



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS  
OFFICE OF ALUMNI AND CORPORATE RELATIONS

# Celebrating the generosity of Mr. Ashok K Santhanam



Impact of your giving in

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## Director's Message



**Prof. Kamakoti Veezhinathan**  
**Director, IITM**

Greetings!

IIT Madras continues to retain her top position for the eighth consecutive year, in the National Institute Ranking Framework, thanks to the world-class research of its faculty and students.

The contribution and support of Alumni and well-wishers like you has crucially helped this standing and stature. Our achievements in research, education, innovation and entrepreneurship have also earned us the recognition of an 'Institute of Eminence' as well as the top position in the Atal Innovation Ranking from the Government of India.

The institute is making an indelible mark with her 'research with impact' in several areas including quantum computing, drinking water technology, industrially relevant mathematical models for governance, rendering cancer-cure more effective. Our centres of excellence, the Center for Innovation, Nirmaan – the pre-incubator, the Incubation Cell, technology centres such as 'IITM-Pravartak' and others, work in unison for not just our nation's building, but societies world-wide. We aspire to be locally impactful and globally relevant through all these efforts.

Towards exploring new research frontiers, a Department of Medical Sciences and Technology has been launched to conjoin medicine and engineering. Similarly, a School of Sustainability is on the horizon to research sustainable practices in the Global South. The campus is moving towards 'carbon-net-zero' goal through water conservation by 100% recycling, efficient garbage disposal, and electrification of vehicles. The traditional education system is undergoing a paradigm shift, with our online Bachelor of Science programme in Data Sciences and the National Program of Technology Enhanced Learning, that have won Gold in the 'Lifelong Learning' category and Silver in the 'Best Online Program' category of the Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards 2022 respectively. IIT Madras is leading this revolution from the front.

Such achievements are not possible without the deep-rooted faith and support of alumni and well-wishers such as yourself. We are indebted to you for your generous, bountiful, and impactful contributions. On behalf of IIT Madras, I offer you our deepest gratitude for continuing to strengthen the Institute. Together with your support, we are confident of building an IIT Madras that is more inclusive, diverse, and enabled by an ecosystem to be nationally relevant and globally recognised. Thank you!

## Dean's Message

**Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula**  
**Dean, Alumni & Corporate Relations, IITM**



Greetings!

I express my heartfelt gratitude to you for your generous support to IIT Madras. We appreciate your passion in supporting the causes you do and I assure you that your contributions will be optimally utilised. This report has been compiled to convey how your largesse has touched lives and made a difference at IIT Madras. In keeping with the rapid, contemporary strides in science, technology we have set ambitious goals for ourselves - your continued enthusiasm and support will help us greatly in these endeavours.

IIT Madras is far more diverse in its set of pursuits, more green and more research-focused. And yet, it remains unchanged over these years, it is still the best Institute in the country, and attracts the best students that India has to offer to come and make a mark. I also cordially invite you to visit your campus to see for yourself, the impact of your contribution, and the growth and transformation the Institute has undergone over the years.

We can never express our gratitude enough for all that you have done - Thank You !



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



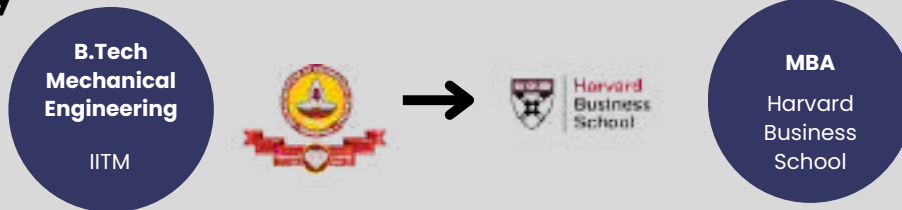
# Mr. Ashok K Santhanam

1974/BT/ME

Venture Partner at AZ-VC Scottsdale,  
Arizona,  
United States

Mr. Ashok K Santhanam is a seasoned tech entrepreneur and general management executive in enterprise software and services. He is an advisor to tech companies, focusing on business strategy and planning and execution of go-to market, strategic partnerships and M&A initiatives.

