

## VIRTUAL 18<sup>TH</sup> FICCI CSR AWARD CEREMONY

FICCI organized 18<sup>th</sup> FICCI CSR Awards on virtual platform due to COVID pandemic. **Mr Anurag Thakur, Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Govt of India**, marked his presence virtual presentation ceremony where 8 companies were conferred with the FICCI CSR Awards, 8 companies with Jury Commendation Certificates and 18 finalists were acknowledged with an appreciation Plaque.

**Dr.Sangeeta Reddy, President, FICCI** gave the opening remarks during which she said that the applicant companies showcased exemplary CSR projects being implemented in remote parts of India on issues ranging from skill development for marginalised youth, to digital and financial inclusion of women, to access to quality education for children with disabilities, creating livelihood through environmentally sustainable strategies. “I am delighted to share that FICCI was the first business chamber in India to recognise the importance of CSR for inclusive and sustainable development of India in the background of a globalised world,” she added.

**Mrs Rajashree Birla**, Chairperson, FICCI CSR & Community Development Committee and FICCI Aditya Birla CSR Centre of Excellence said that that this is the time to focus on redesigning and creating market-based solutions to alleviate poverty. This is the time for new innovations, potentially transformative solutions that complement and tackle social issues, fuel economic growth and make a difference to the lives of 1.3 billion people. She added that coordinated effort amongst stakeholders is needed to emerge out of the pandemic situation.

Highlighting the importance of CSR activities and role of NGOs, **Mr Amit Chandra**, Jury Chair, Co-Chair, FICCI CSR & Community Development Committee and MD, Bain Capital India Ltd said that thousands of NGOs are struggling today after being hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. He urged the government to take note of such NGOs and resolve their issues so that they can continue to support the social initiatives.



