

Inspiring Asian leaders Arunachalam Muruganatham, Mohammad Rizan Hassan and Srikanth Bolla recognized at the inaugural Iclif Leadership Energy Awards 2016 in Kuala Lumpur.

High profile judging panel including Tan Sri Dr Jemilah Mahmood, Callister Koh, Pn Nora Manaf and Theresa Goh.

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia - Three inspiring Asian leaders working in the business and social enterprise fields have been named recipients of the 2016 Iclif Leadership Energy Awards (ILEAs), at a ceremony held in Kuala Lumpur on 9 November 2016.

Arunachalam Muruganatham, Mohammad Rizan Hassan and Srikanth Bolla were honoured for their commitment to creating a better future through their business leadership, professional innovation and community advocacy. The judges, including Tan Sri Dr Jemilah Mahmood, Under Secretary General Partnership, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Mr Callister Koh, Head of Human Resources, HSBC Bank Malaysia, Pn Nora Manaf, Group Chief Human Capital Officer of Maybank Group and Ms Theresa Goh, Managing Director of 360 Dynamics Pte Ltd, Singapore. Iclif Leadership and Governance Centre, noted the three Award recipients' strength of purpose and ability to overcome obstacles as key factors in their capacity to drive transformative change.

"The three recipients of the Iclif Leadership Energy Awards all demonstrate exceptional leadership energy, which serves as inspiration to leaders in Asia and around the globe", says Iclif CEO Rajeev Peshawaria. "Leadership energy is the ability to overcome the slings and arrows faced by true pioneers, and work towards a brighter future. It is the mark of a true leader, and each of our three recipients are greatly deserving of the award".

Mohammad Rizan Hassan, Founder and Managing Director of 1 Belia, 1 Kemahiran (1B1K) and TEKAT Automotive Centre, was recognised under the Corporate Employee category for his inspirational leadership and advocacy for at-risk and marginalised youth in Malaysia. As a result of his work, more than 5000 vulnerable Malaysian youth have graduated with vocational skills and successfully entered the workforce. "This Award will inspire me to further help at-risk, marginalized youth find education and employment opportunities", says Mohammad Rizan.

Arunachalam Muruganatham was awarded in the Social Enterprise category for his work breaking down the stigma around female menstruation, particularly in impoverished communities globally. Muruganatham's self-designed machine manufactures sanitary pads and is distributed free to poor, rural women globally, offering dignity, self-reliance, and opportunities for microenterprise. "This Award is not for me. It is by the woman, for the woman and to the woman globally", says Mr Muruga.

Srikanth Bolla was acknowledged in the Business Owner category. His successful packaging enterprise, Bollant Industries, offers employment and career opportunities to more than 450 differently-abled individuals who might otherwise struggle to find meaningful work. His example contributes to breaking down social stereotypes about differently-abled people, and highlights the unique strengths and achievements they can bring to business. “I am happy and honoured to receive this award. It reinforces my belief that I can do anything despite the world told me what I cannot do”, says Mr Bolla.

The ILEAs are an annual event by the Iclif Leadership and Governance Centre, to acknowledge leaders throughout the Asian region who have driven transformative change through their leadership energy. Each recipient received USD15,000 at the ceremony in Kuala Lumpur, held as part of the Leadership Energy Summit Asia 2016, Iclif’s flagship yearly leadership energy event.

About Iclif:

Iclif is Asia’s premier institute for leadership and corporate governance.

Established in 2003 by Bank Negara Malaysia (the Central Bank of Malaysia) as a non-profit centre for leadership and governance development, Iclif provides highly practical, relevant executive education and advisory services across all industry sectors. Our international faculty draws on their experience at elite academic institutions and Fortune 500 companies to deliver sustainable and holistic solutions for our clients.

We are passionate about Asia, are based in Asia, and undertake pioneering applied research in the Asian context.

FACT SHEET

What is Iclif Leadership Energy Awards (ILEA)

The Iclif Leadership Energy Awards 2016 (ILEA) celebrate outstanding business leaders across Asia who have used their unique leadership energy to overcome personal or professional obstacles to create a better future.

ILEA recipients demonstrate the courage, momentum and intrinsic energy required to be a truly effective leader. Working within their organisation or their wider society, they are committed to creating positive change for a better future. Hailing from countries spanning the breadth of Asia, they represent regional expertise and international presence.

Recipients of ILEA are ambassadors for all that Iclif seeks to teach: that authentic leadership is impossible without deeply held values, clarity of purpose, and the ability to harness the power of the mind to stay focused in the face of resistance.

Why ILEA?

The ILEA celebrate future-thinking leaders who are driving meaningful change in their organisations, and are powered by their own unique leadership energy. Unlike other awards, ILEA considers a broad and holistic range of criteria when selecting the recipients: individual drive, as well as impact on team spirit and performance, organisational success, and a sustainable future. The Award's recipients demonstrate the 'Iclif difference' and the practical application of the centre's core philosophy on the far-reaching effect of leadership energy.

These pan-regional and unique awards celebrate unconventional and exciting thinking about leadership. ILEA draws together thought-leaders in the dynamic field of leadership energy, and gives organisations and individuals the opportunity to advance their relationship with, and knowledge of the discipline. This is particularly valuable for organisations seeking the gravitas provided by academic pursuit, for nominees seeking a recognised accolade to put on their professional profile, and for judges having their business expertise and impact widely acknowledged by Iclif, Asia's foremost expert in leadership energy.

How is ILEA Judged

1. The independent judging panel recognise a diversity amongst the Award's recipients, who have fueled transformative change in themselves, their organisations and their wider community but most importantly in hearts and minds across the region.
 2. The judges were carefully appointed to ensure a broad range of expertise and experience was represented during deliberations.
 3. The judges were deeply inspired by the leadership energy demonstrated by all shortlisted candidates, and found it difficult to narrow down the recipients given the quality of the list.
 4. Over 50 nominees across Asia, including Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Australia, India, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Cambodia were assessed to identify the recipient for each category:
 - a. Business Owner/Founder
 - b. Corporate Employee
 - c. Social Enterprise Owner/Founder
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Award Criteria

Nominees must show evidence of exceptional leadership, characterised by one or more of the following:

INNOVATION: The leader has advanced an innovative practice or strategy which has impacted on people's lives to create a better future. This innovation represents a departure or disruption of normal practice.

MEASURABLE IMPACT: The leader has driven transformative change within his or her organisation, whether it be public, private, a start-up or a social enterprise. This transformative change can be clearly measured through financial or organisational results.

INTEGRITY: The individual's leadership strategy is driven by the right set of deeply held values which they have demonstrated and articulated to their team, organisation, or community.

RESILIENCE: The leader has overcome significant professional or personal obstacles in the pursuit of his or her goals. When others might have given up, the leader has continued to strive to reach and exceed his or her goals.

AUTHENTICITY: The leader has a true and courageous sense of self, which is demonstrated in his or her daily interactions with other people, be it colleagues, clients or partners.

SUSTAINABILITY: The leader is focussed on responsible growth with positive economic, social or environmental outcomes. This focus is clearly demonstrated through his or her innovations.

COLLABORATION: The leader has successfully worked with colleagues or partners to create a better future.

REGIONAL IMPACT: The leader resides in Asia. The impact of the leader's work must be felt in Asia.