DIGITAL UNIVERSITY KERALA

Curating a responsible digital world

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025 | Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology (Digital University Kerala) Thiruvananthapuram

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FDP On Innovation & Entrepreneurship Organised by Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell and AICTE

The Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell and AICTE has organised a five-day Faculty Development Program at Digital University Kerala from 07th to 11th April 2025. The event focused on mentoring faculties and incubation managers from HEIs to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in their campus. The program was attended by around 50 participants from more than 30 institutions across Kerala. The program had very vibrant participation from not only engineering and technical backgrounds, but also participants passionate on innovation from different schools of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and arts and science colleges.

For more details: https://duk.ac.in/iic/fdp/

FDP
ON INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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DUK-PMI Expert Lecture Recap: An Insightful Journey Through Project Management in the IT Service Industry

Digital University Kerala, in collaboration with the Project Management Institute (PMI) DUK Students Club, successfully hosted an expert lecture titled "Project Management Practices in the IT Service Industry" on 20th May 2025. The session brought together a vibrant mix of professionals, scholars, and students, united by a shared interest in understanding the real-world nuances of project management within today's ever-evolving IT landscape.

The session was delivered by Mr. Rajeev Panikar, Delivery Manager at Infosys Technologies, a seasoned project leader with extensive experience in steering complex IT service projects to successful outcomes. Through this interactive lecture, Mr. Panikar offered a rare, behind-the-scenes look into the daily challenges, strategic decisions, and framework adaptations that shape effective project management in the IT services sector.
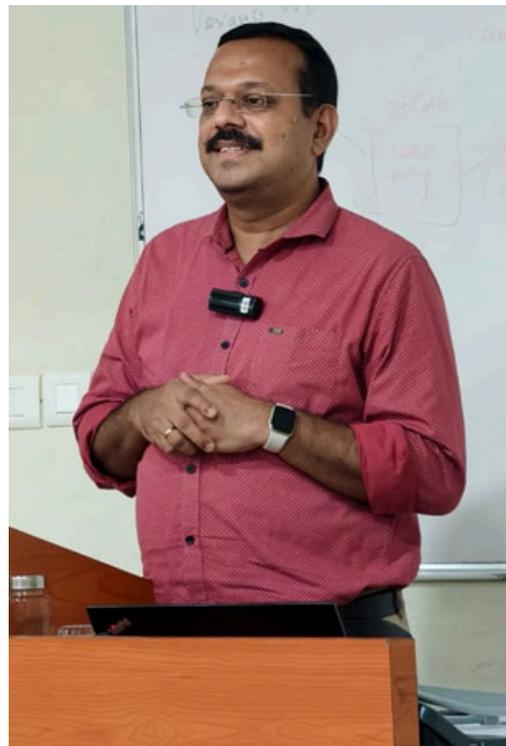
Held under the faculty coordination of Mr. Pradeep Kumar Kalampukatt, and meticulously organized by the enthusiastic members of the PMI DUK Students Club, the event was not only well-attended but also deeply engaging. The program began with a warm and spirited welcome address by Mr. Arjun Binu, who set the tone for the session by emphasizing the importance of industry-academia interactions in bridging theoretical knowledge with practical applications.

Mr. Panikar's talk delved deep into the lifecycle of project management, illustrating how each phase—from initiation and planning to execution, monitoring, and closure—is handled within a high-stakes IT service environment. He shared insights on how project models vary depending on organizational needs and client expectations, and how project managers must remain agile, adaptive, and aligned with strategic goals. Rather than a conventional lecture, the session evolved into a dynamic conversation, with students and faculty actively participating, posing thoughtful questions, and sharing their own interpretations of the concepts being discussed.

This interactive atmosphere made the session especially impactful. Attendees were able to not only understand the theoretical framework of project management but also relate it directly to practical industry scenarios. Mr. Panikar emphasized the value of governance models, performance-enhancement strategies, and the importance of communication and stakeholder alignment in driving projects to success.

Towards the end of the event, Ms. Salu J B delivered a heartfelt vote of thanks, acknowledging Mr. Panikar for his valuable time and for enriching the DUK community with such a relevant and insightful lecture. The event concluded on a celebratory note as Mr. Pradeep Kumar Kalampukatt presented a memento of appreciation to Mr. Rajeev Panikar, marking the occasion with a gesture of gratitude and recognition.

