



Cryptoxx and Cryptoxx Pro - Title Sponsor

In conversation with Xxxxxxx



Mahesh Dhanavade & Mahadeo Jadhav from Cryptoxx and Cryptoxx Pro felicitated as Title Sponsor

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would like to dedicate it to?

It is hard to put this feeling into words. Nevertheless, I am very glad to receive this honour and it was such an important and momentous occasion in my life. It is a huge honour for me to receive this recognition.

I want to express my gratitude towards my colleagues, who support me all the time, in all situations, and all endeavors. They are a true inspiration for me, and I highly appreciate their contribution to my professional growth.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

Blockchain is one of our generation's most exciting emerging technologies, and it's finally ready for the masses. I am bringing a revolution in the blockchain industry with Cryptoxx & Cryptoxx Pro.

What most excites me about my work is working with a team of people who are as passionate about

their jobs as I am about mine. Together, we're making a difference in the world.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

I couldn't agree more. Women have always been strong, smart, and capable—but it's only recently that they're finally being recognized. This is a good thing, and I'm proud to see it happening. It's also important to remember that this recognition doesn't mean we're done with our work; we're just getting started! They are getting more opportunities to grow and thrive.

What has been your winning mantra?

My winning mantra has always been: "You can do anything if you put your mind to it." I think it's important to believe in yourself and your abilities, and I've always clung to this mantra as a reminder.

Akshita Verma - Iconic Youngest Women Entrepreneur

In conversation with Akshita Verma

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I am happy that I could hone the skills that I had within me which won me this honour. My Guru and my family supported me in all my dreams and I would like to dedicate my success to them.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

I have not done any job in my life. I am just 15 and it is owing to my potential, courage and great thoughts that I have been given this title.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

No. If you work with complete focus in your concerned profession that you have to achieve a certain goal then every challenge will feel like scattered hair that needs to be tied back



Akshita Verma felicitated as Iconic Youngest Woman Entrepreneur

tight to steer clear of all the challenges and move ahead on one's path.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

Yes. Earlier, girls were just married off and were confined to their homes and kitchens to cook for the entire family. Women were only housewives and they held little to no significance in society. But now, women are being encouraged to come into their own. They are conquering territories which were earlier only dominated by men. I would

like to thank the Government for giving women so many new opportunities to grow.

What has been your winning mantra?

My winning mantra is 'work and move ahead'. Without sincere efforts, earning a single chapati is also not possible. Without working, we should not expect any results or destiny to support us. We have to put our physical and mental efforts to good use to reach a certain landmark in life.

Iconic Global Fashion Exhibition Woman Entrepreneur - DIVAlicious International LLP

In conversation with Vanita Bhatia

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I am extremely elated to be given this recognition on such a prestigious platform. To earn this honour from the GOVERNOR of Maharashtra is a moment I will feel proud of all my life. I dedicate this to my daughters as they aspire to achieve these milestones in their lifetime as well.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

As all industries have their set of challenges & efforts, so does this event industry especially exhibitions. In spite of the heavy competition, global travel restrictions & things being uncertain since 2 years - to be able to even sustain & maintain the pace of workflow was in itself a big achievement. And to have then received this platform was worth all the hardship faced.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to



Vanita Bhatia from DIVAlicious International LLP felicitated as Iconic Global Fashion Exhibition Women Entrepreneur

men to grow in their chosen fields?

I never felt women were any less in comparison to men to grow in any field. Infact I feel women are more capable as they also have the responsibility to ensure the functioning of their homes as mothers, wives, daughter in laws to also keep a steady balance inspite of all their work pressures. Most men are not able to multitask to this level. Due to having many facets in a woman's everyday life she still has an eagerness to succeed in her career & maintain her domestic life.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you

agree?

Yes. This is due to education systems being changed, Work forces having an open mindset to hear the women's thought process & women independently being successful in their career paths.

What has been your winning mantra?

