

GKB Ophthalmics Limited bags prestigious **SME Award**

GKB Ophthalmics Ltd. Mapusa, Goa, has been awarded one of the most prestigious awards – the “Best SME in International Trade 2010 Award”. The award initiated by Business Today, a leading business magazine from the India Today Group and YES BANK, India’s new age private sector Bank, aims to bring together growth-focused, innovative and success-driven SME enterprises on a common platform for inspiring an entrepreneurial spirit across the SME sectors.

The award was presented by Mr. Kamal Nath, Hon’ble Union Cabinet Minister for Road Transport and Highways to Mr. K. G. Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director of the Company, at a high profile Awards Ceremony held at the Ballroom of the Grand, New Delhi on 28th October, 2010. The grand function was attended by about 500 invitees from leading Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) of India.

The ‘Business Today-YES BANK SME Survey 2010’, received an overwhelming response of over 60,000 applications from leading SME’s across key industry sectors.

The award winners, were determined through a robust three step selection process on the basis of the information received through the application form, and from publicly available sources. The final winners were identified through a thorough analysis of short listed applications by an eminent Jury comprising Mr. Dinesh Rai, Secretary-Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Dr. Amit Mitra, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Mr. Parag Patki, CEO, SME Rating Agency of India; Mr. Vishnu Dusad, Managing Director, Nucleus Software Exports; and Mr. Rana Kapoor, Founder/Managing Director & CEO, YES BANK. The discussions were moderated by Mr. Chaitanya Kalbag, Editor, Business Today. The process was validated by Grant Thornton.

According to Mr. Ashish Bagga, CEO, India Today, the SME Awards for 2010 reflected the growing robustness of small and medium enterprises in the Indian economy. “As the GDP continues to grow in excess of 8 per cent, India’s 26 million SMEs are creating virtuous ripples in the economy – be it in exports, services or manufacturing. To capture the role of SMEs better, this year, we expanded the number of award categories to seven – with a winner each in the small and medium enterprises segments – and have recognised the work done in the North East. We are proud to spot India Inc.’s giants, and thank our jury members for the detailed and painstaking manner in which they have chosen the winners this year”, he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Rana Kapoor, Founder/Managing Director & CEO, YES BANK said “SMEs are the driving force and role models behind a large number of innovations, and play a vital role in the development of progressive India. Our endeavour through these awards is to salute the spirit of excellence amongst the Indian SME’s, which we believe are the ‘Future Businesses of India’.



K.G.Gupta (extreme left) with the coveted award bestowed by Shri Kamal Nath, Union Cabinet Minister for Road Transport and Highways (Centre)