

International Eni Award for Indian Professor T Pradeep

by ICNN Kishore



Prof. Thalappil Pradeep of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras' Department of Chemistry earned the coveted "Eni Award" for his innovative research on sustainable and economical nanoscale materials that remove hazardous pollutants from water. The Italian energy corporation Eni, which considers the award one of the highest global honours for scientific research in energy and the environment, will shortly present it, perhaps personally by the Italian president.

The Eni Award has honoured Nobel laureates Sir Harold W. Kroto, Alan Heeger, and Theodor Wolfgang Hänsch, as well as Bharat Ratna recipient Prof. CNR Rao. The rigorous selection process by a Nobel laureate committee elevates this prestigious award.

Prof. Pradeep's work on affordable, clean water utilising innovative materials is renowned. He created nanoscale water-purifying nanomaterials. According to the reference, these drinking water technologies serve 1.3 million Indians daily.

Energy Transition, Energy Frontiers, and Advanced Environmental Solutions get Eni Awards. Yu Huang from UCLA and Jeffrey R. Long from Berkeley won the first category this year. Matthew Rosseinsky from Liverpool University (UK) won the second category. Prof. Pradeep was recognised for his advanced environmental solutions.

Prof. Pradeep's nanotechnology for clean water expertise is significant. Pesticide removal research has benefited millions. He and his team have also produced 'water-positive' materials that remove arsenic, uranium, and other hazardous pollutants from water. Prof. Pradeep is implementing this technology internationally after it was cleared for national use.

"I thank the large team of students, associates, and implementing partners whose intense efforts made this work possible," Prof. Pradeep said. My country and school gave me everything." He received the Padma Shri, the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water, and the Nikkei Asia Prize, among others.

A gold medal, citation, and cash comprise the Eni Award. Prof. Pradeep's research on materials has earned him national honours, including the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize. He has around 100 patents and 550 articles. He co-founded various companies.

The 15th Eni Award was founded in 2007. The award encourages new researchers and advances in energy efficiency, renewables, decarbonization, and environmental protection. Rome-based Eni, a multibillion-dollar oil giant, generously sponsors the award.

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