

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



Newsletter

August 2026



DUK/NL/VOL:5/ISS.08/AUGUST 2026



+91-471-2788000



<https://duk.ac.in>

Table of Contents

80th Independence Day Celebrations @ DUK	03	Blockchain Development Training Programme for JSS University Students Concludes Successfully	09
Onam Celebrations @ DUK : Thakathom '26	04	Blockchain for Entrepreneurs Programme Enters Phase II with Technical Development Sessions	10
IIIE National Award 2026	06	Anti-Ragging Awareness Programme : Promoting a Safe and Respectful Campus Culture	11
Seven DUK Cybersecurity Students Secure Full-Time Roles at EY	06	DACE Orientation	11
Commencement of Certificate Course in Library Technology (CLT)	07	Remembering the Freedom Fighters	12
EthKerala to DC8: Ernakulam Edition Successfully Conducted	08	ATAL FDP Invited Talk by Dr. Shanujas V.	13
Green Chain Challenge: Idea Pitching Competition	08	Research Talk on Computational Imaging and Future Cameras by Prof. Shree K. Nayar	13
Poster Making Competition in Green Chain Challenge Series	09	DUK Publications	14

80th Independence Day Celebrations @ DUK

Digital University Kerala celebrated the 80th Independence Day of India on 15 August 2026, with patriotic fervour and enthusiasm, marking the occasion under the national theme "Yuva Shakti for Viksit Bharat@2047."

The celebrations began at 8:30 a.m. with the National Flag Hoisting, accompanied by the National Song and National Anthem. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor addressed the gathering, reflecting on the significance of the day and the university's role in nation-building through innovation and digital excellence. The event was further followed by a patriotic song performed by students and an inspiring Independence Day speech by a student.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and the distribution of sweets among the attendees, bringing the celebrations to a joyous close. The event saw enthusiastic participation from students, research scholars, faculty, and staff, reflecting the spirit of the day's message — "Honoring Freedom, Inspiring the Future."



Onam Celebrations @ DUK : Thakathom '26

Thakathom '26, the university's vibrant Onam celebration, was held on 21 August 2026, bringing together students, faculty members, and staff in a joyous celebration of Kerala's rich cultural heritage.

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Digital University Kerala, inaugurated the programme. The celebrations continued with Onam greetings from faculty members, followed by the Pookalam Competition, showcasing creativity, teamwork, and the festive spirit of Onam.

The day featured a colourful array of cultural programmes, traditional Onam games, and a sumptuous Onam Sadhya. The afternoon sessions witnessed the much-awaited Vadamvali final and other traditional games, adding excitement and team spirit to the festivities. The celebrations concluded on a high note with an energetic Chenda Melam. The winners of the Pookalam Competition were also announced during the valedictory session.

Thakathom '26 beautifully captured the essence of Onam through culture, tradition, teamwork, and togetherness, leaving the entire university community with cherished memories of a joyful and memorable celebration.





IIIE National Award 2026

Dr. Sini V. Pillai, Faculty, School of Digital Humanities and Liberal Arts (SoDiHLA) has been conferred the prestigious IIIE National Award 2026 under the Fellowship Category.

The award was presented during the 68th National Convention of the Indian Institution of Industrial Engineering (IIIE) held at SVNIT, Surat, on 07 August 2026. The Fellowship honour reflects her continued commitment to teaching, research, professional activities and academic contributions.



Digital University Kerala congratulates Dr. Sini V Pillai on this distinguished national recognition and wishes her continued success in her academic and professional endeavours.

Seven DUK Cybersecurity Students Secure Full-Time Roles at EY

Seven students from the MSc Computer Science (Cybersecurity) programme at Digital University Kerala have achieved a significant milestone by securing full-time positions at EY in the Cybersecurity domain.

The students were initially selected for internships at EY, where they gained valuable industry exposure and practical experience in cybersecurity. Following the successful completion of their internships, all seven students were selected for full-time employment at EY.

