



UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

**Preliminary Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the
Syndicate held on 24.08.2020**

Place of Meeting : University Buildings
Thiruvananthapuram
Time : 10.00 AM

Members present:

1. Prof.(Dr.) V.P.Mahadevan Pillai (*In the Chair*)
Vice-Chancellor
2. Prof.(Dr.) P.P.Ajayakumar
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
3. Sri.B.P.Murali
4. Adv.B.Balachandran
5. Dr.M.Vijayan Pillai
6. Sri.Arunkumar R
7. Dr.K.B.Manoj
8. Sri.Jairaj,J
9. Adv.A.Ajikumar
10. Dr.S.Nazeeb
11. Dr.K.G.Gopchandran
12. Adv.G.Muralidharan Pillai
13. Prof.K.Lalitha

Online presence

14. Sri.Bijukumar.G
15. Dr.Mathew.V
16. Dr.B.Unnikrishnan Nair
17. Smt. Renju Suresh

Item No.17.01. *Confirmation of the Preliminary Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Syndicate held on 30.07.2020 -reg.*

(Ac.A.I)

The Syndicate considered and approved the Preliminary Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the Syndicate held on 30.07.2020.

Item No.17.02. *Confirmation of the Preliminary Minutes of the 16th Meeting of the Syndicate held on 14.08.2020 -reg.*

(Ac.A.I)

The Syndicate considered the Preliminary Minutes of the 16th Meeting of the Syndicate held on 14.08.2020.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the item be referred to the next Syndicate.

Item No.17.03. *Appointments/Career Advancement Promotion, if any – reg.
(Ad.H/Ad.D.II Section)*

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Resolution of the Syndicate
NIL

Item No.17.04. Minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 11.06.2020-Reporting of -reg.

(M&C I)

Placed below are the minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 11.06.2020.

The action taken by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in having approved the recommendations of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 11.06.2020, subject to reporting to the Syndicate, exercising the powers vested under section 10(13) of the Kerala University Act 1974, is reported to the Syndicate.

Minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee

Date & Time : 11.06.2020, 03:30 pm
Venue : Pro Vice Chancellor's Chamber

Members Present

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| 1. Dr. P.P Ajayakumar | Pro Vice-Chancellor | Sd/- |
| 2. Dr. K.B Manoj | Convener, SC on Exams | Sd/- |
| 3. Dr. B. Unnikrishnan Nair | Member, Syndicate | Sd/- |
| 4. Sri. Jairaj J | Member, Syndicate | Sd/- |

Officers Present

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------|
| 1. Dr. N. Gopakumar | Controller of Examinations | Sd/- |
| 2. Smt. S.J Sunitha | Joint Registrar (Exams I) | Sd/- |

Members Absent

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Dr. Vijayan Pillai.M. | Member, Syndicate |
| 2. Dr. S.Nazeeb | Member, Syndicate |
| 3. Adv. B.Balachandran | Member, Syndicate |
| 4. Sri. Bijukumar G | Member, Syndicate |

The meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee commenced at 03.30 p.m. The Committee considered various enquiries and requests from the candidates for the following examinations and recommended the following with a view to ensuring the smooth conduct of Examinations during COVID-19 pandemic.

1. The students who have registered for S2 MBA Examination which is scheduled to commence from 23.06.2020 may be allowed to opt their examination centre from the list of centres approved by the University within and outside the jurisdiction of the University as in the case of S2 & S4 PG Examinations. The KUCC may be directed to ensure technical compliance for effecting option from candidates for change of centre.

2. The students who have registered for M.Ed Examinations may be allowed change of centres from Government College for Teacher Education Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram to Baselios Marthoma Mathews II Training College, Kottarakkara on request.

3. To make alternative arrangements for the posting of sufficient staff at centralised Valuation Camp on 23.06.2020 and 24.06.2020 on account of the conduct of B.Ed online Examination.

The committee further recommended to convene the next meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee at 02.30 p.m. on 18.06.2020.

The meeting come to a close at 04.30 p.m.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 11.06.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.05. Payment of Legal Charges to Adv.Thomas Abraham, Standing Counsel, High Court of Kerala – Reporting of – reg.

(Legal)

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor has sanctioned the payment to Adv.Thomas Abraham, Standing Counsel, High Court of Kerala for an amount of **Rs.4,20,260/- [Rupees Four lakh twenty thousand two hundred and sixty only]** towards Legal Charges incurred for 73 disposed cases, which were filed before Hon'ble High Court of Kerala, from the head of account "Part I – NP-MH I (a) – General Direction- 4/1320-Legal Expenses" provided in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2020-2021, subject to reporting to the Syndicate. U.O.No.L.S.10115/2020 dated 05.08.2020 was issued accordingly. (U.O. appended). The details are given below:

The amount admitted	Rs.4,20,260/- (Rupees Four lakh twenty thousand two hundred and sixty only)
Tax deducted at source @ 10%	Rs.42,026/- (Rupees Forty two thousand and twenty six only)
Net amount payable	Rs.3,78,234/- (Rupees Three lakh seventy eight thousand two hundred and thirty four only)

The above matter is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

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Item No.17.06. Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries- Re-appropriation of Funds – Reporting of -reg.

(Ad.AV)

The Head, Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries had reported that, as per the budget estimates for the year 2019-20, an amount of Rs.5,00,000/- is allotted in the Head of Account Part I-NP-MH/21(i) Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, 4/1218-Wages Contingent Employees/Guest Lecturers. Out of this, sanction had been accorded to disburse an amount of Rs.4,00,500/- (Rupees Four lakhs and five hundred only) towards the wages of the guest lecturers, from June 2018 to July 2019. It is also stated that, the wages of the guest lecturers for the months of August to September, 2019 for an amount of Rs.58,500/- is pending for sanction. With these claims, the available balance in the head of account becomes only Rs.41,000/- which is insufficient to meet the expenses towards the wages of four guest lecturers for the remaining six months of the financial year. He has also informed that an amount of Rs.10,00,000/- is available in the Head of Account Part I-NP-MH/21(i) Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries, 4/1215-Pay of Contract Staff and has requested to re-appropriate an amount of Rs.5 lakhs from this Head of Account to 4/1218-Wages of Contingent Employees/Guest Lecturers, as no staff is working in the Department on contract basis. The Finance, vide endt. No.FOS 4265/Finance II/2019-20, has endorsed the said re-appropriation proposal.

The aforementioned proposal for re-appropriation was placed before the Syndicate and the Syndicate (held on 13.03.2020-item no.10.08) resolved to approve the proposal. Meanwhile, new financial year (2020-21) had begun and an amount of Rs.5,00,000/- has been allocated in the Head of Account Part I-NP-MH/21(i) Department of Aquatic Biology & Fisheries-4/1215-Pay Contract Staff in the Budget Estimates of 2020-21. Hence there-appropriation (for financial year 2019-2020) as per the Syndicate resolution (held on 13.03.2020-item no.10.08) for the amount of Rs.5,00,000/- is not needed as of now. As per the orders of Vice Chancellor, the matter is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

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Item No.17.07. Budget Speech 2020-21- Implementation of Comprehensive Health Card System- Reporting of -reg.

(Ad. D.II)

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

The Budget Speech 2020-21 envisaged to issue Comprehensive Health Card for students and staff of the University and allotted an amount of Rs.6,00,000/-(Rupees Six Lakh only) for implementing the same.

The Vice-Chancellor has accorded administrative sanction, subject to reporting to the Syndicate, to implement the Scheme of Comprehensive Health Card for students and staff of the University and entrusted the Joint Registrar (Administration) as implementing officer to receive the fund. Orders are issued vide UO.No.Ad.DII.01/UHC/2020 dated 30.06.2020.

The matter is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

Item No.17.08. ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship in respect Ms.Nayana Prabhash, Research Scholar, Dept. of Commerce, University of Kerala - Relinquishment of ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship 2019-2020 and transfer of fellowship amount to ICSSR, New Delhi - Reporting of- reg.

(Ac. E. III)

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi sanctioned and released an amount of Rs.1,30,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirty Thousand only) to Ms.Nayana Prabhash, Research Scholar, Dept. of Commerce, University of Kerala, towards the first installment of first year of ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship. The fellow has requested to relinquish ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship, since she has been awarded UGC Junior Research Fellowship w.e.f 31/12/2019.

Accordingly, sanction has been accorded by the Vice Chancellor to Ms.Nayana Prabhash, Research Scholar, Dept. of Commerce being permitted to relinquish ICSSR Centrally Administered Full-Term Doctoral Fellowship 2019-20 and also for the payment of an amount of Rs.1,30,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirty Thousand only) towards the refund of 1st installment of First Year of ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship in respect of the Research Scholar to Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi as per the norms of the sponsoring authority, subject to reporting to the Syndicate. U.O Number Ac.E.III/1737/ICSSR/2020 dated 07/08/2020 was issued in this regard.

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

Item No.17.09. Dr. B.R Ambedkar Chair - Conduct of Constitution Day Celebration on 26th November 2019- Final payment to Dr. Sindhu Thulaseedharan, Hon. Director & Head, Dept.of Law, University of Kerala-Reporting of- reg.

(Ac. E. III)

An amount of Rs.1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only) has been sanctioned as provisional advance to Dr. Sindhu Thulaseedharan, Honorary Director, Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Chair, University of Kerala, in connection with the conduct of Constitution Day Celebration on 26th November 2019. But, no provisional advance regarding the same was drawn by the Director. Hence, the Director has forwarded the original bills and vouchers of Rs.88,275/-(Rupees Eighty Eight Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Five only) and requested to reimburse the same.

Accordingly, Sanction has been accorded by the Vice-Chancellor to release an amount of Rs.88,275/- (Rupees Eighty Eight Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Five only) as final payment to Dr. Sindhu Thulaseedharan, Honorary Director, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Chair towards the expenditure incurred for the conduct of the programme, on the strength of verification of bills and vouchers by Audit V section, subject to reporting to the Syndicate. U.O Number Ac.E. III.1/11020/Chairs/2019 dated 07/08/2020 was issued in this regard.

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

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Item No .17.10. Award of Ph.D Degrees

(Ac.E.II/ Ac.E.V)

Item No.17.10.01. Consideration of Examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt. Blossom Treesa Bastian in Electronics and Communication Engineering- reg:-

(Ac.E.II)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled “**STUDY AND INVESTIGATION ON A0PPROPRIATE FEATURE SETS FOR DETECTING OBJECTS IN IMAGES**” submitted by Smt. Blossom Treesa Bastian.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt. Blossom Treesa Bastian, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Electronics and Communication Engineering under the Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

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Item No.17.10.02. Consideration of Examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Sri. Sanukrishna S. S. in Mechanical Engineering-reg:-

(Ac.E.II)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled “**EFFECT OF NANOPARTICLES ON FLOW BOILING HEAT TRANSFER CHARACTERISTICS OF REFRIGERANTS AND ANTI-WEAR PROPERTIES OF LUBRICANTS**” submitted by Sri. Sanukrishna S.S.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Sri. Sanukrishna S.S., be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Mechanical Engineering under the Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

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Item No.17.10.03. Consideration of Examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt. Remya. R in Zoology- reg.

(Ac.E.II)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled “**ECOLOGY AND FISH DIVERSITY OF KAYAMKULAM BACKWATER, KERALA**” submitted by Smt. Remya. R.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt. Remya. R, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Zoology under the Faculty of Science.

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Item No.17.10.04. Consideration of Examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt. Sivakala. S in Chemistry- reg.

(Ac.E.II)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled “**ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE ORGANIC-INORGANIC HYBRID NANOCOMPOSITES PREPARATION, PROPERTIES AND APPLICATIONS**” submitted by Smt. Sivakala. S.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt. Sivakala. S, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry under the Faculty of Science.

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Item No.17.10.05. Consideration of Examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt.Aswathy K. L in Nursing reg:- reg:-

(Ac.E.II)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled "**HEALTH PROBLEMS AND CAREGIVER ISSUES OF CHILDREN RECEIVING ANTIPILEPTIC DRUGS**" submitted by Smt. Aswathy K.L.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt. Aswathy K.L, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing under the Faculty of Medicine.

Item No.17.10.06. Consideration of Examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt. Remya K. in Environmental Sciences-reg:-

(Ac.EII)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled "**CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE: A TOOL FOR SUSTAINABLE ECOLOGICAL INTENSIFICATION OF ELEPHANT FOOT YAM IN BANANA BASED SYSTEM UNDER CLIMATE CHANGE**" submitted by Smt. Remya K.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt. Remya K., be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Sciences under the Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology.

Item No.17.10.07 Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D Thesis submitted by Shri. Sunil Chandran S in Commerce-reg.

(Ac.E.V)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled "**A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON QUALITY OF WORK LIFE AMONG NURSES AND PARAMEDICAL STAFF OF GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS IN KERALA**" submitted by Shri. Sunil Chandran S.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Shri. Sunil Chandran S, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce under the Faculty of Commerce.

Item No.17.10.08 Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D Thesis submitted by Smt. Preetha S Pillai in Commerce-reg:-

(Ac.E.V)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled "**A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON STRESS MANAGEMENT AMONG NURSES OF GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS IN KERALA**" submitted by Smt. Preetha S Pillai.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt. Preetha S Pillai, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce under the Faculty of Commerce.

Item No.17.10.09 Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D Thesis submitted by Smt. Sreeja Devi V M in Commerce-reg:-

(Ac.E.V)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled "**CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT IN THE AYURVEDIC HEALTH TOURISM INDUSTRY OF KERALA**" submitted by Smt. Sreeja Devi V.M.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt. Sreeja Devi V.M, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce under the Faculty of Commerce.

Item No.17.10.10 Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D Thesis submitted by Shri. Prasad R in Sociology -reg:-

(Ac.E.V)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled **“INFLUENCE OF IN-MIGRATION ON SOCIO-GEOGRAPHIC SPACE: AN ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDY OF A KERALA VILLAGE”** submitted by Shri. Prasad R.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Shri. Prasad R, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology under the Faculty of Social Sciences.

Item No.17.10.11 *Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt.Rajeswari K C - reg-*

(Ac.EV)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled **“ENHANCING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION OF HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS THROUGH BLENDED LEARNING STRATEGY”** submitted by Smt.Rajeswari K.C.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt.Rajeswari K C, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Education under the Faculty of Education.

Item No.17.10.12 *Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Shri.Vimal Kumar P G - reg-(Ac.EV)*

(Ac.E.V)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled **“A STUDY OF POSITIVE THINKING, LOGICAL INTELLIGENCE, INTER PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE, INTRA PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE AND SCIENTIFIC CREATIVITY OF HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS”** submitted by Shri.Vimal Kumar P G.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Shri.Vimal Kumar P G, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Education under the Faculty of Education.

Item No.17.10.13 *Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt.Haritha M K - reg-*

(Ac.E.V)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled **“POTENTIALITY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE CURRICULUM IN DEVELOPING CRITICAL THINKING AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS”** submitted by Smt.Haritha M K.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt.Haritha M K, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Education under the Faculty of Education.

Item No.17.10.14 *Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt.Chitra S - reg-*

(Ac.E.V)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled **“COMPARATIVE STUDY OF COGNITIVE AND PERCEPTUAL PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BELONGINGS TO PANIYA AND KURICHIYA COMMUNITIES OF WAYANAD IN RELATION TO THEIR LEADERSHIP BEHAVIOUR”** submitted by Smt.Chitra S.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt.Chitra S, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Education under the Faculty of Education.

Item No.17.10.15 *Consideration of the examiners reports on the Ph.D thesis submitted by Smt.Priyalakshmi T - reg-*

(Ac.E.V)

The Syndicate considered the reports of Examiners on the Ph.D. thesis entitled **“EFFECTIVENESS OF 7E LEARNING MODEL BASED ON MULTI- SENSORY APPROACH FOR ENHANCING SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENT AND PROCESS SKILLS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS”** submitted by Smt.Priyalakshmi T.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that Smt.Priyalakshmi T, be declared eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Education under the Faculty of Education.

Item No. 17.11. Onam Advance to University Employees for 2020-Request from the Kerala University Employees Union- Consideration of - reg.

(Ad.AV)

The Kerala University Employees Union vide letter dated 17.08.2020 has requested that the Employees may be paid an Onam advance of Rs.25,000/- recoverable in 10 equal installments. As per G.O.(P)No. 108/2020/Fin dated 15.08.2020, the Government have sanctioned Onam advance of Rs.15,000/- recoverable in 5 equal installments. It may be noted that all the payments of the teaching and non teaching staff of Kerala University is through Government Treasury.

When the file was forwarded to Finance I section for endorsement, the Finance section has remarked the following.

(1). The Kerala University Employees Union has made a plea for enhancing the advance @ Rs.25,000/- to be recovered in 10 equal installments. It may be noted that the disbursement of advance amount and the recovery installments, greater than that specified by the Govt. in the earlier years has been objected to by Audit and remarked that excess amount paid will be recovered with interest from the concerned authorities(disbursing and sanctioning authority) ([AUDIT REPORT 1](#) and [AUDIT REPORT 2](#)). In the previous year (2019) University had disbursed Rs.15,000/- as Onam Advance and recovered in 10 equal installments.

(2).It is learnt that discussions are underway to implement UNISPARK at the University of Kerala. Since the Government has stipulated to recover the advance amount in 5 installments, the outstanding balance(if any) will be recovered as a single installment from salary of employees, if there is no such provision in the software provided by the UNISPARK. Considering (1) and (2), a suitable decision may be taken at administrative level.

As per the orders of the Vice Chancellor the request of the Kerala University Employees Union for the payment of Onam Advance of Rs.25,000/- recoverable in 10 equal installments is placed before the Syndicate for consideration.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to sanction an amount of Rs.15,000/- (Rs.Fifteen thousand only) as Onam Advance to the University Employees for 2020, recoverable in ten equal instalments.

Item No. 17.12. Filing of Writ Petition-Tax on retiral benefits - Legal Opinion dated 27/06/2020-Reporting of-reg.

(Accounts.VI)

The Syndicate at its meeting held on 25/05/2019(vide Item No.09.63) approved the following recommendations of the High Level Committee Meeting on 21/05/2019 on the matter of tax deduction and further resolved to entrust the Registrar to proceed with the necessary legal actions.

1. to review the earlier decision of the Syndicate regarding the tax deduction on retiral benefits and to take a policy decision regarding the same.
2. to file a Writ Petition before the High Court on tax exemption.
3. not to effect further tax payments on retiral benefits and to retain sufficient amount in the account of the University to meet future liability if required. For the purpose, instead of withholding twice the amount of actual income tax and depositing in the suspense account of the University as decided earlier, to retain an amount equivalent to 12% of the retiral benefits to meet future liability, if any, and to deposit the amount as fixed deposit in SBI KUOC branch, in the joint names of the Finance Officer and the pensioner. Such amount being encashable only on termination of legal proceedings.

A University Order Ad.AIII.1/TDS/2019 dated 28/06/2019 was issued on the basis of the above resolution.

The Standing Counsel of the University was requested to file a Writ Petition as per the recommendation (2) of the above resolution. The Standing Counsel vide Letter No.TA/SC-LO-29/2020 dated 27/06/2020 has opined the “there is a mandatory requirement that in every writ petition it should be stated by the petitioner that he has no effective legal remedy left other than filing a writ petition invoking the extra ordinary jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution of India and in the backdrop of the pending proceedings before the forums under IT Act, such a declaration cannot be made by the University. Moreover it was brought to my notice that in the case of MG University, Kottayam in a similar matter some favorable orders have been passed by the forum under the Income Tax Act. If that is so there is nothing wrong in making an attempt to obtain a similar relief as our matter is identical. If the present proceedings are not sufficient to restrain the Income Tax authorities for proceeding with any coercive action against the University then only we need consider the prospects of filing a writ petition.”(**Legal Opinion (1)-appended**)

On the orders of the Vice-Chancellor and in consultation with the Standing Counsel of the University, Appeals against the assessment of income tax on retiral benefits for the financial years 2015-16 and 2016-17 has been filed before the Commissioner of Income Tax(Appeals) on 29/04/2019.(Legal Opinion TA/SC-LO-25/2019 dated 12/04/2019) (**Legal Opinion(2)-appended**). The above Appeals are pending disposal. The Chief Commissioner of Income Tax was recently requested vide Letter dated 13/05/2020 to pass direction for an early hearing and disposal of our case. In response to the above the Office of the Chief Commissioner had issued directions vide Letter F.No.289/CC-TVM/Misc/2020-21 dated 25.05.2020 to the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeals), Thiruvananthapuram, that the case may be fixed for hearing on priority. The above matter has also been intimated to Sri. V Sathyanarayanan, Chartered Accounts who has been engaged to represent the case before the Commissioner of Income Tax (Appeals), Thiruvananthapuram.

The above matter is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

Item No.17.13

ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship payment of 1st installment grant to Ms. Soorya.P, Research Scholar, Department of Archaeology, University of Kerala -Reporting of- reg.

(Ac. E. III)

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi sanctioned and released an amount of Rs.1,30,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirty Thousand only) to Ms. Soorya.P, Research Scholar, Department of Archaeology, University of Kerala, towards the first installment of first year of ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship for a period of One Year from 20.11.2019 to 19.11.2020.

Accordingly, sanction has been accorded by the Vice Chancellor for the payment and release of First installment of First Year of ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship amounting to Rs.1,30,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Thirty Thousand only) to Ms. Soorya.P Research Scholar, Department of Archaeology , University of Kerala, for the period from 20.11.2019 to 19.11.2020 as per the norms of the sponsoring authority, subject to reporting to the Syndicate. U.O Number Ac.E.III /2458 /2020/UOK dated 12/08/2020 was issued in this regard.

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter is reported to the Syndicate

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

Item No.17.14.

Sweeping and cleaning of buildings and premises of Senate House Campus – Payment of charges to the Contractor, M/s Vismaya Service

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Consultancies, Pallipuram P.O, Thiruvananthapuram for the month of June 2020– reporting of –reg.

(Ad.BI)

The contract for the work of sweeping and cleaning at the University Office, Senate House Campus was awarded to M/s Vismaya Service Consultancies, Pallipuram P.O, Thiruvananthapuram on contract basis for a period of one year with effect from 01.03.2018 @ Rs.2,48,520/- (Rupees Two Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty only) per month inclusive of wages of Employees, applicable GST, cost of cleaning materials and all charges levied by Government, vide University Order No. Ad.B1 (2)830/2015/001 dated 01/03/2018 . The term of contract expired on 28.02.2019 and the Syndicate at its meeting held on 30.04.2019 has resolved to continue with present agency until an alternative arrangement is made. Accordingly sanction has been accorded to extend the term of contract by executing monthly agreement until any alternative arrangement is made. Also the Syndicate at its meeting held on 08.08.2019 has resolved to approve the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings to maintain the status quo till alternate arrangements is made and to entrust the Registrar to study and report on alternate arrangements to be made. Accordingly, the firm was permitted to continue the work of sweeping and cleaning at Senate House Campus by executing monthly agreements, until an alternate arrangement is made.

M/s Vismaya Service Consultancies has submitted pre-receipt and tax invoice towards the payment of wages for the month of June 2020.