The lecture was not just an academic session but a collaborative learning experience that left a lasting impression on all attendees. It reaffirmed the commitment of Digital University Kerala and the PMI DUK Students Club to fostering practical learning experiences that connect students with the pulse of the industry.

Cisco thingQbator Cohort 8 Orientation Program

To foster Innovation and Entrepreneurship among students in the campus, Cisco and Nasscom Foundation has extended the support to the thingQbator cohort program for the 7th consecutive year. This year's cohort program was kick started on 14th May 2025 by Shri. Albert Dylan Correya, Innovation Manager, Nasscom Foundation. The students selected for the national level cohort program will receive support from Cisco and Nasscom Foundation to validate their innovative ideas by prototyping them in the thingQbator facility with the support of mentors from Nasscom foundation.

Three Day Workshop on AI & IoT

The institutions Innovation Council (IIC) and the Innovation Club collectively organised a three-day workshop on AI & IoT from 12th to 14th May 2025. School students from BVP Central School and Sai Krishna School attended the three workshop with great enthusiasm.

Kerala Blockchain Academy Achieves Dual Certification as Certified Service Provider for Besu and Hyperledger Fabric

Kerala Blockchain Academy (KBA) has been officially recognised by LF Decentralized Trust as a Certified Service Provider (CSP) for both Besu and Hyperledger Fabric networks. This significant achievement underscores KBA's deep expertise and long-standing commitment to advancing blockchain technology.

As a CSP, KBA is now among a select group of pre-qualified professional service providers who have demonstrated exceptional experience in deploying, implementing, and supporting LF Decentralized Trust projects. This recognition is a testament to KBA's consistent engagement and valuable contributions to the blockchain ecosystem, having served as an official training partner and associate member of the Linux Foundation's Decentralized Trust since 2018.

This announcement comes at a pivotal time as digital assets and tokenisation rapidly move into the mainstream. LF Decentralized Trust members and projects are playing critical roles in shaping this evolving market.

Besu, an LF Decentralized Trust project initially contributed by Consensys, is particularly gaining traction in institutional-grade financial projects. Its enterprise-grade EVM client, offering compatibility with both public and permissioned networks, provides a strategic advantage for businesses navigating this new landscape.

In response to the growing demand for Besu implementations, LF Decentralized Trust recently introduced a Besu Certified Service Provider (CSP) program. This program aims to expedite and simplify Besu implementations for enterprises. The inaugural wave of Besu CSPs includes prominent names like Consensys and Kaleido (both active Besu maintainers), as well as Cheesecake Labs, CPQD, DSR Corporation, and Kerala Blockchain Academy.
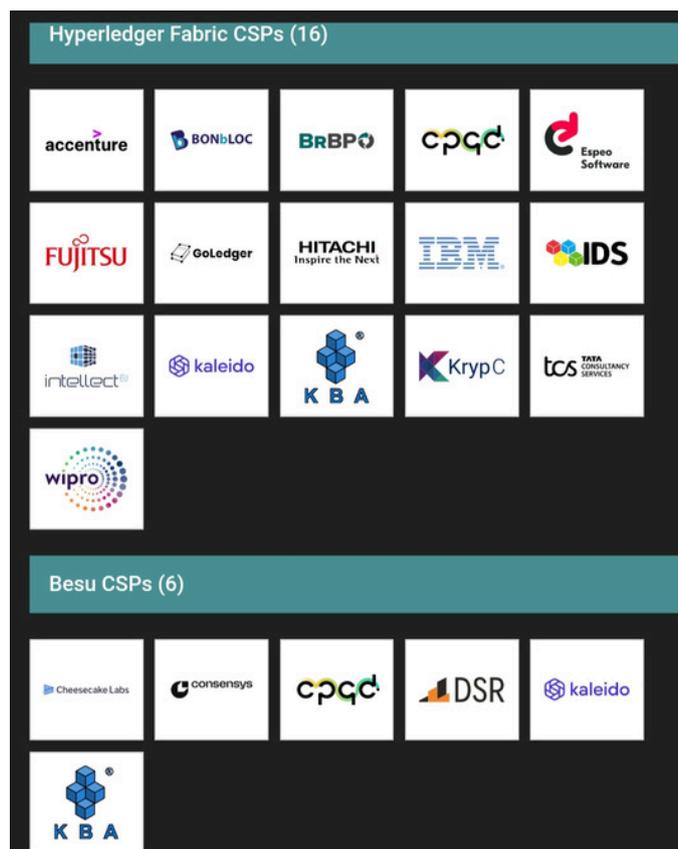

Each of these organisations brings valuable implementation expertise and a proven track record of ecosystem engagement, as per the LF Decentralized Trust's latest newsletter edition.

