



CELEBRATING THE GENEROSITY OF

Mr. Ram Shriram



**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, unwavering dedication and creative mindset of its faculty and students. The contribution and support of Alumni and well-wishers like you have 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.

IIT Madras is making an indelible mark in promoting and providing education to students from the length and breadth of India to areas beyond Indian territory, through her initiatives in rural developmental educational programs, international, interdisciplinary M.Tech courses, and online diploma courses. The popularity and reach of our online courses can be gauged by the fact that around 25000 students in ages ranging from 17 to 82, have enrolled for these courses across national boundaries, and about 30% are from rural India. The institute, in a first-ever initiative by an IIT, has consolidated its position on the world map by establishing her international campus in Zanzibar, Africa where about 45 students have been admitted to different programs.

Innovation and entrepreneurship are ingrained in all our endeavours – our ambitious ventures in rocket and space explorations, the development of lab-grown diamonds, hyperloop, the Brain Research Centre etc, are a testimony to this. The start-up ecosphere is also a reflection of this spirit, wherein last year, 70 startups came to fruition, successfully nurtured by our centres of excellence, the Centre for Innovation, Nirmaan – the pre-incubator, the Incubation Cell, technology centres such as 'IITM-Pravartak' at the IIT Madras Research Park and others. This year, our target is to incubate at least a 100 Start-ups in various sectors. It is expected that at least 20% of the passing out students will be proud CXOs of their own ventures! The year 2023 also saw 221 national and 105 international patents from our Institute and we are looking to closing this current financial year with 366 patents, to account for 'a patent a day'.

Towards promoting inter-disciplinary research and exploring new frontiers, a Department of Medical Sciences and Technology was launched in May 2023, a School of Sustainability in Oct 2023, a Department of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence in Nov 2023 and a new Interdisciplinary Dual Degree program on Quantitative Finance in Dec 2023 through the synergy of the departments of Management Studies, Computer Science and Engineering and Mathematics. Our School of Sustainability has signed MoUs for collaborations with Tel Aviv University, Israel and Technische Universität Dresden, Germany, with the aim of being recognized as a leader for sustainability teaching and research in the global south.

Lofty ambitions and achievements are impossible without the deep-rooted faith and support of alumni and well-wishers like yourself. We are indebted to you for your bountiful, impactful contributions and the faith reposed on us. On behalf of IIT Madras, I express my 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 seized of tomorrow's needs to be nationally and globally relevant.

Thank you!

DEAN'S MESSAGE

PROF. MAHESH PANCHAGNULA DEAN, ALUMNI & CORPORATE RELATIONS, IITM



Creetings from the Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations!

Please accept my sincere appreciation for the unwavering support you continue to provide to IIT Madras. Your generosity is the cornerstone of our success, and we are truly grateful for your commitment to the causes that are important to the students and faculty of IIT Madras. This report is a testament to the profound impact your contributions have had –by transforming the lives of students, supporting research, augmenting Institute infrastructure, enhancing learning or through supporting other myriad causes. Your trust in us propels our ambitions, and we are committed to ensuring that your donations are utilized to their fullest potential.

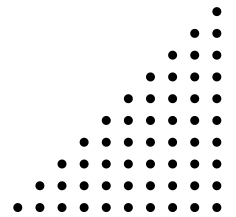
In a world evolving rapidly in science and technology, we have set ambitious goals for ourselves. Your enduring enthusiasm and support provide fillip to our efforts. IIT Madras stands as a beacon of diversity, sustainability, innovation and research excellence. While we have transformed over the years, our commitment to being a premier institute in the country and abroad, remains steadfast, attracting the brightest minds from across the globe. I cordially invite you to visit the campus, witness first-hand the salutary impact of your contributions, and observe the Institute's growth and evolution over the years.

Your generous gifts have made an incredible difference in our Institute's aspirations – Thank you!

Your continued partnership is invaluable as we navigate the exciting journey ahead, shaping the future of India and the world together.

IIT MADRAS

IIT Madras has consistently performed in an excellent manner over the years. World class systems have been created and maintained to uphold and strengthen key performance indicators of the Institute.



A few such prestigious achievements are :

- Ranked first among engineering institutes in the NIRF rankings
- Ranked first in the Atal Innovation rankings, and
- Declared as an Institute of Eminence during its Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

The Incredible Story of Ram Shriram



Ram Shriram started Sherpalo in January, 2000, with the goal of applying his wealth of operating and company building experience to promising early stage ventures. As a technology industry insider for over 30 years he has worked in companies large and small across all functional areas and through fluctuating business cycles. He is always eager to roll up his sleeves and work closely with founding teams on the challenging issues that confront and sometimes confound early stage ventures.

