



Date : October 20, 2024
Time : 10:30 AM
Venue : Radha Regent,
Arumbakkam,
Chennai

Our 7th Annual Special Mom Award celebrated the lives of 10 incredible mothers of children with special needs.

They each received a Cash Award of INR 15,000/-, a certificate, trophy, and a Special Lifetime Pass entitling them to free services from Sri Arunodayam.

Program Sponsors
Powering our Mission:
Azim Premji Foundation
Mel Systems & Services

Heroes Among Us: Sri Arunodayam's Tribute to Ten Extraordinary Mothers

October 20th was a truly extraordinary day at Sri Arunodayam. Together with our families, partners, sponsors, donors, well-wishers, and friends, we gathered to celebrate ten remarkable mothers, whose unwavering love and dedication have transformed the lives of their differently-abled children. These women, our "Special Moms," have faced immense challenges—mental, emotional, financial, and societal—yet their strength and resilience have never wavered. They have been their children's primary caregivers, advocates, and emotional anchors, guiding them through life's storms with unparalleled grace.

We honored their extraordinary journeys and recognized their invaluable contributions to their children, families, and communities. Our Special Mom Award is a small token of our immense gratitude and respect for their steadfast commitment.

To **Chellam C** (Chennai), **Gayathri Sampath Kumar** (Coimbatore), **Dr. Maria Fatima Josephine** (Chennai), **Mahalakshmi S** (Madurai), **Malarvizhi R** (Chennai), **Mohana S** (Chennai), **Prabha Anand** (Salem), **Rajakumari D** (Chennai), **Rajalakshmi K** (Madurai), and **Santhi R** (Chennai), we say: You are more than just mothers; you are heroes. Your courage and compassion inspire us all. Thank you for being a part of our Sri Arunodayam family. As Cardinal Mermillod aptly stated, "A mother is a person who can take the place of all others, but whose place no one can take."



Sri Arunodayam's Special Lifetime Pass

Is a testament to our firm commitment to extraordinary mothers. It offers a lifetime of peace of mind, ensuring their children receive essential services at no cost.

These services include:

Empowering Our Special Moms

With our Special Mom Forum, we empower awardees by providing regular training programs. This platform transforms them into influential advocates and catalysts for change in society.

A Lifetime Commitment

Understanding the deep-rooted anxieties of our Special Moms for their children on their demise, we offer a unique opportunity to appoint Sri Arunodayam as the custodian and official guardian of their children. This ensures a secure future for the children, either within our organization or through our network of trusted partners.

We were honored to have Mr. T Srinivasan of Mel Systems & Services as our Chief Guest, and Mr. Sivaramakrishnan of 5 Star Business Finance Ltd., along with Sri Arunodayam's generous benefactors, grace the occasion by awarding the prizes to our ten extraordinary Special Moms.

Each year, we are humbled to share the inspiring journeys of our finalists. Their stories, captured on film, unveil a tapestry of challenges and triumphs. It is a privilege to witness the unwavering spirit of these mothers and children as they overcome adversity and achieve the extraordinary.

The shock on the joyously tearful faces of our finalists said it all! To be recognized for their selfless love and dedication was a moment they will cherish forever.

The heartwarming films gave way to exhilarating performances by Sri Arunodayam's differently-abled children as we celebrated the resilience of the human spirit. The event concluded with a sumptuous meal, bringing our community together in a shared moment of joy and inspiration.

TESTIMONIALS

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I was overwhelmed and humbled when I learned I had been selected for the Special Mom Award. It is a profound honor, especially after the recent loss of my child. The thoughtfulness behind this award, conceived by Iyyappan, deeply touched my heart. When I received the news, I was initially hesitant, unsure of my eligibility. However, the reassurance from Sri Arunodayam, that this award was a tribute from my child, moved me to tears. I am grateful to Sri Arunodayam Trust for honoring mothers like me and for providing a platform to share our stories. I am confident that my daughter's spirit will be with me as I accept this heartfelt award.

Gayathri Sampath Kumar, 2024 Special Mom Award Finalist



Sri Arunodayam, a name synonymous with the rising sun, radiates hope and inspiration. This award empowers parents to greater heights of excellence and sheds light on the challenges faced by children with intellectual disabilities. I am deeply grateful to Sri Arunodayam for their unwavering commitment to these children. May their noble work continue to uplift lives. I pledge my support to their mission.

Dr. Maria Fatima Josephine, 2024 Special Mom Award Finalist

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Welcoming our Guests



The Show Begins



Honouring our Special Moms



Entertainment Highlights



Sharing a Meal Together



Although there are several awards honoring mothers across India and the world, Sri Arunodayam's Special Mom Award is uniquely different in that it honor mothers of special children. This has resulted in a unique platform for advocacy on issues related to intellectual disability. Through the Special Mom Award, Sri Arunodayam honors family values and the progressive abilities of mothers who make a significant impact on the lives of their children, families, and communities. Through these awards, Sri Arunodayam aims to share inspiring family experiences that could provide hope to thousands of families of special children across our country, encouraging them in their journey towards a more inclusive society.