Sanction has, therefore, been accorded by the Vice-Chancellor, subject to reporting to Syndicate, to M/s Vismaya Service Consultancies, Pallipuram P.O, Thiruvananthapuram, being paid an amount of Rs.2,48,520/- (Rupees Two Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty only) including 18% GST towards the charges for the contract work of sweeping and cleaning of buildings and premises of Senate House Campus, Thiruvananthapuram for the month of June 2020. University Order no.2219/2020/UOK dated 27.07.2020 has been issued accordingly.

It may be noted that on the basis of the resolution of the Syndicate held on 08.08.2019, the Registrar has convened a meeting in this regard on 14.11.2019 and the minutes of the meeting was reported to the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings. As per the resolution of the Syndicate meeting held on 13.03.2020, to approve the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings to maintain status quo till alternate arrangements are made and to place proposal for alternate arrangements in the next Committee, the matter has been placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings for consideration.

As per the orders of the Vice Chancellor the aforesaid matter is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

Item No.17.15. Dept of Optoelectronics - Dr. S. Sankararaman - Permission for Patent filing – Consideration of -reg.

(IQAC)

Dr. S. Sankararaman, Professor and Head, Department of Optoelectronics has requested vide letter dated 04.08.2020 to permit him to file a patent entitled “SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR THE LOW-TEMPERATURE SYNTHESIS OF ZINC CARBIDE USING NATURALPRECURSOR”.

The normal procedure for patent filing is to constitute a patent evaluation committee for evaluation of the patent applications with following constitution:

- i) The Director of Research(Convener)
- ii) External expert(s)
- iii) Internal expert (Head of the Department)
- iv) Respective Investigators.

It may be noted that Dr. S. Sankararaman had filed a patent application on 27.02.2020 for the invention "System and method of convention current assisted chemical free synthesis of stabilised

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

metal nano particles". He filed the application directly by remitting fee of Rs. 8800/- and requested to reimburse the fee remitted for filing the patent.

The twelfth meeting of IQAC held on 06.03.2020 resolved not to reimburse the application fee paid by Dr. S. Sankararaman as the patent application was not filed through University.

However, the meeting of the Syndicate held on 28.04.2020 resolved to reimburse the fee for filing the patent by Dr. S. Sankararaman. It was also resolved in the meeting of the Syndicate that the patent should be filed through University in future.

Sanction has been accorded by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor subject to reporting to the Syndicate for the following:

1. to permit Dr. S. Sankararaman, Professor and Head, Department of Optoelectronics to file the patent through University.
2. to reimburse the patent filing fee when patent application number is assigned if the patent is filed without screening by the University level screening committee,

As order by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, the matter is placed before the Syndicate for reporting.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to entrust the Deans Council to prepare a format for patent filing as per the methodology adopted in Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology & Institute for Scientific and Engineering Research (ISER) and place the same before the IQAC meeting.

Item No.17.16. Minutes of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020. Reporting of –reg.

(Ac.H)

The Minutes of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020 is appended. The Vice Chancellor has approved the items, in the Minutes of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, subject to reporting to the Syndicate

The action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the minutes of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020 is reported to the Syndicate.

Minutes of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee for UG/PG admissions 2020-21

Committee No: 5 Date: 17.08.2020 Time: 11.30 AM Venue: Syndicate Room

Members

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Pro Vice – Chancellor (Chairman) | : Sd/- |
| 2. Adv. Muralidharan Pillai. G, Convenor, Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Affiliation of Colleges | : Sd/- |
| 3. Dr. Vijayan Pillai. M (Member, Syndicate) | : Sd/- |
| 4. Dr. B. Unnikrishnan Nair (Member, Syndicate) | : Sd/- |
| 5. Sri. Arun Kumar. R (Member, Syndicate) | : Sd/- |
| 6. Sri. Jairaj. J (Member, Syndicate) | : Sd/- |
| 7. Director, Computer Centre | : Sd/- |
| 8. Deputy Registrar (In charge of Online Admissions) | : Sd/- |
| 9. Dr. K. Satheesh Kumar (Associate Professor and Head, Dept. of Future Studies) | : Sd/- |
| 10. Dr. Manoj Chacko (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Statistics) | : Absent |
| 11. Dr. K. B. Manoj (Member, Syndicate) | : Absent |
| 12. Dr. Aji S (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Computer Science) | : Absent |
| 13. Registrar | : Absent |

Item No.17.16.01 E-mail from M Geethanandan, Coordinator, Gothra Mahasabha and Mary Lidiya, Coordinator, Adishakthi Summer School – Request for extension of last date of UG registration – reg.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

In the e-mail, it has been stated that due to the difficulties posed by the novel corona virus disease (COVID-19), many students, those belonging to SC/ST categories in particular, have been unable to register and submit their applications for admissions this year. In this regard, it has been requested to extend the deadlines of the registration for UG admission.

The following suggestions were also been made.

1. The University may publish the details of allotment of seats under the SC/ST reservation category on their websites and have the press publish the same so that students are equipped with the necessary information.
2. Universities and colleges DO NOT convert the seats reserved for the students of the SC/ ST community into seats under the general category until the last leg of the admission process, which will maximize the possibility of all aspiring students to secure admissions in the colleges of their choice.

The committee considered the matter and observed that the University has already complied the request given by the Coordinators, Gothra Mahasabha and Adishakthi Summer School and recommended that the same may be informed to the organisation.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16.02 *Request from Dileep A M - Sports Quota Admission – Including Karate in the approved list of sports disciplines considered for sports quota admission –reg.*

Request has been received from a parent regarding non inclusion of Karate in the approved list of sports disciplines considered for sports quota admission. It has been stated that even though KARATE is approved sports by IOA, KOA, Asian Games, Kerala State Sports Council etc. there is no provision provided for the entry of the event "KARATE" for admission to degree courses under sports quota in the University of Kerala.

It has been requested that urgent steps may be taken to include KARATE in the admission process of the University prior to last date of application for the Degree admission.

In a similar request, remark was sought from Director, Department of Physical Education. DPE remarked the following.

Karate was not suggested or recommended to be conducted by any of the affiliated colleges in the Fixture meeting 2019 and hence has not been approved in the list of sports items for 2019-20. It may be noted that it is not mandatory that University of Kerala conduct all Sports events approved by Association of Indian Universities and Kerala State Sports Council.

The Committee considered the matter along with the remarks from the Director, Department of Physical Education and recommended to reject the request.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16.03. *Listing of Arts & Science colleges in the admission website – Request from Sree Narayana Educational Society – reg.*

In the letter, it has been stated that the University has listed the colleges not according to the alphabetical order. The University has given priority to the UIT's. The other colleges with all the required facilities are listed last while the UIT's with pathetic infrastructure are listed first thereby the parents will have a tendency to choose the first listed colleges. It is requested to look into the matter and take necessary steps to conduct the admission process in a transparent manner.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to reject the request.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above

recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16.04 Schedule for BA Music Admissions – reg.

Proposed schedule for BA Music admissions is submitted for approval.

Last date of submission of print outs of online application to the college		17.08.2020
Date of aptitude test	H.H. Maharani Sethu Parvathi Bai NSS College for Women, Neeramankara	21.08.2020 to 27.08.2020
	SN College for Women, Kollam	07.09.2020 to 14.09.2020
	Govt. College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram	14.09.2020 to 19.09.2020
Publication of final ranklist		25.09.2020
Date of Interview	H.H. Maharani Sethu Parvathi Bai NSS College for Women, Neeramankara	30.09.2020
	SN College for Women, Kollam	01.10.2020
	Govt. College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram	05.10.2020

The committee considered the matter and recommended to defer the same.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16.05 Draft Schedule of Admission – reg.

Subject	Date & Time of reporting for admission before the Principal/ Head of Institution
First Day	
Physics/ Computer Science/ Journalism and Mass communication	
Chemistry/ Electronics/ Microbiology/B. Com Commerce with Computer Applications	
Mathematics / Polymer Chemistry/ Biotechnology (Multimajor)	
Zoology/ BMS- Hotel Management / Malayalam and Mass Communication	
Second Day	
Geology/ Home Science/Environmental Science and Environment and Water Management/ Physics and Computer Application	
Geography/ Statistics/ Biochemistry & Industrial Microbiology	
Botany/ Sociology/ Social Work(BSW)	
Chemistry & Industrial Chemistry/ Arabic/ Tamil/ B.Com (Finance/ Co-operation/ Travel & Tourism/ Insurance & Banking/ Computer Application)	
Third Day	
English/ BA Honours in English Language and Literature	
Malayalam/ Botany and Biotechnology/ Commerce & Hotel Management and Catering	
Sanskrit/ Islamic History/ Biochemistry/ English & Communicative English/ Psychology/BBA	
Hindi/ BCA/ B.Com Commerce and Tourism & Travel Management	
Fourth Day	
History/B. Com Commerce & Tax Procedure and Practice	
Economics	

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Political Science	
Philosophy	
(For those who could not take admission on the prescribed day and time due to genuine reason may be considered on)	

The Committee considered the matter and recommended the following.

- Principals of all colleges be instructed to observe the social distancing protocol as strictly as possible and following instructions may be issued in this regard
 - The college must arrange more than one venue for the verification of documents of the candidates during the time of admission.
 - Social distancing protocol must be maintained in the entire process.
 - Only one person must be allowed to accompany the candidate in the capacity of guardian. Also considering the present scenario, permission may also be granted to the candidate or his/ her representative to report to the college for taking admission.
- The Committee also recommended to prepare a detailed schedule of admission in accordance with the existing COVID protocol and authorized the Pro-Vice Chancellor to approve the same.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16.06 Seat Matrix for UG Admission 2020 – Approval of – reg.

The Seat Matrix for UG Admission 2020 is submitted for verification and approval.

The Committee recommended to approve the submitted Seat Matrix of affiliated colleges and UITs for the UG Admissions 2020.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16.07 General Education- VHSE Education- change to NSQF curriculum- Admission to Degree and B.Voc Courses –reg.

The Deputy Director, Department of General Education, has informed that the first batch of NSQF students will be applying for Degree and B.Voc courses under the University and the name of vocational subjects may be included in the academic details page.

The Committee observed that the marks of vocational subjects are not considered for the calculation of index mark and hence not relevant in including the name of those subjects while applying for UG programmes. The committee recommended that the same may be informed to the Deputy Director (Curriculum), Department of General Education.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16.08 UG Admission – Extension of last date for registration- E-mail received from the Principal, UIT Veli- reg.

The Principal, UIT Veli has enquired about the possibility of extending the last date for submitting online applications for UG admissions 2020-'21, since the Akshaya and other computer centres in containment zones remain closed and also due to network problems, students are finding it difficult to apply or make updates online.

Considering the matter and the request included in agenda item 1, the committee recommended to extend the last date of registration for UG programme till 25.08.2020 05.00 PM

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above

recommendations of the meeting of the On line Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

FURTHER RESOLVED to authorise the Vice-Chancellor to take appropriate action to extend the last date of registration for UG Programme 2020-2021.

Item No.17.16.09 *PG Admission- Request from a Keralite UG final year student studying in other state – Submitting of regarding*

Harikes Sathian, a UG final year student of Madras Christian College (Madras University, Tamil Nadu) has given a request regarding PG online registration. It has been stated that due to this Covid-19 pandemic they are unable to complete the final semester examination. Till now the UGC and Supreme Court haven't taken any final decision regarding the final semester examination and consolidated mark sheet. Since 6th semester mark sheet is compulsory for PG admission procedure in Kerala it has been requested that the students from other universities may be allowed to apply with the aggregate mark up to 5th Semester, or extend the application procedure until a final decision is made up on the final examination and results.

The committee recommended to inform the candidate that he can apply for PG programme if his results are published before closure of registration of PG website of the University.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Other items permitted by the chair

Item No.17.16. Additional.01.

Adding caste without religion – request received from a candidate – reg.

A candidate Neha T Vijay (692739) has submitted a request stating that she was not able to proceed with her application as the caste field has no values for the Religion "Others". In the community certificate, her religion is secular and category is SC/ST. According to the government order 396/2010, religion is not mandatory in government applications. Also, according to the Human Rights Commission order, HRMP No:7307/2015, there is no need to specify religion in community certificate. Hence, it is requested to add values in the caste field for the religion "others" so that she can choose her caste and category.

The committee recommended that legal opinion may be sought in the matter and in the meanwhile a clarification be obtained from the Director, Directorate of Scheduled Caste Development to ascertain whether the candidate is eligible for SC/ST reservation for admission.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16. Additional.02

E-mail received from Department of Education UT of Lakshadweep Kavaratti – Admission process of UG/PG courses 2020-21 – reg.

The Directorate of Education, UTL, Kavaratti has forwarded a request to intimate the admission process for Degree and Post Graduate courses for current academic year to sponsor candidates from Lakshadweep. It has been requested to clarify tentative/final date of admission to above courses for completing the seat allotment.

The committee considered the matter and recommended to inform the Directorate of Education, UTL, Kavaratti regarding the schedule of admission for UG/PG courses.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16. Additional.03. Opening of registration for PG courses 2020-21 – reg.
The committee recommended to issue notification for PG admission in all affiliated colleges and UIT's on 27.08.2020

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.16. Additional.04. Convening of Principal's meeting – reg.

The committee recommended the following schedule for convening of Principal's meeting.
 21.08.2020

10.00AM – Govt./Aided Colleges of Thiruvananthapuram

02.00PM - Govt./Aided Colleges of Kollam, Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta

26.08.2020

10.00AM and 12.00 Noon – Self Financing Colleges

02.00PM – UIT's

The meeting came to an end at 12.45 PM.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting of the Online Admission Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.17. Report of the Expert Committee on University Education - COVID- 19 period and after – August 2020- Consideration of- reg.

**Report of the
Expert Committee on
University Education:
COVID-19 PERIOD
AND AFTER**

August 2020



UNIVERSITY OF KERALA
Palayam, Thiruvananthapuram

Message

University of Kerala deemed as the mother of all Universities in the state was founded in 1937. University of Travancore, later renamed as the University of Kerala has always striven to be on the right path towards academic excellence and inclusivity. Apart from the legacy that it bears, its contribution towards higher education sector of the state makes this University distinct and significant. Of late, the University has initiated several novel ventures for improving academic research and for infusing social responsibility among students. The CLIF, a central laboratory at the Kariavattom campus is a unique experiment in this regard. The *Harithalayam* project spearheaded by the University aims at increasing the green cover on campuses, for inculcating practical knowledge of agriculture and self-sufficiency among students and also for promoting paddy cultivation, coconut and vegetable farming, and gardening of trees and rare plant species indigenous to Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It is expected that the University campus will provide rich experience to the students who enrol for the programmes here. In the wake of COVID-19, an expert committee has been constituted for formulating adequate measures in tune with the present times, for revamping the education sector.

I hope that the report will facilitate the University to provide better services to the student community and society. I wish all success to the efforts of the committee and hope that the recommendations will be implemented at the earliest. Though we are in the midst of the pandemic and not having resumed the routine academic activities, I strongly believe that we shall overcome these challenges and continue our journey with added vigour towards our goal. Hope we will have a productive academic year ahead.

Prof (Dr.) V.P. Mahadevan Pillai
VICE CHANCELLOR

Preface

CCOVID-19 has affected lives in almost every part of the world. Economies, businesses, entertainment, education, sectors both private and public, and needless to mention, other day to day activities are also being heavily impacted and disrupted by the virus which, as predicted, will continue its havoc for a foreseeable period. COVID-19 pandemic has eerie parallels with many other epidemics in the past. The Black Death, a fatal epidemic of bubonic plague that wiped out almost a quarter of the population of Europe during 1347-51 and the 1918 Spanish flu that killed nearly 500 million people the world over had disastrous effect on humanity. But what makes COVID-19 different is its unprecedented pace and reach across the globe and its huge impact on human mobility. Synchronous with the ongoing research to develop vaccine, studies on the impact of COVID-19 on different domains including education are also ensuing in different parts of the world. Highly sensitive and volatile, higher education sector today is divided over the strategies to combat the situation created by COVID-19. The debates hitherto have also exposed the flaws, weaknesses and limitations of online learning identified by many as one of the strategies to tide over the current situation. While teaching and learning in the online platform is the need of the hour, the strategy of using a hybrid mode, combining both online and offline methods can pay rich dividend for the learners. Access to technology is the key for the student to participate in educational practices, which if in online mode can create much more novel demands and anxieties. Technology by itself is politically neutral, whereas, the questions as to who has access to it, and who is controlling it are politically loaded. Strategies have to be devised to make use of technology for the benefit of all, irrespective of the social and economic background. COVID-19 has taught us many lessons, most importantly the need for a holistic approach. We have long forgotten the fact that people, places and non-human entities and processes are all connected, and have ignored these connections even in pedagogy. We have now resumed our talk on green economy and sustainable development in the context of COVID-19. For how long will it remain in our memory? Will it be forgotten, once the

normalcy returns? As Sujatha Byravan observes, “We must recognise, at an early age, the interconnectedness of the natural world with our everyday lives, and with the well-being of the planet. To accomplish that, education in history, geography, economics, biology and chemistry, for example, would have to be very different. Instead of presenting each discipline as distinct and separate, we ought to integrate their domains with the natural world.” In place of studying things in isolation we must embrace a strategy to link disciplines and connect concepts with their milieu. Efforts are on to develop inclusive studies that integrate literature, culture, history and sociology, but a significant level of “unlearning will have to be done along with new learning.” Programme designing and curriculum development will have to be reoriented to meet the new challenges and demands. Educational experts assert that the instructional paradigms are shifting. Instead of focusing on the memorization of learning material, the emphasis should be on the application of knowledge. The teaching and learning will have to shift from theory to praxis. Such kind of an approach can mould the students rightfully to face challenges in their lives and help them to be good competitors in the job market.

Prof (Dr.) P.P. Ajayakumar
PRO VICE CHANCELLOR
Chairman, Expert Committee

Foreword

The report on the academic reforms in the University of Kerala is an attempt to develop concrete proposals for the revamping of the academic administration and management of the University. It is true that a system that was designed at a particular historical juncture should undergo restructuring at regular intervals to make itself relevant to the changing times. The University system is no exception to this rule. The suggestions incorporated in the report are compilations of proposals received from various teaching departments and the recommendations of members of the expert committee. I hope that this will help in the modernisation of the academic administration and will help in the reorientation of teaching learning process in the University. In this report, we have concentrated on teaching learning, research and examination at the University level, as the scope of the committee is limited to the academic realm. Right now, this pandemic has added a new layer of complexity and confusion to the higher education sector, to those who work in the sector, and to those who seek to study in colleges and universities. But the virus has also presented higher education with opportunities which can continue to be productive even after the current pandemic situation passes by and normalcy returns.

COVID-19 may accelerate the end of the traditional semester-based system for graduation because this generation of students are accustomed to being online all the time. The possible predictions can be a dramatic increase in blended learning, emergence of online education as a strategic priority of most institutions, centralized augmentation of instructional system design and extraordinary changes in the conduct of research and research collaborations. The attitude of the researchers who are trained under blended learning may be different from the existing ones. In addition, Artificial Intelligence has become a part of our daily life with voice recognition software programs and route-finding applications getting increasingly popular. Researchers are progressively being drawn to AI to design new materials, and to improve the living standards and life expectancy. I am thankful to all those who helped us in framing the ideas and proposals and hope that the concrete suggestions mentioned in the report will be implemented on time.

Dr. K.G. Gopchandran
 Convenor, Expert Committee
 University of Kerala

**Report of the Expert Committee to Study
'University Education: COVID-19 Period and After'**

We, the members of the Expert Committee, constituted by the University of Kerala, to study 'University Education: COVID-19 Period and After' have adopted the report and submitted it.

Dr. P.P. Ajayakumar <i>Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala</i>	Chairman
Dr. K.G. Gopchandran <i>Convenor, SC of the Syndicate of Students' Discipline</i>	Convenor
Adv. K.H. Babujan <i>Convenor, SC of the Syndicate on Finance, University of Kerala</i>	Member
Adv. A. Ajikumar <i>Convenor, SC of the Syndicate on Planning & Development</i>	Member
Dr. S. Nazeeb <i>Convenor, SC of the Syndicate on Academics & Research</i>	Special Invitee
Prof. S.K. Satheesh <i>Professor, IISc, Bangalore</i>	Member
Prof. Sunoj R. B. <i>Professor, IIT, Mumbai</i>	Member
Prof. Jameela Begum A. <i>Professor (Rtd.), Institute of English, University of Kerala</i>	Member
Prof. G.M. Nair <i>Professor (Rtd.) Department of Botany, University of Kerala</i>	Member
Prof. Unnikrishnan Nair <i>Professor (Rtd.), Department of Physics, University of Kerala</i>	Member
Sri. K. Anvar Sadath <i>Executive Director, IT @ School Project, Vice Chairman & Executive Director, KITE, Government of Kerala.</i>	Member
Sri. Damodar Prasad <i>Director, EMMRC, University of Calicut.</i>	Member

Acknowledgements

The preparation of the report 'University Education: COVID-19 Period and After' was done to compile ideas useful for overcoming the present stalemate created by the pandemic COVID-19 and to amass ideas for the future development of the University. The ideas were derived from our own experiences and association with the University system and the desire to bring about reforms in the present system. We are extremely thankful to our Honourable Vice Chancellor, Dr. V.P. Mahadevan Pillai for giving us an opportunity to prepare a report of this magnitude. Moreover, he gave valuable insights to improve upon the recommendations. We express our deep-felt gratitude to the members of the University Syndicate who were actively involved in the preparation and discussions at various stages. The encouragement and support offered by the University Syndicate was phenomenal and it contributed much in making this a comprehensive report. We received inspiration and support from well-wishers who are always concerned about its development. Discussions were held with various stakeholders including, educationists, teachers, researchers, students, Members of the University Syndicate, Members of the Senate, Members of the Academic Council, Deans of various Faculties; Director & Members of the IQAC, University of Kerala; office bearers of the University Union, Researchers' Union, Departments Union; representatives of students' organisations, teachers' organisations, employees' organisations; University officials and media personalities. As a result, the report grew in size, scope and magnitude. We hope that the report will help the University to grow with a vision and sense of direction. We express our gratitude to all for their valuable suggestions.

A Special word of appreciation should be mentioned to Dr. E. Shaji, Joint Director, IQAC, for preparing the charts and diagrams and also to Godfreys Graphics for the design of the report.

Expert Committee Members

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I. Preamble

The Expert Committee was constituted by the University Syndicate to submit the recommendations related to the reforms required in University Education in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak and the subsequent closure of educational institutions. The main objective was to identify ways in which the educational processes could be continued during this period.

'PostCOVID-19'

While deliberating on the strategies to be developed for overcoming the deadlock in the COVID-19 period, the committee also became conscious of the fact that education after COVID-19 will be entirely different from what it was during the pre-COVID-19 period. It is this understanding that persuaded the committee to look into the probable reforms that need to be initiated for renovating higher education in the postCOVID-19 period. The term 'postCOVID-19' does not refer merely to the period after the outbreak of COVID-19, but to the moment at which the after effects of the pandemic still persist. The pandemic in divergent forms may persist, with the indication that the social, economic and behavioural changes induced by the pandemic will continue for a considerable period of time in future. So, the COVID-19 period and after does not refer to a break but a continuum of particular socio-cultural economic, and behavioural practices. Meanwhile the organisational structure and the business of teaching and learning in Universities have been undergoing considerable transformation, and so, no institution can keep away from concocting plans for restructuring the academic and administrative design and imagine it in novel perspective.