The Hyperledger Fabric CSP program also continues to grow. BrBPO, KBA, and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) are the newest Hyperledger Fabric CSPs.

Adopted Village Meeting

The Unnat Bharat Abhiyan unit at DUK has adopted five villages in the neighbouring panchayat: Keezthonnekkal, Veiloor, Melthonnekkal, Ullizhathura, and Athiyannor. A meeting was held to discuss past projects in these adopted villages as well as future plans on 07th May 2025. Representatives from Pothencode and Mangalapuram Panchayat attended the meeting. One of the DACE team members presented a project that they are working on in the Mangalapuram Panchayat as part of their DACE initiative. The students explained the potential for replicating their project in other villages once it has been completed and implemented in Mangalapuram Panchayat. During the meeting, SEC team members also outlined their previous projects and discussed upcoming initiatives.
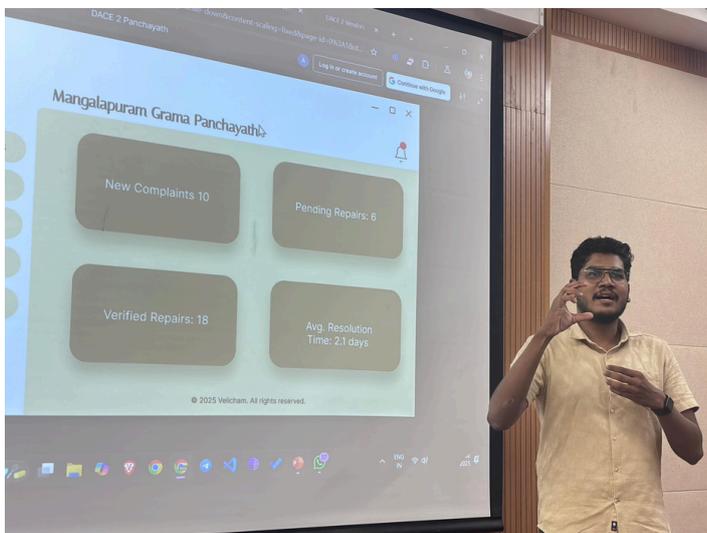
School Kit Donation

"Changathi" is an initiative by Kanal, a dedicated non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Thiruvananthapuram. This program aims to distribute school kits to students from coastal communities, providing essential resources that inspire and support their educational journey. To contribute to this initiative, the SEC organized a School Kit Donation Drive. The drive collected various items, including eight bags, eight steel water bottles, three umbrellas, as well as other supplies like tiffin boxes, notebooks, pens, and pencils.

Fitness Challenge – Anti-Drug Awareness Campaign

The Social Engagement Centre, in collaboration with the Sports Club and Fitness Centre, organized a fitness challenge for DUK students as part of the Anti-Drug Awareness campaign at the DUK campus on 14th May 2025. Over 50 students attended the event, with 20 participating in the fitness challenge. The gym trainer coordinated the activities. This program aimed to encourage students to prioritize their health and fitness while staying away from substances that can negatively affect their well-being.

Winners - Boys

1 Lesly V J
MSc in Computer Science with Specialization in Data Analytics

2 Ameen Rashid K V
MSc Applied Physics

3 Mohammed Shammas P
MSc in Computer Science with Specialization in Data Analytics

Winners - Girls

1 Shabna Shaji
MSc in Data Analytics with Specialization in Computational Science

2 Jeeva Ann Ebey
MSc in Data Analytics with Specialization in Computational Science

3 NANMA K V
MSc in Computer Science with Specialization in Data Analytics

Intra-University Badminton Doubles Tournament (Men & Women)

The Intra-University Badminton Doubles Tournament for both men and women was successfully conducted on 17th May 2025 at the Grenade Indoor Court, Kaniyapuram. The event ran from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM and saw enthusiastic participation from across various departments and roles within the university.

This sporting event was organized not only to promote physical activity and sportsmanship but also as part of an Anti-Drug Awareness Campaign, emphasizing the importance of a healthy lifestyle and constructive engagement in campus life.

