



## **Leaders Speak: Manthan Jurors' Graffiti**

Manthan Award South Asia and Asia Pacific Grand Jury is one of the most crucial milestones in entire Manthan Award Process, which is aimed to invite, identify the best e-practices and innovations across South Asia and Asia Pacific. Excerpts of Jurors' Graffiti:

### **Rajen Varada, Founder, Technology For The People**

I have attended a few juries and each time I think this is the best. But each year it gets better. I must admit that the jury process was so smooth and quick. We actually had enough time to chat, connect and SHOP!

### **Prof Rekha Jain , Professor and Executive Chair, IIMA IDEA Telecom Centre Of Excellence Indian Institute Of Management, Ahmedabad**

It was great to be a part of the jury. Great learning experience as well as a good socializing opportunity.

### **Ashis Sanyal, Independent Information Technology and Services Professional**

It was very very memorable this time...I know how and why everybody felt so nice....the Founder Director DEF at last understood this time that "All work and no play make all Jacks (of all...master of nothing..!) a bunch of dull persons"....!!! Better late than never...what do you say...!!!

### **Ravina Aggarwal, Programme Officer- Media Rights & Access, Ford Foundation**

Thanks to DEF for organizing such a wonderful process -- it was great to meet all of you and learn about the new e-creations. See you soon at Manthan and hopefully before.

### **Saleema Razvi, Independent ICT Consultant**

It was truly an enriching experience to be part of the grand jury.... Feels good to know that we have played a small role in recognizing and encouraging initiatives which influence and impact the lives of millions. Thanks to everyone for the wealth of experience and wisdom which you shared.

**Yudho Giri, Lecturer, ICT Expert, Consultant Trainer, And Researcher**

As part of grand jury, it was truly a great opportunity for me to learn such great initiatives coming from countries in South Asia. In addition, I also have learned the process, and can't wait to tell my fellows here from Indonesia ICT Award on how you guys so intensively discussed each initiative to make sure that they are really deserve to be winners.

**Mahesh Venkateswaran, Principal- Innovation & Engagement, NSDC**

Every event only gets better with DEF, and this jury process is testimony to that. Had a great time and thanks to the DEF team for organizing the logistics and make us feel comfortable, and help focus on the job in hand. Osama and team - There is so much feedback we collected, would be great to identify some key areas to improve upon for the next time and move with help of the larger 'DEF Jurors Club'. Glad to help in any way possible. Best wishes and look forward to staying in touch.

**Venki Nishtala, CTO, Rediff.com**

For me, it was one of the rarer moments to come out and meet people of such varied backgrounds, and experiences. The nominations, discussions and exchanges of notes, helped me learn and introspect a lot and look beyond the confines of the profession. Thank you for having us around, we look forward to opportunities to meet again.

**Natesh B V, Director - Emerging Markets, Nokia India**

It was really great to be a part of the jury and enjoyed every moment. Sincere thanks to Osama and his team for making this happen.

**Rajnish D Singh, Regional Bureau Director for Asia-Pacific, Internet Society**

Pleasure to have met and interacted with the 2013 Jury and I look forward to seeing (hopefully) most of you in December; and to keeping in touch beyond that.

**Sairee Chahal, Founder & CEO, Applied Life Pvt Ltd**

Thanks Osama for bringing this group together. It was an enriching exercise. Kudos to the DEF team for immaculate execution.

**Amitabh Singhal, Board Member, PIR.ORG**

Thanks to everyone at DEF for putting up a great jury...great people, great place, great time management and as everyone already said, it was enriching, learning experience, and almost everyone got a chance to explore the place some. Gets better each year !

 **Zaki Haider, Deputy Director, Multimedia Content and Communications Ltd., Bangladesh**

My take home from Manthan would be the inspiring entries and stories of the initiatives. These snippets has motivated and energized me beyond everything else. It was a true honor to be a part of the process that recognizes them.

**Grahim Minton, Director, Corporate and Organizational Partnerships, Internet Society**

Many thanks for a great trip to Nepal, it was a pleasure meeting you all and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

**Hempal Shrestha, Practitioner: ICT For Education and Social Development**

The Manthan Award, Grand Jury was a great learning process indeed. It's wonderful and I am also keenly looking forward to replicate, some the approaches that I have learned in Manthan in our upcoming competition evaluation. My takeaway, is being inspired by so many good work that is happening in the region. I am for sure, many good initiatives are taking up in Nepal and other countries I am connected with, so, next time, I will work from my end with the Manthan Award team to have more participation from Nepal and other participating countries, where I am connected in the region.