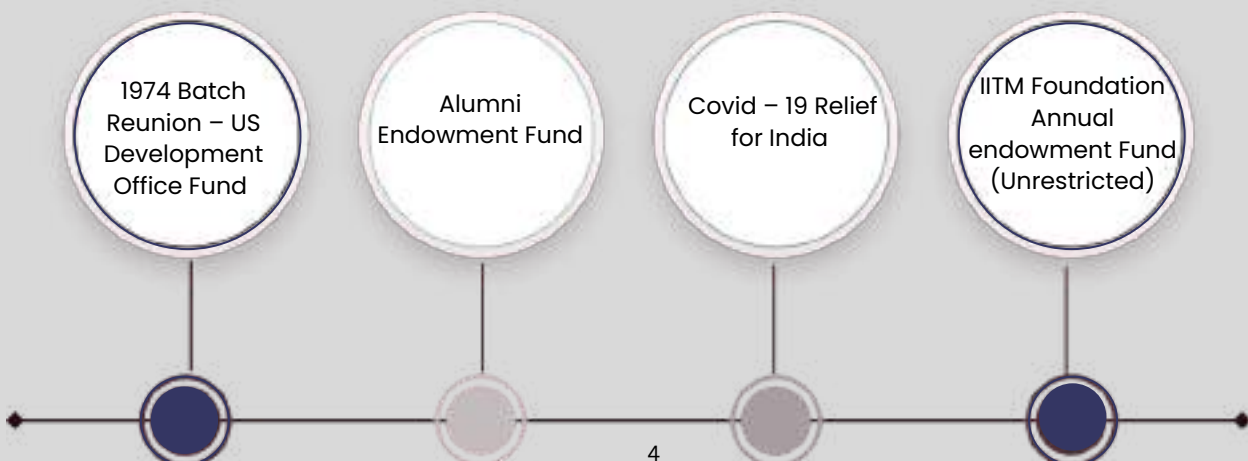
## Education Journey



## Career Journey:

Founder, President & CEO, Chairman	Managing Director	Chief Revenue Officer	President & CEO	Member & Investor	Co-Founder & CEO	Managing Director	Chief Executive Officer	Venture Partner
1993 - 2002	2001 - 2004	2002 - 2005	2006 - 2014	2003 - 2016	2016 - 2019	2019 - 2022	2021 - 2022	2023 - present

## Summary of your contribution





# 1974 Batch Reunion – US Development Office Fund

The IIT Madras Foundation is a fundraising platform 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) as well as donor development expenses (e. g., events and conferences, webinars etc.).

The funds we have received and continue to receive from IITMF make a difference today and create a legacy for generations to come.



## Alumni Endowment Fund



The interest accrued from the General Alumni Endowment Fund is utilized for

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**Travel Grant to students**

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**Video Productions and virtual classroom meetings**

