Digital University Kerala

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Newsletter

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DIGITAL UNIVERSITY KERALA
Curating a responsible digital world

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Inauguration of MeitY IndiaAI Centre of Excellence 03

AI Centre of Excellence at Digital University Kerala 04

Fourth Convocation Ceremony of Digital University Kerala 05

Fireside Chat with Shri. Sashikumar Sreedharan, Managing Director, Google Cloud (India) 07

DUK Faculty Members Featured in the Stanford–Elsevier Top 2% Scientists List 08

CDIPD, DUK and SGOU Signed MoU for the Next Phase of Academic ERP Development 09

Digital Governance in Action - CDIPD Develops 100 Days Portal and Impact Analysis Dashboard and Support Government for the tracking and Monitor the Projects 10

Tracking and Monitoring of Progress Through the 100 Days Portal 11

CDIPD Organises Knowledge Session for its Team on Agile Methodology and Software Testing 12

CDIPD Launches Rewards & Recognition (R&R) Scheme for its Team 14

DUKInnoFest'2026 15

Offline Sessions of Certificate Programme in Library Technology Held at Digital University Kerala 16

KBA-Developed Nammude Keralam 2.0 Launched Under Kerala Government's 100-Day Action Plan 17

Blockchain Technologies and Applications Training Conducted for BEL Officials 18

Blockchain Developer Bootcamp Successfully Conducted by Kerala Blockchain Academy 20

PG Diploma in Blockchain Programme Begins Under PRAGATHY Scheme 20

Certified Hyperledger Fabric Developer Go Course Launched 21

Webinar on Machine Learning: Linear Regression 21

AI Play Day – Onam Edition 22

DACE Workshop 24

Kalalayam: Workshop on Communication and Professional Skills 26

SEC Opening Day 27

Invited Talk @ Social Entrepreneurship Conclave 29

Technical Session on "The Anatomy of a Cyber Attack" 30

International Conference on Computational Mathematics, Modeling and Artificial Intelligence (CMMAI 2026) 30

41st National Convention of Mechanical Engineering & National Seminar on Emerging Domains in Robotics and AI 31

AIMS Lab Scholars at World Congress on Pharmacology 2026 32

DUK Publications 33

Inauguration of MeitY IndiaAI Centre of Excellence

The MeitY IndiaAI Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence Thiruvananthapuram, Keralam (CAIK), along with the first cohort of 15 AI startups and two major partnerships, was launched on 30th September 2026 by Shri P. K. Kunhalikutty, Hon'ble Minister for Industries, IT and AI, Government of Kerala.

Shri Seeram Sambasiva Rao IAS, Shri Prakash Kumar Additional Director IndiaAI Mission, Shri Sandip Kumar IAS, Prof. Saji Gopinath, Vice Chancellor, DUK, Dr. Asharaf S, Shri Antony Satyadas, Shri V. V. Rajesh Mayor of Thiruvananthapuram and Shri Shiv Shankar M S OSD CAIK attended the program. The first cohort of AI Startups started their operations at the CAIK facility in Kabani, Technopark Phase IV. This marks a major step towards building a strong Artificial Intelligence ecosystem in Kerala and contributing to India's sovereign AI capabilities.





The Centre aims to promote research, innovation and entrepreneurship in Artificial Intelligence, with a particular focus on developing and deploying AI solutions for strategic and public-interest applications. It is envisioned as a collaborative platform bringing together government departments, academic and research institutions, industries, start-ups and other stakeholders in the AI ecosystem.

AI Centre of Excellence at Digital University Kerala

Kerala is preparing to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to anticipate natural disasters and wildlife-related threats, thereby improving public safety. The Kerala AI Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence, Thiruvananthapuram, established in collaboration with Digital University Kerala, commenced its operations on Wednesday, 30th September 2026. The initiative aims to integrate AI technologies into government services.

A Bengaluru-based start-up is expected to support efforts to address human–wildlife conflict. An AI-based database of wildlife in the Western Ghats has been developed to monitor animal movements and migration patterns. When wild animals approach populated areas, the system is intended to alert the public and relevant authorities through mobile notifications.

Another AI-based initiative will focus on collecting weather information and providing disaster warnings. By analysing rainfall patterns, elevation and soil characteristics in vulnerable areas, the system aims to issue real-time alerts concerning landslides and floods.

During the initial phase, the Centre will support start-ups working in areas including healthcare and sustainability. It plans to associate with 48 start-ups over the next four years to develop and deliver services across various sectors.

Of the 53 Centres of Excellence announced by the Central Government, two are planned for Kerala. The first is based at Digital University Kerala, while the second is expected to be established in Kochi with the support of the IT Mission.

AI-Based Care for Senior Citizens

The Centre will also promote AI-based solutions to improve the safety and well-being of senior citizens. One such technology will monitor their movements and provide alerts in the event of a fall or other potentially dangerous situations. It may also help ensure timely medication, while facilitating assistance from the police and healthcare workers when required.

The Centre is expected to strengthen Kerala's AI innovation ecosystem by encouraging start-ups to develop practical technology solutions addressing public safety, disaster management, healthcare and other societal needs.

