

IndiaMART Leaders of Tomorrow Awards 2010

Chidambaram Felicitates Entrepreneurial Excellence

ET NOW & IndiaMART.com have instituted the Leaders of Tomorrow Awards, a unique initiative to recognize the finest entrepreneurial talent in the SME space



Rahul Siddhu

After the television series on ET NOW where inspiring success stories from Small & Medium Scale Enterprises were told, IndiaMART.com & ET NOW felicitated the most deserving entrepreneurs at The Leaders of Tomorrow Awards 2010. In a glittering ceremony on December 3, these Leaders of Tomorrow were awarded based on their innovation, talent and success in emerging victorious despite odds.

Union Minister of Home Affairs, P. Chidambaram, felicitated the winners at the prestigious event in New Delhi. Speaking on the occasion, he said, "I congratulate ET NOW and IndiaMART.com for recognizing leaders in a number of categories." Highlighting the role of MSMEs in the Indian



MSMEs contribute about 8 per cent of GDP, which is more than what agriculture contributes. They also contribute 45 per cent of manufacturing output, 40 per cent of exports and provide employment to over 60 million persons. Without doubt, this is the sector that has the highest potential to create employment.

P. CHIDAMBARAM,
UNION MINISTER OF
HOME AFFAIRS



I really enjoyed assessing all of you. It seemed as if I was assessing myself in 1987. I wish you all the best. All small companies of today will become big companies of tomorrow.

SHIV NADAR, JURY CHAIRMAN
FOUNDER, HCL

el & Accessories, Auto / Auto Components, Electrical & Electronics, Engineering Products, Home Decor & Handicrafts, Packaging, Transport & Logistics, IT / ITES / Telecom, Company of the year and Woman Leader of Tomorrow Awards. Needless to say the response was overwhelming.

A grand jury was instituted comprising eminent business leaders who personally fielded and committed to their respective fields. Moreover many of the esteemed jury members are first generation entrepreneurs who started out as SMEs and today lead large business operations.

The Jury was led by Mr. Shiv Nadar, Chairman and Chief Strategy Officer, HCL Technologies and included industry stalwarts like Mr. Gautam Thapar, Chairman and CEO, Avantha Group; Mr. Kusbhagra Bajaj, Promoter and Joint Managing Director, Bajaj Hindusthan Ltd.; Mr. Jagdish Khattar, Chairman and Managing Director, Carnation Auto India Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Uday Kumar Varma, Honourable Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India.

To select the best of the best, a jury meet took place at the ET NOW office in Noida where jury members interacted, debated and discussed the nominations and chose the brightest talent in the SME space. Besides the regular categories, the judging was also done for the special categories awards like Woman Leader of Tomorrow Award and the Company of the Year.

The award ceremony on December 3, 2010 opened with foot-tapping music by fusion band 'Mrityga'. Post the felicitation of the awards recipients, stand-up comedian Vir Das enthralled audience with his witty one-liners.

Speaking on the occasion, Dinesh Agarwal, founder and chief executive officer, IndiaMART.com, said, "The four-month long journey of the awards has truly been worthwhile with thousands of responses received from SMEs across the country. The awards are an attempt to identify the brightest out of these SMEs and reinforce their importance in the Indian economy. We believe that this event will leave an indelible mark and build a foundation for many more such endeavors in the future." He further added, "I am sure that these Awards will recognize the best SMEs in India and inspire many more to take an entrepreneurial leap. We will continue to do our best to build a strong SME ecosystem in the country through these awards and other such initiatives."

Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer, Times Global Broadcasting Co. Ltd. Sunil Jaisla said, "It was an honor for ET NOW to have the Union Minister of Home Affairs P Chidambaram grace the occasion and give away the first Leaders of Tomorrow Awards. ET NOW is committed to recognizing the best upcoming enterprises in the country and we congratulate all the winners of the first Leaders of Tomorrow Awards. We are confident that in the years to come this will become one of the most coveted SME awards of India Inc."



Our criteria were to judge the entrepreneurs on their passion for business, innovation and why they got into this business. Currently there's not enough space for recognition in this sector. An award like this will certainly add more prestige to MSME sector and more companies will get inspired to join it. And as companies grow, ultimately generating capital is going to be the issue. For that an award like this will certainly help in distinguishing one company from another. Even from lenders point of view, awards are important.