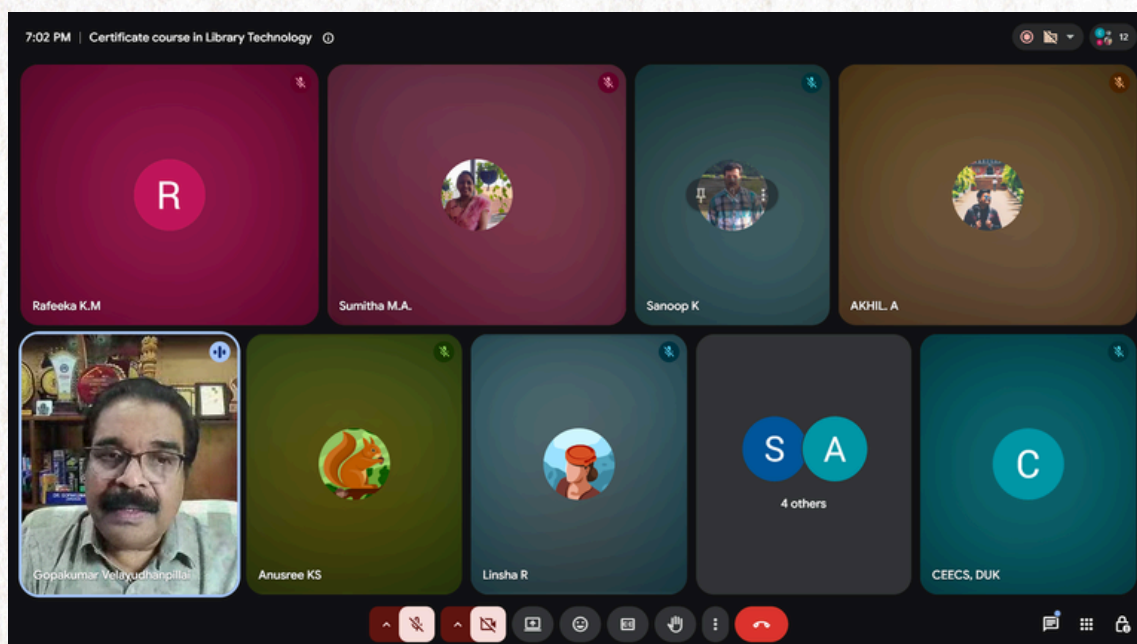
This achievement marks a proud moment for the students and Digital University Kerala, reflecting the strong technical skills, dedication, and industry readiness developed through the MSc Cybersecurity programme.

Commencement of Certificate Course in Library Technology (CLT)

The Centre for Executive Education and Continuous Studies (CEECS), in association with the Knowledge Centre, Digital University Kerala, commenced the Certificate Programme in Library Technology (CLT) on 05 August 2026.

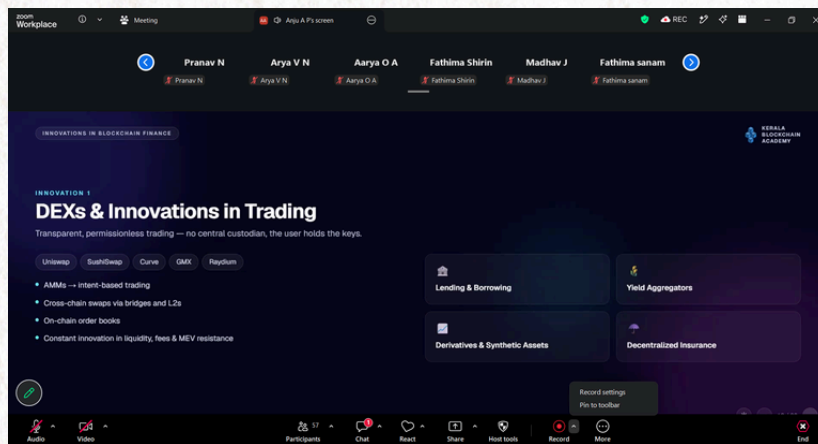
The three-month blended learning programme is designed to equip participants with practical knowledge and hands-on skills in modern library technologies, including library automation, digital repositories, research support tools, AI-assisted library services, and information management systems.

The first online academic session commenced on 05 August 2026 with enthusiastic participation from the inaugural batch of students. The programme aims to strengthen the professional competencies of graduates and library professionals by providing industry-relevant training in emerging library technologies and digital information management.



EthKerala to DC8: Ernakulam Edition Successfully Conducted

In association with the Ethereum Foundation, the fifth edition of EthKerala to DC8: Road to Devcon was successfully held online at ToCH Institute of Science & Technology, bringing together students, aspiring developers, and blockchain enthusiasts. The session was led by Anju A P, who introduced participants to the fundamentals of blockchain, the Web3 ecosystem, and emerging opportunities in decentralised technologies. Through interactive discussions, participants explored the practical applications of Ethereum and its growing role in the digital economy.



As part of the EthKerala to DC8: Road to Devcon initiative, the programme continues to strengthen blockchain awareness and nurture Kerala's growing Ethereum community while building momentum towards Devcon Mumbai 2026.

Green Chain Challenge: Idea Pitching Competition

The Green Chain Challenge: Idea Pitching Competition, organised by Kerala Blockchain Academy on 13 August 2026, brought together aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators to present their ideas and potential blockchain and Web3-based solutions.



