



Indian Institute of Technology Madras  
Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations

# Celebrating Generosity



**Dr. Ashok and Dr. Kamala Krishna**



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**Prof. V. Kamakoti**  
Director, IIT Madras

“IIT Madras, in the 63 glorious years of its journey, has been scaling new heights of success and excellence. This is reflected in many ways including in its exemplary performance for six years in a row, on the National Institute Ranking Framework released by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. Chosen as one of the Institutes of Excellence, IIT Madras has established a number of Research Initiatives in various fields of contemporary relevance showcasing the commitment towards fostering world-class research. In this continuing pursuit of academic and research excellence, we will continue to embrace innovative practices while promoting efficient, and effective governance through AI-driven hyper-automation.

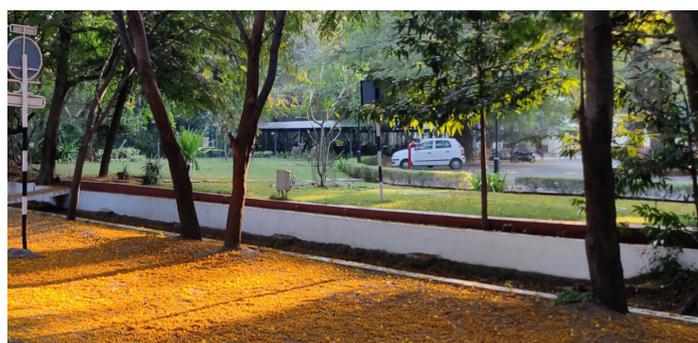
The outpouring of generous support we have received in the past year from well-wishers such as yourself has been humbling. On behalf of the Institute, I offer you our deepest gratitude for keeping IIT Madras strong. I am confident that we will continue to make many positive strides and leaps forward with renewed vigor to achieve the goals that we have set out for us. Together, with your support, we are confident of creating an IIT Madras with a diverse group of faculty and staff pursuing nationally relevant and globally recognized research. If this past year has taught us anything, it's that it takes a dedicated and committed community to keep us moving forward — and far beyond. Thank you!”



**Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula**  
Dean, Alumni and Corporate Relations  
IIT Madras

“Heartfelt thanks to Dr. Ashok and Dr. Kamala Krishna from IIT Madras.

Our aim to provide continued solutions to social problems on a global scale is realized through the sustained support of well-wishers such as you. We thank you for your contribution as we present a report of its impact. We hope to receive your help and support for our future endeavors to take IIT Madras to the global stage.”





# Dr. Ashok Krishna & Dr. Kamala Krishna

Dr. Ashok Krishna [1974/BT/CH] and Dr. Kamala Krishna [1983/BT/CH] are the alumni of IIT Madras. IITM prides itself on the accomplishments of their triumphant alumni. IIT Madras is thankful to Dr. Ashok Krishna and Dr. Kamala Krishna for their generous contributions to the growth and development of IIT Madras.

## Dr. Ashok Krishna’s Journey from IIT Madras to CTO, Energy Internet Corporation



**B.Tech. Chemical Engineering**  
1969–74

**Ph.D Chemical Engineering**  
1974–77

**MBA**  
1979–81



**Regional Manager—  
VP, Technology**  
1977–2017

**Distinguished  
Alumnus**  
2012

**Chief Technology  
Officer**  
2018–

**Director,  
BAPCO Board**  
2019–

## Dr. Kamala Krishna’s Journey from IIT Madras to GM, Chevron



**B.Tech. Chemical  
Engineering**  
1978–83

**MBA**  
1983–85

**Ph.D Chemical  
Engineering**  
1985–92

**Lead Process Engineer to  
General Manager, Process Research**  
1992–2020

# Energy Consortium

India's energy challenges are problems without borders, requiring technology and engineering solutions. Technology solutions at scale in India are potentially global solutions and Industry-academia partnerships give power and momentum to such technology development. India is geared up for another ambitious decade of energy transformation that builds on the advancement in renewable energy technologies of the previous one.