I always believe if there is an obstacle, the closer I am to my Vision. If there is no competition or no threat to work, we fail to think in different perspectives which don't allow us to grow & venture the scale of our business. Success is always due to an obstacle crossed.

Iconic Women Achiever in Education Fraternity - Sweet Memories High School And Junior College, Panchgani

In conversation with Chandrika Shah

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I felt proud of myself and owe my thanks to God Almighty for considering my selfless contribution towards society. I want to dedicate this honour to my parents-- Late Shri Muljibhai Nandu & Late Mrs Devkaben Nandu and my spiritual Guru SAIKAKA.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

I have worked for the welfare of society. In each situation, I started taking the initiation and requested others to follow me. I emphasized meditation and selfless service to society and I feel proud that my children too followed the path.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

According to me, NO.



Smt. Chandrika Shah from Sweet Memories High School and Junior College - Panchgani felicitated as Iconic Woman Achiever in the Education Fraternity

Where there is a will there's way, there is nothing impossible in the world if we work with courage and determination. Everyone should work on the solution Instead of problems.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you

agree?

Yes, I do 100 % .

What has been your winning mantra?

- 1] Self Confidence
- 2] Meditation
- 3] Courage & determination

KidZania India - Iconic Women in Experiential Marketing

In conversation with Prerna Uppal

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I think it's a great initiative to acknowledge & recognise some great women across the spectrum doing phenomenal work and making a difference. I am also extremely thrilled & grateful to be honoured by our Governor Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari at the Raj Bhavan. I'd like to dedicate it to my parents, what I do is all for them.



Prerna Uppal from KidZania felicitated as Iconic Women in Experiential Marketing

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

I joined KidZania with a mandate to transform the business & scale it further. I did this by evangelising partnerships bringing -
- Change in the way we built partnerships at KidZania - from transactional sponsorships to meaningful deeper partnerships approach
- Storytelling became the cornerstone of the way we sold our business.
- Introduced Hybrid Physical experiences - Toppscholars Innovation Lab - a first of its kind AI

experience integrating education, tech & fun

- Making the platform omnipresent - from fun digital engagements to school outreach, events to curated joint IP's
- Made KidZania the face of experiential marketing through active industry conversations through a new joint IP called- India Kids Summit - the summit brings together marketers, custodians, creators, and influencers in KidZania to discuss current trends in Kids Content. The summit

is in its 3rd year this year.

What has been your winning mantra?

1. Resilience, Hard work & Passion combined with my non-linear thinking leading to unconventional yet successful business creation & setting benchmarks for organisations.
2. People & Relationships: I am a big believer in the equity of relationships. Whether it be our business or personal lives, how we create & manage relationships, matters.

Iconic Women in Art and Creativity - Nehha Kandhari

In conversation with Nehha Kandhari

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

It has given me immense pleasure to be a part of this power filled stage powered by such talented and compassionate women achievers. It's indeed an honour! I would like to thank mid-day and the Honourable Governor of Maharashtra Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari ji. I would like to dedicate this honour to two powerful women - my mother and my mother in law who have been an inspiration throughout.



Nehha Kandhari felicitated as Iconic Woman in Art and Creativity

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

It is the intuitive skill that automatically draws me close to the solutions that my client is seeking and the inert talent to put the same on the canvas.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

I think if a person, irrespective of being a man or a woman, is dedicated and passionate towards any chosen field,

there is nothing one cannot achieve.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?
A modern woman caters endlessly to the needs of her family and work.

I think women today are leaving no stone unturned and getting their due recognition in each and every field.

What has been your winning mantra?

The niche I have been able to create by God's grace on me

by blending the knowledge of Vastu, my intuitive skill and my love and passion for art. It was possible owing to the right spirit, maintaining my peace of mind at all times, remaining focused to provide a perfect art solution and thus continuing to work tirelessly day and night...

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Iconic Women Achiever for sustainable baby essential brand - Snugkins

In conversation with Komal Lalpuria

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

It was an absolute pleasure to be honoured with this title. To be recognised for being a sustainable brand for babies, by an esteemed brand like mid-day is a huge achievement for an upcoming brand like Snugkins. I would dedicate this to each and every individual who has worked day and night to make this brand what it is. And of course, to our favourite patrons - the munchkins who love to wear Snugkins!