Fourth Convocation Ceremony of Digital University Kerala

Digital University Kerala (DUK) conducted its Fourth Convocation Ceremony on 10th September 2026 at the Travancore International Convention Centre, The Sports Hub, Greenfield International Stadium, Karyavattom, Thiruvananthapuram.

The ceremony celebrated the academic achievements of the University's postgraduate and doctoral graduates. The convocation was attended by Shri. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Hon'ble Governor of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and Chancellor of Digital University Kerala, as the Chief Guest, and Shri. Sashikumar Sreedharan, Managing Director, Google Cloud (India), as the Guest of Honour. The programme commenced with the formal inauguration, including the lighting of the lamp and the welcome address by Prof. Saji Gopinath, Vice Chancellor, Digital University Kerala.



The ceremony included the National Song and National Anthem, addresses by the distinguished guests, administration of the pledge, and distribution of certificates to the graduates, followed by the formal dissolution of the convocation. The event marked an important milestone in the University's academic journey, recognising the accomplishments of its graduates and celebrating its commitment to advanced education and research.



Fireside Chat with Shri. Sashikumar Sreedharan, Managing Director, Google Cloud (India)

The Research Office, Digital University Kerala organised a fireside chat with Shri. Sashikumar Sreedharan, Managing Director of Google Cloud (India), on 10th September 2026 at Room No. 045, DUK. The interactive session provided an opportunity for students, faculty, research scholars, staff and project personnel to engage with an experienced industry leader.

Shri. Sashikumar Sreedharan leads Google Cloud's business and growth in India, focusing on cloud adoption, artificial intelligence, digital transformation and enterprise technology. With over three decades of experience in the technology industry, he has held senior leadership positions at global technology companies, including Google, Microsoft, SAP and IBM. He previously served as Chief Operating Officer of Google Cloud APAC and Managing Director of Microsoft India.

The session offered the University community an opportunity to interact with a distinguished technology leader and gain industry insights into emerging technologies and digital transformation.







DUK Faculty Members Featured in the Stanford–Elsevier Top 2% Scientists List



Dr. Alex James – Specialises in Information and Communication Technologies, with a subfield in Electrical and Electronic Engineering. He holds a global rank of 72,037 and a subfield rank of 269, with an H-index of 10 and an Hm-index of 5. He is listed for 2021, 2023, 2024 and 2026.



Dr. S. Balasubramaniam – Specialises in Information and Communication Technologies, with a subfield in Artificial Intelligence and Image Processing. He holds a global rank of 132,421 and a subfield rank of 6,051, with an H-index of 13 and an Hm-index of 6. He is listed for 2026.



Dr. Sishu Shankar Muni– Works in Physics and Astronomy, particularly Fluids and Plasmas. He holds a global rank of 369,800 and a subfield rank of 2,076, with an H-index of 9 and an Hm-index of 5. He is listed for 2025 and 2026.

Three faculty members of Digital University Kerala have been featured in the Stanford–Elsevier Top 2% Scientists List for 2026, in recognition of their research contributions and scholarly impact. The recognition highlights DUK faculty members' research contributions across diverse scientific disciplines and reflects the University's growing research visibility and academic excellence.



CDIPD and SGOU Signed MoU for the Next Phase of Academic ERP Development

Digital University Kerala (DUK), through its Centre for Digital Innovation and Product Development (CDIPD), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sree Narayana Guru Open University (SGOU). Under the MoU, CDIPD will transform and continuously enhance SGOU's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system through Time and material – based engagement model. The agreement extends a well-established partnership between the two universities and begins a new phase in the digital transformation of SGOU's academic operations.

The MoU was signed by Prof. A. Mujeeb, Registrar, DUK, and Prof. Abhilash Babu, Registrar, SGOU. Prof. Saji Gopinath, Hon. Vice Chancellor, DUK; Dr. Ajith Kumar R, Director, CDIPD; Sri. Arun Kumar Balakrishnan, Senior Project Manager, CDIPD; and other delegates from both universities were present.

Building on a Proven Partnership

CDIPD, has been working as technology partner for SGOU in building a unified, integrated Academic ERP platform. That platform has become the digital backbone of the open university's end-to-end academic operations. It currently serves more than one lakh students across more than nine intakes and brings the entire academic lifecycle onto a single system.

The platform covers admissions, student lifecycle management from enrolment through programme completion, and examination management from planning to conduct. It also handles online valuation of answer scripts, online publishing of results, and issuance of certificates. For an open university serving learners across Kerala at this scale, a unified digital platform is essential to delivering consistent, reliable and timely services.

A More Agile Engagement Model

Under the MoU, the engagement moves to a Time and Materials (T&M) model. This more flexible model will let CDIPD respond quickly as SGOU's academic, examination and administrative requirements change. It will also allow new features and continuous improvements to reach the platform faster and more efficiently, so the system keeps pace with the university's needs.

What's Next: Learner-Centric Innovations

The next phase of the transformation puts flexibility and convenience at the centre of the learner experience. Its first major initiative is "Exam on Demand," which will let learners choose examination slots that suit them. This is a significant step for open and distance learners, many of whom balance their studies with work and family responsibilities.

On-screen valuation and online examinations are also planned for the current academic year. On-screen valuation will digitise the evaluation of answer scripts, improving the speed, accuracy and transparency of the valuation process. Online examinations will make the examination process more accessible and efficient for learners.



