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NEWSLETTER

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Prof. Koiti Hasida from RIKEN, Japan Visits Digital University Kerala: Fostering Global Research Collaboration



Digital University Kerala (DUK), had the privilege of hosting Prof. Koiti Hasida, Team Director of the Decentralized Big Data Team at the RIKEN Center for Advanced Intelligence Project, Japan's largest national research and development agency, on 9th April 2025. The visit was hosted by the School of Computer Science & Engineering (SoCSE) as part of the university's efforts to promote international academic engagement.

Prof. Hasida, who also serves as the Director of the Artificial Intelligence in Society Research Group in Tokyo, was accompanied by Ms. Sarada Balachandran Nair Sumadevi, Technical Scientist at RIKEN, and Dr. Tessy Mathew and Dr. Nidhi M B faculty members at Mar Baselios College of Engineering and Technology.

During the visit, Prof. Hasida held a formal meeting with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, the Registrar, and faculty members of DUK. The faculty shared insightful overviews of their research interests, helping to identify shared priorities for the India-Japan collaboration. Discussions focused on aligning these interests and exploring promising avenues for future cooperation in emerging fields such as artificial intelligence, with particular emphasis on graph algorithms.

As part of the academic exchange, Prof. Hasida delivered a brief presentation on his research in decentralized big data systems, highlighting their potential societal applications. DUK's DACE coordinators, Arya and Fousiya, presented an overview of the University's flagship programme, showcasing its core objectives and achievements.

The presentation was followed by an interactive session with PhD scholars, where research ideas were exchanged and emerging trends in AI were discussed in depth. Dr. Malu G, Programme Coordinator, delivered the welcome remarks, and the session was chaired by School Chair Dr. Preetam Mukherjee.

This visit served as a valuable platform for academic dialogue and international collaboration, reinforcing DUK's commitment to engaging with global thought leaders and strengthening its research ecosystem through meaningful partnerships.



Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, IAS Visited Digital University Kerala

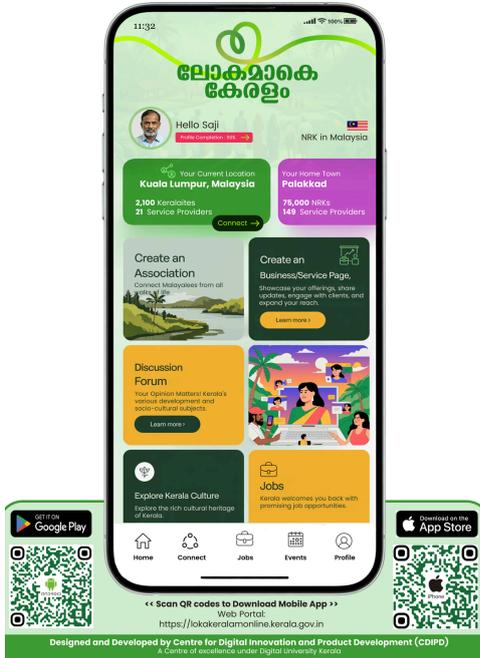
The Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, IAS, visited Digital University Kerala on 10th April 2025, accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising the Labour Secretary, Government of Kerala, Dr. K. Vasuki, IAS; the Managing Director of the Kerala Academy for Skills Excellence (KASE), Shri Sufiyan Ahmed, IAS; and other key members of the state's skill development teams.

The delegation was warmly received by the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Ciza Thomas; the Registrar, Dr. A. Mujeeb; Deans; and the Director of Development. During the visit, the University showcased its unique initiatives and cutting-edge research in the field of digital technologies and skills development.

Impressed by the University's work and expertise, the Secretary extended an invitation to the DUK team to visit Delhi and explore collaborative opportunities with the Ministry. He also proposed that DUK take a leadership role in designing and delivering advanced technology skill development courses at the national level.



CDIPD Released Mobile Applications (Andriod and iOS) for the Digital Innovative Solution – Lokakeralam Online Platform for Global NRK’s



The Honourable Chief Minister of Kerala, Sri. Pinarayi Vijayan, officially launched the Loka Keralam Online Mobile Application – a global mobile platform for NRKs, available on both Android and iOS – on 30th April 2025 at the Chief Minister’s Chamber in Thiruvananthapuram in the presence Sri.S.Harikishore IAS, Principal Secretary Norka, Sri.Asif K Yussuf IAS, Director Loka Kerala Sabha, Sri.Ajith Kolassery, Norka Roots CEO,Dr. Ajith Kumar, Director, CDIPD, Sri.Arun Kumar Balakrishnan, Senior Project Manager, Enterprise Systems, and CDIPD team members.

Loka Keralam Online is the world's first digital platform launched at the government level for expatriates. This significant launch marks a pivotal step in the state's digital outreach to Malayalis

worldwide, aiming to bridge geographical gaps and foster a sense of community among Kerala's global diaspora. This innovative mobile platform is conceptualised, developed , implemented and maintained by the Centre for Digital Innovations and Product Development (CDIPD) – A Centre of Excellence under Digital University Kerala.

The first phase of Loka Keralam Online was introduced at the 4th Loka Kerala Sabha.

This innovative platform seeks to create a global connector for NRK Keralites, transforming how they interact and support each other globally. Loka Keralam Online is designed to be a comprehensive digital hub, connecting the global Malayali community. The platform offers a variety of features tailored to facilitate interaction and information exchange among Malayalis worldwide. Key features include:

- Community Engagement** – Spaces for sharing information, ideas, and active participation.
- Professional Networking** – Tools for developing networks and exploring business and career opportunities.
- Cultural Exchanges** – Platforms for cultural participation and preservation to maintain and celebrate Malayali heritage.
- Educational Resources** – Support for educational advancement and growth.
- Real-Time NRK Repository** – Enhances communication and collaboration between Non-Resident Keralites (NRKs) and Resident Keralites, fostering a stronger sense of community and belonging.



As part of its upcoming second phase, the Loka Keralam Online platform will roll out a variety of dedicated services for expatriates. These include an online mental health support system, Ayurveda-based treatment services, short-term online courses from Kalamandalam, and government e-services for skill certification. Initial steps are already underway to integrate these features, aiming to enhance support and engagement for the global Malayali community.

ലോക കേരളത്തിനായി മൊബൈൽ ആപ്; ലോഞ്ച് മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി നിർവഹിച്ചു

തിരുവനന്തപുരം: ലോക കേരളം ഓൺലൈൻ മൊബൈൽ ആപ്ലിക്കേഷൻ ലോഞ്ച് മുഖ്യമന്ത്രി പിണറായി വിജയൻ നിർവഹിച്ചു. പ്രവാസികൾക്കായി സർക്കാർതലത്തിൽ തുടങ്ങുന്ന ലോകത്തിലെ ആദ്യ ഡിജിറ്റൽ പ്ലാറ്റ്ഫോമാണ് ലോക കേരളം ഓൺലൈൻ. ലോകമെമ്പാടുമുള്ള പ്രവാസി മലയാളികൾക്ക് ഒരു ഡിജിറ്റൽ ഓൺലൈൻ പ്ലാറ്റ്ഫോം വേണമെന്ന നിർദ്ദേശം മുന്നോടയ്ക്കുന്ന സഭയിലാണ് ഉയർന്നുവന്നത്. ഇതിനെത്തുടർന്ന് രൂപപ്പെടുത്തിയതാണ് ലോക കേരളം ഓൺലൈൻ.

