

# **STUDENT DISTRESS FUND**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**



**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS  
OFFICE OF ALUMNI AND CORPORATE RELATIONS**

# STUDENT DISTRESS FUND

The Student Distress Fund was set up to lend a helping hand to students who require financial support. When students are faced with unfortunate situations like accidents, loss of family members/ breadwinners of the family, the promising fund has brought light into the lives of students. These difficulties should not hamper or deprive the education of the bright minds who have worked hard and earned their befitting place in this prestigious Institute.

Rightfully, this fund has helped many students in need and have inspired a few of them to carry forward this legacy of helping those in need. This report carries the stories of the beneficiaries of the Student Distress Fund who benefitted from it during 2022.



**"A total of 23 students have benefitted using the fund during 2022 and a sum of Rs. 5.3L was disbursed for the same"**



# FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES OF THE STUDENT DISTRESS FUND



## Family background:

I belong to a normal family with a mother, father, brother, and sister. Father is a LIC agent. My mother is a housewife, my brother is studying in class 12, father's annual income is 48000 thousand per annum.

## Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

During the Corona epidemic, the economic problem had to be faced a lot. Father's annual income is 48000 thousand per annum. In those days the family was going through financial problems. I live in a rural area where the phone signal could not come properly, the class used to be continuous for about 6 hours, and I had no other solution. I needed more internet for continuous classes and for continuing some other studies, it used to cost up to Rs.300+ a month. Similarly, it happened to me at the time of my preparatory course that I had to face the unavailability of the Internet for a lot of studies.

## My Aspirations:

My ambition is to become a professor at IIT College and improve my studies and spread knowledge to a new level.

## Achievements:

Cracking JEE Mains, IIT, Preparatory course, MSP scholarship, NPTEL.

## How the fund was useful to me ?

I am happy to inform you that the fund was very useful for me as during those days I continued my studies without any hindrance.



*I want to express my utmost gratitude to you. You have helped me and played an important role in my life. Without your generosity, support, and cooperation, I would not have been able to achieve this success. Your generosity and cooperation are invaluable to me and I will be eternally grateful to you for your enthusiasm and cooperation.*





### Family background:

I belong to a Lower Middle-Class Family, Father is Farmer, Mother is Anganvadi Teacher.

### Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

My laptop was Broken because of monkeys when I was in sleep. I was in such a situation that I couldn't afford to at least repair the laptop nor to buy a new laptop. This Distress fund helped me in those situations where I can't even say many situations and seek help from them.

A circular portrait of a young man with dark hair and a beard, wearing an orange patterned shirt, smiling. The portrait is set against a light yellow background and is framed by a dark red circular border.

**CEELAM ANVESH**  
B. Tech Civil Engg

### My Aspirations:

I want to become a Civil Engineer and bring evolution in the department which is a soul and strength to me. I want to bring out changes and achieve many heights towards civil engineering

### Achievements:

I was part of Civil Engineering Association handling All the Informal Events successfully after two-year gap of operations with those I also handled Events Like Concrete challenge and Encode steel single handedly Apart from all Organizing Achievements I have mentored all my juniors while my college I was studying online at home and let them to achieve their dream colleges like me and also I am part in Saarang in Marketing sales team

### How the fund was useful to me ?

Being without a laptop during your college days was the most horrible thing to imagine, when your end semester exams are fast approaching and you don't have a way to study and you use your mobile to study and Revise which is also not the greatest of all (a Normal phone) which always hangs out, At that thought situation this Distress fund gave me a relief to sort my laptop and get into my daily activities to achieve great heights in my career.



*I will always be grateful to donors throughout my life. When my laptop was damaged, the thoughts that arrived in my mind were horrible. Sometimes I feel like I am alone and no one in this world is there to help me out. From nowhere I found this method of seeking help from the distress fund. The very next moment I realised and decided that I would be one on the other side being a donor and helping someone out who is much need of help. I feel is the way to show gratitude towards my donor.*





**Kannan**  
MS – Engineering design

### Family background:

I am from a rural area in the Perambalur district, Tamilnadu. My father is a wage worker and farmer earning 8000 / month and mother is a housewife. I have one sister (who studied up to 12th std) and a brother (who studied up to 10th std) and I am the first graduate in my family.

### Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

As I mentioned, I live in a rural area. Due to the poor network connection in my village, I was forced to come to Chennai to attend online classes during the Corona peak time. I had to spend more money on accommodation and I was not able to handle it

### My Aspirations:

I would like to start a start-up and fund at least 10 rural students for their studies

### Achievements:

My abstract was accepted for oral presentation in the 15th WCSMO, IRELAND, CORK

### How the fund was useful to me ?

It helped me to overcome my financial need during the corona time and continue my studies happily.

*Dear Sir/Madam,*

*I am expressing my sincere gratitude for your tremendous generosity in helping me during this hard time. I can't express enough gratitude to you for your generosity and assistance, which have had a profound effect on my life. I am happy to inform you that I have been volunteering for almost 10 years in an NGO (Payir India) and doing a Career guidance program for 12th-grade government students.*

### Family background:

I am married and staying with wife outside the campus.

### Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

Dengue complications with pneumonia hospitalization. The amount came about 7 lakhs.

### My Aspirations:

Trying to get into R&D labs related to my Ph.D. work.

### Achievements:

I secured 720 rank in Gate 2006, and joined M.Tech. at IITM. Currently, I'm pursuing Ph.D. and published 2 international peer-reviewed journals



**LINTO DAVIS**  
Ph.D Mechanical Engg

*Thank you all for helping me during this difficult time.*

### Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

The reason to apply was during that time financial condition was not good and my dad's company was not giving salary for a particular time period during covid and then much reduced salary and lot of expenses plus family issues which led to a difficulty in fees payment and thats why I asked for distress fund.

### My Aspirations:

I want to start my own company.

### Achievements:

I've achieved UN Millennium Fellowship for one of my projects

### How the fund was useful to me ?

Fund was useful because it helped me in paying my fees thus reducing the financial burden on my parents.



**SHARMA VIVEK RAKESH**

Dual Degree  
Biotechnology

*I would like to give great thanks to the donors because of whom it was possible and its a great thing that we have something that can help students during their difficult times.*

### Family background:

My Father and Mother are no more. My younger brother is there who is staying.

### Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

The reason to apply was during that time financial condition was not good and my dad's company was not giving salary for a particular time period during covid and then much reduced salary and lot of expenses plus family issues which led to a difficulty in fees payment and thats why I asked for distress fund.

### My Aspirations:

I'm joining a company in Bangalore and will probably do the job for 2-3 years. Later I'm planning to write CSE - UPSC along with work

### Achievements:

I was elected as the Students General Secretary of The Institute and served for the year 2022-23.

### How the fund was useful to me ?

The fund was really helpful for me in my studies. Financially it was challenging for me to stain here in the campus.

*I am so much thankful to the donor. I can't describe words how much grateful I'm for this. It really means a lot to me*



**AJAY SINGH SITOLE**

Dual Degree  
Mechanical Engg



**KAUSHIK CHETTIAR**  
Dual Degree  
Mechanical Engineering

### Family background:

I am belonged to Middle class family from Kerala. Father passed away in 2021 before which he was a manager in private firm in Mumbai. My mother is a housewife

### Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

My father passed away in 2021 and my mother got severely hospitalized in 2022 leaving us with no means to pay the expenses

### My Aspirations:

I aspire to complete my PhD in Mechanical Engineering and then serve in the academic field as a professor in one of the IITs.

### Achievements:

Received Silver Medal for graduating with the first rank in the Mechanical Engineering Department at IIT Chennai

### How the fund was useful to me ?

It helped me to meet the expenses and was a ray of hope in the difficult times.

*I am so happy to see people like you who are wanting to share your resources to those in need. It is due to your kindness that I could get out of a difficult phase of my life. Moreover, such a gesture inspires youths like us to live a life of contribution and try to utilize our resources for the betterment of society. I once again thank you for your help and offer my sincere gratitude*

### Family background:

Father is a retired government employee.

### My Aspirations:

To be a professional Data scientist.

### Achievements:

Secured 95 percentile in GATE 2020.

### How the fund was useful to me:

It helped me to book an airplane ticket to New Delhi IGI airport.