Komal Lalpuria from Snugkins felicitated as Iconic Woman Achiever For Sustainable Baby Essential Brand

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

We have been persistent! Our brand was launched in the middle of the pandemic and the lockdown. Getting things moving - be it the supply chain or at the distribution side - was a huge challenge. But our team was at it. We knew once we put Snugkins out to the world, it will be a definite hit. And our sales today is a testament to that. We have been in-

undated with amazing reviews by parents and that is the best reward anyone can get.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

Yes! I believe this is the best time to be a woman. Society has finally woken up to realise we are as efficient and promising as men and with the right support, the sky is no limit.

What has been your winning mantra?

Keep Believing! Snugkins is a product of a small idea and today we are growing exponentially! This wouldn't have been possible if we didn't wake up each day determined to make this company a success. The brand speaks for itself. And that has been our goal right from Day 1. We believed in our dream and set out to reach it, every single day!

Iconic women in land banker and developer - Zamin Pvt. Ltd.

In conversation with Aasma Sayyad

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

To my parents and my team. My journey from a good position in a reputed MNC to becoming the Founder of Zamin Pvt Ltd was not easy. There were several hurdles but my father always supported me.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

Since my early 20s, I aspired to do something big in my life. But after entering in the 'Land Banking' field, I got direction to my dream. I analysed and realised that there were tremendous opportunities to do business here if one has the right vision. But I also realised that it's easier to create and plan a strategy than stick to it. The trick is to say a clear 'Yes' to the right things and 'No' to the wrong things, then nothing can stop you from being successful in the real estate industry.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen



Aasma Sayyad from Zamin Pvt. Ltd. felicitated as Iconic Woman in Land Banking and Development

fields?

I think there are two major yet common problems. The first being that the Real Estate industry has been male-dominated in India and the second is a shortage of Finance. The latter, according to my observation, is that women generally don't have property on their names to use as a collateral for obtaining funds for business from external sources. Banks also consider business women less creditworthy when it comes to borrowing money from any bank. In such a situation many business women are bound to rely on their own meagre savings.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

To struggle in business was inevitable for women till some time back. But now, I can see some positive changes for women entrepreneurs. There have been advancement in different sectors like education, policy making as well as laws supporting gender equality since the twentieth century. However, examples of women in leadership roles in the business world have remained far and few. In general, the boardroom remains an elusive prize, seemingly destined to remain with men only.

Iconic Youngest Women Achiever Award - Reliable Builders

In conversation with Aanchal Jaidhara

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

It feels exuberant and it ignites the feeling of being blessed for all my right doing. I would dedicate this award to my father if it wasn't his trust, support & motivation. I would have never been a part of the real estate fraternity.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

a) I always see myself as a Conflict Resolver: I address & resolve conflict maturely rather than trying to avoid it, by maintaining respect, not playing blame game & not acquiescing just to keep peace. b) I have always taken Reliability & Responsibility: I don't let anyone down & value my employees. I am quite responsible enough to take extreme decision looking at the gravity of the situation c) I possess Positive Attitude: I am instilled with a positive attitude to work even in the crisis, which inspires others

to work efficiently & aim's to in my opinion.



Aanchal Jaidhara from Reliable Builders felicitated as Iconic Youngest Woman Achiever in Real Estate

ers to work efficiently

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

As mentioned earlier, I have my father's support to function smoothly in my business, likewise it takes a lot for women to perform better if they have good support, even with better support & confidence there is a ways this need to prove yourself better than men everyday by society. This is a constant battle that women undergo, so yes it's challenging for women to grow. But it cannot stop her to grow if she aspires

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

I strongly believe women are no less than men in any field or work of life. I believe male dominance is coming to an end and women are conquering the world, We are no longer behind in any field or scope of work. So yes women are finally getting the recognition and fame "now" which they should have got long back, but as they say "The later the Better".

