



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS
OFFICE OF ALUMNI AND CORPORATE RELATIONS

Celebrating the generosity of

Mr. Ashok Venkat Rao



Impact of your Giving
in 2023

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 Venkat Rao

[1994/BT/MT]

Mr. Ashok Venkat Rao graduated from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras in the year 1994 with B.Tech in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. He did his MS at Purdue University, United States of America. He went on to do his Master of Business Administration from Purdue University Krannert School of Management.

Career Journey:

						
Sr. Process Engineer	Program Manager	Principal	Director	Partner, Digital Operations and Strategy	3D Printing Strategy	Head Technology
Jan 1996 – Jan 1999	Jan 2001 – Jan 2004	Jan 2004 – Jan 2011	Sept 2011 – May 2012	Jun 2012 – Mar 2018	Mar 2018 – Feb 2019	Feb 2019 – Present

CAUSES CONTRIBUTED

01

1994 Batch Silver Reunion - Student Wellness Activities

02

COVID-19 Relief for India

03

IITM Foundation Annual Endowment Fund (Unrestricted)

1994 BATCH SILVER REUNION – STUDENT WELLNESS ACTIVITIES

The Student Wellness Activities works to nourish the positive mental health of the student community on campus. The team provides counseling and psychotherapy for student's specific needs.

A few typical concerns of the program are

- » Academic stress
- » Adjustment to a new environment
- » Dealing with procrastination
- » Decision-making regarding career and life
- » Dealing with anxiety, and depression
- » Conflicts in different relationships
- » Lack of motivation

Events:

1. Gatekeeper Training & IITM-NIMHANS Task Force Meeting - 2023:

Kauvery Hospital, Chennai conducted a Gatekeeper Training program for suicide prevention under Project Khushi with the support of the Wellness Centre. The talk was conducted by Dr. Yamini Kanappan, Consultant Psychiatrist, Kauvery Hospital. They plan to conduct sessions on a biweekly basis for students and faculty.



2. MITR Drive – 2023:

MITR, along with Wellness Centre, conducted a week-long campus drive wherein student volunteers actively participated in various events.



3. SAARANG 2023:

The Wellness Centre put up a stall, which consisted of several fun activities, post quotes and more with the aim of de-stressing students and an overall goal to promote awareness about mental health and the accessibility of help available in the campus. The students were provided pamphlets that provided information about common issues faced by students and signs to be vary of to seek help



Various Programs Organised by the Wellness Community Centre from 2022-2023



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 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.

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 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"

"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"



Sunny Sharma

"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"



Bhadra Hrishikesh

"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"



Dipanjan Majumdar



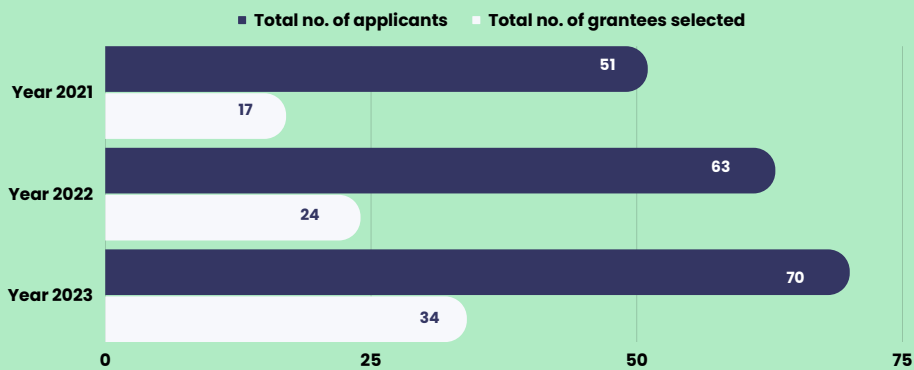
IITM ANNUAL ENDOWMENT FUND (UNRESTRICTED)

Causes supported through the funds received:

- Women Leading IITM
- AM-I Challenge – Institute Day Award
- Monkey Proofing for Quark Building
- B R Ambedkar Memorial Endowment
- Techkids

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 Daycare staff, teaching assistants and Daycare in-charge.
- Annual Day celebrations
- Summer camp



Memories you can be nostalgic about.....



IIT Madras emblem from early years of establishment



Central Workshop in early times



Metallurgical Engineering Lab



Marianne von Weizsacker at IITM



Open Air Theatre in 1992



FRP Centre during early days

We are grateful to you & your family

Mr. Ashok Venkat Rao

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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