

NIKKEI ASIA PRIZES 2017

The Nikkei Asia Prizes recognize individuals and organizations that make outstanding contributions to Asia's development. Here are this year's winners.

Winner for economic
and business innovation

NANDAN NILEKANI

Former Chairman, Unique Identification
Authority of India

AKIRA HAYAKAWA Nikkei staff writer

FROM IT TO IDs

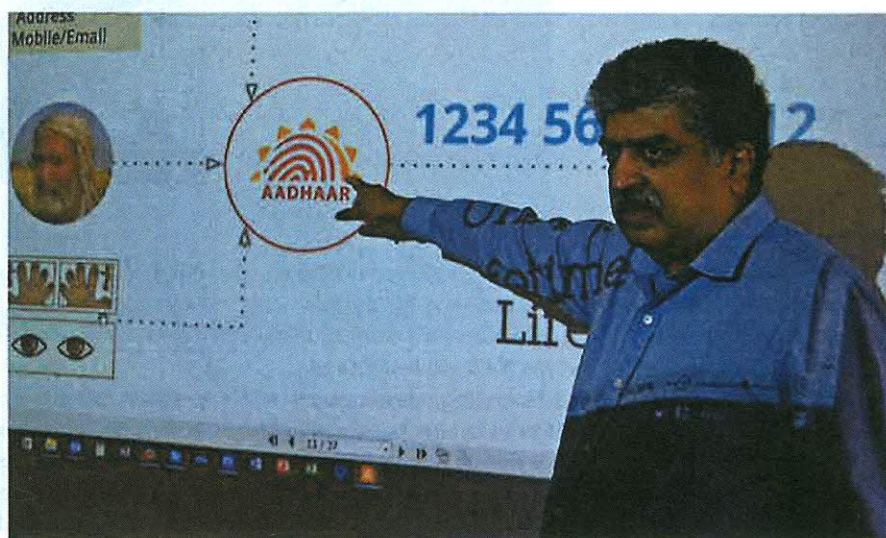
MUMBAI Selling cellphones used to be a serious chore in India. The paperwork could take days, according to a salesperson at a mobile phone shop. A small, black fingerprint reader has changed all that, however.

"Now, with this, it takes only 15 minutes, and you get your smartphone today," the sales rep said.

A lot of the credit for that convenience goes to Nandan Nilekani, the lead developer of the Aadhaar biometric identification system.

Under the system, every Indian citizen gets a 12-digit ID number tied to a photo, fingerprint and iris scan. Aadhaar "improves government efficiency and living standards," said Nilekani, the first chairman of the Unique Identification Authority of India, or UIDAI.

Social welfare is a high priority for the Indian government, but it long lacked the means to accurately identify much of the country's huge population. On one hand, the government has struggled to combat thieves who use fake IDs to steal welfare handouts. On the other, countless poor people who would qualify for food rations and other benefits have been missing out, due to chronic lapses in birth registration.



Akira Hayakawa

Aadhaar helps deliver aid to those who truly need it while curbing abuse and reducing wasteful outlays.

The project began in 2006. When the cabinet approved it in 2009, then-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh named Nilekani chairman of the UIDAI. Previously, he had co-founded major information technology company Infosys, and in a book had mentioned the need for a strong ID system.

The first Aadhaar number was issued in 2010. Now, over 1.1 billion people have registered -- accounting for roughly 90% of the population and making Aadhaar the world's largest biometric ID database. That size comes with a great responsibility to prevent fraud and leaks of personal data. "Some of the best minds in India, and of Indian origin working abroad, and bureaucrats -- they all got together," Nilekani said. His extensive connections and experience as co-chairman of Infosys served the project well.

Not everyone was on board with his

appointment. "Why are we entrusting such an important project to a man from the private sector?" one bureaucrat reportedly argued. There was friction, in part, because the UIDAI chair is a cabinet-level post and another ID project was already in the works. But Nilekani ignored what he called "noise" and forged ahead. Recalling those days, he likened the project to building a startup within the government.

BILLIONS IN SAVINGS World Bank chief economist Paul Romer said of Aadhaar: "The system in India is the most sophisticated that I have seen."

Nilekani said development took about \$1 billion, but the investment has paid off in a big way. "The system cuts annual government spending by nearly \$7 billion in total," he said.

