



Indian Institute of Technology Madras
Office of Alumni and Corporate Relations



STUDENT DISTRESS FUND REPORT 2024

ABOUT STUDENT DISTRESS FUND

The Student Distress Fund was set up to lend a helping hand to students who require financial support. When students are faced with unfortunate situations like accidents, loss of family members/ breadwinners of the family, the promising fund has brought light into the lives of students.

These difficulties should not hamper or deprive the education of the bright minds who have worked hard and earned their befitting place in this prestigious Institute. Rightfully, this fund has helped many students in need and have inspired a few of them to carry forward this legacy of helping those in need.

This report carries the stories of the beneficiaries of the Student Distress Fund who benefitted from it during 2023.



"A total of 37 students have benefitted using the fund during 2023 and a sum of Rs.8.7L was disbursed for the same"

FEEDBACK FROM A FEW OF THE BENEFICIARIES



Kuchula Chandu
Mechanical Engineering

Family background:

My family background is a lower middle class family my father works as a Agricultural labour and my mother is a house wife .My brother working as a Software Engineer in Wipro and currently I am working as a Data scientist in Tvs motors.

Aspirations:

My aspirations to become a good software engineer and grow in my career as a SDE

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

Due to financial issues I am unable to pay the hostel fee that's why I applied for the SDF .

Achievements:

I cracked IIT MADRAS after 12th standard that is my biggest achievement and after graduation I cracked placement as a Data scientist in Tvs motors

How the fund was useful to me ?

It is very useful for me to clear the college dues due to financial issues

“I am very thankful to the donor and expressing great gratitude to the Donors.”

FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



Raushan Kumar
Civil Engineering

Family background:

We come from a small village Hulasi tola in Maner, Patna, Bihar. My father is a farmer, and my mother works as AASHA in Primary Health Care Centre. We are four brothers and a sister.

Aspirations:

Since I am a person with disability, I would like to work in disability sector, but before that I would first like to secure a job for myself and then think about my larger aspirations of life.

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

As my father had heart attack during Covid 19, and my mother had been suffering from brain tumour. A lot of what they had saved and earned are spent on their health, leaving little money to pay my dues while I was graduating. Hence, I applied for SDF.

Achievements:

After graduating I have appeared for government exam. I could not clear SSC CGL, I cleared the first round of SSA EPFO exam but could not make into the final merit list. Still trying for other exams.

How the fund was useful to me ?

It provided a great relief us specially for my parents, as they had to take money from other people at extremely high interest rates.

“I have deep respect for you thank you for helping us in the distressed condition and thank you from the bottom of heart. I will try hard to earn so much such that I can become donor like you in the future and help those who are in need.”

FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



Himanshu Tiwari
Civil engineering

Family background:

I belong to a farmer family, and my parent's annual income is below 80,000 INR.

Aspirations:

I am preparing for the government services, so I would like to crack all the exams I am going to attend in my final year.

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

To get financial support so that I don't have to ask my parents for pocket money, books, courses, travel etc.

Achievements:

Till now I have achieved a good rank in JEE Advance only, I don't have any interest in the corporate sector so I didn't apply for the internship.

“Thanks for helping economically weak students.”

FEEDBACK FROM A FEW OF THE BENEFICIARIES



Janjanam Naveen
Electrical Engineering

Family background:

We are a family of three, with my father, mother, and myself. My father is a daily worker, mother is a homemaker.

Aspirations:

An important part of my life's work is making a difference in the world through my work. The possibilities that await me are thrilling, and I am dedicated to reaching my goals through a process of constant self-improvement and education.

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

I was in a train accident and need financial assistance for my hospital bills and for purchasing prosthetic limb.

Achievements:

Awarded National Merit Scholarship for my good performance in Intermediate, 2010, Cleared GATE 2021 exam in the Electrical Engineering category, Organized a departmental event ECLAN, 2013.

How the fund was useful to me ?

Thanks to the funds that were given, I can cover a portion of my medical bill.

“I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the generous donors who have contributed and thanks to your generosity, I have been able to cover my hospital bills.”

FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



Virendra Kumar
Aerospace Engineering

Family background:

I belong to lower middle class family where my father was the only source of income. My family is having, grandparents, parents, one sibling, one uncle, aunty and their 4 children.

Aspirations:

I want to build my mental and financial foundation in a way so that we can live life with happiness and will be able to support to get the same.

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

My father fell sick and i was not having option to get financial assistance.

Achievements:

My best achievement is, I never failed up till now and my parents says, I'm the first successful kid of the family.

How the fund was useful to me ?

It helped to clear my mess dues.

“I'm whole heartedly thankful to all the donors and I pray God to give the good health and strength.”

FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



Jayasree K
Chemistry

Family background:

I'm elder most of my siblings, and My father was expired a few years back. My mother is a survivor from breast carcinoma. As I do have a family responsibilities, I had followed my heart and chose to pursue Ph. D. in chemistry.

Aspirations:

I would like to pursue Post doctoral research in the field of material chemistry. I wish to help the community through my research activities on smart materials.

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

As my stipend got over, I'm unable to pay my academic fees for the semester. Without any financial support, I struggled to pay my due. Then, I had applied for the SDF.

Achievements:

I have totally published four articles in a internationally recognized, peer-reviewed journals. One my paper related to artificial ammonia production was recently accepted in a high profile journal, Journal of Materials Chemistry A

How the fund was useful to me ?

The timely help to support my financial need was motivating me to concentrate on my research and aided me to focus on my research without any financial stress.

“I thank all the donors whole-heartedly. Thanks very much to everyone who believes in us, researchers!”

FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



Dhruvajyoti Barah
Electrical Engineering

Family background:

My grandfather was a freedom fighter. He and my grandmother devoted their life in social service. My father couldn't complete his college education due to many problems in the family and finally settled in a clerical job. Hence, I belong to a lower middle class family and my family has lot of expectations from me.

Aspirations:

My aspirations are high. I want to contribute to the technological revolution which the future generation is going to witness in the coming years. Moreover, I want to contribute to the scientific education and development of scientific temperament in the society where I have grown up.

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

My mother was diagnosed with colon cancer

Achievements:

Being at IITM is the biggest achievement that I dreamt for.

How the fund was useful to me ?

For buying medicines at this time of need.

“I am ever grateful to them which cannot be expressed with words. May God bless them to help more people in need.”

FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



Sonam Tantuvoiy
Civil Engineering

Family background:

My mother is homemaker and father is retired.

Aspirations:

I would like to go for postdoc abroad for which as soon as good opportunity comes.

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

I need to finish my PhD and my scholarship is already over since I have crossed fifth year due to some unfortunate circumstances including COVID and medical reasons. So till may 2024 I need to survive in city like Chennai.

Achievements:

I have published a paper in a journal having good impact factor. And also I have been working on a paper which is going to get published soon.

How the fund was useful to me ?

It will be useful for paying hostel fees and other expenses related to survive in Chennai.

“I will be thankful to the people from the bottom of my heart who would help me in distressing time to finish my PhD at earliest.”

FEEDBACK FROM THE BENEFICIARIES



Subhadeep Banerjee
Chemistry

Family background:

In my family, my father is the only earning member. He was doing service under the state government of West Bengal. He retired on 31st December 2020. My family is running now with his pension.

Aspirations:

My goal is to excel academically and secure a position in academia.

Reason for applying for the Distress Fund:

I got admission in IIT Madras at July, 2016 as a Ph.D. scholar. At my 4.5 years of Ph.D., my guide suddenly demised. So, I moved to another lab and restarted my Ph.D. with a new project. Since my fellowship finished in 2021 July, I applied for this.

Achievements:

1. Till now, I published two articles in two different international journals.
2. I achieved a best poster award in Theoretical Chemistry Symposium 2023.

How the fund was useful to me ?

The fund helped me a lot during staying in IIT Madras and completing my Ph.D.

“I would like express my gratitude and a lot of thanks to the person contributed. Later, if I will be in a position to help someone, surely I will help.”



Thank You

We are grateful to the contributors for your commitment to our organization, and belief in our mission. Your generosity is an inspiration to all of us, and we cannot thank you enough for your support.



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