



Recognizing Champions of
INDIAN INNOVATION



CII INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION AWARDS (13th edition)

Recognizing the Innovation Ecosystem in India

Apply at: www.innovationawards.ciiinnovation.in

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The Industrial Innovation Awards aim at helping the Indian Industry in assimilating a structured innovation process through the Enterprise Innovation Maturity Framework, a model developed by CII. The Awards, while recognizing the champions of innovation among Indian industry, also enhance their competitiveness for the domestic as well as global markets.

CII Industrial Innovation Awards were instituted in 2014 to identify and celebrate innovative Indian enterprises across industry segments and sectors. The Awards give an opportunity to companies to shine and be known nationally and internationally for their innovative products and services.

Between 2014 and 2025, CII Industrial Innovation Awards have recognized more than 800+ firms as champions of innovation in their respective industry sectors. These Innovation Awards have also been instrumental in the growth of business opportunities for winning firms.

CATEGORIES

TOP 100 INNOVATIVE COMPANIES OF THE YEAR

100 companies will be awarded under "Top 100 Innovative Companies of 2026".

CATEGORY AWARDS

Category	Sub-Category
Grand Award	The Most Innovative Company of The Year
Innovative Company of the Year — Manufacturing	Large Enterprise
Innovative Company of the Year — Manufacturing	MSME Enterprise
Innovative Company of the Year — Services	Large Enterprise
Innovative Company of the Year — Services	MSME Enterprise

TOP 10 INNOVATIVE INSTITUTION OF THE YEAR

The Top 10 Institutions will be awarded under the "Top 10 Innovative Institution of 2026".

Category	Award
Grand Award — Institutions	The Most Innovative Institution of The Year
Research Institutions	Top Innovative Research Institution

WHY APPLY

BENEFITS

- **Access to CII's Enterprise Innovation Maturity Framework** — A robust self-assessment tool to evaluate your organisation's innovation level, maturity, and approach — helping identify strengths and areas for improvement.
- **Learn from Best-in-Class Innovation Practices** — Gain exposure to proven innovation strategies and methodologies through active participation across different stages of the awards process.
- **Expert Feedback & Strategic Insights** — Receive actionable recommendations from seasoned industry experts to strengthen your innovation roadmap.
- **National Recognition & Prestige** — Earn recognition as a leading innovator, enhancing your organization's credibility with stakeholders, clients, and partners.
- **Enhance Brand Visibility & Positioning** — Leverage the CII platform to position your organization as a forward-looking, innovation-driven enterprise.
- **Stay Connected with CII's Innovation Ecosystem** — Get first-hand access to CII's latest initiatives, programmes, and thought leadership in industrial innovation.
- **Showcase in the CII Innovation Compendium 2026** — Feature your organisation among leading innovators in a widely circulated national publication, enhancing visibility and credibility.
- **Networking & Collaboration Opportunities** — Connect with industry leaders, policymakers, academia, and global partners for potential collaborations.
- **Leadership Visibility** — Provide a national platform for your leadership team to showcase vision, thought leadership, and innovation success stories.
- **Policy & Thought Leadership Engagement** — Opportunity to contribute to national innovation dialogue through CII forums and committees.

WHOCANAPPLY

Innovation should be commercialized in the year 2023, 2024, or 2025 (it does not matter how many years prior to its realization it was in the making). Companies and firms registered in India:

ENTERPRISE TYPE	INVESTMENT #	TURNOVER
MSME Enterprises	Up to ₹20 Cr.	Less than ₹100 Cr.
Large Enterprises	Above ₹20 Cr.	Above ₹100 Cr.

Note: * Enterprises engaged in manufacture/production/processing of goods. ** Enterprises engaged in providing/rendering services. # Proof of investment figure (auditor certificate) to be uploaded; CII members may use their membership certificate.

APPLICATIONFEES

An applicant must pay the fee while submitting the application form. The fee includes online facilitation by CII, honorarium of an expert for assessment, and delegate fee for two to the Award Ceremony.

INDUSTRY SEGMENT	APPLICATION FEE**
Large Enterprise	Rs. 1,00,000/- + 18% GST
MSME	Rs. 45,000/- + 18% GST

Note: The application process requires active collaboration among all departments of a company.

SCHEDULE 2026

ACTIVITY	DATE
Launch of Awards & Start of Registration	16th February 2026
Last Date for Registration	15th September 2026
Last Date for Application Submission	15th September 2026
First Jury Assessments	September 2026
Grand Jury	October - November 2026
Awards Ceremony	8th – 9th December 2026

* The award ceremony date is subject to change and will be announced at least one month prior.



AWARD PROCESS

01

Registration

Create a login ID by providing basic information. Credentials will be sent to your email.

02

Application Submission

Shortlisted applicants complete the comprehensive main application form.

03

Assessor Interaction

Online interaction with an assessor to corroborate contents submitted in the main application form.

04

First Jury Selection

Jury evaluates main applications and determines top companies for the Grand Jury stage.