Towards a Digitally Empowered Future

The collaboration will further integrate SGOU's academic, examination and administrative functions on a responsive, technology-driven platform. This will help SGOU deliver faster, smoother and more learner-centric digital services.

For DUK, the MoU reflects its growing role as a trusted technology partner to higher education institutions in Kerala. Through CDIPD, the university applies its expertise in digital product development to solve real-world institutional challenges at scale. This partnership between two of Kerala's leading higher education institutions is an important step towards an agile, digitally empowered and learner-centric future for higher education in the state.

Digital Governance in Action
CDIPD Develops 100 Days Portal and Impact Analysis Dashboard and Support Government for the tracking and Monitor the Projects

Centre for Digital Innovation and Product Development (CDIPD), has strengthened digital governance and data-driven decision-making through the development of the 100 Days Portal and Impact Analytics Dashboard. These digital initiatives support systematic monitoring of key government initiatives, improve access to implementation data, and enable evidence-based assessment of progress and outcomes.

Tracking and Monitoring of Progress Through the 100 Days Portal

The 100 Days Portal provides a centralised digital platform for monitoring the progress of identified government initiatives within a defined implementation period. By bringing programme details, implementation status and progress updates into a unified platform, the portal supports structured reporting, timely monitoring and improved coordination among departments.

The portal facilitates better visibility into the progress of activities and helps identify pending tasks and implementation gaps. By reducing dependence on fragmented reporting mechanisms, it promotes greater transparency, accountability and efficiency in programme monitoring.

From Progress Monitoring to Impact Assessment

Complementing the portal, the Impact Analysis Dashboard enables stakeholders to review implementation data and assess the progress and outcomes of key initiatives through a consolidated, visual interface. By presenting verified progress across departments, the dashboard supports the interpretation of programme data and helps decision-makers identify trends, evaluate performance and focus attention on areas requiring timely intervention.

Together, the portal and dashboard provide a digital framework that connects implementation monitoring with impact-oriented analysis, strengthening the capacity for informed planning, review and governance.

Appreciation from the Hon. Chief Minister

The 100 Days Portal and Impact Analysis Dashboard received recognition when the Hon. Chief Minister of Kerala used the live dashboard at a press meet to showcase the achievements of the 100 Days Programme. The dashboard enabled the presentation of verified progress across government departments directly from the portal, demonstrating the value of real-time, data-driven reporting in communicating programme achievements.

The Hon. Chief Minister appreciated Digital University Kerala for designing and developing the dashboard and emphasised the importance of data-driven dashboards in strengthening good governance and building smart governance processes. This recognition underscores the practical value of DUK's digital innovation initiatives in supporting transparent, accountable and evidence-based public administration.

Enabling Data-Driven and Smart Governance

The development of these platforms reflects DUK's commitment to applying digital technologies to improve governance, monitoring and institutional effectiveness.

Through CDIPD's expertise in digital product development, the university continues to create practical digital solutions that simplify administrative processes and support evidence-based decision-making.

The 100 Days Portal and Impact Analysis Dashboard demonstrate how integrated digital platforms can strengthen accountability, improve monitoring efficiency and help translate planned government initiatives into measurable outcomes. The recognition from the Hon. Chief Minister further highlights DUK's contribution to advancing digital governance and the use of technology for effective public service delivery.



CDIPD Organises Knowledge Session for its Team on Agile Methodology and Software Testing

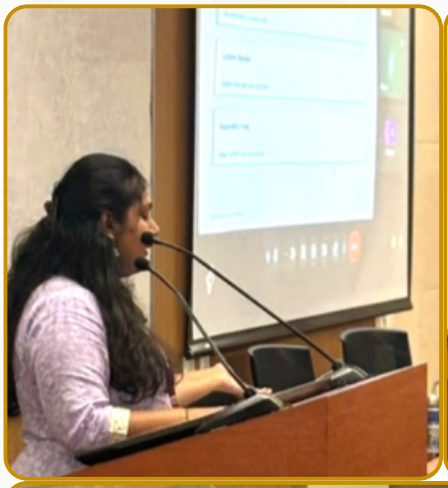
The Centre for Digital Innovation and Product Development (CDIPD), Digital University Kerala, organised a knowledge session for the CDIPD team on Agile Methodology and Software Testing on 16th September 2026. The session looked at how software testing and quality assurance fit into each stage of the Agile development lifecycle.

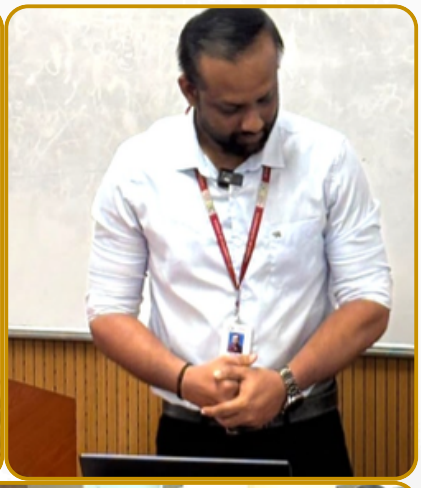
The session was led by Ms. Sreelekshmi Anil and Mr. Abhijith S.