Aadhaar in Hindi means "foundation" -- and indeed it has created a foundation for reducing poverty and government spending. **N**

Winner for culture
and community

EDHI FOUNDATION

Representative: Faisal Edhi, Managing Trustee

YUJI KURONUMA Nikkei staff writer

FIRST RESPONDER

KARACHI Gently, with his fingertips, Faisal Edhi held the coin engraved with a portrait of his late father. "Abdul Sattar Edhi - an era of humanity," read the inscription at the top. Despite the ceaseless hum of traffic in Pakistan's biggest city, the scene at the Karachi headquarters of the Edhi Foundation was almost tranquil, as Faisal reflected on the mission he inherited.

Abdul Sattar Edhi, who died last July, is the fifth person to be featured on a commemorative Pakistani coin. The govern-

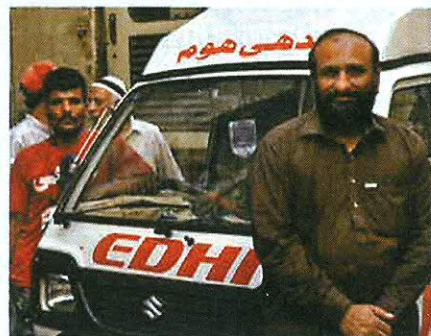
ment issued it in March, recognizing his achievements in building the foundation. What started as a 6-sq.-meter free clinic in 1951 is now the world's biggest non-governmental welfare organization.

The Edhi Ambulance Control Room in Karachi receives 3,500 calls a day. Ambulances painted with the emergency number 115 and EDHI come and go.

The free ambulance service began with one British-made vehicle in 1957. Today, 1,800 ambulances dart across the country. The foundation also searches for missing people, provides shelters for orphans and seniors, and runs mortuaries.

Born in pre-independence India, Abdul Sattar received early lessons in charity. Every morning, his mother gave him two coins -- "One for yourself and one for somebody poor." If he still had the second coin later, she would scold him, saying, "Look at the greed in your eyes."

In 1947, when Pakistan separated from India, Abdul Sattar moved to Karachi.



Most charities set up back then were exclusive to specific communities or religions. Abdul Sattar resolved to create one that would not discriminate.

Of its annual budget of 1.5 billion Pakistani rupees (\$14.3 million), interest from its endowment accounts for 40-50%. The rest comes from individual Pakistanis and companies. To avoid being tainted by politics, the foundation refuses funds from the government and overseas charities.

If donations decline, Faisal said, it means society is relying on Edhi less. "Then our organization should shrink." He looks forward to that day but said, "It will take a lot of time -- 20, 30, 40 years -- not in my lifetime." **N**

Winner for science
and technology

MICHAEL MING-CHIAO LAI

Distinguished Research Fellow, Institute
of Molecular Biology, Academia Sinica

KENSAKU IHARA Nikkei staff writer

ANSWERS ON SARS

TAIPEI As a young virologist, Michael Ming-Chiao Lai hoped his work would aid society "at some point." The critical moment came in 2003, when severe acute respiratory syndrome sent Asia into a panic.

Lai, today a distinguished research fellow at Taiwan's Academia Sinica, graduated from the National Taiwan University College of Medicine in 1968. He then elected to study molecular biology abroad, at the University of California, Berkeley.

By 1983, Lai was a professor at the

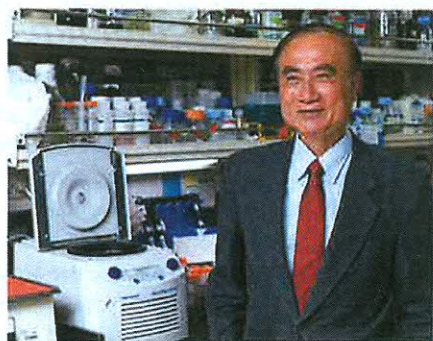
University of Southern California. He helped explain how hepatitis C causes liver cancer, and contributed to treatments, but he struggled with his primary research subject: coronaviruses.

These pathogens -- so named because their shape resembles the sun's corona -- used to be considered "minor viruses that caused common colds in humans, and everybody ignored them," Lai said.

Lai stuck with the subject because he could not shake one idea. Among RNA viruses, coronaviruses have especially large, complex genomes. "They have ample room for their nature to change, and perhaps they could turn into serious pathogens," he thought.

