



# HONOURING EXCELLENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY



## 16<sup>th</sup> CII-ITC SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS 2021

Excellence in Sustainable Business

## ABOUT THE AWARDS

CII-ITC Sustainability Awards celebrate businesses that embed sustainable practices in their strategies and processes and go much beyond to embrace community and societies in their agenda.

CII-ITC Sustainability Awards define the science of sustainability performance. Excellence in sustainability is a journey of continuous improvement in processes and results. Uniquely based on EFQM Excellence Framework, these Awards are designed for those who strive effortlessly to make sustainability their business.

The Framework is layered with around 250 questions covering governance, ecology, and social dimensions of doing business.

More than 15 years of recognising sustainable businesses, CII-ITC Sustainability Awards have become a symbol of credibility and pride for companies. Cumulatively, 989 applied of which 326 were recognised. Limited number of applications are accepted to maintain strong competition and high standards of excellence.

CII-ITC Sustainability Awards recognise and reward excellence in businesses that are seeking ways to be more sustainable and inclusive in their activities. More than recognition, the Awards measure performance and provide detailed feedback for opportunities to excel.

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Every new leaf brings forth abundance of hope and growth waiting to be unfurled. As the world begins to embrace the new normal, and adapts to the challenges ahead, industry too is in the process of transformation to create a sustainable eco-system. Businesses are now re-looking at their strategies and treading new paths to innovate for a better tomorrow. Drawing inspiration from a new leaf, the theme of this year's Awards, is an ode to all the unique efforts that are infusing a new lease of life towards creating an inclusive, sustainable and self reliant nation.

## YOU SHOULD APPLY BECAUSE

You want to assess your sustainability performance based on the Business Excellence Model.

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You want to identify strengths and opportunities to excel, based on a comprehensive and rigorous assessment by independent and CII-certified Sustainability Assessors.

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You want to be recognised as Excellent in Sustainable Business, by the most credible Sustainability Awards in the country.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

You can apply, if you are

Operating in India,  
for At Least  
Five Years

A Large, Medium, Small,  
Micro-sized Enterprise  
or Independent Unit/Division

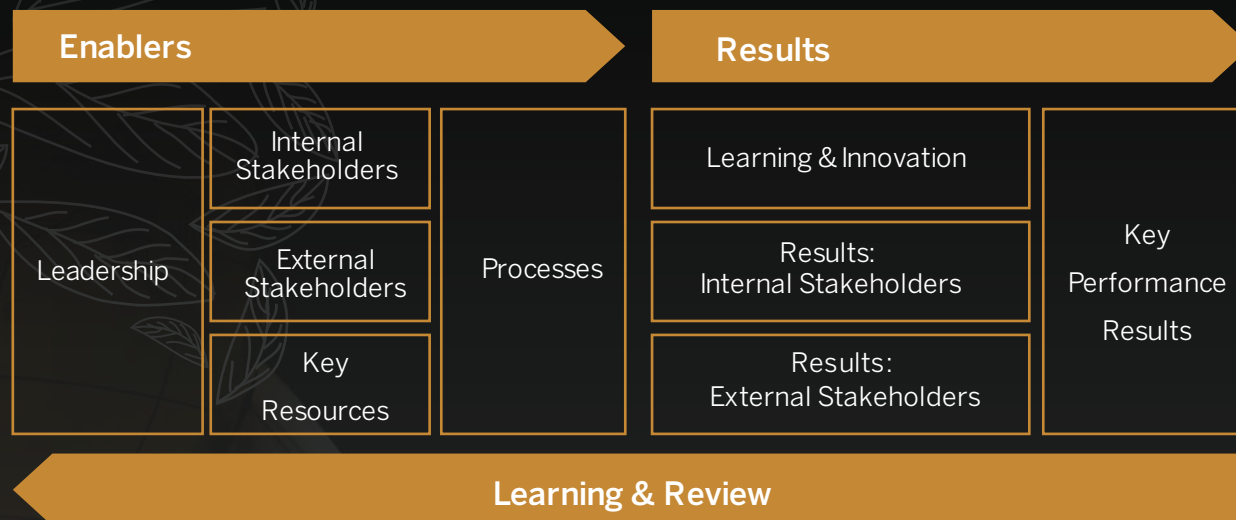
From  
Manufacturing  
or Service Sector

**APPLY NOW**



## ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

The Awards adhere to a transparent and rigorous assessment process based on the Sustainability Excellence Assessment Model, developed using the following frameworks:



The assessment is conducted over a period of six months by a pool of CII-certified Sustainability Assessors from diverse professional backgrounds that spend approximately 1,000 man-hours per application. The results of each assessment is reviewed by a preeminent Jury, comprising of former bureaucrats, representatives of government, civil society and academia at two stages before arriving at the final decision.

