

Dhanam Business Summit & Award Nite 2015

A Proud Moment for Kerala Business

Dhanam honours outstanding achievers in business and industry

It was a memorable evening corporate Kerala would cherish for long. When *Dhanam*, Kerala's foremost business magazine, dedicated a day for honouring the achievements of the best and the brightest in the industry, the event turned out to be a memorable one for the whole of the business fraternity in the state. The elite gathering at Le Meridien Convention Centre in Kochi on June 20 to celebrate the 9th



Dhanam Business Summit & Award Nite was a testimony to the role *Dhanam* has been playing in inspiring and promoting business success across all genres.

This year's Business Summit was yet another celebration of *Dhanam's* legacy of applauding success, identifying business opportunities, and highlighting best practices in every field. Over the past 26 years, *Dhanam* has spread the spirit of positive thinking everywhere, and the D-Day was a special day to reaffirm the *Dhanam* policy to make a difference to Kerala's business scene.



Award winners with chief guest Dr BVR Mohan Reddy, keynote speaker Santhosh Babu, *Dhanam* Editor & MD, Kurian Abraham and Associate Editor & Director, Maria Abraham

Group, by P H Kurian, Principal Secretary, Departments of IT and Industries.

Shrikant Bhasi, Chairman of Carnival Group, was presented with the **Dhanam Entrepreneur of the Year 2014 Award**. He received the award from C J George, Managing Director, Geojit BNP Paribas.

Beena Kannan, CEO and Lead Designer of Seematti, was presented with the **Dhanam Businesswoman of the Year 2014 Award** by Dr M Beena, Managing Director, Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation.

Presenting Sponsor



While presenting the award, Dr M Beena congratulated the *Dhanam* family for taking the initiative since its inception to promote business and highlight success.

P H Kurian noted the change in Kerala's business scene over the years, and commented how more and more people are now coming forward to invest in the state. C J George too highlighted



T S Kalyanaram receiving the Dhanam Businessman of the Year 2014 Award from Dr BVR Mohan Reddy



Elias George being presented with the Dhanam Management Professional of the Year 2014 Award by Dr BVR Mohan Reddy



Dr Siddeek Ahmed receiving the Dhanam NRI Businessman of the Year 2014 Award from P H Kurian



Shrikant Bhasi being conferred with the Dhanam Entrepreneur of the Year 2014 Award by C J George



Beena Kannan receiving the Dhanam Businesswoman of the Year 2014 Award from Dr M Beena

A cocktail of inspiring speeches, interaction with experts, networking opportunities and great company awaited the guests as the D-Day started on a vibrant note. In his welcome address, Kurian Abraham, Founder Editor and Managing Director of *Dhanam* Publications, shared the joy of seeing Kerala on the road to become one of the best states in the country despite many handicaps, a dream that *Dhanam* had when it was launched more than two and a half decades back.

"Today the state is more business-friendly than ever before and we are happy and proud to say that *Dhanam* contributed significantly to making a positive change in the mindset of the people and the business eco-system here," he said.

Kurian Abraham also pointed out three factors-reverse brain drain, a national and global perspective of entrepreneurs, and increased focus on infrastructure developments by the people in the state- as accelerators of Kerala's progress.

Focus on 5 key areas

The event had stirred the interest of the business community when the names of the key speakers were announced prior to the summit. Because, Dr BVR Mohan Reddy and Santhosh Babu are not names one associate with a routine programme. And the address by Dr Reddy, Chairman of Nasscom, and Founder and Executive Chairman of Cyient, who was instrumental in placing India on the global map in leading-edge engineering research and development services, surpassed expectations as he dwelt in detail about the developments in IT sector in India.

"Technology has changed the way we live, work and entertain, and IT sector is going to remain the key component of India's growth chart," he said. "It has created a new movement, and that is the reason why our country has come to 4th



Dr BVR Mohan Reddy

"Investor, customer, employees and society are the four basic factors that determine the success of your enterprise. And do not forget the five values on which the business should be built- fairness, integrity, respect, sincerity and trust."



Santhosh Babu

"Make each of your employees feel purposeful. They decide the success of your enterprise in the long-term. And always remember that culture kills strategy"



P H Kurian IAS

"Dhanam has been instrumental in promoting entrepreneurship in Kerala. I am glad to see the business scene changing in Kerala with more and more people investing in ventures here."



