# IEEE Women In Engineering Madras Section Affinity Group

## 2023 ACTIVITY REPORT

### Nurturing Growth Mindset

IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section proudly organised a spellbinding webinar **Nurturing Growth Mindset**. The motivation to organize this webinar was to spot a light on all with the good and healthy mindset. The guiding light of this topic was **Ms. Suganya Raman,** Regional Talent Lead, Asia Talent Management, Flex.

The session embarked virtually on 30th January, 2023 at 7 PM IST with a warm welcome to the dignitaries and attendees present. Following that, the attendees were given cognizance on what the session is all about and what will be their key takeaways. Posterior to this, Dr. T Sree Sharmila, Chair, IEEE WIE MAS welcomed the gathering with a cordial welcome and Mr. Niranjan Kumar S, Student Exe-com Member introduced the speaker, Ms. Suganya Raman. The session was then passed on to the speaker.

Ms. Suganya Raman kept all in toes throughout the presentation. She explained the concepts behind our mindset and how we react to the society and how people will judge us, their mindset, behavioural activities, thought provoking mind thoughts for hale and healthy mental health. She also touched on the thinking and behavioural approach to others and their response. A total of 59 participants benefitted from this event.

The session came to an end with a Q & A session. To commemorate this session, the attendees clicked a group picture with the speaker. To make the final closure, Dr. Soma Prathibha, Vice Chair, IEEE WIE MAS expressed her gratitude to the speaker and the attendees for taking time and attending this session and celebration of IEEE Women In Engineering Madras Section. Truly an enthralling and spellbinding event, it was!
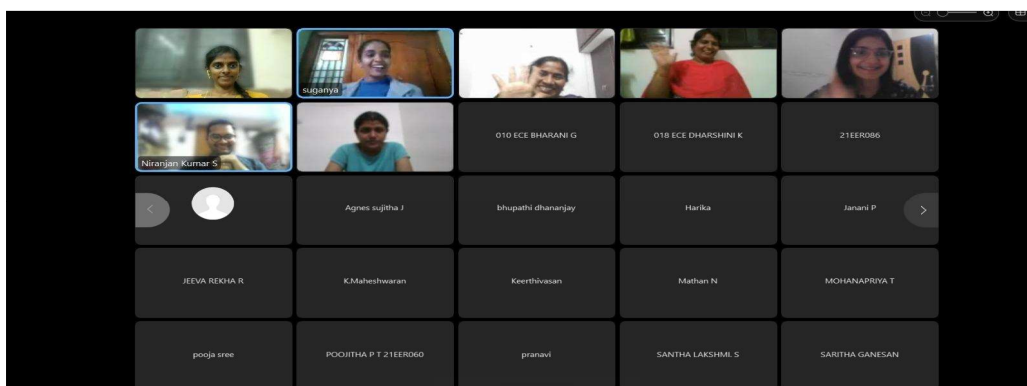


### Awareness Webinar on Shri Pralhad P. Chhabria Awards

IEEE Madras Section, IEEE Madras Women in Engineering in association with IEEE Madras Young Professionals organized an awareness webinar on Shri Pralhad P. Chhabria Awards" on 13 February 2023. Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair, IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section welcome the participants and speakers. The speakers of

the event were 2020 Shri Pralhad P Chhabria Award Winners Dr. Esther Florence, Associate Professor, Dept of ECE, SSN College of Engineering, Chennai, and Ms. Janani, Program Manager, Teach for India. They gave a very good insight on the awards, Hope Foundation in association with the IEEE India Council and Women In Engineering Affinity Group, IEEE Pune Section has instituted the Pralhad P. Chhabria Awards from the year 2017, in memory of Late Shri Pralhad P Chhabria, Founder President, Hope Foundation. These awards applaud academic and professional achievements of young women for their accomplishments in the areas of Science, Engineering and Technology. Finally, Mr. M. Arun felicitates the 2020 award winners with e-memento and delivered the vote of thanks. A total of 36 participants benefited from this event.



## IEEE WIE MAS "International Day of Women and Girls in Science"

IEEE Women In Engineering Affinity Group, Madras Section in association with St Joseph's College of Engineering, IEEE WiE Affinity group organised a Panel Discussion - "SHEIgnite" with the theme of "Bringing Everyone Forward" on behalf of International day of Women and girls in science on 14 February, 2023. The event focuses to inspire and share ideas with people in all areas and sectors, especially the women's community, to advance and meet the challenges of their different workplace environments. The event was fulfilled with 3 renowned Panellists. Dr. S. Radha, Senior Professor and Vice Principal, SSN College of Engineering, served as our first panellist and shared her opinions on how women should balance their personal and professional lives during the discussion. She also emphasised the value of IEEE to students with engineering backgrounds. Dr. R. Ramaprabha, the second panellist, Associate Professor, Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, SSNCE. She shared her thoughts on how newcomers might tackle the recession in an intelligent way. Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair, IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, Associate Professor, Department of Information Technology, SSNE, the third panellist, presented a lot of

information on recent developments and little-known but engaging IEEE platforms. The panel discussion is followed by a Query session. Before the panel discussion, A networking session - an interactive session- an ice-breaking session was held. A series of rounds were planned and conducted which includes Connections, Riddles, Tongue Twisters and an Open-talk minute. The best partakers in these rounds were awarded with exciting goodies. The event was moderated by Ms. Jamuna U, Chairperson of IEEE WIE SJCE SBC. The entire event was coordinated by the IEEE WIE SJCE SB Office Bearers along with Mr. R. Sreekanth, IEEE SB Counselor. A total of 65 student members benefited from this event.



