

## The Inspiring Story of Shekhar Vasant Ebhad and A1 Salon

Published on 17 Jan 2026 | By IFI Correspondent



Behind every successful entrepreneur lies a story of struggle, faith, and determination. The journey of **Shekhar Vasant Ebhad**, founder of **A1 Salon, Saswad**, is a powerful example of how dreams backed by hard work can create remarkable success.

Standing today as a respected businessman in Saswad, Shekhar often says that the real story of success is not glamour, but the sweat and perseverance invested over the years.

### A Legacy Born in 1983

The roots of A1 Salon go back to **1983**, when Shekhar's father started a small salon in their village. The family's financial condition was modest, and the shop was run jointly by his father and uncle. The income was limited, yet the responsibility of two families rested on that single establishment.

With the dream of growth, his father later shifted the business to **Saswad in Purandar Taluka**. During this period, Shekhar was still in school. Observing the hardships closely, he began helping at the shop from a young age. Balancing studies with work was not easy, but those years became his real training in business.

### Education, Job, and a New Dream

Shekhar always believed that along with continuing the family legacy, he must create his own identity. He completed his education and pursued engineering, graduating with **First Class in 2014**.

Soon he secured a position in a reputed international company. His dedication earned him rapid promotion, and at just **24 years of age he became Head of Department (HOD)**. Life seemed set with a good salary and social respect.

Yet the entrepreneurial spirit within him was restless. As he says,  
*"One who has business in his blood can never find true satisfaction in a job."*

### A Bold Step During Lockdown

When Shekhar finally decided to start his own venture, destiny tested him—the **COVID lockdown** struck the world. Businesses were collapsing, and people advised him not to leave his secure job.

But trusting his skills and his father's values, he took the courageous decision to launch '**A1 Salon**' in the middle of the crisis. What seemed risky then became the turning point of his life.

### Rise of A1 Salon

Today, the transformation is remarkable. The small shop of 1983 has grown into a recognized brand with:

- **Two main outlets and three branches in Saswad**
- **12 modern chairs and 15 trained professionals**
- Service hours from **8 AM to 10 PM**

Located just **25 km from Pune**, A1 Salon has become a trusted name for quality grooming services across the region.

### **Principles Behind the Success**

Shekhar attributes his growth to three core values:

1. **Education:** Engineering helped him in planning, finance, and systematic management.
2. **Consistency:** Staying steady despite ups and downs.
3. **Family Guidance:** His father's teachings remain the foundation of A1 Salon.

### **Vision Ahead**

For Shekhar, business is not only about profit. His larger goal is to:

- Create employment for rural youth
- Provide professional salon training
- Expand A1 Salon to more locations

He firmly believes:

*"No matter how difficult the situation, if your dreams are big and efforts honest, even a lockdown cannot stop your success."*

### **Selected for Maharashtra's Prestigious Awards**

Recognizing his dedication and achievements, he has been selected for the prestigious "**Maharashtra Business Icon 2025 / Maharashtra Style Icon 2025 / Maharashtra Fashion Icon 2025**" awards.

This honour is being presented by **Reseal.in and India Fashion Icon Magazine**, celebrating Maharashtra's emerging entrepreneurs and artists.

The selection marks a proud moment not only for him, but also for the entire region.

### **Presence of Renowned Film Personalities**

The grand award ceremony will be graced by celebrated film personalities:

- **Ms. Varsha Usgaonkar (Bollywood Actress)**
- **Ms. Sonalee Kulkarni (Indian Actress)**
- **Ms. Prarthana Behere (Indian Actress)**

### **Event Hosted Under Expert Leadership**

The event is organized under the leadership of **Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathade**, Founder & CEO of Reseal.in (Sure Me Multipurpose Pvt. Ltd.), who continues to provide a national platform for Maharashtra's rising entrepreneurs, designers, and creative talents.

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