



Office of Alumni and
Corporate Relations
Indian Institute of Technology
Madras

Celebrating the Generosity of



Mr. Ram Shriram



Impact of your giving in 2024



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Prof. Kamakoti Veezhinathan

Director, IIT Madras

Greetings!

At the outset I wish you and your family, a very happy, healthy and a successful New Year 2025! It was a pleasure interacting with you during your visit to IIT Madras last year. I do hope we will have the honour of hosting you this year as well.

Meanwhile, I am sure you would be glad to note that 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 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, hyper-loop, 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 graduating 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'.

As you are aware, 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 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 to you 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. Ashwin Mahalingam

Dean, Alumni and Corporate Relations, IITM

Greetings from the Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations!

I would like to *personally* express my heartfelt gratitude to you for your generous support to IIT-Madras. Contributions from donors such as you, go a long way towards creating and sustaining the vibrant ecosystem that IITM is known for. You will see from this report, that the actual impact of your gift to the students has been tremendous - both in the campus *and* beyond. I would also like to thank you for your sustained support to our programs which has helped us to undertake initiatives that are holistic and strategic. Thank you for continuing to be a part of the IITM family!

As you may know, IITM is ranked as the #1 academic institution in India and we have aspirations to become one of the top academic institutions in the world, in the near future. To do so, we need to attract the smartest students and the most innovative and creative faculty members, and provide them with resources that will help them leverage and showcase their talents. This will involve setting up scholarships and fellowships to incentivize and reward students and faculty, research centers and labs with cutting edge resources, world class building infrastructure, and support for innovative research and development programs. Your gift has allowed us to make significant progress in these areas, because of which we are the leading academic institution in India. Without your support, we would not be where we are, and we are deeply indebted to you for this.

When time permits, we would greatly look forward to hosting you at IIT-Madras again. Please let us know when you are next likely to be here. I look forward to a long and continued association with you, both personally and on behalf of the institute. I would also like to wish you all the very best both personally and professionally.

Visit of Mr. Ram Shriram to IIT Madras

IIT Madras had the honour of hosting **Mr. Ram Shriram** on his visit to the campus on 06 March 2024. He was welcomed warmly by Prof. Mahesh Panchagnula (Dean Alumni & Corporate Relations), Prof. Ashwin Mahalingam (Advisor to the office of A&CR) and Mr. Kaviraj Nair (CEO, Office of Institutional Advancement). Mr. Shriram was given a tour of the **IITM Heritage Centre** before proceeding to meet **Prof. V Kamakoti**, Director IIT Madras. The Director honoured Mr. Shriram with the traditional IITM '**Angavastram**', as a gesture of gratitude and recognition of all his valuable support to the Institute.

Mr. Shriram thereafter proceeded to the Director's Conference Hall, where a presentation on the IITM's **Online BS Programmes** was given to him by Prof. Andrew Thangaraj and the staff of the National Programme for Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL). Thereafter, Mr. Ram Shriram interacted with the many '**Ram Shriram Scholars**' who he has been supporting, both in the B.Tech and the online programmes. The young students were in awe of Mr. Shriram's achievements and his philanthropic generosity. Some of them were keen to obtain answers to their doubts on their academic and career pursuits and Mr. Shriram provided them valuable insights and guidance.

All in all, it was a warm, joyous, fruitful meeting and a day to remember – **Thank you sir for taking time from your busy schedule to visit the Institute – we are indeed humbled and grateful to you!**

Here are a few photographs from the visit



Prof. Mahesh welcomes Mr. Ram Shriram



Visit to the Heritage Centre, IIT Madras



Meeting with Prof. V. Kamakoti, Director



Director honours Mr. Ram Shriram with the traditional 'Angavastram'