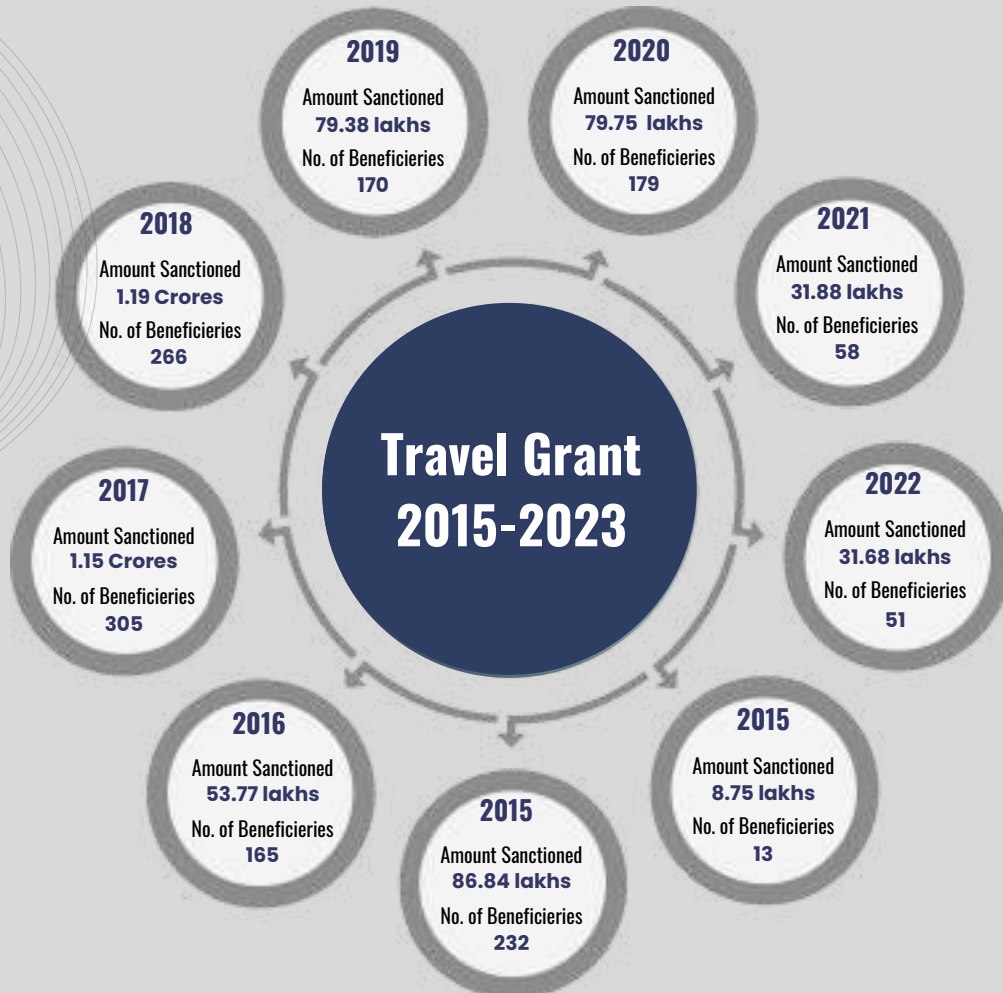
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**Journal Publication Support**

## 1. Travel Grant to students:

The goal of this travel grant is to facilitate the professional development of undergraduate and graduate students/research scholars and faculty by supporting their travel for attending professional meetings.

This also supports exchange programs, summer schools, and joint doctoral programs which provide an opportunity for the recipient to present his/her own research. This enables recipients to interact with peers and established scientists, which also helps develop professional contacts to facilitate their career development.



## Few Beneficiaries of Travel Grant



To view more details about these beneficiaries

[CLICK HERE](#)



