# 41<sup>st</sup> FICCI FLO ANNUAL SESSION May 27-28, 2025

### Day 1: May 27, 2025

#### FLO Pan India Reflections: Highlights, Presentations & Felicitations

The first day of the 41st Annual Session commenced with an inspiring FLO Pan India Reflections segment. Chapter Chairs, YFLO Chairs, and Initiative Leads presented their Year in Review, showcasing - Data-driven insights on projects and impact; Key initiatives undertaken during the year; Learnings, challenges, and best practices that emerged across chapters and initiatives.

The segment concluded with the felicitation of Chapter Chairs, YFLO Chairs, Initiative Leads, National Governing Body members, and the FLO Secretariat for their dedication and impactful contributions throughout the year under the leadership of National President 2024-25, Joyshree Das Verma.

#### Photo link:

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#### Launch of the New FLO Website

A major highlight of the day was the official unveiling of the new FICCI FLO website by National President Joyshree Das Verma.

Reshma Patel, Initiative Lead of FLO Digital Skilling, along with Priya Goutham and Keerthana Chandrasekaran, presented the details of the new interface.

The upgraded website offers an enhanced user experience, streamlined navigation, and improved accessibility, enabling members to stay connected and informed about FLO's initiatives.

#### Photos:

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#### Sonic Emersion: Silence of the Soul

In a deeply meditative session, Namrita Chahal, Past Chairperson of FLO Bhubaneswar and an Antum healer and transformational coach, conducted a Sound Healing session.

As the proprietor of Asha Wellness, she guided participants through a soul-soothing meditation journey, creating an atmosphere of calmness and rejuvenation. The session resonated with FLO members, offering them a moment of serenity and self-reflection.

#### Photo link:

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#### Legacy of Fashion: Women, Textiles & Transformation

The show-stopping fashion segment celebrated the legacy of Indian textiles and fashion through the ages.

Curated by Anjali Agarwal, Initiative Lead for FLO Fashion & Jewellery Initiative, and Swati Verma, Initiative Lead for FLO Handloom, Textile & Handicrafts, the showcase was a visual treat.

The Chairperson, Sr. Vice Chairperson, and Immediate Past Chairpersons of each chapter participated in a fashion walk, adorned in timeless Indian textiles and accompanied by Bollywood music. The walk celebrated the rich heritage of handloom, textiles, and fashion, spotlighting the creativity and craftsmanship of Indian artisans.

National President Joyshree Das Verma, President Elect Poonam Sharma, Vice President Puja Garg, and Immediate Past President Sudha Shivkumar also graced the ramp, adding grandeur to the event.

Photos: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1j0zchfNre4-

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#### **FLO MSME Awards: Celebrating Women Entrepreneurs**

The FLO MSME Awards recognized outstanding women entrepreneurs from the FLO members, driving growth and innovation in the MSME ecosystem.

Curated by Usha Rani Manne, FLO GB Member, the awards honored trailblazing FLO members across five key sectors:

#### Manufacturing Sector

Gold: Ragini Shirali – Libra Biotech

**Silver:** Bindu Kunati – Salzgitter Lifts Pvt. Ltd.

#### Service Sector

**Gold:** Parul Bindra – Skills Mantra Edutech Consulting India Pvt Ltd

Silver: Divya Momaya – MMB Advisors Pvt Ltd

#### Agri & Food Products

Gold: Anju Kalhan – Bliss By Anju

**Silver:** Avanti Murarka Jhunjhunwala – Crown Flakes Pvt Ltd

#### Fashion, Artisans & Crafts

- Gold: Farha Syed Label Farha Syed
- Silver: Divya Sheth DIVYA SHETH
- Innovative Production Unit / Service Enterprise

**Gold:** Shriya Damani – SkyQuest Technology Consulting Pvt Ltd

 Silver: Dr. Sujata Seshadrinathan – Basiz Fund Service Pvt Ltd

These inspiring women are breaking barriers and redefining success in their respective sectors.

