

## C-DOT STAR fellowship at NITK

We are proud to announce that **Ms. Aathira G Menon**, a research scholar from the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) at the National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), Surathkal, has been awarded a prestigious fellowship from the **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**, the premier Telecom R&D Centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India, through their STAR program.



*Ms. Aathira G Menon receives the fellowship honorings from Prof. B Ravi, Esteemed Director, NITK, Surathkal, in the presence of Prof. Sharnappa J*



*Dr. Rajkumar Upadhyay, CEO C-DOT, sharing details on newly launched initiatives on “World Telecom Day”, 17th May, 2024*

This recognition, which was unveiled on World Telecommunication Day, as a part of their initiative to support promising students from top-ranked colleges with a National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) score below 20. Out of 12 institutions across the country, our institute holds the unique honor of being the only NIT to secure this award, standing proudly among other prestigious IITs.

Under the guidance of her mentors Dr. Prabu K and Dr. Shyam Lal, the research titled **“Next-Gen V2V: Deep Learning-Driven**

**Multipath Profiling and Vehicle Fingerprinting for Enhanced V2V Communication in Smart Cities”**, led by Aathira, focuses on improving vehicular



*“Where innovation takes root”: Aathira G Menon and her mentors Dr. Prabu K and Dr. Shyam Lal, at the 5G lab.*

applications for 5G and beyond 5G (B5G) technologies—an incredibly relevant and future-focused area.

She aims to make these systems more efficient, ensuring they can support

upcoming innovations without wasting existing resources. This research is especially important as we prepare for the future of smart transportation, like self-driving cars and intelligent traffic systems. By addressing current challenges, her goal is to enhance the way vehicles connect and communicate, making future technologies faster, smarter, and more reliable.

The “STAR” program offers an amount of INR 6 Lakh per annum for a period of up to four years. Ms. Aathira will be extended mentorship from research leaders of C-DOT and access to lab facilities. With this support, she is poised to make further contributions to the development of advanced communication systems that will drive the future of connected vehicles.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to C-DOT for offering this incredible opportunity and for recognizing young talent across the nation. A special note of gratitude goes to Prof. Sharnappa Joladarashi, Professor In-charge (*Fellowships & Scholarships*), for bringing such esteemed opportunities to our students. We also wish to thank mentors Dr.

Prabu K and Dr. Shyam Lal for their invaluable guidance and support in nurturing Ms. Aathira’s research.

Sincere appreciation is also extended to Prof. B Ravi, Director, NITK, Prof. Dwarakish G S, Dean (Academic), and Prof. N Shekar V Shet, HoD, Department of ECE, NITK for their leadership in fostering a culture of academic excellence and innovation.

This fellowship is a shining example of how industry and academia can come together to empower the next generation of innovators. Congratulations to Aathira for her remarkable achievement!