The Prime Minister's Nationally Determined Contributions to help us meet our future energy demands are as follows: to reach 500 GW of non-fossil fuel energy capacity by 2030; achieve 50% of our net energy requirement from renewable energy sources by 2030; a billion-ton reduction in carbon emissions by 2030; and net-zero emissions by 2070. This demands a two-pronged approach, one that focuses on "greening" existing portfolios as well as investing in green assets for the future. And the key to do this is the need to work with scientific rigor and by leveraging technology.

The Institute has a rich history in energy technology research – a platform on which it plans to build multiple Energy Research Centres of Excellence (CoE). The Centres will pursue cutting-edge interdisciplinary research and forge global networks to address India's energy challenges. These initiatives will form the core of the Energy Consortium. We have about seven research initiatives in the Energy cluster, which goes across the whole spectrum of research. They are brought together under one large effort, the IITM Global Energy Consortium, which was launched during the summit. The consortium has active participation from more than 50 IIT Madras faculty who have significant technology expertise, over 250 post graduate students (PhD and MS), and about 20-30 post-doctoral fellows working in various domains related to energy research.

## Energy Summit

Indian Institute of Technology Madras organized an IITM Energy Summit from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to enable the Global Transformation to a Low Carbon Future through Industry-Academic Collaboration. During this summit, IIT Madras also launched The Energy Consortium to boost progress towards the transformation to a Low Carbon Future. The conference was organized in hybrid mode, with both in-person and virtual speakers and attendees. There were special in-person events arranged on all 3 days. These included exclusive tours of IITM CoE labs and the IITM Research Park Campus.



Our key objective with the Energy Consortium is to build a collaborative environment while working closely with industry partners and government agencies. Such an engagement allows traversing the science, technology, innovation and policy realms.

The Energy Summit was inaugurated with several plenary talks from prominent speakers, including Prof. K. VijayRaghavan, Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India; Prof. Ashok Jhunjhunwala, President, IITM Research Park; Prof. Raghunathan Rengaswamy, Dean, Global Engagement. Dr. Ashok Krishna (CTO, Energy Internet Corporation) spoke on 'The Outlook and Future of Oil and Gas.'

With over 668 registered participants, including 174 in person, the inaugural Energy Summit was a tremendous success. More than 60% of the participants were from industry and private entities, while the remaining included faculty and students, both from IIT Madras as well as global academic institutions. We also had strong support in promoting the Energy Summit from Guidance TN and the Consular staff representing four countries.

The attendees included a strong showing from the Consulate offices of Australia, Japan, South Korea, and the US. We had two Consul Generals, that of Australia and South Korea, participating personally in the event. Ms. Sarah Kirlew, the Australian Consul General, was a plenary speaker on day 1 of the summit, and highlighted the 'Indo-Australia partnership for a carbon-neutral world', mentioning the six projects that IITM has with Australian institutions. There is strong interest from the Consulates to explore mutually beneficial opportunities for academic and research engagements.



The summit was organized with special tours for external participants to IIT Madras labs that are engaged in research across a variety of areas within the energy domain. Eight start-ups from the IIT Madras Research Park also presented their work and approach to all participants. These allowed all summit participants to get a close feel for broad categories of work at IIT Madras that span fundamental research as well as scaled up pilot demonstrations for various technologies.

Another session organized at the summit, that evoked a passionate response from the participants, particularly from students, was the 'aye-aye' tea sessions. These moderated sessions encouraged great dialogue for the future of low carbon energy solutions and witnessed participants debate various aspects of energy solutions and weigh in the pros and cons.

The main sessions on day 2 and 3 were panel conversations with invited international panelists that represented academia, industry and government. The deep technical topics presented by academia were well balanced with commercialization challenges and viewpoints from industry as well as policy experts speaking for the broad consensus needed across different sections of the society.

The Energy Summit received wide media coverage including in both print and digital editions of various news outlets. The press release on “Australia seeks to work with India to accelerate transition to a clean energy global economy: Consul General” was covered by UNI, The Telegraph, BW Education, Rajasthan Patrika (Hindi), Higher Education Digest, e2india, Edu Advice, Gadh Samvedna, MSN India, India Education diary.

