DIGITAL UNIVERSITY KERALA

Curating a responsible digital world

Culture Tech Internship Programme Launch

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

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MeitY Approves an IndiaAI Center of Excellence in Thiruvananthapuram under Digital University Kerala

Digital University Kerala has received administrative approval from the IndiaAI Independent Business Division (IBD) under the Digital India Corporation (DIC) for the establishment of the IndiaAI Artificial Intelligence Centre of Excellence (AI-CoE) in collaboration with Innovation Incubator Advisory Pvt. Ltd., with Prof. (Dr.) Asharaf S, serving as the Professor-in-Charge of the initiative. The CoE will be established under the leadership of Prof. Saji Gopinath, Prof. Asharaf S, and Mr. Antony Satyadas of Innovation Incubator. This approval marks an important step toward strengthening Kerala's AI innovation ecosystem through advanced research, technology development, entrepreneurship, skill development, and industry-academia collaboration. The CoE's primary pillars will be an AI startup studio that promotes innovations and commercialisation among our budding entrepreneurs.

Dr. Asharaf S and Mr. Antony Satyadas presenting the implementation plan at IndiaAI workshop Bengaluru.

The AI-CoE is envisioned to support and empower technology startups by enabling their progression from product development to commercialisation, lead advanced research and innovation in AI and emerging technologies, and enhance the skills of professionals in AI and related domains. The Centre also aims to promote AI-driven projects addressing state-specific challenges and socio-economic needs. The key functions include applied AI research and development, capacity-building initiatives such as workshops, hackathons, and training programmes, as well as providing co-working space and mentorship support for startups and innovators. The Centre will facilitate startup acceleration through financial assistance and networking opportunities, foster industrial partnerships for the commercialisation and deployment of AI solutions, provide advanced infrastructure and high-performance computing resources, and develop sector-specific AI applications. The industrial partner will enable these activities by providing domain expertise, mentorship, industry linkages, and support in the commercialisation and scaling of AI-driven solutions.

The AI-CoE is expected to be operational within three months at the Kabani Building of Digital University Kerala. Following the approval, an AI-CoE Implementation Workshop was organised by IndiaAI and the Karnataka AI Cell in Bengaluru. At the workshop, Mr. Sandip Kumar IAS, Director, Kerala State IT Mission, represented Kerala and presented the State's AI vision and strategic priorities.

At the workshop, Prof. Asharaf S and Dr. Sanil J. represented Digital University Kerala, and Mr. Antony Satyadas represented the industry partner, Innovation Incubator Advisory Pvt. Ltd. During the workshop, Dr. Asharaf S and Mr. Antony Satyadas presented the implementation plan for the AI-CoE, including its vision, strategic objectives, key initiatives, partnership framework, and a 12-month execution roadmap.

The workshop brought together senior government officials, policymakers, industry leaders, and academic stakeholders from across India to discuss implementation strategies, collaboration opportunities, and best practices for advancing AI Centres of Excellence.

CultureTech Internship Programme 2026 Launched at Digital University Kerala

The CultureTech Internship Programme 2026, an innovative educational initiative conceived by the Centre for Digital Transformation in Culture (CDTC) at Digital University Kerala (DUK), was inaugurated by Prof. Mohanan Kunnummal, Vice Chancellor of the University of Kerala. Designed for students pursuing the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP) of the University of Kerala, the programme aims to bridge academic learning with emerging digital technologies and cultural preservation.

The inaugural function was presided over by Prof. Saji Gopinath, Vice Chancellor of Digital University Kerala. In his presidential address, he emphasized the growing need to preserve cultural traditions and art forms that are gradually disappearing in the modern era. He noted that CDTC is committed to safeguarding cultural heritage while creating opportunities for the advancement of artists and cultural practitioners. He further highlighted that collaborative initiatives between universities can significantly enhance the quality of services offered to society.

Delivering the inaugural address, Prof. Mohanan Kunnummal underscored the importance of interdisciplinary learning in today's rapidly evolving world. He observed that the younger generation can progress only by embracing challenges and engaging in innovative modes of learning. He also commended Digital University Kerala for its pioneering efforts in providing transformative educational experiences that prepare students for future opportunities.

