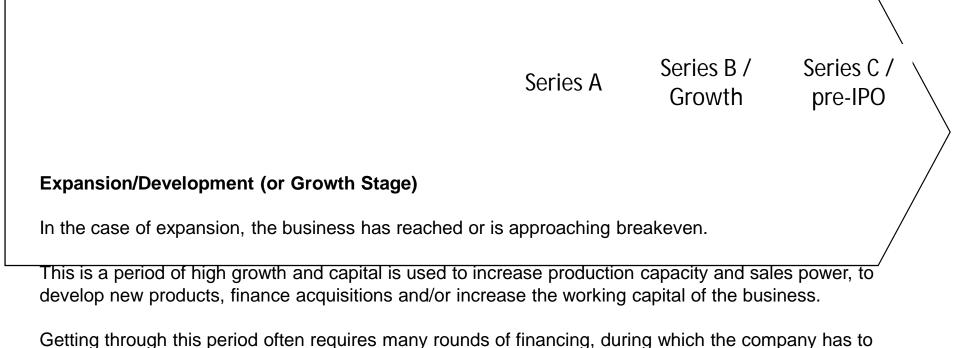
At this stage, investors are mainly business angels. They often have **operating experience i.e.** entrepreneurs or former directors who join a project to help get it off the ground and also contribute some of their personal funds (act like individual **angels**).



Businesses may still be in the creation phase or have just started operations and have not yet sold their product commercially.

When the product has taken shape, forming the basis of a real "business plan", a certain number of venture capital professionals will join the entrepreneur and assist him with setting up the business.

### Phase II: Growth / Expansion Investing Blume Ventures



ensure that its growth is balanced.

Professional investors are most attracted if a significant and if it is already been invested in a company, if the company already has a history of development and if it is already operating with a robust structure in place.

### The Holy Grail – the Exit

The EXIT is the end goal of every VC firm

How is exit value maximized?

- Revenue growth
- EBITDA / Operating margins
- IP (Intellectual Property)
- Quality of Customers
- Quality of Management Team
- Competitive Advantage

Most successful Exits are either thru Trade Sales (eg M&A) or IPOs. Sometimes also happen outside India, e.g. on the NYSE / Nasdaq but equally on the BSE or sales to Indian MNCs.

More importantly, the exit results from the "total package" of how the company is valued, not just a single part eg only revenues

### Is VC right for your company?

• Are you prepared to take on the responsibility of being an entrepreneur, i.e. to run a business with a method and structures, to delegate responsibilities to a team and know how to motivate them, to develop your knowledge outside the business and bring this knowledge into your company, to take on the legal responsibilities – in a word, to take the plunge?

- Are you prepared to give up part of your company's capital to a private investor?
- Does your business operate in a growth market? •
- Are your company's development prospects sufficiently ambitious?
- Is your team prepared to follow you? Does it have the necessary experience?

## It <u>is</u> a personal, case-by-case decision. It is <u>NOT</u> a formula, or a one size-fits-all

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### When is VC right for you?

#### When you want to:

- create a business;
- improve and develop your export performance;
- exploit the creativity and innovation of your team;
- recruit highly qualified personnel;
- change the size of your business and take over one of your competitors;
- launch a new product or range of solutions

VCs like to invest in businesses that are <u>rapidly scalable</u>, have an <u>exponential growth curve</u>, and have somewhat of a clear <u>exit path (even if longer term)</u>

### Angel investing

- Art or science?
- Gut or rigorous due diligence?
- What are the key investment criteria?
- How does the investment process really work?
- How does it differ from VC and also PE?