Methodology is adapted from the internationally acclaimed European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) approach wherein equal weight is assigned to 'Enablers' and 'Results,' indicating a cause-effect relationship.

Assessment is based on around 250 indicators which cover 15 aspects of sustainability. The assessment has been made more comprehensive to include aspects such as Business Ethics, Employee Development, Human Rights and Biodiversity.

For companies that do not qualify the preliminary stage, no feedback report is provided to the applicants.

Feedback report is provided to the applicants in two phases. For companies that do not qualify for site visit, feedback reports are provided after desk assessments are over. This will be around November 2021.

For companies that qualify for site visits, feedback reports are provided after the end of the Awards cycle. This will be around December 2021.

## Stage 1: Application

- Receiving Application of Intent
- Receiving filled application document from the applicant
- Preliminary screening of the applications

## Stage 3: Site Assessment

- On-site assessment by the same team of assessors
- Revised consensus by assessment team
- Jury meeting to decide on winners
- Feedback report to the applicants

## Stage 2: Desk assessment

- Desk assessment by team of CII trained assessors
- Consensus on assessment results by assessment team
- Jury meeting to decide on the applications qualifying for site assessment
- Feedback report to applicants who could not qualify for site assessment

## Stage 4: Awards presentation

- Announcement of winners 2021
- Announcement for assessors recognition 2021
- Feedback report to winners

## IMPORTANT DATES

**30** APRIL 2021  
Last date to receive Aol

**4** June 2021  
Webinar for guiding  
the applicants

**18** JUNE 2021  
Last date to submit  
Awards questionnaire

**17** DECEMBER 2021  
Announcement and  
presentation of Awards



## AWARD CATEGORIES

### Corporate Excellence

This award recognises comprehensive efforts companies make in excelling at sustainable business. It expects companies to integrate sustainability into governance, strategy, business processes, and demonstrate through results that sustainability is making an impact on its business and relevant stakeholders.

Recognitions\* in Corporate Excellence

- **BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**

This role model award celebrates the company that has successfully proven a business case for sustainability and demonstrates a company-wide commitment to advancing the sustainable business agenda; not just internally but among customers, suppliers and the industry as well.

- **OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENT**

The award recognises companies that have demonstrated outstanding policy, practice and results by successfully incorporating sustainability in their core business.

- **COMMENDATION FOR SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT**

The award recognises companies that have demonstrated commendable results from deployment of policy and processes.

### Domain Excellence

#### Environment Management

The award recognises companies that have employed innovative approaches, including policy and practice to reduce their environmental impact and achieve exemplary results.

#### Corporate Social Responsibility

This award recognises companies that have positively impacted both business and society by taking a strategic approach to CSR through collaborative programmes with government and civil society.

#### Biodiversity

This award recognises companies for implementing measures related to conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystem services in value chain.

Recognitions\* in Domain Excellence

- **EXCELLENCE**

The award recognises companies that have demonstrated outstanding policy, practice and results in this domain.

- **COMMENDATION FOR SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT**

The award recognises companies that have demonstrated commendable results through policy deployment and processes.

\*Recognitions are based on cut-offs and deliberation of the Jury. Companies apply to award categories and not to recognitions.

Number of winners per category is not pre-determined and is left to the discretion of the Jury.

If applicants want to change award category during the AoI stage, the same can be altered only during AoI stage and not at a later stage.



## Application Fee

### Corporate Excellence

Company / Unit Turnover (₹ Crores)	Application Fee (₹)*
>10,000	1,75,000
5000-10,000	1,55,000
500-4,999	1,35,000
50-499	75,000
<50	25,000

### Domain Excellence

>10,000	1,25,000
5000-10,000	1,00,000
500-4,999	75,000
50-499	50,000
<50	20,000

\* Plus GST as per Govt norms

## Discounts To Avail

- **20% off** on the fee of Corporate Excellence application, if the company applies for domain excellence.
- **20% off** for repeat applicants (base year 2020) in the same Award category. In case company applies for two Award categories, discount will be provided only for one application.
- **20% off** on the fee applicable to corporate applicant if one of its unit has also applied.