Prof. A. Mujeeb, Registrar of Digital University Kerala, felicitated the initiative and appreciated the collaborative efforts in creating innovative learning opportunities that integrate technology, culture, and skill development for students.

The CultureTech Internship Programme has been designed as a unique experiential learning model that integrates classroom knowledge with practical applications, thereby contributing to the growth of the knowledge economy. The programme seeks to equip students with contemporary skills through hands-on

exposure to Artificial Intelligence (AI), advanced methods of data collection, video documentation, and the effective use of generative digital tools.






Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Malu G., Assistant Professor and Head of CDTC, explained that the programme is structured to make learning more practical, accessible, and aligned with emerging technological trends. By combining cultural studies with digital innovation, the initiative aims to create meaningful learning experiences and foster new avenues for cultural documentation and preservation.

Dr. Mithun Sukumaran, Nodal Officer of the University of Kerala FYUGP Internship Portal, also addressed the gathering. The launch of the CultureTech Internship Programme marks another significant step in Digital University Kerala's efforts to integrate technology, culture, and experiential learning, reinforcing its commitment to nurturing future-ready graduates while contributing to the preservation of Kerala's rich cultural heritage.

MoU signed between Digital University Kerala and Rubber Research Institute of India(RRII)

Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology (KUDSIT) and Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII) signed an MoU on 15 May 2026 at RRII, Kottayam, for the development of Comprehensive Rubber Information System Project for iOS, to extend all existing services of the project to other rubber growing States of India and integrate all functionalities of RubSIS into CRISP mobile applications.

Dr. Debabrata Ray (Director Research, RRII), Dr.Pheba and Mr.Pradeep from RRII, Mr.Lal Prakash, Mr.Sarath Zacharia, and Dr.Radhakrishnan from KUDSIT attended the function.

Surag Manikoth Showcases Philatelic Exhibit “HER INDIA” at National Exhibition

Mr. Surag Manikoth, Scientific Associate at Digital University of Kerala (DUK), was selected to showcase his philatelic exhibit titled “HER INDIA”, focusing on women empowerment, at the prestigious exhibition “Ek Bharat, Shreshta Bharat: Celebrating India's Unity & Democracy through Postage Stamps.”

The exhibition was organized by the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi from 14 to 17 April 2026 and was inaugurated by Union Minister of Communications Jyotiraditya M. Scindia.

“HER INDIA” highlights the role and representation of women in India through a curated collection of postage stamps, blending history, culture, and social progress. The exhibit had earlier been displayed at DUK as part of International Women’s Day celebrations.


മലയാള മനോരമ

പ്രധാനമന്ത്രി സംഗ്രഹാലയയിൽ തപാൽ വകുപ്പ് ഒരുക്കിയ 'ഏക് ഭാരത് ശ്രേഷ്ഠ ഭാരത്' സ്റ്റാംപ് പ്രദർ
നം ഉദ്ഘാടനം ചെയ്ത കേന്ദ്രമന്ത്രി ജ്യോതിരാദിത്യ സിന്ധ്യ പ്രദർശനം കാണുന്നു. മലയാളിയായ സ്റ്റാ
മ്പാദകൻ സുരാഗ് മാണിക്കോത്ത്, പിഎംഎച്ച് സിഇഒ പ്രിയങ്ക മിശ്ര എന്നിവർ സമീപം. തപാൽ വ
കുപ്പും പ്രധാനമന്ത്രി സംഗ്രഹാലയയും തമ്മിലുള്ള ധാരണാപത്രം ഒപ്പുവയ്ക്കുന്ന ചടങ്ങിനൊപ്പമാണ് ഏപ്രി
17 വരെ നീളുന്ന പ്രദർശനത്തിനു തുടക്കമായത്. ചിത്രം: മനോരമ

Surag Manikoth was among a select group of philatelists chosen from across India, marking a significant achievement for both the individual and the University.