# Early stage (seed and angel) investing is an art AND a science, it's the yin with the yang

### What makes a good VC

- Smart money
- Operating experience
- Bringing the Network / Ecosystem Effect
- Acting as advisor, mentor, guide
- Ability to connect to partners, customers, eventual acquirers

# Good VCs as stratecic partners and advisors – NOT just sources of pure capital

### India – Shift from 2009 to 2013

	Seed	Angel	Pre - Series A	Series A	Series B / Growth	Series C / pre-IPO	
<ul> <li>Burst of accelerators, seed funds, super angels (&amp; their quasi-funds)</li> </ul>				<ul> <li>Almost NO change in the set of Series</li> <li>A / B / C players</li> </ul>			
• Blume was first of its size in this cycle – at least a dozen more emerged in last 24 months				<ul> <li>Some wind-downs, some rebranding, some splits amongst larger VCs</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Reduced attractiveness of the 2006-08 vintage angel groups</li> </ul>				<ul> <li>Most of them on new funds + limited exits =&gt; large active portfolios</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Fragmented angel networks don't work well as yet (close-knit networks only)</li> </ul>				<ul> <li>IPO market as dormant as ever in tech, focussed only on exceptionally large cash-flow or gross rev biz models</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Lack of a network / marketplace of mentors, advisors, domain experts, service providers</li> </ul>							
	(we may build i	-	-	<ul> <li>Trickle of M&amp;A we need a flood</li> </ul>			
					-		

Lack of transparency around VC performance

### India – the Nuances

#### **Blume Ventures**

#### **Some Localized Startup Ideas**

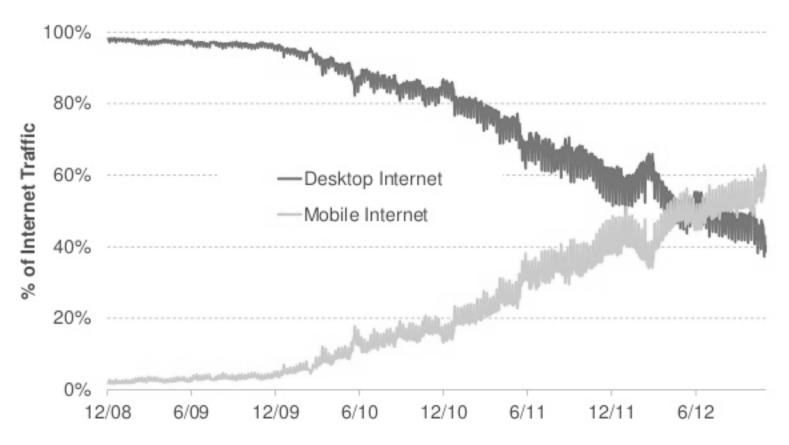
- RedBus (Bus Ticketing)
- Tally (Accounting Software on CD)
- AppsDaily (offline App Store)
- Gharpay, Delhivery (e-comm Only Logistics and Payments)
- JustDial (yellow pages on Voice)
- MadRat Games (Indic language, local character design – board games)

#### Localized problems that Investors need to be aware of

- Large Cash Economy, cards underpenetrated, payment infra highly regulated
- Do-it-for-me > DIY
- Transport Infrastructure creaking overburdened as its being built
- Every City's Tech culture is quite different
- Broadband Infra well below optimal
- Mobile Service Providers have too much control over app economy

India  $\rightarrow$  The "Mobile First" Digital Economy will kick in (very) soon

In India, Mobile Internet Traffic Surpassed Desktop Internet Usage in May, 2012 - Other Countries to Follow...