He was right. In March 2003, Lai received a phone call. "SARS has been determined to be caused by a coronavirus. Exactly what kind of virus is that?" asked the caller, an American reporter.

SARS, which had started in China in November 2002, was ripping mainly through Asia. Lai was appointed vice



Toshiyuki Kumagai

president of Academia Sinica and set about sharing his findings.

SARS infected more than 8,000 people and killed nearly 800, but by July 2003, the virus was declared contained. "The spread of the disease was quickly checked because of Lai's advice," said Chen Chien-jen, Taiwan's minister of health during the crisis and now the island's vice president.

Lai is quick to share the credit. Collaboration is crucial, he said, because "viruses are smarter than researchers." **N**

2016 the 21st



経済部門

アクシャヤ・パトラ財団〈団体表彰〉

〔インド〕

●インド国内の小中学校計1万1000校に給食を提供しているNGO。子どもたちの通学意欲を高めた。

〔中=代表 マドゥ・パンディット・ダサ氏〕

科学技術部門

江雷 こうらい氏

〔中国科学院理化技術研究所 教授〕

●生物模倣研究の世界的な第一人者。ハスの葉、クモの巣、魚のウロコなどから「超はっ水」の機能を解明。(右)

文化・社会部門

ドグミド・ソソルバラム氏

〔俳優/歌手/舞台演出家・モンゴル〕

●モンゴルで数多くの映画や舞台に出演。文化・芸術を通じた民主主義・自由の啓発活動に取り組む。(左)

Economic and Business Innovation

The Akshaya Patra Foundation

India

〔Chairman, Mr. Madhu Pandit Dasa = center〕

Science and Technology

Dr. Jiang Lei

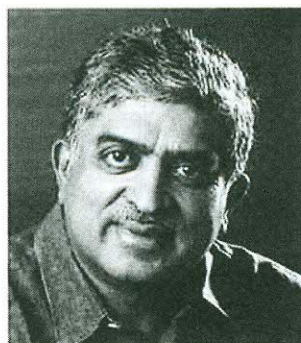
Professor, Technical Institute of Physics and Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Science, China
〔right〕

Culture and Community

Mr. Dogmid Sosorbaram

Actor, Singer, Producer and Director, Mongolia
〔left〕

2017 the 22nd



経済部門

ナンダン・ニレカニ氏

〔固有識別番号庁 初代総裁・インド〕

●生体認証による世界最大規模の国民ID発行システム「アダーール」の構築を先導した。発行数は11億超。配給の受給対象者を増やす一方で不正受給を減らし、貧困層支援を適正化した。

Economic and Business Innovation

Mr. Nandan Nilekani

Former Chairman,
Unique Identification Authority
of India



科学技術部門

頼明詔 らい・めいしょう氏

〔中央研究院分子生物研究所

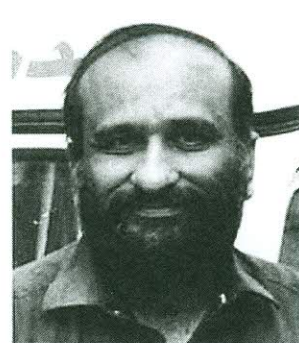
名誉フェロー・台湾〕

●リボ核酸(RNA)ウイルスの研究で有名なウイルス学者。2003年に流行した重症急性呼吸器症候群(SARS)の研究では、鍵となる発見のほとんどを手がけ、早期終息に貢献した。

Science and Technology

Dr. Michael Ming-Chiao Lai

Distinguished Research Fellow,
Institute of Molecular Biology,
Academia Sinica, Taiwan



文化・社会部門

エディ財団〈団体表彰〉

〔パキスタン〕

代表=フェイサル・エディ氏

●宗教、階級、人種などで差別しない徹底した人道主義に基づき、24時間体制の救急搬送、自然災害への緊急対応、貧困層や難民への支援など幅広い社会福祉サービスを提供するNGO。

Culture and Community

Edhi Foundation

Pakistan

〔Managing Trustee, Mr. Faisal Edhi〕

2012 the 17th



経済発展部門

楊勇 よう・ゆう 氏

[環境保護活動家・中国]

■中国・長江の生態系や水質を20年以上に渡ってボラン
ティアで調査し、環境保全を訴え続けている。(左)