Presentation on BS Online Programmes by Prof. Andrew and NPTEL Staff



Interaction with Ram Shriram Scholars - B.Tech and Online Students

Former Ram Shriram Scholars' Journey in the Outside World

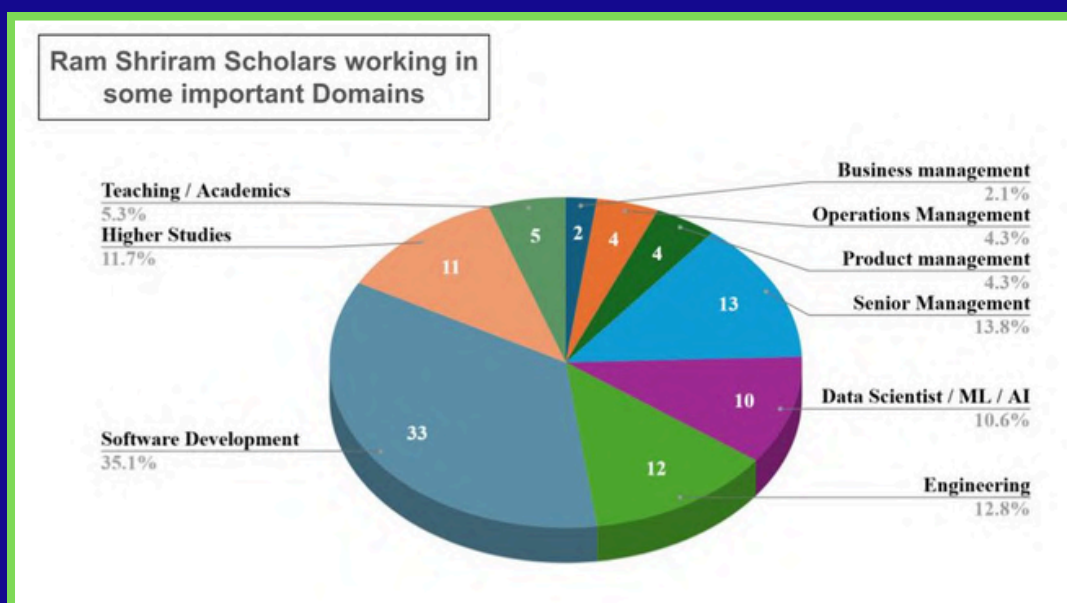
Mr. Ram Shriram has supported more than 750 students in their dreams to earn a Bachelor degree from IIT Madras, both from the B.Tech and the online programmes. More than a 100 of them have graduated and left the portals of the Institute.

We reached out to some of these **erstwhile 'Ram Shriram Scholars'** to find out how they were faring in the outside world. Here is feedback from a few of them, with their messages to Mr. Ram Shriram.

Snapshot of companies where 'Ram Shriram Scholars' now work!



These boys and girls are **now engaged in the following pursuits and working in these fields**



FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



U Gautham

[2022 /B.Tech/ Electrical Engineering]

Graduate Student at Yale

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/gautham-umasankar/>

"Thank you for reaching out to me...During my time doing Electrical Engineering at IIT Madras, I realized I also have a passion for Physics. I found the field of quantum computing and it fit all my interests well.

I'm currently researching superconducting circuits for quantum computing with one of the best research groups in the world, in the Applied Physics department at Yale University. I hope to do quality research and push the boundaries of this field.

I hope to be a part of the generation that makes practical quantum computing a reality and make it a tool available for exploring reality

*My time at IITM made me who I am today. My cohort, my professors, the academic flexibility and of course, scholarships, played a big role in making my journey possible. **The Ram Shriram scholarship eased the need to think about financial requirements and helped me focus more on academics. I am grateful to Mr. Ram Shriram for doing this, and I aspire to be like him someday and to give back to the community that has made me who I am.**"*

Sowjanya Vemuri

[2019/Dual Degree/ Computer Science and Engineering]

Software Engineer, Google.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sowjanya-vemuri/>



*"Thank you for reaching out! **I am very thankful to Mr. Ram Shriram for the scholarship during my undergrad at IITM, it really did help me for my academic fees and also boosted my confidence and pushed me to achieve my goals.**"*

After the graduation from IITM, I joined Google India as a Software Engineer in the Google Search team primarily working on enhancing the Language products such as building new features to help users with pronunciations, translations, usage examples and many other amazing ways to help users understand and learn different languages.