പ്രവാസികൾക്ക് ആശയവിനിമയത്തിനും തൊഴിലവസരങ്ങൾ ഉൾപ്പെടെയുള്ള വിവരങ്ങൾ കൈമാറാനുമുള്ള വിപുലമായ സംവിധാനമാണ് ലോക കേരളം ഓൺലൈൻ. രാജ്യാന്തരമായി പ്രവാസികൾക്കു മാത്രമായി നിരവധി സേവനങ്ങളാണ് പ്ലാറ്റ്ഫോമിൽ ഉൾപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്.

ഓൺലൈൻ മാനസികാരോഗ്യചികിത്സാ സംവിധാനം, ഓൺലൈൻ ആയുർവേദചികിത്സാ സംവിധാനം, കലാമണ്ഡലത്തിന്റെ ഓൺലൈൻ ഹ്രസ്വകാല കോഴ്സുകൾ, സ്കിൽ സർട്ടിഫിക്കേഷൻ, സർക്കാർ ഇ-സേവനങ്ങൾ എന്നിവ ഉൾപ്പെടുന്നു. കേരള ഡിജിറ്റൽ യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിയാണ് ലോക കേരളം ഓൺലൈൻ രൂപംകൊണ്ടു തുടങ്ങിയത്. ഈ പ്ലാറ്റ്ഫോമിന്റെ മൊബൈൽ ആപ്ലിക്കേഷൻ ഇപ്പോൾ ആൻഡ്രോയിഡ് പ്ലേ സ്റ്റോറിൽനിന്നും ആപിൾ സ്റ്റോറിൽനിന്നും ഡൗൺലോഡ് ചെയ്യാവുന്ന മുഖ്യമന്ത്രിയുടെ മേന്മനിൽ നടന്ന ചടങ്ങിൽ നോർക്ക വക്വുപ്പ് സെക്രട്ടറി എസ്.ഹരികിഷോർ, ലോക കേരളസഭ ഡയറക്ടർ ആസിഫ് കെ.യുസഫ്, നോർക്ക റൂട്ട് സിസ്റ്റിന്റെ അജിത് കോളമറ്റിൽ, കേരള ഡിജിറ്റൽ യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റി സെക്രട്ടറി ഫോർ ഡിജിറ്റൽ ഇന്നോവേഷൻ ആൻഡ് പ്രോഡക്ട് ഡിവിഷൻ ഫൈൻ ഡയറക്ടർ ഡോ. ആർ.അജിത് കുമാർ, കേരള ഡിജിറ്റൽ യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റി സിനിയർ പ്രോജക്ട് മാനേജർ (എന്റർപ്രൈസ് സിസ്റ്റം) അരുൺ കുമാർ ബാലകൃഷ്ണൻ എന്നിവർ പങ്കെടുത്തു.

As an enhanced feature, the mobile application for this platform is now available for download on both the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store. With the availability of the mobile application, all Malayali expatriates can now easily become part of this digital community initiative of the Government of Kerala.

For more details, visit the portal -

Apple Store
<https://apps.apple.com/in/app/lokakeralamonline/id6740562302>

Android Play store:
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.cdipd.norka>



Hon. Chief Minister Launches State SDG Analytics Dashboard Developed by CDIPD to Drive Data-Led Sustainable Development



The Honourable Chief Minister of Kerala, Sri. Pinarayi Vijayan, officially launched the State SDG Analytics Dashboard at the Chief Minister's Chamber in Thiruvananthapuram. The dashboard has been developed by the Centre for Digital Innovation and Product Development (CDIPD) at Digital University Kerala.

The launch event was attended by Smt. Sarada Muraleedharan IAS, Chief Secretary, Sri. S. Harikishore IAS, Secretary, Planning and Economic Affairs Department, Dr. Ajith Kumar, Director- CDIPD, DUK and Smt. Krishnasree, Team Lead at CDIPD.

The SDG Analytics Dashboard is a pioneering initiative designed to support Kerala's progress toward achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The portal provides an interactive, data-rich interface enabling real-time tracking of over 140 indicators across sectors such as health, education, gender equality, clean energy, climate action, and economic growth. It offers granular, district-level insights to aid policy planners, researchers, and the public.

Developed entirely by CDIPD, the platform harnesses advanced data analytics, visualization tools, and a scalable architecture that integrates seamlessly with multiple government data sources. Emphasizing transparency, interoperability, and user-centric design, the dashboard ensures accessibility and ease of use for a diverse set of stakeholders.

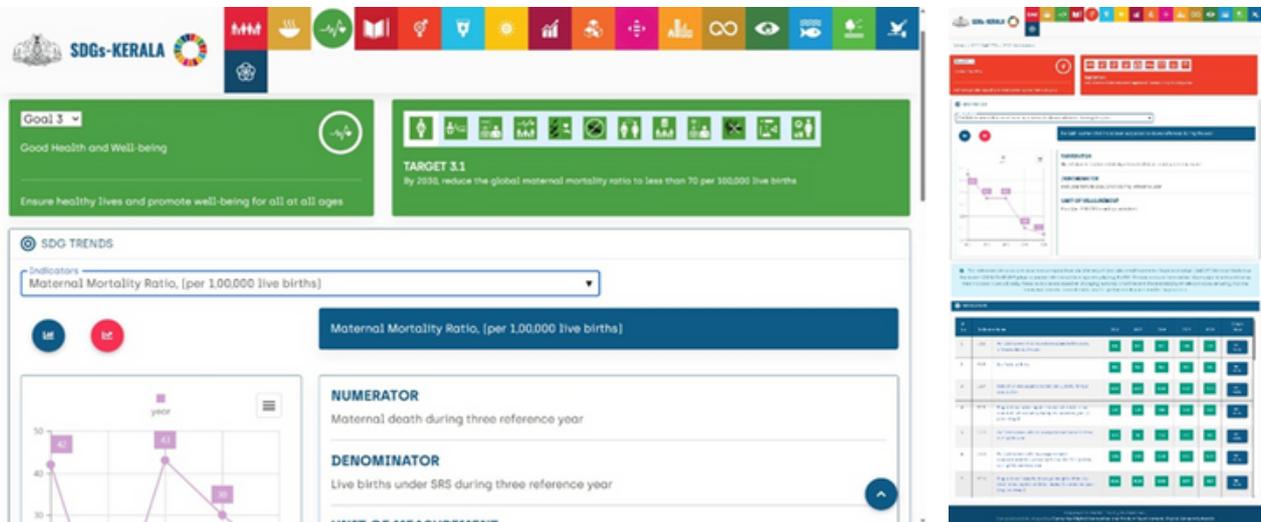
Speaking at the launch, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said, "The State SDG Analytics Dashboard is a transformative tool that empowers us to evaluate progress, identify gaps, and make informed decisions. This aligns with Kerala's commitment to inclusive, equitable, and sustainable growth under the Nava Keralam vision."

