<u>Alumni Report on 'Women in STEM Roadshow, Delhi 2018</u> <u>Dr. Parvez Alam, Aarhus University, Denmark'</u>

I am glad to share my experience and write a report on 'Women in STEM Roadshow 2018' (WSR) as an US alumnus. I consider WSR as a successful series of events organized across 6 cities of India. The overwhelming response of participants is indeed encouraging which gives motivation to do more for the noble cause of imparting education among minorities, disadvantaged and weaker sections of the society.

Before delivering a talk as an US alumnus in Delhi workshop I was not very much optimistic that a small talk could motivate students to such a great level. After the talk I was surrounded by students, both from college and high school, with numerous questions viz; "how to do better in STEM, benefits of studying in US universities, best universities in US, possibilities of selection and going to US, funding opportunities to study in US, work culture in US, getting US visa and safety and security of Indian students in US etc." which says that students are keenly interested in opting STEM disciplines and show their interest in pursuing higher studies in US. I attended two workshops in Delhi of this WSR program and both the workshops gave me extremely positive vibes. The participants were very excited to attend each session of the workshop staring from the early morning to late evening and I didn't feel a dip in their excitement level, they had back to back questions even in food sessions.

I was not able to visit a high school but witnessed a phenomenal change in students of STEM disciplines. Students are regularly inquiring me and are awaiting more programs like WSR. The WSR has instilled an interest about STEM among students. I would like to add again that WSR was successful in motivating students and more workshops, conferences and seminars should be organized at a regular level, I agree with Nelson Mandela that "education is the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the world".

After attending the Delhi workshop, my decision to serve for education has become stronger and I have promised myself to give my best in bringing changes in the society by sharing my knowledge and experiences I have acquired so far.