## Engineers day celebration - IoT BOT workshop

IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section in association with IEEE Women in Engineering student branch chapter affinity group, Sri Sairam Engineering College celebrated National Engineers Day by conducting "IoT BOT workshop" on 20 February 2023. The speakers are Aouthithiye Barathwaj SR Y,Co-Founder & Chief Technology Officer, Genik Technologies, and Haariharan N C,Co-Founder & Director of Projects, Genik Technologies. This workshop was conducted into two segments one was live seminar and in another segment the participants were allowed to actively engage and perform Hands-on project implementation with the live demonstration. The speakers explained about Internet of Things, cloud firebase and various sensors and its applications were explained by them and later on the speakers explained in detail about it in detail and its applications. The students have gained knowledge on IOT projects after attending this one-day workshop training program. Students will able to perform, operate and identify different IOT enabled system/applications in agricultural field that helps farmers to maximize yields using minimal resources such as water, fertilizer and seeds etc. A total of 120 students participated from this event.

# Outreach program on Introduce a Girl to Engineering

In the View of International Women's Day, IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section in association with SRM Women-In-Engineering (WIE) SB AG and Dept. of ECE organized an Outreach Event "Introducing a Girl to Engineering" to 8th and 9th Standard Girl students of Government Higher Secondary School, Anjur - 603 204, Chengalpattu District. 63 Students have attended the event. The first speaker Dr. M. Malathi, Guest Faculty, EE Dept. of IIT Madras, gave a motivational talk to students through her life history of how she evolved from Govt. School student to IIT Research Professor. She and her assistant also demonstrated experiments in Electronics, Optical communication and Acoustic effects. The second speaker Dr. E. Povammal, Professor, Dept of C.Tech, SRMIST also gave motivational talk to students on using opportunities at right time and to grow up in life.



# "Maathare" - Women's Day Special Seminar

IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, in association with SSN IEEE Women in Engineering student branch affinity group, organized a special seminar titled "Maathare" on International Women's Day, 8th March 2023, at SSN College of Engineering. The event aimed to celebrate the achievements of women in the field of engineering and to inspire the next generation of women leaders in the industry. The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair, IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, who welcomed the participants. The event featured two distinguished speakers: Dr. D. Bhuvaneswari, Professor and Director, College Governing Council & HOD, Department of International Law, The Tamil Nadu, Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Perungudi, Chennai, and Dr. A. Kavitha, Professor & HoD, Department of BME, SSNCE. Dr. Bhuvaneswari spoke about various cybercrime use cases in India against women, discussing the limitations of existing cyber laws and raising awareness among the students regarding the need for safety in cyberspace. Dr. Kavitha shared her journey of leadership as the HoD for a decade. She discussed her ways of balancing personal and professional life and her success mantra of team efforts. A total of 189 participants benefitted from the event. The event concluded with Dr. S. Karthika, Faculty

Advisor, WIE, SSNCE, conveying a vote of thanks. The seminar was informative and inspiring for the students, who gained valuable insights into the challenges faced by women in engineering and the ways to overcome them. Overall, the event was a great success, and the organizers expressed their gratitude to all the participants and the speakers who made the event possible.
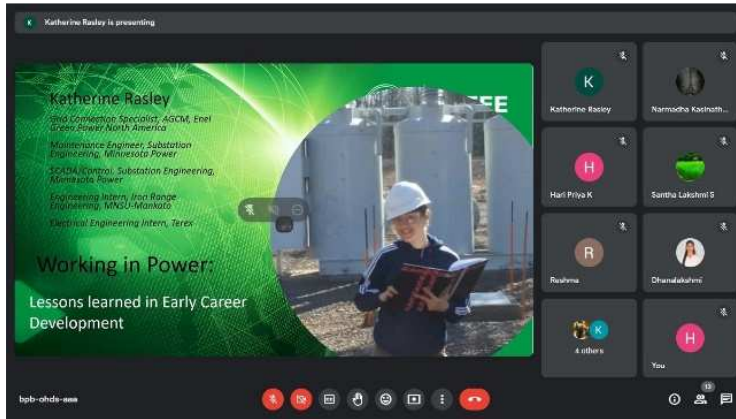


## Webinar on Women Empowerment

IEEE Madras Women in Engineering, IEEE Madras Young Professionals, IETE Chennai Centre, Panimalar Institute of Technology IEEE WIE & IEEE SB had proudly presented Estrella on the occasion of International Women's Day. For this we had organized a webinar on the topic Women Empowerment on 9.3.23. The speaker of this session was Dr. Ashwini Appaji, Vice Chair of WIE Bangalore Section. She spoke about the advancement of women in social, professional, and political spheres. She offered a few suggestions as well for developing strategic decision-making skills. She also discussed several strategies for enhancing women's empowerment. Nearly 20+ attended this session. Reshma and Sushmitha Coordinated the session successfully along with the Staff Coordinator Mr. M. Arun, AP/ECE.
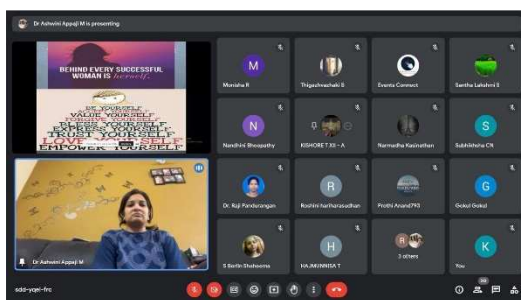


## Webinar On Working in Power: Lessons learned in Early Career Development

IEEE Madras Women in Engineering, IEEE Madras Young Professionals, IETE Chennai Centre, Panimalar Institute of Technology IEEE WIE & IEEE SB had proudly presented Estrella International Women's Day Celebration. For this we had organised a webinar on the topic Working in Power: Lessons Learned In Early Career Development on 10.3.23. The

speaker of this session was Katherine Rasley, Grid Connection Specialist, Enel Green Power,USA. She addressed the advancement of women in numerous fields and women in professional leadership. She also highlighted how women take the initiative in assisting the family in adjusting to the obstacles and new realities. Nearly 20+ participants attended this session. Reshma and Sushmitha Coordinated the session successfully along with the Staff Coordinator Mr. M. Arun, AP/ECE.



