2021 Anniversary Issue

WOMEN iN
BIG DATA
INDIA

On behalf of Women in Big Data, we'd like to thank you for your partnership and support throughout the year and we look forward to your continued collaboration in the coming year!

Wishing you a very Happy New Year!

Women in Big Data India is a volunteer driven community of leaders, technologists, and aspiring professionals striving to create an inclusive environment filled with thought leadership, mentoring, and encouragement with a deeper appreciation for data and its applications across industries and domains.

Our mission is to bridge the gap between industry and academia and improve women representation in data and its allied fields at grassroots level in India.

We are a not-for-profit organization and launched our India chapter on October 2nd, 2020, and over the past one year, we have seen tremendous participation from women and our allies across the country.

You can join our mission by writing to us at info@womeninbigdataindia.in

Regards,
Sowmya Moni & Dr. Ekata Mehul
Co-Directors, **Women in Big Data India**
https://womeninbigdataindia.in/

2021 Snapshot

- We launched **5** Anchor Programs: **Vidya**, **Saraswati, Gayatri**, **Shakti, Lakshmi**
- **10** Industry Experts & Mentors across industries, leading with data
- **10** Core Committee members including 7 Executive Council Members with 20+ years of experience in academia and technology
- **1000** Members
- **750 +** LinkedIn Followers
- **4** Vibrant Student Chapters
- **10** Industry Partners
- **15** Internships & Placements
- **20** Virtual Events + 3 Hands-on Workshop
- Partnership with NASSCOM Future Skills Prime
- Partner at AWS Women in Tech Day Community Edition

2021 Achievements have been captured in the Video.

Success Stories

Featuring Jaisri Raman

– Our Mentee for Gayatri Program

*"I always was intrigued by data and the analytics behind it. I wanted to move into the area, but people around gave their opinions discouraging me from even thinking about it. The thought however was always on the back of my mind. One day I chanced about the page **Women in Big Data India Chapter** and attended the **Gayatri program launch**. I heard what the first Cohort of participants/mentors had to say. That was the turning point to the way I was thinking. I reached out to the program coordinators, and they put me onto a great mentor - a person who wants the best in you to come out. She has instilled a sense of questioning in every data that I see, looking if there is an opportunity."*

Jaisri Raman
Sr. Delivery Manager, Cognizant, India [WiBD Mentee]

Featured Volunteer

Himashinee Venkatesh

"I have been part of WiBD for the last 6 months. I currently work in Hewlett Packard Enterprise and volunteer in WiBD. My journey so far has been very enriching. Being part of WiBD, has given me the opportunity to connect with many inspiring women in the tech industry. Each interaction that I have had here has taught me something about career growth. Being able to speak to these women gave me a lot of insight on how to plan my career. Also I am responsible to manage different activities in the organisation and improve my management skills.

In WiBD I help in running the Gayathri and Shakti programs. Gayathri and Shakti are 2 of the 5 flagship programs of WiBD India. Gayathri aims to offer the right platform for mentoring aspiring women by associating them with current leaders in the tech field. Here we form cohorts of mentor and mentee, where the mentor will guide the mentee to up skill herself. Shakti caters to women who want to restart their career after taking a career break. Here we have a pool of mentors who will help the women to up skill themselves and become market ready. Currently we have about 5 cohorts under both the programs. You can view about the cohort's progress on our website. Other than this we run 3 other programs which also intend to empower women in tech industry."

Executive Council Member Speak

"It is very important for a data professional to under business processes and business goals, and consider data as an enabling mechanism to achieve that. Most problems can be solved by understanding the logic and identifying processes in the pipeline and data is invaluable for that. In the Shakti team, we have a team of senior technologists and passionate leaders who are willing to help women gain the necessary technical and soft skills to join the workforce again." - **Meenakshi Arun Subramaniam.**

"Intuition, Logic and Data are the three elements of Innovation; each one of them as important as the other. Do things differently and most importantly, ask questions about

everything. Giving students real world experiences during their academic journey is very essential to succeed in the industry." - **Dr. Sudeendra Koushik**

"Internships are an important component in any student's journey to understand how an industry works and the different components in a product development lifecycle. It is very essential to have a business mindset while solving problems: how different approaches can be used to solve a problem and how much value it brings to the business. The future is for technologists. It is good to have some skill related to tech since that is where the industry going. It is definitely a minimum success guarantee profession and I strongly encourage young women to pursue a career in tech". - **Dr. Bindu Narayan**

"With greater and greater contribution of women in all things including big data, digital and technology, I wonder where the world would have been if we did not have the active participation, support, and collaboration of women. The India chapter has large-ticket ambitions. I was invited to be a part of the Executive Council to advise on strategic and overall direction for the chapter - an opportunity which I would consider as a prized and privileged one. Why? Since it enables me to achieve what I believe in. While the trade and finance networks took centuries to develop, the data flows started registering barely 20 years ago and today are at the heart of all exponential technologies." - **Piyush Sharma**

We are grateful to all the committed council members, interns, volunteers, academia and industry partners, global WiBD team for enabling our mission in India.

Journey Forward:

We, at WiBD India, are looking forward to expand our community to 1500+ members across several states in India by the end of 2022. We are looking forward to create a synergy between industry and academia through internships and recruitment pipelines and help young women in their career by providing them right guidance to succeed in the industry. We believe that such programs resonate directly with our mission statement of improving women representation in data and its allied streams.

Our volunteers are working towards supporting women in their career journey in AI, Data Science and related field. We invite sponsors, industry and academia partners to join us in this journey of creating an inclusive and equitable environment. You can join our mission by writing to us at info@womeninbigdataindia.in.