What has been your winning mantra?

Consistency, hard work, patience, kindness, manifestation & lastly being lowkey.

Iconic Women Entrepreneur of the Year in Hospitality Sector

- Seema Dhuri Rankhamb

In conversation with Seema Dhuri Rankhamb

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I am extremely thrilled to have bagged this title. It was wonderful to have received this honour at the hands of our Governor. I would like to dedicate it to of course to my biggest support system i.e my husband and my entire 'The Grand Legacy' team. Without them I couldn't imagine this honour.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

As per our culture "Athithi Devo Bhav" (Guests are like God). We take care to treat our guests with the best that we can offer. The guest carries with him an experience that he will savour for a long time and come back to us. So, our entire staff is forever ready to give the best service possible at all times.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging



Seema Dhuri Rankhamb from The Grand Legacy felicitated as Iconic Women Entrepreneur of the year in the Hospitality Sector

for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

Yes, indeed its difficult. As it is said, 'It's a Man's World'. Having said that, women have to prove their power and greatness in their chosen field to be called as equals. The good news is that she is succeeding and making her presence felt in almost all

sectors.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

No. Not Yet. There's still a long way to go but she's working hard to reach there for sure.

What has been your winning mantra?

Hardwork & Dedication

Iconic Women in Educational Research & Analytics – Dr Manimekalai Mohan

In conversation with Dr Manimekalai Mohan

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

It is indeed an honour to have received the prestigious mid-day powerful women icon from the Governor of Maharashtra. I dedicate this honour to my entire SSVM family, which includes the teachers & staff, students and parents.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

As a woman, I have always viewed my birth as a blessing, and I enjoy every challenge that makes me stronger every single day. In terms of leadership, I am known for my attention to details, my ability to make wise decisions, and my passion and commitment to providing quality education to my students with uncompromising standards.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

From ancient times to



Dr. Manimekalai Mohan from S S V M Institute felicitated as Iconic Woman in Educational Research & Analytics

the present, I have heard about and seen many successful and unsuccessful women, and the same holds true for men as well. They may have been successful or unsuccessful for a number of reasons. Today, both women and men are faced with the greatest challenges of integrity, self-discipline, determination, perseverance, and most importantly, a positive attitude towards life in order to achieve success in the chosen field.

What has been your winning mantra?

Innovation is the key. A

winner does not appear overnight; you need patience, passion, persistence, self-belief, and confidence to turn rejections and failures into successes and new opportunities. Being open to accepting challenges is another significant factor for achieving success in the education field. I always stay on top of the latest developments. SSVM's academic programmes are based on contemporary educational developments merged with strong traditional Indian ethos, unlimited academic freedom and diverse choices of course combinations.

Iconic Contribution - in the Legal Fraternity

In conversation with Adv. Minal B Khona

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

My only objective in life is to work hard at fulfilling my responsibilities to my clients and towards my work. This honour is definitely a motivation to get better at my work and to keep serving my clients and the society at large. I dedicate it to my family and my office staff without whom nothing is possible.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that helped you win this title?

My mother taught me - "earn as much goodwill as you can and never attract ill-will". Also, I believe no work is small and I do every small task with dedication. These things have helped me build better relations with the clients. It is utterly fulfilling when my clients come back to me even after 20 years. It is this goodwill among clients that has helped me win this title.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen



Adv. Minal B. Khona felicitated for Iconic Contribution in the Legal Fraternity

fields?

Initially yes, it was a challenge to begin my journey with the amount of responsibilities that I had. Also, this field being predominantly male-dominated, I was looked down on by my seniors But I focused on doing the best for my clients. There used to be a gender bias where women were not having equal opportunities and were also unaware of their talent per se because of the patriarchal mindset that used to follow, but now things are changing with equal opportunities being given to women. I am myself a part of various organisations that support women empowerment and it pleases me to see us all

growing together and to come across women who are at the zenith of their careers.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

Absolutely. It's the era of women empowerment and it's the time to see all those dreams come true for these women which once felt impossible.