## Webinar on Journey of Women in Technology

IEEE Madras Women In Engineering, IEEE Madras Young Professionals, IETE Chennai Centre, Panimalar Institute of Technology, IEEE WIE and IETE ISF proudly presented Estrella International Women's Day Celebration. For this we organized a webinar on the topic Journey of Women In Technology on 11.3.23. The speaker of this session was Nimra Naeem, ASSR at IEEE Islamabad Section, HR at Ingenetic labs. She shared how women face day to day challenges in technology. She shared her own journey in IEEE. She gave some ideas, how to overcome challenges and how to tackle them. Nearly 20+ participants attended this session. Reshma, Sushmitha and Kamaleeshwari Coordinated the session successfully along with the Staff Coordinator Mr. M. Arun, AP/ECE.
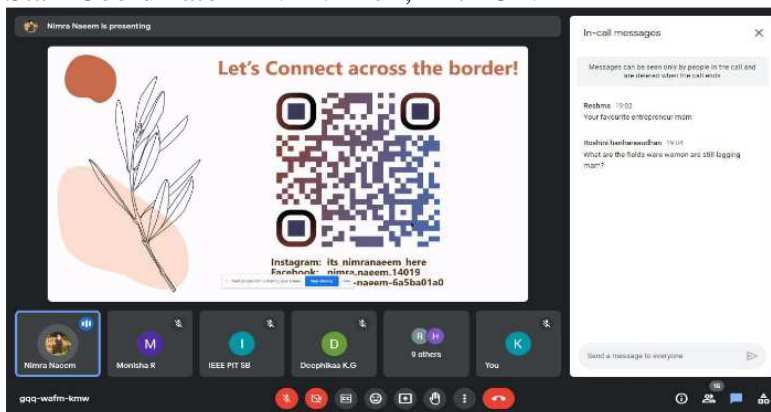


## SAKHI 2023

IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, in association with IEEE WIE Kongu Engineering College, celebrated Women's Day under the banner of SAKHI'2023 on 18th March 2023. The event consisted of a technical event, including paper presentation, project presentation, and non-technical events. A total of 69 students participated in the paper presentation, with 25 teams competing in the event, which was organized in three slots. Six

teams participated in the project presentation, and three teams in each contest were selected as winners. In total, 12 teams received the winning certification. The valedictory function of the celebration began with the felicitation address by Dr. J. Vijayalakshmi, the Branch Counselor, followed by the presidential address by Dr. R. Meenakumari, Faculty Incharge, WIE. Dr. P. S. Kothai, Professor and Head, Department of Civil Engineering, Kongu Engineering College, delivered the valedictory lecture on "Empowerment of Women in Holistic Dimension" and distributed the certificates. The event was a great success, and the participants appreciated the opportunity to showcase their skills and talents. The organizers expressed their gratitude to all the participants and to the speakers who made the event a success. Overall, the event was a wonderful celebration of Women's Day and the achievements of women in the field of engineering.



## International Women's Day Webinar Series: IEEE WIE LeadX – Work Life Balance

IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section organized a webinar series on "IEEE WIE LeadX - Work Life Balance" to commemorate International Women's Day on 18 March 2023. Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair of WIE, Madras Section, welcomed the participants and introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Mini Ulanat, Chair of IEEE Kerala Section. During the webinar, Dr. Ulanat offered practical advice and actionable tips to help women achieve a better balance between their personal and professional lives. Her insights on how to prioritize tasks, manage time efficiently, and set realistic expectations were particularly insightful and inspiring to the participants. A total of 28 participants benefited from the webinar, gaining valuable knowledge and skills to help them balance their personal and professional lives more effectively. Overall, the event was a great success, and the participants expressed their gratitude to IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, for organizing such a valuable webinar.
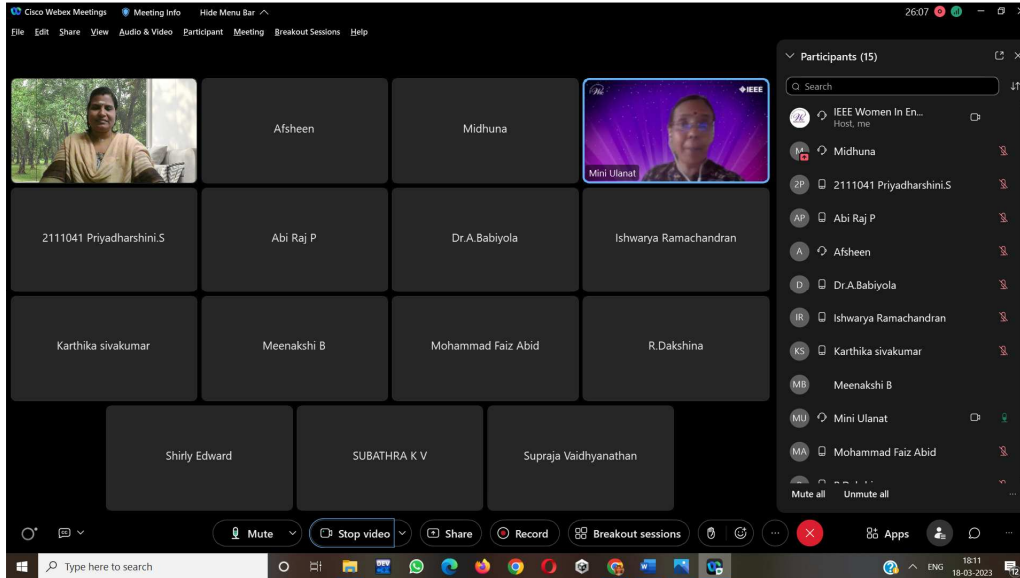
## International Women's Day Webinar Series: Research and Innovation for Embracing Equity and Women Empowerment

IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section organized an International Women's Day Webinar Series titled "Research and Innovation for Embracing Equity and Women Empowerment" on 19 March 2023. The event was hosted by Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair, IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, who welcomed the participants and gave an overview of the activities conducted by IEEE WIE Madras Section. The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Celia Shahnaz, a Professor in the Department of EEE at BUET and the Chair of the IEEE WIE Committee 2023-2024. She was introduced by Ms. Pooja Sharma, Treasurer of IEEE WIE Madras Section. During her presentation, Dr. Shahnaz provided valuable insights on the history of IEEE WIE, the MGA committee structure, WIE International Leadership Summits, member and affinity group support, and their recognitions, grants, and scholarships. She also shared her personal experience with the WIE brand and the power of networking.

