Centurion University
Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

GENDER EQUALITY

Encouraging Women's Applications in Under-represented Subjects

Women's application in under-represented subjects

Encourage applications by women in subjects where they are under-represented. Through university outreach or through collaboration with other universities, community groups, government or NGOs in regional or national campaigns.

- **through university outreach**
- **through collaboration with other universities and/or community groups and/or government and/or NGOs in regional or national campaigns**

Route	Answer	Evidence
Through university outreach	**Yes**	CUTM uses its own gender data to find subjects where women are under-represented — chiefly core engineering, where women were 30.8% of 2025 STEM graduates — and targets women applicants in those subjects with the **Chandrika Scholarship**. The scholarship gives financial assistance and encouragement, linked to mentoring, exposure and networking, and is a public signal to young women and their families that CUTM wants them in engineering and science. **Result:** 481 awards to women in 2021–2025 (108 in 2025, 68 of them in BTech), and the first women enrolled in Mining and Mechanical Engineering after five years with none.
Through collaboration with other universities, community groups, government or NGOs	**Yes**	CUTM works with **Swasthya Swaraj Society**, a community health organisation, to run the Diploma in Community Health Practice for tribal women from remote, under-served areas. The programme brings tribal women — a group largely absent from higher education — into health-professional training as frontline community health providers. **Result:** 66 tribal women trained in 2025.

Submission summary

Yes — CUTM actively encourages women to apply to subjects where they are under-represented. Its main instrument is the Chandrika Scholarship, which has made **481 awards to women in 2021–2025** and brought the first women into Mining and Mechanical Engineering after five years with none.

481
Scholarships to women
2021 to 2025

108
Women scholars in 2025
up from 93 in 2024

4.3×
Growth in BTech scholars
16 in 2021 to 68 in 2025

First
Women in Mining & Mech. Eng.
after five years with none

96%
Science & engineering
share of all awards, 2021–25

66
Tribal women trained
with Swasthya Swaraj Society

Where women are under-represented

Engineering and technology are where women are scarcest at CUTM. Women were 30.8% of 2025 STEM graduates, against 43.9% in the humanities and social sciences.

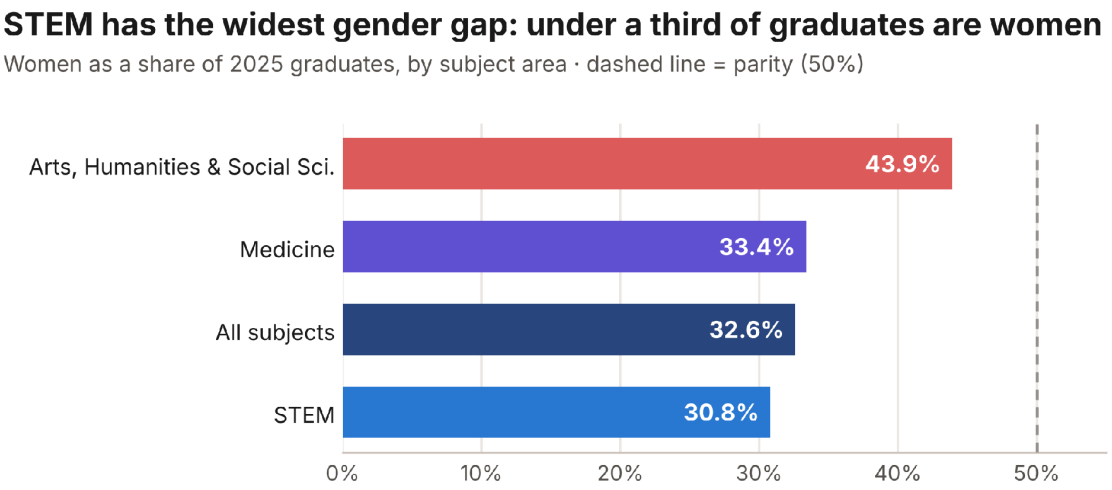


Figure 1. Women as a share of 2025 graduates, by subject area (CUTM SDG 5 data workbook)

The gap is sharpest in core engineering branches. For five years before the scholarship, Mechanical Engineering and Mining Engineering had no women students at all. These subjects are the scheme's main targets.

How CUTM encourages women to apply

The University uses its own gender data to find male-dominated subjects, then targets women applicants there with the Chandrika Scholarship. Each new cohort of women scholars widens the scheme to further fields.