Digital Divide

The technological revolution, popularly known as the fourth industrial revolution has altered the way we live, work and relate to each other. It has grown beyond the previous revolutions in its scale, scope and complexity. If the first industrial revolution used the power of water and steam power to mechanise production, the second used electric power for mass production and the third used electronics and information technology to automate

production whereas the fourth is building on a digital revolution that blurs the lines between the physical, digital and biological spheres. Beyond these, that have been said, it is true that the digital revolution is all pervasive and has crept in to the entire systems of production, management and governance, not to speak of education. The kind of inequality that may persist in future is predicted to be on the basis of access, or lack of access to digital technology, and attainment of, or inability to attain the skill in the use of technology. Though the statement appears to be rather superficial, digital technology has become an integral part of human activity in the contemporary situation. So, reforms and reorganization in the field of education cannot be initiated without addressing the core issue of digital divide. Instead of keeping technology at the bay, we should take it and use it for the benefit of all. One of the prerequisites of educational reforms today is the establishment of high-speed internet in the nook and corner of the state and easy access to the electronic devices for all sections of the society. Hope our state will be able to achieve this aim of 'Internet for all' because in the present context this is going to be the first step towards the larger aim, 'Education for all.'

Co-operation, not Competition

One of the lessons that COVID-19 teaches us is the interconnectedness of all phenomena. It is interesting to note that COVID-19 does not remain as a health-related issue. It affects our economy, social life, movements, business, cultural life and even our everyday life. Life in the digital age is supposed to be inwardly oriented, but COVID-19 leaves no stone unturned to prove that our independence is highly conditioned and rigid, our movements are connected with the movements of many others, our life is tied up with the life of other living beings including the microorganisms, or in short, the interrelatedness of things. These lessons must be incorporated in to the curriculum to provide insights into the interrelatedness of nature. The awareness gained from the experiences of COVID-19 pandemic must be the launching pad to take the journey forward. The success of a few is not the sign of development or progress, be it in the class room or in the society. Competition for the survival of the fittest is not the strategy required of a country like India, but cooperative and concerted efforts towards academic excellence. In a country like India what is demanded is cooperation and coordinated efforts towards academic excellence. This should begin from the root level. A successful student should support a weak student, an established institution should support a developing institution; care and support shall be given to those who fail to cross the line. If cooperation and collaboration is developed among educational institutions, all of them are likely to grow and flourish. Incessant interaction between Universities, University departments, research institutes and colleges, and sharing of resources including human resources, library resources and facilities in the laboratory; can help in developing a new model of educational practice as against the theory of 'compete or perish.' The Kerala model of development has been hailed for its achievements in the fields of education and health. While tracing the history of the establishment and maintenance of educational institutions in Kerala it is heartening to see that, irrespective their affiliation, almost all of them were established by the joint efforts of people, organisations and the government. This legacy and working model should be followed in future also, for the protection, promotion and upgradation of our educational institutions. It is vital to promote academic cooperation among educational institutions in order to make the institutions exemplary and to provide high quality education for all.

'Open Access' to Education

Education is the key for upward mobility of the individual and the society. The slogan, 'education for all' intends to enhance the growth of the society by providing education for all the people, irrespective of their caste, creed and financial status. The democratic distribution of education demands access to educational institutions at an affordable fee. Exposure of educational resources and study materials to all is an important step required at this point of time. In this digital age, providing open access to educational resources has become comparatively easy. Linking libraries and allowing access to the digital resources are the preliminary steps towards larger democratisation of knowledge dissemination. The report of the Expert committee on 'University Education: COVID-19 Period and After' focuses on some of the basic assumptions of democratisation and cooperation for the growth and development of higher education.

The Future of Higher Education

Higher education institutions provide educational progress and social prosperity. They must be drivers of social change, stimulating fresh movements to secularise knowledge and promoting innovative research and social transformation in favour of the downtrodden. The history of Kerala reveals that progress in higher education can go a long way in transforming the society and the fortune of the people. A silent revolution has been going on in the field of education related to the use of digital technology for imparting education. Digital technology opens up new avenues of application to be exploited for the interests of the participants in education and for the society as a whole. Higher education primarily should aim at the production of new knowledge. Universities should develop an educational ecosystem suitable for pursuing research without being affected by transient happenings of the day. Moreover, higher education must train students to become specialist workers possessing skills necessary for various positions. Higher Education institutions in Kerala have been undertaking these responsibilities satisfactorily during the past eight decades. Of late, more and more new players are crowding in to the higher education sector resulting in the proliferation of Colleges of Engineering and Technology and certain other specialised areas offering accelerated qualification in specific disciplines. Specialised education may be the need of the present, as they offer specific skill essential for particular jobs. The increase in the use of digital technology in the field of education provides easy access for the corporate sector to enter the field of higher education and establish institutes offering programmes of shortest duration levying huge course fees. This trend is likely to grow in the near future. One of the challenges that the traditional Universities will have to face in future will be the temptation of conducting programmes addressing the short-term market trends. It is to be seen that the demands of the skill-based programmes are addressed while holding on to the programme outcomes related to critical thinking, empathy and imagination. Higher Education institutions must develop a methodology for systematic and holistic confrontation with the consequences of the commodification of education and the increasing corporatisation of higher education. Universities will have to reorient the teaching-learning strategies appropriately adapting to the new situation. On the one hand, they must develop new models for imparting knowledge and competencies required for the present. Added to these they should adopt sustainable and practical approach to virtual and decentral forms of teaching that can be combined with the direct, face to face teaching in the classroom. Research will continue to play a central role in the Universities. Research in the fundamental gaps of knowledge areas should also be promoted along with other areas.

Creating a network of Universities to promote dialogue among them is rudimentary for the promotion of our institutions. University campuses must develop an ecosystem conducive for open interactions and deliberations. The architectural design, arrangement of gardens, pathways and open spaces must be in tune with this vision. The public Universities have a pedigree of promoting secularism, augmenting democratic dissemination of knowledge and introducing new intellectual perspectives. The future development of these higher educational institutions depends heavily on the ways the challenges posed by the present are confronted.

II. University of Kerala

University of Kerala is one among the earliest Universities in India. It was the third of its kind among the Princely States and the sixteenth in the whole of the country. The Royal Proclamation establishing the University of Travancore was issued on November 1, 1937, the twenty sixth birthday of the late Sri. ChithiraThirunal Balarama Varma, Maharaja of Travancore. For more than eight decades, the University has been striving to fulfil its goals, very well explained through its motto, "KarmaniVyajyatePrajna" (true knowledge manifests itself in action), quoted from a verse from *Panchathanthra*. The establishment of the University of Travancore was based on three clear objectives as stated in the preamble of the Travancore University Act, 1937; 1) "the gradual development of technical and technological education," 2) "the furtherance of original research in the various branches of applied sciences", and 3) "the conservation and promotion of Kerala Art and Culture." Many visionaries including, Sir. C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer, A.R. Raja Raja Varma, Krishna Aiyangar, R. M. Statham, C.V. Chandrasekharan and T.K. Velu Pillai worked hard behind the establishment of the University.

It started functioning with ten affiliated colleges having a student strength of 3137. The University was reconstituted in 1957 under the first elected ministry headed by Sri. E.M.S. Namboothiripad, the entire state within its jurisdiction. University of Kerala was thus established based on the Kerala University Act of 1957 which came into force from 30 August 1957. Different from the earlier Act the new Act of the University of Kerala gave considerable autonomy to the University and proposed to constitute the Senate and the Syndicate on democratic lines. The University was bifurcated in 1968 to establish a separate University for the Malabar region of the state with its headquarters at Calicut as decided by the Ministry headed by Sri. E.M.S. Namboothiripad. University of Calicut was established through an ordinance issued

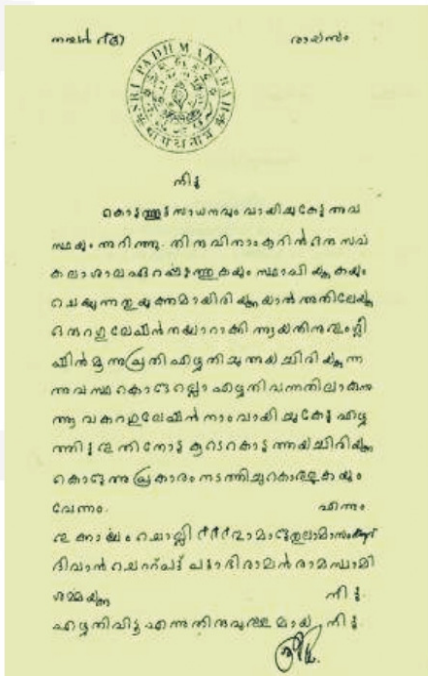


Figure I - Royal proclamation

on 23 July, 1968 by the then governor, Sri. V. Viswanathan. The four revenue districts of Trissur, Palakkad, Kozhikode and Cannanore were brought under the jurisdiction of the Calicut University. The Kerala University Act, 1969 that came into force on 28 February 1969 declared the Senate as “the Supreme Authority of the University.” It also provided for the constitution of the Academic Council and the Finance Committee. Two more new Universities came up in 1971, Kerala Agricultural University and Cochin university of Science & Technology. The Departments of University of Kerala in the Ernakulam Centre became the Departments of the Cochin University. The Kerala Agricultural University had its headquarters at Mannuthi in Trissur. Both these Universities were established during the tenure of the Ministry headed by late Sri. C. Achutha Menon.

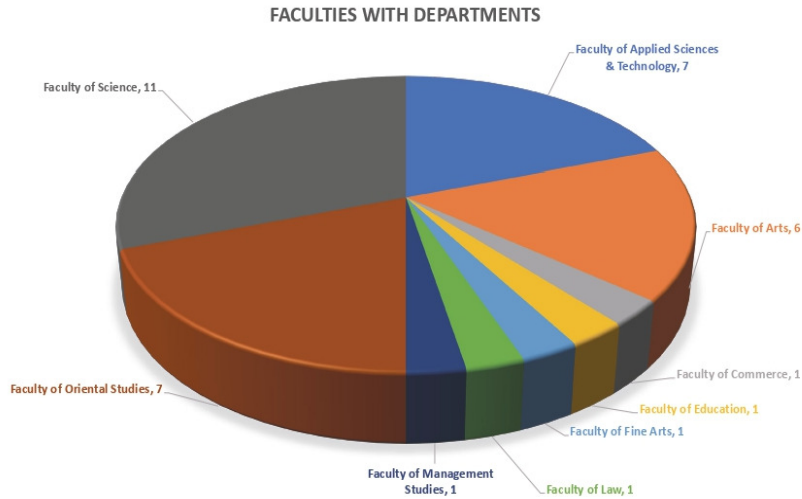
The Kerala University Act 1974 which came into force on July 26, 1974 provided for the election of a student member to the University Syndicate and the enforcement of the principle of communal reservation in appointments to various posts in the University. University of Kerala was further divided in 1983 with the establishment of Mahatma Gandhi University at Kottayam during the tenure of Sri. K. Karunakaran as Chief Minister. It had its jurisdiction over the districts of Ernakulam, Idukki & Kottayam, the Kuttanad Taluk of Alappuzha district and the Taluks of Kozhencherry, Mallappally, Ranni and Tiruvalla in Pathanamthitta district. Thus, the jurisdiction of University of Kerala was confined to the districts of Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam and portions of the districts of Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta.

The popular Governments of Kerala have taken steps to democratise the administration of the University by ensuring the participation of various sections of the society in the governance of the University. The hierarchy in the University administration is as follows; 1) the Senate 2) the Syndicate 3) the Academic Council 4) the Faculties 5) the Boards of Studies 6) the Students’ council 7) the Finance Committee 8) such other boards or Boards of the University as may be declared by the Statutes.

The amendments in the Statutes of the University clearly reveals its progress in democratising the administration and in adopting an inclusive approach very well exemplified in the structure of the various bodies. The Senate, constituted every four years, is the “the Supreme Authority of the University”, which has 117 members (24 ex-officio, 78 elected and 15 nominated). It represents a cross section of the society, with its members drawn from different walks of social life. The Academic Council is the supreme academic body of the University. It is also a large body like the Senate, with its members drawn from different spheres of academic spectrum. The Academic Council has the power to make regulations and to advise the Senate and the Syndicate on all academic matters. The Syndicate, the chief executive body of the University, has a strength of 25 (including the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the Secretary to Govt. (Higher Education), the Secretary to Govt. (IT Dept.), the Director of Public Instruction, the Director of Collegiate Education, twelve elected members, one elected student member and five nominated members. The Syndicate, which meets as per statutory requirement, has executive powers including the general superintendence and control over the institutions of the University.

III. Teaching & Research Departments of the University

The sanctioned strength of teachers in the University Departments is 298. As of now, we have in service 200 teachers. The number of teaching positions is crucial in lifting the University to greater heights.



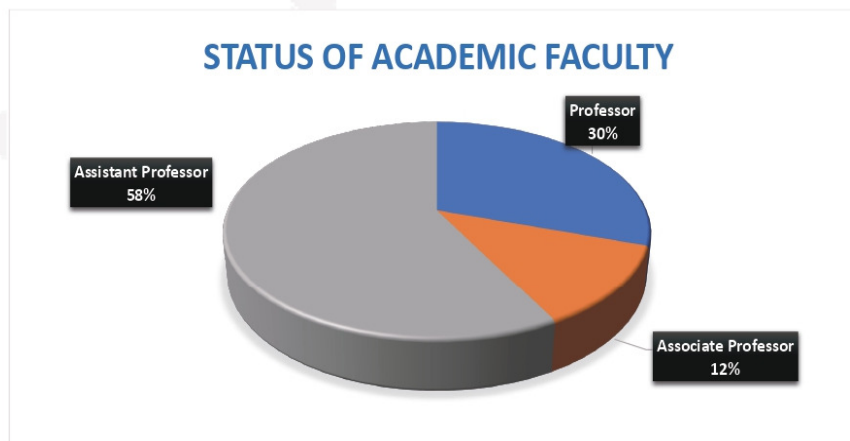
LIST OF FACULTIES : TOTAL 16

6 faculties have no departments

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| ■ Applied Sciences & Technology | ■ Arts |
| ■ Ayurveda & Siddha | ■ Commerce |
| ■ Dentistry | ■ Education |
| ■ Engineering & Technology | ■ Fine Arts |
| ■ Homoeopathy | ■ Law |
| ■ Management Studies | ■ Medicine |
| ■ Oriental Studies | ■ Physical Education |
| ■ Science | ■ Social Sciences |

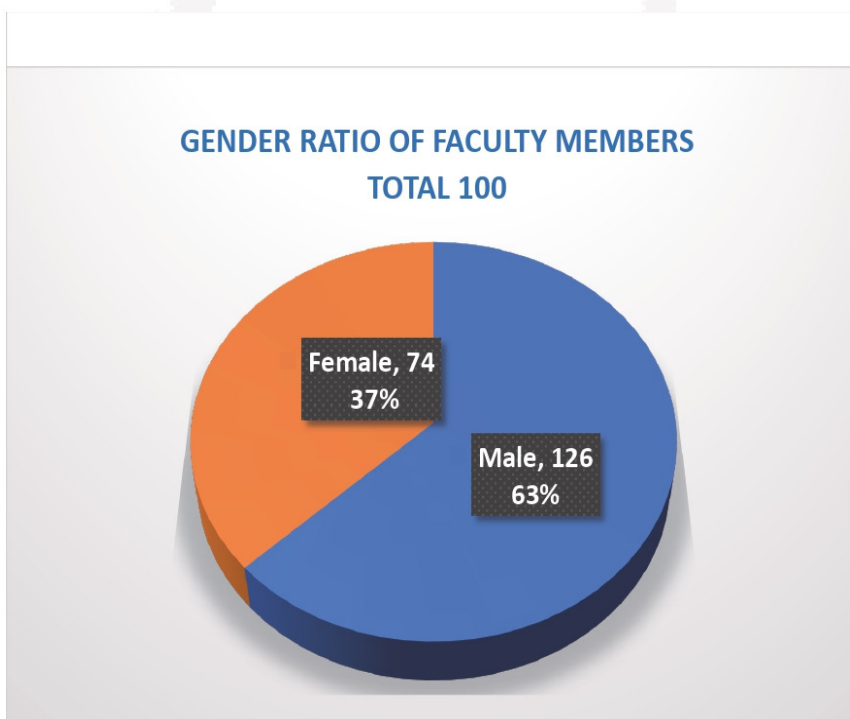


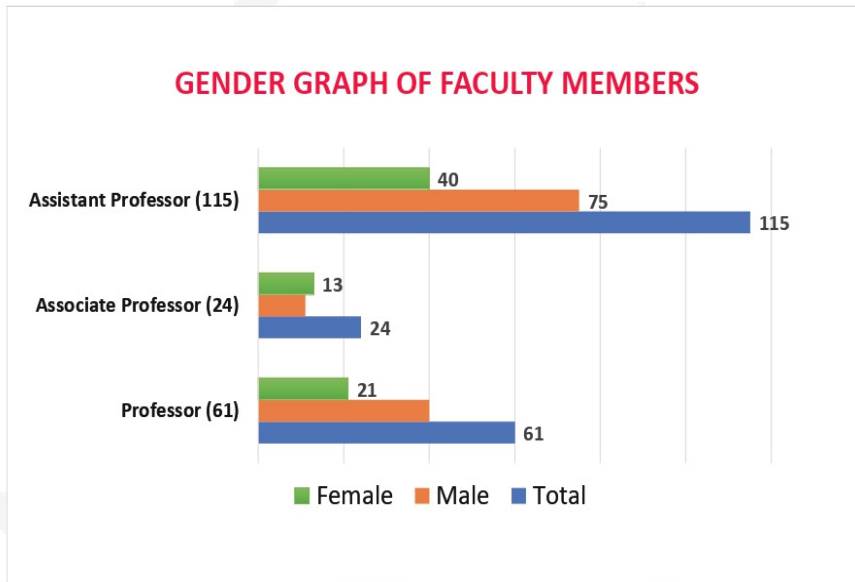
More over there should be a proper distribution of faculty positions among various departments. At present the distribution is not even. While some departments enjoy the privilege of having a decent number of teachers, certain other departments are heavily crippled because of the lack of faculty positions. This is true in the case of some of the comparatively new departments like Nano Science & Nano Technology, Department of Kerala Studies, Institute of Management in Kerala and Biotechnology.



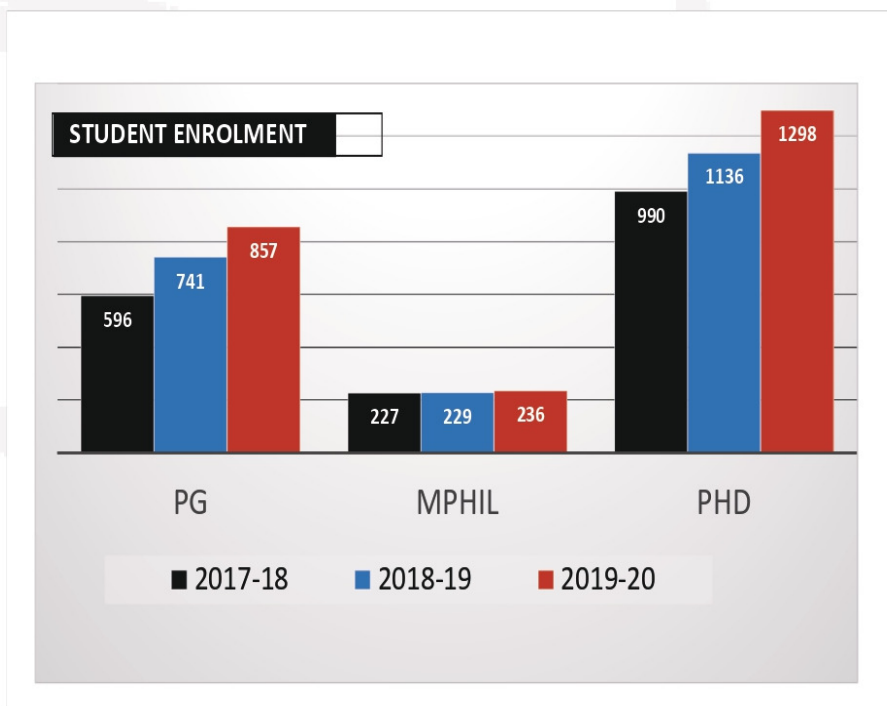
Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Total
61	24	115	200

Minimum seven teachers in a teaching and research department will be the immediate target for University of Kerala as the minimum number of teachers needed for applying for the Special Assistance Programme of UGC is six. So, filling up of vacant posts of teachers, sanctioning new posts for the departments that suffer from shortage of staff, and deployment of teaching posts wherever possible; should be the strategy that we could adopt for the immediate future, to maintain a balance.

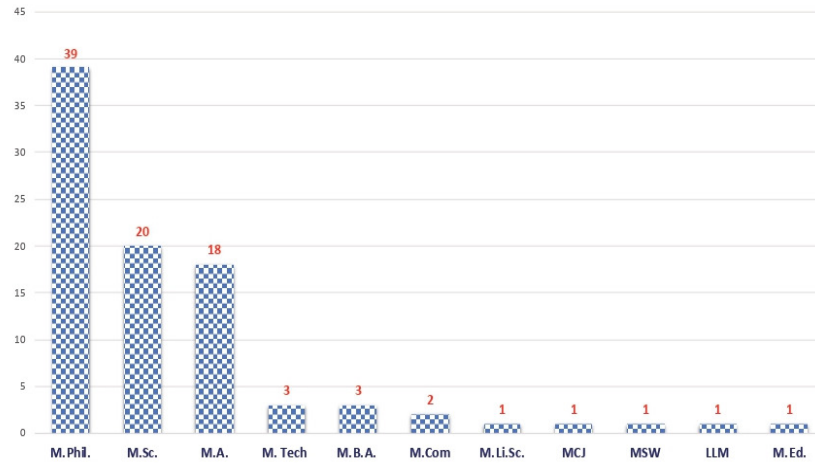




University of Kerala has 44 teaching and research departments that come under 9 faculties, the total number of Faculties being 16. But the lion's share of the departments come under four faculties, Faculty of Science (11), Faculty of Applied Science & Technology (7) and Faculty of Oriental Studies (7) and Faculty of Arts (6). The teaching and research Departments excluding SDE offer 51 PG programmes and 39 M Phil Programmes.



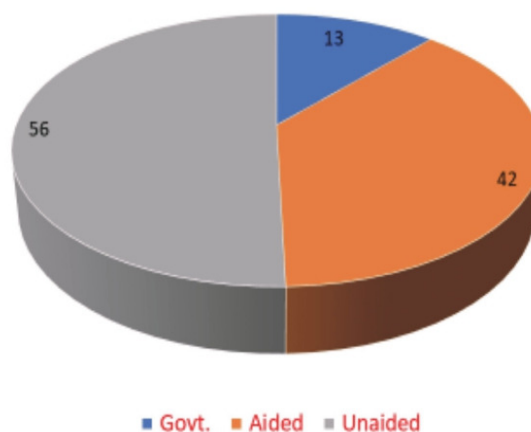
PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS



IV. Affiliated Colleges under University of Kerala

The total number of colleges affiliated to the University is 189, out of which 111 are Arts & Science Colleges, 48 Training Colleges, 9 Management Colleges, 7 Law Colleges, 4 Colleges for MCA, 3 Colleges for Hotel Management & Catering, 2 Colleges for Fine Arts, 1 College each for Physical Education, Music, Special Education, Fashion Technology and one College for Engineering. Apart from these, 51 Self-financing institutions, which include 34 UITs, 10 KUCTEs and 7 UIMs are also functioning under the University.

ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGES



V. Teaching, Learning & Curriculum Design

■ General Observations

Drastic changes in the strategies of teaching and learning are required in the present context in the University departments and affiliated colleges. It will be good if we can adopt the strategies of blended learning and use a mixture of online and face to face teaching which could be termed as 'hybrid' teaching/ learning strategy. The classroom will be converted into a space for online and direct interaction with the students with provision for live streaming of classes.

Hybrid Learning Strategy: Teaching learning process in the postCOVID-19 scenario demands the adoption of strategies of blended learning in which online educational materials are used in the face to face classroom. In the present context of social distancing we could modify the approach a little and start using a mixture of online education and face to face teaching. This hybrid approach will help in reaching out to our students through the online platforms and provide uninterrupted educational support. Once the situation changes, for the better classes can be started dividing each class into two batches so that 50% of the students can attend the class at a time. Students will be permitted to attend classes on alternate working days. Timetable and the distribution of classes will be rearranged to suit this method. This system will be continued until the situation comes back to normalcy.

Accessibility and Inclusivity: Accessibility to the electronic gadgets is going to be one of the impediments in implementing on-line mode of teaching and learning. University should address this issue and should find ways in providing electronic gadgets to the students who do not possess one. It will be difficult to use data for hours together for many students. So, it will be better if the classes are recorded and uploaded to an E-Knowledge Bank so that the students can download the same and listen to. But in continuation online interaction based on the video lesson will be arranged to clarify doubts, to generate discussion and to provide opportunity for them to express their views on each topic. Specific time slots will be arranged for such interactions after uploading the video lessons. The survey conducted by CSS to identify the number of students who do not possess electronic gadgets like Laptops or Smart phones, revealed that 2.3% of students do not possess smart phones and 4.2% of students do not have access to internet. But in the case students in the affiliated colleges the percentage of students who do not have access to internet and electronic gadgets is estimated to be 25 to 30 %. The data referred above proves that issues of accessibility prevail among students of University departments and affiliated colleges. So, it is important to take measures to provide accessibility to all of them. Funds for purchasing smart phones for the use of students who do not have access to the same must be given to the Vice Chairman, CSS. Provision for using the DDF, with the permission of the Vice Chancellor, for this purpose, will also be considered.

Learning Management System: University of Kerala has recently launched Moodlebased learning management system and is available at <lms.keralauniversity.ac.in.> The system can be used for delivering both Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) and

small private online course (SPOC) for those enrolled for Programmes offered by the teaching and research departments of the University of Kerala. The system can deliver and manage almost all kinds of e-resources needed for the course. It can be used for providing teaching materials, sharing databases, providing links to online resources, formulate forums of group discussions, conducting surveys among the participants and online assessment/examination. All academic activities, including attendance, assessment, access to knowledge resources, online classes and examinations should entirely be brought under the LMS. Each student will be able to log in and access the information and resources, take tests and be informed of the examination schedules. LMS will be introduced in the affiliated colleges as well. Training programmes will be arranged for teachers in the online platform.

Recommendations for the COVID-19 Period

■ University Departments

- ▶ The Learning management System already in use must be made mandatory for all departments from the academic year 2020-21 onwards. Internal Assessments, sharing of digital resources, mid semester examinations and discussions with students can be done using LMS.
- ▶ **Student centred teaching and learning:** Teaching and learning strategies have to be revamped considerably in the new context.
- ▶ Online teaching and learning cannot be a replica of the face to face teaching and learning.
- ▶ It is true that the benefits of face to face learning cannot be fully made available in the on-line mode. At the same time interaction to a certain level is possible even in the on-line mode and optimum use of technology that promotes interaction must be ensured. After evaluating the condition of the spread of the epidemic, face to face classes must be started in small batches conducting classes at different time schedules.
- ▶ Upload recorded classes of 30 minutes duration and then live discussion with students based on the video lesson. The students will be able to listen to the classes at their convenience. They can repeatedly watch the class if needed. The discussion time will be used for clarifying doubts and for deliberations on the topic.
- ▶ **Promote Student Interaction:** Students must be allowed to make presentations frequently on topics related to their field of study. The same can be monitored and adjudged by the teacher concerned. This will help them to work on their own under the guidance of the teacher. Another strategy that can be adopted will be to persuade them to start blogs to review various sessions and upload a summary of the ideas. Student coordinators can be employed by teachers to monitor the content uploaded in the blogs.
- ▶ A survey reveals that 2.3% of students in the University Departments do not have smart phones and 4.2% do not have access to internet. This issue can be resolved by supporting them with smart phones. The possibility of providing Mini Laptop to students can be considered. DDF, PTA funds etc. can also be used based on formal official sanction.

■ **School of Distance Education**

- ▶ SDE should have a Learning Management System for managing the contact programmes and internal assessment. LMS will ensure the smooth conduct of the internal assessment and exchange of digital materials and the monitoring of the students.
- ▶ Classes can be conducted online. A mixture of recorded videos and podcasts followed by live discussions using Microsoft Teams/UoK Meet/ Google Meet etc. will be better.
- ▶ Distribution of Study materials in pdf format must be attempted. Fee for study materials can be reduced for those who opt for the pdf version.
- ▶ Assignments can be reduced to five pages for this year. Scanned copies of the same must be uploaded for evaluation.
- ▶ Software for the submission and evaluation of assignments must be developed by KUCC. Another option will be to conduct internal assessment through an objective type test using the LMS.

■ **Affiliated Colleges**

- ▶ Learning Management System can be introduced in all Colleges. Internal Assessment, mid semester examination, sharing of digital resources, sharing of PPT and even recording of attendance can be done using the LMS.
- ▶ Training on on-line teaching and LMS shall be given to teachers of affiliated colleges through HRDC.
- ▶ Online classes will continue as a temporary arrangement for the conduct of classes. Apart from the videos and online sessions, podcasts on relevant topics could also be used. There should be mechanism to monitor the online sessions. A committee headed by the Principal will prepare a timetable for the same and will supervise the conduct of classes. It will be good if the sessions are recorded.
- ▶ Scope for interaction can be explored through blogs, diaries, and allowing presentations by students. Three tier system; teacher, student monitor, student learner will be followed for ensuring interaction between students. Student monitors will coordinate discussions and group activities by students.
- ▶ Timing of the class hours could be arranged taking into consideration the convenience of the students. So classes can be arranged during the evening after 6 pm to include students from the poor background who do not possess mobile phones on their own.
- ▶ Face to face classes can be started in different batches when the situation improves. The College Council will monitor the arrangements for online and face to face sessions. The face to face classes will be arranged by dividing the programmes into two and then dividing each class into two batches. If there are four UG and two PG programmes in a college, Monday and Tuesday can be devoted to two UG and one PG programmes and Thursday and Friday for the rest. The students of each programme must be divided into two batches, so that they can be allowed to attend only either F.N or A.N session every day.
- ▶ For Science programmes, practical sessions must be compensated in the ensuing semesters whenever possible. Meetings of the Boards of study must be convened

urgently to rearrange the practical classes for the ensuing semesters so that the teachers and students can maintain distance in the laboratories during this time.

- ▶ Classes for each semester shall be conducted as per the Academic Calendar. However the schedule for the conduct of examination must be revised as per the situation of the spread of COVID-19.
- ▶ Colleges should address the issue of digital divide. This can be done by attracting resources from various agencies and organisations. The colleges should use programmes offered by the Government. The possibility of arranging financial support from local bodies, MLA fund, MP fund, PTA fund or Alumni Association must be explored.
- ▶ Training programmes for teachers must be arranged to familiarise the teachers with the LMS and the possibilities of online teaching.
- ▶ Every college must conduct a survey to assess the number of students who do not possess smart phones or laptops and internet facility.

Recommendations for the PostCOVID-19 Period

■ University Departments

- ▶ In view of the growing demand for online classes and live streaming sessions, IT infrastructure in the University departments needs to be upgraded and improved.
- ▶ **Theatre Classrooms:** In order to implement the strategy of combining online and face to face teaching learning, the upgradation of the infrastructure facility of the departments, is a must. University has already proposed the introduction of theatre classrooms in departments which will cater to the needs of online streaming of classes, recording of classes and also for playing video and audio recordings in order to enrich the classroom (Physical & Online) experience of the students.
- ▶ **Distribution of Tablet:** Some of the educationists are of the opinion that it is highly redeeming that mobile phones are going to be future classrooms. The interesting fact is that the official order that expels the mobile phone from the campus is still in force in certain institutions. Though slightly exaggerated, the statement appears to be relevant as we have made the mobile phone, a classroom and even conference room. University must think of providing Tablets for each student at the time of admission. This will function as a virtual classroom. The submission of assignments, conduct of internal examinations and most other educational activities could be executed online through the iPad. It could also be used for writing the end semester examination.
- ▶ **KU Padasala:** University of Kerala has already launched a programme to develop video lessons, *KU Padasala*. Efforts are on to materialise the same. To begin with, videos must be made on one course in every semester of each Programme. The videos should be limited to 30 minutes. Students must be persuaded to interact with the teacher and also with other students about the topic after watching the video lesson.
- ▶ **Knowledge Portal:** Knowledge portal is a repository of digital resources. University of Kerala should develop a portal which should function as an institutional repository. Institutional repository (IR) is an online archive for collecting, preserving, and disseminating digital copies of the intellectual output of an institution, particularly a research institution. It can be viewed as a set of services that the university offers to

members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by the institution and its community members.

- ▶ **Digital Resource Mobilisation:** Teachers and students are exposed to digital resources in the form of online journals, e-books, e-libraries, digitised dissertations, You-tube lectures etc. Each department should mobilise the digital resources available to them to develop an institutional repository of the academic contribution of the University as a whole. The contributions of all teachers and researchers in every department must be collected and digitised and uploaded to this repository so that a Knowledge portal is developed. The benefits of establishing an institutional repository of University of Kerala are many. It will provide open access to institutional research output (Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD)) by self-archiving it, create global visibility for the institution's scholarly research, store and preserve other institutional digital grey literature (unpublished) produced from each department like seminar reports, technical reports, conference proceedings, project reports, etc. Moreover, the repository will give access to e-Books and other online journals subscribed by the University preserving organization's legacy and also give publicity to the research findings. The Knowledge portal will be an extension of the University library, could be termed as a digital library with easy access to students and researchers.
- ▶ **Centres of Excellence in Research:** All University Departments must be developed into Centres of Excellence in Research. Interdisciplinary research must be promoted in all departments. There is enormous possibility for collaborative research at Kariavattom campus where majority of the departments are located. Apart from inter-department collaboration, joint research with research institutes outside the campus must also be started. Some of the departments like Department of Nano Science and Nano Technology could bring together scholars from departments like Physics, Chemistry, Opto-electronics, Bio-technology, Bio-chemistry and Botany for extremely novel projects. Department of Kerala Studies can attract scholars from other departments like Economics, Malayalam, History, Archaeology, Environmental Science, Aquatic biology, Performance Studies, Linguistics, Zoology and Journalism and Mass communication. It could function as a nodal centre for the study of Kerala society, economy, environment and culture. The Department of Kerala Studies is meant for study and research in divergent areas of Kerala society and culture. Kerala has a rich heritage of performing arts. *Koodiyattam*, one of the oldest forms of performing art of Kerala, *Kathakali*, *Theyyattom* and various folk performances add to the variety of the performing tradition of Kerala. If the department collaborates with the Centre for Performing and Visual Arts it can lead to high quality research on performing arts and dance forms of Kerala. Moreover, short term programmes on Kerala culture and visual arts of Kerala can be offered jointly.
- ▶ **Credit Transfer:** Student mobility from outside Universities to University of Kerala is likely in the present context of the spread of the disease. The present system is not flexible enough to accommodate students from outside, in the midst of an ongoing programme. Arranging facility for credit transfer is one option. According to this, students will get their credits transferred from one University to another if they shift their study and location. This will enable them to continue their studies uninterrupted even when they are forced to move. In anticipation of the student mobility from other Universities in the

postCOVID-19 scenario, credit transfer from other universities to University of Kerala must be allowed.

- ▶ **Skill Development:** Basic training in presentation skills, academic writing and research methodology must be part of the curriculum of all PG programmes. This will help the students to perform well in interviews as well as in work places. Professional training must be given to the students for developing basic skills. The training can be entrusted with the Centre for Academic & Professional Training. Skill development of students should be made part of the curriculum. Presentation skills and academic writing must be the part of all programmes.
- ▶ **Foreign & Indian Language Baskets:** Provision for learning at least one foreign language, must be arranged by introducing a Foreign Language Basket. For this, the School of Foreign Languages can be strengthened by introducing faculty members from French, Chinese, Spanish and Japanese. The ability to read, write and converse in a foreign language will enhance the quality and confidence of the students and will help them develop their career in future. Indian language basket can offer Bengali, Telugu, Kannada and Marathi apart from Malayalam, Sanskrit, Tamil and Hindi. Certificate programmes on each language must be offered to develop basic knowledge of these languages. One Assistant Professor will be appointed for each language.
- ▶ **MOOC Programmes:** University will offer MOOC courses on relevant areas. This will help in developing programmes that have regional flavour and relevance. Students can also join selected MOOC programmes that are already in the list.
- ▶ **SWAYAM:** SWAYAM is an integrated MOOC platform that aims at the three cardinal principles of access, equity and quality. The objective of this effort is to take the best teaching learning resources to all, including the most disadvantaged. SWAYAM seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have hitherto remained untouched by the digital revolution and have not been able to join the mainstream of the knowledge economy.
- ▶ **Working Hours of Laboratories:** Laboratories are at the heart of a research institution. It should work round the clock. At present, the functioning of laboratories are from 10 am to 5 pm, which is quite insufficient for the promotion of serious research. To begin with, laboratories must be open at least from 8 am to 8pm. This will help in promoting more active research in the departments.
- ▶ **Research on the Impact of COVID-19:** Research is one of the major responsibilities of a University department. So, the departments should respond to the issues that demands academic research. The impact of COVID-19 has opened up immense possibilities for research in various fields from Bio-sciences to Social Sciences. So the University departments should concentrate on research on the impact of COVID-19 on the society, economy and culture of Kerala. Documentation of how Kerala prevented the spread of COVID-19 should also be done.
- **School of Distance Education**
 - ▶ At present, around 28000 students are pursuing nearly 26 UG and PG programmes at SDE. Further, every year 9000 to 10000 students enrol for various programmes. Out

of these, 25 per cent are from outside the jurisdiction of University and NRIs. SDE has been offering contact classes online during the past three months. As per the reports of the SDE Director, the number of participants for the online classes is higher than face to face contact programmes conducted earlier. So, online contact classes must continue to be offered in future as well. The academic activities and functioning of SDE need total revamping. All activities including the contact programmes, examinations and administration will be made on-line allowing participants to enrol the programmes from every part of the world. However, managing the teaching-learning process of the programmes, including the conduct of the contact classes, maintenance of students' attendance, admission, and valuation of assignments based on the revised curriculum of the University and UGC, creates major hurdles without the assistance of a sophisticated system based on ICT. Hence, it is required to establish a sophisticated e-Learning system called LMS for managing the programmes of the SDE.

▶ **Revamping SDE:** School of Distance Education, University of Kerala is the first of its kind in the state. Suggestions for uplifting it to a prestigious institution are given below:

1. There should be an academic advisory committee consisting of eminent academicians from the fields concerned for each programme. All academic activities of SDE must be monitored by these committees. The academic activities should be shifted to an e-learning platform. The study materials and the lectures must be provided on-line.
2. The preparation of the study materials (SLM) must be a collective activity and should be done by a team of experts to ensure very high standards and quality. Since the Self Learning Material is the key for distance education the procedure for preparing materials should be clearly specified.
3. Video lectures for each unit will also be developed and uploaded in the SDE portal.
4. Face to face sessions will be conducted for limited hours every year to clarify doubts and for those subjects that need practical training or laboratory work.
5. Infrastructure facilities for recording, editing and live streaming of classes must be arranged at SDE.
6. The distribution of academic staff will be rearranged so that there is a permanent teacher for every programme. If needed, additional temporary teachers can be recruited.
7. Assignment and project submissions will be integrated with the LMS and will be done online.
8. A Students' portal will be developed for providing all academic services to the students.

■ **Affiliated Colleges**

- ▶ Upgradation of IT infrastructure and high speed Wi-Fi connectivity in Colleges are the basic requirements for the continuance of the academic activities in the colleges. So top priority shall be given for the same.
- ▶ **IT@ College:** IT@ School was successfully implemented in the state of Kerala to provide good IT infrastructure in schools. This proved to be of great use during the time

of the pandemic. Similar project in the model of IT@ School shall be implemented for the improvement of IT infrastructure in the colleges with the support of government using KIIFB fund or any other allocation.

- ▶ **KU Padasala** shall be extended to include general topics related to the field of study in the colleges. The preparation of the videos shall be done systematically ensuring the quality of the videos. University shall appoint a team of experts to design, develop and upload the videos for each programme. Willingness of teachers shall be obtained for working voluntarily for this project. Then the teachers shall be allotted topics. They shall prepare a draft lesson plan for the same and present the same before the committee. The committee shall suggest revision if needed and approve the same after correction. A mock class shall be conducted after that. The committee shall suggest corrections if needed. This shall be followed by the final recording.
- ▶ **Training in LMS & On-line Teaching:** Training programmes shall be arranged for college teachers to equip them in IT enabled teaching.
- ▶ **Record Videos using OBS Studio:** Teachers can record videos on their own using OBS studio. Videos produced by teachers could be uploaded in the KU Padasala after verification by the expert committee.
- ▶ **Academic Collaboration:** Should develop greater academic collaboration between University Departments and affiliated colleges. Colleges should also develop collaborations with other research institutes. Collaborations of this sort will help in upgrading the research potential and academic standard of the college.
- ▶ **Academic Support for Accreditation:** Academic collaboration between colleges is also extremely significant. Collaborate and develop shall be the motto. Colleges accredited with 'A' grade should provide academic support to at least one non-accredited College in the nearby area by adopting that college.
- ▶ **Online Certificate Programme for College Students:** University shall offer online certificate programmes for foreign language learning. This will help the students in the affiliated colleges to learn the language.
- ▶ **Academic Support to Local Bodies:** Colleges can contribute in the development of a locality in many ways. Teachers and students shall provide academic support in preparing projects and in conducting surveys and studies for the developmental activities of the Panchayats/ Local Bodies. They could also help in popularising ideas related to the protection of the environment, healthy living and sustainable development in the surrounding areas.
- **Curriculum Design**
 - ▶ **Integrated Curriculum:** We should create rigorous, relevant and engaging curriculum. Along with the concepts, teaching how to think and write in a coherent, structured way should also happen. Integrated curriculum is all about making connections across disciplines. A course on deforestation and indigenous communities should also refer to colonialism and imperialism. Similarly, a student of Environmental Science should learn about the socio-political reasons that lead to the extreme exploitation of the environment. Language programmes like English, Hindi and Malayalam can be offered

with computing as an additional subject. Students of Psychology should be exposed to literature and Philosophy. Each curriculum should be a multidisciplinary curriculum. If community projects are made part of the curriculum, wherever it is possible, students can learn more about the people and life in their surroundings. University shall entrust the Boards of Studies with the responsibility of revamping curriculum with the support of experts from outside to make it truly interdisciplinary.

- ▶ **Outcome Based Curriculum:** University is currently engaged in the processes of transforming the curriculum to OBC. But the change in the curriculum should be reflected in the type of questions for the end semester examination as well. It will be good if we prepare a Question Bank which could generate questions automatically. Software must either be developed or purchased for implementing the Question Bank system.
- ▶ **Academic-Industry Collaboration:** The collaboration between academic institutions and industries will be useful in improving the curriculum in tune with the demands of the contemporary times. Collaborations can pay rich dividends in research output and in the form of placement for the degree holders. Discussions must be made with highly experienced technocrats from the industry during the process of designing the curriculum.

VI. Examination and Evaluation

■ General Observations

- ▶ University of Kerala has been persistently following a well-planned examination calendar, as of now. Even when the dates of examinations are declared far in advance, the demand for the postponement of examinations often lead to litigations. This also reveals the fact that the fear of examination is very high among students even at the UG/ PG levels. The problems related to the smooth conduct of examination in the University departments and affiliated colleges separately have to be considered. The examinations for the students of the University departments are managed by the CSS office at Kariavattam whereas; the exams for the CBCSS, Semester PG, Distance Education (UG & PG), Private Registration (UG & PG) are managed directly by the Controller of Examinations. Of late, the conduct of examinations for the students of affiliated colleges has become a laborious and strenuous exercise involving majority of the administrative staff, teachers, a network of institutions and support staff. While majority of the student protest is for postponing the examinations, there is always huge pressure for the early declaration of results. In fact, almost all staff members of the University are in one way or other involved in the conduct of examination and evaluation. This affects the academic activities at the University adversely. So, better strategies are to be devised for the conduct of the examinations. The preparation of question papers also poses several issues like repetition of the questions from previous year's question papers, questions from outside the syllabus prescribed for study and typographical errors. All these points to the fact that large scale modification and improvement is needed in the mode of conducting the examination and preparation of question papers.

- ▶ The number of examinations conducted by the University has increased considerably with the introduction of the semester system. Majority of the employees are pooled in the examination section in one way or other severely affecting all other activities of the University. We will have to devise strategies to overcome the problems related to the conduct of examinations and evaluation in the postCOVID-19 scenario. As of now, the final semester examinations for almost all programmes except MBA and LLM have been conducted. Some of the pending S2, S4 examinations of UG and S3 examinations, PG Project evaluation, Viva-voce examinations and practical examinations of the PG programmes are also pending. PG exams in Colleges that come under the Thiruvananthapuram Corporation could not be conducted due to the declaration of lockdown. The present situation demands innovative strategies for overcoming the challenges. The Examination Calendar planned for the year 2020-21 must be modified considering the present situation and the dates for the conduct of examination must be rearranged judiciously.
- ▶ **Question Bank:** University should go forward for the creation of online question bank which could generate questions on demand for every programme. This will to a great extent solve the issues related to the preparation of questions. Moreover, this will also help in conducting repeated examinations if necessary.
- ▶ **Examination on Demand:** Most often it is found that some students cannot attend examinations due to a variety of reasons such as health issues, for participating in national level championships or due to similar assignments assigned by the University, as a result of which an entire year is lost. In order to help such students, the facility for examination on demand can be introduced. There should be strict regulations for the conduct of such special examinations.
- ▶ **Bar-coded Answer books:** At present, false numbering of the answer books and transportation of papers from different examination centres to the University centre and back to the evaluation centres after false numbering has become a time-consuming affair. If bar-coded answer books are used, the answer books could be transported directly from the examination centres to the valuation camps.
- ▶ **Analytical Type Questions:** Currently, majority of the questions at the end semester examinations are those that test the memory of the students and they tend to answer them with assisted means. If the questions are good enough to test the analytical skill of the students the real knowledge of the student will be tested and the tendency of copying answers from other sources can be prevented.
- ▶ **Student Life Cycle Management System for the Examination:** University has taken steps to develop SLCMS to automate all activities related to the conduct of examination. This will be a total software solution for the conduct of examination. It will cover the whole process from registration to the publication of results.
- ▶ **Data Centre for Quick reference at CE's office:** A Data Centre will be started in CE's office for getting information about the number of examination centres, seating capacity of each centre, details of examinations conducted each day, current status of examination and evaluation etc. The Data Centre will provide quick access to the statistical data extremely important for planning examinations and making quick changes in case of an emergency.