Ram's unique blend of mentor capital is frequently in partnership with many members of the venture capital community in silicon valley and beyond. Ram's depth of strategic and operating expertise brings a special value to select companies where he invests his energy and time, as they seek to scale up, build out their management teams, resolve challenges of growth and realize durable successful outcomes.

Professional Snapshot

Founder



**Vice President
(Business Development)**



Founding Board Member



**Member of the Netscape
executive team**



Board Member



Supporter



Prior to founding Sherpalo, Ram served as an officer of Amazon.com working for Jeff Bezos, founder & CEO. Ram came to Amazon.com in August, 1998, when Amazon acquired Junglee, an online comparison shopping firm of which Ram was president. While at Amazon, Ram helped grow the customer base during its early high growth phase in 1998/1999. Before Junglee and Amazon, Ram was a member of the Netscape executive team, joining them in 1994, before they shipped products or posted revenue. He drove the many partnerships and channels that Netscape employed to get massive distribution for its browser and server products during those now legendary early days of the Internet.



Ram is a founding board member of Google Inc (now Alphabet) and [[24]7.ai]. He also serves on the boards of PaperlessPost.com and Yubico. Ram is a board member on the Stanford Health Care Board of Trustees, as well as a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He was until recently Vice Chair of the Stanford Board of Trustees. He is also an early supporter of MagicBus.org, as well as a Charter Member of Indiaspora.

Awards Bestowed

Forbes

#3 in the Forbes Midas List in 2008 & 2009. Ram was recognized as being among the Top Tech Dealmakers by Forbes

BUSINESS 2.0

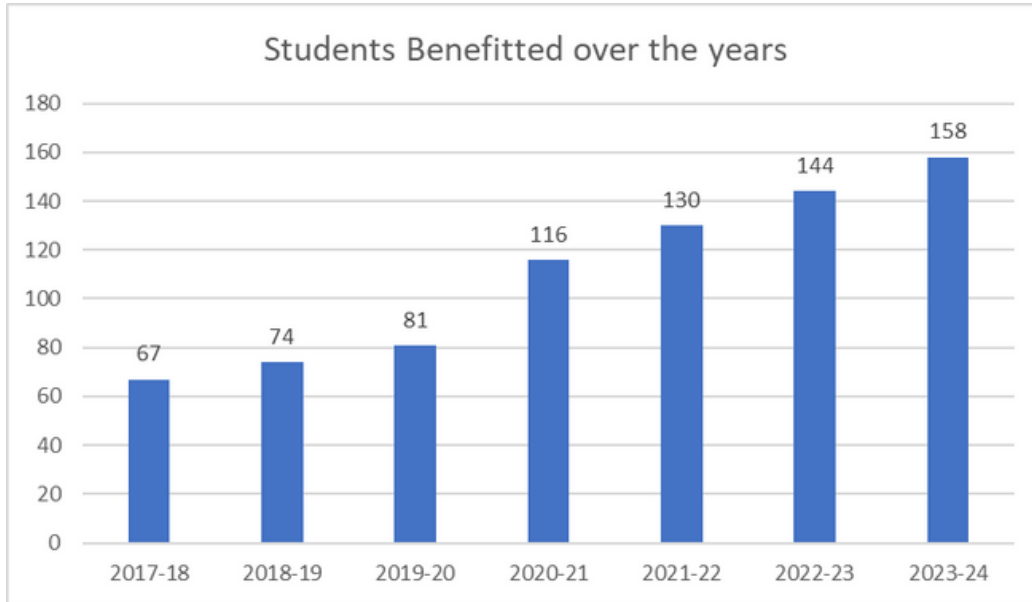
#6 in Top Ten kingmakers in Tech by Business 2.0 magazine, in 2007.



Awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor in 2023. The Ellis Island Medals are presented annually to American citizens, both native-born or naturalized, those who have made it their mission to share their wealth of knowledge, indomitable courage, boundless compassion, unique talents and selfless generosity with those less fortunate.

Ram Shriram Merit Scholarship

Impact created over the years



‘Thank You’ notes from some beneficiaries:



Duggu Yaswitha Reddy
Electrical Engineering
EE23B026
2023-2027

“Dear Ram Shriram Sir,
I extend my heartfelt gratitude for awarding me the scholarship, a gesture that has profoundly impacted my educational journey. Hailing from Nandyal, where opportunities are limited, this support is a beacon of hope. Coming from a modest family background, the financial relief allows me to fully concentrate on my studies without burden. Your investment in my education has not only lightened the financial load but has ignited my ambition to excel. With this assistance, I am now better positioned to pursue my dream of becoming the CEO of google. Your belief in my potential is a driving force, and I am committed to proving myself worthy of this trust.”