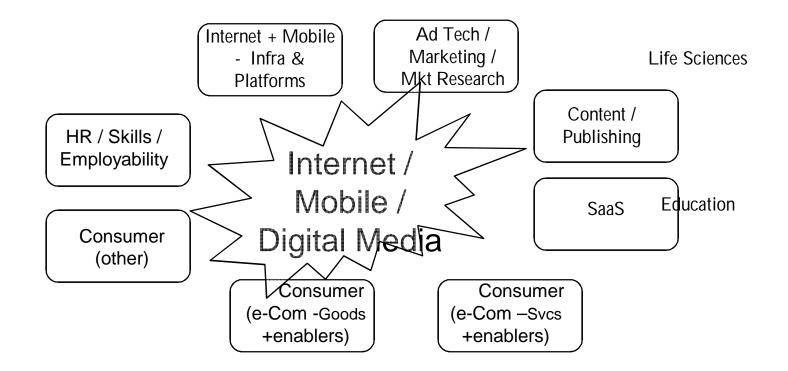


India Internet Traffic by Type, Desktop vs. Mobile, 12/08 - 11/12

Source: Qualcomm, KPCB Report

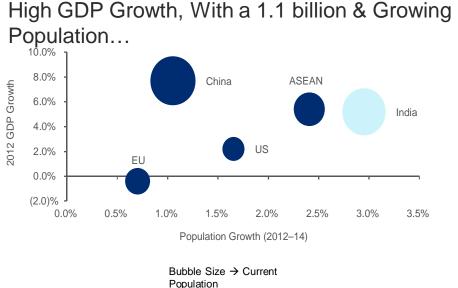
Representative Investments & Sectors Blume Ventures

The "core" of many technology focused VC firms is around Mobile, Internet, New Media and related sectors – that are *capital efficient, have a strong ecosystem already built in, and can scale rapidly* 



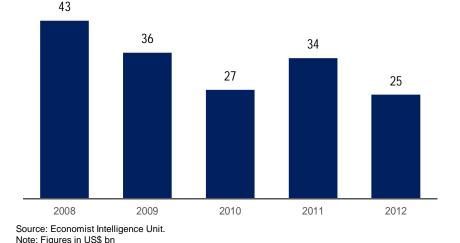
### India – some big ideas & themes

- Mobile First (device and access penetration much higher)
- Fix the SMB problems (35-40 million small businesses)
- Location tracking and services
- Fixing e-commerce backends B2B commerce, payments
- Video bigger than text?
- Audio / Video Indic languages content bigger than English
- Gaming will leapfrog consoles to Mobile and Tablets
- Crowdsourcing Surveys, Information, Tasks, Capital
- Reimagine traditional plays travel, jobs, housing, dating/marriage

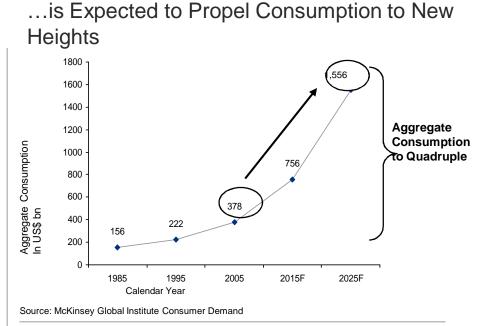


Source: The World Factbook and Economist Intelligence Unit.

FDI flows in India continue to remain strong (US\$ bn)



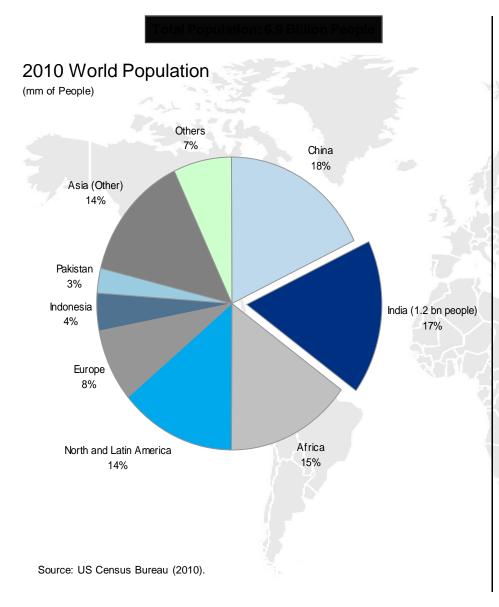
#### India Continues to Have a Favourable Macro-Economic Profile



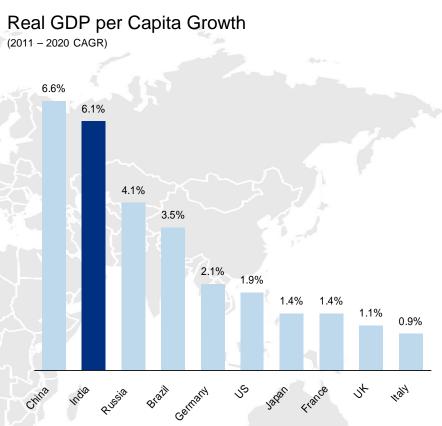
#### There are Concerns – but also Confidence