An expert panel evaluated the participating teams based on innovation, relevance, feasibility, and potential real-world impact. The competition provided participants with an opportunity to pitch their ideas before experts, receive valuable feedback, and explore pathways for further development.

Poster Making Competition in Green Chain Challenge Series

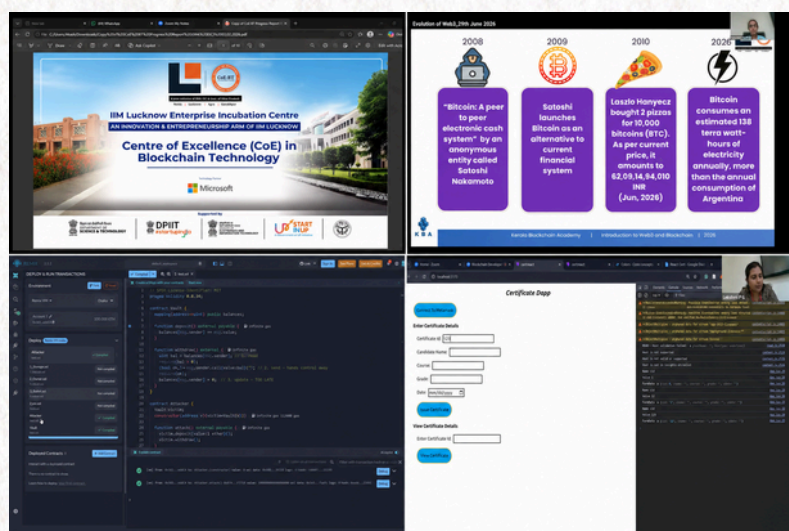
The Green Chain Challenge: Poster Making Competition, held on 14 August 2026, provided participants with a creative platform to showcase innovative ideas and solutions through visual storytelling.



An expert panel evaluated the posters based on creativity, relevance, innovation, and effectiveness in communicating the proposed ideas. The competition concluded with the recognition of three winning teams for their outstanding presentations and innovative approaches.

Blockchain Development Training Programme for JSS University Students Concludes Successfully

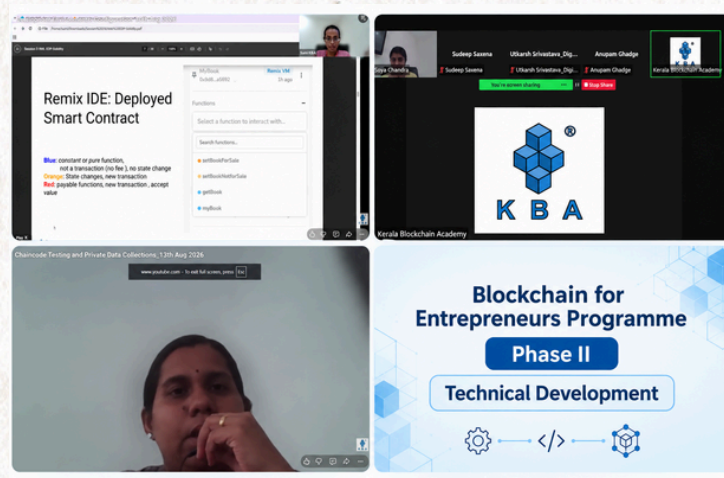
The Blockchain Development Training Programme for students of JSS University, conducted by Kerala Blockchain Academy (KBA) in association with the IIM Lucknow Enterprise Incubation Centre (IIML-EIC), successfully concluded.



The programme provided students with hands-on experience in Decentralised Application (DApp) development on Ethereum, equipping them with practical skills relevant to the growing Web3 ecosystem. Students also received blockchain-powered certificates recognising their learning and participation in the programme.

Blockchain for Entrepreneurs Programme Enters Phase II with Technical Development Sessions

Phase II: Application Development begins, and the Blockchain for Entrepreneurs Programme moves into hands-on technical training for startups. Kerala Blockchain Academy (KBA), as the Knowledge Partner of IIM Lucknow Enterprise Incubation Centre (IIML-EIC), has commenced a series of ongoing technical sessions covering Ethereum and Hyperledger Fabric.



The sessions focus on enhancing developers' blockchain skills and building the technical capabilities needed to transform concepts into practical blockchain applications and real-world solutions.

Anti-Ragging Awareness Programme : Promoting a Safe and Respectful Campus Culture

The Social Engagement Centre (SEC), in collaboration with the Student Council and Physical Education Department, organised an Anti-Ragging Awareness Programme at Digital University Kerala to promote awareness about ragging and encourage a safe, inclusive, and respectful campus environment. As part of the programme, students were invited to participate in Poster and Reel-Making Competitions based on the theme: “Anti-Ragging and Respectful Campus Culture”.