Recommendations for the COVID-19 Period

■ University Departments

- ▶ **LMS:** LMS shall be used to conduct all Internal examinations during this academic year. Submission of Assignments, conduct of test papers can also be done in this platform.
- ▶ Training programmes to familiarise teachers with the LMS shall be organised without delay.
- ▶ **Online Submission of Projects and conduct of Viva:** Students shall be allowed to submit Projects in pdf format. The Projects shall be duly recommended by the guide and the Head of the Department. Plagiarism checking shall be conducted before submission, and certificate shall be attached with the Projects. Comprehensive Viva-Voce and Project Viva-Voce shall be conducted online. Evaluation of the Projects shall also be conducted online. KUCC shall be directed to develop a software for the online submission and evaluation of Projects and dissertations immediately.
- ▶ **End Semester Examination:** During the academic year 2020-21 conduct of examination will not be possible at the end of each semester in the present condition of the spread of COVID-19. So instead of waiting for the examination to be over, the classes for the ensuing semesters shall be started as per the Academic Calendar, and the date for the examination can be fixed after considering the situation in the areas under the jurisdiction of the University.
- ▶ **M Phil/Ph D/PG Dissertations:** Permission may be given to submit the soft copies of M Phil Dissertation and Ph D thesis. Hard copy need not be insisted. But one hard copy of the Dissertation shall be submitted in the Department for reference. In the case of PhD Dissertations Hard copies shall be submitted in the University and the thesis shall be sent as per the choice of the evaluator. Hard copy can be sent for evaluation if the expert insists on sending the hard copy.

■ School of Distance Education

- ▶ The School of Distance Education has been conducting examinations of two semesters jointly at the end of the year though the academic programmes are conducted semester wise. This practice of conducting the examination for two semesters as one will be continued.
- ▶ All internal examinations must be done through LMS. This will ensure the smooth conduct of the internal assessment.
- ▶ All assignments and projects must be submitted in pdf format. This will be beneficial for the students and the teachers as the management of the paper clutter is a real headache for the administration. Moreover, this will enhance our journey towards the environment friendly concept of paperless office. Comprehensive Viva-Voce and Project Viva-Voce must be conducted online.

■ Affiliated Colleges

- ▶ **Examinations in the Academic year 2020-21:** Considering the spread of COVID-19 the examinations for the different semesters shall be rearranged based on the condition of the spread of COVID-19. However the classes for each semester shall be conducted as per the Academic Calendar.

- ▶ The question papers must be modified in such a way that the number of choices in each section of the question paper will be enhanced keeping the format intact. This will be a temporary arrangement for the year 2020-21.
- ▶ Provision for online submission of projects must be provided.
- ▶ Viva-Voce examinations must also be done online.
- ▶ Since the conduct of practical examination demands the physical presence of the candidate it can be conducted in small batches following the protocols of the Department of Health.
- ▶ The online mode of question paper transmission to colleges must be followed for the UG programmes. In the first phase the same will be implemented for the CBCSS (CR) and CBCSS BSc.
- ▶ For the effective management of printing of question papers all colleges must procure 2 to 3 high speed printers urgently.
- ▶ All Pre-Examination Board and Pass Board meetings must be conducted using U o K Meet.
- ▶ College Principals must report the progress of academic activities including conduct of online classes, practical classes and examination to the DCDC at regular intervals.
- ▶ For the timely completion of the evaluation process, valuation centres must be started in the adjacent 12 colleges in the jurisdiction of the University for the convenience of the evaluators.

Recommendation for the PostCOVID-19 Period

■ University Departments

- ▶ **Online Examination in University Departments:** The conduct of examination needs to be revamped to suit all the emergency situations. Students should be given the opportunity to write the examinations on demand if they fail to attend the examinations on stipulated date due to valid reasons. Online examination will be introduced in the University Departments from 2020-21 academic year onwards. The system prevalent in the Manipal Institute of Technology can be adopted and software for the same will be developed by KUCC. For the successful implementation of the same, Tablet must be distributed to all the students who join the programme. They can complete all the academic activities including the submission of assignments and writing the end semester examinations using this Tablet. This will also help the students in enhancing learning through technology and will create a marked difference in their academic output.
- ▶ The practice of on-line submission of projects must continue.
- ▶ Provision for joining Viva-Voce online must be retained for those who could not travel or otherwise held up due to valid reasons.

■ School of Distance Education

- ▶ The possibility of conducting online examination for the students of SDE can be considered since students are from different regions. This will also help in enhancing the enrolment to various programmes.

- ▶ Provision for joining Viva-Voce online must be retained for those who could not travel or otherwise held up due to valid reasons.
- ▶ There must be fixed centres for examination. Students will be informed of the examination centre well in advance.
- ▶ Instead of conducting examination on working days the possibility of conducting examination on holidays (Saturdays and Sundays) can be explored.
- ▶ Distribution of question papers must be made online. The QP will be sent to the examination centre half an hour before the start of examination.

■ **Affiliated Colleges**

- ▶ Question Paper for the UG programmes must also be sent online on a phased manner introducing the system at the beginning for the Career Related Programmes and BSc Programmes. The feasibility of the conduct of on-line examination in future must also be explored.
- ▶ The practice of on-line submission of projects can continue.
- ▶ Members of the Examination Boards must be allowed to join online for the meeting in future as well.
- ▶ Provision for joining Viva-Voce online must be retained for those who could not travel or otherwise held up due to valid reasons.

VIII. Research & Extension

Research is the most important academic activity of a University. University of Kerala has initiated several steps to augment research activities in the University Departments recently. Research council is one such initiative. A Research Directorate and a Research Portal to automate all the activities related to research would become significant.

Promote Research in Emerging Areas: Research in emerging areas and topics of contemporary relevance must be promoted. It will be good if departments develop linkages with the industries. Botany department can collaborate with Pharmaceutical companies to develop new herbal products, identify bio-active molecules with anti-viral properties and use of tissue culture facility for propagation of rare plants and extinct variety of plants. Similarly, studies on disaster management, issues of the coastal communities, Dalit and Adivasi communities and their displacement are extremely relevant in the present context of Kerala. Studies on similar areas should also be promoted. Every department must conduct brain storming sessions with the help of experts from outside to identify broad areas of research that are socially relevant and meaningful. This will help in streamlining research and in developing new projects in relevant areas. Chairs sponsored by Government/Academic organizations/Private enterprises working in the field of research, must be instituted in the departments to take up challenging industry relevant research programmes. IPR issues must be sorted out if the MoU is to be signed.

Recommendations for the COVID-19 period

- ▶ The process of registration for PhD for the previous session has not begun yet due to the impasse created by COVID-19. As the presentations of synopsis and doctoral committees

could not be conducted, the possibility of conducting the synopsis presentation sessions and the doctoral committees in the online platforms must be considered. The processing of the pending applications for registration will be started without delay.

- ▶ University Departments must actively participate in the research work on the impact of COVID-19. Apart from the departments of Science, the department of Social Science could also contribute in this area.
- ▶ Libraries and Laboratories in the approved research centres, except those in the containment zones, can be open for continuing the research activities strictly adhering to the restrictions of the health department.

Recommendations for the postCOVID-19 period

- ▶ **Research Director & Directorate:** The role of Research Director should be properly defined and clear guidelines must be prepared for the functioning of the Research Directorate. An expert committee consisting of senior professors and at least one Research Director from a reputed University must be constituted to study the matter and to prepare guidelines. Apart from research leading to Ph D, start-ups, industrial liaisoning, research projects can also be brought under the control of Research Director. The Research Director must be a special invitee to the meetings of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research. Research Directorate must be established at Kariavattom Campus. The distribution of Research Fellowships must also be brought under the Research Directorate. All sections that come under the Directorate shall also function at Kariavattom.
- ▶ **Research Council:** Research Council was formed as a joint initiative where research agencies and Institutions functioning in the jurisdiction of the University would tie up with the University of Kerala for mutually beneficial research projects and on sharing of resources. The Objective is to make research more application oriented and outcome based along with making it socially relevant. We have formulated a research Policy in this regard and the same is being reviewed in the light of the reconstituted Research Council. The activities of the Research Council need be brought under clear guidelines.
- ▶ **Research Portal:** Research Portal must be updated to automate all processes connected with research from enrolment to the award of degree. The process for developing software has already been started. This will help the researchers to get updated automatically the various stages of progress of their research and will avoid unnecessary impediments and delay in processing.
- ▶ **Innovation and Research:** University of Kerala has initiated policies with specific interventions for research, innovation and start-ups. Besides, funding for Patent filing and Support for intellectual property has been taken up in the form of Research Awards and Grant for High end Publications.
- ▶ **Kerala University Technology and Business Start Up Centre (KUTBSC):** Startups are usually small and initially financed and operated by a handful of founders or one individual. In the early stages, startup companies' expenses tend to exceed their

revenues as they work on developing, testing and marketing their ideas. University of Kerala encourages start-ups in their formation and functioning in the campus with sharing of university expertise and resources for innovation and idea generation, working in association with KSUM, along with that University has MoUs with other institutions for new start-ups and encouragement interventions for deeper involvement. Proper infrastructure facilities will be provided for the Incubation Centre. Apart from supporting startups University should take a stake in those start-ups from the campus. This will help the University to generate funds when these companies grow big. Some of the world's greatest companies like Google and Lenovo were born in the campuses. The entrepreneurial spirit at the university level is willing and eager: nearly 90 percent of young people believe that entrepreneurship education is important. With the advent of the internet, free access to resources, and lowered barriers to the entry into the world of business, students can start companies with minimal capital. Special emphasis must be given for promoting startups in the campus and see that at least few more startups come into reality in the near future. Steps must also be taken to nurse the existing startups to realize the goal and explore the possibility of making the expenditure incurred by the University into equal number of shares in the startup so that University can get its due share in future, once the company becomes a profit making one.

- ▶ **University Consultancy Cell:** University of Kerala has a unique Consultancy Cell and a policy on Consultancy where linkages with the industries and other institutes are established through expertise and services. The revenue so generated is shared in a triangular mode among the Principal Investigator, the Department/Centre and the University. Each Department will have a unit of the Consultancy Cell and a coordinator in charge of it.
- ▶ **Centre for Academic and Industrial Collaboration (C-AIC):** Centre for Academic and Industrial Collaboration provides greater collaboration and connect with the industries. The specific objectives are, to ensure summer internship and live projects for students pursuing Master's Programme and for M Phil Programme, draw inputs for curriculum design and delivery under the OBE mode and support skill enhancement initiatives through bridging skill gaps and similar support services. The possibilities of collaborative research must be explored. The city of Thiruvananthapuram houses several research institutions of national and international importance such as VSSC, Tropical and Botanical Garden, IIST, Centre for Development Studies, Sree Chithra Institute of Medical Sciences GIFT, CTCRI etc. University should use this opportunity to do quality research in collaboration with the scientists and scholars working in such institutions.
- ▶ **Prioritisation of Research Areas:** Research work in each department must be prioritised based on current demands. The departments must assign areas of study that are of great significance to the teachers and promote research in those areas. Departments must develop linkages with other research institutions and industries to develop quality research in socially useful areas and to convert the findings into products if possible. Departments should conduct brainstorming sessions for identifying potential areas for research.
- ▶ **Institutional Ethics committee:** Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) is the committee formed of a group of people who go through the research protocol/proposal

and state whether or not it is ethically acceptable. The intervention of IEC is essential for research that involves clinical trials on human beings. So, the establishment of separate committees are needed for dealing with divergent groups and fields like animals, plants, humans and bio-safety. So, there should be Animal Ethics committee, Human Ethics committee and Bio-safety Committee to verify and regulate research in these areas. All research proposals that involve clinical trials must be permitted only with the consent of the Ethics Committees.

- ▶ **Centres for Area Study:** There are more than 60 centres for area studies and research in the university. While some of the centres are active with productive research work other centres are rather dormant and less productive in terms of research output. A review of the activities and contributions of the Centres must be conducted immediately to pick and choose the active centres. An academic audit on the functioning of these centres must be conducted. The inactive centres can be either merged with other centres or withdrawn. Revamping and strengthening of Inter-University Centres with outreach programmes, training, knowledge dissemination and translational research must be considered. Industry linkages, external funding and programme mode research must be supported. The Centres must also address the contemporary issues of the State by seeking funds from external agencies on a real time mode. For administrative convenience, each centre must be attached to the department concerned and all communications must be routed through the Head of the Department. Moreover, advisory committees must be constituted for monitoring and managing the centres. The advisory committee should meet once in every six months.
- ▶ **Community Lab:** Community lab can be used to transform ideas developed in the laboratories to products. Irrespective of researchers whether they are retired or not, their services can be used in this laboratory. Selected researchers who have completed PhD research programme must be given an opportunity to work in the community laboratory for transforming their findings to products. In all these cases, suitable fellowships with the idea of retaining talented personalities in the University for making the mission success should be adopted by the appropriate authorities from time to time.
- ▶ **Socially Useful Research on Microbial Science:** In the context of COVID-19, research in microbiology and microbial science must be promoted in the Department of Biotechnology.
- ▶ **Project Management & Facilitation Centre:** The preparation of standard project proposals and the presentation of the proposal in a convincing style need proper training. Project Management & Facilitation centre must be instituted in the University to give proper guidelines and training to teachers and researchers in developing good projects and vetting projects before submission. This centre will coordinate all activities related to external project management. Vetting of the projects before submission, fund management, facilitating product development and IPR and all other coordination and requirement for making quality and meaningful research management in the University can be facilitated by the Centre. The PMFC should also facilitate inter-institutional interactions and multidisciplinary programmes. The centre can be brought under the Director of Planning & Development.

- ▶ **Single window system for projects:** Single window system must be introduced for processing research proposals.
- ▶ **Project Challenge:** Research is the central academic activity of the University departments. Fund Generation and idea inception are necessary for further expansion of the University. Externally funded projects add to our research output and helps in the inflow of money. As of now we have 200 teachers in our University. Project challenge will be a new strategy to persuade our teachers to apply for projects. We propose that it should be made mandatory that all teachers in the University Departments must make it a point to apply for project funding. University should provide proper training in the preparation of project proposals and the presentation of the projects. The point is that every teacher should have at least one project running. If adopted, this strategy will augment research activities, high impact publications, attract funds and will provide support in purchasing equipment and books in the University Departments. Project challenge must be introduced from 2020-21 academic year.
- ▶ **Revamping Research:** The process of registration for research must be reoriented in a more creative way for the future.
 1. Most of the researchers do not possess enough background knowledge on the area of research at the time of registration. This leads to various problems in their research work.
 2. The researcher must spend one year for background study with the support of the research guide.
 3. The researcher can identify and zero down to a topic at the end of one year.
 4. This will help the researchers to study the pros and cons and work and rework on the topic before the formal registration.
- ▶ **Pre-Doctoral Training at CLIF:** Research is an activity that demands high level technical skill and knowledge. At present the research scholars were not given formal training in the research methodology, statistical tools, bibliometric analysis etc. It will be good if they undergo a training programme in the beginning of their research career, immediately after registration. Two months pre-doctoral mandatory training programme must be given for the research scholars. It can be held during April-May and October-November every year for the candidates admitted to PhD programme in the two sessions. Ninety percentage attendance and a pass requirement in this programme are essential for the candidates to appear for the Course Work examination. The training must be held separately for Science and Humanities. The supervision of this programme will be vested with Deans Council. The programmes can be held in CLIF and the CLIF Director can be the programme coordinator. A tuition fee (revisable) of Rs 3000 is recommended for the conduct of the programme. The services of University faculty and engineering staff can be used for this purpose. A syllabus for the programme for the two streams should be made and approved by the Deans Council every year with necessary modifications. The syllabus should include components such as research ethics, writing skills, how to read and write a research paper, diagnostic tools available in the campus, error analysis, bibliometric analysis, soft-ware packages and statistical tools. The period

spent by the research scholars should be considered as PhD programme period and they will be eligible for fellowship during this period. All candidates registered for PhD programme including full-time & part-time should undergo this training programme.

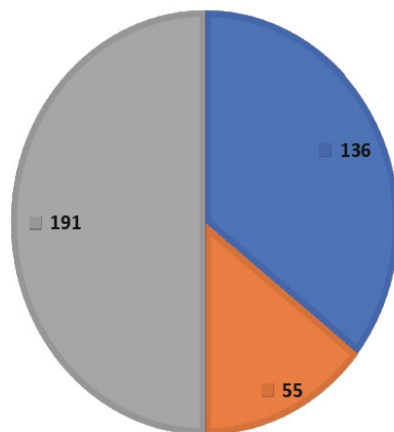
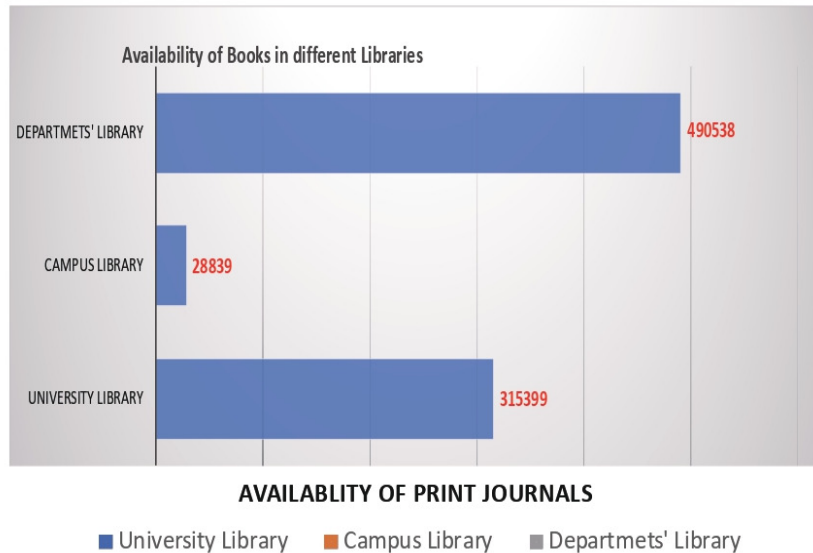
- ▶ **Research cum Teacher Associateship:** In order to promote quality research and to provide human resource support to teachers who are actively involved in research a Research cum Teacher Associateship should be allowed to candidates who completes PG/MPhil in the relevant discipline to assist those Professors/Associate Professors who have published more than 50 articles (for Science/Applied Science) and 30 articles (for Arts/Social Science/Oriental Studies), in UGC approved journals and produced ten or more Ph Ds. The appointment will be for a period of two years. After two years, extension for one more year can be given. Further extension need not be allowed. The Research cum Teacher Associate must be given a fixed amount of Rs.25000/- in the first year and Rs. 27000/- in the second year.
- ▶ **Eminent Teacher Fellowships:** Eminent Teacher Fellowships must be instituted for retired teachers with outstanding contribution in research. Teachers who have outstanding contribution in the field of research should be given extension on a fixed fellowship for three years. Apart from continuing their research work their services should be used in mentoring young researchers in the department. This will help the continuance of the research work done by these teachers.
- ▶ **Online Open Defence & Pre-submission Seminars:** Though Open Defence in the online mode was introduced in view of the restrictions related to the spread of COVID-19, it has proved to be a fruitful method as it has attracted experts and scholars from different parts of the country and even from abroad. Though there are three evaluators for the thesis, only one of them, the Chairman alone, is supposed to attend the Open Defence. But in the online mode all three evaluators can attend the Open Defence. Moreover, scholars from different universities can attend an Open Defence conducted in the online mode and offer their comments on the thesis. This is more effective in the case of Pre-submission as the candidate can incorporate the suggestions of experts in the thesis before the final submission. The provision for Online participation of experts must be retained even after the restrictions related to COVID-19 is withdrawn.
- ▶ **Plagiarism Checking:** Plagiarism checking must be brought under a common centre. University Library can be entrusted with this duty. The possibility of using new software for plagiarism check must be considered.
- ▶ **Co-guideship:** Co-guideship must be considered in addition to the allotted number of scholars. A research supervisor can be allowed to act as co-guide to at least three candidates at a time.
- ▶ **Research Chairs:** Research Chairs must be instituted with the financial support from Government agencies, Trusts, eminent Alumnus, private academic organisations for research work on specific areas. The proposals for establishing chairs must be scrutinised by IQAC and approved by the University Syndicate.
- ▶ **University Library as Research Centre:** As per the UGC norms the Central/State laboratories can function as research centre apart from the teaching and research

departments. The University library has huge potential, with 3,15,355 books, 2500 e-books and 9950 e-journals to its credit, to function as a research centre. So, the clause that allows Central/State laboratories will be extended to Central/State libraries as well. As the proposal involves clarifications from experts the same is submitted for further discussion in relevant bodies.

- ▶ **Meeting with Industries & Research Institutions to Augment Research:** University must convene meetings with representatives of industries and research institutions to explore the possibilities of collaboration and cooperation. This will further strengthen the research output of the University and will open up new avenues for the students and researchers for future career. Thiruvananthapuram has developed into an IT Hub and it has a considerable number of research institutions in various fields. The potential of these institutions must be utilised for the benefit of our University and our students.
- ▶ **Working Schedule of Laboratories:** At present the laboratories in various departments are open from 10 am to 5 pm. This time schedule is a hindrance to the development of research. Though the present time schedule is satisfactory with a laboratory that is used for teaching purpose, a research laboratory demands activities throughout day and night. To begin with, the time of the laboratories can be scheduled from 8 am to 8 pm. The same will be extended to 24 hours if there is demand.
- ▶ **Consultancy Services:** Each department must start consultancy service related to the field of study as there is immense scope for taking up consultancy services to support the projects of governmental and non-governmental organisations. While, Botany/ Biotechnology Departments can support tissue culture initiatives of local bodies and private nurseries, Archaeology Department can help in setting up museums. Language departments can take up translation work, language training, training in the preparation of reports etc. This will also develop extension activities of the University Departments. One teacher from each Department will be given charge to coordinate the activities related to the consultancy services.

