

A gala event marks announcement of 2022 IABCA award winners

The India Australia Business & Community Alliance Awards, more popularly known as the IABC Awards, were finally announced on April 29 this year at a gala event held at the Star Event Centre in Sydney. The India Australia Business & Community Alliance is the largest platform that exists to strengthen the India-Australia relationship that strives to contribute to its development simultaneously. It was established in 2014, and now stands as the leading alliance that builds awareness and understanding between the peoples and institutions of Australia and India. Before the announcement of the winners, the IABCA 2022 Award finalists had been announced earlier on a diverse range of sectors, including new categories such as Excellence in Partnerships and Trade & Investment. From over 200 entrants across 11 award categories from Australia and India, the IABCA Jury shortlisted 93 finalists.

Among the winners Rishi Kher, Co-Founder and CEO, Holy Sanity became the IABCA Young Professional of the Year. This award recognizes outstanding achievements of a young professional in middle or senior management who has built a successful career and is under 35 years of age. Shailendra Kumar, Global AI Thought Leader & Practitioner, Author of Amazon Bestseller "Making Money Out of Data" was adjudged the IABCA Business Leader of the Year. This award recognizes outstanding achievements of a business leader, professional or researcher in middle or senior management who has built a successful career and is over 35 years of age. Mayank Manish, Founder and Executive Director, OpEzee became the IABCA Managing Director of the Year. This award recognizes outstanding achievements of a CEO or managing director who has built a successful career and

is over 35 years of age. The IABCA Community Services Excellence Award (Individual) was conferred on Professor Manjula O'Connor, Psychiatrist, Clinical Hon Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Melbourne. The Highly Commended Certificate was given to Dilpreet Kaur Taggar, Founder, South Asian Today. This award acknowledges the achievements of an individual who has enhanced community spirit through initiatives that empower communities including/ or through the promotion and integration of arts and culture in Australia and/or India. The IABCA Community Services Excellence Award (Organisation) was given to REACH for Training (REACH), while the Highly Commended Certificate went to The Association of Haryanvis in Australia (AHA). This award acknowledges the achievements of an organisation that has enhanced community spirit through initiatives that empower communities including/ or through the promotion and integration of arts and culture in Australia and/or India. The IABCA Businesswoman of the Year was bestowed on Elaine Starkey, CEO, Global Study Partners. This award recognizes outstanding achievements of a female leader who has built a successful business or career over time. Dr Meenakshi Arora, Associate Professor in Environmental Engineering, The University of Melbourne received the IABCA Australia India Impact Award (Individual). IABCA Australia India Impact award recognizes the contributions of an individual, (living or working across our two nations) or an organisation or a project that adds value to the bilateral relationship. The category celebrates projects and organisations that have expanded from Australia to India or India to Australia. The IABCA Australia India Impact Award (Organisation) went to Sannam S4 Group. The Highly Commended Certificate was awarded to Australia India

Travel & Tourism Council (AITTC). The IABCA Australia India Impact award (organization) recognises the contributions of an organisational, (living or working across our two nations) or an organisation or a project that adds value to the bilateral relationship. The category celebrates projects and organisations that have expanded from Australia to India or India to Australia. The IABCA Australia India Science, Research & Development Award (Individual) was clinched by Dr Pamela Humphreys, Director, Macquarie University College. The main purpose of this award is the recognition and support of outstanding contributions to the advancement of science, technology and research made by an organisation or an individual. The IABCA Micro Business of the Year went to Connect2MyDoctor. Micro Business of the year is defined as a business with less than five employees. This award recognises outstanding achievement and contribution made by a micro business. The IABCA Excellence in Trade & Investment was conferred on Dr Badri Narayanan Gopalakrishnan, NITI Aayog. This award recognises the accomplishments of organisations and projects that have generated new trade and investment opportunities between India and Australia. The IABCA Excellence in Partnerships was given to Link Group. This new award acknowledges the organisational achievements/outcomes of partnering for prosperity between the two nations. The IABCA SME of the Year was AirPhysio. Small-to-medium enterprises - defined as economic groups with turnover of \$2 million and up to \$250 million. This award recognises outstanding achievement and contribution made by an SME. The Highly Commended Certificate went to RD Facilities Management.