Kerala continues to lead the nation in sustainable development, consistently topping NITI Aayog's SDG India Index. The new dashboard further strengthens Kerala's position as a model state in leveraging digital innovation for sustainable development planning.



The event also highlighted the critical role of CDIPD in Kerala’s digital transformation journey. As a technology enabler, CDIPD bridges research, innovation, and solution development, making it a strategic partner in the state’s governance modernization efforts.

The portal is now live and can be accessed at: <https://sdg.kerala.gov.in>



Changaathi: KBA's AI-Powered Chatbot for Blockchain Learning

Kerala Blockchain Academy proudly launched Changaathi, an AI-powered chatbot designed to provide access to blockchain knowledge and connect users with KBA resources. Developed in-house, Changaathi is now live at kba.ai, powered by advanced Large Language Model (LLM) technology. The AI companion is equipped to provide instant, accurate responses to questions on blockchain concepts and the programmes of KBA.

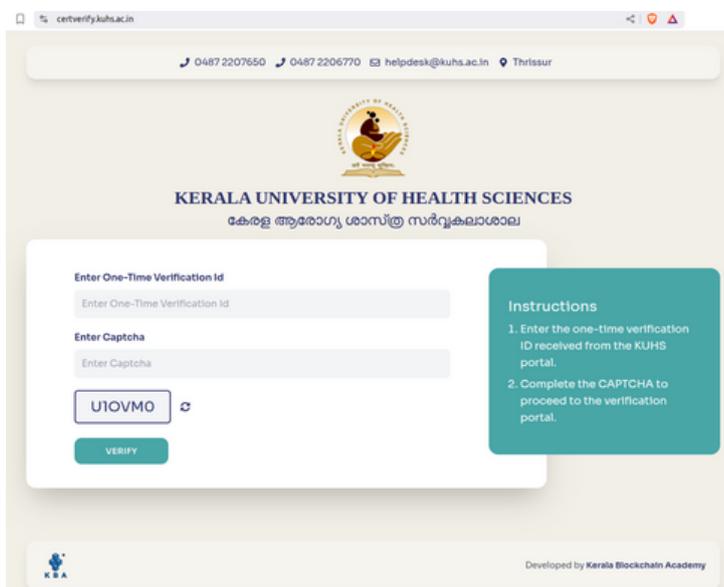
Beyond its immediate role in blockchain education at KBA, the core technology and approach behind Changaathi hold significant

promise as a SaaS (Software-as-a-Service) solution that can be adapted and integrated across diverse domains such as education, healthcare, Tourism and more. This chatbot is a significant milestone in KBA's innovative outlook towards technological advancements. Users can now explore blockchain learning with Changaathi, a trusted guide in the world of decentralisation and digital innovation.



Blockchain Adoption in Higher Education: KUHS Partners with KBA's CertiChain

The Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS) has adopted CertiChain, a blockchain-based verification portal, to ensure secure, transparent, and efficient certificate authentication. This innovative solution is set to revolutionise the way certificates are verified, providing a reliable and tamper-proof platform for stakeholders.



For more details, visit the portal -

<https://certverify.kuhs.ac.in/>

KBA Secures 100% Placement PG Diploma in Blockchain

KBA's Post Graduate Diploma in Blockchain program, under Kerala Scheduled Caste Development Department, achieved 100% placement. Running from April 2024 to April 2025, this one-year course empowered students with cutting-edge skills in blockchain and web development through intensive training and a six-month internship.

The program, executed under the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM AJAY) Scheme, provides exceptional intensive hands-on training, enabling graduates to secure roles like Blockchain Developer, Frontend Developer, and Software Engineer at top firms, highlighting KBA's leadership in fostering industry-oriented talent.



SCHEDULED CASTE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Government of Kerala

DIGITAL UNIVERSITY KERALA
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100% JOB PLACEMENTS ACHIEVED

PG DIPLOMA IN BLOCKCHAIN

 ASHISH S Igoraza	 KRISHNA PUSHPAN Malabar College of Engineering and Technology	 SNEHA P Malabar College of Engineering and Technology	 ANEESH M N The Coding Cut	 ANANDHU NARAYANAN The Coding Cut	 SREELEKHA SREENIVASAN Souhrite	 GADHA PUSHPAN Souhrite	 HARITHA A RAJAN Kran
 MANU NARAYANAN Simplyfi	 RAHUL SAJEEVAN aTeam Infosoft Solutions	 SUJIN BABU P S aTeam Infosoft Solutions	 DINSHA S Innovation Incubator	 VINUDEV T V Nest Digital	 SALINI SUNDARAN Innovation Incubator	 AMARNATH K V Innovation Incubator	 VISHNU A G 4Labs Technologies
 AKHIL CHAND P S Innovation Incubator	 NANDANA V Innovation Incubator	 AKSHAJ BABU Innovation Incubator	 NANDHU RAJU Innovation Incubator	 MANEESHA RAJ LambdaZen	 AJAY THAMPI K Spericom Technology	 NEETHU M Simplyfi	 RAHUL C T Xpeditions

 AKHIL KAILAS Xpeditions	 ANANDHU RAVEENDRAN Soastion Technologies	 K B A	KERALA BLOCKCHAIN ACADEMY	Admissions Open	
		+91 6238210114	kba@duk.ac.in	https://kba.ai/pgdb	

GIRLS in ICT DAY

As part of Girls in ICT Day, the Women Cell, in collaboration with IEEE Women in Engineering (WiE), hosted a Rapid Prototyping Challenge on 23rd April 2025, at Gallery Hall 45, from 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM. The event brought together innovative minds in a fast-paced race against time to design, build, and present working prototypes – all within 90 minutes.



The event began with a talk by the Chairperson of the Women Cell, who emphasized the significance of encouraging women to lead innovation and problem-solving in the tech industry. Her words set the tone for a day of creativity, collaboration, and empowerment.

In this electrifying challenge, teams received a surprise problem statement. They were required to brainstorm ideas, sketch wireframes, and prototype an app, feature, or product – all under the constraint of 90 minutes. A key rule was that each team must be led by a woman, promoting leadership and inclusivity.



Digital University Kerala Conducts Anti-Drug Awareness Program for Students



Digital University Kerala hosted a program to raise awareness about the dangers of drug use among students. This initiative aimed to safeguard students from the increasing prevalence of intoxicants and drug-related activities that are becoming more common among the youth and student population. More than two hundred students participated in the event. In line with its anti-drug efforts, the Social Engagement Centre and the Sports Club of Digital University Kerala collaborated to organize this awareness event.

During the campaign, Dr. Ciza Thomas, the Honorable Vice Chancellor of Digital University Kerala, led students and staff in taking an anti-drug pledge, after which everyone pledged together. The main speaker for the event, Mr. Pramod Rao, Circle Inspector from the Excise Crime Branch in Thiruvananthapuram, provided the awareness session.

Additionally, the Honorable University Registrar Dr. A. Mujeeb, Deputy Registrar Mr. Vijayakumar, as well as students and staff members from the university, were involved in the awareness program.



