



TUNNELLING ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

[Affiliated to International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (ITA)]

5th Edition of TAI Awards – 2025

Award Categories and Evaluation Criteria

1. Lifetime Achievement Award

This award recognizes an individual's exemplary contributions to the tunnelling and underground space industry through leadership, innovation, and long-term service.

Judging Criteria:

- Distinct and measurable contributions made over the years.
- Years of active involvement in the industry.
- Visionary leadership and unique execution approaches.
- Significant outcomes of initiatives during their tenure.
- Recognitions and accolades received throughout their career.

2. Tunnelling Project of the Year

This award honors outstanding tunnelling and underground space projects with substantial civil engineering works.

Judging Criteria:

- Design and construction innovations introduced during the project.
- Effective project management: construction methods, timelines, and delivery.
- Achievement of safety, quality, and client satisfaction standards.
- Public engagement and mitigation of urban construction impacts.
- Demonstrated value addition: time and cost comparison (contracted vs actual).
- Other notable achievements, including commercial resolution and dispute handling.

3. Tunnelling Innovation of the Year

This category recognizes impactful technical innovations that advance the state of the art in tunnelling design, equipment, materials, or processes.

Judging Criteria:

- Introduction of new or uniquely adapted equipment to improve safety and efficiency.
- Innovative design approaches replicating field conditions.
- Savings in materials, energy, or other resources.
- Development of new economic or cost-effective tunnelling models.
- Evidence of successful application in field or laboratory environments.

4. Environmental Initiatives for Sustainable Tunnelling

This award highlights projects that have adopted environmentally responsible practices in design and construction.

Judging Criteria:

- Integration of sustainable design and construction methods.
- Environmentally sound project execution within defined timelines.
- Safety, quality, and client satisfaction.
- Effective public/community outreach and impact mitigation in urban areas.
- Demonstrated cost-effectiveness and schedule adherence.
- Noteworthy environmental, commercial, or regulatory achievements.
- Projects must include significant civil works such as tunnel/cavern excavation, support systems, or cut-and-cover structures.

5. Safety Initiatives in Tunnelling

This award recognizes initiatives that have significantly enhanced safety, health, and welfare in tunnelling or underground space operations.

Judging Criteria:

- Clear drivers and motivation behind the safety initiative.
- Impact on clients, workforce, and local communities.
- Long-term safety benefits and cultural shifts.
- Tangible results and cost implications.
- Evidence that the initiative exceeds standard practices.
- Incorporation into ongoing or future operational standards.

6. Young Tunneller of the Year

This award celebrates a young professional who has made a substantial impact in the tunnelling industry.

Judging Criteria:

- Significant personal contribution to projects, teams, or business success.
- Delivery of innovative solutions or challenge to conventional methods.
- Demonstrated leadership in technically complex environments.
- Commitment to improving industry practices.
- Measurable field performance (e.g., excavation length or cavern volume in a month).
- Ability to overcome industry or project-specific challenges.

Nominations must include two independent references supporting the candidate's achievements.



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5th Edition-TAI Excellence Awards 2025

(To be presented during Tunneling Asia 2025 & World Tunnel Day on 4th Dec. 2025, New Delhi)

Nomination Form

(for inviting the entries for TAI Awards)

Submission Guidelines

- Entries should be submitted electronically to contact@tai.org.in by **15th November 2025**.
- Only TAI members (Individual / Organization), up to 2025 are eligible to apply. ([TAI Members list](#))
- One organization/individual may submit entries for more than one category (separate form required for each).
- The decision of the Jury will be final and binding.

1. General Information

i. **Award Category (tick one):** (Please tick one of the following for each entry)

- ☐ Life Time Achievement Award
- ☐ Tunnelling Project of the Year
- ☐ Technical Innovation in Tunnelling
- ☐ Safety Initiatives in Tunnelling and Underground Projects
- ☐ Environmental Initiatives in Tunnelling
- ☐ Young Tunneller of the Year (below 35 years):

ii. Title of Project / Initiative :

iii. Organization / Institution/ Individual :

iv. Address & Contact Details :

v. Key Contact Person (Name, Designation, Email, Mobile) :

2. Work description

i. Summary (Max. 200 words)	Provide a concise summary of the project/initiative/ achievement highlighting its significance, scope & type of work, duration; date of completion; overall project cost; cost of civil work; Tunnel Civil work cost etc.)
ii. Detailed Description (Max. 500 words including for point iii below)	Please include the following points, wherever applicable: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Background & Objectives: what were the need/ challenge addressed?• Implementation & Approach: Methodology, technologies used, safety/ environmental measures.• Results & Outcomes: Achievements, measurable impact, benefits delivered.• Innovations/Unique Features: What makes this initiative stand out?• Sustainability & Replicability: Contribution to long-term tunnelling practices.• Name of Client/ Engineering Firm/ Contractor/ other stakeholder
iii. Kindly elaborate on the distinguishing qualities or achievements that make this work deserving of the award.	(In your own words, please explain why you believe this project/initiative/achievement deserves recognition under the chosen award category.)

5. Supporting Material (Optional)

- Photographs, drawings, videos, reports, publications, or testimonials may be attached to strengthen the entry.
- Please provide web links if available.

6. Declaration

We hereby declare that the information provided above is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge.

Authorized Signatory: _____

Name & Designation: _____

Date & Place: _____