Ms. Sreelekshmi introduced the fundamental concepts of Agile methodology and software testing. Mr. Abhijith shared practical experiences and approaches to implementing effective testing practices in software development.

The session covered industry best practices, the importance of continuous testing and the role of Quality Assurance in Agile teams. It also stressed close collaboration between development and testing teams so that defects are found early, software quality improves and the team delivers reliable solutions.









The session gave CDIPD team members a valuable opportunity to strengthen their understanding of Agile development. It also reinforced the Centre's culture of continuous learning, quality and collaborative software engineering.

CDIPD Launches Rewards & Recognition (R&R) Scheme for its Team

The Centre for Digital Innovation and Product Development (CDIPD), Digital University Kerala, has launched a Rewards & Recognition (R&R) Scheme for CDIPD team members. This HR initiative aims to appreciate employees for their valuable contributions and commitment, and to motivate and support those who contribute significantly to the Centre's projects, innovation, and development. It also seeks to build a workplace culture that values excellence, encourages innovation, promotes teamwork and recognises individual initiative.

The scheme will begin with three award categories :

- **Monthly On-the-Spot Recognition Award:** for exceptional initiative, timely problem-solving and noteworthy contributions.
- **Quarterly Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award:** for employees who consistently show excellence, ownership, teamwork and strong performance with significant, measurable impact.
- **Quarterly Rising Star Award:** for new joiners who show learning, adaptability, initiative and ownership while making meaningful contributions.

Through this initiative, CDIPD aims to recognise contributions at every level. These include innovative solutions, successful project delivery, support for colleagues and taking responsibility beyond expectations. The scheme also values the consistent, often understated efforts that help teams overcome challenges and reach their goals.



DUKInnoFest'2026

The Innovation Club - DUK and the Institution's Innovation Council jointly organised the annual innovation flagship event, DUKInnoFest'26 on 12th and 13th September 2026. The event witnessed an active participation of 240+ students participating in the 32 hour continuous hackathon attempting problem statements addressing some of the nation's most pressing problems, published by various Central Ministries, State Governments, and PSUs.The best three teams were awarded a cash prize and the teams which developed promising prototypes are nominated for the national level hackathon.













Offline Sessions of Certificate Programme in Library Technology held at Digital University Kerala

The Center for Executive Education and Continuing Studies (CEECS), Digital University Kerala, conducted the offline academic sessions of the Certificate Programme in Library Technology from 30th September 2026 to 04th October 2026 at the Digital University Kerala campus.

The five-day sessions provided students with hands-on exposure to contemporary library technologies and practical applications. The sessions focused on areas including library automation, Koha Integrated Library Management System (ILMS), digital library practices, and other tools relevant to modern library and information services.

The programme featured practical, interactive, and hands-on learning sessions, enabling participants to gain practical experience in applying digital technologies in library environments. The offline component complemented the online classes of the blended programme and provided students with an opportunity for direct interaction with faculty and peers.



The sessions were attended actively by the enrolled participants and contributed to strengthening their practical skills and understanding of emerging technologies in the library and information science domain.

KBA-Developed Nammude Keralam 2.0 Launched Under Kerala Government's 100-Day Action Plan

Developed by Kerala Blockchain Academy (KBA), Nammude Keralam 2.0, the upgraded version of the state's Unified Service Delivery Platform (USDP), was launched on 30th September 2026 by P. K. Kunhalikutty, Hon. Minister for Industries, Electronics, IT & AI, as part of the Government of Kerala's 100-Day Action Plan.

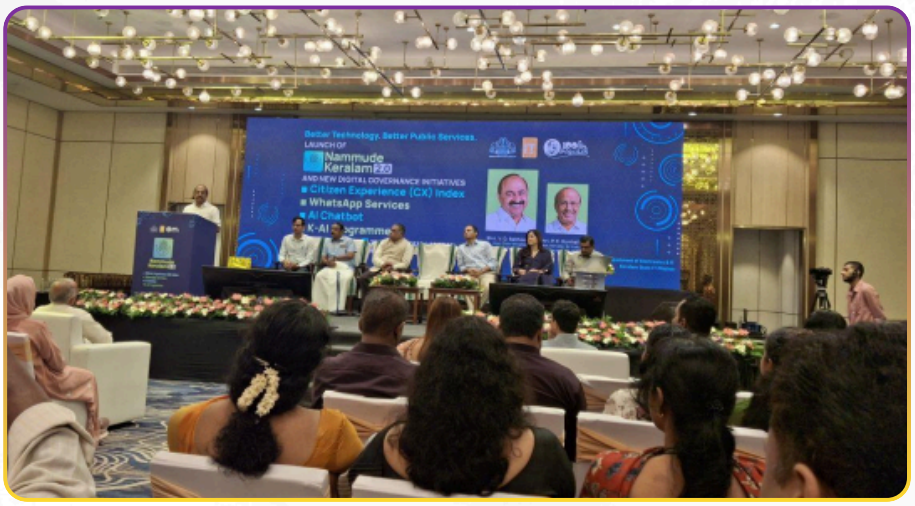


The upgraded platform currently provides access to more than 200 services across 24 departments, making government services more accessible and citizen-centric.



