**Dr Radhika Trikha**

***Chief Executive Officer (CEO)***

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***(iHub – AWaDH)***

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Dr. Radhika Trikha is the **CEO of IIT Ropar Technology and Innovation Foundation - Agriculture and Water Technology Development Hub (AWaDH)**, a Section 8 company at IIT Ropar under the **National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (NM-ICPS), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India**. AWaDH fosters deep-tech innovation, entrepreneurship, and skilling, with a strong focus on AI, IoT, industrial automation, machine learning, and technology interventions in agriculture and water.

Dr. Trikha brings a wealth of experience and a robust background in policy research, having significantly contributed **to India's 5th National Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy draft**. Her expertise in shaping policy frameworks has been instrumental in enhancing the Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) ecosystem in India. She has held **DST-STI-PRC fellowships**, including a **Senior Policy Fellowship from the Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore (CPR@IISc Bangalore)** and a **Postdoctoral Fellowship from Panjab University, Chandigarh (CPR@PU Chandigarh).** She previously held significant roles as **Senior Scientist D – Assistant Coordinator and Senior Scientist C at the DST established Centre for Policy Research, Panjab University, Chandigarh**, where she played a pivotal role in advancing science and technology policy research. Through these roles, she has advanced public-private partnerships, industry-academia collaborations, science diplomacy, and innovation management.

A gold medalist from Guru Nanak Dev University and Panjab University, Dr. Trikha holds a Ph.D. under the INSPIRE Fellowship with specialized academic training in Microbial Biotechnology. Her academic journey is marked by excellence, having completed advanced courses in Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs), Science Diplomacy, and Innovation Management. Additionally, she holds an MBA in International Business Management, equipping her with a unique blend of scientific and managerial expertise.

Dr. Trikha's contributions extend beyond academia and policy. She is actively involved in promoting entrepreneurship and innovation, particularly in the deep-tech sector. She has spearheaded initiatives that bridge the gap between research and industry, fostering a culture of innovation and practical application of cutting-edge technologies. Her work in skilling and capacity building has empowered numerous individuals and startups, driving significant advancements in the domains of agriculture and water technology.

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