Anti-Drug Pledge Events Promote Awareness and Healthy Living among DUK Students

In a concerted effort to raise awareness about the dangers of substance abuse and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle, students from DUK actively participated in Anti-Drug Pledge events held on 7th and 8th April 2025.

April 7, 2025 – Yoga Section, 5:30 PM

During the regular yoga class, students took a collective stand against drug use by participating in an Anti-Drug Pledge ceremony. The session began with a brief yet powerful message highlighting the harmful effects of drug abuse and emphasizing the role of yoga in fostering both physical and mental strength. Following the address, all students united in reciting the Anti-Drug Pledge, vowing to reject drugs and support others in doing the same.



April 8, 2025 – KV Sports Ground, 5:30 PM

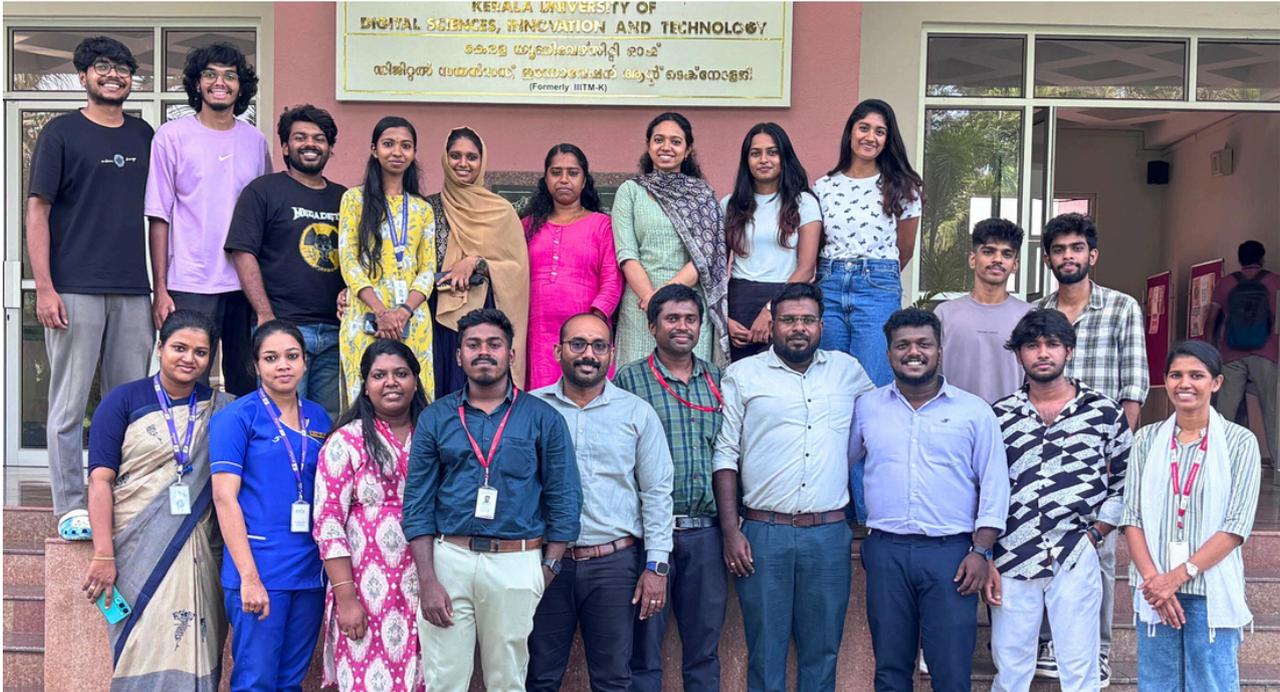
The next day, sports students gathered at the KV Sports Ground for another impactful Anti-Drug Pledge ceremony. Organized as part of the broader campaign to combat substance abuse, this event aimed to instill a strong sense of responsibility among students to lead by example in maintaining a drug-free lifestyle. The sports community, known for its commitment to discipline and health, reaffirmed its dedication to staying substance-free.

Both events reflected the proactive stance of DUK students and faculty in addressing drug abuse through awareness, education, and collective action. The initiatives not only encouraged personal responsibility but also strengthened the campus-wide movement toward a healthier and more conscious student community.



Medical Camp at Digital University Campus

On 9th April 2025, Digital University Kerala organized a medical camp in partnership with the Technopark Employees Hospital Society Ltd. This initiative was designed specifically for the well-being of both students and employees of the university. The event attracted a vibrant turnout, with 120 participants who took advantage of various health services offered at the camp. Attendees received medical consultations, health screenings, and valuable health information, fostering a spirit of wellness within the university community.



National Conclave on Implementation of NEP 2020: Moving Towards Academic Excellence

Christie Thomas Cherian and Sinnu Susan Thomas attended National Conclave on Implementation of NEP 2020 : Moving Towards Academic Excellence during 25-26 April, 2025 at NIT Calicut. It was attended by 45 participants from various Centrally Funded Technical Institutes and Kerala State Universities. Sinnu Susan Thomas presented the practices and implementation of NEP 2020 at Digital University Kerala.



Talk Session on “Product Feasibility: An Important Step While Building Innovative Products”

The Social Engagement Centre (SEC) of Digital University Kerala (DUK), in collaboration with the Institution’s Innovation Council (IIC) and MoE’s Innovation Cell, successfully organized an insightful talk session on “Product Feasibility: An Important Step While Building Innovative Products” on 2nd April 2025 at Gallery Hall 45 & 44, starting at 9:30 AM.

The session featured Mr. Sai Vikram, Director of Product Management at UST, Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram, who shared expert insights into the critical process of product feasibility analysis—a cornerstone for developing impactful and innovative solutions.



Mr. Vikram discussed the essential triad of product development—desirability, feasibility, and viability—explaining how understanding user needs, ensuring technical possibility, and evaluating financial sustainability are vital for any product’s success. He also introduced students to practical tools like the RICE Scoring Model (Reach, Impact, Confidence, Effort) and the MoSCoW Prioritization Framework, helping them assess and prioritize product features effectively.

The session also shed light on the Lean Product Playbook, emphasizing the importance of iterative testing, real-time feedback, and continuous improvement in product development. Mr. Vikram walked students through a structured product feasibility study process—defining the problem, validating market fit, estimating costs, prototyping, and testing—backed by real-life industry use cases from his work at UST.

Highly engaging and informative, the talk encouraged students from the Digital Access for Community Empowerment (DACE) program to reflect on the practical applications of feasibility analysis in their ongoing projects. Participants gained actionable strategies to align their ideas with real-world needs and constraints.

The event reflected SEC’s continuing efforts to empower students through knowledge sharing and industry interaction, reaffirming DUK’s commitment to fostering innovation with purpose and impact.

Promoting Ocean Literacy and Climate Awareness in Coastal Kerala Workshop at Ocean Student Community, Puthiyathura

As part of the Jane Goodall Institute India's Roots & Shoots programme, Sai Shankar G Nair ,currently pursuing an MSc in Ecology with a specialization in Ecological Informatics recently conducted an outreach session with the Ocean Student Community (OSC) in Puthiyathura, Thiruvananthapuram.