The energy summit perfectly has set the stage for the Energy Consortium at IIT Madras. By leveraging cross disciplinary technical expertise, both the breadth and depth of intellectual capital as well as the internationally reputed state-of-the-art research infrastructure and innovation ecosystem available at IIT Madras, the Energy Consortium would be traversing science, technology, innovation and policy realms for creating impactful outcomes. The consortium would be a strategic partner to help incubate and groom technology that is in the discovery and feasibility stages and to assist those in the pilot demonstration levels through use case scenario validations and techno-economic studies geared to understand scale up and commercialization aspects. The IITM ecosystem is perfectly mature to help navigate the proverbial valley of death for technologies.

The path entails proactively engaging with industry partners to shape and drive the transformation to a future of sustainable, equitable and modern energy solutions as well as aligning closely with government agencies to chart a path that guarantees meaningful societal engagement and impact.

The three broad outcomes envisaged by the consortium were:

- stakeholder engagement that is agnostic of whether their view is favorable or averse, and encouraging responsible choices for energy solutions;
- methodologies for transparent and clear metrics, such as achieving reduction in GHG emissions and addressing sustainability development goals overall; and
- preparing future leaders with diverse perspectives, who would be capable of navigating the cultural rewiring that comes about from the NDC call for action.



# M. S. Ananth Institute Chair

This Chair was instituted in 2016 by Dr. Ashok and Dr. Kamala Krishna in Prof. Ananth's name, a person they both admire greatly. It will remind all future faculty and students of his seminal contributions to the Institute.



Prof. M S Ananth served as the Director of IITM from 2001 to 2011. A distinguished researcher, he has been awarded the Herdilla award for excellence in basic research in chemical engineering. He spearheaded the NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning).



## Prof. Shankar Narasimhan

Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering  
First occupant of the M S Ananth Institute Chair



*Prof Shankar Narasimhan receiving the award "Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year" Award at CII Connect 2017.*

## Research Areas

### Data Analytics

- Rigorous treatment of noise in data (errors-in-variables framework)
- Network reconstruction from data

### Water Distribution Networks

- Optimal design, optimal operation, leak detection
- Field implementation

### Chemical Speciation

- Multi-phase, multiple reaction equilibrium computation
- Models for nuclear industry (optimize extraction processes)

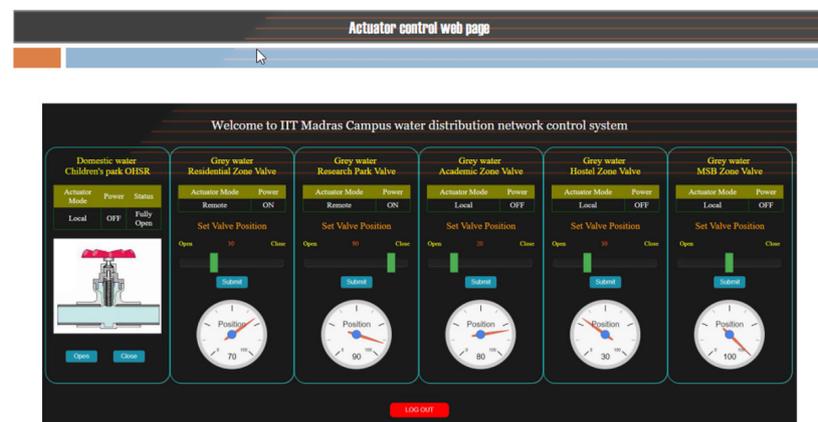
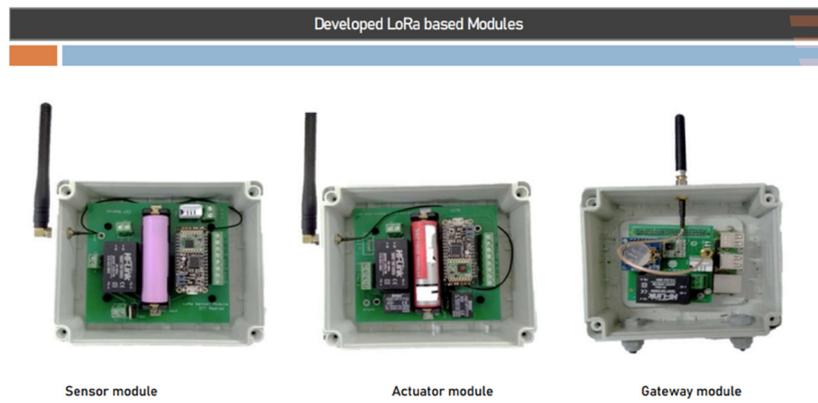
# Field Implementation