*I worked in India for two years and **later moved to Google Mountain View** to explore new opportunities abroad and since then have been working with the Google Ads team building richer experiences such as enhanced Format optimization for Gmail Ads. Currently, I'm very excited to learn more in the Machine Learning / Artificial Intelligence workstream and build new features for all the users by taking up new exciting opportunities and projects along the way."*



Yashwanth Tadigoppala

[2023/B.Tech/ Electrical Engineering]

Embedded Software Engineer, Enphase Energy.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/yeswanth-tadigoppala-2a81bb1b5/>

“Receiving Ram Shriram scholarship has been transformative for my academic and professional growth. My time at IIT Madras was not only enriching academically but also shaped my values and aspirations. It alleviated financial burdens, allowing me to focus fully on my studies and engage in extracurricular activities that enriched my experience. Additionally, the recognition and support from the scholarship have motivated me to strive for excellence, ultimately enhancing my resume and networking opportunities in my field. This experience has not only shaped my academic journey but also prepared me for future career challenges.”

Krishnakanth R

[2021/B.Tech/ Electrical Engineering]

Pursuing MS at Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/krishnakanth-r-635969201/>



*“I am currently pursuing my Master's at KAIST in Daejeon, Korea, following over two and half rewarding years as an Analog Design Engineer at Texas Instruments in Bangalore. Looking back, I had financial challenges during my time at IITM, and this scholarship was invaluable in supporting my studies. I sincerely wish that many students in need get support and reach great highs and give back to their society. **My heartfelt gratitude to Shri. Ram Shriram for his support.**”*



Durga Prasad Pydi

[2020/B.Tech/ Mechanical Engineering]

IIT Madras, PhD Scholar

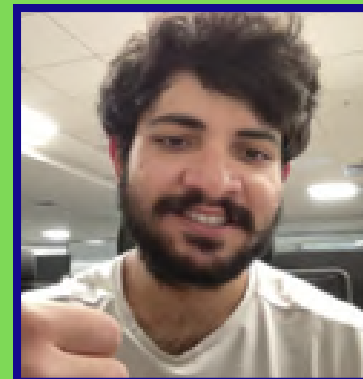
*“I am deeply grateful for the support IITM has provided in connecting me with incredible opportunities to excel in my chosen field and for **Mr Shriram's invaluable support during my undergraduate studies.** Inspired by these experiences, I decided to pursue research as my career path and am now working on my PhD in Building Energy Science here at IITM.”*

Subhankar Chakraborty

[2022/Dual Degree/ Electrical Engineering]

Graviton Research Capital LLP, Quantitative Researcher

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/subhankarchakrabortyiitm/>



I will share my story along with that of my brother Pragyan Chakraborty (who joined in 2018, a year after me), **who also happened to be a recipient of this scholarship** and is planning to write back too! For context, we lost our father back in 2011 and the only source of income in the family was the pension my mother used to receive. **For us, this scholarship was life-changing money.** We both had taken loans for our college fees so this money was not used directly for the fees but it was helpful in a lot of other ways.

- During my registration, we had to pay an upfront amount of close to 70k. My mother could not pay this so we had to borrow from relatives. However, during my brother's admission, since **I had already received the first instance of the scholarship, I could pay the upfront fees for him without needing to borrow money from anyone else.**
- We could fund most of our college related expenses without needing to ask anyone in the family. Laptops, anything required for the college projects, or if we just wanted to eat out once a while. Our college life was **a lot more liveable because of this scholarship.**

We both managed to do fairly well academically (**both of us ended up with 9.6+ GPA and were close to the top of our respective departments if not the absolute top**) and got two of the most coveted placement offers. I managed to secure the **Quantitative Researcher role at Graviton** and **he got the Software Engineering role at Rubrik**, which helped us pay our loans within a few months. We both are in a fairly stable position now and hopefully if things stay alright, we can give our family a good and secure future.