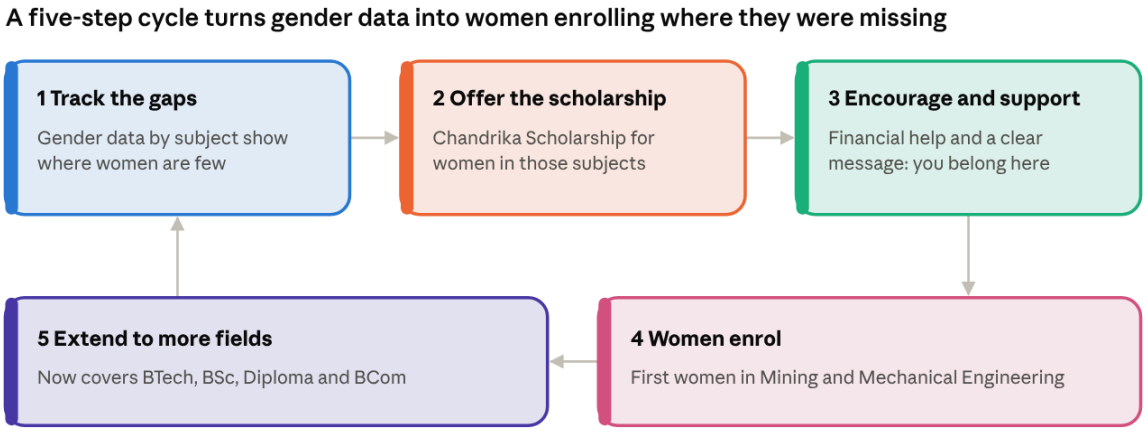


Figure 2. How CUTM encourages women's applications — a five-step cycle

The scholarship is both financial support and a public signal. It tells young women and their families that CUTM wants them in engineering and science, and celebrates women's contribution to education.

The Chandrika Scholarship in detail

The Chandrika Scholarship is CUTM's dedicated scheme for women in traditionally male-dominated disciplines. It combines financial assistance with encouragement, so that cost and social expectations do not keep women out.

Table 1. Chandrika Scholarship at a glance

Feature	Detail
Purpose	Break gender barriers and promote diversity in male-dominated disciplines
Who can apply	Women students admitted to under-represented subjects
What it provides	Financial assistance and encouragement; links to mentoring, exposure and networking
Programmes covered	BTech (including Mining and Mechanical Engineering), BSc, Diploma, BCom
Breakthrough result	First women enrolled in Mining Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, after five years with none
Reach, 2021–2025	481 awards; 108 in 2025



Figure 3. Barsha Priyadarshini Mohapatra and Manideepa Mohapatra, Chandrika scholars from the BTech 2025 batch, with CUTM faculty

The scholarship has motivated young women to choose subjects where they were historically absent. It also builds a more diverse and inclusive learning environment for every student.

Results, 2021 to 2025

Chandrika awards to women rose more than fourfold, from 25 in 2021 to 108 in 2025. BTech awards grew every year after 2023 to reach 68 in 2025 — the largest group since 2021.