## Automation of existing WDN

- Developed LoRa based interface to enable wireless transmission of sensor (level, flow, pressure) data
- Developed LoRa based interface to retrofit manual valves into remotely actuated valves
- Developed user interface for continuous monitoring of WDN performance
- Automatic implementation of optimal schedule

## Ongoing Field trials

- Multi-village scheme in Palghar District (Maharashtra)
- BHEL Trichy campus
- IIT Gandhinagar campus



[Click here](#) for more details about Prof. Shankar Narasimhan's research.

# Chevron Visiting Chair

The Chevron Visiting Chair was instituted in the department of Chemical Engineering by Dr. Ashok and Dr. Kamala Krishna's thoughtful contribution. This Chair will facilitate short-term visits by accomplished researchers in various disciplines. There are provisions for airfare, local hospitality, and an honorarium. The recipients of the Chair positions participate in various academic and research activities and interact with faculty and students in IIT Madras.

## List of Visitors



### Prof. Ranga Narayanan

Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering,  
University of Florida,  
Gainesville, FL, USA

*Year of Visit:* 2010/11



### Prof. Gregory Yablonsky

Adjunct Professor,  
Department of Material, Textile and Chemical Engineering,  
University of Ghent,  
Belgium

*Year of Visit:* 2011/12



### Prof. Srinivasa Raghavan

Professor of Chemical & Environmental Engineering,  
Arizona State University,  
Tucson, AZ, USA

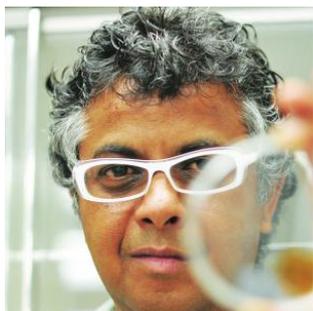
*Year of Visit:* 2012/13



### Prof. Suresh Bhatia

Professor, School of Chemical Engineering  
University of Queensland,  
Brisbane, Australia

*Year of Visit:* 2014



### **Prof. Sanat Kumar**

Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering  
Columbia University,  
New York, NY, USA

*Year of Visit:* 2018/19; 2019-20; 2021-22



### **Prof. Dominique Bonvin**

Professor and Director,  
Automatic Control Laboratory, EPFL,  
Lausanne, Switzerland

*Year of Visit:* 2018/19

### **Prof. Julia Yeomans**

Professor,  
Department of Physics, Oxford University,  
Oxford, UK

*Agreed to visit in 2020 but cancelled due to COVID-19*

## **Impact on the Department**

- The visits have helped IITM faculty strengthen research networks across the globe.
- The visits have increased visibility of the research and academic activities in the department.
- They have helped establish new collaborative research with faculty.
- They have also allowed for networking and employment contacts for our students, specifically our PhD scholars and postdocs.
- Seminars and short courses at IITM have also benefited the students, postdocs and faculty.

## **Future Plans**

We plan to continue our current outlook to invite as many visitors as possible. We are constantly seeking input from faculty members to invite visitors.

