

Status of Centre for Sophisticated Instruments & Interdisciplinary Research (CSIIR)& Request for Alumni contribution towards developmental activities of the University.

Dear Alumni members,

We present to you certain facts regarding the proposed Centre for Sophisticated Instruments & Interdisciplinary Research (CSIIR). Annamalai University Alumni Association (AUAA) was started as an Association registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975, during the year 2015. AUAA started its Life membership drive and so far, has 616 life members and the effort of adding more members continues. The amount collected through Life membership fee amounts to Rs. 65,80,000/- is kept in fixed deposit as corpus fund.

Also alumni are contributing through donations which are used for developmental activities in the University as per the Objectives of the Association. During 2019 the then Vice-Chancellor has initiated the process of creating a facility to house all the sophisticated instruments available in the University under one roof to develop a Central Instrumentation facility which will be useful to the research scholars and the faculty members. He made an appeal to the Alumni for their contribution for the construction of the same. From the Alumni donation AUAA have collected Rs. 1,75,38,472/- exclusively for the construction of CSIIR. Based on the request of the General Secretary, AUAA Government of Tamil Nadu has issued a G.O permitting AUAA to construct CSIIR building exclusively on its own funds using expertise on engineering available with it and hand it over to the University. The estimated cost of CSIIR is Rs. 14.71 Crore and the tender was awarded to one of the

Alumni contractors. So far, AUAA spent Rs. 2,24,46,212/- for the construction of CSIIR and the building is completed up to foundation with column beams raised.

In addition to the donations directly made to AUAA, the alumni fee collected from students along with other fees during their initial admission up to academic year 2020-21 amounts to Rs. 4,31,74,000/- and it has been transferred to AUAA. Now, as per the syndicate approval, fee collected from students as alumni fee need to be deposited in a separate account maintained in the name of the Registrar, Annamalai University and the same has to be used for maintenance and improvement of University infrastructure and facilities, the expenditure of which need to be subjected to statutory audits. Further, transfer of funds from this account need to get approval of finance committee and syndicate.

As on 22.06.2022 AUAA has a bank balance of Rs. 1,17,80,227/- and a fixed deposit of Rs. 1,30,00,000/-. As the bank balance is not sufficient to complete the building it was decided in the Executive Committee meeting held on 08.03.2022 to stop the construction work temporarily. Meanwhile, few senior Alumni invited Two Rajya Sabha MPs to the campus and had a discussion. After the meeting MPs have visited the project site and assured financial assistance from the Development fund allocated to them. Official letters from the Registrar have been sent to them in this regard. Moreover, efforts are undertaken to mobilise funds for completion of this project in all possible avenues. Donations from alumni for this project are invited and will be appreciated with gratitude.

Further, during the recent visit by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Peer Review Team, the PRT appreciated one of the two Best Practices showcased by the University. The practice is named as NEST (Neighbourhood Empowerment through Science and Technology), and it included salient and significant scientific innovations by the University Departments such as integrated rice + fish + poultry system, flood tolerant rice variety, Geopolymer roads, waste utilisation, innovative products from traditional trees, etc., that were scaled up for adoption on large scale by rural poor towards livelihood enhancement, nutritional enrichment, climate resilience and water conservation. These technologies were extended across languages and geographic borders to various States and Countries.

Annamalai University invites Alumni to contribute for strengthening collaborative research, human resource, skill development, academic exchanges, etc. Further, basic amenities for students like hostels and alternative energy source also need improvement, wherein Alumni could contribute. AUAA would be grateful for such valuable inputs and collaboration from Alumni.



President

Annamalai University Alumni Association (AUAA)