VIII. Library Resources

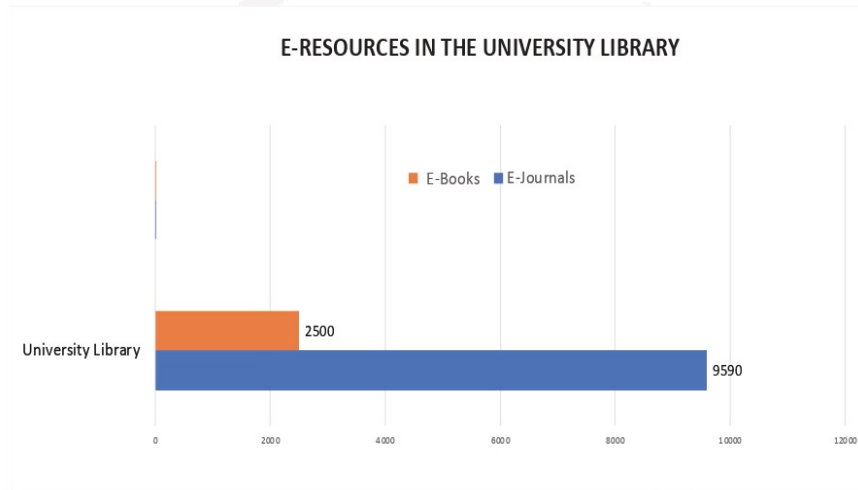
In most Universities, the library building is placed at the centre of the campus. This centrality of the library denotes the significance that has been attached to it in an academic ecosystem. Most often, we consider the library as a place where books are borrowed and returned. It is imagined as a place where books are kept in perfect order, a place where we can 'smell knowledge.' But this idea of a traditional library is slowly changing. With the digitalisation of books and journals and the emergence of e-books and online journals, library has upgraded itself in to a virtual entity. In the near future it may be viewed as a repository of digital resources that could be visited from anywhere at any time. This is a revolutionary change, more so, if it is opened up to the public with limited restrictions. All libraries irrespective of their affiliation to Universities or institutes must be open for students, researchers and teachers and even to the public at large. If it happens it will be hailed as a revolution in the dissemination of information and to a great extent knowledge itself. Thus, the democratic distribution of knowledge could be materialised with the support of technology.



Recommendations for the COVID-19 period

Access to digital Resources: At present Kerala University has many electronic resources subscribed through IP which can be accessed at the campus only. Many libraries have the most common method of off-campus access through the VPN and proxy server options. In addition to this, off-campus access can be provided through Shibboleth Access mechanism available through the INFED initiative of INFLIBNET. Kerala University Library can use any of the above methods preferably through Shibboleth for providing remote access to its electronic resources. The Shibboleth System is a standard based, open source software package that facilitates authentication of authorised users using organization's internal identity and access management system.

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Recommendations for the PostCOVID-19 Period

- ▶ **Library Networking:** We have a central library at Palayam, a reference library at Kariavattom and various department libraries at Palayam campus and Kariavattom campus. Networking of the catalogues of all these libraries will be of great importance for researchers, students and teachers, as they could identify and locate the book of their choice without visiting these libraries. This has been achieved through a multi lingual, integrated, web enabled database with complete automation of in-house services which comply with all the international standards using KOHA, an integrated open source software. Currently, more than 85% of the work related to this is complete. The libraries of the Colleges affiliated to the University, the regional centres of the University, and self-financing institutions of the University will also be integrated. The possibility of including all University Libraries in Kerala under one network may be explored.
- ▶ **Starting Forecasting and Marketing of Information Division:** A forecasting and marketing of Information Division must be formed under an Honorary Director, a working LIS professional with sufficient professional qualification and skill in using various tools in Library and Information Science.
- ▶ *Activities involved*
- ▶ **Research Support Service-** E.g. Information regarding grants/funding, strategic advice, applications, services to each and every phase of the research process, including the formation of new research ideas, research plans etc.
- ▶ **Academic writing and Research Ethics-** Administer Plagiarism checking- management and maintenance of tools and techniques.
- ▶ **E-Resources information** – Resources / Web pages (both Open Access and Commercial) with exclusive information for researchers. E.g. on dedicated resources/ services Courses/ Training programmes- E.g. on Research methodology or Research oriented tools- Citation styles, Reference management, Information Literacy, Technical writing, Research Productivity (Impact Factor, H-Index), Research Data management, Research Ethics, Writing tools, E-Learning platforms

- ▶ **Analyses and Bibliometric Services-** Making use of Web of Science and Scopus databases. E.g. bibliometric services, research output metrics, author metrics, journal metrics and Altmetrics., data analytics, Expert database, Citation Network Analysis.
- ▶ **Publication Services-** E.g. hosting of journals, procedure for getting ISSN for Journals, UGC-CARE List, of Journals in different subjects, research evaluation/registration and copyright.
- ▶ **Research Outreach** - E.g. expert databases, publication repository, Research implementation, the publication of research findings and project evaluation.
- ▶ **Consultancy Services-** Research topics consultation, RDM consultation, patent application consultation and intellectual property consultation on scholarly publishing and copyright.
- ▶ **Documentation and Marketing** - Prepare bibliographies, indexes and other information products based on demand and in anticipation. Promote and market those products through print, electronic or social media.
- ▶ **Researcher's Digital Interface (RDI):** Libraries are the centres of research. But the role of libraries and librarians are undergoing transformation in a hurried pace. From a manager of books, the role of librarians has changed to that of information manager. In the present context a librarian should be able to guide the researchers towards sources of relevant information for making research easy. Moreover, there should be provision for constant interaction between researchers and teachers and among researchers. For this, a digital alternative must be provided. It can be done by providing an Interactive Digital Interface for Researchers.
- ▶ **Subscriptions of Online Journals:** The subscription rate of online journals has mounted up. Since MHRD has withdrawn their financial aid for subscription, University will request KSHEC to function as a common agency for subscribing the journal and for sharing the same with Universities within Kerala.
- ▶ **Appointment of University Librarian:** The post of University Librarian remains vacant for the past 30 years. The absence of a full-fledged University Librarian has affected the growth and development of the University Library. Steps must be taken to appoint a University librarian.
- ▶ **Appointment of System Administrator at University Library:** University Library has a good collection of digital resources. It is being added to every year. A system administrator is extremely essential to manage the digital resources in the University Library.

IX. New Departments/Academic Programmes

Knowledge explosion has created innumerable fresh areas of enquiry--New Departments in developing areas and new academic programmes based on relevant branches of knowledge are the need of the contemporary period.

Recommendations for University Departments

- ▶ **New Departments & International Centres:** The introduction of four new departments, four international centres and two Interdisciplinary departments are proposed here. Feasibility study and survey must be conducted before starting the new programmes.
- ▶ **Department of Renewable Energy:** The present condition of the world demands fresh sources of energy as the traditional sources of energy are fast depleting. It is in this context that the renewable energy projects become significant. Energy produced from sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves and geothermal heat is from renewable sources and so the fear of total exhaustion does not exist. The department of Green Energy aims at studies and research in this area which is most relevant to the contemporary world. India is a fast-growing economy and its prime agenda are the transformation of increasing energy demand, improving its efficiency, increased use of renewable energy sources for power and transportation. As India targets to achieve a green energy capacity of 500 GW by 2022, University of Kerala can also effectively take part in the mission through the proposed Department of Renewable Energy. The main objective of the proposed department is to play a catalytic role to move towards the set goal of the National Energy Policy by promoting clean energy research. University of Kerala has already proved its potential in energy research with good publication records in the fields of materials and methods for clean energy research. To develop studies and research on alternate sources of energy, programme in **MSc in Renewable Energy & Ph D** will be offered.
- ▶ **Institute of Design:** Designing is an area of study that encompasses multitude of domains from small products to big cities and from a web page to animation films. So, the study of design has great scope for the future and is sure to create openings in the public and private sector. Students with creative minds could explore new heights if they are trained in this art. It is true that experts in this area is very rare and investment for setting up facilities are very high. But considering the fact that many students aspire to study design and that no such institution exists in Kerala apart from NIFT, Kannur offering programmes in this area, University of Kerala proposes to begin an institute. It can be materialised from the academic year 2021

Programme: Master of Designs, M Des. & Ph D

- ▶ **Department of Space Sciences:** The proposed Department of Space Sciences can initiate studies in Space Physics, Astrophysics, Cosmology, Space materials and climate change. The proximity to prime institutions in this area of study like VSSC and IIST in Trivandrum will help this department to get human resource support and research assistance in abundance provided an MoU is entered into with these institutions. The major objectives of the new Department of Space Sciences: Space activities having a positive impact today (such as Earth observation for weather and climate); Space activities that could have a positive impact in the next 5 to 20 years (such as communications satellite

mega constellations i.e., Satellites that can beam a broadband connection to internet terminals); Space activities that could have a positive impact in the more distant future (such as widespread space manufacturing and industrialization). The space era, initiated in 1957 with the launch of Sputnik-1, created in less than 50 years a genuine revolution in knowledge and our understanding of the Universe and of our own Solar System, which has no precedent in the history of the development of science. This is a clear illustration that the use of new technologies and techniques in astronomy has contributed to major scientific progress. Direct benefits of space exploration include an increase in the knowledge about space, that is out there about space and the discovery of distant planets and galaxies; it also gives us insight into the beginnings of our universe. Thiruvananthapuram Observatory can be made one of the laboratories of the Department, which has already equipped with sophisticated telescopes. *Programme offered, MSc Physics (Space Physics) & PhD*

- ▶ **Department of Forensic Science & Criminology:** This Department can function in collaboration with the Kerala Police Academy. The programme offered in this department will be a dual degree that will explore the nature of crime and the science behind it. The learners can explore what's behind criminal behaviour, learn valuable courtroom skills and get hands-on experience examining evidence in simulated crime scenes. Criminology is the study of crime and the motivations behind criminal behaviour. Forensic science is an applied science concerned with the law and legal proceedings and can include specialist areas such as crime scene investigation, forensic medicine and lab sciences. The Department will help in supplying experts who could support the police force in criminal investigation. *Programme: MSc Forensic Science & PhD*
- ▶ **International Centre for Latin American Studies:** The proposed International Centre for Latin American Studies emphasizes the study of the specific features of individual countries and a broad comparative coverage of major trends such as authoritarianism and democracy, the economic cycle, the evolution of the Left and the Right, revolutionary movements and the effect of neo-liberal economic models. The study of Latin American people, their culture and politics is extremely relevant in the context of Kerala as there is an identifiable similarity between the lived experiences, culture and politics in Latin American countries and Kerala. So, studies on Latin America will open up a new area of study before our students and researchers. The international Centre for Latin American Studies will help in developing collaborative research with Universities and research institutions in Latin American countries. *Programme: PG Diploma in Latin American Studies*
- ▶ **International Centre for Migration Studies:** Migration has been one of the most dynamic factors in the development experience of Kerala since its formation in 1956. Millions of Keralites migrate to foreign countries as well as to other parts of India. This is partly due to the demand for skilled and educated people, which Kerala could contribute due to its high literacy rate. With the opening up of the Gulf economies to foreign workforces in the 1970s, there was a continuous out flow of Keralites to Gulf countries. International migration and NRI remittances could bring about a lot of changes in Kerala's economy and society. The last two decades witnesses an unprecedented inflow of unskilled workers to Kerala from long distant states like West Bengal, UP and Bihar. This type of internal

migration also has far reaching implications on every sphere of activity within the state. Some critical questions emerge in the wake of COVID -19 crisis. What is the future of emigration to and return emigration from the Gulf? Can we depend on internal migrants from North Eastern states anymore? How Kerala's economy and society can cope with these challenges? In this context, Kerala University is aiming to set up an International Centre for Migration Studies to focus on various issues related to international as well as internal migration. The possibility of merging Centre for Diaspora Studies with the Migration Studies must be explored to study the various dimensions of migration of Keralites to different parts of the world and migration from other parts of India to Kerala and issues of rehabilitation. Programme: **PG Diploma in Migration Studies.**

■ **Interdisciplinary Departments**

- ▶ Interdisciplinary Department is to promote interdisciplinary programmes shared by teachers of different departments. It will be following a cafeteria system in which teachers from various departments collaborate to offer one Programme. Students who join the programmes will have to select courses and credits from different teachers belonging to different departments.
- ▶ **Interdisciplinary Department of Disaster Management:** Disaster Management is another key area of study that need attention, especially in the context of the floods. The programme shall be designed as an interdisciplinary programme in the sense that the courses will be shared by different departments. Department of Environmental Science, Geology, Botany, Zoology, Philosophy and Psychology can collaborate in offering programmes on disaster management. Programme: **MSc Climate Change and Disaster Management.**
- ▶ **Interdisciplinary Department of Exclusion and Inequality Studies:** The Department of Exclusion and Inequality Studies (Interdisciplinary), aims to create focused academic studies on multiple exclusions and rising inequalities in the age of neoliberal market and transnational capital. This would be a unique department in the country, the first of its kind, which would focus on combining empirical research with building engaged theoretical frameworks that would value fields of scholarship committed to the study of peoples and groups marginalized from society. Thus, teaching and learning would be more diversity oriented, built on ethics and social responsibility, as also academic integrity and commitment to restorative justice. The PG and PhD programmes of the department would aim to focus on topics and areas with curriculum that focuses on social justice, modes by which fellow humans are oppressed and excluded, minorities and migrant populations, the socially marginalized and underprivileged, with a thrust on deconstructing power and privilege. The focus would also be on developing modules that generate critical thinking and dialogues, aimed to look at the intersectionality of identity and various axes of power based on caste, class, race, gender and sexuality. Programmes: **MA in Women's Studies, MA in Exclusion and Inequality Studies.**
- ▶ **Work Group for Quantum Computing:** Today, the transistors in computers are as small as and as fast as we can make them with existing technology. So, computer innovators began to seek possible solutions at the atomic and subatomic level in a field known as quantum computing. Quantum computing is an area of computing focused on developing computer technology based on the principles of quantum theory, which

explains the behaviour of energy and material on the atomic and subatomic levels. Industry leaders are racing to develop and launch a viable quantum computer and make it commercially available. A workgroup consisting of teachers from Departments such as Physics, Mathematics, Future Studies, Optoelectronics and Chemistry must be formed to conduct research in this area.

- ▶ **The Physical Education Department:** The Physical Education Department shall be shifted to Kariavattom Campus arranging adequate infrastructure facilities and the PG programme in Physical Education, M.P. Ed shall be offered.
- ▶ **International Centre for Blue Economy** shall be started. It has great relevance in Kerala with a long coastline.
- ▶ **Centre for Community Health and Microbiology** to be started in the context of recurring pandemics, to promote research activities in this area.
- ▶ **Proposals for new programmes other than those mentioned above:**
- ▶ The recommendations of the Expert Committee appointed by the Higher Education Department to suggest new programmes is under the consideration of the University. This list is in addition to the above proposal. University should initiate immediate measures to conduct feasibility study, preparation of syllabus, approval of the same by the academic bodies concerned and also should address the issues of equivalency.

MA in Kerala Studies

MSc in Applied Aquaculture

MA Museology

MA Comparative Literature

MSc in Public Health & Community Development

MSc Physics (Space Physics)

MSc Life Sciences

M Com (International Trade)

MSc Computer Science (Artificial Intelligence)

MSc Chemistry (Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry)

M Ed Tech Educational Technology.

MA in Kerala Studies

Master of Physical Education M.P.Ed

- ▶ **PG Diploma Programmes:** The introduction of ten new PG Diploma Programmes are proposed.
 - PG Diploma in Research Ethics
 - P G Diploma in Communication Technology
 - P G Diploma in International Finance
 - P G Diploma in Content Writing
 - P G Diploma in Viral Informatics
 - P G Diploma in Cyber law
 - P G Diploma in Russian for Communication
 - P G Diploma in German for Communication

P G Diploma in Professional Translation

P G Diploma in Water Resource Management.

- ▶ **Short term training programmes at CLIF:** Start short term training programmes at CLIF shall be started to familiarise students with various equipment in CLIF.
- ▶ **Recommendations for Affiliated Colleges:** University should conduct feasibility study and should get the approval of all academic bodies before launching the new programmes. Most often problems of equivalence occur in the case of double main and triple main programmes. This issue must also be addressed by the University. The Expert Committee appointed by the Department of Higher Education, Government of Kerala has recommended several new programmes for the Universities and Colleges. Apart from those referred in the list and the PG Programmes mentioned above the affiliated colleges can select UG programmes from the proposal given below:

BA (Economics, Mathematics, Statistics)

BSc (Physics, Mathematics & Machine Intelligence)

BCom (Blue Economy)

BSc Data Analytics

BCom (Accounts, Data Science & GST)

BCom (International Trade)

BSc Industrial Chemistry

BSc Applied Life sciences with Agro-Chemicals & Pest Management

BA Archaeology and Museology

BSc Geology & Digital Surveying

BSc Triple Main Aquatic Biology/Fisheries and Aquaculture/Zoology

BSc. Botany (Botany and Ayurvedic Pharmacy)

BSc Botany (Botany and Zoology with Medical Laboratory technology) (Vocational)

BSc. Zoology & Infectious Diseases Epidemiology (Vocational)

B Voc. Pharmaceutical Chemistry

BSc Environmental Science

BA Anthropology

BA Translation & Linguistics

BA Economics, Mathematics & Journalism

X. Student Support Services

Students must be placed at the center of any discussion on educational reform. Most of the recommendations made under various subheads consider the welfare of the students as primary objective. University of Kerala gives top priority to student support services. University fellowship to all research scholars, insurance scheme for students, merit awards and endowment awards are some of the noteworthy initiatives of the University. Student Services need to be upgraded considerably. An interactive window in the University website for submitting grievances will be introduced. All information related to syllabus, examination, academic calendar, fee for all services and answers to frequently asked questions will be

uploaded to the website in a more systematic and easily accessible manner. The Department of Student Services should provide greater linkages with society by utilizing the services provided by various departments and centres of the University.

- ▶ **Dean of Student Affairs:** To look after the grievances of students and to coordinate the academic and cultural activities of students a senior Professor must be appointed as Dean of Student Affairs. At present the DSS is looking after the affairs of the University Union. But the Dean of Student Affairs will coordinate the redress of grievances, extracurricular activities of the students studying in the University Departments and will supervise the student support services within the University.
- ▶ **Enhance Facilities of Study Centres at Alappuzha & Kollam:** The Study Centres at Alappuzha and Kollam must be revamped arranging better facilities for students. Reading rooms, internet facility and information and collection counter will be arranged. Similar Centre will be established at Pandalam.
- ▶ **Timely Completion of Hearing:** Currently, students who have been identified as being engaged in malpractice have to wait for at least six months for hearing. This causes serious mental trouble and angst among students especially when they have not committed serious offences knowingly. It is a fact that some of the students were found not guilty by the committee and the delay in processing the cases put them in serious mental and physical agony. Considering all these issues steps must be taken to simplify the procedure and to avoid delay in taking decision on cases.

XI. Societal Obligation

■ General Observations

University has recently initiated several steps to develop interaction with the society. University of Kerala will strengthen its societal connect through village adoption and school adoption.

Recommendations

- ▶ **The Harithalayam Project** is one such mega project aimed at inculcating awareness among students on farming. Another important objective of this initiative is to contribute towards achieving food security in the state of Kerala. The practice of community farming (*Harithalayam*) and student fellowship for Agri-services should be sustainably developed.
- ▶ **Community Laboratory:** Community Laboratory is another important initiative which aims at the production of socially useful products and to convert research findings into useful goods. Setting up of a Community Laboratory for need based societal applications through development of socially useful products and services must be implemented.
- ▶ **Community Radio** Service must be developed for imparting educational programmes. The possibility of starting internet radio which relays programmes on divergent topics, talks by eminent scholars and discussions on topics of research must be explored.

XII. Prestigious Institutions

■ Central laboratory for Instrumentation & Facilitation (CLIF)

- ▶ CLIF has great potential in augmenting research activities in the University. The administration and activities of CLIF needed to be reoriented so as to ensure optimum use of its potential. There should be proper mechanism to allow scientists, teachers, students and researchers from various research institutions and colleges to use the equipment and to develop research proposals and scientific papers utilising the facilities at CLIF. So, there must be change in the functioning of CLIF.

Recommendations:

- ▶ A full time Director shall be appointed
- ▶ Working time shall be increased to start at 8 am and to close at 8 pm.

■ ORI & Manuscript Library

The Manuscript Library is a treasure house of knowledge that preserves the past for the present. The 'wondrous charm of antiquity' can be experienced while moving along the racks in the library. One of the oldest and biggest manuscript libraries in India, Oriental Research Institute and Manuscript Library was started way back in 1908 by the then King of Travancore, Sree Moolam Thirunal, to collect, preserve and edit the manuscripts. The first Curator of this Library was none other than Dr. T. Ganapathy Sasthrikal, a doyen in the field of ancient language and literature. The library has an excellent collection of ancient manuscripts which are extremely valuable and very rare. The preservation of the valuable collections poses manifold challenges as the leaves of the manuscripts are likely to be damaged.

Recommendations:

- ▶ Measures must be taken to preserve and digitize the ancient manuscripts and also to copy and edit them for publication.
- ▶ ORI should offer short term programmes on Manuscript Palaeography, Indology etc.
- ▶ Possibility of starting on-line programmes on Manuscriptology must be explored.

■ The Department of Malayalam Lexicon

- ▶ The "conservation and promotion of Kerala Art and Culture" was one of the three objectives of the University of Travancore. The Department of Malayalam Lexicon was started with the purpose of providing solid foundation for the Malayalam language by publishing a Lexicon with detailed analysis of each word exploring all its nuances. Started in 1953 under the leadership of Dr. Sooranadu Kunjan Pillai, Malayalam Lexicon showed great promise. It is different from other dictionaries in many ways. The Lexicon provides all possible interpretations of a word, various shades of meanings, its proverbs, homonyms, cognates, and divergent forms, scientific names of plants and animals, with detailed examples and illustrations. Nine volumes have been completed so far, taking

almost 67 years, to cover Malayalam words beginning with അ to ള. Four more volumes are yet to be published to complete the circle. Drastic changes in the functioning of the Department are required for the speedy completion of the work. The work of updating the Lexicon will have to be continued unabatedly as new words are being added to the Malayalam language with the progress of time.

Recommendations:

- ▶ Urgent measures to complete the first cycle of publication of the Malayalam Lexicon must be taken.
- ▶ The possibility of using softwares for this work must be explored.
- ▶ An expert committee must be constituted to suggest measures to modernize the Institute.

■ **Astronomical Observatory**

- ▶ Founded by Maharaja Swathi Thirunal in 1837, the Observatory is yet another institution with a long legacy. It has a history of 183 years. The infrastructure facilities in the Observatory has been improved considerably in recent years. Thiruvananthapuram Observatory stands on a hill, about 60 feet high, and 200 feet above the level of sea from which it is distant, in a straight line, about two miles. It commands an extensive and beautiful view of an undulating and finely variegated country towards north, the east, and the south-and of the sea horizon to the west. The eastern view is terminated by the Ghat Mountains. The geographical situation of the Observatory is 8-degree 30 min northern latitude and 76-degree 59 min eastern longitude. The Observatory which functions today as part of the University of Kerala commenced its operations in 1837 and is one of the oldest of its kind in modern India. Thiruvananthapuram Observatory owes its origin to the initiative and vision of Sri Swathi Thirunal, the versatile Maharaja of Travancore. Presently the facilities available include sophisticated telescopes.

Recommendations:

- ▶ The Observatory can be treated both as a historically important tourist attraction and as a laboratory for scientific exploration.
- ▶ It is recommended to utilise the tourist potential of this institution and also to make it a part of the Department of Space Sciences suggested in this report.