WINNERS
MEN'S DOUBLES

First Place

Geoffin Sajan
M.Tech, Electronics

Dev Jacobs Peter C
M.Sc, Ecology

Second Place

Arnol P. S.
Senior UI/UX Designer, CDIPD

Shonu Thampi A.
Consultant, Senior Data Scientist, CDIPD

WINNERS
WOMEN'S DOUBLES

First Place

Pallavi Lal
Software Engineer DUK

Nancy Antony
M.Tech, Electronics

Second Place

Vidya B.S.
Physical Education Consultant, DUK

Sabitha Rani B.S.
Project Scientist, DUK

The tournament witnessed active and spirited participation from students and professionals alike, fostering a sense of unity and sportsmanship across disciplines. The event also served as a powerful platform to reinforce the anti-drug message, aligning physical fitness with a drug-free lifestyle.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all winners and participants for making the event a grand success.

Men's Doubles – First Place

Men's Doubles – Second Place

Women's Doubles – First Place


Women's Doubles – Second Place

Journal Article

Reddy, C. S., Athira, K., & Mudalkar, S. (2025). Evolution of Global Biodiversity Monitoring: Innovations, Modern Approaches and Integration with Essential Variables. Journal of the Indian Society of Remote Sensing, 1-14.

Book Published

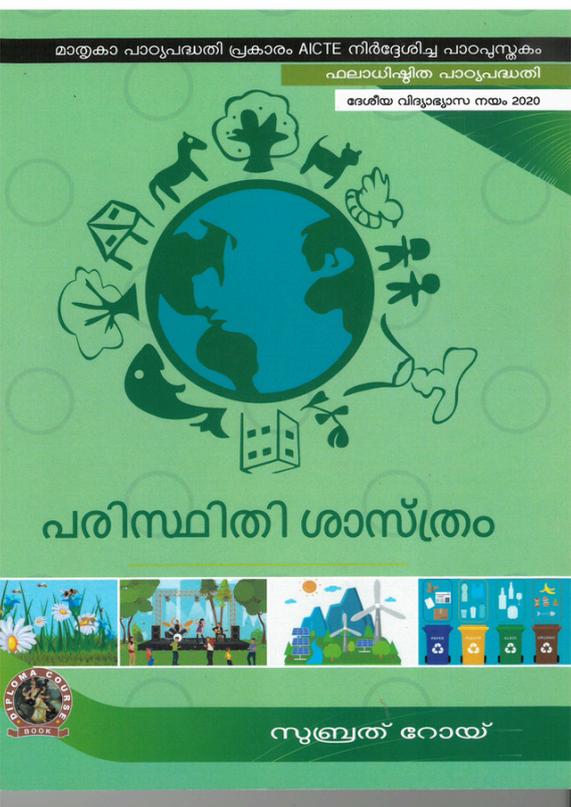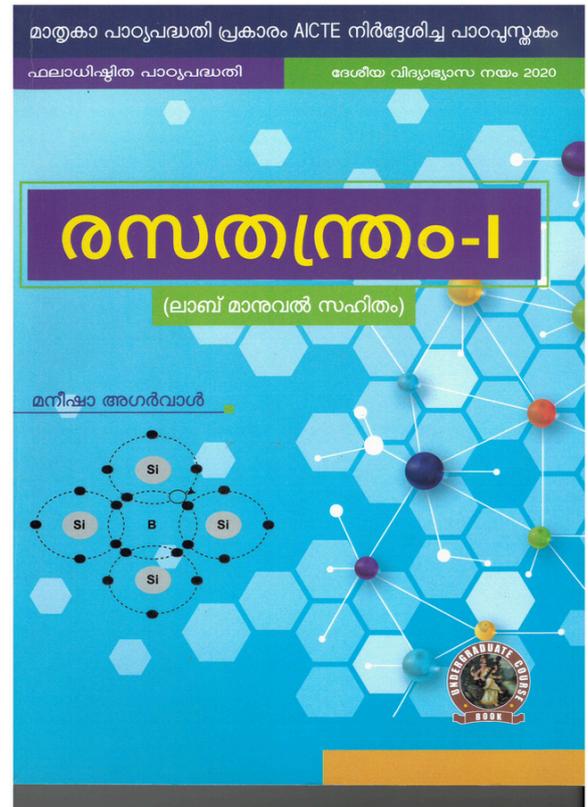Varghese U, Jolly, V., Gopakumar (Eds.). (2025). Libraries in the Digital Age -Innovation and Sustainability. Creative Books (1st ed.).
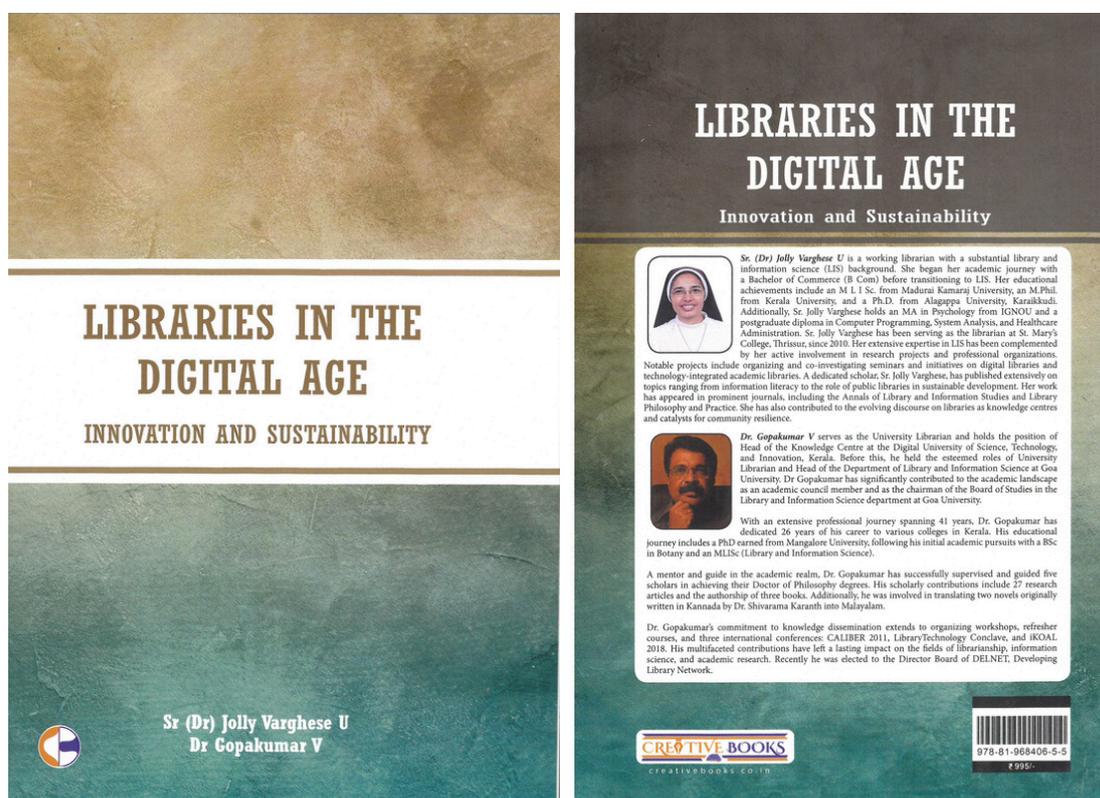