#### Photos:

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#### **SKD Live Band – Timeless Beats**

The evening concluded on a musical high with the electrifying performance by the SKD Band from Guwahati, Assam.

Led by the charismatic Sumon Kalyan Dutta (SKD)—a renowned vocalist, composer, and songwriter—the band captivated the audience with a fusion of Western, Bollywood, and Assamese music. The multi-talented Bono Sree Saikia, with her captivating multilingual vocals, added further charm to the performance.

The band, having performed at prestigious platforms like IPL, G20, clubs, and festivals, delivered an unforgettable musical experience, closing Day 1 on a high-energy note.

Photo link - <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rCPCmygsm-bkReTmZsmtJ---iADOhKO1">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rCPCmygsm-bkReTmZsmtJ---iADOhKO1</a>

## Day 2: May 28, 2025

#### Inaugural Session with Chief Guest – Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia

The day began with a Welcome Address by Joyshree Das Verma, National President, FICCI FLO, who set the tone by reflecting on the organization's impactful journey over the past year. This was followed by the screening of the FLO Film – Year in Review, offering a powerful visual narrative of the initiatives, impact, and milestones achieved during her tenure.

The Chief Guest, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, Hon'ble Union Minister of Communications and Minister of Development of the Northeastern Region, delivered a compelling Keynote Address. He praised the unstoppable force of women power in India, highlighting the northeast region as a matrilineal society where women have long been at the forefront of social, political, and economic initiatives. Scindia emphasized that the northeast is poised to become the "economic engine" of the nation, driven by digital innovation and economic expansion. He lauded FLO's efforts and encouraged the organization to expand into more districts, fostering greater women's entrepreneurship.

#### Photo links:

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#### **Launch of Publications**

Several significant publications were launched by Hon'ble Misniter, marking the occasion with insightful research and documentation of FLO's work:

- White Paper: Framework for Transformative Action: Enabling Women Entrepreneurship in Northeast India, outlining strategic interventions to empower women entrepreneurs in the region.
- Coffee Table Book: Seeds of Change: Women Entrepreneurs Cultivating Northeast India's Entrepreneurial Future, celebrating the success stories of women-led enterprises that are reshaping the region's economy.
- **FICCI FLO Annual Report 2024-25**, providing a comprehensive overview of the year's achievements, initiatives, and impact.
- Comprehensive Yearbook 2024-25, encapsulating the key highlights, events, and initiatives of the past year.
- Conclave and Research Study 2025 on Women@Work, offering valuable insights into women's participation and advancement in the workforce.

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#### Fireside Chat with Women in Uniform : She Leads, She Protects

An inspiring fireside chat titled "She Leads, She Protects" was organised celebrating the remarkable contributions of women in uniform.

The panel featured four distinguished women officers. Major Neha Sengar from the Indian Army, Wing Commander Mandeep Kaur Kingra, a doctor by profession in the Armed Forces Medical Corps, Lt. Commander Kotti Equity from the Indian Navy, an officer in the Engineering Branch and Naval Constructor Cadre and Group Captain Aarti Bhadauria from the Indian Air Force.

The session was skilfully moderated by Ms. Sabina Sanghvi, Past Chairperson of FLO Pune Chapter and a National Governing Body Member.

The panelists shared powerful narratives of courage, resilience, and patriotism, inspiring the audience with their dedication to the nation. Their stories highlighted how women are breaking barriers, demonstrating exceptional leadership, and contributing to India's self-reliance in defense.

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#### **FLO Chapters Leadership Awards**

The FLO Chapters Leadership Awards recognized the remarkable contributions of FLO chapters across various categories, celebrating their hard work, impact, and dedication to women's empowerment.