All of this was significantly helped by the scholarship money and **I genuinely cannot thank Mr. Ram Shriram enough.** And I am sure we both are not the only ones."



Rushabh Nirdosh Lalwani

[2021/B.Tech/ Computer Science and Engineering]

True Foundry, Software Engineer

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rushabhlalwani2411/>

"Thank you for reaching out to me. I'm glad that I was sponsored by Mr. Ram Shriram for excelling further in my life.

*I graduated from IITM in 2022 with a B. Tech in CSE. I joined a design SAAS startup - **Infurnia** as a software engineer. During my two years at this startup, I worked on building multiple tools and scalable backend infrastructure. The startup did perform well initially but faced financial problems later. Recently, I switched to another startup - **True Foundry** which is building a platform to help build and deploy ML/AI applications. The founders are amazing people to work for and I'm learning new things every day here. I would like to acknowledge that I'm **very grateful to Mr. Ram Shriram for his support during my college days**. Due to the financial aid, I could invest in health and learn new things, afford to go on small trips nearby, and explore other opportunities.*

People like Mr. Ram inspire me a lot. I try my share of small donations often. I consider it my responsibility to contribute to the world and will keep doing it forever."

Chintala Phani Vignan

[2019/B.Tech/ Electrical Engineering]

Senior Engineer at Qualcomm

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/phani-vignan-43a32112a/>



"I come from a lower middle class family, so during my college days I always had some part of my mind dwelling on money aspects of my education.

Luckily we had MCM scholarship given based on income which waived tuition fees. With that in place, it's some relief but you know I still had other expenditures (hostel, mess, books, etc.,)

Ram Shriram Scholarship was a surprise for me because I wasn't expecting any other scholarships coming my way at that point even though I applied for a few.

***Ram Shriram Scholarship definitely completed my financial freedom. I will always be grateful to Ram Shriram Sir for this scholarship.** It helped me during some tough times which I don't want to mention here. **Thanks again Ram Shriram sir** for this support and for inspiring young minds like me."*



Rishabh Thakur

[2020/B.Tech/ Computer Science and Engineering]

Product Engineer at Sprinklr-Lead

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rishabh-thakur/>

“Since leaving IIT Madras, my professional journey has been both exciting and rewarding. I currently serve as the Lead Product Engineer at Sprinklr Inc., a role I deeply cherish. I started as a Product Engineer and steadily grew into leadership, where I now have the privilege of mentoring junior developers, enhancing system reliability, and driving the development of key features that are integral to our business success.

Looking back, IIT Madras was instrumental in shaping my career.

*I still remember when Ram Shriram sir visited our campus during the scholarship distribution ceremony. His inspiring speech, where he emphasized the importance of giving back to society, has stayed with me. His words encouraged me to always look for ways to contribute, and I’ve carried that sentiment forward in my career. **The Ram Shriram Scholarship has played an essential role in supporting my education and has been a critical factor in allowing me to pursue my academic and professional goals.** Whether by contributing to merit-cum-means scholarships or research initiatives, I’ve tried to give back in small but meaningful ways. The message of giving back continues to inspire and guide me.”*

Danish Mohamed O

[2024/Dual Degree/ Engineering Design]

Digital Integration Analyst at Accenture, Japan



“I am deeply grateful to Mr. Ram Shriram and IIT Madras for the support I received during my student years. Reflecting on my journey, I realize how pivotal this support was in helping me focus on my academics and growth without financial constraints.

I have been fortunate to receive an offer from Accenture Japan, and I’m currently on my way to Tokyo to begin my first job. This opportunity has been a dream come true, and I’m excited to apply the skills and values I developed at IIT Madras in a global context. My time at IITM was transformative, not just academically but also in shaping me personally.

