



Indian Institute of Technology Madras  
Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations

# STUDENTS DISTRESS FUND

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मद्रास  
**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS**  
Sixty years of academic excellence, innovation and cutting-edge research

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## Message from Director

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.



**Prof. KAMAKOTI VEEZHINATHAN**  
Director, IITM

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 vigour 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 & Corporate Relations,  
IITM

## Message from Dean

“Heart felt gratitude to all the contributors of the Students Distress Fund”.

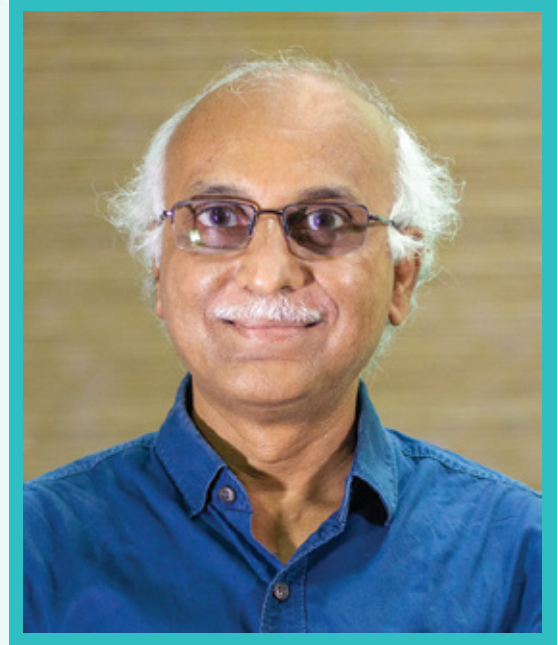
“Our aim to provide continued solutions to social problems on a global scale is realized through the sustained support of alumnus such as you. We thank you for your contribution as we present a report of its impact. We hope to receive your help and support for our future endeavours to take IIT Madras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

## Message from Dean

We are extremely grateful to all the alumni donors for their generosity and kindness towards supporting students distress fund during the challenging times. Indeed, many students have received the timely monetary support.

We have ensured distribution of the fund among needy students towards meeting their accommodation expenses, hostel expenses, partial academic expenses, online-connectivity expenses, distressed expenses and so on due to economically difficult situations.

The support provided by all donors will enable to meet students' academic and career related goals and provide a great inspiration to students.



**Prof. NILESH JAYANTILAL VASA**  
Dean of Students (DoSt), IITM

## STUDENTS DISTRESS FUND

Throughout the academic year, we come across students who confront unexpected distresses like accidents, loss of supporting family members, loss of family income due to the pandemic etc., which in turn can lead to acute financial difficulties.

We believe that students who have been through prolonged struggle and worked hard to get into IITM should not let go of this chance merely due to a lack of financial support. Hence, IITM has created an emergency fund called students distress fund; this fund has been supporting numerous students, easing their problems and helping them in focusing on their studies. The students are not required to repay the amount. It has been used for various purposes, majorly for laptops, room rent, academic fees, and health care expenses.

The following captures the total contribution and the bifurcation of the cost utilized against the causes.