科学技術部門

翁啓恵 おう・けいけい 氏

[中央研究院 院長・台湾]

■「糖鎖化学」と呼ばれる分野の世界的な研究者。新た
なワクチンや新薬の製造に道をひらいた。(中)

文化部門

シビル・ウェッタシンハ氏

[絵本作家・スリランカ]

■母国の自然や民族文化を織り込んだ作品は海外で
翻訳され、世界中の子供たちに愛されている。(右)

Regional Growth

Mr. Yang Yong

Environmental Activist,
China

[left]

Science, Technology and Innovation

Dr. Wong Chi-Huey

President, Academia Sinica,
Taiwan

[center]

Culture

Ms. Sybil Wettasinghe

Writer and illustrator of
children's books,

Sri Lanka [right]

2013 the 18th



経済発展部門

チュオン・ザー・ビン氏

[FPT 会長 兼 CEO・ベトナム]

■ベトナム最大のIT企業の創設者。業界団体の設立や
人材育成を通じて同国のソフトウェア産業を育てた。(左)

科学技術部門

テジラジ・アミナバビ氏

[ソニア薬科大学名誉教授・インド]

■新しい高分子膜の開発とその応用の権威。高分子科
学研究所を開設し、後進の指導にも尽力した。(右)

文化部門

ヴァン・モリヴァン氏

[建築家・カンボジア]

■「独立記念塔」や「オリンピックスタジアム」など、カン
ボジアを代表する独創的な建築物を生み出した。(中)

Regional Growth

Mr. Truong Gia Binh

Chairman and CEO, FPT Corp.,
Vietnam

[left]

Science, Technology and Innovation

Dr. Tejraj Aminabhavi

Professor Emeritus, Soniya Education
Trust's College of Pharmacy,

India [right]

Culture

Dr. Vann Molyvann

Architect, Cambodia

[center]

2014 the 19th



経済・産業部門

デビ・プラサド・シェティ氏

[ナラヤナ・ヘルス病院グループ会長 兼 創業者・インド]

■インド国内13カ所に17医療施設を所有。貧困層でも最先端
の医療・手術が受けられる仕組みを築いた心臓外科医。(右)

科学技術・環境部門

高福 こう・ふく 氏

[中国科学院病原微生物・免疫学重点実験室主任・教授、
中国疾病予防制御センター 副所長]

■鳥インフルエンザウイルスなどの感染症の研究や対
策で中国のリーダー的存在。(左)

文化・社会部門

メーファールアン財団〈団体表彰〉[タイ]

■タイ、ミャンマー、ラオス国境の麻薬生産地を商業作物の
森に変える「ドイトゥン開発プロジェクト」を展開。少数民族
の自立を促している。(中=代表 ディスナダ・ディッサクン事務局長)

Economic and Business Innovation

Dr. Devi Prasad Shetty

Chairman and Founder,
Narayana Health Group of Hospitals,
India [right]

Science, Technology and Environment

Dr. George Fu Gao

Director and Professor, CAS Key Laboratory of
Pathogenic Microbiology and Immunology, Institute
of Microbiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences and
Deputy Director-General, Chinese Center for
Disease Control and Prevention, China [left]

Culture and Community

The Mae Fah Luang Foundation
under Royal Patronage

Thailand [Secretary-General,

]Mom Rajawongse Disnadda Diskul = center]

2015 the 20th



経済・産業部門

マイ・キエウ・リエン氏

[ビナムルク 会長 兼 CEO・ベトナム]

■ベトナムに「乳製品市場」を作り出し、ビナムルクを同国経済
の牽引役に育て上げた。アジアを代表する経営者の一人。(中)

科学技術・環境部門

王貽芳 おう・いはう 氏

[中国科学院高能物理研究所 所長]

■素粒子ニュートリノで大きな課題として最後に残っていた
物理的数値を世界で最初に突き止めた実験チームの責任者。(右)

文化・社会部門

アジアユースオーケストラ

〈団体表彰〉[香港]

■アジアの若手音楽家で構成するオーケストラを毎年編成し、
世界各地で公演。音楽を通じた若者同士の交流を促進。

(左=代表 リチャード・パンチャス芸術監督・創設者)

Economic and Business Innovation

Mrs. Mai Kieu Lien

Chairman and CEO, Vinamilk,
Vietnam

[center]

Science, Technology and Environment

Dr. Wang Yifang

Director,
Institute of High Energy Physics,
Chinese Academy of Sciences,
China [right]

Culture and Community

Asian Youth Orchestra

Hong Kong

[Artistic Director and Conductor,
Mr. Richard Pontziou = left]

日経アジア賞

NIKKEI ASIA PRIZES

August, 2017

Dear Sir/Madame:

We are happy to inform you that the Nikkei Asia Prizes will celebrate its 23rd year next year. Thanks to you, the Nikkei Asia Prizes are becoming more and more prestigious every year.