As I start this new chapter, I’m reminded of the kindness and generosity of Mr. Ram Shriram, who has empowered me and many others to pursue our goals. I hope to pay this forward in my own way one day, inspired by his example.”



Anay Mohan Shembekar

[2020/Dual Degree/ Mechanical Engineering]

Graduate Student at IISc, Bangalore

*"I'm deeply touched by this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr. Ram Shriram and share my journey. The scholarship I received during my time at IIT Madras was **truly transformative**. Beyond the financial support for my education, **it enabled me to pursue a research internship at Purdue University** – an experience that proved to be a pivotal moment in my academic journey. That exposure to international research helped crystallize my passion for scientific inquiry and shaped my career path.*

*Today, I am pursuing my PhD at the Indian Institute of Science, building upon the strong foundation laid during my time at IIT Madras. This academic trajectory was made possible in large part **thanks to Mr. Shriram's generous support** during my undergraduate years.*

I am deeply grateful to Mr. Ram Shriram for investing in students' futures and creating opportunities that ripple far beyond our time on campus. His support has helped shape not just careers, but aspirations and dreams."

Anantha Narayanan S

[2020/B.Tech/ Mechanical Engineering]

MathWorks Fellow, MIT, US



*"I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the **Ram Shriram Scholarship** you generously provided during my undergraduate studies at IIT Madras. Your support not only helped fund my undergraduate education but also gave me the confidence and flexibility to take important risks that have helped shape my life since graduating from IIT Madras.*

The support of the Ram Shriram scholarship significantly reduced both the financial as well as mental burden of affording tuition and hostel fees, allowing me to fully focus on academics, co-curricular activities and pursuing undergraduate research. It also provided me the freedom to explore opportunities beyond my immediate circumstances – such as applying for and pursuing a research internship in Canada through the MITACS Fellowship, my first trip outside India. Moreover, your support enabled me to pursue graduate studies abroad, helping me cover the significant costs associated with tests like the GRE and TOEFL, as well as application fees. Knowing that I had the means to complete my undergraduate degree without additional financial strain encouraged me to take these leaps."



Aniket Kamthe

[2020/B.Tech/ Mechanical Engineering]

Investor, Nexus Venture Partners, US

"The scholarship has greatly helped me during my time at college and post that as well, I am currently doing software investing and am based out of San Francisco. If Mr Ram Sriram is in the Bay Area, I would also love to meet him someday!"

Andrea Elizabeth Biju

[2024/Dual Degree / Aerospace Engineering]

PhD Scholar, Harvard University School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, US



*"Thank you for your generous gift to support my study at IITM. I have now completed my program at IITM and **joined Harvard University to pursue a PhD in Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science**. With the help of your gift, I have also been able to pursue research along with my studies at IITM and manage expenses for conferences associated with my research. These opportunities played a pivotal role in securing admission for graduate studies at prestigious universities like Harvard and Stanford. As I begin a new chapter of my life at Harvard University, **I thank you for generously supporting my studies at IITM**. May God bless you and your family for your kindness."*



Garlapati J Akhileswara Gupta

[2021/B.Tech/ Civil Engineering]

Planning & Commercial Manager - TATA Projects Ltd

"I'm very grateful and fortunate to Mr. Ram Shriram ji for helping me out financially through my BTech studies at IITM.

*I'm a civil engineering BTech graduate with an 8.14/10 CGPA. IITM taught me to think independently and work collectively which stays with me forever. I was very stubborn during my placements to stick with core job placement and achieved one as Planning & Commercial Manager at TATA Projects Ltd which is an infrastructure development company. And now I've completed my dual anniversary at my company and am stepping ahead to grow in this industry by applying to foreign MBA programs at top business schools in the world. **The scholarship offered by Ram Shriram ji was a cherry on the cake for me to achieve here**. I'm forever grateful to Ram Shriram ji for his kind help and encouragement to all the students like me."*

Mr. RAM SHRIRAM'S SUPPORT TO ONLINE BS DEGREE STUDENTS

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.