Dr M Beena IAS

"It is indeed a pleasure to be part of Dhanam's celebration of business excellence. The magazine has contributed a lot to the development of the industry."



T S Kalyanaram

"Our service to customers is based on the values of transparency and honesty. It is because of the customers' support and God's grace that we expanded from Thrissur to the national and global level."



Glimpses of the august gathering

the way business is done in today's world, and pointed out that Shrikant Bhasi is setting an example for entrepreneurs by an effective funding method for his high-scale acquisitions.

Award for values

In his acceptance speech, T S Kalyanaram expressed his happiness to receive the honour from *Dhanam* "which was the first magazine to enter this sector" He shared his observations on business, and pointed out that more than hard work, God's blessings and the acceptance of the public are the secrets of Kalyan's success. "My grandfather and father began this journey based on the values of transparency and honesty, and we are only following it."

Our policy is simple- VHP- Value, High-thinking and Patience, he said. "Giving customers value for money is important. High-thinking matters for long-term success. And we have been patient in making people aware of quality by fighting against impure gold."

Elias George, the man behind the prestigious Kochi Metro project, asked the corporate world to extend their support to make this dream a reality. "Kochi deserves to be the best city in the world, and the efforts of KMRL are focussed towards giving it a world class transportation system. We are giving people the latest technology to make their lives better," he said.

The ticketing app, the debit card-cum-ticket and the connected transport facilities are all designed

Visit the videos section on www.dhanamonline.com to watch the Asianet News telecast of the event



position in start-up formation."

Growing at 11-13 percent, IT sector now provides 35 lakh direct jobs and one crore indirect jobs in India, he said. "There is potential for more growth as we move into an age where technology becomes the core of every activity."

Highlighting the five latest technologies that would bring in profound changes, he said that mobile phones, Internet of Things, Cloud Computing, Digital Payments and Universal Biometric Identity will be the key players of the digital ecosystem. "I cannot say that IT field is devoid of any future challenges. Most companies come to India because of the low expense, but they

expect innovation, completion of the project on deadline and high productivity at low cost. The challenge for Indian companies would be to equip employees to meet these demands."

And he had the audience eagerly awaiting his words as he spoke about the lessons he learnt. "Dream big and be paranoid about your enterprise, make it successful, profitable and sustainable, be focussed and don't ever change your values. And never forget the customer."

Santhosh Babu, Managing Director of Organisation Development Alternatives Consultants, was at his enlightening best as he asked entrepreneurs to have a clear vision and to remember the power of context in their planning. "An organization

will be successful only when each one of the employee feels a sense of purpose," he said.

Presenting examples, he highlighted the need for entrepreneurs to think different and motivate their team members to bring out the best in them. "Remember that culture kills strategy. Do not fall into a routine, and feel the pulse of the customer," said Santhosh Babu.

Honouring the mighty

The talks by two experts gave the audience many a point to ponder about the changing business scene and strategies. And then it was time for the most awaited moment of the day- presentation of business excellence awards.

T S Kalyanaram, Chairman and Managing Director of Kalyan Jewellers, was presented with **Dhanam Businessman of the Year 2014 Award** by Dr.BVR Mohan Reddy, Chairman, Nasscom, and Founder & Executive Chairman, Cyient. Vijay Kurian Abraham, Vice-President, *Dhanam* read out the citation.

Elias George, Managing Director of Kochi Metro Rail Limited, received the **Dhanam Management Professional of the Year 2014 Award** from Dr BVR Mohan Reddy.

Dhanam NRI Businessman of the Year 2014 Award was presented to Dr Siddeek Ahmed, Chairman and Managing Director of Eram

to make people use the public transport more, he said. "KMRL is a young organisation, more like a start-up, and I dedicate this award to the KMRL team."

Beena Kannan, Shrikant Bhasi and Dr Siddeek Ahmed too shared their views on the business scene in Kerala, and how their dreams shaped their vision for their brands.

Wrapping up the D-Day, R Surendran, General Manager (Marketing) proposed a vote of thanks. The evening came to an end on a promising note of better changes to come in the business, industry, and more avenues across the globe for Kerala entrepreneurs to excel.

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