

Gatekeepers of Governance – Corporate Governance Summit
21st – 22nd November, 2024
Hotel Trident, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai

Summit Introduction:

Mr. M. Damodaran

Chairperson, Excellence Enablers; Former Chairman, SEBI, UTI & IDBI

**Inaugural Session -
Regulators – Friends, Foes or Frenemies?**

With every additional legislative or regulatory prescription, there is an unexpressed negative reaction in the regulated universe. Are Regulators facilitating the ease of doing business, obstructing business or is it a mixed bag?

Panellists

Justice PS Dinesh Kumar

Presiding Officer, Securities Appellate Tribunal; Former Chief Justice, Karnataka High Court

Mr. M. Nagaraju

Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, GoI

Mr. K. Rajaraman

Chairperson, International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA); Former Secretary, GoI

Mr. Ashwani Bhatia

Whole Time Member, SEBI

SMELL Tests in Governance

There is the widely held, but unsubstantiated, belief that smaller companies have lower governance standards. While some are doing as well, if not better, than the bigger companies, some others are yet to measure up. What does governance mean for SMEs?

Panellists

Mr. Nilesh Shah

MD, Kotak Mahindra AMC

Mr. S. Ramann

Deputy Comptroller & Auditor General of India; Former CMD, SIDBI; Former MD & CEO, NeSL

Boards – Have they Failed Stakeholders?

There is general concern that Boards have not been equal to the task of adequately protecting the interests of stakeholders. Expectations are higher, and performance is falling significantly short. What should Boards do to remain relevant and add value?

Panellists

Mr. Mukesh Butani

*Founder & Managing Partner, BMR Legal Advocates;
Member, Global Supervisory Board, International Fiscal Association*

Ms. Pallavi Shroff
Managing Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.

Mr. M Damodaran
Chairperson, Excellence Enablers; Former Chairman, SEBI, UTI & IDBI

ESG – Do Good Opportunity or Feel Good Scam?

The need for a heightened social consciousness for business has brought ESG centre stage. However, there are concerns that no great value is being added because of a box-ticking approach to ESG questionnaires. Is it an opportunity to do good or one more salve for the conscience?

Panellists

Mr. D.P. Singh
Deputy MD & Joint CEO, SBI Funds

Dr. Mukund Rajan
*Chairperson, ECube Investment Advisors;
Former Chief Ethics Officer & Brand Custodian, Tata Group*

Mr. Vikram Singh Mehta
*Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Social & Economic Progress;
Former Chairperson, Brookings India; Former CEO, Shell India*

Do Managements also run Business?

With an increasingly heavy compliance workload, the time available to managements to focus on business has reportedly reduced. Are we losing sight of the fact that the primary responsibility of managements is to run business?

Panellists

Mr. Amish Mehta
MD & CEO, CRISIL

Mr. Tapan Singhel
*MD & CEO, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company;
Chairperson, General Insurance Council*

Mr. M Damodaran
Chairperson, Excellence Enablers; Former Chairman, SEBI, UTI & IDBI

Do Auditors need Auditing?

Shortcomings in audits are attracting increased regulatory attention, especially with NFRA coming down heavily on the auditing profession for its inadequacies. Is this going to be yet another case of excessive prescriptions that might adversely impact audit quality eventually?

Panellists

Mr. D. Sundaram
Vice Chairperson & MD, TVS Capital Funds; Former Vice Chairperson, HUL

Mr. Jamil Khatri
Co-Founder & CEO, Uniqus Consultech; Former Head of Audit, KPMG

Mr. P.R. Ramesh
Former Chairperson, Deloitte India

Plenary Session – Is Compliance Good Business?

There has often been a complaint that compliance stands in the way of doing business. This is more so in the case of startups and smaller companies that prioritise growth over governance. Should timely compliance not translate to good business?

Panellists

Mr. Ananth Narayan G.
Whole Time Member, SEBI

Mr. Ashishkumar Chauhan
MD & CEO, NSE

Mr. M Damodaran
Chairperson, Excellence Enablers; Former Chairman, SEBI, UTI & IDBI

Compensation – How Much is too Much?

Shareholders have sometimes pushed back on what they perceive to be excessive compensation. At the same time, inadequate compensation could stand in the way of better performance. How can these seemingly conflicting positions be balanced?

Panellists

Mr. Ajay Bahl
Co-founder & Managing Partner, AZB & Partners

Mr. Sanjeev Aga
Former MD, Aditya Birla Nuvo; Former MD, Idea Cellular

Mr. Sunil Mehta
Chairperson, IndusInd Bank; CMD, SPM Capital Advisers

Chairpersons – Biting More Than They Should Chew?

The activist role of Chairpersons in some Boards is cramping the operational efficiency of management. Are non-executive Chairpersons getting into areas that legitimately belong to the realm of management? How can, and where should, the line be drawn?

Panellists

Mr. Homi R Khusrokhhan
Former MD, Tata Chemicals & Tata Tea



Mr. Nawshir Mirza
Former Senior Partner, S. R. Batliboi & Co.

Mr. M. Damodaran
Chairperson, Excellence Enablers; Former Chairman, SEBI, UTI & IDBI