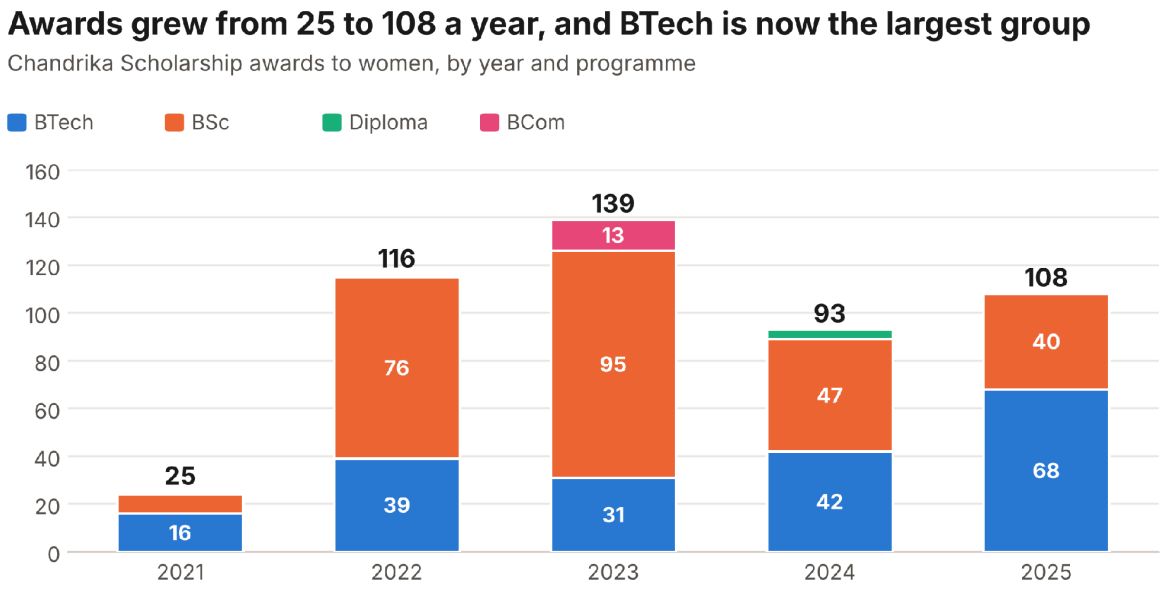


Figure 4. Chandrika Scholarship awards to women, by year and programme

Table 2. Chandrika Scholarship awards to women, 2021–2025

Programme	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
BTech	16	39	31	42	68
BSc	8	76	95	47	40
Diploma	1	1	0	4	0
BCom	0	0	13	0	0
Total	25	116	139	93	108