Libraries in the Digital Age: Innovation and Sustainability is a beacon in this evolving narrative. Born out of the Two-day National Seminar on "Technology Integrated Academic Libraries," organized by the Library of St. Mary's College, Thrissur, on October 25 and 26, 2024, this compilation encapsulates the diverse perspectives and pioneering ideas of scholars, librarians, and practitioners from across the country. It delves into critical discussions about digital transformation, the challenges of adapting to rapid technological advancements, and the vital need for sustainable practices in library management.

https://www.amazon.in/LIBRARIES-DIGITAL-AGE-INNOVATION-SUSTAINABILITY/dp/B0F5QLK6YW

AICTE Malayalam Technical Book Translation Project at Digital University Kerala

Digital University Kerala, as part of the AICTE's initiative to promote regional language learning under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, is leading the Malayalam Technical Book Translation Project for Engineering and Diploma programs. The project aims to make high-quality technical education more accessible to students studying in Malayalam medium by translating core engineering textbooks into Malayalam.

With expert support from faculty members, researchers, and language professionals across Kerala, the translation of First Year books has been successfully completed. The Second and Third Year translation is currently underway. This initiative not only strengthens inclusive education but also sets a national benchmark for localized technical content delivery.

AICTE Malayalam Technical Book Translation Project at Digital University Kerala

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