

N Sankar honoured with ICC Lifetime Achievement Award

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Chemical Industry, N Sankar, Chairman of The Sanmar Group, was conferred with the prestigious **Indian Chemical Council (ICC) Lifetime Achievement Award for 2015**, by the Padma Vibushan Prof MM Sharma, former Director of UDCT on 30th September 2016 at Mumbai.

The award highlights the pioneering role played by Chemplast Sanmar in the concept of Zero Liquid Discharge in the Chemical Industries in India.

Under the stewardship of NS, the Group had set up trailblazing chemical ventures in the areas of polyurethanes, polymerization initiators, polysilicon, aroma chemicals, flavours and fragrances and fumed silica.

NS has received many awards, including the 'Lala Shriram National Award for Leadership in Chemical Industry' from the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, and the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' from Vinyl India for his contribution to the Indian PVC Industry.

Accepting the award, NS highlighted "the serious need to develop policies that would promote indigenous production capacity, which in the long run will be in the interests of the domestic users, and would squarely be in line with Prime Minister Modi's 'Make in India' programme". He also stressed "the need to put in place initiatives to encourage companies to upgrade their environment protection technologies on a continuous basis".

ICC LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Conferred on
MR. N. SANKAR

CITATION



Mr. N. Sankar, born on 19 November 1945, obtained a B.Sc. (Tech) in Chemical Engineering from the AC College of Technology, University of Madras, graduating First Class with distinction, and a Masters Degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago.

On returning to India, he worked for a few years in the family's chemical business before branching out on his own in the early 70s. The Sanmar Group started by him forty years ago has today grown to a diversified Group with over Rs 5,000 crores sales in the areas of Chemicals, Speciality Chemicals, Shipping and Engineering.

Mr. Sankar has now spent close to fifty years in the Chemical Industry. Chemplast Sanmar was one of the earliest companies in India to set up a plant to manufacture PVC resin in the 60s and completes its golden jubilee next May. It was also the first, and for many years, the sole manufacturer of speciality Paste, Battery Separator and Copolymer PVC grades in India. The company pioneered the production of "green PVC" by manufacturing ethylene from the dehydration of ethanol. Along the way, as a measure of forward and backward integration, Mr. Sankar either set up or acquired capacities for manufacture of caustic soda, chlorinated solvents, refrigerant gases, salt and industrial alcohol. Mr. Sankar has pioneered the effort of the Group's PVC business from a small 6,000 tpa one plant location business to a 600,000 tpa global PVC capacity in three locations, including Egypt.

Under Mr. Sankar's stewardship, the Group set up trail-blazing Chemical ventures in the areas of polyurethanes, polymerization initiators, polysilicon, aroma chemicals, flavours & fragrances and fumed silica.

Mr. Sankar has been a pioneer in establishing many practices in The Sanmar Group, which have later become widespread in the country. The hallmark of the Group is its very high reputation with all its stakeholders – financial institutions, employees, partners and society at large. Mr. Sankar has led the Group's strong focus on Governance, including the setting up of a Group Corporate Board with many eminent external directors - amongst the first for a private group in the country. The development of an ethics manual and the establishment of the office of the Ombudsman also were path-breaking efforts.

The Sanmar Group is especially known for its very strong joint venture reputation. Mr. Sankar pioneered the Group's uniquely successful joint venture philosophy and track record, resulting in its well earned reputation as one of India's best JV partners. The Group has been involved in over thirty joint ventures with international corporations from all over the world, like Flowserve, Emerson, Pentair, BS&B, AMP, Cabot, B F Goodrich, Bayer, Elf Atochem etc.

The Group's chemical business is one of the first in the country to come up with an audited Sustainability Report developed as per GRI standards. Mr. Sankar pioneered the concept of Zero Liquid Discharge in the Indian chemical industry through Chemplast Sanmar. It is now a benchmark in the Indian chemical industry and has received many national awards.

Mr. Sankar has been a significant contributor to the larger growth of Indian industry over the years. Amongst other leadership roles in public bodies, he has served as President of Assocham during 1991, where he played a key role in interaction with the government when the Indian economy was liberalised.

Mr. Sankar has received many awards recognizing his services to business and industry, including the 'Lala Shriram National Award for Leadership in Chemical Industry' from the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers and the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' at the Vinyl India 2012 for his contribution to the Indian PVC Industry.

A university level tennis player during his college days, Mr Sankar is a keen sports enthusiast, and has been supporting cricket and tennis in a big way for many years. He has served as the President of the Tamil Nadu Tennis Association and the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association.

Mr. Sankar has been the Honorary Consul General for Denmark in South India since 1989, and has been awarded the 'Knight of the Order of the Dannebrog, First Class' by the Danish Government in recognition of his services. He is involved with the management of many educational and charitable organizations, and is a member of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode, besides serving on the Indian Boards of several companies including NOCIL, FLSmidth and CRH Plc.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions, **INDIAN CHEMICAL COUNCIL** is pleased to confer the **ICC LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** for the year 2016 on **MR. N. SANKAR**, Chairman, The Sanmar Group.