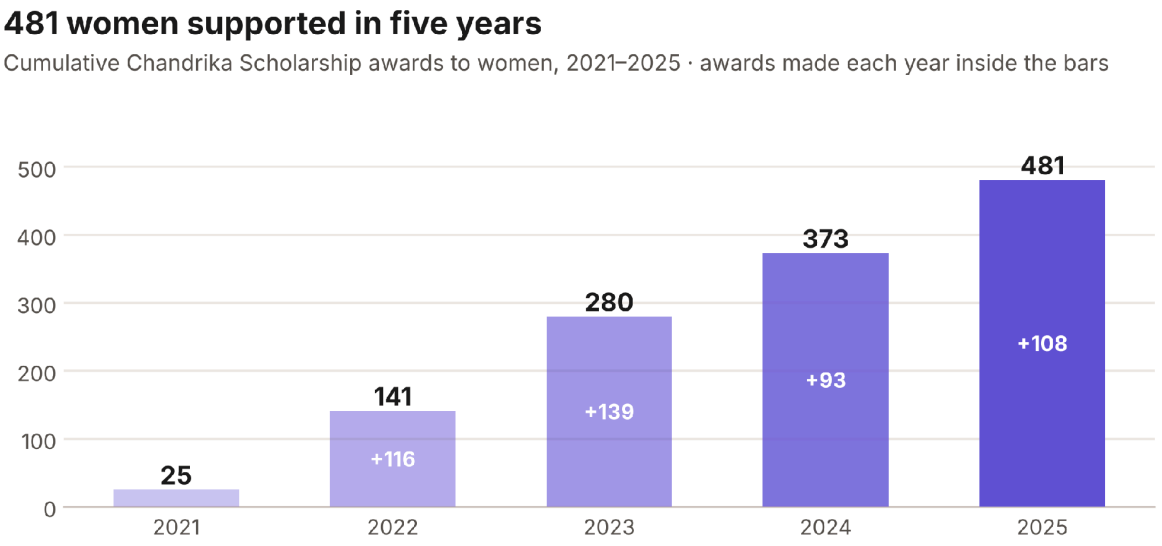


Figure 5. Cumulative awards to women, 2021–2025

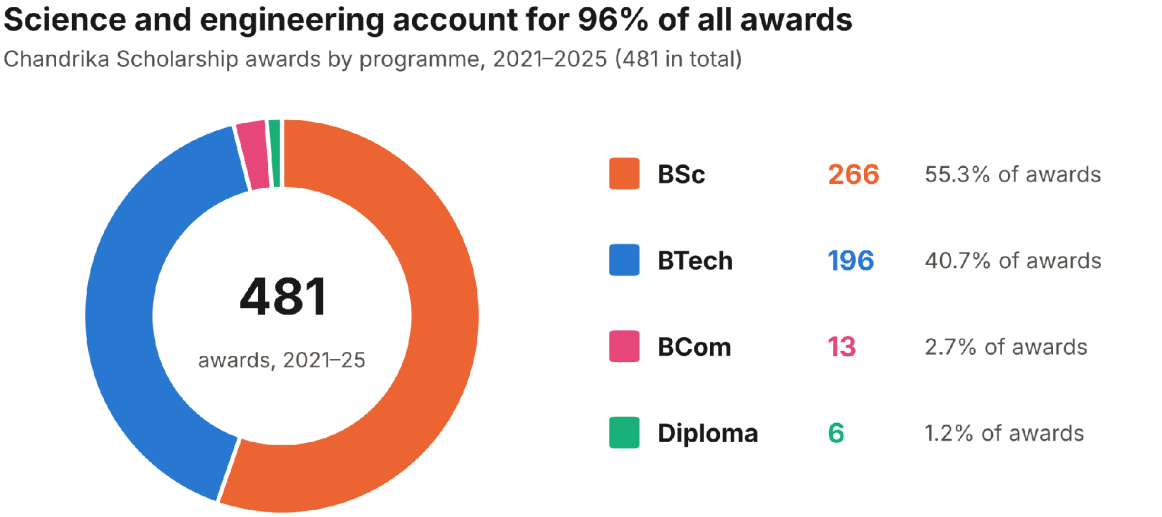


Figure 6. Five-year totals by programme, summed from the yearly records

BSc awards peaked at 95 in 2023 and have since shifted toward engineering, the area where women are least represented. Diploma and BCom awards are small and irregular, so the scheme's weight sits firmly in STEM.