The session focused on the climate challenges faced by coastal communities, the working conditions and safety of fishermen, and the ecological costs and benefits of marine foraging. Through an interactive dialogue, the students explored the interdependence between humans and marine ecosystems, deepening their understanding of the need for sustainable practices.

The DUK student also introduced participants to the "Ocean Literacy – Ocean Are Us" initiative, while showcasing the Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots movement—emphasizing youth-led, community-centered conservation. The Kerala chapter's ongoing efforts to engage youth in ocean and environmental literacy were highlighted, inspiring the OSC students to think critically about their own role in protecting marine ecosystems.

This collaborative session reflected the power of grassroots engagement, bridging scientific knowledge with lived experiences to foster resilience and ecological awareness in vulnerable coastal zones.

Participation in Prathidhwani Technopark Women’s Cricket League

The Prathidhwani Technopark Women’s Cricket League Tournament, began on 24th March 2025 at the Technopark Ground. The First Digital University Women’s Team made a proud debut in this prestigious event, showcasing talent, teamwork, and competitive spirit. In their first match on 29th March, they faced EY Women Strikers and secured a solid victory, with Nandana from MBA being named the Best Player of the Match for her excellent all-round performance. The second match was a tightly contested game against Allianz, where the team lost by just 7 runs. Despite the loss, Merin J Ansalam stood out as the Best Player, and Nanma K.V. was recognized as the Best Bowler for her impactful bowling. In the third match, scheduled against Quest Global Titans, the opponent team did not appear, resulting in a win by walkover for DUK Women’s. With two wins out of three matches, the team advanced to the quarterfinals of the tournament. Their overall performance reflects not just skill and competitiveness, but also the growing strength of women’s participation in sports at the university level.





Publications



Journal Articles

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International Conference Paper

Ms. Sumitha Valsalam, Ph.D. Scholar from the School of Computer Science, Digital University Kerala, presented her research paper titled "CNN with NEQR Encoding for Quantum-Classical Hybrid Image Compression" at the 9th International Conference on Information and Communication Technology for Intelligent Systems (ICTIS 2025), held from 4th to 6th April 2025, in Bangkok, Thailand. Guided by Dr. Tony Thomas, Associate Professor at the School of Computer Science, the paper proposes A hybrid image compression model that integrates Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) with the Novel Enhanced Quantum Representation (NEQR), offering a quantum-classical approach to efficient image processing. The conference, organized under Springer's Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems series, brought together researchers from around the world to share breakthroughs in intelligent systems and emerging technologies.





The Nexus between Blockchain and IP

The article by Sivadas Neelima from Kerala Blockchain Academy explores the growing intersection between blockchain technology and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), especially in the context of increasing global patent filings. It highlights how blockchain's decentralised, immutable nature is being harnessed in IP management systems to enhance security, transparency, and commercial value.

Link : <https://kbaiitm.kerala.gov.in/the-nexus-between-blockchain-and-ip-bd5130f66eb5>



Editorial Services

Dr. Sinnu Susan Thomas is invited to serve on the Editorial Board of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Sadhana Journal as an Associate Editor for the period from May 2025 to December 2027 in the area of Reinforcement Learning and Computer Vision.



Professional Memberships

Dr. Sinnu Susan Thomas is elevated as Senior Member of IEEE from July 6, 2024.

Awards



SocMeta Gold Award - 2024

The Gold Award in the 2024 SocMeta IEEE ComSoc SNTC Student Competition was won by George Mason University doctoral students for their project, co-authored with Ravi Prakash from Digital University Kerala. Titled "AI-Based Adaptive Security Protocols for XR and Metaverse Environments," the project proposed an AI-driven security framework that dynamically adjusts protection levels based on real-time user behavior and environmental context. By integrating deep learning techniques for anomaly detection and location-based security, the proposed system enhances cybersecurity while ensuring seamless user experiences. This research contributes to building secure, adaptive, and user-friendly metaverse ecosystems.





Best Paper Award at ICIET-2025 for Insightful Study on Digital Health Risks

From the KSAAC Team Ms Sruthi Krishna G was awarded First Prize for Best Paper at the prestigious International Conference on Innovations in Engineering and Technology (ICIET-2025) held on 2nd and 3rd April 2025, at Noorul Islam Center for Higher Education (NICHE).

Her paper, titled "Unmasking Misinformation in Healthcare: Spread, Solutions, and Future Directions", addresses the urgent and evolving challenge of misinformation in the healthcare sector. The paper explores the mechanisms through which misinformation spreads, proposes practical and technological solutions to mitigate its impact, and outlines key future directions for research and policy.



The paper has been published in the official conference proceedings of ICIET-2025 (ISBN: 978-81-972950-4-1) and is currently awaiting approval for journal publication.

Gonuguntla Pranathi, MSc Ecology student Secures Third - Prize at the National Seminar Presentation

Ms. Gonuguntla Pranathi, student of MSc Ecology with specialization in Ecological Informatics, has been awarded the Third Prize for her exceptional presentation at the National Seminar held at the Government Degree and PG College, Siddipet, on 4th April 2025. The seminar provided a vibrant platform for young scholars to share insights, exchange ideas, and engage with some of the leading minds in the field.





Student from DUK selected to participate in the Project Management Institute's Leadership Meet in Manila

Kurian Elias, S4 MSc DA BioAI, has been selected to represent the DUK Project Management Institute—Kerala Students Club at the Asia Pacific South Asia Leadership Institute Meet in Manila, Philippines, from 26th to 29th June 2025. He was selected by PMI for his contribution to the DUK PMI-K Club's activities and initiative to develop an audiobook app for the blind. This project was a team effort of the DUK PMI-K students' club. A student from the DUK PMI Club was selected to attend this prestigious meeting for being a very active club among the PMI clubs in India. Kurian is the only student from India to attend the event. All the expenses for his participation will be met by PMI, headquartered in Pennsylvania, USA. He will get an opportunity to make a presentation before the delegates during the event.



Kurian Elias

Hearty congratulations to Kurian and the whole DUK PMI-K club student members for this achievement. It is the result of the sincere effort put in by all the student members.

School of Informatics Students Named UGC NEP SAARTHI Ambassadors

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has selected Ms. Priyanshri Bhargab and Ms. Nahida B L, MSc Ecology students from the School of Informatics, as ambassadors under the prestigious NEP SAARTHI (Student Ambassadors for Academic Reforms in Transforming Higher Education in India) initiative. This recognition highlights their leadership qualities, academic dedication, and the school's active role in advancing the goals of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. As NEP SAARTHIs, they will represent the university by promoting awareness of NEP 2020, organizing student-centric workshops and discussions, spearheading digital literacy and outreach programs, and fostering participatory governance through feedback collection and engagement initiatives.