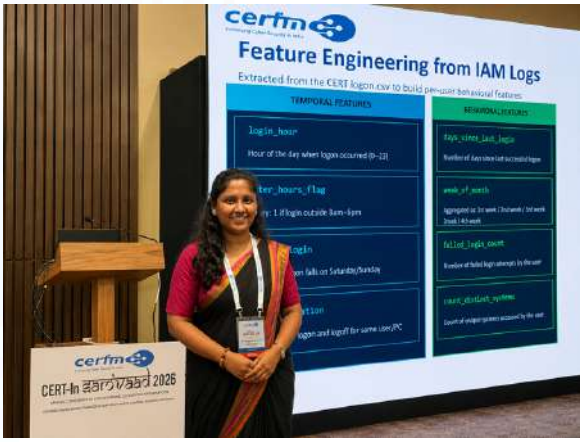
Digital University Kerala (DUK) actively promotes women empowerment through specialized initiatives like WISE (Women Incubation, Start-ups, and Entrepreneurship), offering technical, financial, and infrastructural support for female entrepreneurs. Key programs include the schemes for skill development, a dedicated Women Cell ensuring a safe and equitable campus environment, and student-focused initiatives that foster technological innovation and leadership among women.

Strengthening Digital Bharat: KSAAC Participation in CERT-In Conference 2026

The Kerala Security Audit and Assurance Center (KSAAC) team actively participated in the Annual Conference of CERT-In Empanelled Auditing Organizations held at BITS Pilani Goa Campus from 27 to 29 April 2026. The conference was organized under the theme “Securing Digital Bharat through Future-Ready Audits: Adapting, Assuring, Advancing.”

As part of the technical track presentations, Ms. Sruthi Krishna G, Research Associate at KSAAC, presented a research paper titled “Automated Security Auditing of IAM Logs Using AI for Insider Threat Detection.” The paper highlighted the role of Artificial Intelligence in enhancing Identity and Access Management (IAM) log analysis for proactive insider threat detection and security auditing.

In the management track, Ms. Jyothi Ramaswamy, Adhoc Consultant at KSAAC, presented a paper titled “Importance of Segregation of Duties in Compliance.” The session emphasized the significance of implementing proper segregation of duties to strengthen organizational compliance frameworks and reduce operational risks.



Both presentations received positive engagement from participants and contributed to insightful discussions during the conference sessions.Mr. Anu Shivaranjan also attended the conference as part of the KSAAC delegation, representing the organization.

The participation and successful presentation of papers by the KSAAC team were carried out under the guidance and support of Md. Meraj Uddin, Head KSAAC, further strengthening the organization's commitment to advancing cybersecurity research, auditing practices, and compliance awareness in the evolving digital landscape.

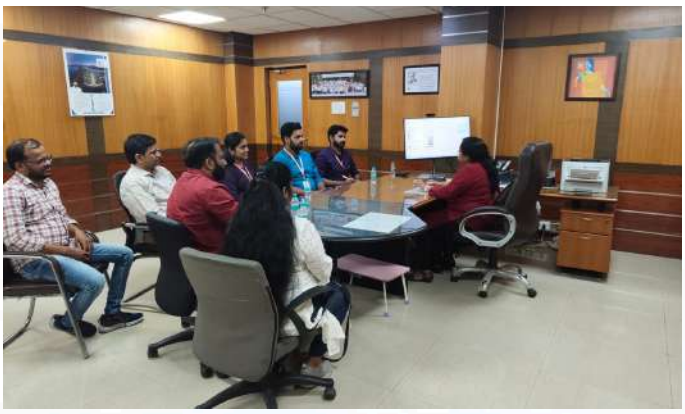
Achievement

A research proposal led by Dr. Shweta Srivastava, Assistant Professor, School of Digital Sciences, KUDSIT, has been recommended for funding support by the ISRO review committee under its Announcement of Opportunity (AO) programme. Titled "Venusian Region Detection (VeReD) of the Plasma Regions Using a Hybrid Deep Learning Framework," the project aims to develop the first AI-enabled framework for automated identification of plasma regions in Venus's induced magnetosphere using archival space mission data, contributing directly to the scientific objectives of India's forthcoming Venus Orbiter Mission (VOM) and advancing research on planetary space environments.