**Total Contribution – Rs. 17.88 L**

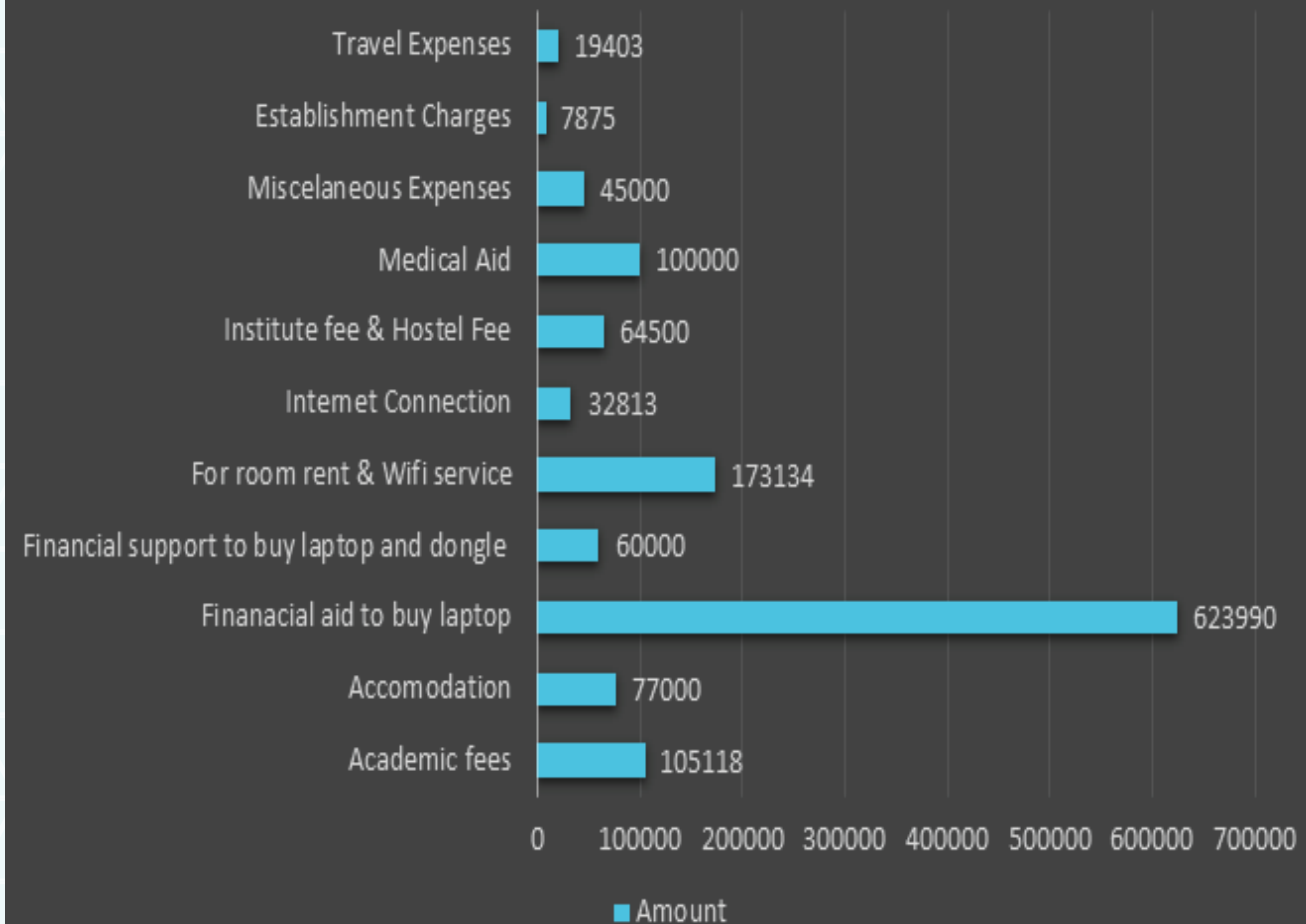
## Cost utilised against the causes

Cause	Amount
Academic fees	1,05,118
Accommodation	77,000
Financial aid to buy laptop	6,23,990
Financial support to buy laptop and dongle	60,000
For room rent & Wi-Fi service	1,73,134
Internet Connection	32,813
Institute fee & Hostel Fee	64,500
Medical Aid	1,00,000
Miscellaneous Expenses	45,000
Establishment Charges	7,875
Travel Expenses	19,403
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,08,833</b>

“\*\* The Balance fund will be utilized in the Coming months.”