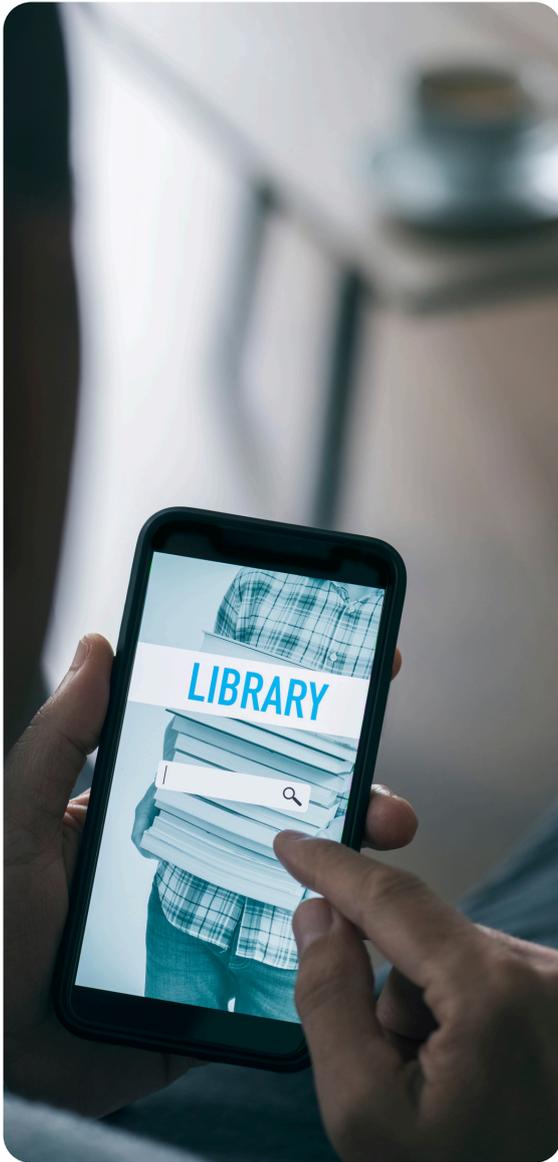


Priyanshri Bhargab



Nahida B L





Breaking Barriers to Knowledge:

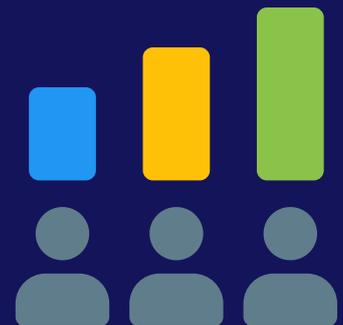
The Success Story of Article Delivery Service from the Knowledge Centre at Digital University Kerala

In the era of digital scholarship, access to high-quality academic resources is essential for research and innovation. At the Knowledge Centre of Digital University Kerala, we recognized a significant challenge: many of our research scholars and faculty members were encountering paywalls while attempting to access vital journal articles not included in our existing subscriptions.

Rather than allowing this challenge to hinder progress, we saw an opportunity for innovative collaboration. With the aim of democratizing access to scholarly information, the Knowledge Centre launched a Journal Article Delivery Service, a straightforward yet impactful initiative. Users, including faculty and research scholars, could submit article requests using an easily accessible online form distributed throughout departments and research centres. This service was initiated in the month of December 2023.

The true ingenuity, however, lay in our approach behind the scenes. Instead of relying solely on our subscription resources, we leveraged the network of libraries and research institutions we had cultivated over the years. By utilizing this informal consortium of academic libraries, we began sourcing the requested articles through inter-library connections and collaborative goodwill.

And the results? Remarkable.



In just a short span, we successfully fulfilled over 1,700 requests, delivering critical journal articles to our university community, free of cost, with efficiency, and with a commitment to supporting research at every step.

This initiative has not only bridged access gaps but has also redefined how a modern university library can actively facilitate knowledge exchange across institutions. It stands as a testament to how resourcefulness, community networks, and a service-oriented mind-set can make a profound impact.

Today, our Journal Article Delivery Service is hailed as a flagship initiative of the Knowledge Centre, strengthening research ecosystems and ensuring that no scholar is left behind because of an unavailable article. At Digital University Kerala, we don't just store knowledge. We deliver it.

Here is some analysis of the service delivered.

- ✔ Total Article Requests : **1,952**
- ✔ Total Articles Supplied: **1,738**
- ✔ Fulfillment Rate : **89.04%**



Tracking the Pulse of Demand: Monthly and Quarterly Trends

Since its inception, the Journal Article Delivery Service at the Knowledge Centre, Digital University Kerala, has witnessed a steady and encouraging rise in engagement. A close look at the monthly and quarterly trends in article requests reveals key insights into the evolving research culture within the university.

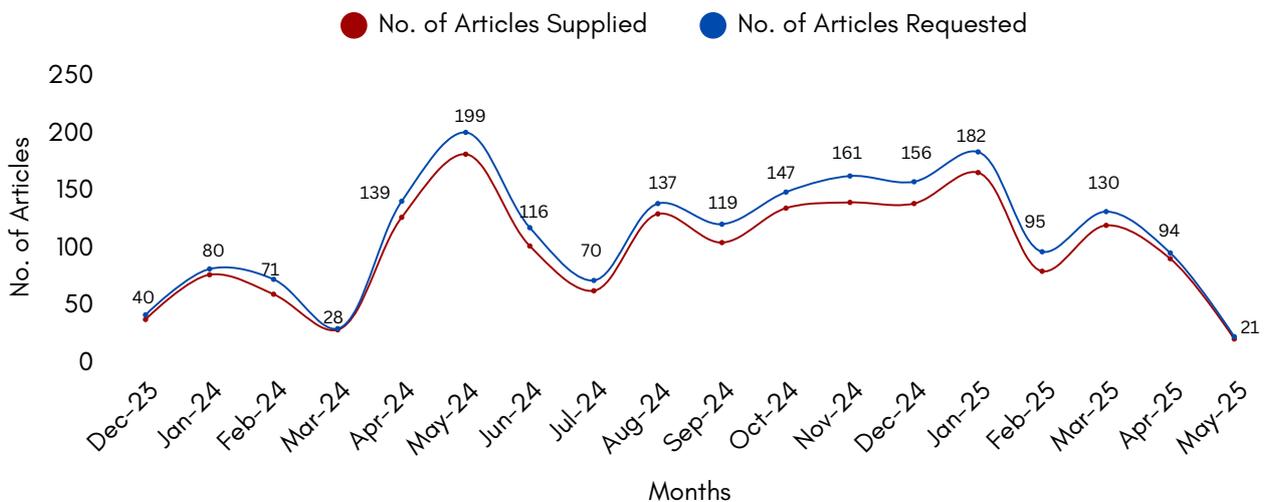


Figure 1 Month wise Demand and Supply of articles

Starting from December 2023, the number of article requests began to grow steadily, reflecting increasing awareness and trust in the service. The momentum picked up in early 2024, with noticeable peaks in January and April 2024, during which 80 and 139 articles were requested, respectively. These spikes likely align with research submission deadlines, coursework needs, and project milestones.