\*Only one discount can be availed, whichever is maximum

## Feedback Report Presentation

	Corporate Excellence (₹)	Domain Excellence (₹)
Applicants that did not qualify for stage-2 assessment	50,000	25,000
Applicants that qualified for stage-2 assessment	75,000	50,000

Detailed feedback report is provided complementary to all the applicants. In case, any company wants a feedback report presentation in person, additional fee would be charged which includes the consultancy fee, travel and accommodation. All rates are exclusive of applicable taxes.

Application fee is non-transferable and non-refundable regardless of how far applicants go in the process or whether they ultimately qualify for any recognition.

Application fee is charged to meet expenses to conduct sustainability performance of applicants. Payment of fees neither indicates nor implies any chance of winning a recognition.

All Award categories questionnaire can be downloaded from the website.

The online Awards questionnaire will only be shared upon receiving the completed Aol. Kindly note that the Aol will not be considered complete until the application fee has been received.



# WINNERS OF CII-ITC SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS (2006-2020)





## ONLINE CII-CERTIFIED SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSOR PROGRAMME

The CII-certified Sustainability Assessor programme is for professionals to provide services to business in the area of sustainability.

Since 2006, CESD has built a talent pool of sustainability professionals in India. It has created an exclusive club of over 536 sustainability performance assessors. These assessors are competent to drive excellence in sustainability in companies.

When in  
2021?

**First Batch**

3-7 May, 2021

**Second Batch**

24-28 May, 2021

## Benefits

- Get trained on Sustainable Business Excellence framework
- Leverage CII's certification to work with companies on sustainability
- Include this as a credible qualification in CV
- Profile as a CII-certified sustainability professional on CESD website
- Get promoted by CESD to companies looking for credible and certified sustainability professionals
- Participate in the CII-ITC Sustainability Awards and get access to companies
- Gain extraordinary learning from sustainability assessment and site-visits

## Eligibility Criteria

- The certification is open to individuals with at least eight years of work experience
- Experience may range from sustainability (environment, health and safety, corporate social responsibility, biodiversity, human rights, business ethics, product responsibility, and sustainable supply chain) to any other corporate functions (marketing, human resources, production & planning, information technology, product development)
- Both independent consultants and corporate employees are encouraged to apply
- HR departments are encouraged to nominate employees from their respective companies

## Validity of Certification

- Every three years assessors will be required to renew certification. Renewal will happen via a refresher course which will include the sustainability trends, good practices, and updates on sustainability performance assessment.
- The certification will be invalid upon non-renewal.
- CII will ensure one cycle of assessment in the period of three-year of validity. CII does not commit additional cycles of assessments.

## Assessors Recognition

Every year CESD recognises the best assessors based on their participation in the assessment process of CII-ITC Sustainability Awards. Recognition is based on peer review and applicant feedback. Winners are recognised during the presentation of the CII-ITC Sustainability Awards.

## Terms and Conditions

- Every newly trained assessor is mandated to complete the CII-ITC Sustainability Awards cycle in the corresponding year. The certification is issued only after successful completion of training course and Awards assessment.
- All expenses pertaining to assessment during CII-ITC Sustainability Awards are taken care of by CII. Any expense that is not related to training is borne by assessors.
- Assessors are not remunerated for their services.
- Assessors are required to abide by CII's Code of Conduct for Assessors.
- CII reserves the right to discontinue services of assessors in case of misconduct; without any explanation.

## How to Apply?

Interested professionals and companies should send their CV or nominations to [sustainabilityawards@cii.in](mailto:sustainabilityawards@cii.in)

## Participation Fees

Category	Fees (₹)
New Assessor (sponsored by company)	36,000
New Assessor (turnover <` 50cr)	25,000
New Assessors (self-financed)	33,000

\* Not inclusive of applicable taxes

\* GST as per Gol norms

## Testimonials - Winning Assessors

“

I have been associated with the CII Assessors programme since 2013, it's a wonderful experience. It's a focused, comprehensive, and professional approach wherein assessors have to undergo the training first and subsequently apply the skills for the Awards assessment. It's a lot of learning from both the sides and have got a comprehensive idea about sustainability. ”

**AS Ujwal**

Recognised as Best Assessor

“

Association with CII-ITC Sustainability Awards has given me a deeper perspective into the whole gamut of sustainability. As sustainability is a new domain in India, the assessors programme has helped me a lot in enriching my experience, both from organisational and personal perspectives. The faculties mentored the assessors to look at the positive stuff rather than criticising the negative. ”

**Shibojyoti Dutta**

Recognised as Best Assessor





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For further details, please contact the Awards Team:  
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