Nammude Keralam 2.0 introduces additional services and information, including KSRTC bus tracking, nearby hospitals, snake rescue and antivenom services, lottery information, tourism attractions, public restrooms, food safety information, and KSEB EV charging stations.





The launch also featured CX Index, WhatsApp Services, AI Chatbot, and K-AI, further strengthening Kerala's digital service ecosystem.

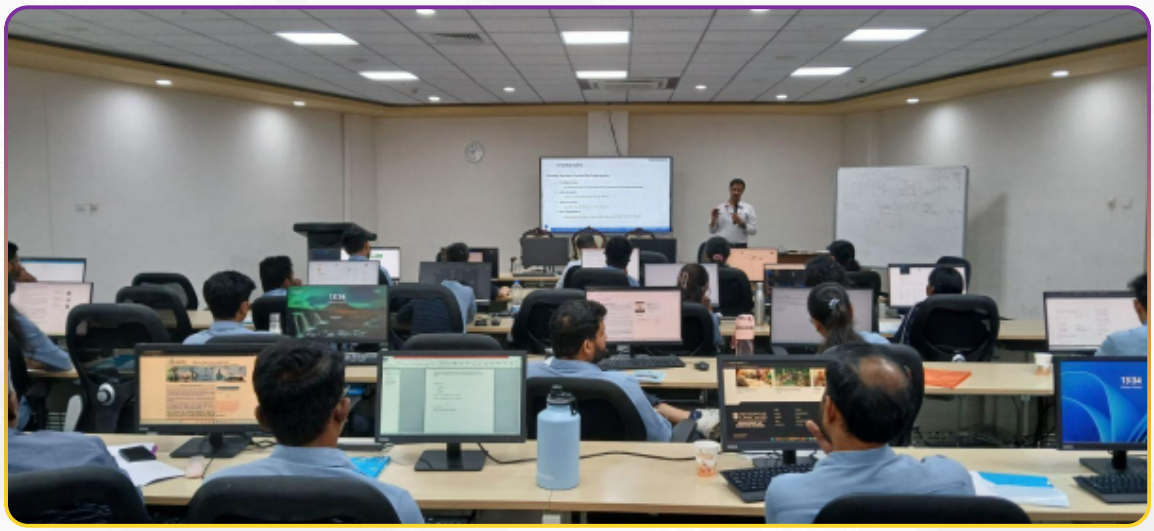
The initiative is a collaborative effort of the Kerala State IT Mission and Digital University Kerala, with its Centre of Excellence, Kerala Blockchain Academy (KBA). The event was addressed by Shri Seeram Sambasiva Rao IAS, Prof. (Dr.) Saji Gopinath, Shri Sandip Kumar IAS, Ms. Divya Khemani Wadhera, and Dr. Sabarish K.

Blockchain Technologies and Applications Training Conducted for BEL Officials

Kerala Blockchain Academy conducted a Blockchain Technologies and Applications Training Programme for officials of Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) from 23rd to 25th September 2026 at the BEL Academy of Excellence, Bengaluru.







The three-day training programme covered key concepts in blockchain technologies and their applications, with sessions led by Franklin John, Ananthan R, and Nikhil V Chandran from Kerala Blockchain Academy.

The programme provided participants with insights into blockchain fundamentals, emerging applications, and practical use cases.

Blockchain Developer Bootcamp Successfully Conducted by Kerala Blockchain Academy



Kerala Blockchain Academy conducted a four-day Blockchain Developer Bootcamp from 24th to 27th September 2026 in online mode. The hands-on programme introduced participants to Ethereum and public blockchain development, covering Ethereum and EVM fundamentals, Solidity and smart contract development, token standards and OpenZeppelin, DApp development and integration, and deployment and verification.

PG Diploma in Blockchain Programme Begins Under PRAGATHY Scheme



The first batch of the Post Graduate Diploma in Blockchain Programme under the PRAGATHY Scheme commenced classes on 28th September 2026. The programme is conducted by Kerala Blockchain Academy (KBA), the Centre of Excellence of Digital University Kerala, in collaboration with the Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Government of Kerala.

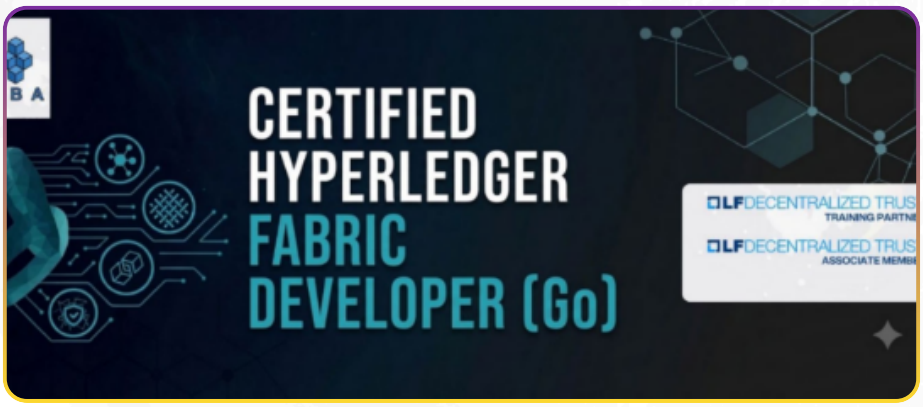
An Induction Programme was held on 29th September 2026, formally welcoming the participants and introducing them to the programme, its learning structure, and opportunities ahead.