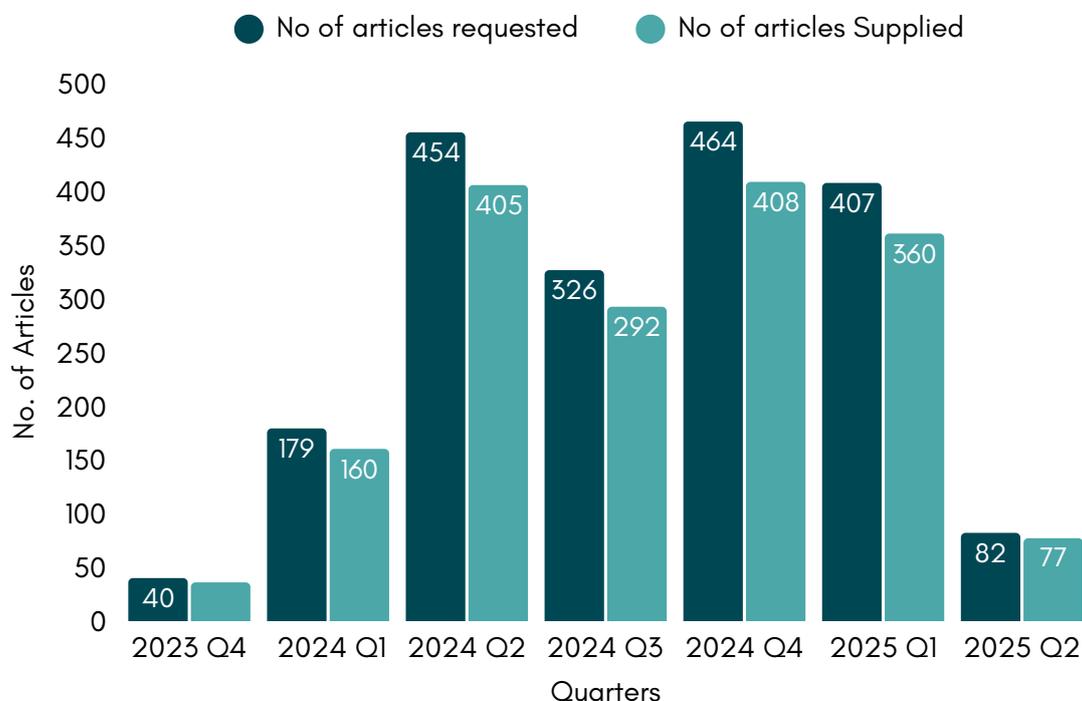


Figure 2 : Quarterly Demand and Supply

When viewed through a quarterly lens, the data becomes even more compelling. The first quarter of 2024 (Jan–Mar) alone saw a significant surge in activity, indicating that the start of the calendar year is a highly productive period for researchers at the university. This quarterly trend analysis helps the Knowledge Centre anticipate peak periods and prepare proactively to meet growing demands.

Such consistent upward trends not only highlight the increasing dependency on the service but also affirm the library’s pivotal role in removing access barriers and empowering research. The data speaks for itself: the Knowledge Centre isn’t just supporting research, it’s energizing it with timely access to global scholarly resources.

Departmental Engagement: Article Requests by School

The Journal Article Delivery Service has garnered remarkable participation from across the university’s diverse academic spectrum. A detailed analysis of requests by school reveals the School of Electronic Systems and Automation (SOSA) as the most active contributor, accounting for 755 article requests, followed closely by the School of Digital Sciences (SoDS) with 700 requests.

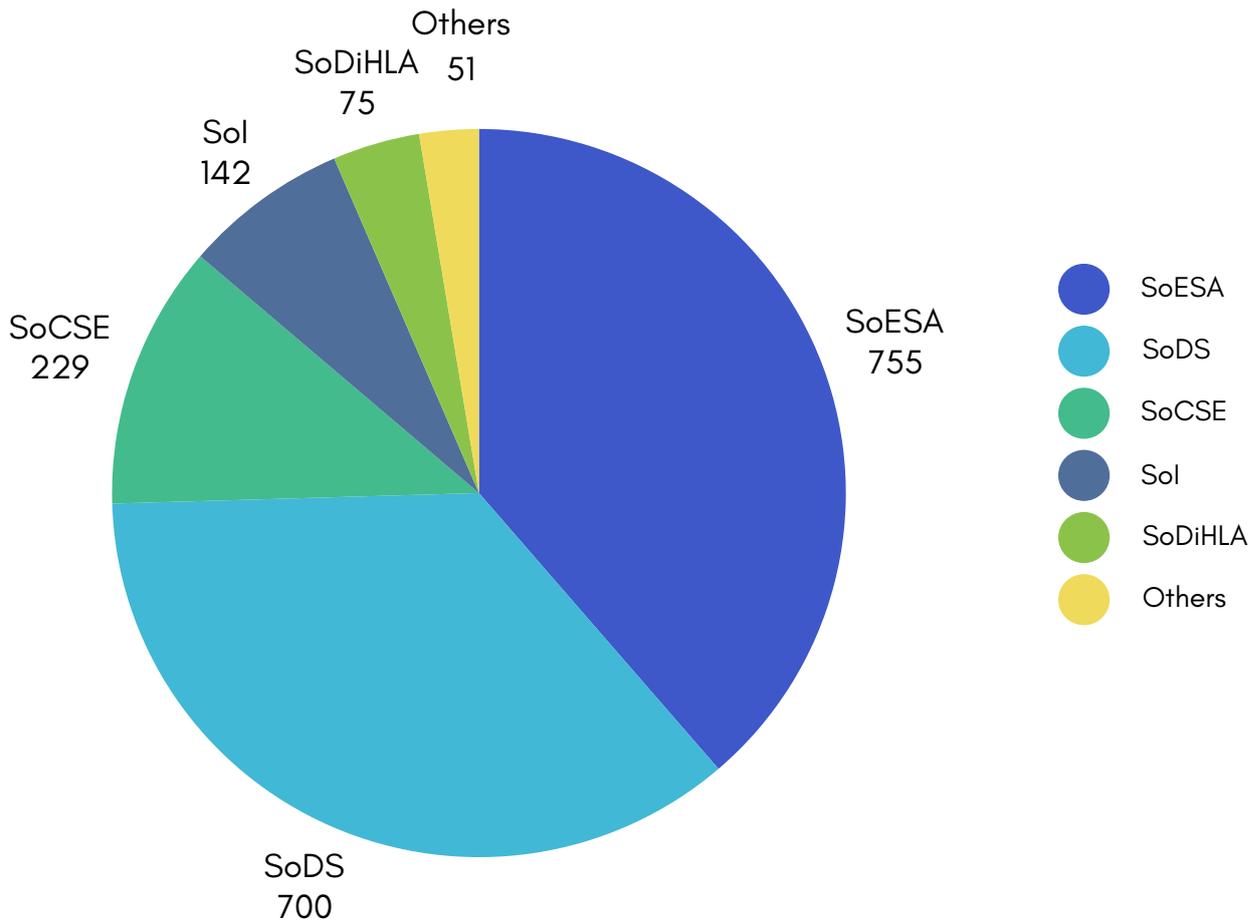


Figure 3. Requests for articles, school-wise

This high level of engagement from technical and computational domains reflects a strong culture of research and publication, where timely access to scholarly literature plays a critical role. The School of Computer Science & Engineering (SoCSE) and the School of Informatics (Sol) also demonstrated substantial usage, highlighting the service’s reach within data-centric and AI-driven disciplines.

