

Engineering Dreams: **Stories of Hope, Grit, & Determination**



Overview



Across classrooms, workshops, and design labs in India, young minds are daring to dream beyond their circumstances, creating a quiet revolution for good. The AFI – CSRL Scholarship Program stands as a testament to this spirit, empowering students from modest backgrounds turn their potential to purpose.

With support from the Centre for Social Responsibility and Leadership (CSRL), the ASME Foundation India (AFI) coined a shared vision: to make integrative mechanical engineering education accessible to those who have the talent but limited means. This collaboration has become more than a scholarship initiative, it is a movement to nurture ethical, innovative, and sustainability-driven engineers of tomorrow.

Through dedicated mentorship, hands-on exposure, and focused guidance, students across nine CSRL centres, from Kanpur to Guwahati and Kolkata to Mumbai, these students have discovered not only their passion for engineering but also their ability to lead change. Out of hundreds of aspirants, 14 remarkable students were awarded the ASME Scholarship, chosen for their excellence, determination, and unwavering commitment to learning.

Many of these students come from families that depend on farming, daily wages or small trades, where every rupee counts. Yet, their aspirations have always reached far beyond their circumstances. The scholarship becomes a bridge between financial limitation and limitless possibility, allowing them to focus on their studies, explore innovation, and reimagine what their futures could look like, making them unstoppable.

Today, these scholars are enrolled in some of India's most reputed engineering institutions like IITs, NITs, and leading state colleges. They are learning to design systems that are not only efficient but sustainable, machines that do more with less and technologies that can improve the lives of communities like their own. The following students mentioned in the table format (Page 3) have received a scholarship of INR 45,000 each. These scholarships were made possible with considerable support and contributions from The Welding Institute (TWI) India.

Their journeys resonate with a common theme where opportunity meets determination and passion. The stories reflect academic successes, the quiet confidence that comes from being seen, supported, and believed in. From semi-urban classrooms to CSRL dedicated coaching's to now, recognized national engineering institutes, these students are proving that determination knows no boundary, geographical or economic.



SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

S.No	CSRL Student Name	Gender	Centre Name	Collage Name
1	Anubhav Korde	Male	GAIL Utkarsh Super 100, Kanpur	Shri G.S. Institute of Technology and Science, Indore
2	Deepesh Pareek	Male	OIL Pragyan Super 30, Jodhpur	IIT (ISM) Dhanbad
3	Dhanshree Boruah	Female	OIL Pragyan Super 30, Guwahati	NIT, Silchar
4	Tejas Jirati	Male	GAIL Utkarsh Super 100, Kanpur	NIT Tiruchirappalli
5	Keshar Kumari	Female	Indian Oil Petronas Super 30, Kolkata	UCET, Hazaribag
6	Narendra Lovewanshi	Male	GAIL Utkarsh Super 100, Kanpur	Shri G.S. Institute of Technology and Science, Indore
7	Niha Nath	Female	OIL Pragyan Super 30, Guwahati	NIT, Silchar
8	Nisha	Female	GAIL Utkarsh Super 80, Varanasi	NIT, Silchar
9	Piyush Porwal	Male	OIL Pragyan Super 30, Jodhpur	IIT Dhanbad
10	Prabhjot kaur	Female	CSRL National super 100 delhi	Dr. BR Ambedkar nit Jalandhar
11	PRITY PRAMANIK	Female	Indian Oil Petronas Super 30, Kolkata	UCET, Hazaribag
12	Priya Nath	Female	OIL Pragyan Super 30, Guwahati	NIT, Silchar
13	Shreya Paliwal	Female	GAIL Utkarsh Super 80, Varanasi	IITB ombay
14	SUJEETA KUMARI	Female	Indian Oil Petronas Super 30, Kolkata	NIT, Silchar

Mechanical Engineering is Not Just About Machines



Student Name: Niha Nath

Centre: OIL Pragyan Super 30, Guwahati

College: National Institute of Technology (NIT), Silchar

Branch: Mechanical Engineering

BACKGROUND

Hailing from Assam, Niha Nath has always been a bright and determined student. Her father, a farmer, and her mother, a nurse, have worked tirelessly to provide the best education for their children. Despite limited financial resources and awareness about competitive exams in her region, Niha's dedication and self-discipline helped her excel academically. She completed her HSLC from Devarshi Vidyapeeth with 72.17% and secured 82.8% in her 12th board examination. Her strong aptitude for mathematics was reflected in her 98-percentile score in JEE Mains (January session), a milestone that opened the doors to one of India's premier institutes, NIT Silchar, where she now pursues Mechanical Engineering.

ASPIRATION:

Niha's passion for mechanical engineering stems from her fascination with machines and innovation. She dreams of building a career where she can design and develop technologies that make everyday life better. She sees engineering not just as a career path but as a means to bring meaningful change. However, pursuing higher education has been financially challenging for her family despite all the support that they could give the whole while. With her parents already managing the educational expenses of two children, the ASME Scholarship provides crucial support, helping Niha focus fully on her studies and research without financial stress.

THE CSRL JOURNEY:

Niha's journey took a defining turn when she joined OIL Pragyan Super 30, Guwahati, a program by CSRL that identifies and nurtures talented students from humble backgrounds. Under expert guidance, Niha excelled at her academic skills and gained the confidence to compete nationally.

During her time at the centre, she attended a workshop by ASME, where she first heard about scholarships for underprivileged girl students pursuing mechanical engineering. Inspired by the session and encouraged by her mentors, Niha set her sights on making the most of this opportunity, to learn, grow, and contribute to the world as a skilled engineer. Today, Niha stands as an inspiration for many young girls who aspire to break barriers and build a future through education, hard work, and determination.

