

BARC-INYAS-IIM Honor Women in STEM

Inclusivity, Empowerment, Leadership take centrestage on International Women's Day 2026

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BARC took centre stage on International Women's Day by celebrating the remarkable contributions of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) across India.

The Women's Cell at BARC led the event, held on 27 March 2026 under the theme "Give to Gain." The Chief Guest, Dr. Reena Dayal Yadav, Founder & CEO of QETCI, delivered a compelling talk titled "Enabling the Quantum Ecosystem in India."

To broaden participation, a digital poster contest on gender equality and sensitivity was held. Winners were recognized at the event. The Scientific Information Resource Division, KMG, compiled stories of women in STEM and their legacies into a concise publication, which dignitaries from HS&EG, BSG, KMG, and the Administrative Group released during the program.

Earlier, BARC partnered with the Indian National Young Academy of Sciences (INYAS) and the Indian Institute

of Metals (IIM) Mumbai Chapter to host discussions, keynote lectures, and interactive sessions emphasizing women's roles in STEM.

Under the "Give to Gain" theme, IIM invited Ms. Koneru Bhavani, Senior Vice President, Heavy Civil Infrastructure, L&T Construction, as Chief Guest for the event at the DAE Convention Centre Auditorium on 6 March, organized by senior scientific officers from the Materials Group.

Indian National Young Academy of Science (INYAS) organized "Beyond the Lab: Women in Science - Careers, Challenges & Choices" at the Multi-Purpose Hall (Training School Hostel) in Anushakti Nagar, featuring lectures by experienced BARC women scientists and coordination by senior officers from the Radiochemistry and Isotope Group.

The programs highlighted career paths beyond traditional lab roles, with presentations on mentorship and institutional support showing how women navigate scientific



Designed by Ms. Jyoti Panda

careers. A panel discussion addressed real-world challenges and opportunities, and testimonials from senior women scientists showcased journeys that break stereotypes and open doors.

By fostering supportive environments, encouraging young women toward leadership, and recognizing achievements in materials science and infrastructure, these events demonstrated a shared commitment to an inclusive scientific ecosystem. Bringing together scientists, students, and industry leaders, it painted a vision of a future where women not only participate in science but lead, inspire, and transform.

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