

ALUMNI AND CORPORATE RELATIONS Indian Institute of technology madras



## **Celebrating the Generosity of**

## Padma Shri Dr. Sridhar Vembu



### **Director's Message**



#### Greetings!

IIT Madras continues to retain her top position for the ninth 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 wellwishers 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!

#### - Prof. Kamakoti Veezhinathan, Director, IITM

### **Dean's Message**



Greetings from the Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations,

I want to extend my deepest gratitude for your incredible generosity and continuous support towards IIT Madras. An act of giving is much more than making a donation. It is the manifestation of kindness, compassion, and deeprooted empathy within each of us. It is the very essence of being human. And as one of our esteemed donors, you are no exception to this.

Strong academic institutions play a critical role in today's world - training minds young and old, and contribution to research and innovation. Your contributions have had a truly transformative impact, not only on the institute but also on our students, faculty and the broader community. This "Impact of Giving" report serves as a testament to the profound influence your contributions have had on the lives of our current students, the advancement of innovation in research, and the infrastructure of the institute.

At IIT Madras, we take great pride in the strong relationships we have fostered over the years. It is through your consistent engagement with us that we've been able to push the boundaries of innovative research, improve our infrastructure, and provide scholarships that have empowered students from diverse backgrounds. These efforts have created life-changing opportunities, ignited new ideas, and elevated IIT Madras to the forefront of global education and research.

Your commitment, as part of our esteemed benefactor network, has strengthened our institute's global reach. It has opened doors to new partnerships, fostered collaborations, and helped us nurture the leaders of tomorrow.

We are profoundly grateful for your belief in IIT Madras. Your continued support not only upholds the values and traditions of the institute but also helps us chart a bold and visionary path forward. Together, we are building a legacy of lasting excellence.

Once again, thank you for your dedicated engagement with IIT Madras

-Prof. Ashwin Mahalingam, Dean, Alumni and Corporate Relations, IITM

## **1989 BATCH PROJECT - EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH TRAVEL GRANT**

The batch of 1989 unanimously contributed towards the Research travel scholarship during their silver reunion. This was used towards the travel grant. 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.

This funds was used to provide travel grant for students from Computer Science Department.



### **GRATITUDE NOTE FROM THE BENEFICIARY**



I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my gratitude for your generous support through the research travel scholarship. Thanks to your generosity, I had the incredible opportunity to do a research internship at the <u>University of Massachusetts</u>, Amherst. Your support opened doors for me to

engage with experts in my field and explore new horizons in research.

I am grateful for the opportunity to expand my knowledge. In addition, the scholarship covered all my expenses, and I lived comfortably and without any financial stress.

Once again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your invaluable support. Your generosity made a profound difference in my life, and I am deeply grateful for your belief in me.

# We are grateful to you Padma Shri Dr. Sridhar Vembu



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 alma mater and how it has remained steadfastly committed to academic and research excellence during and after your time here. 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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