#### The winners were:

- **FLO Vanguard Growth Award** For the chapter with the highest membership growth percentage:
  - 1st- Divya Abhishek, Chairperson, FLO Chennai
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> **Aarmeen Mogul Dordi**, Chairperson, FLO Mumbai
  - 3<sup>rd</sup>- **Dr. Nupur Handa**, Chairperson, FLO Bangalore

- **FLO Legacy Builder Award** For chapters sustaining impactful projects across leadership tenures:
  - 1st Priya Darshini Gazdar, Chairperson, FLO Hyderabad
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vibha Aggarwal, Chairperson, FLO Lucknow
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> **Avni S Bhayani**, Chairperson, FLO Vadodara

- **FLO Spirit of Excellence Award** For chapters contributing to the maximum number of initiatives:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> **Priya Darshini Gazdar**, Chairperson, FLO Hyderabad
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Nalini Sanwal, Chairperson, FLO Kanpur
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Ruchika Gupta, Chairperson, FLO Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh
- **FLO Enabler Award** For creating platforms and partnerships with the government:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> **Ruchika Gupta**, Chairperson, FLO JK&L
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> **Dr. Simarpreet V Sandhu**, Chairperson, FLO Amritsar
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Nalini Sanwal, Chairperson, FLO Kanpur
- **FLO Changemaker Award** For chapters transforming the lives of women:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> **Divya Abhishek**, Chairperson, FLO Chennai
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Pinky Rajpal, Chairperson, FLO Pune
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Aarmeen Mogul Dordi, Chairperson, FLO Mumbai
- **FLO Grassroots Impact Award** For chapters making a substantial impact on rural livelihoods:
  - 1st Meena Swaminathan, Chairperson, FLO Coimbatore
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> **Priya Darshini Gazdar**, Chairperson, FLO Hyderabad
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Kiran Sunil Sewani, Chairperson, FLO Ahmedabad
- **FLO Fundraising Trailblazer Award** For the chapter raising the highest sponsorship:

1<sup>st</sup> **Divya Abhishek**, Chairperson, FLO Chennai

2<sup>nd</sup> Pinky Rajpal, Chairperson, FLO Pune

#### Photo link:

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#### **Change of Guard 2024-25**

The 41st Annual Session marked a significant transition with the Change of Guard ceremony. Joyshree Das Verma, the National President for 2024-25, officially passed the mantle to Poonam Sharma, who assumed the role of the 42nd National President of FICCI FLO.

The new leadership team for 2025-26 was announced:

• National President: Poonam Sharma

• Senior Vice President: Puja Garg

• Vice President: Kamini Saraf

• Treasurer: Smriti Puri

Joint Treasurer: Sugina Ravichandran

• Executive Director: Rashmi Sarita

The Change of Guard was also marked across 20 FLO Chapters and 4 YFLO Chapters, with the ceremonial exchange of medals, symbolizing the passing of the baton to the new leadership teams for 2025-26.

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# FICCI FLO Delegation Meets Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Cabinet Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways

On May 28, 2024, a delegation led by Joyshree Das Verma, National President of FICCI FLO 2024-25, met Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Cabinet Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, at his residence. The delegation included Past Presidents Namita Gautam, Vinita Bimbhet, and Jayanti Dalmia, along with Executive Director Rashmi Sarita and Additional Director Ankurita Pathak.

Shri Sonowal officially launched FLO's publication, "Ports of Possibilities: Strengthening Women's Representation in Maritime India"—a study commissioned by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, outlining strategies to enhance gender inclusivity in the maritime sector.

The delegation also presented FLO's Annual Report , Comprehensive Yearbook and the publications by FLO - Framework for Transformative Action: Enabling Women, Entrepreneurship in Northeast India, Coffee Table Book: Seeds of Change — Women Entrepreneurs Cultivating Northeast India's Future & Conclave and Research Study 2025: Women@Work.

Shri Sonowal applauded FLO's efforts in promoting women's representation across industries and reaffirmed his support for gender diversity initiatives.

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