The event was attended by 33 participants who benefited greatly from Dr. Celia Shahnaz's presentation. The participants appreciated the opportunity to learn about the resources available to them through IEEE WIE and the importance of networking in achieving their goals. The event concluded with a vote of thanks from Dr. Soma Prathiba, Vice-Chair, IEEE WIE Madras Section, who expressed gratitude to Dr. Shahnaz for sharing her valuable insights and to IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, for organizing such an informative and inspiring event. The event was a great success, and the participants left with a renewed sense of motivation to pursue their professional goals with the support of IEEE WIE.
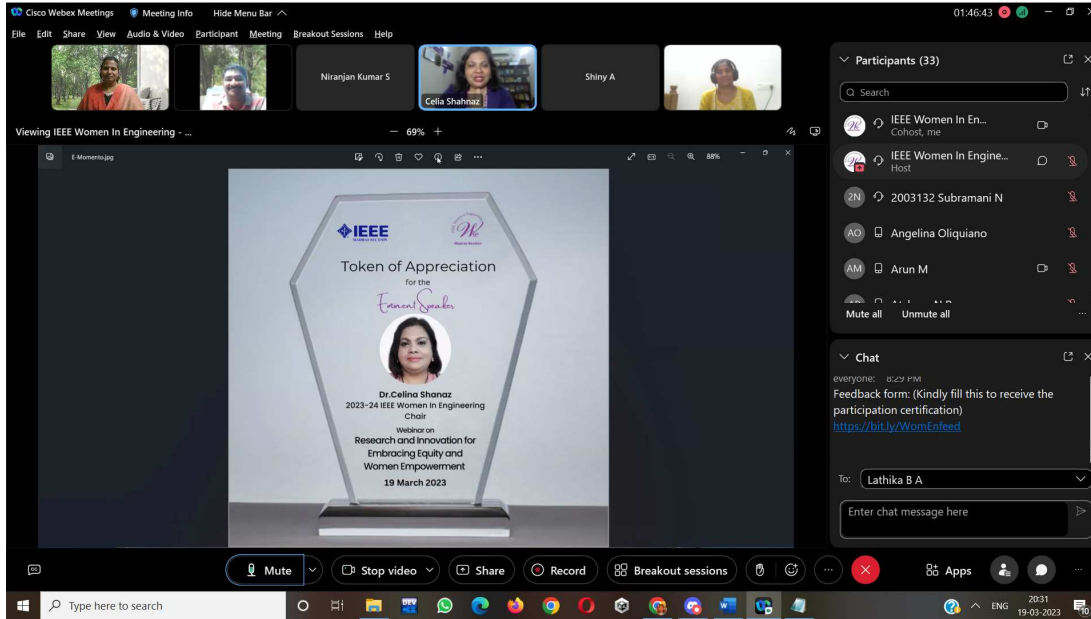
## Connecting the Dots 2.0

The IEEE Women in Engineering Madras Section organized "Connecting the Dots 2.0" to celebrate Women in Engineering Day 2023 at the College of Engineering Guindy, Anna University, Chennai, on July 1, 2023. The event was sponsored by IEEE Women in Engineering Global, IEEE Photonics Society Madras Chapter, IEEE Young Professionals Madras Chapter and IEEE Signal Processing Society Madras Chapter. The inauguration commenced with Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair, IEEE WIE AG, Madras Section, expressed her gratitude to the attendees and highlighted the significance of the event in bridging the gap between women studying engineering and those pursuing actual engineering careers. She emphasized the importance of empowering women in engineering to create a more sustainable future and urged the audience to make the most of the networking and learning opportunities provided by the event; Dr. Soma Prathibha, Vice Chair addressed the gathering, providing an overview of the event. Additionally, the event was graced by the presence of esteemed guest speakers, Dr. S. Radha, Treasurer, IEEE Madras Section, and Ms. Deepa Vijayaraghavan, Director of PMO at PayPal. Their participation added value to the event and provided unique insights from their respective areas of expertise. Dr. Radha shared her thoughts on the importance of women's participation in engineering and the role of professional organizations in supporting their growth. She highlighted the various initiatives undertaken by the Madras Section to encourage and empower women in the field of engineering.

Ms. Deepa Vijayaraghavan, Director of PMO at PayPal and Founder of "Shevolve" addressed the gathering about setting a career for oneself. Her knowledge and insights on career development in the engineering industry made her a valuable resource for the attendees. The session on "Career Readiness" focused on key elements crucial for career success and growth. Ms. Deepa emphasized key elements such as self-reflection, branding, communication, networking, and confidence. After her talk, the following student branch chapters demonstrated their dedication and commitment to the betterment of the Women in Engineering Affinity

Group through their diverse projects, initiatives, and events: St. Joseph's College of Engineering, Sri Sivasubramaniya Nadar College of Engineering, Sri Sairam Engineering College, Panimalar Institute of Technology, Jeppiar Engineering College, Sri Sairam Institute of Technology, and St. Joseph's Institute of Technology. Their collective efforts showcased the positive impact that student branches can have in empowering women in engineering and inspiring future generations to pursue engineering careers.

