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RSS Feeds

Home > Mumbai > News

Friday , November 03, 2006

Page One | Talk | Rushes | All Headlines

NEWS

'India is an old friend who reappeared after a long absence'

Presented by Prince Andrew, UKTI India Business Awards aim to boost strong business links; several top Indian companies were nominated

Swapnil Rawal

Mumbai, November 2: At the first ever United Kingdom Trade and Investment (UKTI) India Business Awards for the path-breaking UK-India Business Partnership on Wednesday, Prince Andrew called India an old friend, who has reappeared after a long absence, thus marking India's presence in the international business arena and especially in the UK.

Speaking at the function, Prince Andrew, who is the Special Representative said, "I am delighted to be able to present the first ever UKTI India Business awards."

These awards aim to boost the UK's strong business links with India. The awards are designed to recognise and celebrate exceptional entrepreneurial and innovative talent, business excellence and profitable partnership potential which exist in both UK and India.

Many of the top Indian companies were nominated for these awards in seven categories.

HCL Technologies, won the Investor of the Year award as it was the best Indian company successfully setup in Britain, the award for Business Partner of the Year was bagged by Tech Mahindra, the Innovation Award was won by LogicaCMG, the New Market Entrant was Cranes Software, the Business person of the Year was Y C Deveshwar, Chairman, ITC Limited and the Entrepreneur of the Year award went to Ajay Piramal, Chairman, Piramal Group. After winning the award Yogesh Chander Deveshwar said, "Such awards will beyond doubt encourage other entrepreneurs and also the existing business community to work harder. The real purpose of business should also be serving humanity."

While the grand award-Special Recognition award was jointly won by Sunil Bharti Mittal, chairman and managing director Bharti Enterprises and Lord Karan Bilimoria, co-chairman of Indo-British Partnership and Founder and CEO, Cobra Beer.

