LIBA - Centre for Business Ethics and Corporate Governance

About the Centre

LIBA’s mission is to pursue Ethics and Excellence. In line with this ideal, LIBA established the Centre for Business Ethics and Corporate Governance in 2005, to propagate business ethics and internationally accepted corporate governance practices for the benefit of students, who are the future of the business world. This centre is a Government of India recognised CENTER FOR CORPORATE GOVERNANCE.

The aim of the Centre is to create a cadre of socially responsible leaders committed to the upliftment of the underprivileged. LIBA motivates its students to build bridges between business and society, between competence and compassion and between profit making management and ethical conduct.

The Centre has been engaged in activities that aim at propagating business ethics and good corporate governance. While continuing with the yearly events like BEACON - the Business Ethics conference and Mother Teresa Award for Corporate Citizenship the centre also conducts sessions to inspire socially responsible leadership.

Mission

- To propagate business ethics and internationally accepted corporate governance practices for the benefit of students and managers through events and programmes.

Objectives

- To raise awareness on ethical issues
- To Inspire socially responsible leadership
- To Enrich ethical knowledge and societal obligations
- To promote principle based corporate governance.

Activities

- Organize conferences, seminars, lectures, symposia, workshops and discussions on relevant topics of current importance.
- Present the Mother Teresa Award for Corporate Citizen every year to a company with an outstanding contribution to social transformation.
- Support research and case-writing on issues relating to business ethics and corporate governance particularly in the multi-cultural and inter-religious Indian context.
- Undertake publications – monographs, journal articles, books and case studies.
- Network with like-minded organisations within and outside the country to promote stated ideals.
- Facilitate dialogue between business leaders and academicians.
- Conduct Faculty Development Programmes on business ethics and corporate governance.
- Functioning as the Resource Centre for business ethics and corporate governance.
- Provide Consultancy and Advisory Service.

1. **BEACON – The Annual Business Ethics Conference**

An initiative of the Centre which encourages and promotes the ideal of Business Ethics among the students and the business world across the country is BEACON - LIBA’s Business Ethics Conference which is the flagship programme of the institution.

From 2007, BEACON has been deliberating on various issues including inclusive growth and sustainability in all spheres of management. The topics focused on at Beacon include -

**BEACON – 2017-18** focused on **Leadership and Ethics for the New India**

**BEACON – 2016** focused on **Leadership and Ethics for the Emerging Future**.

**BEACON – 2015**, the TENTH edition of LIBA’S - Business Ethics Conference focused on the theme **- Ethical Challenges in Financial Management**.


2. **Mother Teresa Awards for Corporate Citizen**

The Mother Teresa Award for Corporate Citizens, instituted in 1998, is presented every year to a company that has shown exemplary commitment to the ideals of corporate citizenship. The objective of the Award, which has acquired an all India reputation and is well known in corporate circles, is to showcase a corporate which has gone far beyond its call of duty to promote welfare activities for the benefit of the poor and marginalized sections of society and is environmentally conscious.
Entry Criteria:

The Award winner should be a successful, profit making listed company that excels in its duty to all its stakeholders, via, value addition to the shareholders, commitment to quality, customer satisfaction, harmonious industrial relations, welfare of workers and gender equity.

The Award presentation includes:
(i). The presentation of the Award to the corporate citizen for the current year
(ii). The Mother Teresa Memorial Oration by the Chief Guest of the function

Criteria for the Award

Seven distinct criteria guide the award committee in the process of selection of the Award. These are:

- Explicit recognition of social responsibility in the Mission Statement of the company.
- Commitment to quality and customer satisfaction.
- Pursuit of value addition to shareholders as a consistent goal.
- Harmonious industrial relations with employee welfare as its strong focus.
- Direct sponsorship and active involvement in permanent projects, which promote the social and economic empowerment of the poor, the disabled and the marginalized sections of its neighbourhood.
- Concern for environment protection including adoption of eco-friendly technology.
- Promotion of ancillary units with emphasis on training and development and on employment generation and entrepreneurship.

