

# Crowning Achievement

*The titans of the construction equipment industry were honoured at the 12th BKT Equipment India Awards 2024.*

On October 10, 2024, the bustling city of Mumbai played host to the much-anticipated 12th BKT Equipment India Awards 2024, an event that recognised and celebrated the outstanding achievements within the construction equipment sector. The grand ceremony took place at Jio Convention Centre and was a highlight of the India Construction Festival, which gathered industry leaders, manufacturers, and financiers from across the nation to honour innovation and excellence in this vital sector.

The inaugural addresses set a reflective tone for the evening, emphasising the importance of collaboration and information sharing within the industry. In his opening speech, **Pratap Padode, Founder and President, First Construction Council**, remarked, “At Equipment India, we have always tried to enhance the standard of the industry. During this 17th year of our existence, we still find that companies are trying to hide behind a veil as far as the disclosure of factual data is concerned.” His emphasis on transparency resonated with the audience, highlighting the critical need for the construction equipment sector to adopt best practices for data sharing, akin to those seen in the automobile industry.

**Vipin Sondhi, Chairman, RAHSTA Committee, and former MD and CEO, JCB India and Ashok Leyland**, also shared optimistic insights, stating, “Today, we celebrate not just the figures but the remarkable individuals behind them—the innovators, manufacturers, and teams that push the boundaries of what’s possible.” He highlighted the impressive growth of equipment sales, which saw a 26 per cent increase during FY 2023-24, reflecting strong market recovery and renewed confidence.

The 12th BKT Equipment India Awards not only celebrated the achievements of key players in the construction equipment sector but also served as a reminder of the collective effort required to drive the industry forward.

The awards event reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the industry's ongoing evolution, ensuring that India remains a significant player in the global construction equipment market. With the industry poised to grow at a CAGR of 12 per cent, reaching \$25 billion by the end of the decade, the evening left attendees inspired and motivated to continue pushing boundaries in their respective fields.

A significant highlight of the evening was the presentation of the **Equipment India Person of the Year 2024** award to **Jaideep Shekhar, Managing Director, Terex India**.

Under Shekhar's astute leadership, Terex India has achieved remarkable growth, marked by innovation and a commitment to excellence. The jury praised his strategic vision, which has not only propelled the company's success but also contributed positively to the broader industry landscape.

Receiving the award, Shekhar expressed heartfelt gratitude, stating, "I'm deeply grateful to the jury and Equipment India for this remarkable honour. This award reflects not only my contributions but also the dedication and hard work of my team. I have been associated with the industry for more than 25 years, and this award motivates me to keep pushing boundaries and to lead the growth with integrity."

"ICF 2024 has once again proven to be an invaluable platform for the construction and CE industry. The convergence of innovative ideas and collaborative efforts showcased here reflects our collective commitment to growth and excellence. Congratulations to ASAPP Info Global for orchestrating such a successful event and to all the award

winners—your achievements are a testament to the bright future of our industry,” said **Rajiv Poddar, Managing Director, BKT Tires.**

Said **Sanjay Koul, President- India and South East Asia and Managing Director- India, Timken India,** “I congratulate ASAPP Info on the outstanding success of the conference and award shows! It was a privilege to be part of such an insightful session with industry leaders. My heartfelt congratulations to the award winners; your exceptional achievements truly highlight your remarkable contributions to the construction equipment market.”

The award presentation was made all the more special by the presence of previous winners of the Equipment India Persons of the Year, including Vipin Sondhi, former MD and CEO, JCB India (Equipment India Person of the Year 2013), Sandeep Singh, Managing Director, Tata Hitachi Construction Machinery (Equipment India Person of the Year 2017), and Dimitrov Krishnan, Managing Director, Volvo Construction Equipment India (Equipment India Person of the Year 2023).

The night also witnessed the recognition of numerous companies across various categories, showcasing the best of the best in the construction equipment sector.

As the evening drew to a close, the excitement and camaraderie in the room were palpable. The 12th BKT Equipment India Awards 2024 not only celebrated individual achievements but also reinforced the collective vision of a thriving construction equipment industry.

With key players committed to transparency, innovation, and sustainable practices, the stage is set for a transformative decade ahead.

As attendees departed, they carried with them renewed energy and determination, eager to contribute to the industry’s growth story. The

echoes of this inspiring night will undoubtedly resonate throughout the sector, propelling it toward new heights and greater accomplishments.