XIII. Modernisation of Administration & Institutions

At present, the University of Kerala is following a centralized administrative pattern in which all files will have to reach the top and back at least three times before the issuance of University order. This ladder structured administration leads to inordinate delay in decision making and implementation of the decision taken by the superior bodies. Decentralization of the administrative system and effective supervision by the middle level administrators can improve the situation to a great extent. Another grey area in which the University should intervene is the crisis in human resource distribution. As referred to at the beginning of this

report, the distribution of faculty members in the teaching departments and non-teaching staff in various sections are not as per the need or demand. University has automated several of its services, some are partial and some are total. But the number of technical staff in the form of Programmers and computer technicians is comparatively very low. In certain sections like the University Press lot of posts must be curtailed because of technology change used in printing. Proper work study of the sections must be conducted to distribute employees as per the need of the sections concerned and to redeploy the posts to ensure sufficient number of technical staff to support automation. A committee consisting of experts in this field from within as well as outside the University shall be constituted to formulate a strategy for the judicious deployment of staff and for administrative reforms. Some of the suggestions for administrative reforms are given below:

- ▶ **Amendment in the Statute:** Kerala University first statutes, ordinances and Examination Manual must be revised in tune with the changes brought about in the functioning of the University.
- ▶ **E-governance** system shall be strengthened to provide better services to the students and the general public. DDFS have been in use for the past two years. But due to lack of adequate IT infrastructure we could not implement the same in all sections.
- ▶ **Paperless Office:** In the context of the implementation of DDFS and digitisation of various services University shall aim at the establishment of the concept of paperless office. To begin with the meetings of the University Syndicate, Academic Council, University Senate, Faculties and Boards of Study shall be 'paper less'. The Agenda and Minutes of previous meetings shall be supplied online and the Syndicate members shall be given online access through iPads. In the case of Academic Council and Senate the Agenda items shall be mailed in advance and the same shall be displayed in big screens on either side of the hall. This will help in reducing the wastage of paper.
- ▶ Training in University Statutes, Ordinances, Service Rules, Examination Manual and in IT enabled functioning must be conducted for enhancing the efficiency of the employees.
- ▶ Transfer norms must be implemented in a scientific manner so that all employees will get chance to work in all the branches of Administration, Academic, Finance and Examination.
- ▶ At present work load of employees vary from section to section. So, a scientific assessment of the work load must be done and based on that redeployment of employees can be made to streamline the functioning of different branches.
- ▶ The possibility of delegation of powers to officers must be considered for decentralised functioning of the administration, and for efficiency in the implementation of projects.
- ▶ Infrastructure facilities including IT infrastructure must be augmented in the work place.
- ▶ To support and promote E-governance, IT (virtual) cadre must be formed as in the case of Government Secretariat. Employees who are well-versed in IT can be chosen for this cadre. However, this will be treated as an additional responsibility.
- ▶ Public Relations Wing must be modernised providing all sophisticated facilities to support the students and the general public.

- ▶ **Reorienting Faculties:** Currently, we have 16 faculties of which 5 do have neither departments nor colleges that conduct programmes under its purview. The colleges that teach programmes that come under the Faculty of Ayurveda & Siddha, Faculty of Dentistry, Faculty of Homeopathy and Faculty of Medicine have been affiliated to KUHAS and the colleges that conduct programmes that come under the Faculty of Engineering & Technology, except the University College of Engineering have been affiliated to the Technological University, KTU. These faculties are to be retained for some more time as the supplementary examinations for students who studied while these colleges were affiliated to University of Kerala are still continuing. The proposal for reorienting faculties is given below:
- ▶ **Renaming the Faculty of Oriental Studies:** The term 'Orient' is used to refer to the countries of East and Southeast Asia. The term, Orient is a by-product of the colonial era. It has been problematised by theorists like Edward Said who argued that 'Orient' suggests the sum total of the prejudices of the West about the East. By referring to languages like Malayalam, Hindi, Sanskrit, Arabic and Tamil as Oriental languages we are knowingly or unknowingly sharing the prejudices of the West.

Recommendations:

- ▶ Remove the name Oriental Studies and rearrange the Faculty of Oriental Studies, Faculty of Arts and the five Faculties related to Health Sciences.
 - ▶ **Faculty of Languages:** All language Departments will come under this Faculty such as Malayalam, Hindi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Hebrew & Syriac, English, German, Russian, Arabic, French & Latin.
 - ▶ **Faculty of Humanities & Culture:** Will include Philosophy, Library Science, Communication & Journalism, Linguistics & Geography.
 - ▶ **Faculty of Health Sciences:** All subjects that come under Faculty of Ayurveda, Medicine (Nursing, Pharmacy), Dentistry, Homoeopathy will be brought under the Faculty of Health Sciences.
- **Renaming Departments:**
- ▶ Oriental Research Institute and manuscript Library must be renamed as 'Institute of Indology & Manuscript Library' (IIML).
 - ▶ Institute of Management in Kerala (IMK) must be renamed as 'Department of Management Studies' (DMS).
- **Centre for Academic & Professional Training (C-APT)**
- ▶ Training is integral to professional development and upgradation. In this era of knowledge explosion and technological advancement, regular training programmes are a must for updating the knowledge and skill of our teachers. The Human Resource Development Centre is conducting various training programmes for teachers regularly. But most often HRDC could not meet on its own the huge demand for training for teaching and non-teaching staff. Teachers will have to be familiar with new areas in various disciplines and must be well equipped to teach those topics. An English teacher has to teach Film

Studies without any training in that field. This will result in the failure of the course outcomes of the curriculum. So proper training in the relevant areas is very important for teachers to improve the quality of teaching. If we develop this centre further it could be used for providing training for professionals from Government organisations, Local bodies, Private companies and voluntary organisations.

- ▶ Professional Training for Students: C-APT can provide professional training for students which will improve their employability.
- ▶ ASAP programme already initiated by the University could be routed through this centre.
- ▶ The training and refresher programmes for employees could also be implemented through this centre.
- ▶ HRDC may be asked to present a project report based on the above concept.

■ **Public Relations Division**

The nature and scope of public relations have changed in the contemporary period from publishing the usual reports to providing and upkeeping the good image of the institution before the public. This is extremely important for an educational institution because it is the image of the institution that attracts good students from different parts. So, the public relations wing needs total revamping. The University should reach out to the public as well as the students regularly. One of the strategies that could be used is to actively intervene in the social media, like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Telegram and to promote our institution through short videos about the tradition and lineage of the University, its academic environment, infrastructure facilities etc.

Recommendations:

- ▶ In-order to intervene in social media, appoint two social media managers. Qualified candidates from among University Assistants can be considered.
- ▶ Produce short videos on prestigious institutions, University Departments and prestigious projects undertaken by the University.

■ **Department of Publications**

Started in 1938, the publication division has a long pedigree of publishing highly acclaimed books including *Hortus Malabaricus*, *Chithra Ramayanam*, *Kerala Sahithya Charithramby* Mahakavi Ulloor. A prestigious department of the University, the Department of Publications is supposed to project the research output of the University to the academic world. Though the Department of Publications has to its credit several prestigious books, it needs to be revamped in modern ways incorporating the latest technology in the field of publishing.

Recommendations:

- ▶ Publish Kindle editions of well known books published by the University.
- ▶ Publish eBooks.

■ Kerala University Computer Centre (KUCC)

- ▶ The Kerala University Computer Centre has almost over half a century old existence (dating back to the use of a Czech made electromechanical computer “Arithma” in 1950s and Core- Memory based IBM-1920 computer IBMs and Indian made TDC 316 in 1970s) and, today it spearheads the University’s e-Governance initiatives. Computing support for research is no longer centralized, thanks to the advent of affordable desk-top computing power. The University’s main campus in Karyavattom is securely connected to the cyber highway with broadband connection flowing into over 2000 computers. The University web site has also evolved since 2000 to become an indispensable cyber forum that connects the university community and serves information to all stake holders. The web site offers on-line admission portal, on-line payment system and Ph. D portal and is one of the most visited sites of the state, in public domain. University also has an official email system. The University also judiciously uses technology in many ways to serve academics & governance including systems such as 24-hour digital camera surveillance, over 100 digital security features in hologram affixed degree certificates, digitization of archival records, online admission for both University teaching departments and affiliated colleges, online grievance redressal system etc. The issue of degree certificates with hologram with over 112 security features is also being managed by KUCC. But the functioning of KUCC need modifications to make it more professional and effective in view of the growing demand for IT solutions.

■ Proposal for Revamping the Workflow at KUCC

Present Status

One-man team for all the work related to the software development and deployment of most of the critical projects. The supervision of the software development and other activities is currently done by the Director only.

Defects of the System

The single level-role-hierarchy that has been followed in KUCC is not appealing and generates more work pressure to each and every employee. There is no provision for consistent monitoring of the software development activities. In the single level-role-hierarchy, the absence of the concerned programmer will affect the smooth working of the project. There may not be sufficient design and planning of the project and it may lead to the delivery of immature and incomplete software.

Solutions

This problem can be rectified with the introduction of a multilevel role hierarchy in KUCC. A new multi-level role hierarchy at KUCC must be adopted as shown in the figure that abstracts the proposal. The proposal will ensure a proper testing and evaluation of the software before launching the same in the respective division. The responsibility of the project can be distributed to different layers and it will increase the confidence level of the entire project team. The timely completion of project and deployment of error free software with proper documentation. The entire work at KUCC can be categorized into three (1) Software Development & Deployment, (2) IT infrastructure Management, (3) Office Administration.

Software Devolvement & Deployment

There are three level of roles – (a) System Manager, (b) Project Leader and (c) Contract Programmers. There will be another sub group called ‘Testing and Quality Control Wing (TQC)’ for testing and ensuring the quality of new software or modifications in the existing software. The TQC will be responsible for prepare the test cases with the help of sections concerned and test the software accordingly before the release. The preparation of documentation can also be assigned to the Testing wing. Each software devolvement project will be headed by a Senior Programmer (here named as Project Leader). All the Project leaders should report the status of their projects to System Manger. Hence the System Manger can easily coordinate the working of all projects through Project Leaders. The project leaders and system manger can properly design the work and set the millstones before the implementation. After completing the testing of the newly developed software/module, it will be handed over to System Manger for the release in consultation with the System Analyst in IT Infrastructure division.

IT Infrastructure management

This division is dedicated for the IT infrastructure (Servers, Network, Security, etc) management. The outer level works can be assigned to the technicians and they have to report their work status to System Administrators. The System Administrators are coming under the System Analyst who will be the controlling official of the works related with IT Infrastructure management. The version control and release of the newly developed software/module need to be done by the System Analyst with the consultation of System Manger.

Office Administration

The overall supervision of the staffs and works at KUCC will be under the control of AO and he/she need to report the status of works to the Director.

Suggestions for the Implementation of the multilevel role hierarchy

- ▶ The permanent senior programmers can be treated as Project Leaders, and the contract sprogrammers may be assigned to the respective Project Leaders. In future, the Director/ System Manger can assign new projects to the Project Leader. After the preliminary study, he/she can decide the man power and time to complete the project. The contract programmers shall be selected for a particular project only, and after completing the work the contract of the contract programmers need to be closed automatically. The System Manager and System Analyst are the two other higher-level hierarchy in the proposal. If the technically well-equipped permanent technical staff in the teaching Departments could be channelized for the time being, the proposal at the earliest can be implemented without making any higher-level recruitment.

Periodic training shall be arranged for the permanent programmers to understand the new developments in the software industry. Training for the staff shall be conducted periodically for the effective implementation of the developed software.

■ University College of Engineering

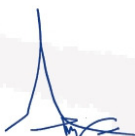
- ▶ University College of Engineering is at present a Self-financing College managed by the University. It is conducting three BTech programmes. But the enrolment of students has

come down considerably during the last few years and the institution is not in a position to support itself financially. So, the first priority shall be to keep it at least in a no profit, no loss status for the time being.

- ▶ Another possibility will be to convert it into a Constituent College and start new generation programmes like BSc Honours in Robotics, BSc Honours in Artificial Intelligence, BSc Honours in Software Engineering, MS in Data Analytics MS in Machine Learning and MS in Entrepreneurship (MS programmes will be started after getting approval from UGC).

XIV. Conclusion: Implementation of the Proposal

- ▶ The report on the academic reforms focuses mainly on two things, the immediate measures to be taken in University of Kerala in the context of the outbreak of COVID-19 and the direction to which it should develop in future. The report covers only certain areas directly related to the academic performance of the University. Some of the long term goals and proposals related to non-academic sectors have not been included in this report. We don't claim that this report is complete and is all-inclusive. But we are sure that this will help in furthering the deliberations on the educational reforms to be executed in future. The report is submitted for further discussions and suggestions. Implementation of the recommendations is a real challenge. So, a Task Force shall be constituted for the speedy implementation of the recommendations. Time frame for the implementation of each item shall also be decided in advance. The present situation warrants immediate action and decisions. So, implementation of the proposals on war footing is extremely essential.



Prof. P.P. Ajayakumar



Prof. K.G. Gopchandran

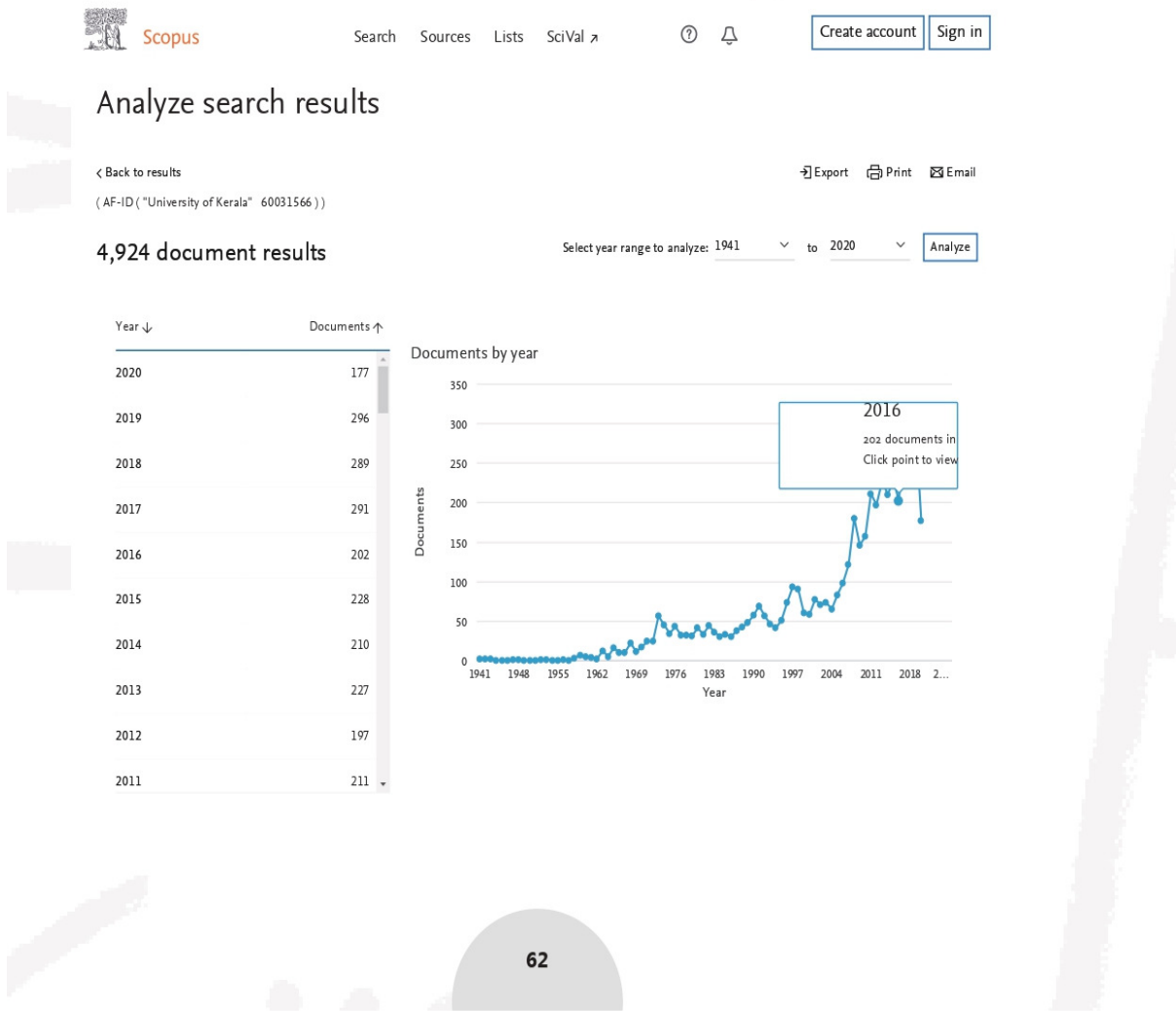
XV. Appendices
APPENDIX - I**Details of Departments and the year of establishment**

Name of Department	Year of Establishment
Oriental Research Institute & Manuscripts Library	1908
Aquatic Biology & Fisheries	1938
Tamil	1944
Statistics	1945
Chemistry	1957
Education	1957
Political Science	1957
Psychology	1957
Botany	1959
Economics	1959
German	1961
Library & Information Science	1961
Institute of English	1962
Geology	1963
History	1963
Linguistics	1963
Malayalam	1963
Sanskrit	1963
Mathematics	1965

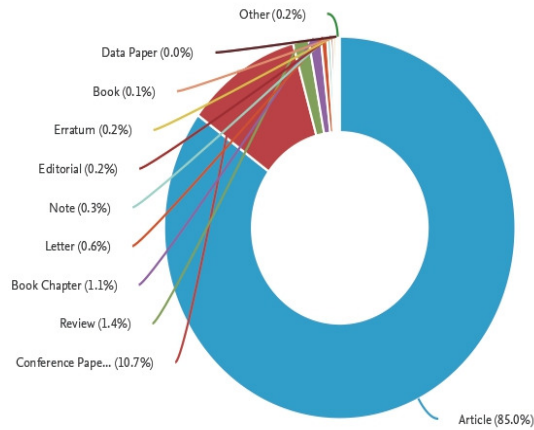
Name of Department	Year of Establishment
Zoology	1968
Russian	1969
Sociology	1969
Bio-Chemistry	1970
Physics	1970
School of Distance Education (SDE)	1976
Communication & Journalism	1977
Demography	1979
Commerce	1985
Computer Science	1985
Philosophy	1985
Hindi	1988
Law	1988
Futures Studies	1990
Institute of Management in Kerala	1990
Islamic Studies	1990
Bio-Technology	1994
Environmental Sciences	1994
Optoelectronics	1994
Archaeology	1998
Music	1998
Arabic	2001
Comp. Biology & Bioinformatics	2011
Nanoscience & Nanotechnology	2016
Kerala Studies	2019

APPENDIX - II

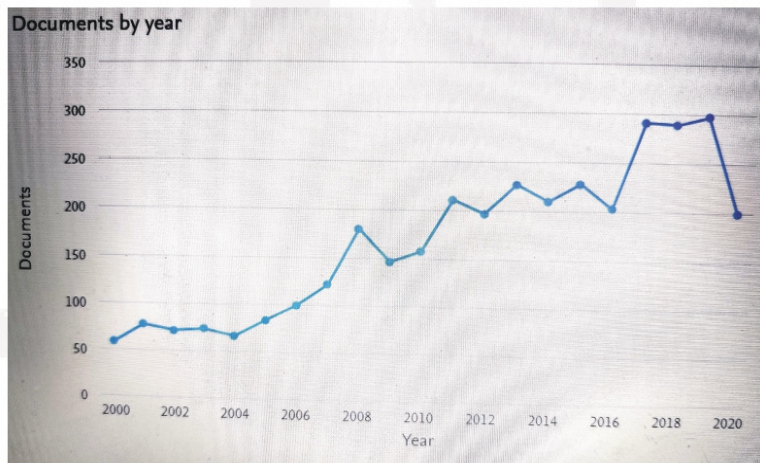
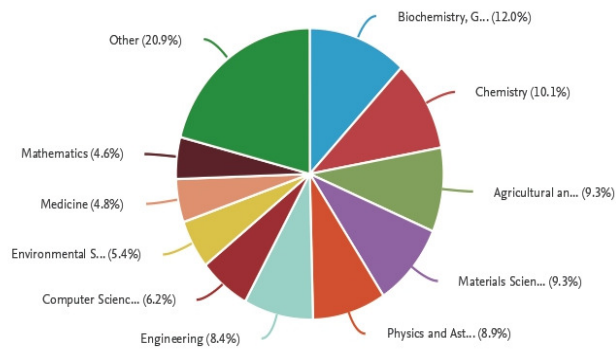
Scopus analysis of the research publications from Departments



Documents by type



Documents by subject area



APPENDIX - III



Search Sources Lists SciVal



Create account Sign in

Affiliation details - University of Kerala

Print Email

University of Kerala

Senate House Campus, Palayam,
Thiruvananthapuram
KL, India
Affiliation ID: 60031566

Other name formats: [University Of Kerala](#) [Kerala University](#) [Univ. Kerala](#) [University Of Kerala Kariavattom](#)

Affiliation profile actions

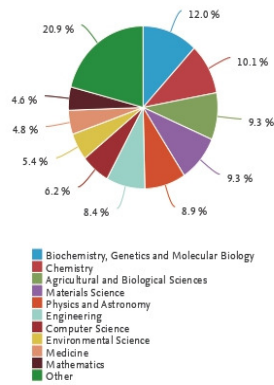
- [Give feedback](#)
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Documents, whole institution 7,659 Documents, affiliation only 4,924 Authors 2,086

Documents by subject area Collaborating affiliations Documents by source

Sort by: Document count (high-low)		
Biochemistry, Genetics and Molec...	1043	Immunology and Microbiology 113
Chemistry	879	Energy 107
Agricultural and Biological Sciences	813	Multidisciplinary 89
Materials Science	809	Decision Sciences 59
Physics and Astronomy	772	Nursing 49
Engineering	732	Business, Management and Acc... 44
Computer Science	540	Arts and Humanities 38
Environmental Science	470	Economics, Econometrics and Fi... 36
Medicine	418	Psychology 29
Mathematics	403	Neuroscience 26
Earth and Planetary Sciences	386	Dentistry 11
Pharmacology, Toxicology and Pha...	358	Undefined 11
Chemical Engineering	278	Health Professions 10
Social Sciences	167	Veterinary 8