As part of CTD 2.0, we conducted "WIE Talk". Six student speakers and a young professional were selected for WIE Talk. The following are the speakers and their titles: Ms. Abhinaya Sri T - Journey and opportunities for IEEE WIE, Ms. Supraja Vaidhyanathan - Women in R&D, Ms. Mrithula KL - Women in Technology, Mr. Abhijay Gopal S - Opportunities for women in Volunteering & Leadership, Ms. Keerthana S - Women in Literature, Mr. Manish - Opportunities for Women in Entrepreneurship, and Dharini V - Journey in WIE. This WIE Talk was a highly anticipated event where we gained a unique opportunity to have a lasting impact. Then, Dr. N. Bhalaji, Coordinator, SSN iFound, SSN College of Engineering, shared interesting points about startups. He briefly discussed starting a startup and the involvement of individuals with considerations. Finally, a networking event was conducted to expand the professional network, explore new opportunities, and interact and enjoy within the gathering. This session was led by the volunteers Harry and Sathyapriya and consisted of quizzes, tongue twisters, songs, and connections. Furthermore, the closing ceremony began with the announcement of the winners of the student branch presentation, followed by presenting appreciation certificates to all the student speakers and young professionals. Finally, the vote of thanks was presented by Mr. Niranjan Kumar S, WIE Student Exe-com member, thanking everyone for making this a memorable day. A total of 52 participants and 12 volunteers benefited from this event.

# IEEE WIE MAS Leadership Conclave 2023

The IEEE WIE MAS Leadership Conclave 2023 was a highly successful event organized by the IEEE Madras Section Women in Engineering Affinity Group. It took place on 19th August, 2023 at Sri Sairam Engineering College Chennai. The event was sponsored by IEEE Region 10 Educational Activities, IEEE Madras Section, IEEE Young Professionals Madras Chapter. The conclave aimed to bring students together for a day of knowledge sharing and networking. The event featured distinguished guests Ms. Padmini Janaki, Founder & CEO, Mind&Mom, Ms. Smitha Ganesh, Consultant, Teach for All & CEGIS. Guest of Honour, Dr. K. Porkumaran, Chairman, IEEE Madras Section, Dr. Sree Sharmila T, Chairman, IEEE WIE Madras Section AG, Dr. Soma Prathibha, Vice Chairman, WIE MAS AG, Mr. Arun M, Chairman, IEEE Young Professionals Madras Chapter, Mr. Sreekanth, Execom member, IEEE Young Professionals Madras Chapter, Dr. Brindha Saminathan, Chair SAC, IEEE Madras Section, and Dr. B. Meenakshi, Faculty Advisor, Sri Sairam Engineering College WIE AG. Their presence added prestige to the event and inspired attendees with their leadership and expertise. The session aimed to guide students in leveraging their volunteer experiences.

The first event of the meetup was a talk by Ms. Padmini Janaki, who took the stage to deliver a talk titled "Women and Technology Empowerment". She made the session very interesting by sharing informative news. She shared her own experience and she described the way she faced struggles, and how she overcame them. She also covered the Women leadership. Next session was by Ms. Smitha Ganesh, who delivered an enlightening talk on the topic "Leadership within you". She increased interaction in the meeting. She imparted to us four key leadership tenets. She also taught us several clapping techniques and asked the students some questions to get them more engaged. Followed by this there is an event named Her Story Makers: Women Leaders Unveiled (A Case-Study based Competition) where participants are required to provide a 5-minute motivational speech outlining the experiences of outstanding female leaders. They were eager to take part in this presentation, and they skillfully displayed their talents. After the above mentioned session, 3 breakout sessions happened simultaneously in 3 different locations. The one by Mr. Mithresh GP explained a lot about digital marketing and PR. It covered crucial subjects like selecting target markets, creating interesting content, maximizing social media engagement, using data analytics for measurement, putting paid advertising into practice, and mastering SEO tactics. Another session led by Mr. Jagadeeswaran K, were given an introduction to the field of creative design. The significance of user-centered design, the role of creativity in problem-solving, and the use of emerging technologies in design processes were among the major takeaways. The other session taught by Mr. Niranjan Kumar S learned important tips for writing an effective IEEE proposal. Participants gained knowledge on how to successfully structure a proposal, show a workable approach, and emphasize the expected contributions of the research.

The IEEE WIE MAS Leadership Conclave, organized by the IEEE Madras Section Women in Engineering Affinity Group, proved to be an inspiring and empowering event. The conclave brought together accomplished women in engineering from diverse fields, fostering a platform for valuable discussions, networking, and skill-building. The event witnessed a diverse 65

participants in total from corners of Madras Section, and successfully addressed crucial topics related to leadership, career advancement, and overcoming challenges in the tech industry. Attendees gained insights from insightful keynote speakers, interactive panel discussions, and practical workshops.





## Empowering change: Panel talk with outstanding WIE volunteers

With the reveal of the R10 WIE Award winners, the IEEE WIE Madras Section seized the opportunity to bring together the awardees of WIE R10 to inspire the community of the IEEE Madras Section. The panel discussion began at 7:00 PM IST on 9th October 2023 virtually with the warm welcome address by Soma Prathibha, Vice Chair, IEEE MAS WIE where she welcomed the participants and the inspiring panelists, Ms. Abinayaa Sri T 2023 Region 10 WIE Outstanding Student Volunteer Awardee, Ms. Abirami Chandramouli 2023 IEEE WIE Inspiring Student Member Awardee, Honourable Mention, Ms. Guntur Renu 2022 Region 10 WIE Outstanding Student Volunteer Awardee and the discussion was moderated by Dr. T. Sree Sharmila T, Chair, IEEE MAS WIE AG.

