



Confederation of Indian Industry

CII Felicitates Top Companies and Research Institutions of 2025 at the Felicitation Ceremony of CII Awards on Excellence for Women in STEM 2025

New Delhi, December 17, 2025

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) felicitated leading companies and academic institutions at the Felicitation Ceremony of the CII Awards on Excellence for Women in STEM 2025, recognizing organizations that have demonstrated exemplary commitment towards advancing gender diversity, inclusion, and leadership of women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr Chandrika Kaushik, Distinguished Scientist & Director General, Production Coordination & Services Interaction, DRDO, Government of India, mentioned Women in STEM is no longer a question of equity alone—it is a matter of economic growth, innovation outcomes and national competitiveness. Excluding women from science and technology is the single largest untapped inefficiency in the modern workforce. She called for systemic changes including breaking career bottlenecks at early promotion stages, moving from mentorship to sponsorship, treating childcare and health support as productivity infrastructure, and addressing bias both at workplaces and within households.

Ms Vaishali Nigam Sinha, Chair, CII Women in STEM Initiatives and Co-founder, ReNew & Chairperson – Sustainability, remarked, If India is to move from technology adoption to technology leadership, women must be at the heart of this transformation. Diverse and inclusive STEM leadership is not just a social imperative but is essential for stronger innovation, better research outcomes and sustainable economic growth

Addressing the gathering, Ms Inge Buffolo, Director, European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), highlighted that when women are underrepresented in STEM, we do not just lose fairness—we lose better solutions. Innovation thrives on diversity of thought, and inclusive ecosystems are essential to solving the world's most complex challenges in healthcare, technology, climate science and engineering,”

Mr Titokishan, Founder ProInn Consultancy said Invention is not driven by knowledge alone—it requires action, energy and conviction. Excellence has no gender, and India's journey towards Atmanirbhar Bharat must fully harness the immense innovation potential emerging from women across the country

The CII Awards on Excellence for Women in STEM underscore CII's commitment to recognizing and celebrating outstanding achievements of women and organizations in STEM fields. The awards serve both as a celebration of resilience and progress, and as a call to action to address the systemic barriers that continue to limit women's full participation in STEM.

This year, **CII felicitated 50 companies** for their exemplary contributions towards advancing Women in STEM.

Four organizations were recognized as **category award winners**. The **Grand Award (Large Manufacturing)** for 2025 was conferred on **TVS Motor Company**, while **Course5 Intelligence Limited (C5i)** received the **Top Company (Large Services)** award. The **Top**



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Company (MSME Manufacturing) award was presented to **Apraava Energy Private Limited**, and **CI Global Technologies** was recognized as **Top Company (MSME Services)**.

In the **Academic Institution category**, the **Grand Award (IITs category)** was conferred on **IIT Roorkee**, while **Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal**, received the **Top Institution (Non-IITs category)** award.

This year also marked the introduction of **two Special Recognition Awards**. **AARTI (Automotive and Allied Research and Technology Innovations) Foundation** was honoured as the **Young Organization for Excellence in Women in STEM 2025**, and **Ms Varsha Ankush Patil** was conferred the **Special Recognition Award for Rural Women Entrepreneurship in Women in STEM 2025**.

In addition, a **Coffee Table Book on “Organisations Recognising Women in STEM”** was released during the awards ceremony. The publication showcases organizations that are building inclusive ecosystems and championing the leadership of women across STEM disciplines.