

**Platinum Jubilee Celebrations of Chemistry Department  
Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai  
05 March 2026**

***Yet another feather on the cap of Madura college...***

Chemistry department wore a festive look to celebrate the momentous occasion of its Platinum jubilee on 05<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at the Seminar Hall, witnessing scores of its alumni, retired and serving professors, non-teaching staff, present and past students of UG, PG and research associates.

The platinum jubilee celebrations was one of its kind, well thought out and nicely executed leaving lasting memories to one and all. Following registration of all participants (152 in all) and invocation to God, Dr.A. Xavier, HOD, Chemistry, welcomed the gathering and highlighted the long history of 75 years of the department, culminating in the days celebrations.

Shri. S. Natanagopal, FCA, Secretary of Madura college board, in his inaugural address, re-collected the various milestones the college has achieved. He said that the college is committed to supporting the department in its pursuit of academic excellence and proudly announced that the fees structure of Madura college was the lowest and that the management through a disciplined financial approach supported all stakeholders, even paying full salary to the staff during Covid outbreak. He thankfully acknowledged the Chemistry department, its distinguished faculty, in shaping up his personal life as a persevering and hard working student.

Dr. J. Suresh, Principal, in his felicitation, appreciated the Chemistry department for its pioneering efforts in the field of research and sensitised the present day students of chemistry on the vast scope available to them and also appealed to them to take up higher studies in chemistry. Chemistry and life are inseparable, he added.

Dr. Raj Durairaj, aged 72 years and an alumnus of B.Sc., Chemistry during 1970's, attributed his academic and professional accomplishments to the highly dedicated professors of chemistry during his period of studies at Madura College. Presently functioning as Director, R&D, Forace Speciality Chem (P) Ltd, Haridwar, he has >5 years of academic, 36 years of Industrial experience at US, China, India and is the Author of the book 'Resorcinol: Chemistry, Technology and Application' published by Springer,2005. He has made 45 professional journal publications and conference papers, 125 US and other Patents and Applications. During his talk, he advised students to take up research which has great potential and value.

Dr. A. Ravi, aged 81 years, alumnus of UG and PG, Chemistry during 1960s, former Professor at Madurai Medical College and Retd HOD Chemistry, Government Arts and Sciences College, Nandanam, Chennai, dedicated his professional/career growth to the erudite professors of chemistry of our college.

Prof. K. Ramakrishnan, Retd. Addl. Director, Forensic Science department, Government of Tamil Nadu, aged 81 years, alumnus of UG and PG Chemistry during 1960s, paid rich tributes to the learned professors of chemistry and recollected their yeoman services for the welfare of student community.

Shri. G. Bhaskar, an alumnus of chemistry department recounted the high standards of education coupled with a disciplined life style imparted by the professors, especially of chemistry, which paved the way for his success as an investment banker handling large portfolios and as a member of BSE and NSE, besides serving as a trainer at Chicago board of Trade.

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Shri. N. Amarnath, an alumnus of chemistry and presently 'Swami Natesananda Saraswathi' was an ace basketball player who represented our country in the 1980 Moscow Olympics. He also led India in 1982 Asian games, retired as AGM, State Bank of India. During his talk, he motivated youngsters to take up sports along with studies to keep their body and mind fit. He too recalled the contributions by the faculty in chemistry department in shaping his career.

Mr. Asif Ali Baig, an alumnus during 1980s, Retired Statistical officer, an active Rotarian, advised student community to be proactive, have analytical mindset to prosper well in life.

Other speakers including Mr. Chittibabu, paid encomiums to the Chemistry department and its teachers.

A few of the past alumni members donated an Overhead Projector costing about Rs. 60000/- to the college during the occasion.

Prof. G. Ramamoorthy, the doyen of Chemistry Department and Retired Principal of the college, a nonagenarian, thanked the Secretary & the Board for the approval of the entire expenditure towards the platinum Jubilee celebration of the chemistry department. Retired Professors of Chemistry, Prof. N. Krishnamoorthy, Prof. S. Natarajan, Prof. Thiruvengadam, were honoured on the occasion. Prof. G. Ramamoorthy gave away certificates of merit to the best students of Chemistry, pursuing UG and PG presently.

He mentioned that it was his privilege to be part of the centenary celebrations of the college while functioning as its Principal during 1988 - 93 and Platinum Jubilee celebration of the Chemistry department being held now. He applauded the entire staff of the college for following high standards and the several milestones the institution has achieved over the years.

Dr. Hari Krishnan, IQAC Director, proposed a vote of thanks and felt proud to observe that chemistry department has been recognized as a Research Centre of Madurai Kamaraj University since 2018. He presented the current research activities along with the range of equipment such as UV VIS spectrophotometer, FT-IR, Electrochemistry instruments which support research scholars extensively.

A working lunch was arranged for all the participants.

Post lunch session saw brainstorming lectures on their field of research by 3 scholars : Dr. J. Sankar – IISER, Bhopal; Dr. S. Anandhan – NIT, Surathkal and Dr. R. Bhoomi Shankar- IISER, Pune, all alumni of chemistry department of our college and presently eminent Professors and leading big teams of Ph.D scholars. Their talks also covered the advanced infrastructure at their facilities and how Madura College students can prepare to get entry in their institutions for research programs.

The alumni of yester years poured from across the country such as Mumbai, Pune, Bangalore, Hyderabad and from cities of Tamil Nadu, with highly respectable professional accomplishments, added hue, flavour and value to the entire celebration, brought nostalgic moments, but for which the celebration would not have etched the memories to ruminate for centuries to come. It was highly refreshing to see the old students sharing their insights with the organizers and students.

The lectures, motivational talks all were well received by the present students of chemistry.

The event ended with National anthem.

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY - PLATIUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION PHOTOS