GAUTAM THAPAR,
CHAIRMAN AND CEO,
AVANTHA GROUP

Addressing the nominees, the Jury chairman, Shiv Nadar, Founder, HCL; Chairman

Leaders of Tomorrow 2010

AWARD CATEGORY	Award Recipient
Company of the Year	Vijay Shekhar Sharma One97 Communications Ltd.
Woman Leader of Tomorrow	Lalitha Rao Sahib Nuthatch Nutriscare Technologies Pvt Ltd.
Agri Business (Food Processing)	Atul Mehra Tasty Dairy Specialities Ltd.
Apparel & Accessories	Kuntal Raj Jain Duke Fashions India Ltd.
Auto / Auto Components	Kapil Agarwal Pelican Rubber Ltd.
Electrical & Electronics	Sanjeev Sehgal Samridhhi Automations Pvt. Ltd.
Engineering Products	Kiran Patil Ducon Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
Home Decor & Handicrafts	Anil Sharma Lorenzo Vitrifed Tiles Pvt. Ltd.
Packaging	Ambar Patel Shilp Gravures Ltd.
Transport & Logistics	Abhijeet Nair FEI Cargo Ltd.
IT / ITES / Telecom	Vijay Shekhar Sharma One97 Communications Ltd.



and Chief Strategy Officer, HCL Technologies, said, "I really enjoyed assessing all of you. It seemed as if I was assessing myself in 1987. I wish you all the best."

Winners were visibly happy as they received the award from P. Chidambaram, the chief guest, as he encouraged them with his words and proved a source of inspiration for all present at the awards. The chosen MSMEs were proud to receive the Awards from him before a sizable gathering of over 300 business leaders. Concluding, he said, "I

am delighted to see so many young men and a woman receive awards today. It shows the depth of entrepreneurial talent in India."

In his vote of thanks address, Dinesh Agarwal extended his gratitude to the Home Minister, Jury chairman Shiv Nadar, Jury member's secretary, Ministry of MSME Uday Kumar Varma, Jagdish Khattar, Gautam Thapar and Kusbhagra Bajaj and other dignitaries present for making these awards a resounding success.



The key mantra of success for Small & Medium enterprises is to have a vision and to stick to it. There will be tough times and times when you will stop believing in your vision. But don't let go of the vision. People don't understand your vision at times especially in bad times. But eventually you'll come out as a winner. So, stick to your visions. You can tweak your vision once in a while. But basic vision should remain the same.

KUSHAGRA BAJAJ, PROMOTER AND JOINT MANAGING DIRECTOR, BAJAJ HINDUSTHAN LTD.



In this country there are so many small & medium scale companies that contribute to the economy and generate employment, but still they are not being recognized. I think this is a good way of recognizing the real talent and to motivate them. The award will help them grow further.

JAGDISH KHATTAR, CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, CARNATION AUTO INDIA PVT. LTD.



Everyone needs a pat on the back. To me the person as an individual matters a great deal, what kind of vision he has, kind of fire he has in his belly, is he a thinker, etc., are some points that will help him stand out from others.

UDAY KUMAR VARMA,
HONOURABLE SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF MSME,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Tune into the Leaders of Tomorrow awards special episodes on 14 December at 6.30pm & 21 December at 6.30pm only on ET NOW. For more information log on to <http://leaders.economicstimes.com/>



LALITHA RAO SAHIB, NUTHATCH NUTRISCARE TECHNOLOGIES PVT LTD.

VIJAY SHEKHAR SHARMA, ONE 97 COMMUNICATIONS LTD.

Atul Mehra, Tasty Dairy Specialities Ltd.

SANJEEV SEHGAL, SAMRIDHHI AUTOMATIONS PVT LTD

ABHJEET. P. NAIR, FEI CARGO LTD.

KAPIL AGARWAL, PELICAN RUBBER LTD.

KUNTAL RAJ JAIN, DUKE FASHIONS INDIA LTD.

KIRAN PATIL, DUCON TECHNOLOGIES

AMBAR PATEL, SHILP GRAVURES LTD.

Anil Sharma, Lorenzo Vitrifed Tiles Pvt Ltd.