05

Grand Jury Meeting

A grand jury comprising Indian and International experts decides the award-winning company in each category.

06

Awards Ceremony

Physical ceremony to recognize award-winning companies.

07

Feedback Report

Detailed feedback report on the applicant firm's innovation strengths and weaknesses made available.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The assessment will be conducted through a comprehensive 360-degree evaluation of the organization's innovation processes, based on the Enterprise Innovation Maturity Framework developed by CII, encompassing four key pillars: Innovation Culture, Innovation Management, Innovation Inputs, and Innovation Outputs.

MAIN APPLICATION — FOUR PILLARS

Innovation Culture

Innovation within an organization is a function of how people at all hierarchies collaborate and support the journey. This section captures the flow of innovation in spirit and as a function within the organization.

Innovation Management

Innovation is effective management of chaos to achieve tangible results. This section seeks to understand your expertise in navigating through such efforts.

Inputs to Innovation

Innovation needs tangible and intangible inputs to grow. This section captures details of investments of both kinds made by the organization.

Results of Innovation

The goal of any effort is a tangible, measurable outcome. This section assesses the results that have accrued to your organization from the innovation effort undertaken.

LEADERSHIP



Mr. Kris Gopalakrishnan

*Founder, CII Industrial Innovation Awards
Chairman, Axilor Ventures & Co-Founder, Infosys Ltd*



Mr. Vipin Sondhi

*Chairman, CII Industrial Innovation Awards 2026
Chairman CII National Forum on Industry-Academia Partnership*



Mr. Alok Nanda

*Co-Chairman, CII Industrial Innovation Awards 2026
General Manager, Services Engineering, GE Aerospace*



Prof. Rishikesha T Krishnan

*Co-Chairman, CII Industrial Innovation Awards 2026
Director, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore*

GLIMPSES — AWARD CEREMONY



PREVIOUS WINNERS

			
			
			
			
			

TESTIMONIALS

“In Indian industry's journey to be globally innovative, CII's focus and advocacy on firm level Innovation capability building has remained outstanding, which is truly reflected through its Industrial Innovation Awards Initiative. The Award Framework has encouraged many Indian firms to remain competitive in domestic as well as in global markets.”

S. Gopalakrishnan

Founder, CII Industrial Innovation Awards; Chairman, Axilor Ventures & Co-Founder, Infosys Ltd

“Firms participating in various stages of the award process of the CII Industrial Innovation Award get detailed feedback on their maturity level on various innovation indicators, giving them an edge over their competitors and others to embrace/explore new business opportunities. I am very confident that firms getting the Innovation Award will be recognised as innovation driven companies among the business community.”

Rajan Navani

VC and MD, Jetline Group of Companies

“Innovation is the lifeline of Indian industry which is heavily reliant on the ability to create evolving solutions for customers. At Mahindra, innovation is guided by our Rise philosophy. Our products and services have always been designed with innovation at its core. I would like to thank CII for the Innovation Awards platform which will help nurture and encourage a culture of innovation within India.”

Dr. Pawan Kumar Goenka

Managing Director, Mahindra & Mahindra

FROM PREVIOUS WINNERS

“This recognition has significantly enhanced our credibility and visibility, validating our continuous efforts toward innovation while inspiring us to strive for even higher standards of excellence.”

Tata Elxsi

“The comprehensive assessment process provided us with valuable benchmarking insights and a clear roadmap, enabling structured progress and continuous improvement across our innovation journey.”

Aditya Birla Group

“The rigorous evaluation helped us identify our key strengths and uncover improvement areas, offering enriching insights that continue to guide our innovation and growth.”

Pricol

“The detailed and structured evaluation enabled us to clearly identify our strengths while also providing actionable insights to refine our processes and drive innovation more effectively.”

L&T Construction

“The recognition not only generated strong visibility but also opened doors for meaningful collaborations and partnerships, strengthening our focus on innovation and intellectual property.”

Kanchan Metals

“This achievement created tremendous positive energy across our stakeholders, boosting team morale and motivating us to continue pushing boundaries in our innovation efforts.”

Equinox Software

ABOUT CII

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering Industry, Government and civil society through advisory and consultative processes.

CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization, with around 9,700 members from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs, and an indirect membership of over 365,000 enterprises from 318 national and regional sectoral industry bodies.

For 130 years, CII has been engaged in shaping India's development journey and works proactively on transforming Indian Industry's engagement in national development. CII charts change by working closely with the Government on policy issues, interfacing with thought leaders, and enhancing efficiency, competitiveness, and business opportunities for industry through a range of specialised services and strategic global linkages.

For 2025-26, CII has identified "Accelerating Competitiveness: Globalisation, Inclusivity, Sustainability, Trust" as its theme, prioritising five key pillars. With 70 offices including 12 Centres of Excellence in India, and 9 overseas offices in Australia, Egypt, Germany, Indonesia, Singapore, UAE, UK, and USA, CII serves as a reference point for Indian industry and the international business community.

Confederation of Indian Industry

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