



Indian Institute of Technology Madras
Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations

Celebrating the Generosity

of

Mr. Niranjana Nilakantan

**Impact of your giving in
2023**



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 utilized. 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 endeavors.



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!



Niranjan Nilakantan

1996/BT/CS

Software Engineer, Google

Niranjan Nilakantan is an academic researcher from Microsoft. He has contributed to research in topics: Distributed data store & Partition (database). He has co-authored 17 publications receiving 1559 citations. His research interests include Distributed data store, Partition (database), Failover, Row, Block (data storage).

Mr. Nilakantan completed his Bachelor's in Computer Science at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and then pursued a Master's degree in Computer Science at the New York University.

Having previously served as a **Development Lead at Microsoft**, he is subsequently holding the role of **Software Engineer in Google**.

Summary of your contribution

Digital Screening at OAT

IITM Diamond Jubilee
Endowment Fund

Capital Campaign

Women Leading IITM Endowment

1996 Batch Silver Reunion

This report will present a thorough assessment of the impact that your contributions have made towards the causes outlined below:

- Digital Screening at OAT
- Women Leading IITM
- 1996 Batch Silver Reunion

Digital Screening at OAT

The Open Air Theatre (OAT) is one of the most memorable landmarks on campus for anyone who has made the Institute their home. Used for movie showings, cultural and technical events, the theatre has a seating capacity of over 7,000 people. Being one of the older structures at IITM, the OAT had been airing movies using analogue prints, which in those years got increasingly harder to procure owing to increased digitization. To keep up with the times, the Film club decided to switch to digital projection and approached the Director and committee of Deans for help.

With generous funding from the batch of 1975 and alumni members Niranjana Nilakantan [1996/BT/CS] and Suresh Kalpathi [1986/BT/EE], along with immense support from the Institute, a facility for digital projection was set up at a cost of about Rs. 33 lakhs and a digital audio processor costing Rs. 2 lakhs were procured.

The facility was inaugurated with the screening of its first digitally projected movie, the Tamil film Soodhu Kavvum, which proved to be a big delight for its eager audience.

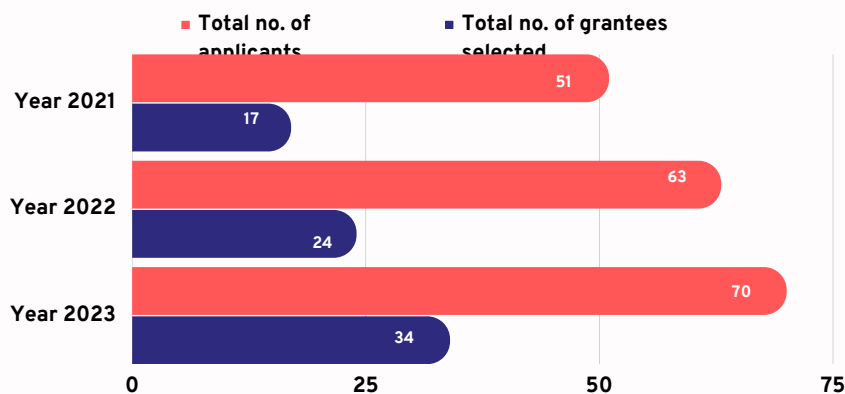


Women Leading IITM

Education is considered a milestone for women empowerment because it enables them to face various challenges, confront their traditional roles, and bring change to their lives.

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

Statistics from 2021 - 2023



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



AMBILI B
Ph.D Scholar
Dept of Civil Engineering



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

JESNA
Ph.D Scholar
Dept of Civil Engineering



K LEENA
Ph.D Scholar
Dept of Biotechnology



SRILAKSHMI K
Ph.D Scholar
Dept of Ocean Engineering



To view a detailed report on Women Leading IITM

[CLICK HERE](#)

1996 Batch Silver Reunion

The 1996 Batch Silver Reunion celebrated its 25th reunion and made a collective decision to contribute towards the following causes.

- General Endowment
- Women Leading IITM
- Campus Green Fund
- NIRMAAN
- Student Wellness
- MCM Scholarship

The funds allocated for the IITM Diamond Jubilee Endowment Fund, and Capital Campaign, were utilized for the following purpose.

- Techkids
- BR Ambedkar Memorial Endowment
- Ambedkar Jayanthi Celebration IP account
- Women Leading India
- AM-I-challenge Institute Day Award
- Monkey Proofing Work at Quark building
- NASA May day celebration
- Student Travel Grant
- Retiree's account
- Arrival kit for freshers
- Monkey proof waste bin
- Research and Education

Glimpses from the 1996 Batch Reunion...





Thank you!

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.



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