The Jury:

- Mr. N. Vittal, IAS (Retd.), Former Chief Vigilance Commissioner, Govt. of India, and Chairman of the Award Committee.
- Mr. T.S. Krishnamurthy, IRS (Retd.) Former Chief Election Commissioner, Govt. of India
- Mr. A.X. Alexander, IPS (Retd.), Former Director General of Police, Govt. of Tamilnadu
- Dr. R. Ramaraj, Senior Advisor, Elevar Equity
- Dr. Jayshree Suresh, Dean, Hand in Hand Academy for Social Entrepreneurship, Kancheepuram
- Mr. C. K. Ranganathan, Chairman and Managing Director, CavinKare
- Mr. Venugopal, Directors of Kasturi & Sons, Limited
- Mr. S.P. Kandasamy, Krishnamurti Foundation India
- Mr. M. Mahadevan, Chairman, Oriental Cuisines Pvt Ltd

The earlier recipients of the award:

- 1998 - Titan Industries Ltd
- 1999 - Tamil Nadu News Print and Papers Limited
- 2000- Orchids Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd
2001 - Indian Oil Corporation
2002 - Shriram Investments Ltd
2003 - Polaris
2004 - TVS Motor Company
2005 - Tata Steel
2006 - National Thermal Power Ltd
2008 - Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd
2011 - Tata Chemicals & Sobha Developers (Special award)
2012 - Shree Cement Ltd & Polaris Financial Technology Ltd (Special award)
2013 - ACC Ltd – Madukkarai Cement Works
2014 - Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd (Listed Category), Serum Institute of India Limited (Unlisted Category), The Akshaya Patra Foundation (Best NGO) and Mr. Azim Premji, Chairman, Wipro Limited, (Spirit of Mother Teresa)
2015 – 16 - Infosys Limited

Chief Guest of Mother Teresa Award for Corporate Citizenship

2015-16 - Shri. M. M. Rajendran IAS, Former governor of orissa
2014 - His Excellency, Shri. Konijeti Rosaiah, Governor of Tamil Nadu
2013 - Dr. V. Shanta, Chairman & Executive Chairman, Cancer Institute (WIA), Chennai and Shri. Narayanan Vaghul, Former Non-Executive Chairman, ICICI Bank (Guest of Honour).
2012 - Shri. Gopalkrishna Gandhi, IAS (retd), Chairman, Kalakshetra Foundation, Chairman of Governing Body of Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla and President of its Society
2011 - Shri. N Gopalaswami, Former Chief Election Commissioner, Govt of India
2008- Prof C.K.Prahalad
2006- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Former President of India
2005 - His Excellency Shri. Surjit Singh Barnala, Former Governor of Tamil Nadu
2004- Shri. M. Damodaran, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India
2003 - Shri. P. Shankar, IAS, Chief Vigilance Commissioner, Govt. of India
2002 - Prof. M.S. Swaminathan, F.R.S, Chairman, M.S.Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai
2001 - Shri. N. Rangachary, Chairman, Insurance Regulatory & Development Authority
2000 - Shri. Murasoli Maran, Minister of Commerce, Govt. of India
1999 - Shri. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Member, Planning Commission, Govt. of India
1998- Shri. Ramakrishna Hegde, Minister of Commerce, Govt. of India (1998)
3. Panel Discussion

In view of a turbulent year that was engulfed in a few high-profile board room battles, the center felt that it was important to make the management students of LIBA to understand the role of independent directors in corporate governance. A Panel Discussion was organised on 15th March 2016 on the topic, “Role of Independent Directors in Corporate Governance”. The panelists, Mr. K. Ravi, a prominent advocate and Company Secretary; Mr. Krish Ramesh, Corporate Lawyer and Company Secretary and Ms. Deepa Baburaj, General Consul – India and Asia Pacific, CTS gave a broader perspective on the topic with examples, which were real-life and easily relatable for the students.

4. Publications

The center also contributes to building academic knowledge in the field of Business Ethics and Corporate Governance. The faculty members associated with the center presented papers at many International Conferences in the academic year 2016-17. The details are as follows - in chronological order:

- Business Ethics: An Indian Perspective by Prof A.C Fernando
- Corporate Governance: Principles, Policies and Practices by Prof A.C Fernando
- Business Ethics And Corporate Governance by Prof A.C Fernando


PAST CHAIRPERSONS OF THE CENTRE

• Prof. A.C Fernando, Professor of Economics and Chairperson Centre for Business Ethics and Corporate Governance from its inception in the year 2005 to 2011

• Dr. Priya Rajeev, Associate Professor OB & HR and Chairperson Centre for Business Ethics and Corporate Governance – 2011 to 2013

CURRENT TEAM

• Dr. Shanthi Venkatesh – Chairperson, 2013 till date
• Dr. P.C. Lakshmi Narayanan, Member – Faculty Advisory Committee
• Dr. Madhuri Malhotra, Member – Faculty Advisory Committee
• Ms. Christine Fernando, Event Coordinator

Contacts

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