The Induction Programme was inaugurated by Dr. A. Mujeeb (Registrar, DUK), followed by addresses from Dr. Asharaf S. (Dean and Professor), Dr. Aswin V. S. (Assistant Professor), and Anish Vijay S. (Relationship Manager). The residential programme offers hands-on training in Full-Stack Web Development, Blockchain, and related technologies, along with 100% internship and placement opportunities to support participants in building industry-ready skills.

Certified Hyperledger Fabric Developer Go Course Launched

Kerala Blockchain Academy launched the Certified Hyperledger Fabric Developer Go (CHF Go)course on 21st September 2026 as an online programme designed to provide learners with practical expertise in Hyperledger Fabric v2.5.

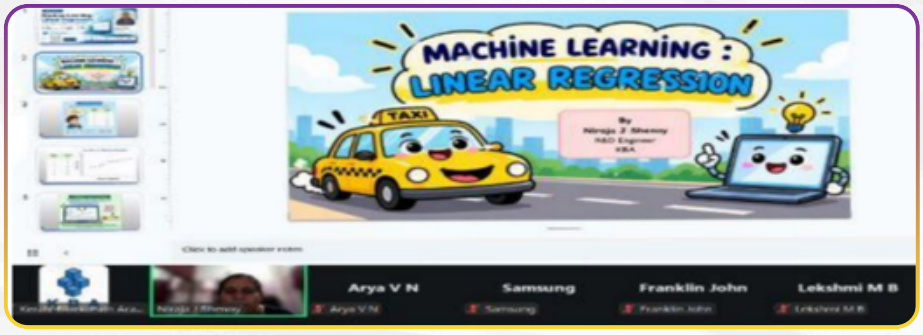
The course covers the technical and logical architecture of Hyperledger Fabric, supported by a fictional case study. Learners work through business scenarios, develop Chaincode for implementing business logic, and interact with the Chaincode using an application built with the Fabric Go SDK.



The programme covers key Hyperledger Fabric concepts enabling learners to build a stronger foundation for developing applications on Fabric networks.

Webinar on Machine Learning: Linear Regression

Kerala Blockchain Academy conducted the first session in its webinar series with “Machine Learning: Linear Regression” on 24th September 2026. Led by Niraja J. Shenoy, R&D Engineer at Kerala Blockchain Academy, the online session introduced participants to key concepts in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, data-driven predictions, Linear Regression, and predictive analytics.



The 40-minute session explored Linear Regression as a fundamental Machine Learning technique for understanding data and making predictions. The webinar also touched upon the relevance of these concepts in emerging technology areas, including Web3.

AI Play Day – Onam Edition

The Social Engagement Centre (SEC), Digital University Kerala, in collaboration with the Citizen Digital Foundation (CDF), organized the AI Play Day – Onam Edition on 05th September 2026 at Digital University Kerala.

The program was designed as a free, no-code AI workshop aimed particularly at non-technical youth and community stakeholders. A total of 26 participants from various NGOs, students from other colleges, and DUK students attended the program. The initiative aimed to create an accessible platform for participants to explore Artificial Intelligence beyond technical and programming-oriented applications, to understand how emerging AI tools can be used meaningfully in everyday life, and to address social challenges.











The session was led by Ms. Nidhi Sudhan, Co-founder of Citizen Digital Foundation, who facilitated the program with a simple, practical, and engaging approach. Participants were introduced to various no-code AI tools and applications and given opportunities to explore their practical uses through hands-on activities.

The session also focused on helping participants understand where to apply AI and where not to, the importance of critical thinking when using AI-generated information, and the potential limitations, inaccuracies, and ethical concerns associated with AI. Particular emphasis was given to Responsible AI, encouraging participants to use technology thoughtfully, critically, and ethically while exploring its potential for creativity problem-solving, and social impact.







The program served as a valuable AI literacy and digital empowerment initiative for community stakeholders and non-technical participants. It helped participants gain greater confidence in exploring AI tools and understand that AI can be used without advanced technical or programming skills. The interactive nature of the session encouraged participants to explore AI from a practical and socially relevant perspective.



The successful collaboration between CDF and the Social Engagement Centre, DUK, also created opportunities for further engagement in areas such as AI literacy, responsible technology, digital empowerment, and technology-driven social innovation. The program was well received by the participants and contributed to the SEC's broader objective of connecting emerging technologies with community needs and meaningful social impact.

DACE Workshop

The Social Engagement Centre at Digital University Kerala organized a five-day workshop titled Digital Access for Community Empowerment (DACE) for the students (2026–2028). This workshop aimed to introduce participants to essential concepts and practical approaches in community engagement and technology-enabled social development.

The workshop addressed various topics, including social issues, problem identification, and needs assessment. Participants learned to understand contemporary social challenges, identify community needs, analyze issues, and map stakeholders. These sessions were led by Mr. Lims Thomas, Assistant Professor at the Department of Social Work, Vimala College (Autonomous), Thrissur, and Tony M. Tom, a social development professional.