## Fund utilized against the cause



As per the above-mentioned chart,

- Majority of the fund has been utilised by the students for procuring laptops to attend online classes and for academic purpose during the pandemic.
- The second major cause is room rent and Wi-Fi.
- Third major cause is for the academic fees, followed by medical expenses.

Many students have given their feedback on how this has been useful for them and has helped them excel in their studies and ease the family burden to an extent. Here are a few feedbacks:

## Student beneficiary Feedback

**Pratyush kumar Sethy**

**MM18B026**

**B.Tech (Metallurgical & Materials Engineering)**

“I belong to a lower middle-class family living in a small village in Dhenkanal district, Odisha, with a monthly family income of 18-20k per month. I was having connectivity issues in my home and because of my surrounding I was not able to focus and prepare properly for my academics and placements. With the help of the student distress fund, I took a small room for rent along with broadband connection. This has equipped me with good environment and better internet connectivity. I prepared well for my placement exams. Thank you all for the contribution which helped me during these testing times.”



**Gagandeep**

**CH21B037**

**B.Tech (Chemical Engineering)**



“Our only source of income is our mother, and she is a daily wage labour. We are three brothers; all are studying now. My aspiration is to get into NCC. I have recently cleared first round in CFI and awaiting my second round’s attempt. Thanks to the student distress fund, I’m currently living in a rented room and got internet connection through which I was able to attend online class at time of pandemic and pay the room rent. I thank you immensely for your contributions.”

**Karra Srinath**

**MM18B003**

**B.Tech (Metallurgy and Materials Engineering)**

“I belong to a middle-class family; my father is a farmer. I recently got campus placement at NISG, Bangalore and it was possible only because I got support through the student distress fund. I was able to find a comfortable room with network connectivity and pay for my food too. My heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to the fund.”



**Subhadeep Banerjee**  
**CY16D038**  
**Ph.D. (Chemistry)**

"I have joined the Ph.D. program under the guidance of the late Prof. Amrendra Vijay in the year 2016. After the sudden demise of my supervisor (December 2020), I have joined with Prof. Chaitanya Sharma Yamijala's research group in 2021 January. I am currently working and trying to finish my Ph.D. program at the earliest. My aspiration is to be a good researcher. In my family, my father is the only earning member. He retired from his job in December 2020. This fund helped me a lot after finishing the tenure of my Ph.D. scholarship (July, 2021), since I started a new project and was not getting any financial support. I am staying outside, so this helped me to bear my expenditure I am grateful to the Dean of Students Prof. Nilesh J Vasa for arranging this fund and all the individual contributors."



**Saikat Datta**  
**ME19D412**  
**Ph.D. (Mechanical Engineering)**



"I am only male child of my family and I have a sister. My father is a retired engineer at ONGC and my mother is housewife. I aspire to become a professor someday.

When I fell ill, my father had arrived from our hometown Agartala, to take care of my health. Since it was during COVID, he was not allowed to stay inside the campus, so he had to stay outside the city where the rent was expensive. With the help of DoST office student distress fund, my father was able to stay in Chennai and take care of my health. It was a tremendous help, and it took care of my food and lodging expenses, thank you DoST team for all your support."

**Sri Harish S**  
**ME20B171**  
**B.Tech (Mechanical Engineering)**

"I'm a hardworking student from a lower middle class EWS family, education is the reason I am here. I have studied at the Velammal Bodhi Campus for four years with the merit Scholarship that I had earned through scholarship exam. I scored 490/500 in 12th, 487/500 in 10th, and I passed JEE advanced as well as NEET. I also bagged an opportunity to intern at NASA in 2015 through scholarship. I aspire to work at NASA someday, improve the financial situation of my family, and help others just like how few good people helped me. I needed a laptop for online classes and for my studies, as suggested by DoSt, I applied for distress fund, and I bought a laptop which has been very helpful in studying and doing my work efficiently."



Thank  
you

A heartfelt thank you to all the contributors who have donated to this cause, it has indeed made a difference in the lives of the students.



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