The discussion was spellbinding with engaging and curious questions covering the panelists' motivation, challenges, initiatives, and impacts during their IEEE and IEEE WIE journey,

leading them to where they are now. The vibrant participants voiced their queries and concerns making the panel discussion a dynamic and extraordinary experience. With this, the awe-inspiring panel discussion came to a close with the vote of thanks by Mr. Niranjan Kumar S, Student Execom Member, IEEE MAS WIE AG.
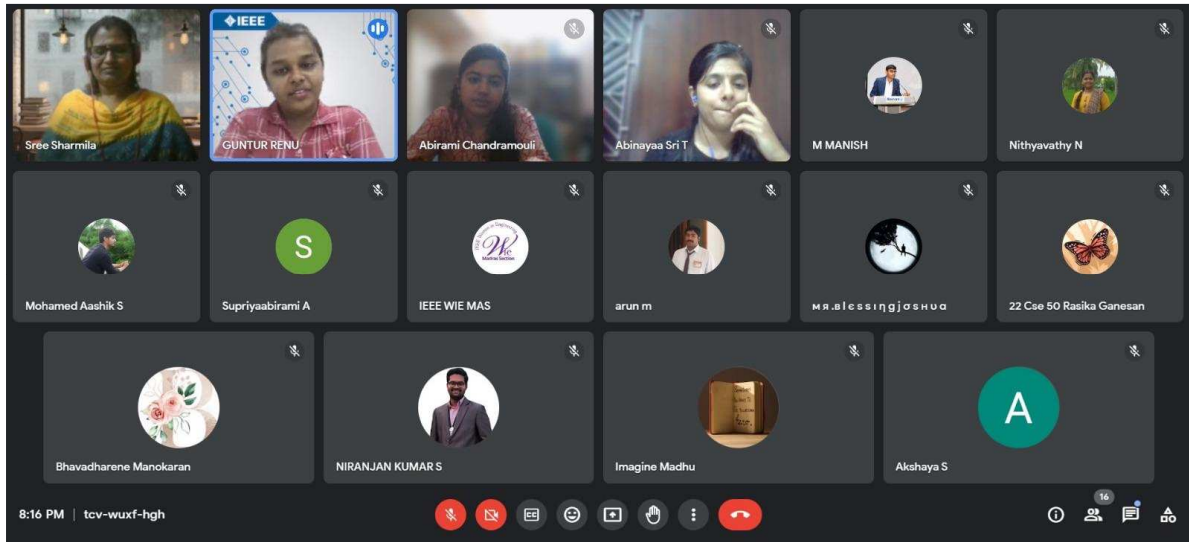


## Fempreneurs Unplugged: Female Founder Stories of Transformation - An Awareness - Ideation to Startup

The initiative of IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section "Fempreneurs Unplugged: Female Founder Stories of Transformation", the webinar series commenced successfully on 18 October, 2023 virtually with 50+ vibrant participants. To begin the webinar series, Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair, IEEE WIE MAS welcomed the participants and invited an inspirational speaker, , Recipient of MSME Idea Hackathon 2.0 with an enthralling topic "An Awareness - Ideation to Startup".

The session began interactively where the speaker, Dr. J. Thamil Selvi introduced the process of MSME Registration, steps to start a Business, recognition, different startup schemes and incubators in India, funding agencies, why one should become an entrepreneur with sharing her journey to entrepreneur, real-time suggestions along with surprise guess questions. The inspiring journey, the motto of Smile Healthcare Technologies was truly an inspiration to all the participants. The event ended with solving the curious questions the participants had and a beautiful picture as a memory to all.
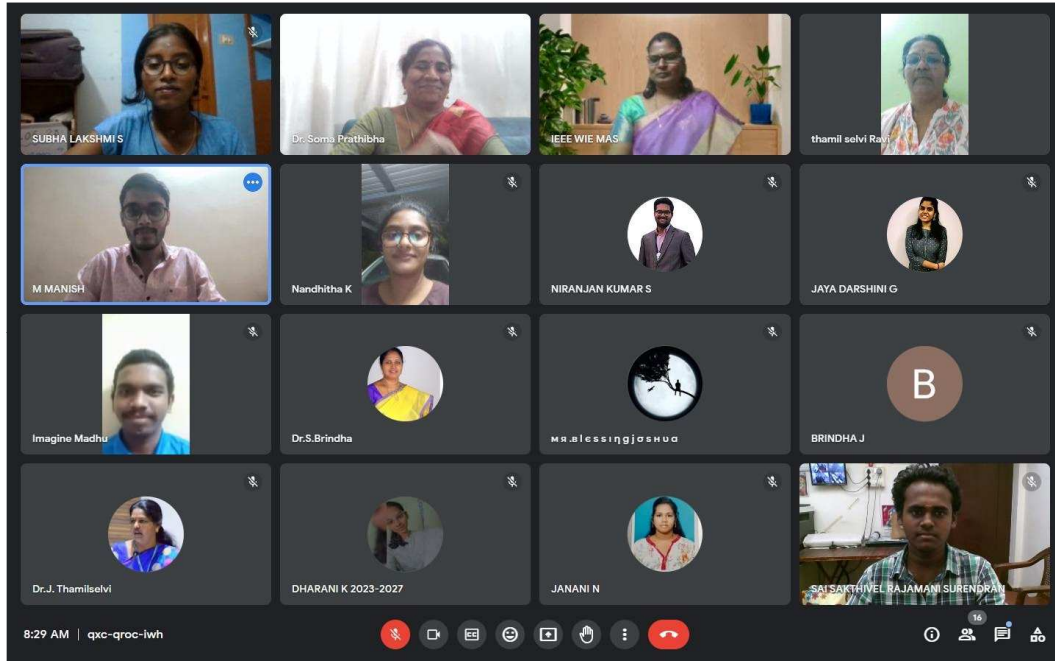
## R10 WiE Champions program: INTEL ONEAPI WORKSHOP

IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, Sri Sivasubramaniya Nadar College of Engineering Women in Engineering Affinity Group in association with Intel organized a workshop on "Intel ONEAPI" as a part of R10 WiE Champions program on October 30, 2023, focusing on empowering women in technology. Dr. Shriram, an Intel-certified Instructor and hackathon expert, led the event, showcasing practical applications of oneAPI, particularly in AI. Attendees gained skills in AI chatbot creation and text-to-image generation, with a special emphasis on healthcare applications.

