

# Seetharaman bags 'CEO of the Year' award from EMEA Finance

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DOHA

DOHA Bank CEO R Seetharaman was named the "CEO of the Year" by the EMEA Finance Middle East Banking Awards 2017 at a ceremony in Dubai recently, a press statement said on Sunday.

Seetharaman won the award for bringing transformational leadership in Doha Bank with focus on technology and sustainable development, the statement said.

Highlighting the role of CEO in the new millennium, Seetharaman said, "The key

areas which require CEOs' attention include realignment of business model in accordance with structural changes in environment, building strong corporate image, sustaining growth, grooming people for global environment, leveraging technology, giving back to society and managing stakeholder expectations."

"Digital governance and sustainable development are the key enablers of future banking," he added.

Giving insight on the future trends impacting digital space and the challenges faced in digital economy, the Doha

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Bank CEO said, "The fourth industrial revolution combines advanced technologies in innovative ways, dramatically reshaping the way people live, work and relate to one another."

He said, "Various industries are getting redefined, the health sector can be reimagined, the work space is undergoing



Doha Bank CEO R Seetharaman (left) receives the award at an event in Dubai recently.

changes, robotics and artificial intelligence are going to play important roles and the customer will be more empowered in the digital environment."

"Fintech, internet of things, block chain and artificial intelligence are some of the major technological developments," Seetharaman pointed out.

"Robotics, enabled by artificial intelligence and machine learning, is proving to be a game changer that can bring unique operational efficiencies to the financial services industry."

According to Seetharaman, accelerating digital ecosystem

development could lead to cashless economies.

"Banks and the financial regulators should address the trade-off between convenience and security when it comes to digital banking. From compliance perspective banks and the regulators have to deal with questions arising from digital banking."

"To protect customers, thwart organised criminals, and ensure financial stability, prudential and conduct regulators and legislators need to ensure that regulation is future-proofed for the digital age," he said.