- Currency devaluation
- Political uncertainty given general elections in 2014
- Lack of political consensus
- Uncertain tax environment
- That said, Growth projected to be 5-6%+, and if the above concerns are alleviated and a more investor-friendly Govt is in Power, this could be higher

#### Attractive Economic & Demographic Trends...

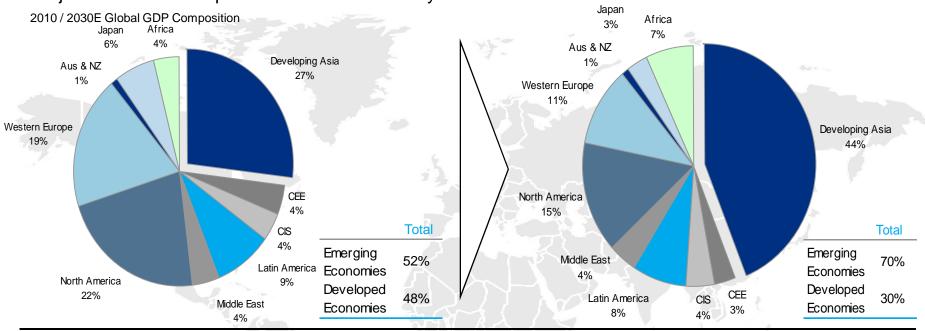


Sources: The Economist Intelligence Unit, CIA Fact Book and Citi Investment Research as of March 2011.



Just this month (June 2013), **Fitch upgraded India's Rating Outlook to** <u>Stable</u> – driven by Government steps to contain the deficit, stabilize the rupee and other positive reformoriented actions

#### Attractive Economic & Demographic Trends (Cont'd)...



#### Projected Shift in Composition of World Economy

Projected Evolution of the Global Economy

(\$ in trillion, purchasing power)<sup>(1)</sup>

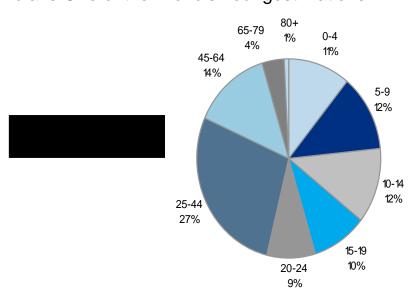




Sources: The Economist Intelligence Unit, CIA Fact Book and Citi Investment Research as of March 2011.

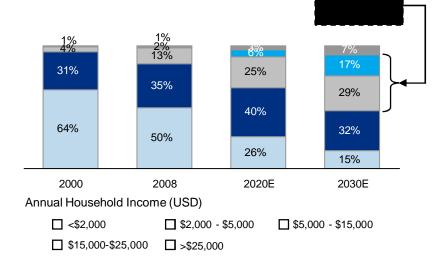
(1) "PPP" stands for Purchasing Power Parity, which is a theory of long-term equilibrium exchange rates based on relative price levels of two countries; the purchasing power of different currencies is equalized for a given basket of goods.

#### ... Driven By Rising "Middle Class" and Domestic Consumption

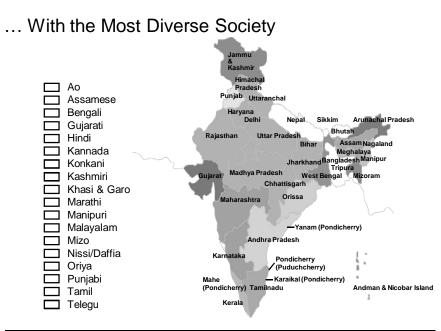


India is One of the World's Youngest Nations...