The workshop also featured a session on Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) conducted by Biju Simon, Administrator of Child Helpline Kerala. This session introduced tools and techniques for engaging with communities effectively.

Another focus area was Digital Transformations for Sustainable Good, where Dr. Malu G. and Dr. Sooraj N. P. explored the role of digital technologies and innovations in rural development and community empowerment. Additionally, Jaseel C. K., Co-Founder of The Ignite Foundation, introduced students to models and approaches for developing sustainable solutions to social challenges through Social Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship.

The workshop also included sessions on Social Science Research Methodology, covering research design, qualitative and quantitative methods, data collection, and research ethics. These sessions were conducted by Ashik Shaji, Head of the Department and Assistant Professor at National College. Following this, Dr. Gopakumar V. led sessions on Data Analysis, Report Writing, and Documentation, focusing on data interpretation, report preparation, and effective communication of findings.











The workshop concluded with a presentation on Digital Innovation for Social Good: Case Studies, featuring experiences and lessons learned from previous DACE projects shared by the SEC team, including Ms. Arya R. Chandra, Project Officer, and Fousiya C. K., Project Associate.

The sessions were facilitated by external experts, faculty members from DUK, and the Social Engagement Centre team, providing students with a solid foundation in community-based research, social innovation, and the application of technology for social good.

Kalalayam

Workshop on Communication and Professional Skills

The Social Engagement Centre (SEC), in collaboration with the Vishwashanthi Foundation, organised a one-day workshop on “Communication and Professional Skills” on 30th September 2026. The workshop was designed to strengthen students’ communication abilities, professional competencies, and workplace readiness. The sessions were led by professionals from EY GDS and other industry experts, who shared practical insights and guidance on effective communication, interpersonal skills, professional etiquette, and workplace preparedness. The programme was conducted in four batches, providing students with an interactive and focused learning environment.







Through engaging sessions and practical learning, the workshop provided students with valuable skills to complement their academic learning and prepare them for future professional and community engagement opportunities.

SEC Opening Day

SEC Welcomes Volunteers with a Celebration of Talent, Passion and Community

The Social Engagement Centre (SEC) hosted a vibrant welcoming event for its volunteers on 16th September 2026, bringing together students and faculty for an evening of creativity, interaction, and celebration. The event provided a platform for student entrepreneurs to showcase their products, talents, and creative skills, creating an opportunity for students to share their interests and entrepreneurial initiatives with the university community.











A series of fun and engaging games added energy to the event while encouraging interaction and networking among the students. The programme also featured an inspiring panel discussion on “Passion and Profession,” where faculty members shared their personal interests, passions, and pursuits beyond the classroom, offering students an opportunity to see another dimension of their teachers.







The event concluded on a musical note with a beautiful musical evening featuring singers from Digital University Kerala, who came together to create a memorable and lively atmosphere. Overall, the event celebrated the spirit of volunteering, creativity, friendship, and community at SEC.

Invited Talk @ Social Entrepreneurship Conclave

Dr. Elizabeth Sherly, Emeritus Visiting Professor, DUK delivered an invited talk on Women Entrepreneurship under “Government Schemes and Support Systems for Women” at the Social Entrepreneurship Conclave (SEC) 2026, organized by the Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM) on 30th September 2026 at Hyatt Regency, Thiruvananthapuram.

The conclave was organized as part of KSUM’s initiatives to strengthen inclusive entrepreneurship, promote social entrepreneurship, and encourage greater participation of women in the startup ecosystem of Kerala.

In view of the programme's significance in promoting women’s empowerment and inclusive entrepreneurship, Dr. Sherly highlighted the initiatives of Women Incubation, Startups and Entrepreneurship (WISE) at Digital University Kerala (DUK). She spoke about the role of WISE in supporting women entrepreneurs through incubation, mentoring, capacity building, infrastructure, and other forms of entrepreneurial support. Entrepreneurship



Hon’ble Minister for Industries and Commerce, IT and AI, Government of Kerala. The conclave featured sessions by Mrs. Nisha Jose, Chairperson, TiE Women, and Sri. Sridhar Radhakrishnan, Kerala State Planning Board, along with panel discussions focusing on social entrepreneurship, startups, and government schemes and support systems.

The discussions brought together entrepreneurs, policymakers, ecosystem enablers, and other stakeholders to explore opportunities to strengthen social entrepreneurship and create a more inclusive start-up ecosystem in the State.

Technical Session on "The anatomy of a Cyber Attack"



Md Meraj Uddin, Assistant Professor and Head, Kerala Security Audit and Assurance Centre (KSAAC), Digital University Kerala, delivered a technical session on "The Anatomy of a Cyber Attack" at the AICTE VAANI-Sponsored Two-Day National Conference on "Emerging Trends in Cyber Security", organised by the Department of Computer Application, held on 29th and 30th September 2026 at MES T. O. Abdulla Memorial College, Kunnukara, Ernakulam. The session was conducted on 30th September 2026.

The session covered how cyber attacks work, real-world cyber security cases, and emerging trends in cyber security.

International Conference on Computational Mathematics, Modeling and Artificial Intelligence (CMMAI 2026)

Two student teams from Digital University Kerala, School of Digital Sciences (SoDS) presented their project papers at the International Conference on Computational Mathematics, Modeling and Artificial Intelligence (CMMAI 2026), organised by the PG and Research Department of Mathematics, Bharata Matha College, Kochi.