# Lab Upgradation & Department Development Fund: Dept. of Chemical Engineering

The following equipment were purchased in the department:

- Heterogeneous catalytic reactor and reactor internals
- Gas Chromatography system with FID and TCD Detectors
- Two Optical Microscopes
- UV-Visible Spectrophotometer with online sampling
- Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer
- High performance liquid chromatography
- EDS attachment for High Resolution
- Scanning Electron Microscope

**A few glimpses of the equipment purchased:**



*Heterogeneous catalytic reactor and reactor internals*



*Gas Chromatography system with FID and TCD Detectors*



*High Resolution Scanning Electron Microscope – EDS*



*Optical Microscopes*

# Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award is in recognition of the Quality and Quantity of the TA Work in the Chemical Engineering Department. The beneficiaries will be identified in the coming year.

## Chemclave 2013

Chemclave is the Chemical Engineering department annual fest, held on March 15.



## AIChE Reception 2017

Dr. Ashok and Dr. Kamala Krishna sponsored the AIChE reception at the Annual A.I.Ch.E. Conference in Minneapolis, MN on Oct. 30, 2017.



## REACH 2010

The International symposium on Recent and Emergent Advances in Chemical Engineering (REACH) 2010 was held from Dec 2-4, 2010. The symposium was primarily organized to honour the academic contributions of Prof. M.S. Ananth, Director, IIT Madras on his turning 65 and served as a platform to showcase the cutting edge research being done at IIT Madras and the theme was 'Thermodynamics and Transport Processes'.



# Chevron Products Company Prize

Dr. Ashok and Dr. Kamala Krishna instituted the 'M/S Chevron Products Company Prize' during 2012. A silver medal and a cash award of INR 10,000 is awarded to the student with the best academic record in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semesters in M.Tech programme in the Chemical Engineering department. So far 10 students have been benefited.

No.	Roll No.	Name	Year Awarded
1	CH11M002	Amala M Mathai	2013
2	CH12M024	M P Resmi Suresh	2014
3	CH13M035	Vaze Shruti Sanjay	2015
4	CH13M005	Aparna M	
5	CH14M031	Vasudharini S V	2016
6	CH15M005	Anbuchelvan Anamicca	2017
7	CH16M013	Rinu Chacko	2018
8	CH17M004	Chadaram Sai Kishore	2019
9	CH18M004	Bhuvsmita Bhargava	2020
10	CH18M007	Faseeh K K	
11	CH19M017	Katturi Sai Raghava	2021

## Feedback from Beneficiaries



I am very much pleased and humbled to receive this award. I never thought one day, I will be honoured with this award. Thanks to Ashok Krishna for donating the award. But without my supporting pillars of life, who always cheered and guided me without any obligations, I would have never received this award.

### **Katturi Sai Raghava**

*CH19M017*

*Awardee 2021*



I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of the M/S. Chevron Products Company Prize for being the student with the best academic record in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semesters in the M. Tech programme. Thank you for your generosity, which has allowed me to excel academically. It also encouraged me to take up research in environmental sciences and broaden my horizons.

### **M. Vaze Shruti Sanjay**

*CH13M035*

*Awardee 2015*

# Research Project

## Biomass Conversion to Fuel Intermediates and Value Added Products via Pyrolysis

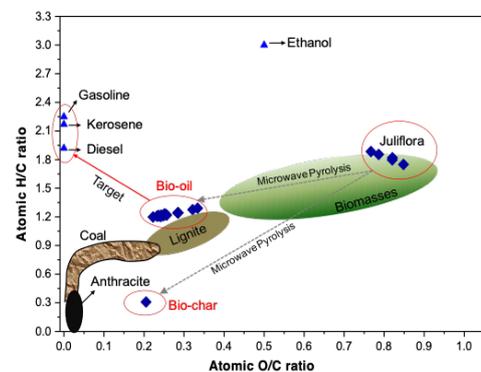
Lignocellulosic biomass is one of the potential renewable sources of energy to cater our sharply increasing energy needs. The valorisation of abundantly available biomass is an attractive and viable pathway for energy production through a carbon neutral cycle. Pyrolysis is a prominent and cost-effective platform for thermochemical conversion of biomass to bio-oil, which can be upgraded to transportation fuels via hydrodeoxygenation.