Midamaneni Sri Vignesh
Computer Science
CS23B036
2023-2027



"Thank you very much Mr.Ram Shriram Sir.

I am M. Sri Vignesh. I am studying in 1st year B.Tech Computer Science Branch. I hail from Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh.

I come from an Agricultural family. Your Scholarship helps me for successful completion of my course. My future ambition is to start my own company. I am very grateful to you Sir.

Once again thank you very much Sir."



"Respected Ram Shriram sir,

I am Ravuri Suma Charishma studying BTech (Electrical Engineering). Sir I am one of the recipients of your scholarship.

I am honoured and deeply appreciative of the opportunity this scholarship provides me. This financial assistance will undoubtedly reduce the burden of tuition fee and enable me to pursue my academic goals with greater focus and determination.

I am genuinely grateful for your support and I look forward to making the most of this valuable opportunity.!"



Ravuri Suma Charishma
Electrical Engineering
EE23B063
2023-2027



Sodum Lekhana
Computer Science
CS23B061
2023-2027

"Respected Ram Shriram,

I am sincerely grateful for the incredible opportunity your scholarship has provided me. As a recipient from Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh, your generous support has alleviated financial burdens, allowing me to focus wholeheartedly on my education. Your belief in my potential motivates me to excel, and I am determined to make the most of this chance. Thank you for being a catalyst in shaping my future."





**Nimmakayala Dharma
Teja Reddy**
Computer Science
CS23B046
2020-2024



“Thank you for sponsoring me this scholarship. I am glad that I am selected for this scholarship. It gives me lot of support financially. I am from Yerraguntla, Andhra Pradesh. My father is a farmer, and mother is a housewife. My aim is to get a good job and help my family!!”



“I am so honoured to receive this scholarship because it is very useful for me, for meeting the expenses required for tuition fees and hostel fees as well. Many essential requirements were also fulfilled thanks to Mr. Ram Shriram. And yes, I am very honoured to receive such a great thing from such a visionary, most successful investor, and one of the founding members of the Google company. I want to explore myself and acquire as many skills as possible within these four years, which can be made possible by your support. I once again thank you sincerely from the bottom of my heart for providing such a wonderful opportunity to me. Lastly, it's an honour for me, the most valuable milestone achievements in my career, I treat this Scholarship from Ram Shriram as equal weightage with that of I got admitted in IITM in CS stream.”



Marepalli Pranav
Computer Science
CS23B03
2023-2027



Varanasi Deepesh
Computer Science
CS23B076
2023-2027

“I am from Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh, my mother is a housewife and my father is a business man. I am very thankful to Ram Shriram sir for offering me the Ram Shriram scholarship, it was very helpful to me in paying my semester fees.



Ram Shriram's Support to the IIT Madras's Online BSc Programme

IIT Madras, offers the world's first 4-year Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree in Data Science and Applications with options to exit earlier in the Foundation, Diploma or BSc degree levels. The classes are taught by experienced IIT Madras faculty and industry experts that can be accessed by learners from anywhere. The program is very popular, and more than 16000 students are enrolled in it. More information is available here <https://onlinedegree.iitm.ac.in/>

Students whose parents have an annual income less than Rs. 5 Lakh are being supported by the Ram Shriram scholarships, in the following manner.

Mr Ram Shriram supports 100 (98 female and 2 male) students in the Foundation Level programme. 48 of them have completed the Foundation Level course and 52 are still pursuing the course. He supports 140 (98 male and 42 female) students of the Diploma Level programme. 26 students have completed two Diplomas, 14 students have completed one Diploma and 100 students are still pursuing the course. Mr Ram Shriram is supporting 70 (62 male and 8 female) students in their pursuit of their Degree. 10 Students have completed BSc (3rd Level) and 60 students are still pursuing their degrees.

Some Testimonials and Feedback from the Students Supported

Kashish Niranjana
Diploma
Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh

I am from a middle class family. My father is a farmer, and my mother is a housewife. This Scholarship gave me an assurance to move forward and not to look back and provided a little bit relief to my family's shoulder to make me achieve something that I can pursue. Thank you so much for your support in helping me and many more students to achieve and pursue their goals. You have given a gentle and strong push to students in moving forward towards their path. Thank you very much.

Abhishek Singh
Diploma
Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan

My father is an auto-rickshaw driver, my mother is a housewife and I'm not doing any job right now. It has proved a huge help to me as affording this course is a bit tough for me. It ensured that I could study at full pace without worrying about my financial condition. Thanks a lot. Thank You for your generosity, I will always remember it.