## 2. Video Productions & Class Rooms Virtual meetings

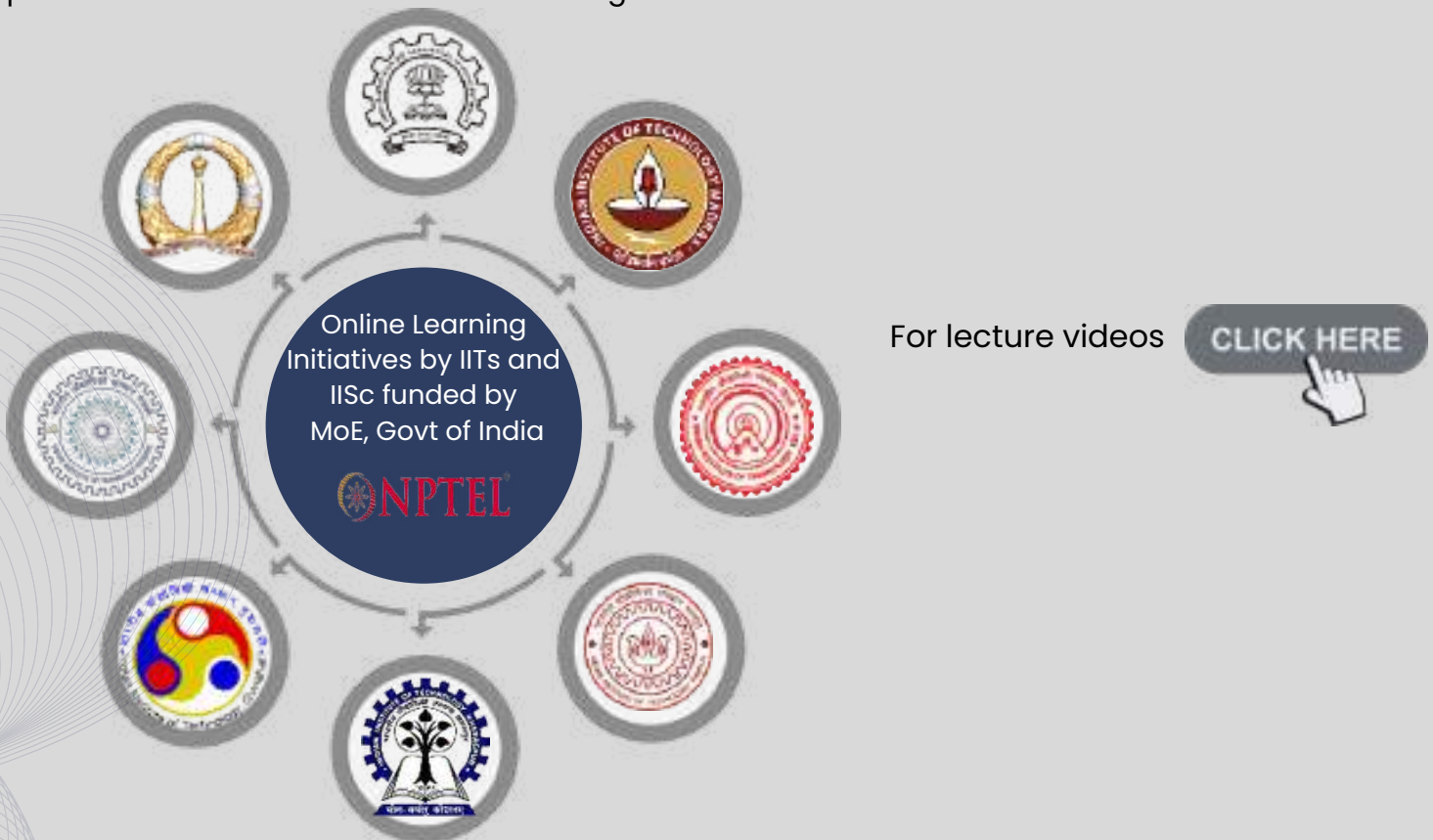


National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL), a project of the MHRD initiated in 2003 by seven Indian Institutes of Technology (Bombay, Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Madras, Guwahati and Roorkee) along with the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, provides recorded lectures taught by its member institutes online for open access.

NPTEL has the world's largest online repository of courses in basic sciences, engineering and selected humanities and social sciences subjects. The online portal is the most accessed library of peer-reviewed educational content in the world.

Since March 2014, NPTEL has been offering open online courses along with certificates from the IITs/IISc for those who complete the courses successfully. The courses are free for enrolment and learning. The certification examination conducted at the end of the course is optional and has a small fee.

Technical assistance and execution of NPTEL's lecture videos were provided by video productions and virtual classroom meetings team at IIT Madras



## 3. Journal Publication Support

Financial support is provided for meeting publication charges in selected prestigious open access journals. The publications of faculty members were encouraged, as it is an added advantage to release their journal in open access. So far 10 faculty has been benefitted through this scheme.



**THANK YOU MESSAGE BY ONE OF OUR  
EMINENT PROFESSORS OF IIT MADRAS TO ALL THE CONTRIBUTORS  
WHO SUPPORTED JOURNAL PUBLICATION**



**Prof. T. ASOKAN**

Department of Engineering Design  
IIT Madras

*"I am highly thankful to IIT Madras which made the open access publications a possibility for many faculties at IIT Madras. The high cost of publication in reputed journals was often a bottle neck for many of us to opt for high-impact journals for publication of our research work. The support provided through the alumni office has greatly helped us to overcome this problem and make our research work accessible to a wider audience through open access route. I personally benefited from this and could publish three papers in high-impact journals. We will be ever grateful to all the contributors for making this possible."*



## Covid -19 Relief for India

The COVID-19 pandemic became an emerging global health crisis and required the best of our efforts to overcome it. The sudden outbreak of the pandemic had already created an enormous medical and financial burden shattering many lives.

The second wave of Covid 19 immensely affected the public's mental health and well-being in a variety of ways, including isolation and loneliness, job loss and financial instability, and illness and grief. Many organizations, institutions, and individuals came forward to support the nation both financially and socially.

### Glimpses of the contributions:

➤ IIT Madras handed over **200 oxygen concentrators** to the **Government of Tamil Nadu**.



IIT Madras launched a campaign to raise funds for supporting various causes. The Institute exceeded its goal of raising \$1 million in 48 hours. Overall IIT Madras Alumni and other well-wishers have come together and raised more than \$2 million.