The Chemical Engineering Department launched a research project that worked on (catalytic) fast pyrolysis and microwave assisted pyrolysis to convert biomasses of Indian origin, municipal solid wastes, waste plastics and microalgae to fuel intermediates and value added products.

Microwave pyrolysis is an energy-efficient technique to valorize the abundantly available *Prosopis juliflora* biomass into fuel intermediates. *Prosopis juliflora* is a highly invasive nitrogen fixing species that can grow in arid and semi-arid regions even under harsh environmental conditions such as saline soils. It consumes less water and utilizes relatively higher amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> from atmosphere, which makes it an attractive carbon neutral-cum-energy rich source compared to other lignocellulosic biomasses. Traditionally harvested as a fuel plant for domestic use, it is now widely used as a fuel for small scale electricity generation by co-firing with coal in the state of Tamil Nadu, India. *Juliflora* is also known to invade millions of hectares of rangeland in South Africa, East Africa, Australia, South America and other parts of Asia. Better recovery of energy and resources from *Juliflora* is possible via microwave pyrolysis rather than direct combustion.

We investigated the effects of microwave power, susceptor, *Juliflora* particle size, *Juliflora* to susceptor mass ratio, and initial mass of *Juliflora* on bio-oil, gas and char yields, composition of bio-oil, and energy recovery in bio-oil and char obtained from microwave pyrolysis of *Juliflora*. Five different microwave absorbers (a.k.a. susceptors) namely, graphite, char, aluminium, silicon carbide and fly ash were utilized. High bio-oil yield of 40 wt.% with heating value of 26 MJ kg<sup>-1</sup> was achieved with fly ash at a microwave power of 560 W, *Juliflora* particle size of 2-4 mm, and *Juliflora* (50 g):fly ash composition of 100:1 (wt./wt.). The bio-oil contained a mixture of phenolic compounds, aromatic hydrocarbons, cyclopentanones, carboxylic acids, ketones and furan derivatives. Nearly 51% deoxygenation of *Juliflora* with 59% energy recovery and an atomic O/C ratio of 0.24 in bio-oil was achieved. This study has demonstrated that fly ash, an industrial waste, is an efficient susceptor for bio-oil production from *Juliflora*.

The project has received generous funding from Chevron. We have explored the selective production of organic compounds from microalgae such as *Spirulina* sp., *Nannochloropsis* sp. and *Schizochytrium* sp. via catalytic fast pyrolysis using zeolites and noble metal-substituted alumina catalysts. Initial results have shown that high yields of cycloalkanes can be obtained from *Spirulina* using ZYH and hydrocarbons from *Schizochytrium* using ZYNa.



The van Krevelen diagram for coals, petroleum-derived liquid fuels, *Juliflora*, *Juliflora*-derived bio-oil and bio-char

# 1983 Silver Reunion: Prof. M. S. Ananth Endowment Fund

This endowment was instituted in 2011 in honour of Prof. M. S. Ananth, who was then retiring as Director. He was well known for his contributions to science and teaching, as well as his tireless efforts to develop higher education and research in India. The interest accrued from this endowment supports two causes: Socially Relevant projects & the IITM Campus Welfare Trust Owzone Project.

## Socially Relevant Projects



**Prof. A. Kannan**  
*Chemical Engineering*  
Agro-Waste-Based Adsorbent  
Filter To Treat Textile Dyeing  
Effluents in Villages



**Prof. Prabhu Rajagopal**  
*Mechanical Engineering*  
HomoSEP: Robot for  
Homogenization of Contents and  
Cleaning of Septic Tanks



**Prof. Palaniappan Ramu**  
*Engineering Design*  
Energy Generation Using VAWT-  
Focus on Incorporating Modular  
Design and Low RPM Generation



**Prof. Meghana Nasre**  
*Computer Science and Engineering*  
Kidney Exchange — Models and  
Algorithms



**Prof. Srinivasa Chakravarthy**  
*Biotechnology*  
Publishing High-School Science Books in  
Regional Languages and donating them to  
village school libraries



**Prof. Indumathi Nambi**  
*Civil Engineering*  
Low-Cost Accelerated  
Micro Composting Centres

## IITM Campus Welfare Trust Owzone Project

In 2021, 44 children of the IITM campus Self-Help-Group staff members have been given support of their tuition fees through this scheme.