PGDeG Students Witness Frontier e-Governance at Telangana's Registration & Stamps Department

Students of the Post Graduate Diploma in e-Governance (PGDeG) Course 2025–'26, Digital University Kerala, recently undertook a study visit to Hyderabad, Telangana, exploring one of India's most advanced digital registration ecosystems.

The team comprising Gopika K, Nandan M S, Rajeesh K P, Ranjana V, and Sreeram R S, visited the Offices of the Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, District Registrar of Assurance and Registrar of Firms and Societies, the Sub Registrar and Marriage Officer, Chikkadpally, and the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Hyderabad. The visit offered a rare ground-level view of how Telangana has transformed its Registration Department from a legacy, paper-driven institution into one of the most technology-forward registration systems in the country.



Discussion with Smt. M. Subhashini, DIG of Registration & Stamps Department, Government of Telangana

A Nine-Step Digital Workflow Redefined

At the Sub Registrar's Office in Chikkadpally, the team directly observed Telangana's highly structured, nine-step digital property registration workflow in action. Beginning with preliminary scrutiny and token generation, the process flows through Aadhaar-based e-KYC and biometric capture, challan defacing, biometric authentication by the Sub Registrar, document numbering, Aadhaar-based e-sign by parties and by the Sub Registrar, automated printing of endorsements, document scanning, and finally digital upload with return of the registered document all within a single visit lasting approximately 30–45 minutes. The cashless office model, mandated statewide since 2019, ensures that all stamp duty and registration fee payments are routed through the e-Challan system directly to the State Treasury, with zero cash handling at any Sub Registrar Office. Taken together, these measures have virtually eliminated impersonation fraud and financial leakage from registration transactions, setting a benchmark that drew considerable admiration from the visiting team.

Field visit at the Office of the Sub Registrar and Marriage Officer, Chikkadpally

T-Chits and Blockchain: Redefining Financial Regulation

One of the most distinctive highlights of the visit was a presentation on the T-Chits platform, Telangana's nationally recognised digital system for end-to-end chit fund administration, developed in partnership with the fintech firm ChitMonks. Built on blockchain technology, T-Chits records every critical event in a chit fund's lifecycle, from Previous Sanction Orders and Chit Agreement registrations to draw minutes, subscriber transfers, and security deposit monitoring, on an immutable distributed ledger that cannot be altered without detection. The system is also accessible through a dedicated mobile application, enabling Foremen, subscribers, and Registrar office staff to file compliance documents, track draws, and receive automated deadline alerts from their smartphones. As the team learned, this blockchain-powered approach has placed Telangana at the frontier of technology-enabled financial regulation in India, and has earned national recognition as a model for other states.

Field visit at the Office of the District Registrar of Assurance and Registrar of Firms and Societies, Hyderabad

AI NIBHRIT: Pioneering Data Privacy in Governance

Perhaps the most forward-looking innovation studied during the visit was the AI NIBHRIT project : an Artificial Intelligence-driven data masking system designed to protect sensitive personal information within the registration database. Processing over 40,000 daily transactions across 144 Sub Registrar Offices, the department handles vast volumes of Aadhaar numbers, PAN details, biometric records, and financial data. NIBHRIT's machine learning engine detects and dynamically masks sensitive data in a role-based manner, ensuring that a Data Entry Operator, a Sub Registrar, and an IT maintenance officer each see only the level of information appropriate to their function. Biometric data (fingerprints and iris scans) is the most rigorously protected, accessible only during the specific moment of UIDAI authentication and never stored in retrievable form. Conceived under the Commissioner and Inspector General of Registration and Stamps, AI NIBHRIT stands as a rare example of a state government department proactively embedding data privacy principles into the architecture of a core public service, well ahead of the emerging mandates of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023.

Discussion with Shri. Srinivasa Subba Rao Akella, Senior Director (IT), National Informatics Centre, Hyderabad

PGDeG students with Shri.Bapuji Nakka User Scientist-D, Telangana State Centre, Hyderabad

Lessons for Kerala and the Road Ahead

The Telangana visit offered the PGDeG team not only an appreciation for the scale and speed of digital reform in a relatively young state, but also a practical lens through which Kerala's own Registration Department with its mature PEARL platform, 315 Sub Registrar Offices, and pioneering Anywhere Registration initiative can identify the next wave of transformative upgrades. Key opportunities that emerged from the study include the adoption of Aadhaar-based e-KYC across all registration transactions, development of a dedicated mobile application for citizen services, integration of blockchain-based chit fund management, and deployment of AI-driven fraud detection systems. As the PGDeG programme continues to provide civil servants with cross-state exposure to governance best practices, visits such as this reinforce the value of learning from diverse administrative models and carry the promise of meaningful, technology-driven reform for Kerala's registration ecosystem in the years ahead.