Below are the causes for which the funds were used:

1. Purchase of Oxygen cylinders, BiPAP machines, Injections, and Medicines
2. Healthy meals for students who were stranded in the institute during covid.
3. Financial help to more than 150 Ph.D. scholars to pursue their research without any constraints.



Donated BiPAP units, Injections and medicines



- Contributed **200 oxygen concentrators** (5 litres each) to the **Government of Telangana**.
- Contributed **200 oxygen concentrators** (10 litres each) to the **Government of Karnataka**.



- Contributed **1000 units of covid medicines** to **Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Science (SVIMS), Chittoor**



- **Provided healthy meals to students** who were stranded during Covid pandemic with the help of a nutritionist. Arrangements were made to serve paneer, banana, and eggs as optional extras.



- **Financial support was provided to Ph.D. scholars as stipend.** This helped them to carry out their research without hindrance.

## Gratitude notes from some of the Ph.D. scholars:



**Ajay A P**

*"I wish to thank all the donors from the bottom of my heart. The relief provided helped me look after my family during that nightmare phase and thereby focus on my research more"*

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*"I am really appreciative of the assistance received from my alumni during my most difficult time. I'm hoping that someday I'll be in a position to help out my fellow students"*

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**Sunny Sharma**



**Bhadra Hrishikesh**

*"The pandemic was a tough period for all of us. And it is very stressful for scholars especially when they are on the final stage and the stipend period has ended. I am very grateful to the alumni and non alumni members who contributed in supporting scholars like me. You are inspiration to us by making us understand the importance of giving back to our community"*

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*"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the alumni and non-alumni donors for generously donating towards the cause of Covid-19 relief with which we were supported with our stipend. I wish to prolong my appreciation to all who worked behind to make the entire process work smoothly. The financial support from you helped me greatly"*

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**Dipanjan Majumdar**



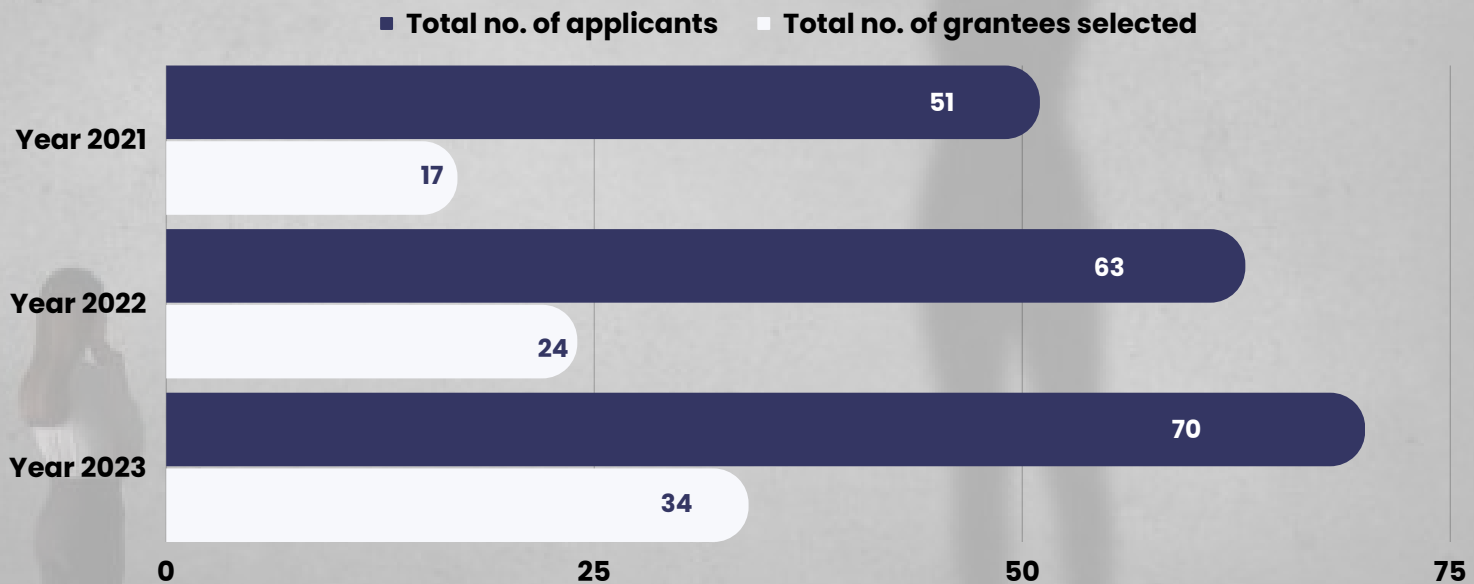
# IITM Foundation Annual Endowment Fund (Unrestricted)