**ROCHITANSH SINGH**  
Industrial Mathematics  
and scientific Computing

*I sincerely thank donors for providing a helping hand during those tough times.*





**VEERANNA BHUKYA**  
B.Tech Biotechnology

**Family background:**

Daily wage workers.

**Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:**

For paying money for hostel fees.

**My Aspirations:**

To help poor students.

*I am very thankful to them.*

**Family background:**

Lower Middle Class

**Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:**

I was staying in a remote area; connectivity issue was there.

**Aspirations:**

A good career in finance.

**Achievements:**

University topper in B.com.

**How the fund was useful to me:**

I could attend classes regularly.



**MANGULUCHARAN  
NAHAK**  
MBA

*Thank you for the help*



**Muhsin P**

**M.Tech – Catalysis Technology, Chemical Engineering**

### **Family background:**

I come from an economically weaker background.

### **How the fund was useful to me:**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the financial assistance provided by your kind donations was incredibly helpful in covering my accommodation expenses and allowed me to focus on my studies

### **Achievements:**

I am proud to say that I have been offered a Ph.D. position in Chemical Science at NTU Taiwan, which is ranked 77th in the QS Rankings

*I am immensely grateful for your generous support. Your contributions have been instrumental in shaping my academic journey and allowing me to pursue my dreams. Once again, I cannot thank you enough for the support that you have given me, and I will forever be grateful to all of you. Your kindness has inspired me to continue striving toward my academic goals, and I hope to positively impact society in the future.*

**Raghavendra Chowdery**

**M.Tech – Aerospace Engineering**

### **Family background:**

I am belongs to Farmer family

### **Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:**

To stay in the hostel near IITM during Covid-19.

### **Aspirations:**

To become a scientist.

### **How the fund was useful to me:**

The fund was use full to pay my PG fees near IITM during covid-19

*I'm thankful to the kind-hearted donors who understand other needs and help them. I will encourage the donors to do the same in the future and enrich many lives*

**Himanshu Baranwal**

**Ph.D – Mathematics**

### **Family background**

My father is unemployed due to his age and my mother is a homemaker.

### **Reason for applying for the Distress Fund**

During the period of covid, I was going through many problems. I was not getting basic needs. Therefore, I requested the Institute to help me, and the Institute left no stone unturned to support me.

### **Aspirations**

My goal is to become a Professor in the Department of Mathematics, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

### **Achievements**

- B.Sc Mathematics Honours Gold Medalist, Banaras Hindu University.
- M.Sc Mathematics Merit Scholarship Awarded, Indian Institute of Tech nology Madras.
- 1st Position in Speech in NSS Camp, BHU.
- 3rd Position in Essay Competition in NSS Camp, BHU.

### **How the fund was useful to me**

The funds I received have helped me to cover some of essential expenses such as food and lodging, books, internet, which would have been challenging for me to afford without this support. The assistance has relieved some of the stress that I was experiencing during the covid period.

*I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for the financial assistance provided to me through the Students Distress Fund. I am thankful for the efforts that have been made to ensure that students facing financial difficulties can receive the help they need.*

*I assure you that I will continue to work hard and towards achieving my goals. I hope that I will be able to give back to the community in future and help other students in need. Thank you for your support and kindness.*

**Gagandeep**

**Chemical Engineering**

**Family background:**

We live in a small village whose population is around 500 people. I lost my father during my childhood. My mother works as a labourer to provide me with education

**Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:**

Rent for room in city due to network issue in village.

**Aspirations:**

To become a Software development engineer

**How the fund was useful to me:**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the financial assistance provided by your kind donations was incredibly helpful in covering my accommodation expenses and allowed me to focus on my studies

**Achievements:**

- Shastra coordinator
- NCC B certificate with A grade
- Learned new skills

*Thanks for helping me financially. It helped me a lot during COVID period. In my village there no network access so I have to take a room in city to take classes. Your financial aid helped me pay rent and purchasing a wifi connection.  
Thanks again*



**"GIVING IS NOT JUST ABOUT  
MAKING A DONATION –  
IT'S ABOUT  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE"**



*Thank  
You*

*We are grateful to the contributors for your commitment to our organization, and belief in our mission. Your generosity is an inspiration to all of us, and we cannot thank you enough for your support.*



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