On behalf of the Nikkei Asia Prizes Committee, I would like to invite you to be a nominator for the 23rd Nikkei Asia Prizes. Your role would be to nominate an individual or organization to receive a Prize in one of the following categories: Economic and Business Innovation; Science and Technology; Culture and Community.

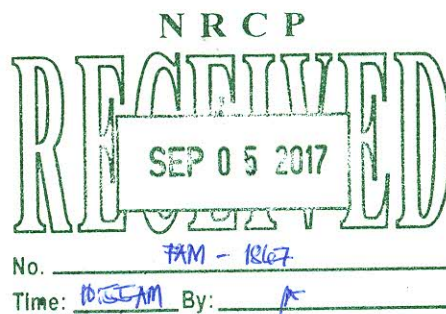
Established in 1996 to commemorate the 120th anniversary of Nikkei Inc.'s founding, the Nikkei Asia Prizes recognize outstanding achievements by Asian individuals and organizations that contribute to the region's sustainable development and to the creation of a better future for Asia. Introducing these achievements to a wide audience, the Prizes serve to promote mutual understanding among Asian nations and to help people around the world deepen their understanding of Asia.

The attached materials explain the Prizes in detail. The deadline for submitting a nomination is October 31, 2017.

Given the objective of the Nikkei Asia Prizes, the decision to participate as a nominator brings with it important responsibility. I would greatly appreciate your kind assistance in helping us to acknowledge those who work so hard for the betterment of the Asian region.

Sincerely yours,

Secretariat of Nikkei Asia Prizes
Nikkei Inc.
Global Business Bureau
1-3-7 Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
100-8066, Japan
Tel: 813-6256-7178, Fax: 813-6256-7854
E-mail: asia2@nex.nikkei.co.jp
<http://www.nikkei-events.jp/asiaprizes/en/index.html>



About the Nikkei Asia Prizes

Objective

- Nikkei Asia Prizes, which are awarded each year, are designed to recognize outstanding achievements that contribute to the region's sustainable development and to the creation of a better future for Asia.

- Nikkei Inc. established these awards in 1996 in commemoration of the company's 120th anniversary. The company publishes Japan's leading business newspaper, *The Nikkei*, and also operates online news services in Japanese, English, and Chinese languages, book publishing and compilation of the nation's most widely watched stock index.

Award Categories

- Nikkei Asia Prizes are awarded annually in three areas of achievements: "Economic and Business Innovation" "Science and Technology" and "Culture and Community."

Winners

- Winners may be an individual, group or organization in Asia, excluding Japan. Japanese individuals, groups or organizations are not eligible since part of the purpose of the awards is to promote understanding within Japan of other Asian nations.

- Winners must be of Asian origin and reside in an Asian country/territory for at least six months every year. Non-Japanese Asians who reside in Japan are eligible.

"Asia"

- As defined here, "Asia" includes East Asia (Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia), South Asia, as well as independent nations in the Pacific region, excluding Australia and New Zealand.

Nominations

- Nominations are welcome from specialists in the award categories who know of worthy candidates. Although Japanese individuals/groups/organizations may not be winners, they may submit nominations. Self-nominations are not accepted. Names of nominators will be kept confidential.

Selection

- Judging will be based on each nominee's contributions to the region's sustainable development and to the creation of a better future for Asia. Consideration will also be given to the originality, impact, and newsworthiness of each nominee's achievements.

Prizes

- Winners of the Nikkei Asia Prizes will each be awarded three million yen and an award certificate. Winners are invited and obliged to attend the award ceremony which will be held in Tokyo in May.