### Feedback from beneficiaries

“We thank you for the fund which helps to pay my daughter’s school fees in this pandemic situation. A heartfelt thanks to IIT Madras.”

**K. Chakravarthy**

“My Daughter R. Nithya Sri is studying in Sri Sangara Vidhyasharam. We thank you for the generous fund, which you have, contributes towards her studies. This has helped us a lot.”

**R. Jayalalitha**

“I am working as a sweeper in IIT Madras. We thank you for the fund, which helps to pay my son’s school fees. A heartfelt thanks from my family members to IIT Madras.”

**M. Raji**

[Click here](#) for more details about the beneficiaries.

# 1983 Batch Coral Reunion: Faculty Externship Program



## Salient features of this program

- This program will facilitate visits by IIT Madras faculty to spend between four and eight weeks on an externship at an international lab (in an industry or in the academia) of their choice.
- This program will enable nearly three faculty members of IIT Madras per year to spend between four to eight weeks abroad at a world class institution.
- This program will support expenses related to airfare, accommodation, boarding, local travel, and insurance.
- The most important selection criteria would be the merits of the applicant's research proposal.
- Around three faculty can be benefited every year through this program.
- This program is open to all full time Professors of IIT Madras.
- The steering committee is in charge of the selection of the faculty.

## Faculty Beneficiaries



### **Prof. Himanshu Sinha**

Professor  
Systems Biology, Quantitative traits, Transcriptomics

Bhupat and Jyoti Mehta School of Biosciences Building,  
Indian Institute of Technology Madras



## Prof. Srinivasa Chakravarthy V

Professor, Computational Neuroscience Laboratory

Bhupat and Jyoti Mehta School of Biosciences Building,  
Indian Institute of Technology Madras

Prof. Srinivasa Chakravarthy visited the following universities during the externship of summer 2019. Some were brief visits to individual faculty members, and there were longer engagements where he stayed for a week or longer.

Place	University
Boston	MIT and Boston University
Roanoke	Virginia Tech University
Montreal	University of Montreal
Houston	Rice University
Berkeley	University of California, Berkeley
San Diego	University of California, San Diego (UCSD)
San Diego	University of Buffalo

## Impact and Highlights

Prof. Srinivasa has submitted and is pursuing initial research for proposals in computational neuroscience, including modelling sleep electroencephalogram (EEG) data and a cognitive test battery based on this data. These were proposed in collaboration with faculty from Virginia Tech University, and the University of California San Diego. He has also submitted a SPARC proposal with researchers from EPFL Switzerland and University College London and two proposals in the area of neurovascular coupling. He has also collaborated with Prof. BJ Fregley of Rice University, Houston, who shared data on human ElectroMyogram (EMG).

# 1974 Batch Ruby Reunion: IITMF Operational Expenses

The IIT Madras Foundation is a fundraising platform in the US to support IIT Madras' drive towards global excellence in engineering education and research.

The IITM Foundation's Operational Funds are used for the day-to-day operational expenses of the foundation incurred during the course of its ordinary business. These include the costs of administrative staff, legal, accounting, and office services and marketing (website maintenance, email campaigns, software subscriptions to the Salesforce, Pardot, etc.) and donor development expenses (e. g., events and conferences, webinars, dinner meetings, etc.). The funds we have received and continue to receive from IITMF make a difference today and create a legacy for generations to come.



*1974 batch reunion held during Dec 2014*



**IIT MADRAS  
FOUNDATION**

# Keep It Flowing

Keep It Flowing is a movement by our institute to seek contributions from IITM alumni, which go towards refurbishing the hostels at IIT Madras. The campus has more than 20 hostels, out of which twelve hostels are old, but with structural soundness. The fitments belong to a different era and require face-lifting and maintenance. The funds contributed by IITM alumni through the Keep It Flowing campaign will be used to improve these hostels, ensuring they meet contemporary standards, providing infrastructure worthy of the #1 Engineering Institute in India.



