

## Syngene picks 40 women for third year of STEM scholarship programme

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**With project-based internships at pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies across India**



Bengaluru-based Syngene International, an integrated research, development, and manufacturing services organization, in partnership with the Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad (RICH) and Biocon Foundation, has announced the launch of the third cohort of its flagship scholarship, mentoring and industry orientation programme for women in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics).

Designed to empower women from tier two and three institutions, the programme offers structured mentorship, financial assistance and hands-on research exposure, which includes practical experience in real lab environments. Over the past two years, it has grown into a strong career launchpad, benefiting more than 50 women.

This year, 40 women students are participating in the programme, following a rigorous evaluation process that considered academic merit, research orientation and socio-economic background, with a focus on supporting those from low-income or financially underserved families.

Their learning journey will conclude with project-based internships with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies across India, as well as premier government research institutions such as the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR–CCMB).

These internships are embedded within a broader development framework that includes technical seminars and industry

exposure visits, designed to build research skills, expand professional networks and inspire long-term careers in STEM.

Despite growing awareness about STEM careers, many women from smaller cities in India still face significant challenges that limit their advancement in these fields. Constraints such as inadequate exposure to scientific opportunities, financial limitations, and a shortage of mentors often prevent them from fully participating in the professional science community.

The Syngene–RICH programme is addressing these issues by offering scholarships, personalized mentorship, and hands-on research experience, effectively bridging the divide between academic knowledge and real-world career prospects.