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## **Karan Paul awarded prestigious 'Karmaveer Puraskar' 2012 for Holistic CSR Initiatives**

**November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Delhi:** The very versatile and spontaneous **Karan Paul, Chairman Apeejay Surrendra Group** is all set to receive an award for commendable work in the field of social service. **Karan Paul** will be felicitated the coveted '**Karmaveer Puraskar, 2012 Corporate Citizen for Holistic CSR Initiatives**' award on the 26<sup>th</sup> of November in New Delhi at the exclusive awards function which is a part of iCONGO's REX Conclave, being organised on 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2012.

The management of iCONGO, which has selected his nomination after thorough due diligence based on the process created by the international HR audit firm MERCER and Grant Thornton, said, " *We congratulate **Mr. Karan Paul** for possessing the conviction and compassion to stand up, speak out and lead the change with his positive attitude! We were glad to have found a true champion of social justice issues in **Karan Paul** and wish that more and more citizens gave their time, involvement and humane feelings towards addressing social justice issues and being the change and role models for other citizens to follow. "*

Accepting the Award **Karan Paul**, said, "*Each individual must play a crucial role as a member of society and accept responsibility to make the world a better place. This is a special award and Im thankful to the renowned Jury for their felicitation of my work. I am honored and humbled to receive this prestigious award and dedicate this award to all the individuals in Apeejay Surrendra Group as also my Family who have contributed in their own way to the initiatives which we have undertaken so far.*"

Karan Paul is the Chairman of Apeejay Surrendra Group, one of India's largest privately owned family businesses. Established in 1910, Apeejay Surrendra Group employs over 43000 people in rapidly expanding operations in Tea, Hospitality, Shipping, Retail & Real Estate and has diversified into new business initiatives like, Marine Clusters and Logistics Knowledge Parks. Under the leadership of Mr. Paul, apart from doing good business in various sectors, the Group has been actively involved in Charity, Philanthropy, Social sector initiatives and Corporate Social Responsibilities. The Karamveer Puraskaar is an acknowledgement as well as a celebration of the legacy led by Mr. Jit Paul and Chairperson Emeritus Mrs. Shirin Paul. In the hands of the present generation of the Paul family this legacy lives on which Mr. Karan Paul in his individual capacity has effortlessly and successfully taken over and expanded with his own vision.

The Karmaveer Puraskar are given every year on the 26th day of November, our **National Social Justice and Citizen Action Day**, the day we adopted our constitutional pledge as a REPUBLIC and Indian Citizens in 1949. It is the first award of its kind from India, and probably around the globe, that has been held every year for the past 5 years, at a very austere, simple and dignified program in New Delhi.

The "KARMAVEER PURASKAAR" awards ceremony has over the years become a "MELTING POT" where People from India & Global Citizens that comprise individuals ranging from princes and princesses to global bestselling authors, young politicians, statesmen, bureaucrats, ambassadors, actors, singers, captains of industry, media professionals, development workers, young adults, students, school children, homemakers, academicians, slum workers and others who come "**TOGETHER as ONE to RIGHT every WRONG**". iCONGO, in association with CtrlS, VSO India and SOAP, has also launched Karmayuga-Right every Wrong Generation, an initiative that salutes and showcases the extra ordinary and inspiring work done by ordinary mortals, to Right a Wrong that they see around them. Best Citizen Action stories will be awarded Karmaver Chakra- a medallion for proactive Citizen Action, instituted with the UN.

The awards and the Chakra recognize and applaud the social commitment of awardees, who has proactively and voluntarily worked for bringing a positive transformation in the society

and the world we live in. In today's world where there is huge apathy & indifference, we feel a paramount need for being not just a good person but also a good citizen who exercises her/ his rights, duties & responsibilities as a concerned, just and humane citizen.

The Awards Ceremony is part of the three day REX conclave. REX ([www.rexideas.com](http://www.rexideas.com)) is Latin for KING and REX conclaves shall be the *king of all good thought leadership for CHANGE conclaves* (with an eclectic mix of “**ROCKSTAR SPEAKERS**”, **cause related performers, short film screenings & awards**) where **ideas speak out** to encourage proactive action to change our world. REX CONCLAVE is the scaled up new avatar of the RIGHT every WRONG conclave, which were knowledge forums that were pivotal for pioneering huge thought leadership for addressing various social issues ranging from Education to Healthcare & Poverty to Marginalization, Climate Change, Corruption, Electoral Reforms, CSR, Communalism, MDGs and Constitutional rights & duties awareness. At REX, thought leaders shall be invited to engage with audiences by giving their most enthralling talk in 15 minutes or less. The talk could be anything that fits in within the 3 pillars of REX (as given below ) across the thematic sectors (Business {Banking, Insurance, Microfinance, Telecom, Advertising, Retail, Infrastructure, Low Cost Housing, Aviation & others} Luxury brands, Media, NGOs, Government, Venture Capital, Social Ventures, Media, Entertainment, Education, Healthcare, Public Health, Philanthropy, Agriculture, Youth Affairs and other themes. REX LIVE shall focus on the following 3 pillars of REX.

1. Right every Wrong actions
2. Empowering & Entertaining Ideas
3. Social Innovation & Entrepreneurs

The common thread the speakers need to stitch in is how the idea can make a difference for the people and the planet. The **CtrlS - iCONGO** promoted “**KARMAVEER PURASKAAR (KVP)**” are the **Global Awards for Social Justice and Citizen Action** instituted by the people sector & civil society with various partner organisations, citizens at large and media supporters. Be the change you want to see in this world is what every KARMAVEER inherently believes and practices.

## **About Apeejay Surrendra Group**

Established in 1910, Apeejay Surrendra Group employs over 43000 people in rapidly expanding operations in Tea, Hospitality, Shipping, Retail & Real Estate and has diversified into new business initiatives like, Marine Clusters, Logistics Knowledge Parks. 2010 was the Group's centenary year. For more Information, please visit [www.apeejaygroup.com](http://www.apeejaygroup.com)

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