What has been your winning mantra?

I owe my success to hardwork, self-belief, self-confidence, sincerity and honesty. The mantra is simple: hard work till satisfied. My motto in life is: Learn, Earn and Return.

Iconic Young Entrepreneur and Philanthropist of the year - Zarine Manchanda from Zarine Manchanda Foundation & Zarine Manchanda Café

In conversation with Zarine Manchanda

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

Quite naturally I am proud and honoured to receive this prestigious icon as a philanthropist dedicated to helping the poor and as a young woman entrepreneur being the Founder of India's first 7-star cafe. I would like to dedicate it to all the women before me who were pioneers and champions of change to expand opportunities for women in India, and also to the young girls who will follow me and be the torch-bearers for women in the next generation.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title? For my Foundation, I believe my steadfast commitment to good intentions and good karmas in helping the poor is the key to my success. For my Cafe, I think my bold vision has been rewarded; I was committed to being the first to open a 7-star cafe in India and I am delighted that I have achieved this distinc-



Zarine Manchanda from Zarine Manchanda Foundation & Zarine Manchanda Café felicitated as Iconic Young Entrepreneur and Philanthropist of the year

tion as a young woman entrepreneur.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

Of course, it is challenging for women in India. Things are improving each generation but there is still more progress to be made and I am committed to be a force for change so that I can show my thanks to those women who were trailblazers before me, and also that through my efforts there will be better opportunities for the next

generations, so that they do not face the same challenges I and others before me faced.

What has been your winning mantra?

My winning mantra has two pillars. First, to be bold, to be gutsy, to be fiercely determined to create a unique entrepreneurial vision and to implement that vision into reality. And second, to make God proud through good intentions here on earth because his eyes are always watching us. These pillars guide me, motivate me and give me inner strength every day.

Iconic Woman Entrepreneur in the Food Industry - Sheila Thakkar from Sargam Foods Pvt. Ltd.

In conversation with Sheila Thakkar

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Whom would you like to dedicate it to?

I am extremely grateful for the recognition and the honor bestowed on me. My first thought goes out to all the women in India whom I would like to empower, in whatever little way I can, to become self-sufficient and economically sound. In this vein, I'd like to dedicate the award to my late husband, Shri Mahendra Thakkar, the pioneer of Vandevi and Vaidehi Hing. It is his faith in my capabilities and support of women working (a revolutionary mindset for our generation), that has driven me to achieve and continue to strive for excellence

What have been the redeeming features of your job that have won you this title?

Managing a 90+-year-old brand has been both rewarding as well as challenging. The food industry in India has grown exponentially in the last few decades. The only way we could hold our own and continue to thrive was through the constant focus on growth and development. Evolving



Sheila Thakkar from Sargam Foods Pvt. Ltd. felicitated as Iconic Woman Entrepreneur in the Food Industry

leadership isn't a one-time thing. It's a practice of trial, error, and advancement that evolves over an entire career. Being open to change, from traditional methods to modernization without losing focus on quality has been the redeeming feature that sees my company and me where we are today.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

Yes, being a woman in a predominantly male-centric industry has been one of the most difficult features of my career. The journey from survival to thriving has been one full of hurdles, however, endurance and determination have seen me not only overcome adversities but

also use them as opportunities to succeed.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

While I do agree that women are in a way better space than they were when I started my career path, I believe that there's a long long way to go for gender equality to become a norm. In our company, we have set this ball rolling by employing and empowering more women in what used to be traditionally male-dominated processes.

What has been your winning mantra?

It would be faith in myself and my team; coupled with discipline, and the knowledge that the only way to success is through persistent hard work.

