

BMA Awards Presentation Ceremony : 29th May, 2009

Speech by Mr. S. Mohan, President BMA

Dr. Ashok Ganguly, recipient of Padma Vibhushan this year, illustrious Award Winners, eminent Awards Committee and Jury members, Invitees, Members of the management fraternity, members of the Press, Ladies & Gentlemen;

I am indeed glad to welcome you all to the Annual BMA Awards Presentation ceremony, a signature event of BMA, where illustrious awardees are recognized by the Bombay Management Association, for their valuable contribution in the field of management .

For us at BMA, the Awards function is indeed a **celebration** – a celebration of the commitment, dedication and hard work put in by the Awardees, for which they are being recognized today. Each one of them has created his or her own footprint in their chosen field, distinct from the rest, a trendsetter in their own right, indeed. The management fraternity is indeed proud of their achievement and we at BMA on behalf of all of them salute you for your contribution.

This year we have an impressive galaxy of achievers who will be recognized under various categories.

All this would not have been possible if not for the dedication and commitment of the BMA Internal Awards Committee, led by the dynamic Chairman, Mr. R. Ramakrishnan and his team comprising of Mr. Indrapal Singh, Mr. S.P. Agarwal

and Mr. Anant Singhania. The work put in by all of them is present here for us to see.

The Internal Awards Committee is really only half the story. The other half of the story is the support, encouragement and guidance received from the External Awards Jury ably led by Mr. K.K. Nohria as Chairman along with Mr. Shailesh Haribhakti, Ms. Shikha Sharma, Dr. Ram Tarneja, Mr. H. Hajara as Members. Their selection of the awardees is indeed most apt and truly reflects what we in BMA believe - To recognize and celebrate the paradigm shifts in the field of management and Enterprise which contribute towards the economic growth not only of the enterprise but of the nation.

There will be a citation for each of the Awardees – notwithstanding , I will now briefly mention that the coveted Life-Time Achievement Award is not a regular award given every year. The earlier Awardees, to name a few, are Mr.Henning Holck Larsen, Chairman Emeritus, Larsen & Toubro Ltd, Dr.Verghese Kurien of NDDDB and the Father of the White Revolution, Mr.F T Khorakiwala, Chairman, Akbarallys Group among others.

Today, we honour under this category,Dr. Fakir Chand Kohli and Ms. Ela Bhatt, both wonderful human beings who truly have achieved much – one in the I.T. Industry and the other in the field of Social Entrepreneurship.

It is indeed my proud privilege to introduce our Chief Guest and Padma Vibhushan awardee Dr. Ashok Ganguly. Dr. Ganguly really needs no introduction. Apart from being tall, he stands tall and is truly a doyen in the management field. He was the former Chairman of Hindustan Lever and under his stewardship several young managers who got groomed hold very senior positions

today in the Corporate world. A member of the National Knowledge Commission appointed by the Prime Minister of India and a worthy recipient of the Padma Vibhushan conferred on him this year. Our congratulations to you Sir. Dr. Ganguly has served as Director on several Boards such as Central Board of Reserve Bank of India, Advisory Board of Microsoft Corporation (India) Pvt. Ltd., Hemogenomics Pvt. Ltd., and British Airways among others. He is a member of the Prime Minister's Council on Trade and Industry as well as the Investment Commission and the India-USA CEO Council set up by the Prime Minister of India and President of the U.S.A. In addition to all this he is the Chairman of Firstsource Solutions Limited and Ananda Bazar Patrika Group Ltd. We truly are honoured to have you in our midst as our Chief Guest.

On behalf of myself and on behalf of the Bombay Management Association I have great pleasure in welcoming you today.

Thank you !!!!!

S Mohan