SUPPORT TO THE FOUNDATION LEVEL PROGRAMME

83 + 17 = 100

GIRLS



BOYS



STUDENTS BEING SUPPORTED

CGPA OF STUDENTS SUPPORTED

CGPA	5 - 6	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 9	9 - 10	Grand Total
Female	30	27	15	9	2	83
Male	-	6	5	5	1	17

SUPPORT FROM Mr. RAM SHRIRAM TO THE DIPLOMA LEVEL PROGRAMME

$$90 + 190 = 280$$

GIRLS



BOYS



STUDENTS BEING SUPPORTED

CGPA OF STUDENTS SUPPORTED

CGPA	4 - 5	5 - 6	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 9	9 - 10	Grand Total
Female	1	7	35	35	10	2	90
Male	-	5	55	72	42	16	190

SUPPORT TO THE DEGREE LEVEL PROGRAMME

$$25 + 127 = 152$$

GIRLS



BOYS



STUDENTS BEING SUPPORTED

CGPA OF STUDENTS SUPPORTED

CGPA	6 - 7	7 - 8	8 - 9	9 - 10	Grand Total
Female	2	15	6	2	25
Male	18	53	47	9	127

FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



Suraj

Diploma Course

Bhiwadi, Rajasthan

*“My father’s annual income was around Rs 4 Lakh per annum. During Covid he lost his job. Times were tough after Covid, which was when I decided to take admission in IITM BS degree. As I progressed, I was able to get a scholarship thanks to the donor. **I would like to thank the donor for helping me and many other students who need this help. I can’t describe my happiness when I got the scholarship. My father was also very happy.**”*

Shruti Sinha

Diploma Course

Gaya



*“My mother’s untimely death after terminal illness when I was nine years old, had an immense impact on my family, both financially and emotionally. My family’s financial conditions are still creating a lot of struggles in reaching my career goals. I was thinking of rejoining the workforce and giving up my studies when I got this scholarship which helped to pay my fees and concentrate solely on my studies. **I am grateful to Mr. Ram Shriram for this scholarship. I feel in some way I got a second chance to fulfil my almost broken dream.**”*





Om Aryan

Diploma Course

Delhi

*"I come from a lower middle class from UP and my family members are unable to bear my educational fees for IIT Madras. This scholarship came as a wonder for my IITM journey. **I will always be thankful to Mr. Ram Shriram** for considering me and providing me a much needed scholarship for this course."*

Naveen Yadav

Diploma Course

Jaipur, Rajasthan



*"Currently I am living in a family of four. My father is the only source for family income. This scholarship is **a God-sent opportunity to me**. With my fee being paid, I am more than relieved to focus on my studies. I am very grateful for the help you have provided. Now I am more determined to study more. This scholarship is a great help for middle and low income group families."*



Kavali Sofia Sagar

Degree Programme

Telangana, Hyderabad

*"My father is laid-off at present. We have few savings to go by currently. This scholarship helps me a lot to continue my studies. **Thank you so much for the scholarship**. Thanks to your generous scholarship I am about to complete my degree finally this semester."*



**"GIVING IS NOT JUST ABOUT
MAKING A DONATION -
IT'S ABOUT
MAKING A DIFFERENCE"**

We are grateful to you and your family

Mr. Ram Shriram



We express our heartfelt gratitude to you for your continued and generous support to IIT Madras through all these years. We trust that you take great pride in your bond with IIT Madras and the unwavering dedication it has demonstrated towards student welfare, and academic & research excellence.

Your invaluable contributions have played a pivotal role in facilitating the remarkable growth of the Institute and touched the lives of several students from across the country. We are indeed privileged to have you and your family walking with us along this journey. We extend our best wishes to you and your loved ones.



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