

Wharton Dean's Medal for Dhirubhai Ambani

The first Indian recipient of the award is recognised for his achievements in building the largest private sector company of the country.

The Dean's Medal of the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, was presented to Dhirubhai Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries Limited.

The event was witnessed by eminent personalities from all walks of life who gathered under one roof to celebrate the life and career of one of the most successful Indian entrepreneurs of our times.

This medal was a recognition of his extraordinary achievements in building Reliance Industries into the largest private sector enterprise in India.

"Mr. Ambani, through his leadership and achievement, has contributed to the belief that anyone, through diligence, patience, and hard work, can accumulate wealth," read the citation which was presented along with the medal. "He has frequently used the products of his labors for the betterment of Indian and world society," it added.

Dhirubhai is the first Indian and the 24th person in the world to receive

the medal. He now joins the distinguished list of the previous awardees which include Reginald Jones, Chairman Emeritus, General Electric, Kazuo Ibuki, Chairman,



Mitsubishi Bank and Peter Sutherland, former Director General, General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT).

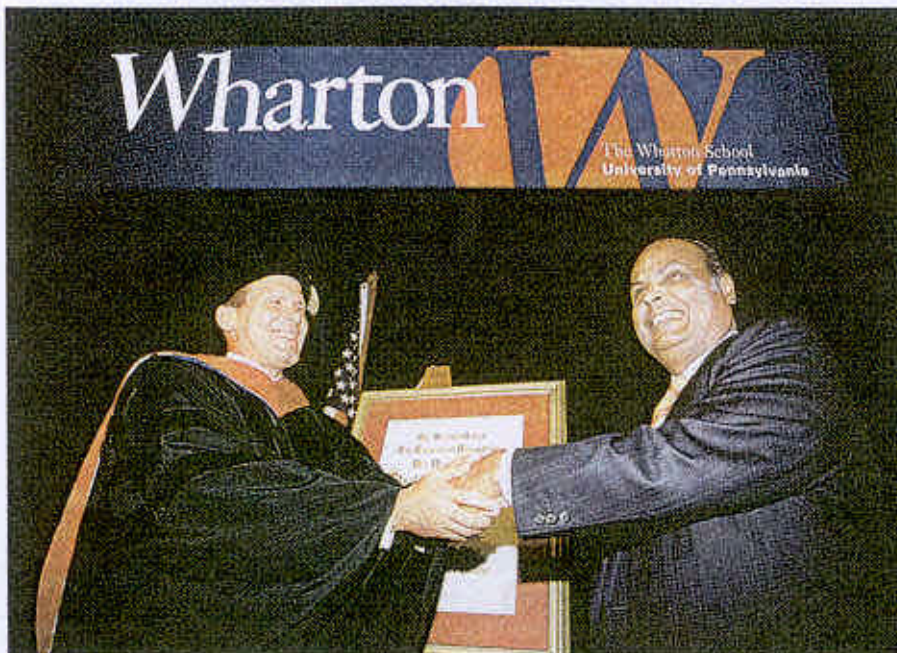
The Wharton School honours various distinguished and successful individuals for their leadership,

achievement or service through the awarding of the Dean's Medal. Established in 1983, the Dean's Medal is the School's highest tribute for extraordinary achievement or service by individuals throughout the world. The Wharton School is widely regarded as one of the best business schools in the world.

Receiving the award, Dhirubhai said that he dedicated the award to the members of his family: "The Reliance Family." He cited "relationship and trust" as the source of his strength which has helped him overcome many obstacles in his path.

Outlining the future course of action, he remarked: "Our dreams have to be bigger. Our ambitions higher....This is my dream for Reliance. In fact, it is my dream for India."

"...if one Dhirubhai can do so much, just think what a thousand Dhirubhais can do for this country. There are easily a thousand Dhirubhais, if not more. I firmly and sincerely believe in this," Dhirubhai said, amidst a thunderous applause.



A lifetime of achievements: It is indeed the pinnacle of an illustrious career. In a glittering ceremony that brought together luminaries from all fields, one of the most successful and accomplished industrialists of the nation was honoured by the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, USA.

From being a school teacher's son in the village of Chorwad to an unparalleled creator of wealth, it has been a long journey for Dhirubhai Ambani.

In the picture Dr. Thomas P. Gerrity, the Dean of the Wharton School is seen congratulating Dhirubhai before presenting him with the Dean's Medal