



**Bandhan**  
'Hope for the poor'

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### **Mr. Ghosh, CMD, Bandhan receives 'Entrepreneur of the Year' Award by Economic Times**

Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, Chairman & Managing Director, Bandhan was presented with the prestigious 'Entrepreneur of the Year' 2014 Award by The Economic Times (ET). *The Economic Times Awards - for Corporate Excellence* is the flagship event for ET. The ET awards are an exceptionally keen gauge of the state of India's economy. Instituted in the year 1986, the awards recognize excellence in business, corporate governance and government policies in India. Held annually, the event comprises a Jury meeting held together with a CEO Roundtable. These awards seek to honor India Inc.'s best and brightest who can take on the world.

Mr. Manohar Gopalkrishna Prabhu Parrikar, Minister of Defence, Government of India presided over the grand event as the Hon'ble Chief Guest and handed over the award to Mr. Ghosh at a gleaming ceremony held on November 29, 2014 at Nariman Point, Mumbai.



The jury met in an atmosphere totally different from last year, when doom and gloom were all-pervasive. This year, with the Narendra Modi administration committed to making it easier to do business in India, the mood was transformed, though headwinds remained. ET had adopted a democratic, participative and rigorous process to choose the best and the brightest of India Inc. Mr. Satya Nadella, CEO, Microsoft Corporation headed an 11-member dignified jury including some of India's top industrialists, bankers and lawyers to choose the winners of the 2014 edition of the ET Awards.

In conducting the jury meetings, Nadella followed the practice of previous jury chairs by asking each member to shortlist two nominees. The jury then held a no holds-barred discussion on the relative merits of the two contenders, including their fitness to be declared winners of the ET Awards. Since some of the jury members were also nominees, they stepped out of the room when their category was discussed. The

high profile members sought to recognize those corporate leaders who had demonstrated the ability to "accrue power" in their industries, enabling them to catapult ahead of the competition.

The eminent jury acknowledged that Mr. Ghosh and his institution serve a very different sort of client - Bandhan extends credit to those near the bottom of the pyramid who have no access to funds. The jury admitted Mr. Ghosh's feat in building a large microfinance business that now has a bank licence, no mean feat given the exacting due diligence that the Reserve Bank of India carries out before granting one. The jury unanimously agreed Bandhan was the best suited contender this year. What makes Bandhan markedly different from its rivals is its ability to run a low-cost operation and provide loans at the most competitive rate in the microfinance space. "You have completely changed the financial inclusion paradigm," said Mr. K. V. Kamath, Chairman, ICICI Bank and a member of the jury to Mr. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh.

The others winners of various categories are listed below:

Sl. No.	Category	Winner
1.	Business Leader of the Year	Dilip Shanghvi, MD, Sun Pharma
2.	Company of the Year	Natarajan Chandrasekaran, CEO & MD, TCS
3.	Global Indian of the Year	Satya Nadella, CEO, Microsoft Corp.
4.	Lifetime Achievement	Yusuf .K. Hamied, Chairman, Cipla
5.	Emerging Company of the Year	Gautam Adani, Founder & Chairman, Adani Group
6.	Entrepreneur of the Year	Chandra Shekhar Ghosh, CMD, Bandhan & Mr. Dhiraj Rajaram, Founder, Chairman & CEO, MU Sigma
7.	Startup of the Year	Deepinder Goyal, Founder & CEO, Zomato
8.	Business Reformer of the Year	Upendra.K. Sinha, Chairman, SEBI
9.	Corporate Citizen of the Year	Thachath.V. Narendran, MD, Tata Steel , India & South East Asia

The following eligibility criterion was set for 'Entrepreneur of the Year' award:-

- The entrepreneur should have created a successful and enduring brand
- The entrepreneur should be a visionary and possess pragmatic leadership qualities
- The entrepreneur should have brought transformational approach to business and industry, leaving a mark behind

Besides, Mr. Ghosh, the other nominees in the race were Mr. Deep Kalra, Founder & CEO, Make My Trip, Mr. Kunal Bahl, Founder & CEO, Snapdeal, Mr. Naveen Tewary, CEO, Inmobi, Mr. Pranay Chulet, Co- Founder & CEO, Quikr, Mr. Rajeev Nannapaneni, Vice – Chairman & CEO, Natco, Mr. Ramesh Ramanathan, Co – founder, Janaagraha, Mr. V.S.S. Mani, MD & CEO, Justdial and Mr. William Bissell, MD, Fabindia.

Standard Chartered Bank was the Presenting Sponsor for the Economic Times Awards for Corporate Excellence.