The success of the workshop has led to plans for a subsequent hackathon in November exclusively for girls, building on the foundational skills from the workshop. The event not only provided essential knowledge but also boosted confidence and offered a broader perspective on technology. Gratitude was expressed to Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair, IEEE WIE Madras Section,Dr. S. Karthika for facilitating the opportunity and to Dr. S. Sasirekha for collaboration and support. The workshop's impact extends beyond skills, inspiring participants and highlighting a commitment to diversity and excellence in technology.

## R10 WiE Champions program: ONEAPI Hackathon for Girls

Following the OneAPI Workshop on 30th October, we invited interested students to submit their ideas for the hackathon. The deadline, set for 10th November, saw 11 teams submitting innovative ideas aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). After Dr. Shriram evaluated the submissions, 10 teams emerged as selected participants for the hackathon, marking an exciting start to the event on November 13, 2023.

Two mentors, Mr. Arun GK and Mr. Akshay Ramakrishnan, were strategically assigned to each selected team on November 17th to ensure comprehensive guidance and support. Effective communication ensued, as all teams promptly connected with their mentors to refine and develop their SDG-focused ideas. Throughout the month, each team engaged in dedicated sessions with their mentors, seeking valuable insights and assistance to propel their projects forward. By the end of November, all teams had the opportunity to receive tailored guidance, allowing them to solidify their concepts and refine their implementation strategies. As December unfolds, participating teams actively implement their ideas, drawing from the knowledge gained in mentorship sessions and building on the hackathon's foundation. The commitment and enthusiasm displayed by both teams and mentors underscore a collaborative spirit dedicated to addressing SDGs through innovative technological solutions. Notably, the hackathon concluded on 10th December, with the official announcement of the winners, showcasing the impactful outcomes of collaborative efforts and creative problem-solving in line with Sustainable Development Goals.

## Fempreneurs Unplugged: Female Founder Stories of Transformation - What makes a woman founder?

The "Fempreneurs Unplugged" event, hosted by IEEE WIE, Madras Section, on November 25th, was an inspiring exploration into the stories of female founders and their transformative journeys. The session, titled "What makes a woman founder?" featured Ms. Lochan Narayanan, Founder of OfExperiences & Career Transition Coach, as the distinguished speaker. The event took place on the WebEx platform, providing a virtual space for engagement and collaboration. The audience comprised 50 participants, a diverse mix of university students, professors, IEEE volunteers, and professionals from various industries.

Lochan Narayanan, in her role as a founder and career transition coach, shared valuable insights into the challenges and triumphs of being a female entrepreneur. Her narrative not only shed light on personal experiences but also delved into the broader discussion of what sets women founders apart. The interactive session allowed participants to engage with Lochan, posing questions and benefiting from her expertise. The event served as a platform for networking, knowledge-sharing, and empowerment within the entrepreneurial ecosystem. 50 attendees, including university students, professors, IEEE volunteers, and industry professionals participated the event. In conclusion, "Fempreneurs Unplugged" succeeded in fostering a supportive community and celebrating the resilience and innovation of female founders. The collaboration between IEEE WIE, Madras Section, and Lochan Narayanan made this event a meaningful contribution to the ongoing dialogue surrounding women in entrepreneurship.
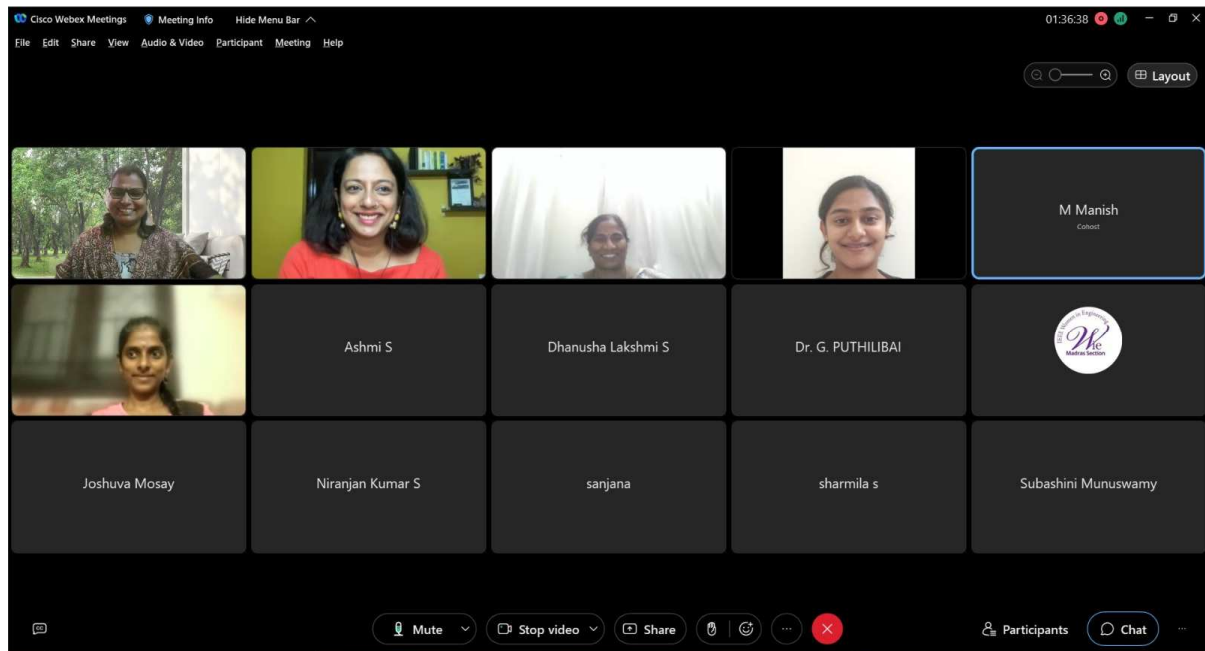