Iconic Gynecologist and Fertility Expert - Dr. Duru Shah

In conversation with Dr Duru Shah

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I am delighted to receive this honour especially because it represents the recognition of women who are playing different roles in society. They may be home makers, professionals, entrepreneurs or even domestic staff, they are the women who are contributing to their homes to Society or to the country's growth. I would like to dedicate this recognition to my parents who empowered me through education and my family who have been fully supportive of letting me follow my passion of being a doctor.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

I have never considered my profession as a job. I feel blessed to be able to do whatever I can to support women in their lives. I do this by taking care of their complete gynaecological health including their fertility, pregnancy, reproductive and sexual health and guiding them towards



Dr. Duru Shah felicitated as Iconic Gynecologist and Fertility Expert

healthier and quality lives in future. Not only physical health but also their mental and emotional health. The redeeming features of my profession are that I have had the opportunity to listen to women from all walks of life, empathize with them, and offer them support. I have also been able to inspire many young doctors to treat their patients with a more humane and personalized approach, and respect their privacy and confidentiality.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen field?

It is definitely more challenging for women as compared to men, to reach the peaks they wish to reach due to various reasons. In my profession, especially as a gynecologist, where we deal with many emergencies at different timings of the day, and have difficulty in planning long holidays together, we need a supportive and understanding family. This is because we deal with human lives, which always come first before anything else.

What has been your winning mantra?

My winning mantra "Do your best in whatever you do, and you will win"

Iconic Luxury Hotels Group in Mumbai - Shilpa Shivram Shetty from Satkar Group

In conversation with Shilpa Shivram Shetty

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

Besides giving a sense of satisfaction, such honours motivate and propel you to aim and achieve bigger accomplishments.

I would like to dedicate this honour to woman-kind, especially the small women entrepreneurs group who are determined to make a mark in the challenging hospitality industry.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

Positive attitude with a direct communication style paired with a lot of respect for those who work with me.

As a leader, I always aim to lead by example in order to inspire others, facing up to challenges and also know that there will never be a perfect leader but it helps me to constantly learn, listen and reflect to be an evolved leader.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to



Shilpa Shivram Shetty from Satkar Group felicitated for Iconic Luxury Hotels Group in Mumbai

men to grow in their chosen fields?

For a working woman, every day is a battle - with small victories and defeats.

When a woman speaks her mind and is assertive, she is likely to be labelled as 'aggressive'. I have had first-hand experience and realised that being ambitious and speaking with authority are not aggressive traits.

Women essentially have a dual-centric identity and constantly strive to give their best - be it work or family - and not one over the other.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you

agree?

Not quite. While in some industries have some women leadership, in hospitality industry, there are very few. One of the key challenges for women is the lack of flexibility, particularly relating to long, unsociable hours. Things are changing for better, but We still have a long way to go.

What has been your winning mantra?

Believing in myself and taking full responsibility for my actions. Also surrounding myself with people who are better than me as they compel me to learn and improve on areas that are not my strongest.

Iconic Bollywood Producer - Eram Aftab Faridi

In conversation with Eram Aftab Faridi

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I am happy to receive this honour after a 7 year journey full of thrills and happiness. I want to dedicate it to my mother Mrs. Sultana Perveen who has always supported me.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

I have been dedicated to my work, but don't run after success. My self-confidence and belief in my talent has won me this title as an Iconic Bollywood producer.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

It has been difficult to achieve my goal, but the fact remains that women never say no to any task which keeps me going too. In this direction, I am happy with the Government helping to raise the status of women by

campaigns like 'BETI BACHAO BETI PADAO YOJANA'. But yes, I do admit that India being a male-dominated country, it was challenging to achieve my goals and this title too.

Women are finally getting their due now, do you agree?

Yes, I agree that today women are getting their due. The fact that I have received this honour at the hands of Governor of Maharashtra, Honourable Shri Bhagat Singh Koshiyari speaks for itself. So, while men have an upper hand in India as I said earlier, women are slowly but surely getting their due owing to their hard work.

What has been your winning mantra?

Focus on your work and don't judge anyone. I want to also thank all my employees who have always stood by me in this journey. Being a boss is not a big thing but keeping his/her employees happy is.