Other State Visit as part of PGDeG 2025-2026 Programme

Visit to TNeGA (Tamil Nadu E-Governance Agency) and NIMI(National Instructional Media Institute) Chennai

The team comprising Renjini Ram, Anu G Krishnan and Aswathy R visited the Offices of the Tamil Nadu E-Governance Agency and National Instructional Media Institute, Tamil Nadu.

PGDeG students with TNeGA and NIMI Officials

Blood Donation Camp at Digital University Kerala

Social Engagement Centre in collaboration with the Thejus and Regional Cancer Centre (RCC), Thiruvananthapuram, organized a Blood Donation Camp on 13 May 2026.

The camp received an overwhelming response, with more than 60 participants registering for blood donation. Following medical screening, 43 units of blood were successfully collected.

The programme reflected the university community's commitment to social responsibility and supporting life-saving healthcare initiatives.

Nammude Keralam App Simplified Access to Kerala Board Examination Results

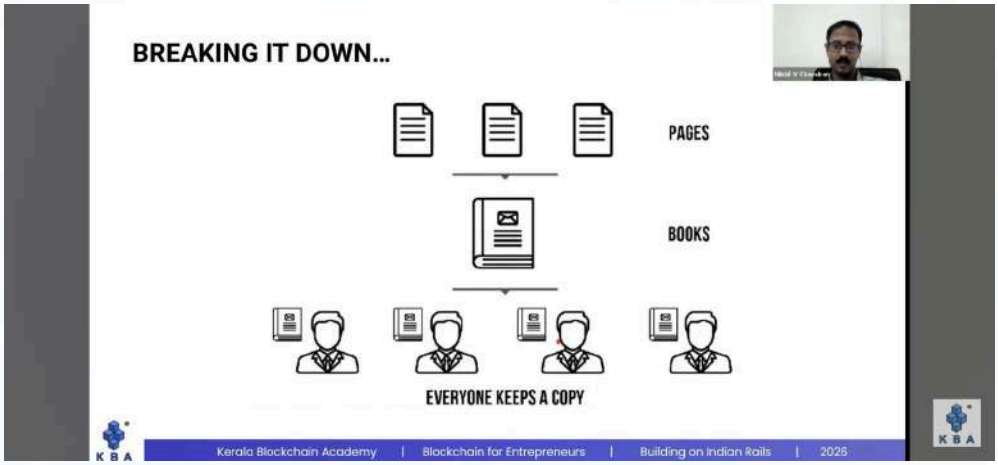
The Nammude Keralam App, developed by Kerala Blockchain Academy as part of the Government of Kerala's digital governance initiative, played a significant role in simplifying access to Kerala board examination results in 2026. The SSLC, HSS, VHSE, and THSE examination results were made available on the Nammude Keralam app, enabling students to conveniently access their results through the Services section by entering their Register Number and Date of Birth.

The Kerala Board of Public Examinations published the SSLC Examination Results on 15 May 2026 at 3:00 PM through Kerala Pareeksha Bhavan. The results were officially announced by General Education Principal Secretary Sharmila Mary Joseph. Through the platform, 80,020 SSLC students accessed their examination results.

The results of the Directorate of Higher Secondary Education, Kerala Vocational Higher Secondary Education, and Technical Higher Secondary Examination were published on 26 May 2026 at 3:00 PM. The announcement was made by General Education Minister N. Samsudheen. A total of 100,200 HSE and THSE students, along with 13,210 VHSE students, accessed their results through the Nammude Keralam platform. Through the Nammude Keralam App, students across the state could access their examination results quickly, smoothly, and without difficulty, making the result-checking process more efficient and accessible.