Turning Determination into Design



Student Name: Mr. Anubhav Korde

Centre: GAIL Utkarsh Super 100, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

College: Shri G.S. Institute of Technology and Science, Indore, Madhya Pradesh

Branch: Mechanical Engineering

BACKGROUND

Growing up in a farming family in Kanpur, Anubhav Korde learned the value of resilience in his early years. Despite the family's financial constraints, his parents' unaverred support always inspired Anubhav to focus on education. To create a better future for himself and his family, his quiet determination and curiosity for how things work naturally drew him toward engineering, a field that combines logic, creativity, and real-world problem-solving.

DETERMINATION TO DESIGN:

Anubhav always dreamt of becoming an engineer who could design solutions that make every day's chores easier for people in remote parts of India. He believed that Mechanical Engineering is the foundation of innovation where innovation is key and has a last-mile impact in the community. With good news of his admission to Shri G.S. Institute of Technology and Science, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, Anubhav, in 2025, is assertive to take the first big step toward turning this dream into reality.

However, the cost of quality education was a major concern for his family. The ASME Scholarship has lifted some weight off their shoulders, giving Anubhav the freedom to focus on learning, exploring, and growing without financial stress.

THE CSRL JOURNEY:

Anubhav's journey took a transformative turn when he first qualified the GAIL Utkarsh Super 100 Centre in Kanpur, in 2024, where he received eleven months of dedicated mentorship, academic guidance, and motivational support. The environment at CSRL nurtured his confidence and discipline, helping him sharpen his technical knowledge and leadership qualities. A platform where he was introduced to the ASME that broadened his perspective on how **Mechanical Engineering can contribute to sustainability and innovation.**

Today, Anubhav continues to be an enthusiastic learner, ready to channel his knowledge toward creating impact-driven engineering solutions. His journey stands as an example of how opportunity and determination can come together **"To Empower India's next Gen Engineers."**

Against All Odds



Student Name: Dhanshree Boruah

Centre: OIL Pragyan Super 30, Guwahati

College: National Institute of Technology (NIT), Silchar

Branch: Mechanical Engineering

BACKGROUND

Growing up in the lush tea gardens of the Tinsukia region in Assam, Ms. Boruah follows a path guided by curiosity and determination. She completed her schooling at a local government school.

She was the first in her family to score first distinction in her 10th and 12th board exam. Her farmer's father, the sole earning member, works hard to make ends meet. With an annual income of less than INR 1 lac, every educational milestone that Dhanshree has ever achieved was a result of her father's endless aspiration and belief in her.

MS. BARUAH'S ASPIRATION:

Ms. Boruah's fascination with machines and design led her to pursue Mechanical Engineering, a field where creativity and logic come together to build the world's progress. She dreams of using her knowledge to contribute to India's growing engineering sector and inspire more young women from rural areas to explore technical fields. Securing admission to NIT Silchar was a proud achievement that validated her hard work. Yet, the financial strain on her family remained a challenge. The ASME Scholarship provided Dhanshree with the much-needed support to continue her education without compromise, allowing her to focus on learning and innovation.

THE CSRL JOURNEY:

Dhanshree's journey took a pivotal turn when she joined the OIL Pragyan Super 30 Centre in Guwahati, a place where the foundation of her academic growth doubled. There, she received structured mentorship, regular academic sessions, and moral guidance that helped her prepare for competitive exams with confidence.

During a special ASME session at the centre, she was deeply inspired to choose Mechanical Engineering after learning about its real-world impact and contribution to sustainability. It was also during this interaction that she first heard about the ASME Scholarship for underprivileged girl students, a moment that gave her both hope and motivation.

Today, as a student at the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Silchar, Dhanshree carries that inspiration forward. Her story reflects how mentorship and opportunity can empower young women from rural India to redefine possibilities, proving that with the right support, talent knows no boundaries.

Perseverance that Outshine Adversity



Student Name: Mr. Deepesh Pareek

Centre: OIL Pragyan Super 30, Jodhpur, Rajasthan

College: Indian Institute of Technology, Indian School of Mines, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, Jharkhand

Branch: Mechanical Engineering

BACKGROUND

Coming from Bhilwara in Rajasthan, Deepesh has always believed that determination can turn limitations into opportunities. The son of a daily wage laborer, Deepesh, grew up in a family that struggled to make ends meet. What was commendable is that despite not-so-favoring circumstances, he excelled in his board examinations with 93.8% in Class 10 and 95.6% in Class 12 board exams.

ASPIRATION

Deepesh's passion for engineering stems from a deep curiosity, **"How innovation can transform everyday life!"** For him, Mechanical Engineering is the foundation of all technology, engines, energy systems, robotics, manufacturing, and many more.

Securing admission to IIT (ISM) Dhanbad was a moment of pride for Deepesh. This is the starting point of the journey of Deepesh, and his family always dreamed of. However, with an annual family income of just ₹90,000, the cost of education was a significant hurdle.

To cross this significant hurdle, Deepesh and his family are delighted to have received the ASME Scholarship. He is now relieved; he can learn at this best. Scholarships such as these help families like Deepesh's cross milestones that are otherwise difficult.

THE CSRL JOURNEY:

Deepesh's first changing point was with the OIL Pragyan Super 30 Centre in Jodhpur, Rajasthan. His selection to this Super 30 batch opened potential through continuous guidance, academic mentoring, and exposure to engineering fundamentals.

The program not only refined his technical skills but also helped boost his confidence. ***The ASME–CSRL initiative broadened his horizon on the importance of ethical engineering and sustainable innovation, a value that he now carries with pride into his next engineering leap.***

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