Appeal to Contribute to the IIT Delhi Benevolent Fund

Humanity is passing through a challenging period now. Governments of almost all world nations, with utmost cooperation from the common man, are grappling with the means to contain the spreading of the pandemic. This is also the time when human beings overcome their narrow interests and rise to the occasion, showing exemplary instances of fraternity and universal compassion. For us Indians, it is an opportunity to demonstrate the values on which the Indian Constitution is founded: Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. As concerned citizens, our first focus is on our very own campus, where there is immediate need for us to exhibit our generosity and goodwill. Our own students in their unique way made it to the news as Samaritans who voluntarily came together to provide living allowance to the Rickshaw-pullers on campus through personal contributions (see [https://www.pressreader.com/india/ht-city/20200320/281539408036749](https://www.pressreader.com/india/ht-city/20200320/281539408036749)).

In order to expand this initiative, and to carry it on beyond the present crisis period as well, the IIT Delhi Benevolent Fund has been instituted, where voluntary contributions could be received in a formal and transparent manner for meeting the needs of the people of the lower economic strata that depend on the campus community. A committee chaired by me would oversee the fund collection, disbursement and transparency of its operation. Prof. M.R. Ravi of Department of Mechanical Engineering, who is the vice-chairperson of the committee, would oversee the activities of the committee. A bank account of the Institute has also been earmarked to receive the funds electronically. A web-page of the fund would be maintained as part of IIT Delhi website, in which the updates of the funds collected and disbursed would be posted, along with details of the campaign for fundraising and feedbacks from beneficiaries. Annexure-I contains details of the payment modes possible.

The people proposed to be covered under this fund and an estimate of immediate requirements, in preparation for a likely 3-months lockdown period, can be seen in Annexure-II. It can be seen that there is an immediate, one-time requirement exceeding Rs. 3.4 crores. Thinking into the future, it is planned to create a corpus for this fund from voluntary contributions, either in the form of one-time donations or in the form of recurring contributions of small amounts every month. The purpose would be to maintain adequate funds so as to be able to support the weaker section of the community in their times of need.

I sincerely appeal to all faculty and staff of the Institute to come forward and make generous contributions so that we could do justice to the kind of support required. I also appeal to the student community and to their parents to rise to the occasion and contribute generously. The Dean, Student Affairs would make an estimate of additional amount to be included into the mess bill to cover BHM employees’ wages. Even besides this, students could make contributions to the fund in their own capacity, as well as encourage their parents to support the initiative in this hour of need. Student volunteers would reach out to you about the same.

Since the requirements are large, this responsibility cannot be satisfactorily handled without able support and generous contributions from our Alumni and the Corporates of the nation, for whom the Institute works relentlessly. I solicit generous participation in this movement from our alumni and industries so that this programme can set an example for the other Institutions of the nation to emulate.

I invite all members of the Institute family to put their hands together so that the fraternity of informal and formal service providers to this family feel that we are there with them in their hours of need.

V. Ramgopal Rao
Director, IIT Delhi
Annexure I
Modes of Contribution to IIT Delhi Benevolent Fund

1. A payment gateway permitting multiple options for payment has been set up. Please visit [https://iitd.almaconnect.com/donations/iit-delhi-benevolent-fund](https://iitd.almaconnect.com/donations/iit-delhi-benevolent-fund) for details.
   Please ensure that you send your details to ravimr@iitd.ac.in in the following format:
   Subject line: IIT Delhi Benevolent Fund
   Donor’s Name:
   Contact Number: e-mail id:
   Amount of Donation:
   Mode of payment:
   Whether prefer to be anonymous: (Yes / No)
   After verifying the credit of the amount to the account, an official receipt would be prepared and sent to the donor.

2. The gateway charges 1.5% -2% charges. In case you wish to avoid paying this you can do Online Transfer or Cheques payable to:
   Name – “IIT Delhi External Grants”
   Account Number - 10773572644
   Bank - State Bank of India,
   Branch - IIT Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi, India
   IFSC - SBIN0001077
   MICR – 110002156
   If doing NEFT or sending cheque, please ensure that you send your details to ravimr@iitd.ac.in in the following format:
   Subject line: IIT Delhi Benevolent Fund
   Donor’s Name:
   Contact Number: e-mail id:
   Amount of Donation:
   Mode of payment:
   Transaction id:
   Whether prefer to be anonymous: (Yes / No)
   After verifying the credit of the amount to the account, an official receipt would be prepared and sent to the donor.

3. Employees may opt to authorize the Institute to deduct 1-day’s (Salary+DA) by signing the form enclosed in Annexure III and e-mailing a scanned copy to draccounts@admin.iitd.ac.in. The deduction would be made from the salary of April 2020, since salaries for March are already processed.
Annexure II

Estimated Expenditure in the event of a 3-Months’ Lockdown

Proposed Beneficiaries
Beneficiaries would include the informal service providers of the campus (including rickshaw pullers, night mess workers, presswalas, dhobis and kabari-walas), construction workers and other workers employed by contractors providing service to the institute (such as house-keeping, solid-waste management and workers in campus commercial outlets), daily-wage and contractual employees of mess under BHM, and other daily-wage and contractual group-4 level employees under security, estate and works, establishment, and research project staff under IRD. At present, the purpose of this fund can be focussed on the people adversely affected by the lockdown due to the nCOVID 19 pandemic, and in future it could continue to function for financially supporting these categories of people in their times of crisis including medical emergencies.

Estimate of Immediate Financial Requirements
At present, as per the recent directives of the Government of India, the Institute is trying to ensure that all contractual staff of establishment, various contractor services, security and IRD projects are paid their wages through the respective agencies, and the expenses are being covered by the Institute / project to the extent possible for the entire period of lockdown. BHM is also making efforts to cover the wages of its daily-wage and contractual employees, for which students may be asked to contribute through their mess bills. However, in the event of the lockdown period getting extended beyond April 14, these could become a significant financial burden.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
<th>Estimated Number of people</th>
<th>Monthly amount (Rs)</th>
<th>Total for 3 months (Rs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>BHM daily-wage and contractual employees</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>20000</td>
<td>2,10,00,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Construction workers</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>1,08,00,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Informal service providers*</td>
<td>58*</td>
<td>14000</td>
<td>24,36,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,42,36,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Informal service providers include 17 rickshaw-pullers, 30 night mess workers, 7 families of press-walas, 2 families of dhobis and 2 kabari-walas (the exact numbers of potential beneficiaries are being ascertained)
** Out of this, the student initiative has covered the rickshaw-pullers’ requirements for the 15 days of March 2020 through a collection of about Rs. 1.2 lakhs.

Estimated Need for Contributions
This is a large requirement, and needs generous contributions from all concerned: faculty, staff, alumni, and others associated with the campus in various ways. Even if all employees of the Institute make a one-time contribution of an average amount of Rs. 20000 each, the total funds raised would only reach Rs. 2.2 crores. This could give you an idea of the extent of support required.
Annexure III
Declaration by Employees

I hereby authorize the Institute to deduct one day’s salary+DA from my salary for the month of April 2020 towards the relief to the underprivileged persons providing their services to the campus community, in view of the lockdown for protection against the novel Coronavirus pandemic, through the IIT Delhi Benevolent Fund.

_____________________
(Signature)

Name:______________________________
Employee Code:______________________________
Department:______________________________
Contact Number:______________________________

Deputy Registrar (Accounts)