Kerala Blockchain Academy Delivers Inaugural Session of Blockchain for Entrepreneurs Program with IIM Lucknow EIC

Kerala Blockchain Academy commenced the first phase of a startup training initiative as the Knowledge Partner of IIM Lucknow Enterprise Incubation Centre (IIML-EIC). As part of the programme, the inaugural session of Cohort I of the “Blockchain for Entrepreneurs” programme was conducted on 25 May 2026 by Nikhil V Chandran. The session introduced participants to the fundamentals of Web3 and Blockchain technologies and their growing relevance in India's startup and innovation ecosystem.



The programme aims to equip entrepreneurs, innovators, and startup founders with the knowledge and skills required to leverage blockchain technologies in building next-generation products and services. Participants gained insights into emerging opportunities in Web3, decentralised systems, and blockchain-driven innovation.

The collaboration with IIM Lucknow Enterprise Incubation Centre reflects Kerala Blockchain Academy's continued commitment to knowledge dissemination and ecosystem development. Through such initiatives, KBA seeks to strengthen India's Web3 landscape by empowering entrepreneurs and startup communities with industry-relevant knowledge and practical exposure to blockchain technologies.

AI Tools in Education Workshop Organized at Digital University Kerala

Digital University Kerala, in association with Kollam Sahodaya CBSE Group, organized a one-day workshop on “AI Tools in Education” on 06 May 2026 at the Digital University Kerala campus. The workshop was coordinated by Dr. Elizabeth Sherly along with the team members of VRCLC. The programme focused on the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in modern education and introduced participants to various AI-powered tools and applications for teaching, learning, assessment, and academic administration.

Around 70 teachers from various schools actively participated in the workshop. The sessions provided hands-on exposure to emerging AI technologies and emphasized the importance of the responsible and effective integration of AI in the education sector. As part of the DUK admission campaign, a special session highlighting Digital University Kerala and its diverse academic programmes was also conducted.

School of Digital Sciences Conducts Successful Webinar Series on Emerging Career Opportunities

The School of Digital Sciences successfully conducted two online webinar series in May 2026, attracting students and graduates interested in emerging career opportunities in science and technology.

The first webinar series, titled "Turn Your Science Degree into a High-Paying Career: Explore Opportunities in BioAI, FinTech and Computational Modelling," was held on 5, 7 and 8 May 2026. The sessions introduced participants to promising career paths and higher education opportunities in these rapidly growing fields. The talks were delivered by faculty members Dr. Sherin D. R., Dr. Aswin V. S., and Dr. Shweta Srivastava.

The second webinar series, "Beyond Classrooms," was conducted on 11 and 12 May 2026. The programme focused on how work-immersive learning is transforming careers in Data Science and Product Development. Participants gained insights into industry-oriented learning, earning while studying, and career opportunities in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence. The sessions were led by Dr. Ajith Kumar.

Both webinar series received an encouraging response from participants and provided valuable guidance on academic and career opportunities in emerging technology domains. The programmes were coordinated by Dr. Shamjid P., Assistant Professor, School of Digital Sciences.

Nurturing Future Leadership Program (NFLP) at Indian Institute of Technology Madras: Emerging Career Opportunities

Dr. Shanujas V, Assistant Professor, SoDiHLA attended the Nurturing Future Leadership Program (NFLP) at Indian Institute of Technology Madras from 18 to 22 May 2026. The programme was organized under the aegis of the UGC Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC). It brought together academic professionals and emerging leaders to explore contemporary perspectives on leadership, innovation, strategic thinking, and institutional development.

Through expert-led sessions, interactive discussions, and collaborative learning activities, participants gained valuable insights into effective leadership practices and the evolving role of higher education institutions in a rapidly changing environment.