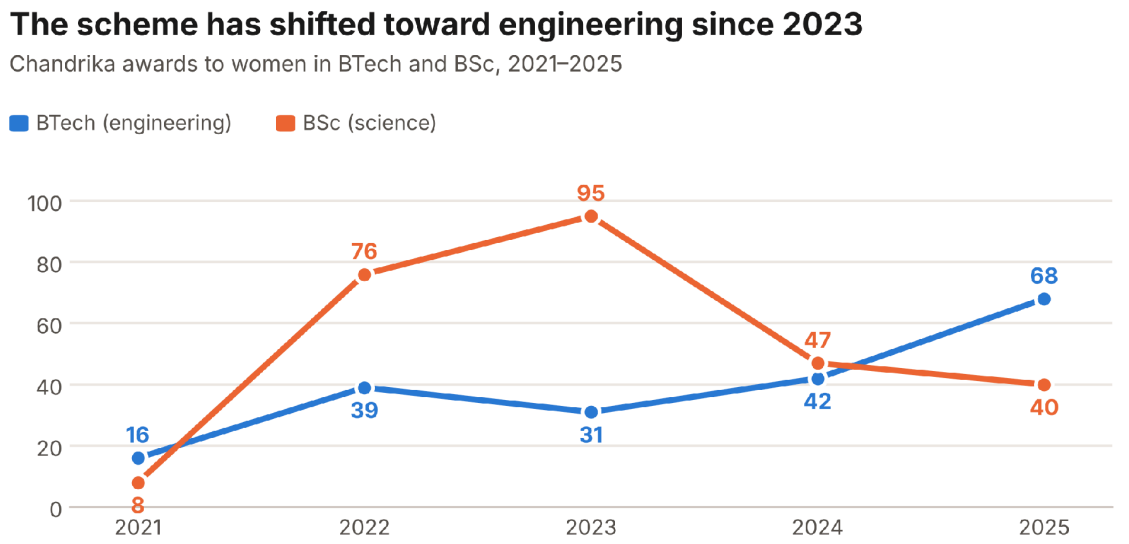


Figure 7. BTech and BSc awards, 2021–2025

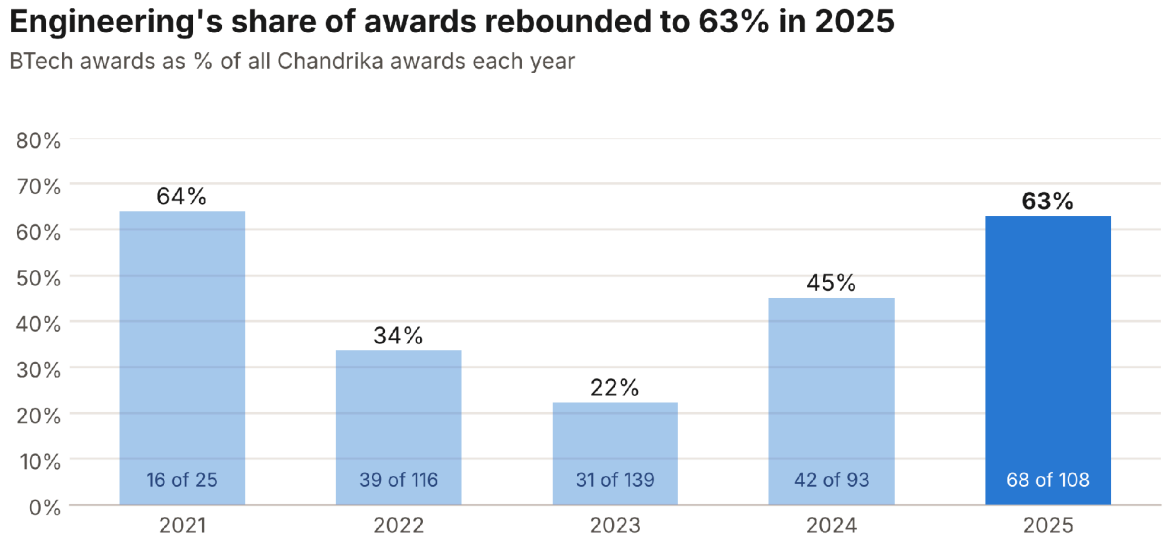


Figure 8. BTech awards as a share of all Chandrika awards each year

Chandrika Scholarship dashboard, 2025

A one-page view for the University's academic leadership, summarising how CUTM encourages women into under-represented subjects.

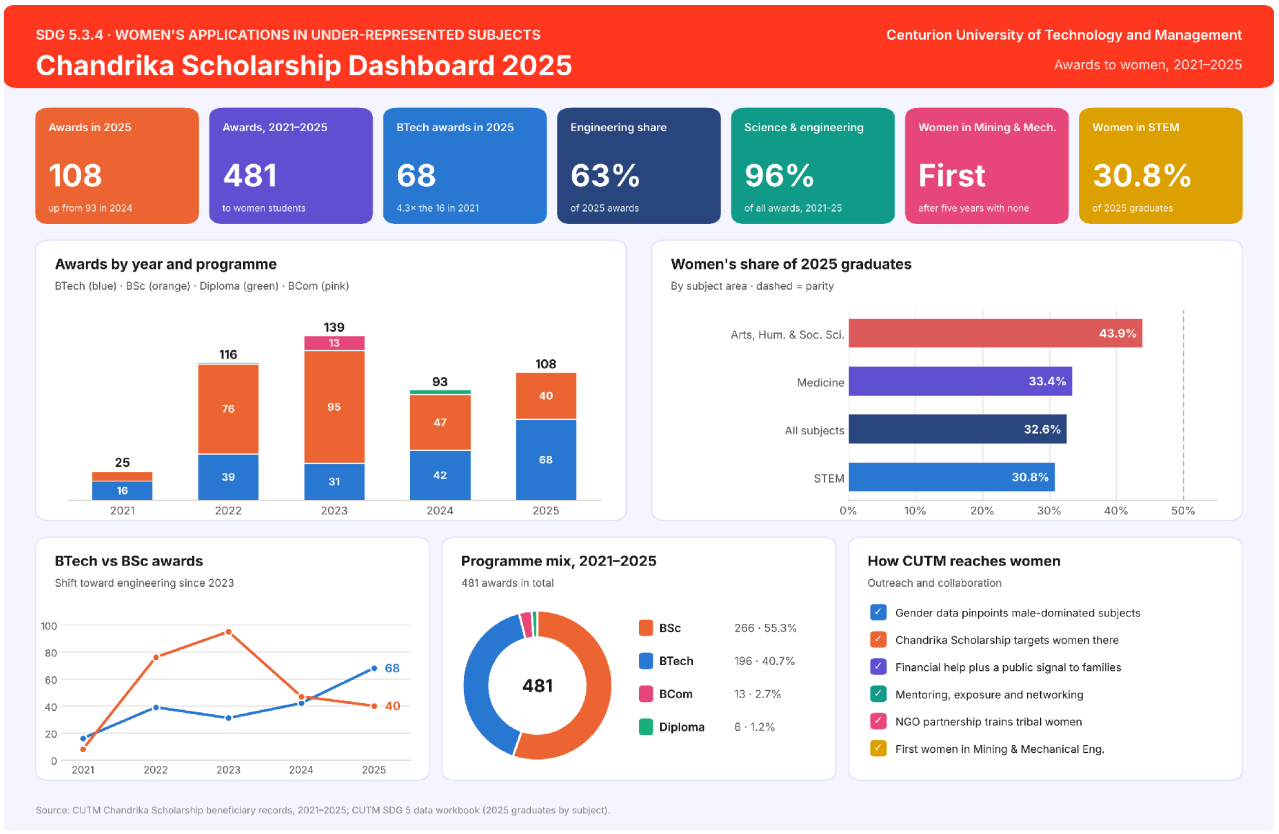


Figure 9. SDG 5.3.4 Chandrika Scholarship Dashboard 2025