

25 in race for E&Y award for Entrepreneur of the Year

Our Bureau

New Delhi, Oct. 12

TWENTY FIVE of the country's top business leaders have been selected as "finalists" for the forthcoming Ernst & Young 'Entrepreneur of The Year' award. Now in its fifth year in India, the award will be announced on October 29 at a celebration banquet in the Capital.

A seven-member jury, comprising eminent personalities and Chaired by Mr N.R. Narayana Murthy, Chairman and Chief Mentor, Infosys Technologies, has selected the finalists from more than 130 nominations received this year.

According to a E & Y press statement here, the 25 finalists for 2003 are Mr Aditya Puri of HDFC Bank; Mr Ajay G. Piramal of Nicholas Piramal; Mr Ashwin Dani of Asian Paints; Mr Atul Punj of Punj Lloyd; Mr B.N. Kalyani of Bharat Forge; Dr Devi Prasad Shetty of Narayana Hrudayalaya; Mr Jagdish Khattar of Maruti Udyog; Mr K.G. Ramachandran of BHEL; Mr Narendra K. Patni of Patni Computers; Mr O.P. Lohia of Indo Rama Synthetics; Mr Onkar S. Kanwar of Apollo Tyres; Mr Pawan Jain of Safe Express; Mr Prithipal Singh of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd; Ms Radhika & Mr Prannoy Roy of New Delhi Television; Mr

Raghav Bahl of TV 18 India; Mr Ratan Naval Tata of the Tata Group; Mr S. Abhaya Kumar of Shasun Chemicals; Mr Samprada Singh of Alkem Laboratories; Mr Sanjay S. Lalbhai of Arvind Mills; Ms Shahnaz Husain of Shahnaz Group of Companies; Mr Subhash Ghai of Mukta Arts; Mr Subhash Sehgal of Ozone Ayurvedics; Mr Subir Raha of ONGC; Mr Uday S. Kotak of Kotak Mahindra Bank and Dr Verghese Kurien of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation.

Along with Mr Narayana Murthy, who chaired the panel of judges for 2003, others on the jury include Mr A.K. Purwar, Chairman, State Bank of India; Ms Kalpana Morparia, Executive Director, ICICI Bank; Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman, Aditya Birla Group; Dr Onkar Goswami, Chief Economist, Confederation of Indian Industry; Mr Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman & Group Managing Director, Bharti Enterprises; and Mr T.N. Ninan, Editor & Publisher, Business Standard.

The winner of the 'Entrepreneur of the Year' award will represent India at the 'Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year' international conference at Palm Springs of the US and at the 'World Entrepreneur of the Year' award 2004, in Monte Carlo.