Even the School of Digital Humanities and Liberal Arts (SoDiHLA), while smaller in scale, actively utilized the service, underscoring its inclusive design that caters to the needs of all knowledge streams.

Meeting Diverse Needs: Requests and Supply by User Category

An analysis of article requests by user category reveals a well-balanced and inclusive engagement with the Journal Article Delivery Service across the university community. The service was most heavily utilized by Postgraduate students, who made 737 requests, closely followed by Research Scholars with 650 requests. Faculty members and staff also participated actively, submitting 382 and 183 requests, respectively.

Table 1 . Demand and Supply (Category-wise)

Category	Articles Requested	Articles Supplied	Fulfilment Rate (%)
Faculty Member	382	336	87.96
P G Student	737	658	89.28
Research Scholar	650	583	89.69
Staff	183	161	87.98

What's truly commendable is the high fulfilment rate across all categories, ranging from 87.96% to 89.69%. Research Scholars, often under time pressure for publications and thesis work, saw the highest fulfillment rate at 89.69%, reflecting the service's critical support in advancing academic research. Similarly, PG students, who represent the largest user base, enjoyed a solid 89.28% fulfillment rate, ensuring their project and coursework needs were consistently met.

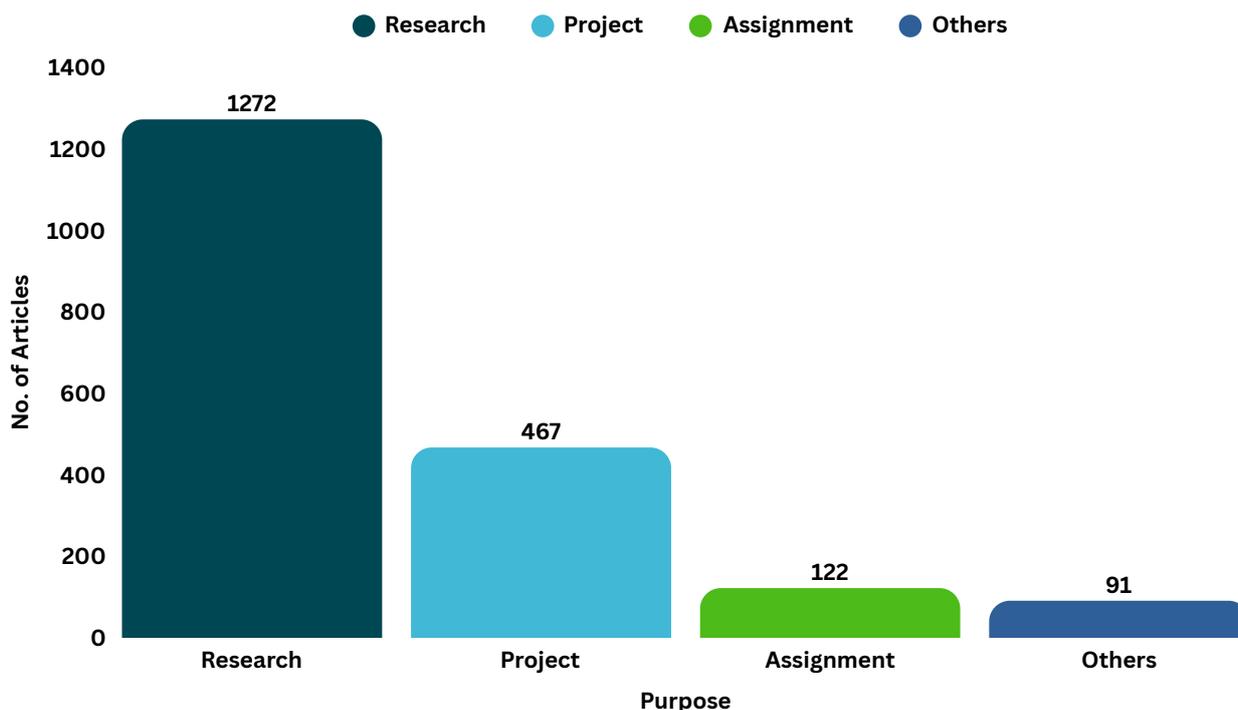
Even for faculty and staff, who often require specific resources for curriculum development or institutional research, the delivery rate remained impressive, hovering just under 88%.

Driven by Purpose: Understanding Why Articles Were Requested

A closer look at the purpose behind article requests reveals a service deeply aligned with the university's core academic and research priorities. Of the total 1,952 articles requested, the vast majority, 1,272 articles (65%), were sought explicitly for research purposes. This dominant share highlights the Knowledge Centre's vital role in supporting the scholarly pursuits of faculty and students alike, particularly those working on theses, dissertations, and publications.

The next major chunk, 467 articles (24%), was requested for project work, often linked to postgraduate academic requirements. This showcases how the delivery service extended its benefits beyond traditional research, reaching into coursework and innovation-based assignments.

A notable 122 articles (6%) were requested for seminars and assignments, indicating that even day-to-day academic tasks are being enriched through access to high-quality journal literature. The remaining



91 requests (5%), categorized as “Other,” cover a range of needs including administrative references, curriculum design, or general reading, further emphasizing the service’s flexibility.

Endorsements from the Users

The Article Request Service is one of the best practices at DUK that truly promotes and supports research. It is exceptionally efficient. Every time I have requested a publication, I have received it within a day. This timely access to scholarly resources greatly enhances our ability to stay updated with the latest developments and carry out high-quality research. I deeply appreciate the team’s responsiveness and commitment, and I believe this service is a vital asset for the academic community at DUK.



Christie Thomas Cherian

Faculty

It is a great service to obtain research articles, books and they are delivered in a timely manner. World scientific, Taylor Francis articles are difficult to obtain.

Sishu Shankar Muni

Faculty

 The Article Request Service has been a great help in my research. Whenever I couldn't access a paper, I just submitted a request and always received a quick and helpful response. The team is prompt and reliable, and I've always received the articles I needed without any difficulty. It's a really valuable service, and I appreciate how smoothly it works. Honestly, I don't have any suggestions for improvement right now, just hope the service continues the same way.

Thanks to the library team for making our research journey a little easier!

Sumitha Valsalam
PhD Scholar

 The Article Request Service is easily accessible and incredibly helpful in getting articles that aren't readily available online. The quick response time makes it even more reliable, especially when working on tight deadlines. It's straightforward to use and a great support for research and learning.

Nikhila L S
Student

We will continue..!

What began as a response to scholarly frustration has evolved into a cornerstone of the university's research infrastructure, quietly, consistently, and effectively powering academic dreams. In the voices of students and scholars who now experience seamless access to the world's knowledge, the message is clear: this isn't just a service, it's a revolution in how knowledge is delivered, supported, and celebrated.



At DUK, the Knowledge Centre doesn't wait for the future. It delivers it.

Dr Gopakumar V
Head, Knowledge Centre



Curating a responsible digital world

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