Nitisha Kumari
Foundation
Ludhiana Bihar

I belong to middle class family and with a single parent (mother - a housewife)
This scholarship helps me in my critical situation and gave me strength to continue to pursue my data science degree.
I am really grateful to Ram Shriram and want to thank him by successfully completing this degree.

Munakala Venkata Sai Guna Deekshitha
Diploma
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

I come from a middle class family and hence this scholarship has provided me with abundant of knowledge through this course.
This scholarship has helped me reduce the burden on my parents and has also helped me to achieve these great resources at such a good cost.
Thank you for giving the scholarship. It means a lot to me.

Lehani Raj Mohanta
Degree
Khadikapada, Odisha

I belong to a low income family.
This scholarship helped me immensely to pay the course registration fees. Otherwise, I may not have been able to register the courses continuously.
Thanks to the Ram Shriram foundation for generously helping me to complete my BS degree from IIT Madras.

Sarthak Khandelwal
Degree
Pratapgarh, Uttar Pradesh

I belong to the economic weaker section, with family income nearly 1 Lakh per annum only.
This scholarship is helping a lot in the completion of my degree, I was managing fees somehow, but RAM SHRIRAM got me opportunity to focus on studies by providing financial support.
I am very grateful to Ram Shriram for providing me scholarship. Your organisation is helping needful people which encourages us to study hard and achieve goals.

Nishkarsh Dixit
Degree
Gurgaon, Haryana

I am below the poverty line and have huge financial crises at home.
The scholarship is helping me in education financing all the course fee which is a relief to both my parents and to me.
Thank You. Keep up the great work for the greater good.

Aditya Raj
Degree
Hajipur, Bihar

My father is a farmer. Initially it was very hard for my family to pay the course fee. We had to take loan for that. But this scholarship came as hope to me otherwise I would not have been able to continue this degree.
I am very, very thankful to you. I wish one day I will also be able to help others just like you are helping me.

Pravin S
Diploma
Vellore, Tamil Nadu

I am from the village named Seekarajapuram Mottur which is located near Thiruvalem in Vellore District. My father is a Daily wage worker who paints the houses and my mother is a homemaker. Both of them have studied up to 7th Standard. Now, I am without worrying about my financial constraints, able to concentrate more in my studies. Thank you for providing me a scholarship. It is supportive to my academic studies economically.

Viraj Sharma
Degree
Chennai, Tamil Nadu

My family income is less than 1 lakh per annum. This scholarship is providing invaluable support for my education, allowing me to concentrate solely on my studies without financial concerns. I am immensely grateful for the scholarship you have awarded me, as it has enabled me to fully dedicate myself to my studies.

Srinivas Reddy
Diploma
Pitapuram, Andhra Pradesh

I was born in a middle class family, where my father was a farmer and mother is a housewife. The scholarship is helping me to earn another degree without burden my parents. It's a great opportunity to say thank you to Ram Shriram through this initiative taken by IITM.

Video Feedback



Swapnil Singh
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh



Sanjay Kanth L,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu



Anupam Kumar Jha
,Jaipur, Rajasthan



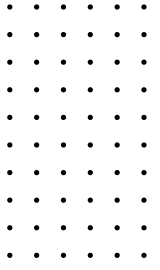
Ram Shriram's Donation of Laptops

Mr Ram Shriram also graciously donated a large sum towards purchase of laptops for deserving students undergoing the online BSc programme. The amount so donated has provided laptops to 100 (82 male and 18 female) students located all over India, something they perhaps could not have afforded easily otherwise. The office of the National Program for Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) at IIT Madras selected these students, and arranged to have their laptops delivered to them in their city of residence.

88 of these students belong to families with an annual income below Rupees 1 Lakh and the remaining to families with an annual income between 1 - 5 Lakh.

Earlier, in Nov 2022, as a representative gesture of this pan-India laptop-donation activity, five students were invited to IIT Madras to receive their laptops in person, at an event organized by the office of Alumni and Corporate Relations. Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula, Dean Alumni & Corporate Relation, Prof. Andrew Thangaraj, Head of the NPTEL and BS Online Program and Prof. Vignesh Muthuvijayan, along with other officials were present on the occasion.





WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY MR. RAM SHRIRAM



Thank you for your sustained generosity to IIT Madras over the years. Contributors such as yourself enable our students and Professors to dream big and work towards a better and brighter future. We hope you are proud of your relations with IIT Madras and how it has remained steadfastly committed to academic and research excellence. You and your family have been instrumental in facilitating this significant growth.

Our efforts to nurture the culture of academic excellence that is the hallmark of IIT Madras - quality education, cutting-edge research, and unfettered creativity shall continue. We are privileged and humbled to have you and your family walking with us along this trail. We wish you and your family the best always in all walks of life!



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January 2024

