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## CELEBRATING THE UNSUNG HEROES OF MANUFACTURING

A day to remember – that was what the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of The Machinist Super Shopfloor Awards were all about. And of course, bringing together the manufacturing fraternity to recognise and honour the true heroes who work tirelessly at the very heart of manufacturing – the shopfloor workers! Here is a detailed coverage of the event.

By Kruti Bharadva

When one sits down to have a serious discussion on the Indian manufacturing industry, one may discuss facts such as the latest IHS Markit India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)- a survey which showed that the headline index stood at 53.7 in September, up from 52.3 in August. A bounce back in new

orders and output sub-components of the PMI aided the up move in the headline index. Or one could discuss that rising fuel, raw material and transportation prices pushed the overall rate of input cost inflation to a five-month high. Output prices, however, rose at a slower rate. Or maybe the fact that there is evidence suggesting that parts of the manufacturing sector—



Priyanka Behera &  
Anuragam Vatsa



Priyanka Behera receiving award

most notably carmakers—have been cutting production due to supply constraints. Little wonder then that business confidence among manufacturers has not seen much improvement. Furthermore, for Q2FY22, the PMI averaged at 53.8, an improvement over the 51.5 in the last quarter. Also, despite the gradual improvement in the health of the Indian manufacturing sector, the employment scenario is dismal. The survey showed little change to manufacturing sector employment in September, as many firms reported the compliance of government guidelines surrounding shift work.

All these are valid, important topics and provide a holistic scenario of the Indian manufacturing health—yet, amidst all the ‘facts and figures,’ one may forget the core, the very heart of manufacturing—The Shopfloor!

The Machinist magazine, part of Worldwide Media Ltd, a Times Group company, organises the Super Shopfloor awards to recognise excellence at this very fundamental manufacturing level. This year, the 7th edition of The Machinist Super Shopfloor Award ceremony was held on the 23rd of September, at the Taj Lands End, Mumbai. The Machinist Super Shopfloor Awards is India’s first and only red-carpet ceremony for the country’s discrete manufacturing industry. Started in 2015, the platform has created a benchmark through its credibility, industry acceptance and popularity over the last six years.

#### THE PROCESS

Nominations are invited from shopfloors (and not

companies). It is an open and fair platform that truly brings out the best of Indian manufacturing. Eleven different categories address the key measurable parameters for a manufacturing plant’s performance. These categories are:

- Safety
- Productivity
- Digital Manufacturing
- Innovation (Product/Process)
- Green Manufacturing
- Machining Excellence
- Quality
- Human Resources (HR)
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- Supply Chain Management (SCM)
- Maintenance

#### Defence Production in India by Sector (%)