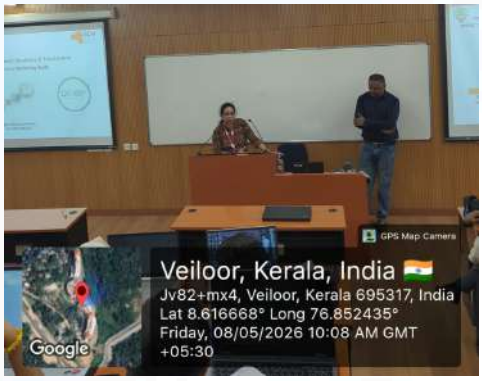
Through interactive sessions, expert talks, and collaborative learning activities, participants gained valuable insights into effective leadership practices and the evolving role of higher education institutions in a dynamic global environment. The programme provided an excellent platform for professional development, networking, and the exchange of ideas among educators and leaders from diverse backgrounds.

Session Chair for ACM CME 2026

Dr. Sherin DR, Assistant Professor, School of Digital Sciences, Digital University Kerala, served as a Session Chair at the CME programme “Next-Generation Clinical Microbiology: Bridging Diagnostics and Data” organized by the Department of Microbiology, SCTIMST, on 07 May 2026. The event, held at the AMCHSS Auditorium, brought together experts to discuss recent advances in clinical microbiology, diagnostics, and data-driven healthcare.

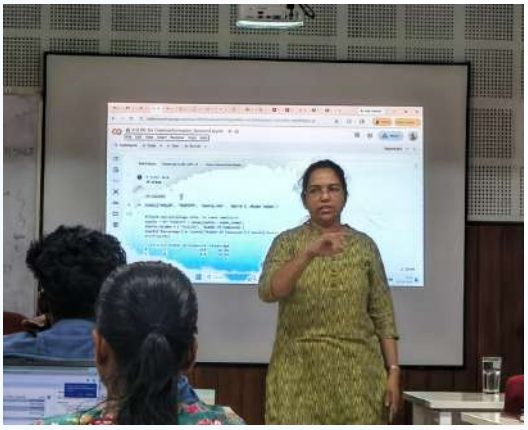
Workshop-Molecular Simulations using ACM

The School of Digital Sciences, Digital University Kerala, conducted a hybrid workshop on Molecular Simulations using AMS on 08 May 2026 in collaboration with Nyro Research India. The workshop provided hands-on training to MSc and PhD students, researchers, and faculty members from chemical sciences, life sciences, and materials science, introducing them to modern molecular modeling and simulation techniques.



AI for Molecular Sciences Workshop

Dr. Sherin DR delivered a hands-on session on “AI for Molecular Sciences” as part of M2ML2026: Workshop on Computational Chemistry held on 25 May 2026 at the Department of Chemistry, University of Kerala, Kariavattom Campus.



The session introduced chemistry faculty members, researchers, and MSc students to the applications of artificial intelligence and machine learning in molecular modeling, drug discovery, and computational chemistry.

Two day Workshop by Department of Soil Survey

Dr.Radhakrishnan.T, Assistant Professor & Chair - School of Digital Sciences, Digital University Kerala delivered a talk on the topic 'Role of Artificial Intelligence in Soil Mapping', in a two day workshop organized by Department of Soil Survey on 08 May 2026 at Udayasamudra, Kovalam.

Publications

Ravi Prakash, Abhiram, S. S., & Thomas, T. (2026, May 22–24). Generative digital twins for continuous and reliable IoMT monitoring in medical metaverse environments. Paper presented at the IEEE RECCAP 2026, IIT Palakkad, Kerala, India.

Ravi Prakash, & Thomas, T. (2026, May 22–24). Adaptive Gaussian one-class classifier for detecting counterfeit digital twins. Paper presented at the IEEE RECCAP 2026, IIT Palakkad, Kerala, India.

Roopak, S., & Thomas, T. (2026, May 22–24). An explainable AI model for detecting malicious smart contracts using EVM opcode features. Paper presented at the IEEE RECCAP 2026, IIT Palakkad, Kerala, India.

Leena G. Pillai, Kavya Manohar, Bajiyo Baiju, & Elizabeth Sherly. (2026). Fine-tuning and script normalization for enhancing Malayalam automatic speech recognition. In AIP Conference Proceedings (Vol. 3426, Article 030070). AIP Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0338077

Ray, S. (2026). Editorial: Insights in the management of natural resources. Frontiers in Sustainable Resource Management, 5, Article 1854614. https://doi.org/10.3389/fsrma.2026.1854614

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