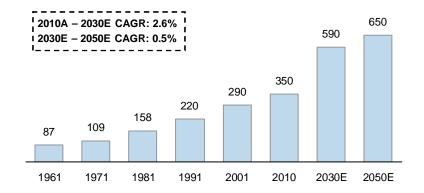
A Growing Middle Class



Sources: Street Research, Mckinsey Estimates and The Economist Intelligence Unit

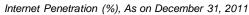


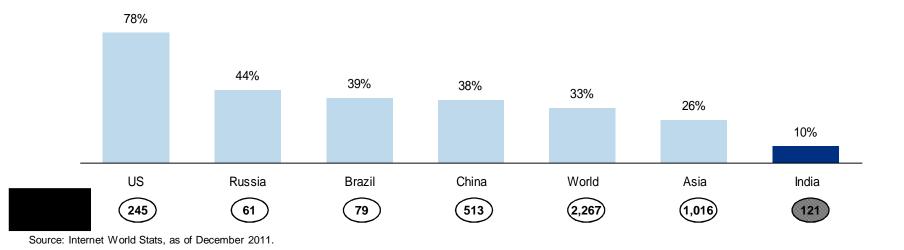
#### ... With a Rapid Increase in Urbanization (in millions)



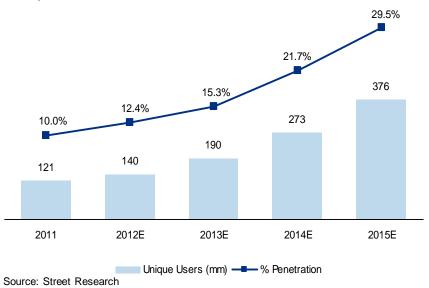
#### India is Among the Most Attractive Internet Markets Globally

Low Internet Penetration Presents Further Upside



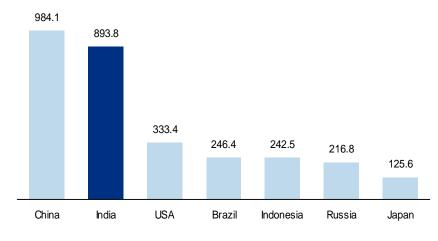


Unique Internet users in India



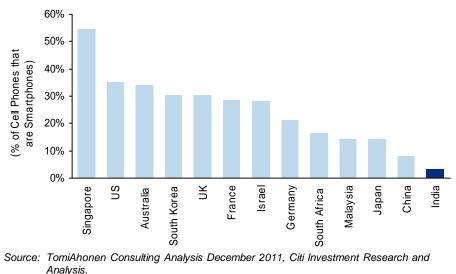
India: 2nd Largest Wireless Market Globally

(Wireless subscribers as of December 2011, in millions)



Source: WCIS and TRAI

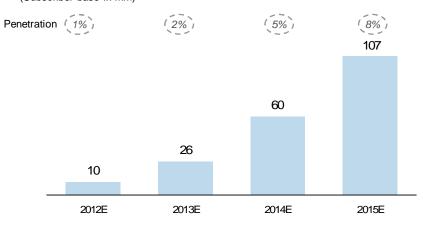
#### **Rapidly Growing Smart Phone Penetration**



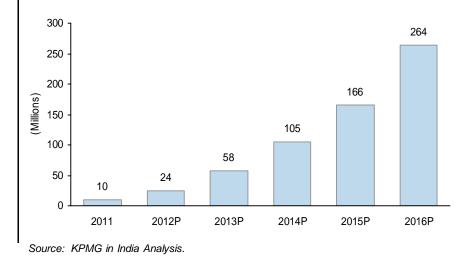
#### Smart Phone % of all Cell Phones

#### 3G / 4G Adoption a Key Growth

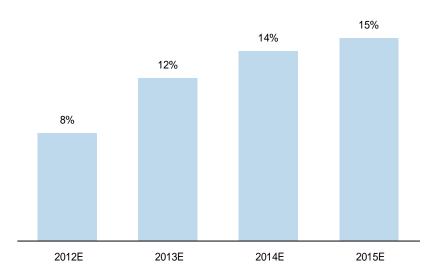
- Die all 3G numbers are encouraging and point to medium-term upside
- Analysts project a c.8% 3G penetration by 2015, which we believe is conservative (Subscriber base in mm)



Active Internet Enabled Smart Phones<sup>(1)</sup>



...Supported by Increasing Smart Phone Penetration



Source: Analysys Mason, IDC

Notes: (1) Includes Wi-Fi and 3 / 4G enabled smart phones. (2) Includes 3 / 4G enabled smart phones.

### Q & A