# DAA Endowment

The interest accrued from this endowment will be used for the felicitation of Distinguished Alumni.



**Dr. Balaji Sampath**  
1994 - B.Tech - Electrical Engineering

Founder and CEO, @ AID INDIA, CHENNAI



**Dr. Ashok S. Krishna**  
1974 - B.Tech - Chemical Engineering

Vice President of Technology for Global Downstream @ Chevron Corp., USA



**Dr. Vijay Kumar**  
1975 - BTech - Chemical Engineering & 1978 - MS - Industrial Management

Senior Associate Dean & Director @ MIT



**Dr. V.S. Sunder**  
1973 - MSc - Mathematics

Professor @ Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai



**Ms. Sowmya**  
1992 - MSc - Chemistry



**Shri. M.G. Venkatesh Mannar**  
1970 - B.Tech - Chemical Engineering



**Shri. Krishnamurthy Sridharan**  
1980 - B.Tech - Civil Engineering



**Dr. Jayant B. Udgaonkar**  
1981 - MSc - Chemistry

# COVID-19 Relief for India

The second wave of COVID-19 in India has struck close to many of us, and people lost their lives due to lack of oxygen. In these testing times, our IIT Madras Alumni have come together to raise a focused fund for breathing aids that can help stabilise people in the crucial hours.

IITM has been at the forefront, providing research & aid support during the pandemic. The institute, alumni, researchers, and faculty have been helping the government in various capacities from innovation in healthcare research to fundraising drives for breathing aids.

IIT Madras launched a campaign to raise funds for procuring oxygen concentrators in the United States of America. The Institute exceeded its goal of raising USD 1 million in 48 hours.

IIT Madras coordinated with alumni in India and abroad and raised a donation of more than USD 2 million towards COVID relief efforts in India. IIT Madras employed a phased approach for deployment to ensure a significant impact.

IIT Madras contributed oxygen concentrators, BiPAP units, and covid medical supplies to various state governments. The IIT-M Alumni Charitable Trust played a vital role in the logistics and in liaising with the local government. IIT Madras alumni working as senior executives with reputed MNCs were actively involved in evaluating and finalising the options available at various stages throughout the process.

Prof. Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Former Director, IIT Madras, handed over 200 oxygen concentrators purchased with the aid of the alumni contributions to Gagandeep Singh Bedi IAS, Commissioner, Chennai Corporation, on June 3, 2021. Further, Dr. Jane Prasad, Registrar, IIT Madras, handed over 74 BiPAP Units to Chennai Corporation Officials recently.

[Click here](#) for more details.



*The handover was carried out in the presence of MA Siddique IAS, Principal Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu, and Meghanatha Reddy IAS, Deputy Commissioner (Works), Government of Tamil Nadu, Prof. Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Former Director, IIT Madras, Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula, Dean (ACR), N Alamelu, Secretary, IIT-M Alumni Charitable Trust, Kaviraj Nair, CEO (Development Office), IIT Madras, and others.*



*Dr. Jane Prasad, Registrar, IIT Madras, and other officials, handing BiPAP Units to Chennai Corporation Officials.*

**We are grateful to you,  
Dr. Ashok and Dr. Kamala Krishna and Family!**



Thank you for your sustained generosity to IIT Madras over the years. Contributors like you enable our students and faculty members to dream big and work towards a better and brighter future. We hope you are proud of your alma mater and how it has sustained its steadfast commitment towards academic and research excellence during and after your time here. You and your family have been instrumental in facilitating this significant growth.

Academic excellence is a hallmark of IIT Madras, and our efforts to nurture the culture that encompasses quality education, cutting-edge research, and unfettered creativity shall continue. We are privileged and humbled to have you and your family walking with us along this journey. We wish you and your family always the best in all walks of life!



Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai – 600 036  
[iitm.ac.in](http://iitm.ac.in)

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