

# IIT Madras professor wins VinFuture Prize awarded to innovators from developing countries

The VinFuture Grand Prize is valued at \$3 million. It also includes three special prizes, each valued at \$500,000 given to female innovators, developing country innovators, and innovators with outstanding achievements in emerging fields.



The recipients were selected from nearly 1,000 nominations across 71 countries. (Image credits: IIT Madras)

[Indian Institute of Technology Madras \(IIT Madras\)](#) professor Thalappil Pradeep has won the VinFuture Prizes, which are awarded annually in four categories. The special prize dedicated to innovators from developing

countries was awarded to Professor Pradeep for his development of a low-cost filtration system to remove arsenic and other heavy metals from groundwater.

Prof Pradeep discovered affordable and sustainable nanomaterials to produce clean water. The arsenic and other materials removed by these materials do not impact the surrounding environment.

This method, employing simple designs, provides a means to purify groundwater at a low cost to reach millions of impacted households. In remote areas, this technology is more advantageous because it does not require electricity.

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<https://indianexpress.com/article/education/iit-madras-professor-wins-vinfuture-prize-innovators-from-developing-countries-8348330/>

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The newspaper clipping:

**IIT Madras professor  
wins VinFuture award**

Chennai: An IIT Madras professor, T Pradeep, has won VinFuture Prizes under 'Innovators from Developing Countries' category. The winners of the annual award were selected from nearly 1,000 nominations across 71 countries. IIT-M, in a press release, said Professor Pradeep bagged the special prize for developing a low-cost filtration system to remove arsenic and other heavy metals from groundwater. The professor received the award at a ceremony in Hanoi, Vietnam, on December 20. ENS