

SOE AWARDS 2015

Mandarin Orchard Hotel • Level 6, Grand Mandarin Ballroom • Monday, 19 October 2015



MEDIA RELEASE

13th SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE AWARDS CEREMONY AND DINNER 19 OCTOBER 2015, MANDARIN ORCHARD SINGAPORE BALLROOM

35 SOE AWARDS WINNERS TO BE HONOURED THIS YEAR MR. MOHAMED ISMAIL GAFOOR OF PROPNEK NAMED SOE-NEXIA TS ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

Spirit of Enterprise
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Singapore, 9 October 2015 – In Singapore's jubilee year, the Spirit of Enterprise (SOE) will be awarding 35 honourees from 30 companies for their outstanding entrepreneurship spirit and achievements at its 13th SOE Awards. Since its inception in 2003, this annual Award has honoured over 400 home-grown entrepreneurs for their courage, perseverance and innovation in the journey of entrepreneurship. They serve as role models for all budding Singaporean entrepreneurs to emulate and take the bold step in realizing their dreams. That is the essence of the SOE mission – To Honour and To Inspire.

Scheduled on 19 October 2015, Ms Low Yen Ling, Parliamentary Secretary of Ministry of Trade and Industry will grace the SOE Awards Dinner and give out this distinguished award to all the honourees at the Mandarin Orchard Singapore Grand Ballroom. The list of these 35 honourees from a range of industry sectors, is listed in the attached Annex A.

Commemorating Singapore's golden jubilee, the judging criteria were revised to accord credits to recognize the difficulties and challenges encountered in the entrepreneur's journey. Other judging considerations include entrepreneurship spirit and leadership, business and community impact, personal integrity and ethics, apart from financial sustainability of the business.

In line with SOE's twin missions to

Honorary Chairman
Goh Kai Kui

Vice President
Harish Nim
Nicholas Goh
Rachel M.K. Wong
Sa'at Ismail

Treasurer
Samuel Yik

Board of Governors

Charles Wong	Donna Lee	Izaat Ismail
Cheryl T. Hansen	Evelyn Koh	Rina Lim
Dennis Teo	Grace Lui	Wong Hong Ting

President
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- (i) promote and advance the entrepreneurial spirit in Singapore by honouring local self-reliant entrepreneurs operating small and medium-sized businesses; and
- (ii) inspire Singaporeans, especially the young, to become entrepreneurs by facilitating interaction, communication and knowledge dissemination and interaction between students and the entrepreneurs;

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selected student groups from SOE's Student Interviewer Programme were provided opportunities to interview and learn from entrepreneurs nominated for the SOE 2015 Award. This year, two groups of outstanding student interviewers, from Nanyang Technological University and Nanyang Polytechnic, have been chosen to bag the SOE–Charles & Keith Best Student Interviewer Award 2015.

Another highlight of the evening is the awarding of SOE-Nexia TS Entrepreneur of the Year Award to Mr. Mohamed Ismail Gafoor, Chief Executive Officer of P&N Holdings / PropNex Realty. Recognised as the highest accolade of SOE Award, the annual SOE-Nexia TS Entrepreneur of the Year Award is conferred upon extraordinary past SOE Honouree who has shown exemplary hard work, exceptional business achievements, dedication in the field of entrepreneurship, as well as meaningful contribution to society.

PropNex Pte Ltd, the flagship subsidiary of award-winning P&N Holdings founded by Mr Ismail Gafoor, is a leading home-grown real estate company in Singapore. Reputable for the breadth and depth of property market knowledge, its philosophy to build long-term business relationships is evident in its solid 15-year track record and network of over 5,900 salespersons.

Having owned his first property at the young age of 22 and amazingly made his first million at 28; Mr Gafoor's sheer dynamism has transformed his enterprise to the property giant and beyond to where it is today.

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The award-winning investor is a firm believer of training and life-long learning, who has institutionalised a complete series of learning programs that enabled his salespersons to stay ahead of competition and winning customers. Sharing his experience as a success coach to many Million-Dollar Producers in the real estate arena, Mr Gafoor has also penned motivational books “You Can Fly” and “The Timeless Gift”, as well as best seller - “The Ultimate Guide to Real Estate Investment in Singapore” to inspire and motivate like-minded individuals.

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ABOUT THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE (SOE)

The Spirit of Enterprise promotes and advances entrepreneurial spirit in Singapore by honouring local self-reliant entrepreneurs operating small and medium-sized businesses; and inspire Singaporeans, especially the young, to become entrepreneurs by facilitating interaction, communication and knowledge dissemination between students, the entrepreneurs and the general public.

SOE is funded by the private sector and the Board of Governors who consists of established entrepreneurs, corporate senior management, public service and political leaders.

SOE organizes various initiatives and programmes including the Spirit of Enterprise Awards, Fundraising Golf Challenge, Student Entrepreneur Programme, Student Interviewer Programme, Mentorship Programme and Entrepreneurial Talks at Institutions, and Entrepreneur Forums for SOE Alumni.

For more information, please refer to www.soe.org.sg

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