The competitions provided students with a creative platform to express their perspectives on building a campus culture rooted in respect, dignity, empathy, inclusion, and mutual responsibility. Students actively participated by using visual communication and short-form digital media to convey messages against ragging and highlight the importance of creating a supportive campus community.

Poster Competition Winners

Vikas Kumar – MSc Computer Science

Adhityan – MSc Computer Science

Laniya Mohan – MSc Data Science

Reel-Making Competition : Winner: Sebin George and Team

Harikrishnan.S., MSc Data Science and Geoinformatics

Muhammed shahid s, MSc Data Science and Geoinformatics

Indrajith VS, MSc Data Analytics specialisation with Computational Science

Jishnu Ravindran, MSc CSDA

Suryakiran M S, MSc Data Science and Geoinformatics

Nihal N, MBA

Sebin George, MSc Data Science and Geoinformatics

View the Reel -

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DdBicdUy6xI/?stkn=MWs5cXhkcDN3MHp2YQ==>

DACE Orientation

The Social Engagement Centre, Digital University Kerala, conducted an orientation programme for students as an introduction to the Digital Access for Community Empowerment (DACE) programme on 19 August 2026 . The session introduced students to the programme, its objectives, and the role of technology in addressing community and social challenges.



Remembering the Freedom Fighters

As part of the Independence Day celebrations, Social Engagement Centre organised an exhibition on Indian freedom fighters. The exhibition showcased their lives, contributions, and sacrifices in India's struggle for independence, providing students an opportunity to learn about and remember the heroes of the freedom movement.



ATAL FDP Invited Talk by Dr. Shanujas V.

Dr. Shanujas V, Assistant Professor, SoDiHLA, served as the resource person for an AICTE Training and Learning (ATAL) one week long Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on "Artificial Intelligence in Marketing: Transforming Consumer Insights and Decision Making," hosted by Naher Arts and Science College, Kanhirode, Kannur on 19 August 2026. Dr. Shanujas V. led an engaging session focusing on "Future Competencies for Marketers in an AI-driven Environment."



The program provided valuable perspectives on navigating evolving AI technology and leveraging data-driven insights to transform modern marketing strategies.

Research Talk on "Computational Imaging and Future Cameras" by Prof. Shree K. Nayar

The Research Office hosted an engaging research talk by Prof. Shree K. Nayar, T. C. Chang Professor of Computer Science at Columbia University, on "Computational Imaging and Future Cameras." The talk was held on 13 August 2026, at 2:00 PM, DUK Main Building.



Prof. Nayar's talk provided an insightful introduction to the rapidly evolving field of computational imaging, which combines innovative optical systems with sophisticated computational algorithms to capture and decode visual information. He presented several examples of computational cameras and highlighted how these emerging technologies are transforming the way images are captured, communicated, interpreted, and utilized by both humans and machines. The session offered participants a glimpse into the future of imaging technologies and their potential applications across diverse domains.

Articles

Sivan, D., Satheesh Kumar, K., Manoj Kumar, T. K., Moorthy, K., Misnon, I. I., Yang, C.-C., & Jose, R. (2026). Large language model-assisted design of electrospun bioplastics. *Next Materials*, 13, 103191. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nxmte.2026.103191>

Kurup, R. P., & T. K., Manoj Kumar (2026). Radio resource scheduling in Cellular-V2X: Bibliometric analysis of research trends and future directions (2015–2025). *Grenze International Journal of Engineering & Technology*, 12(1), 3574–3586.

Kurup, R. P., & T. K., Manoj Kumar (2026). Adversarial robustness of URLLC traffic classifiers using network KPI features. *Grenze International Journal of Engineering & Technology*, 12(2), 6009–6017.

Book Chapter

Nag, S., Sivan, D., Raj, V., & Satheesh Kumar, K. (2026). The role of blockchain and AI in securing health transactions in the metaverse. In *AI powered healthcare in the metaverse* (pp. 227–248). CRC Press.

Conference Paper

Kurup, R. P., & T. K., Manoj Kumar (2026). Graph neural modelling of geo-spatial dependencies in V2V communication networks. In *IEEE International Conference on Machine Intelligence for GeoAnalytics and Remote Sensing (MIGARS)*, Digital University Kerala.



Curating a responsible digital world

DUK NEWSLETTER

August 2026



Designed and Developed
@
Knowledge Centre, Digital University Kerala



www.duk.ac.in



[@kudsit](https://www.facebook.com/@kudsit)



[@dukerala](https://www.instagram.com/@dukerala)



[/kudsit](https://www.linkedin.com/company/kudsit)