



10th COSIDICI National Awards for 'Outstanding Entrepreneurs', 2024 at "Auditorium of the College of Veterinary Science", Assam Agricultural University, Rohika, Jayanagar Road, Resham Nagar, Khanapara, Assam, Guwahati on December 06, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The Council of State Industrial Development and Investment Corporations of India (COSIDICI) was established in 1976 and is the National Federation of State Level Financial Institutions (SLFIs) comprising of 18-State Financial Corporations (SFCs), 29-State Industrial Development Corporations (SIDCs) and 9-State Industrial Infrastructure & Investment Corporations (SIICs). The State Level Financial Institutions (SLFIs) were set up in the country soon after independence to help this sector by providing timely and adequate financial assistance as well as to widen the ownership base of industry by fostering entrepreneurship. **The activities of these Institutions are co-ordinated and streamlined by their umbrella organisation viz. Council of State Industrial Development & Investment Corporations of India {COSIDICI}.** With a view to provide encouragement to better performing enterprises funded by the SLFIs, COSIDICI has been awarding selected units in different states annually.

The prime objective of SLFIs is to financing and promoting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) for achieving balanced regional growth, catalyzing investment, generating employment and widening the ownership base of industry by fostering entrepreneurship. The MSME sector contributes to India's exports to a large extent and these SLFIs have played a pivotal role in the overall promotion and development of this sector. They have helped decentralise economic development and have created employment opportunities by assisting artisans, crafts persons, MSME units and most importantly, the first generation entrepreneurs. This has helped in entrepreneurial development, employment generation and balanced regional development across the country. It is a fact that some of the units financed by SFCs in the country have become big industrial groups now viz. Infosys, Biocon, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, Cremica etc. These SLFIs have also created industrial infrastructure by setting up industrial parks and estates, SEZs and providing industrial housing. They have thus touched the lives of almost all the MSMEs which are the building blocks of the Nation's economy.

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COSIDICI has been functioning as a Clearing House for sharing of experiences by its members and provide them with a common platform for addressing common issues and influencing the policies having a bearing on the development of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME sector). Since its formation, the Federation has played a critical role in co-ordinating and integrating the activities of its Member Corporations by disseminating knowledge and information about promotion and development of industries.

COSIDICI National Awards have been instituted to recognize outstanding and meritorious performance in the activities connected with development of industries. These awards promote the spirit of competition amongst entrepreneurs and recognize their distinct role in socio-economic development. They seek to honour entrepreneurs who have brought prosperity to our country by setting up successful enterprises. The units being awarded have been chosen from all over the country and were selected by a jury formed by the Executive Committee of COSIDICI. At the 10th COSIDICI Award function, hosted by **Assam Financial Corporation at "Auditorium of the College of Veterinary Science", Assam Agricultural University, Rohika, Jayanagar Road, Resham Nagar, Khanapara, Assam, Guwahati** on December 06, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. **COSIDICI is pleased to honour "Fifty Four Outstanding Entrepreneurs"** who started small but have achieved recognition in their chosen field and some of them have even become industry leaders today. **Nine Outstanding Entrepreneurs financed by Assam Financial Corporation** shall also receive these National Awards. The awards are being given by **Dr. Ravi Kota, IAS Chief Secretary, Assam and Shri Jayant Narlikar, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary Finance, Assam, Government of Assam. Smt. Laya Madhuri, IAS, Secretary, Deptt. of Finance, Government of Assam; President, COSIDICI and Managing Director - Assam Financial Corporation shall preside the Award Function.** The COSIDICI Member delegates from various States shall also attend the function.

COSIDICI is aware that concerted efforts of all the players are required to strengthen the MSME sector, if India is to achieve the targeted industrial growth and therefore, hopes to continue with its efforts in future also in bringing about equitable industrial growth in the States by supporting its Member Corporations viz. the State Level Financial Institutions.

The Key Note on the functioning of SLFIs & Their Role in present scenario was given by **Shri Hans Raj Verma, IAS (Retd.), Director General, COSIDICI** in which he expressed gratitude to the **Dr. Ravi Kota, IAS Chief Secretary, Assam and Shri Jayant Narlikar, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary Finance, Assam Government of Assam** for sparing their valuable time, Dignitaries on the Dias; Team AFC for hosting this National Awards Ceremony, apart from Media and Press for covering this National Awards Ceremony. Shri Verma also expressed a deep appreciation to the **Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma; Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Shri Conrad K. Sangma and Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Women & Child Development, Smt. Ajanta Neog, Government of Assam** for their encouragement & proactive support for giving "Message" for COSIDICI' National Award Function, 2024 to felicitate 'Outstanding Entrepreneurs' at the Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati (Assam) on December 06, 2024.

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