Announcement

- Winners of the Nikkei Asia Prizes are announced in *The Nikkei*, *The Nikkei Asian Review*, and Nikkei's Websites. To review achievements of the past winners, please visit Nikkei Asia Prizes' Website at: <http://www.nikkei-events.jp/asiaprizes/en/index.html>

Guidelines -

- **Nikkei Asia Prize for Economic and Business Innovation** is designed to recognize business and economic initiatives that improve living standards and stability in the region. Nominees may include: 1) entrepreneurs who have successfully developed industries and businesses with innovative business approach 2) policy planners who have successfully undertaken important work on economic reform and /or integration of economies in the region 3) individuals who have undertaken initiatives to eradicate poverty and / or responded effectively to social needs

- **Nikkei Asia Prize for Science and Technology** is designed to recognize scientific researches and technological innovations in various fields, ranging from bio, genome, information technology to medicine. Nominees may include: 1) researchers who have discovered new ways to protect the environments or recycle resources 2) researchers who have developed new species that increase harvests 3) medical doctors or scientists whose achievements benefit people in the region or in a country.

- **Nikkei Asia Prize for Culture and Community** is designed to recognize people who have made a difference through cultural, artistic or educational activities. Nominees may include artists, writers, craftsmen, festival organizers, leaders of projects to preserve and study historical heritage and coordinators of cultural activities in the region. Individuals or groups that provide indirect support for creative cultural activities and have great social impact are also eligible.

*Those who do not expressly fall under the above guidelines may also be nominated if their achievements benefit people in the region and are deemed to fall within one of the three categories.

Other Guidelines

- We aim to award outstanding achievements and contributions which were carried out within the past single decade.
- We would like you to search actively for not only individuals that have already received recognition, but also for those who are not so well known, but have conducted steady and sincere activities toward creating stable lives for people, contributing to prosperity.

- We would like you to nominate individuals who are active at present. Nominations of young people are welcome, if their work has received a certain amount of recognition already.
- We believe that there would be little significance in presenting the Nikkei Asia Prizes to individuals that have already received such awards as the Nobel Prize or the Kyoto Prizes.

Nikkei Asia Prizes Nomination Form

To make a nomination, please complete this form and send it to the Secretariat of the Nikkei Asia Prizes **by October 31, 2017.**

Nomination and Additional documentation should be addressed to :

Nikkei Asia Prizes Secretariat
c/o Nikkei Inc. Global Business Bureau
1-3-7, Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8066
JAPAN

E-mail: asia2@nex.nikkei.co.jp
Telephone: +81-3-6256-7178
Facsimile: +81-3-6256-7854

You may also nominate a candidate for the Nikkei Asia Prizes online by visiting the Nikkei Asia Prizes official website at

<http://www.nikkei-events.jp/asiaprizes/en/guideline/index.html>

Please provide necessary information on the nomination form.

- In which of the following categories do you wish to nominate a candidate?
(Please check the applicable box)

- ☐ Economic and Business Innovation
- ☐ Science and Technology
- ☐ Culture and Community

- Do you wish to nominate an individual, or a group/organization?
(Please check the applicable box)

- ☐ Individual
- ☐ Group/Organization

- **Nominee's Name** (Name of individual or group/organization)

☐Mr. ☐Ms. ☐Prof. ☐Dr. (Please check applicable box)

- Nominee's profession, or job title and organization (if you are nominating an individual).

- Nominee's nationality _____

- Please state your **reasons for nominating this individual or group/organization**, with particular reference to the magnitude of the nominee's contribution to improving the quality of life of people and to the originality and uniqueness of the nominee's achievement. (Please limit your response to about 500 words)

- Please provide **a short curriculum vitae of the nominee**, with the date of birth and awards. If you are nominating a group or organization, please describe its activities and backgrounds.

- Please submit any relevant articles about the nominee, any academic papers written by the nominee, or a brochure of the group or organization and whatever additional documentation, either by e-mail (asia2@nex.nikkei.co.jp) or postal mail. Also, please provide us relevant websites if any.

- Please provide the following information about yourself as a **nominator**.

Your name :

☐Mr. ☐Ms. ☐Prof. ☐Dr. (Please check the applicable box)

Job title : _____

Organization : _____

Address : _____

Telephone : _____

Facsimile : _____

E-mail : _____

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

For further information please contact :

Nikkei Asia Prizes Secretariat
c/o Nikkei Inc. Global Business Bureau
1-3-7, Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-8066
JAPAN
asia2@nex.nikkei.co.jp