## 1. WOMEN LEADING IITM

IITM has made considerable progress in improving the number of women students and faculty by creating opportunities for their success. IIT Madras launched the 'Women Leading IITM' (WLI) program on March 8th, 2021 to boost women's leadership in science and technology. It aims to nurture, develop and support women's talent at IITM along with their study and professional careers.



### Some Achievements of WLI Grantees for the year 2022-2023



Ms. Vaishnavi S (Ph.D. Scholar, Dept of Biotechnology) received the Best Presentation Award at the 15th Asian Congress on Biotechnology Conference, Indonesia



Ms. Harija Harkumar (Ph.D. Scholar, Dept of Chemical Engineering) has won 1st prize in Student Presentation Award at the 15th International Conference on Sensing Technology, ICST'15, Australia.



## Some of the Grantees of WLI 2023



**AISHWARYA RAMESH**  
Ph.D Scholar  
*Dept of Management Studies*

**JESNA**  
Ph.D Scholar  
*Dept of Civil Engineering*



**AMBILI B**  
Ph.D Scholar  
*Dept of Civil Engineering*

**K LEENA**  
Ph.D Scholar  
*Dept of Biotechnology*



**ANBUTHANGAM A**  
Ph.D Scholar  
*Dept of Metallurgical and  
Materials Engineering*

**SRILAKSHMI K**  
Ph.D Scholar  
*Dept of Ocean Engineering*



To know more about the beneficiaries

[CLICK HERE](#)



## 2. AM – I CHALLENGE – INSTITUTE DAY AWARD

AM – I (App for My Institute) Challenge was started to encourage students to come up with different applications that will be of benefit to the institution in various ways. Winners are honored during the Institute Day every year. This initiative began in the Year 2023 and the winners of the first App for My Institute Challenge are Team Minty Gang comprising of Abhijit Hota (CE19B033), Rohith Suresh (EP20B029), and Ishaan Jalan (BE20B014).

The problem statement they worked on revolved around the safety of the residents of the campus. They created a security system consisting of a mobile application for the residents, an administrator dashboard for the security personnel and a backend that handles all the computations and data storage



### 3. MONKEY PROOFING FOR QUARK BUILDING

Monkey-proofing work is completed at the Quark building to restrict the entry of monkeys into the cafeteria.



### 4. B R AMBEDKAR MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

B R Ambedkar Memorial Endowment is awarded to meritorious children whose parents are employees of IIT Madras and also part of the SC/ST Employees Welfare. They were honored during the 132nd birthday celebration of Dr. B R Ambedkar on 19th April at the Central Lecture Theatre (CLT). The students with the highest marks in standard 10 and 12 were identified and awarded certificates and mementos along with cash awards.





## 5. TECHKIDS:

The origins of Tech Kids trace back to the 1990s when the staff club ran it. Around 1997, with the initiative of Prof. Natarajan (then the Director), it received official recognition from the Institute. It serves as Daycare for students of faculty, staff, and students of IIT Madras. Some of the initiatives taken up by the Managing committee of Tech Kids are:

- Salary increments for day-care staff, teaching assistants and day-care in-charge.
- Annual Day celebrations
- Summer camp



*We are grateful to you & your family*

**Mr. ASHOK K SANTHANAM**

*We express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued and generous support to IIT Madras throughout the years. We trust that you take great pride in your bond with IIT Madras and the unwavering dedication it has demonstrated towards academic and research excellence since the time of your association.*

*Your invaluable contributions, alongside the support of your family, have played a pivotal role in facilitating this remarkable growth. We are privileged to have you and your family walking with us along this journey. We extend our best wishes to you and your family. We thank you for your continued support to your alma mater.*



Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai – 600036

[www.iitm.ac.in](http://www.iitm.ac.in)

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June 2023