Eram Aftab Faridi from Erams Entertainment felicitated as Iconic Bollywood Producer

Iconic Performer in the Entertainment Segment - Zaara Yesmin

In conversation with Zaara Yesmin

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

Well I am very grateful for receiving this honour. My journey has just started, I have a long way to go so it's like an inspiration for me to work harder & do better in my life. I would like to dedicate it to my own self for being consistent & patient in this journey.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

My job as an actor may be to entertain people but yet it comes with lots of responsibility to maintain it. As an actor you get to live so many stories, explore many new experiences, and at the same time put in the effort to deliver it gracefully. It teaches you to grow as a person with different emotions.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

In today's era, I don't feel so as it's becoming more performance oriented in my field. Anybody can win the audience's heart with a good performance. Yet, at some point it's true that a man may get a stronger hold than a woman in terms of power.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

Yes, absolutely we are. And it is well-deserved for all the women out there, in every field women are booming independently.

What has been your winning mantra?

My winning mantra is 'Race with your own self but in the right direction'.



Zaara Yesmin felicitated as Iconic Performer in the Entertainment Segment

Mehek Purohit, Iconic Creative Entrepreneur of the Mid-day Powerful Women Awards

A small town Marwadi girl Mehek Purohit (Founder of Chakliart Digital Agency) from Sindarli, Rajasthan is making her village & family proud with her constant hard work and dedication. She was awarded Mid-Day Powerful Woman Award for Iconic Creative Entrepreneur from the Governor of Maharashtra, Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari.

She is setting a great example to all the girls who come to Mumbai to achieve their dreams, especially from an orthodox background where getting her marriage is considered the most important thing than her dreams. But Mehek Purohit chose to work on her dreams by working hard and becoming an independent & strong woman which led her to open one of the finest social media agencies in our country.

Mehek Says, "I am grateful for all the Love & Support I receive from everyone. A milestone met, and many more to come!"



Iconic Producer, Film-Director & Actress – Avantika Khattri

In conversation with Avantika Khattri

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I never quit in my pursuit of excellence. This award has shown me that I remained courageous in the face of difficulties and also that my work of diligence expressed in my films is appreciated. Thank you so much for giving me another moment of gratitude on life with this award. I have always looked up to women like Kiran Bedi, Indra Nooyi, Late Sushma Swaraj, Jacinda Ardern (PM of New Zealand) for motivation to excel in life.

So I would like to dedicate this award to all these women who have been an inspiration for me in my journey until now.



Avantika Khattri felicitated as Iconic Producer, Film-Director & Actress

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title?

Nothing comes easy in life, not even the "Thirst" to drink a simple glass of water.

You have to work hard the entire day to feel the need to consume water, don't you? So Hardwork, More Hard-Work, Patience, Persistence, Perseverance, Resilience and the constant urge to Excel in whatever I do has brought me here at this stage and to this title.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

Everyday in newspapers and other news portals we read about "Equal Rights" but the ground reality is quite different at the workplace as well as at home. I can tell you so many stories of women from various walks of

life, (even my story for that matter) where we have to constantly fight back to have our place in the sun. Tell me why is there a "fight back"? This only happens when there is a tussle, when there are forces who are trying to stop you, to hold you back and telling you that you as a woman don't have a place in this world. And also very often, it's taken for granted that if there is a choice between a man's career and a woman's career - the woman will give hers up. A woman's career choices are somehow never given as much importance, but I made it infinitely clear that work is my religion.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

We definitely have come a long way from once being seen as an unproductive asset to the economy to not only heading the Ministry of Finance (like our Hon'able Finance & Corporate Affairs

Minister - Nirmala Sitharaman ji) but doing it coherently and with elan. We now see women taking charge in every sphere. But still a lot needs to be done with respect to the percentage of women at work in comparison to men. According to the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) statistics women account for only 21% of the total labour force in India, and that's a shame for the country which calls itself progressive.

What has been your winning mantra?