AI-Driven DPDP Compliance Assessment: A Multi-Agent Artificial Intelligence Approach: Akshay BS, Jia Elsa Kurian, and Krithika S. The paper presents a multi-agent AI framework for assessing Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act compliance by aligning organizational policies, governance documents, application code, and data flows using evidence-based analysis and RAG-based legal reasoning.







Malayalam Handwritten Character Recognition Model using Kolmogorov-Arnold Networks (KAN): M. R. Lekshmi Priya, Angel George, and Athulya Mannambath. The paper presents a KAN- based approach for Malayalam handwritten character recognition, addressing visually similar characters and achieving 82.72% test accuracy with under 1M parameters.

The students had the opportunity to present their work at the conference under the guidance of Dr. Aswin V. S.

41st National Convention of Mechanical Engineering & National Seminar on Emerging Domains in Robotics and AI

Two student teams from Digital University Kerala, School of Digital Sciences (SoDS) presented their projects at the Institution of Engineers (India), Thiruvananthapuram, during the 41st National Convention of Mechanical Engineering and National Seminar on Emerging Domains in Robotics and AI.

1. Automated DPDP Compliance Assessment Using Multi-Agent AI: Akshay BS, Jia Elsa Kurian, and Krithika S. The paper presents a multi-agent AI framework for assessing DPDP Act compliance by aligning organizational policies, governance documents, application code, and data flows using evidence-based analysis and RAG-based legal reasoning.

2. Multi-Agent AI Framework for Authentic Job Information Retrieval and Recommendation: Rehan Biju, Abikrishnan M S, and A Muhammed Khaise. The paper proposes a multi-agent AI framework for verifying job listings, analyzing information sources, and providing reliable, evidence-based job recommendations.



The students had the opportunity to present their work at this national-level platform under the guidance of Dr. Aswin V. S.

AIMS Lab Scholars at World Congress on Pharmacology 2026

DUK research scholars—Vaishnavi A, Akhila A, and Akshara S from the AI for Molecular Sciences (AIMS) Lab, School of Digital Sciences, Digital University Kerala, under the guidance of Dr. Sherin D R, successfully presented their research work at the 4th World Congress on Pharmacology 2026, held on 20th September 2026 at the A. V. Rama Rao Auditorium, Chemical Sciences Building, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru.

The congress, themed “Drug Discovery and Development,” brought together researchers and experts from diverse areas of pharmacology, drug discovery, toxicology, and related disciplines.

The event provided the scholars with an opportunity to present their work, interact with experts, and gain valuable exposure to emerging developments in drug discovery and pharmaceutical research.



DUK Publications

Articles

Uday, N., & Sherly, E. (2026). An explainable adaptive graph learning framework for dynamic brain connectivity analysis in autism diagnosis. Healthcare Analytics, 10, Article 100493. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.health.2026.100493

Raj, V., Sivan, D., Ahmed, T., Kumar, K. S., Chian, Y. M., Yang, C.-C., Jose, R., Saheed, M. S. M., & Mohamed Saheed, M. S. (2026). Vanadium carbide MXenes for electrochemical energy storage: Synthesis, composite design, performance limits, and sustainability considerations. Journal of Energy Storage, 182(Part D), Article 124929. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.est.2026.124929

John, J., John, J., Jayakrishnan, R., Mathew, R. M., Ibrahimkutty, R., Mathew, S., Mujeeb, A., Joseph, X., & Thomas, V. (2026). Single crystalline carbon quantum dot as efficient green heat carriers. Afinidad, Journal of Chemical Engineering, Theoretical and Applied Chemistry, 83(610), 130–141. https://doi.org/10.55815/980000021485

Rajagopal, S., R., AjithKumar., Parthasarathy, R., Bansal, A., Saranya, D., & Misra, D. D. (2026). An adaptive and scalable artificial intelligence framework for intelligent computing and predictive modeling in next-generation digital systems. Computer and Decision Making: An International Journal, 3(1S), 202–212. https://doi.org/10.59543/comdem.v3i1S.18604

R. Ajith Kumar, R.A.Arul Raja, Dr. Veeresha K, Enock Immanuel, Saurav Kumar, Dr S.Poongavanam. (2026), Digital Transformation and Sustainable Innovation: Emerging Trends in Engineering, Technology, and Management, Journal of Intelligent Decision Making and Information Science, Volume 3(7s),1807-1821 https://jidmis.org/index.php/jidmis/article/view/1896

Book Chapter

Rani, B. S., & Sherly, E. (2027). EEG-based imagined speech classification—A systematic review by exploring the effective hierarchical deep learning approaches. In S. Kadry, R. K. Dhanaraj, L. Krishnasamy, & M. M. Thiruthuvanathan (Eds.), Neuromorphic computing for brain computer interfaces (pp. 81–107). Academic Press. https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-443-41594-4.00001-0

Conference Paper

Ganesh R. Nair, Tony Thomas, A Measurement-Time Quantum Integrity Scheme for Terminal Protocols, (2026, Sept 13-18) IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering (QCE26), (IEEE Quantum Week 2026), Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 2026.

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