

Women in Power Conclave at ELECRAMA 2025

The **Women in Power Conclave at ELECRAMA 2025** was more than just a conference—it was a witness to the resilience, innovation and leadership of women shaping the power sector. From thought-provoking discussions to inspiring success stories, the event underscored the need for greater representation and inclusivity.



Day 1:

The **inaugural session** set a powerful tone with **Ms. Aaryaa Satyanarayana**, Chairperson, Women in Power, IEEEMA, welcoming the audience and emphasizing the journey of Women in Power, which started as a small initiative and has now grown into a thriving community. **Ms. Charu Mathur**, Director General, IEEEMA, reinforced the importance of gender inclusivity, urging for cultural shifts that accepts women in leadership roles.

Ms. Ruchika Drall, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, highlighted the need for stronger policies to increase women's participation in the economy. She stressed that empowering women is not just about equality—it's an economic necessity.

Adding a global perspective, **Ms. Mahua Acharya**, Founder CEO of INTENT, shared her experiences across multiple countries, advocating for creating work environments that encourage women to stay and grow in their careers. She championed bold targets, such as setting quotas for female workforce representation.

The most compelling real-life example came from **Ms. Simrit Powar**, Chief Manager (I/C), Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., who is a part of India's **first Pink Substation**, a groundbreaking initiative fully operated by women. This initiative is a beacon of progress, proving that gender roles in the industry are evolving.

The audience was deeply moved by **Ms. Babburi Shirisha**, Telangana's first female linewoman, who broke through stereotypes to enter a field traditionally dominated by men. Her journey was a testament to resilience and perseverance.

Mr. Anil Saboo, Past President, IEEEMA, reflected on the progress of women in the power sector, reinforcing that their contributions will play a pivotal role in India's economic growth.

Powerful Panel Discussion:

Moderated by **Ms. Vibha Gupta** (Siemens), the panel featured industry stalwarts like **Ms. Doris U. Gacho** (POCB, Philippines), **Ms. Vera Silva** (GE Vernova), **Ms. Chris Leong** (Schneider Electric), **Ms. Ruchi Kukreja** (Hindalco), and **Ms. Aaryaa Satyanarayana** (IEEMA).

Key takeaways included:

- The **importance of ambition**—women must challenge their own self-limiting beliefs.
- The **need for mentorship** and inclusive policies to encourage career advancement.
- The **role of networking** in shaping successful careers.



Day 2: Fireside Chat:

Theme: Beyond Boundaries: Women, Leadership & the Future of Power

The **Fireside Chat Session**, moderated by **Dr. Shivani Sharma** (Hitachi Energy), brought together dynamic leaders, including **Ms. Laxmi Singh**, Commissioner of Police, Uttar Pradesh Police, **Ms. Bani Varma**, Board Member, Director (Industrial Systems & Products) & Director (E, R&D) -Additional Charge, Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., **Mr. Siddharth Bhutoria**, Vice - President, IEEMA & Vice Chairman ELECRAMA, **Ms. Charu Mathur**, Director General, IEEMA, **Ms. Aaryaa Satyanarayana**- Chairperson, Women In Power Chapter.

Ms. Laxmi Singh emphasized that leadership is about empowering those around you. **Ms. Bani Varma** shared her experiences of navigating leadership and the importance of sustainability in business strategies. **Mr. Bhutoria** highlighted the crucial role of male allies in promoting inclusivity, urging leaders to move beyond policies to real action.

Closing the session, **Ms. Aaryaa Satyanarayana** spoke passionately about the **Women in Power** movement, highlighting its impact in mentoring and networking opportunities. She envisions a future where women don't just participate but lead with confidence, innovation, and impact.

With each inspiring story and powerful discussion, the Women in Power Conclave at ELECRAMA 2025 indicated a clear call to action—to create an industry where gender inclusivity is not an initiative but the norm.

