



Indian Institute of Technology Madras  
Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations

# CELEBRATING THE GENEROSITY OF MR. KRISHNA MAHESH



**Impact  
Of  
Your  
Giving  
In  
2024**

# Director's Message

## Prof. Kamakoti Veezhinathan Director, IIT Madras



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 development 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.

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, IIT Madras**



Greetings 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.

# K. Mahesh Institute Chair



**Mr. K. Mahesh**

This Institute Chair was initiated by Mr. Krishna Mahesh (Managing Director at Sundaram Brakes Lining Ltd) in memory of his father Mr. K Mahesh an alumnus of IITM. Mr. K Mahesh was a dedicated leader and a man of principles. He hailed from the esteemed TVS Group and served as the whole-time director of T V Sundaram Iyengar & Sons Private Ltd. He remained actively involved as a director and non-executive chairman. His contributions extended beyond his own company, as he played a pivotal role in starting the cluster program in ACMA, benefiting numerous automotive component industry plants over the last two decades

## Chair Occupant



**Prof. K. Ramesh**  
**Department of Applied Mechanics &  
 Bio Medical Engineering**

Dr. K. Ramesh Has pioneered the area of Digital Photoelasticity internationally. It is essentially a stress analysis tool used in several fields of Engineering and Physics. He is passionate about developing innovative educational material to teach Engineering with extensive experimental results to support the theory. He has pioneered a new paradigm in Engineering Education by writing innovative e-Books on Engineering Fracture Mechanics and Experimental Stress Analysis published by IIT Madras. Prof. Ramesh has also developed several educational software such as PHOTOSOFT\_H, MOIRESOFT and CAUSTICSOFT to teach various experimental methods interestingly (in dos platform) and has recently developed PSCOPETM - A comprehensive software for understanding whole field stress analysis. In addition an analysis package DigiTFPTM has also been developed to evaluate photoelastic parameters that use Twelve Fringe Photoelasticity for isochromatic evaluation and polarisation stepping for isoclinic evaluation.

---

## Academic Background

- B.Tech Mechanical Engineering (1982) from Regional Engineering College, Trichy
- M.Tech (1984) from the Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore
- Ph.D. (1988) from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai

---

## Research Interests

- Computer Applications in Experimental Mechanics
- Digital Photoelasticity
- Fracture Mechanics
- Composite Materials
- Educational Technology

---

## Awards and Recognition

- Received the 2023 M M Frocht Award of Society for Experimental Mechanics (SEM), USA for outstanding contributions as an educator in the field of Experimental Mechanics.
- Received the 2012 Zandman Award of the Society for Experimental Mechanics (SEM) for Outstanding contributions in the Application of Photo elastic Coatings.
- Distinguished Alumnus Award for Academic Excellence, National Institute of Technology, Trichy, 2008.
- Elected Fellow of The Indian National Academy of Engineering, 2006. Received the President of India Cash Prize, in 1984 Contributed a paper through invitation in the Golden Jubilee issue of the Journal of Strain Analysis for Engineering Design, 2015.
- Guest edited a Special Section on Digital Photoelasticity: Advancements and Applications, 2015, in SPIE Journal of Optical Engineering.
- Contributed a chapter on Photoelasticity by invitation in the Springer Handbook of Experimental Solid Mechanics (2009) Published by SEM and Springer, Edited by W. N. Sharpe, Department of Mechanical Engineering, John Hopkins University, USA
- Guest edited a Special Issue of Optics and Lasers in Engineering on Digital Photoelasticity
- Member of the Editorial Boards of the International Journals: Strain (since 2001), Journal of Strain Analysis for Engineering Design (2009-10), Optics and Lasers in Engineering, and Steering committee member of the Asian Society for Experimental Mechanics since its inception in 2000

# WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY Mr. KRISHNA MAHESH

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!



Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai 600036

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

For more information, please contact:

Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations

T: +91-44-2257 8390 | [www.acr.iitm.ac.in](http://www.acr.iitm.ac.in)

July 2024

