

Chemtech Foundation confers 'Man of the Century' Award to Dhirubhai Ambani

November 8, 2000: The Chemtech Foundation conferred Reliance Industries Chairman Dhirubhai Ambani with the 'Man of the Century' Award at the Chemtech-CEW Awards function held in Mumbai today.

The 'Man of the Century' award was presented to Mr Ambani by the governor Dr P C Alexander. The award citation, which honours Mr Dhirubhai Ambani's achievements, states: "Whereas, as one of the few giants who walk among men, he stands apart in his own right as an exceptional entrepreneur, innovative leader and above all a nation builder through his far-sighted vision; For his remarkable ability to redefine the boundaries of expansion and transform the face of corporate India..."

While congratulating Dhirubhai Ambani, Ram Naik, union minister for petroleum and natural gas, described him as the father of petroleum industry.

Accepting the award, Mr Dhirubhai Ambani said, "Lakhs of people have joined me in building Reliance. Between us there has always been one common bond: reliance and trust. They placed trust in me. In return, I stood by that trust, without wavering. Reliance is a triumph of trust.

"This is not an honour to an individual. It is an honour for a large number of people – investors, managers, business associates, bankers and others. All of them are partners in the Reliance process. Millions of Indians will be inspired and encouraged by your gesture. You are telling them to dare and move forward."

Earlier, Mr Jasu Shah, Chairman, Board of Trustees, welcomed the invitees. Present at the function were the other awardees – Dr R A Mashelkar ('Hall of Fame' Award), Dr Anji Reddy ('Achiever of the Year' Award), Dr V G Pangarkar and Dr K V Raghavan ('Outstanding Contributors'). Special guests of honour included Suresh Prabhu, union minister for power and Smt. Jaywantiben Mehta, union minister of state for power. Dr Homi Sethna, Chairman, Board of Governors, presented the vote of thanks.

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