Self-knowledge is the starting point to live a meaningful life. If you do not know about yourself, you cannot understand life in its full perspective. Self-awareness is an incredibly powerful tool to unlock our full potential and to live a happy, successful and wholesome life. And that right here is my winning mantra. :)



Deepshikha Deshmukh felicitated as Iconic Producer and Visionary Entrepreneur

GIFTING PARTNER

CARRERA
EYEWEAR SINCE 1956



Meghna Ghai Puri felicitated for Exemplary Contribution In Films, Media, Creative Arts Education



Meena Sethi Mondal felicitated as Iconic Producer & Educationist



Sujata Dhole felicitated for Iconic Excellence in Public Administration



Dr. Vidyulata Swapnil Naik felicitated as Iconic Ayurvedic Cosmetologist Doctor



Payal Ghosh felicitated as Iconic Social Activist & Actress

Iconic Women's Event Organizer - Smita Dilip Purohit from Smithasya Mahila Audhogik Utpadak Sahakari Sanstha Maryadit

In conversation with Smita Dilip Purohit



Smita Dilip Purohit from Smithasya Mahila Audhogik Utpadak Sahakari Sanstha Maryadit felicitated for Iconic Women's Event Organizer

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

I am organizing such events since 1992 and I felt very proud to receive this honour. I would like to dedicate this honour to my beneficiaries as well as my family.

What have been the re-

deeming features of your job that won you this title? Dedication, hard work and sincerity towards the work.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

Now a days there are equal opportunities for both men as well as woman. But

sometimes it's challenging to achieve work life balance.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree? Yes.

What has been your winning mantra? "Karmanye Vadhikaraste, Ma Phaleshu Kadachana"

Iconic Entrepreneur in the Hotel Industry - Ketki Rane from Konkan Fusion

In conversation with Ketki Rane

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

This is a very good moment in my life. It makes me wordless to show my gratitude to everyone. It is my prestige to be selected for this prize. I would like to dedicate this award to my team. Without my team, this award will not be possible.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title? Outstanding food, quality is always the same, consistency is maintained with a focus on fresh & local ingredients. That's the key highlight of the restaurant.

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

When starting a restaurant, there are many challenges you face. Every process has its own set of obstacles for first-time restaurateurs.

This is especially true for



Ketki Rane from Konkan Fusion felicitated as Iconic Entrepreneur in the Hotel Industry

women bosses, who must carefully balance running the restaurant without offending any male egos.

Change in the industry mindset will not happen overnight, but steadily there is growing positive working environment for women.

Women are finally get-

ting their due now. Do you agree? Yes

What has been your winning mantra?

It might sound like a cliché but there are no shortcuts. Perseverance, Hard work, and Passion for your work always shows and shines.

Iconic Woman Achiever in the Education Sector - Gauri Bhattacharya from Nagar Yuwak Shikshan Sanstha

In conversation with Gauri Bhattacharya

What are your thoughts on receiving this honour? Who would you like to dedicate it to?

Well, I am highly honoured to receive this prestigious honour. I would like to dedicate it firstly to my parents who have been my driving force throughout my life. Everything I am today is because of the patience and belief they have kept for me always. Secondly to my entire team of NYSS that help me in putting my thoughts into execution. And last but not the least, my daughter who at a very young age understands and encourages me to carry out my responsibilities to the best of my best.

What have been the redeeming features of your job that won you this title? I think it is consistency. Change is inevitable. But being consistent and moulding yourself with the changing environment and not giving up on your goals is the key.



Gauri Bhattacharya from Nagar Yuwak Shikshan Sanstha felicitated as Iconic Woman Achiever in the Education Sector

As a woman achiever, do you think it is challenging for women as compared to men to grow in their chosen fields?

I think today women are exceeding themselves in every sector of society. But somewhere deep down, gender bias is still a norm that we as women face at every stage in our lives. The good part is we don't

give up so soon.

Women are finally getting their due now. Do you agree?

Agreed. But there is still a long road yet to be travelled.

What has been your winning mantra?

Patience/ Perseverance and believing in yourself.



Zainab Shaikh from Audi Mumbai South felicitated for Iconic Excellence in Marketing