## Fempreneurs Unplugged: Female Founder Stories of Transformation - Tapping the strengths and skills in Women

The IEEE Madras Section Women in Engineering Affinity Group took great pride in presenting a captivating session as part of their Webinar Series, titled "Fempreneurs Unplugged: Female

Founder Stories Of Transformation." The event, held on Webex, provided an insightful exploration into the strengths and skills of women entrepreneurs. Mrs. Manik Patwardhan, the esteemed Founder President of Swakruta Charitable Trust, served as the speaker for this enlightening session. Her expertise and experience added depth to the discussion, focusing on the unique qualities that women bring to the entrepreneurial landscape. The event, scheduled on November 26th, 2023, from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm IST, attracted a diverse audience of 50 participants. This inclusive group consisted of university students, professors, IEEE volunteers, and industry professionals, fostering an environment conducive to learning and collaboration. Mrs. Patwardhan's presentation delved into the untapped potential within women, emphasizing their strengths and skills that contribute to transformative leadership. The interactive nature of the session allowed attendees to engage with the speaker, posing questions and gaining valuable insights. The event drew 50 enthusiastic attendees, representing a diverse mix of university students, professors, IEEE volunteers, and industry professionals. In conclusion, the IEEE Madras Section Women in Engineering Affinity Group successfully orchestrated a meaningful session, contributing to the ongoing dialogue on empowering women in various fields. The event exemplified the group's commitment to fostering an inclusive community that celebrates and supports the achievements of women in engineering and entrepreneurship.
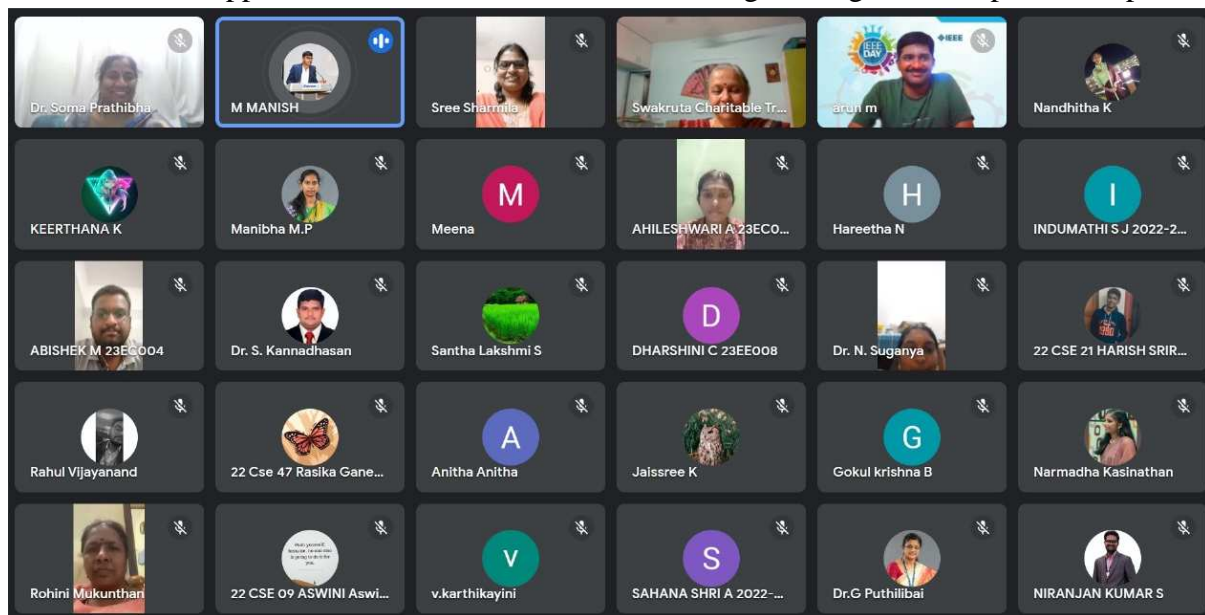


## Living Empowerment: Women's Mentorship Gala by Life Members

It was a momentous occasion on 15 December 2023 as the IEEE Madras Section Women In Engineering, in collaboration with IEEE MAS Computer Society, IEEE MAS YP, and IEEE LM AG, hosted a special event titled "Living Empowerment: Women's Mentorship Gala by Life Members". The event, proudly facilitated by the IEEE Life Members Madras Section, aimed to celebrate empowerment, mentorship, and the remarkable contributions of esteemed speakers.

The event commenced with a warm welcome by Dr. T. Sree Sharmila, Chair of IEEE Women in Engineering, Madras Section, and Associate Professor at the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, College of Engineering Guindy, Anna University, Chennai. Her opening remarks set the tone for an event dedicated to learning, empowerment, and collaboration. The distinguished speakers for the event included: Shri. C.R. Sasi: IEEE Life Senior Member, Past Chair of IEEE Madras Section, and a prominent BYST Mentor, Shri. T.S. Rangarajan, IEEE Life Senior Member, Director of Rangarajan Consulting and Shri. K. Krishnamurthy, IEEE Life Senior Member and an active Office Bearer of the Life Member Affinity Group in IEEE Madras Section.

The Mentoring Session was not just an event but a celebration of the invaluable contributions of the speakers. Each of them had excelled in their respective fields, and the audience was fortunate to have the opportunity to absorb their knowledge and experiences. The speakers delved into their personal and professional journeys, highlighting key milestones and sharing the wisdom gained along the way. The event was designed to be interactive, with encouragement for active participation, questions, and engaging discussions. This collaborative approach aimed to create an environment fostering growth, mentorship, and professional connections. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Arun, Chair of IEEE Madras Young Professionals. His expressions of gratitude extended to the speakers, organizers, and attendees encapsulated the collective appreciation for the event's success. A total of 65 student and professional members benefitted by the event. This mentoring session proved to be a resounding success, leaving attendees inspired and motivated. The collaboration of IEEE sections and the active participation of the audience contributed to the creation of a dynamic platform for learning, mentorship, and empowerment.



**Reported by**
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