University of Kerala

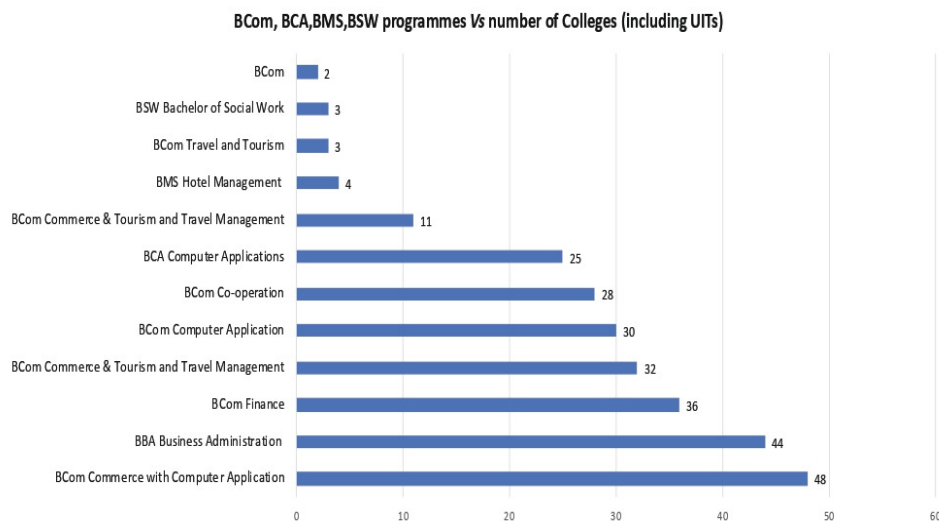
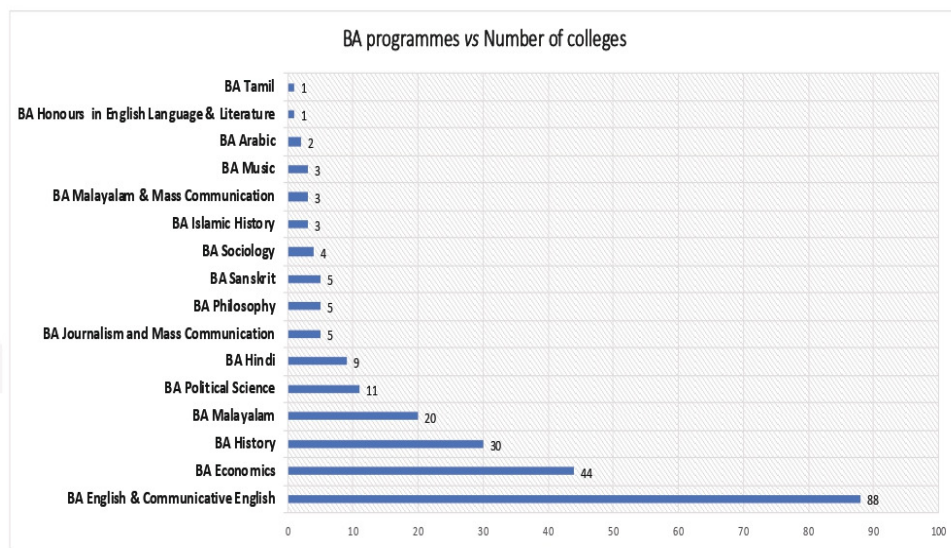


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APPENDIX - IV

Academic Programmes in Affiliated Colleges



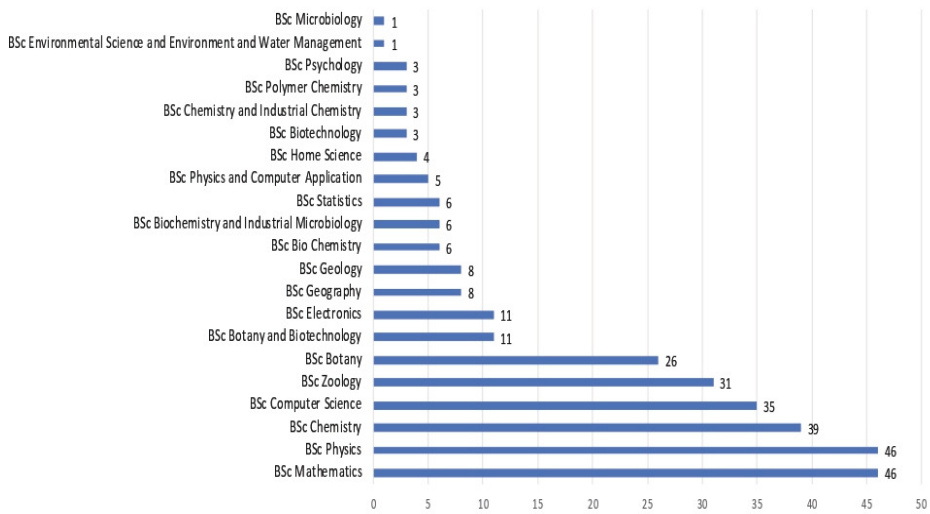
65

Registrar i/c

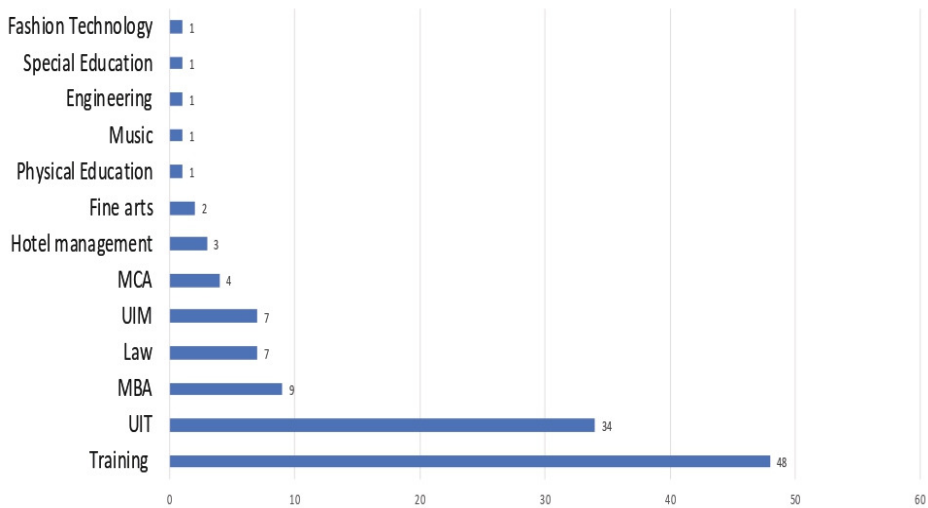
Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

BSc programmes Vs Number of colleges



Other Colleges and Institutions



66

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

APPENDIX - V**Abbreviations Used**

C-AIC	Centre for Academic and Industrial Collaboration
C-APT	Centre for Academic and Professional Training
CBCSS	Choice Based Credit and Semester System
CE	Chief Examiner / Controller of Examinations.
CLIF	Central Laboratory for Instrumentation & Facilitation
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease
CSS	Credit and Semester System
DCDC	Director, College Development Council
DDF	Department Development Fund
ETD	Electronic Thesis and Dissertation
IEC	Institutional Ethics Committee
INFED	Inflib Net Access Management Federation
INFLIB NET	Information and Library Network Centre
IQAC	Internal Quality Assurance Cell
IT	Information Technology
KIIFB	Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board
KSHEC	Kerala State Higher Education Council
KSUM	Kerala Start Up Mission
KTU	Kerala Technical University
KUCC	Kerala University Computer Centre
KUCTE	Kerala University Centre for Teacher Education
KUTBSC	Kerala University Technology & Business Startup Centre
LIS	Library Information System

LMS	Learning Management System
M-Des	Master of Design
M.P.Ed	Master of Physical Education
MCA	Master of Computer Applications
MHRD	Ministry of Human Resources Development
MOOC	Massive Open Online Courses
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NIFT	National Institute of Fashion Technology
OBC	Outcome Based Curriculum
OBE	Outcome Based Education
OBS	Open Broadcaster Software
ORI	Oriental Research Institute
PPT	Power Point
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
QP	Question Paper
RDI	Researcher's Digital Interface
RDM	Research Data Management
SDE	School of Distance Education
SLCMS	Student Life Cycle Management System
SLM	Self Learning Material
SPOC	Small Private Online Course
TQC	Testing and Quality Control
UGC	University Grants Commission
UIM	University Institute of Management
UIT	University Institute of Technology

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to authorize the concerned Standing Committees of the Syndicate for detailed discussion.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the items for starting of new courses be placed before the Academic Council.

Item No.17.18 Conduct of M.Phil Course for the year 2020-Reg

(CSS)

As per the norms of the National Education Policy 2020 it has been decided to do away with the M.Phil Course.

In the CSS Academic Committee meeting held on 18.08.2020, the Vice Chancellor has directed to place the following matter before the Syndicate.

1. Whether M.Phil admission for the year 2020 to be notified.
2. If notified, the modalities for the conduct of M.Phil admission
 - (i) whether Entrance based
 - (ii) or on marks of the Qualifying Examinations.

Hence the matter is placed before the Syndicate for consideration and recommendations.

Resolution of the Syndicate
RESOLVED to notify the M.Phil Course for the academic year 2020-2021.

Item No.17.19 കേരള യൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റി കോളേജ് ഫോർ ടീച്ചർ എഡ്യൂക്കേഷനുകളിലെ അന്യധാപക വിഭാഗം ജീവനക്കാരുടെ സേവന വേതന വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ സംബന്ധിച്ച്-

(Ad.AVII(A))

കേരള സർവകലാശാലയുടെ നേരിട്ടുള്ള നിയന്ത്രണത്തിൽ കമാരപുരം, കാര്യവട്ടം, നെടുമങ്ങാട്, അടൂർ, കളക്കട, അഞ്ചൽ, കൊല്ലം, ആലപ്പുഴ, കായംകുളം, കുന്നം എന്നീ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലായി പത്തു ബി.എഡ് കോളേജുകൾ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നു.

ഈ കോളേജുകളിലെ അന്യധാപക വിഭാഗം ജീവനക്കാർ കരാർ അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിലാണ് ജോലി ചെയ്യു വരുന്നത്. ഇവർ സർവകലാശാലയുമായി പതിനൊന്നു മാസത്തെ കരാറിലേർപ്പെടുകയും കരാർ അവസാനിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഒരു ദിവസത്തെ ഇടവേളയ്ക്കു ശേഷം കരാർ പുതുക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ഇവരുടെ വേതനം ഒരു നിശ്ചിത സ്കെയിലിൽ വാർഷിക ഇൻക്രിമെൻടോടു കൂടിയതാണ്.

കെ യു സി റ്റി കളിലെ അന്യധാപക വിഭാഗം ജീവനക്കാർ താഴെപ്പറയുന്ന തസ്തികകളിലാണ് ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നത്.

- കാഷ്വൽ ക്ലാർക്ക് / ടൈപ്പിസ്റ്റ്
- കാഷ്വൽ ലൈബ്രറി അസിസ്റ്റന്റ്
- കാഷ്വൽ പ്യൂൺ
- കാഷ്വൽ ഡേ വാച്ച്മാൻ
- സീപ്പർ/ക്ലീനർ**രജിസ്ട്രാർ**
- കാഷ്വൽ നൈറ്റ് വാച്ച്മാൻ

ഇവരെ പ്രാദേശിക അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ അതതു കോളേജുകളിലെ പ്രിൻസിപ്പൽമാർ നിയമിക്കുകയുമാണ് ചെയ്യുന്നത്.

ഇപ്പോൾ ജോലി ചെയ്തു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന അന്യധാപക വിഭാഗം ജീവനക്കാരിൽ ഭൂരിഭാഗം പേരും കോളേജുകളുടെ ആരംഭം മുതൽക്കേ ജോലി ചെയ്തു വരുന്നവരാണ്. ഇവരെ ദിവസ വേതന അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിലാണ് നിയമിക്കുന്നത് കാഷ്വൽ ക്ലാർക്ക്/ടൈപ്പിസ്റ്റ് , കാഷ്വൽ ലൈബ്രറി അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് എന്നീ തസ്തികകളിൽ ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നവർക്ക് പ്രതിദിന വേതനം 740 രൂപയും പ്യൂൺ, സീപ്പർ/ക്ലീനർ, കാഷ്വൽ ഡേ വാച്ച്മാൻ, കാഷ്വൽ നൈറ്റ് വാച്ച്മാൻ എന്നീ തസ്തികകളിലുള്ളവർക്ക് പ്രതിദിന വേതനം 660 രൂപയുമാണ്. ഒരു മാസത്തിൽ ഇവർ ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്ന ദിവസം കണക്കാക്കി വേതനം നൽകുകയും കാഷ്വൽ ക്ലാർക്ക്/ടൈപ്പിസ്റ്റ്, കാഷ്വൽ ലൈബ്രറി അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് എന്നീ തസ്തികകളിൽ ജോലി ചെയ്യുന്നവർക്ക് പരമാവധി തുക 19,980 രൂപയായി നിജപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു. പ്യൂൺ, സീപ്പർ/ ക്ലീനർ, കാഷ്വൽ ഡേ വാച്ച്മാൻ, കാഷ്വൽ നൈറ്റ് വാച്ച്മാൻ എന്നീ തസ്തികകളിലുള്ളവർക്ക് പരമാവധി തുക 17820 രൂപയായി നിജപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു.

യു ഐ ടി കളിലെ അന്യധാപക അന്യധാപക വിഭാഗം ജീവനക്കാരെപ്പോലെയോ കെ യു സി ടി കളിലെ അന്യധാപക ജീവനക്കാരെപ്പോലെയോ കെ യു സി ടി കളിലെ അന്യധാപക വിഭാഗം ജീവനക്കാർ സർവകലാശാലയുമായി കരാറിലേർപ്പെടുമ്പോൾ എന്നാൽ ഇവർക്ക് എല്ലാ മാസവും ആദ്യത്തെ പ്രവർത്തി ദിവസം നിർബന്ധിത ഇടവേള ആയിരിക്കുന്നതാണ്. യു ഐ ടി കളിലും ഇപ്പോൾ പ്രാദേശിക അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ സർവകലാശാല ഉത്തരവ് പ്രകാരം പ്രിൻസിപ്പൽമാരാണ് അന്യധാപക ജീവനക്കാരെ നിയമിക്കുന്നത്. ഇവർക്കും കരാർ ഒന്നുമില്ല. ഇവരുടെ പ്രതിമാസ വേതനം 10,500 രൂപയായി നിജപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്

ചില കെ യു സി ടി സെൻററുകളിൽ ഒരു തസ്തികയിൽ രണ്ടു പേർ വീതം സേവനം അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഒന്നിട വിട്ടുള്ള മാസങ്ങളിലോ മാസത്തിൻറെ പകുതി വീതം ദിവസങ്ങളിലോ ഇവർ മാറി മാറി ജോലിക്കു ഹാജരാവുന്നു. മാസത്തിൽ ഒന്നിൽ കൂടുതൽ ദിവസങ്ങളിൽ സേവനത്തിൽ ഇടവേള വരുന്നതിനാൽ ഇവർക്ക് മാസത്തിലെ ആദ്യത്തെ പ്രവർത്തി ദിവസത്തെ നിർബന്ധിത ഇടവേള ബാധകമല്ല

കെ യു സി ടി കളിലെ അന്യധാപക വിഭാഗം ജീവനക്കാരുടെ ഇപ്പോൾ തുടർന്നു വരുന്ന മേൽപ്പറഞ്ഞ സേവന വേതന വ്യവസ്ഥകൾ പുനർനിർണ്ണയിക്കണമോ എന്നതിൽ ഉചിതമായ തീരുമാനത്തിനായി ഫയൽ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട വൈസ് ചാൻസലറുടെ ഉത്തരവു പ്രകാരം സിൻഡിക്കേറ്റിന് സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നു

Resolution of the Syndicate
RESOLVED that the item be referred to the Combined Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings and Finance.

Item No.17.20. *Minutes of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research & Planning and Development held on 20/08/2020- approval -reg.*

(Ac.EI)

The Minutes of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020 is placed before the Syndicate for consideration and approval (Minutes approved).

MINUTES OF THE COMBINED MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE SYNDICATE ON ACADEMICS & RESEARCH AND STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE SYNDICATE ON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT HELD ON 20.08.2020

Venue : Syndicate Room

Date : 20.08. 2020

Time : 04.30 PM

Members Present

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. Dr. S.Nazeeb, (Member Syndicate & Convenor, SC on A & R) | Sd/- |
| 2. Sri.Ajikummar
(Member Syndicate & Convenor, SC on Planning and Development) | Sd/- |
| 3. Dr. Gopchandran. K.G, Member, Syndicate | Sd/- |
| 4. Prof. K. Lalitha | ” |
| 5. Dr. Vijayan Pillai.M | ” |
| 6. Sri. Arun Kumar. R | ” |
| 7. Adv. Muralidharan Pillai .G | ” |
| 8. Sri.Jairaj | “ |
| 9. Dr. Manoj.K.B | “ |
| 10. Sri. Biju Kumar | “ |

Item No.17.20.01 *Report on the Academic and Research activities for immediate implementation in the University – consideration of the various proposals in the report – reg.*

(Ac.EI)

A report on the Academic and Research activities to be urgently implemented in the University has been placed before the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development for consideration. The Committee discussed in detail the various proposals in the report and made the following recommendations:

Proposal No.1

M Phil/Ph D/PG Dissertations: Permission may be given to submit the soft copies of M Phil Dissertation and Ph.D thesis. Hard copy need not be insisted. But one hard copy of the Dissertation shall be submitted in the Department for reference. In the case of PhD Dissertations Hard copies shall be submitted in the University and the thesis shall be sent as per the choice of the evaluator. Hard copy can be sent for evaluation if the expert insists on sending the hard copy.

Recommendation: The committee considered the above proposal and noted that the proposal had already been discussed in the Standing Committee on Examination wherein it was recommended to agree with the proposal.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to make necessary changes in the Regulation (M.Phil/Ph.D/PG Dissertations) where ever necessary for the implementation on the same and refer to the place the proposal before the Academic Council.

Proposal No.2

Working Hours of Laboratories: Laboratories are at the heart of a research institution. It should work round the clock. At present, the functioning of laboratories are from 10 am to 5 pm, which is quite insufficient for the promotion of serious research. To begin with, laboratories must be open at least from 8 am to 8pm. This will help in promoting more active research in the departments.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to approve the same. Further recommended that a senior Professor in Science (retired) may be appointed on contract on a full time basis for monitoring the effective implementation of the proposal.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved with the following modification:

1. To appoint a Senior Professor in Science (Rtd.) as Director on contract on a full time basis for monitoring the effective implementation of the proposal.
2. To authorize the Vice-Chancellor to fix the remuneration and other related matters of the Director.

Proposal No. 3

The process of registration for PhD for the previous session has not begun yet due to the impasse created by COVID-19. As the presentations of synopsis and doctoral committees could not be conducted, the possibility of conducting the Synopsis Presentation, Doctoral Committees, Annual Review and related activities in the online platforms must be considered. The processing of the pending applications for registration will be started without delay.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to approve the same.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.4

University Departments must actively participate in the research work on the impact of COVID-19. Apart from the departments of Science, the department of Social Science could also contribute in this area.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to obtain a report from the Heads of Departments regarding the research work done in the departments during COVID pandemic period and also the steps taken for resuming the research activities in full swing.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.5

Libraries and Laboratories in the approved research centres, except those in the containment zones, can be open for continuing the research activities strictly adhering to the restrictions of the health department.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to approve the same.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.6

Research Portal must be updated to automate all processes connected with research from enrolment to the award of degree. The process for developing software has already been started. This will help the researchers to get updated automatically the various stages of progress of their research and will avoid unnecessary impediments and delay in processing.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to expedite the revamping process of the research portal so as to ensure the commissioning of the portal in a time bound manner.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.7

Pre-Doctoral Training at CLIF: Research is an activity that demands high level technical skill and knowledge. At present the research scholars were not given formal training in the research methodology, statistical tools, bibliometric analysis etc. It will be good if they undergo a training programme in the beginning of their research career, immediately after registration. Two months pre-doctoral mandatory training programme must be given for the research scholars. It can be held during April-May and October-November every year for the candidates admitted to PhD programme in the two sessions. Ninety percentage attendance and a pass requirement in this programme are essential for the candidates to appear for the Course Work examination. The training must be held separately for Science and Humanities. The supervision of this programme will be vested with Deans Council. The programmes can be held in CLIF and the CLIF Director can be the programme coordinator. A tuition fee (revisable) of Rs.3000/- is recommended for the conduct of the programme. The services of University faculty and engineering staff can be used for this purpose. A syllabus for the programme for the two streams should be made and approved by the Deans Council every year with necessary modifications. The syllabus should include components such as research ethics, writing skills, how to read and write a research paper, diagnostic tools available in the campus, error analysis, bibliometric analysis, soft-ware packages and statistical tools.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to approve the proposal in principle. Further recommended to entrust a committee consisting of Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Convener, Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research, Research Director, CLIF Director and four experts nominated by Vice-Chancellor for preparing a detailed frame work for the implementation of the Pre-Doctoral Training programme.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to place the proposal before the Academic Council.

Proposal No.8

Research Director & Directorate: The role of Research Director should be properly defined and clear guidelines must be prepared for the functioning of the Research Directorate. An expert committee consisting of senior professors and at least one Research Director from a reputed University must be constituted to study the matter and to prepare guidelines. Apart from research leading to Ph.D, start-ups, industrial liaisoning, research projects can also be brought under the control of Research Director. The Research Director must be a special invitee to the meetings of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research. Research Directorate must be established at Kariavattom Campus. The distribution of Research Fellowships must also be brought under the Research Directorate. All sections that come under the Directorate shall also function at Kariavattom. spent by the research scholars should be considered as PhD programme period and they will be eligible for

fellowship during this period. All candidates registered for PhD programme including full-time & part-time should undergo this training programme.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to entrust the IQAC and Research Director to submit a detailed proposal regarding the structure and functioning of the proposed Research Directorate, considering the functioning of the Research Directorate in other major Universities in India.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.9:

Currently, we have 16 faculties of which 5 do have neither departments nor colleges that conduct programmes under its purview. The colleges that teach programmes that come under the Faculty of Ayurveda & Siddha, Faculty of Dentistry, Faculty of Homeopathy and Faculty of Medicine have been affiliated to KUHAS and the colleges that conduct programmes that come under the Faculty of Engineering & Technology, except the University College of Engineering have been affiliated to the Technological University, KTU. These faculties are to be retained for some more time as the supplementary examinations for students who studied while these colleges were affiliated to University of Kerala are still continuing. The proposal for reorienting faculties is given below: Remove the name Oriental Studies and rearrange the Faculty of Oriental Studies, Faculty of Arts and the five Faculties related to Health Sciences.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to agree in principle and to place the same before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research for preparing a proposal for implementation of the same.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.10

Renaming the Faculty of Oriental Studies: The term 'Orient' is used to refer to the countries of East and Southeast Asia. The term, Orient is a by-product of the colonial era. It has been problematical by theorists like Edward Said who argued that 'Orient' suggests the sum total of the prejudices of the West about the East. By referring to languages like Malayalam, Hindi, Sanskrit, Arabic and Tamil as Oriental languages we are knowingly or unknowingly sharing the prejudices of the West.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to agree in principle and to place the same before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research for preparing a proposal for implementation of the same.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.11

Faculty of Languages: All language Departments will come under this Faculty such as Malayalam, Hindi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Hebrew & Syriac, English, German, Russian, Arabic, French & Latin.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to agree in principle and to place the same before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research for preparing a proposal for implementation of the same.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.12

Faculty of Humanities & Culture: Will include Philosophy, Library Science, Communication & Journalism, Linguistics & Geography.

Recommendation: The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to agree in principle and to place the same before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research for preparing a proposal for implementation of the same.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.13

Faculty of Health Sciences: All subjects that come under Faculty of Ayurveda, Medicine (Nursing, Pharmacy), Dentistry, Homoeopathy will be brought under the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Recommendation: The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to agree in principle and to place the same before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research for preparing a proposal for implementation of the same.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.14

Renaming of Oriental Research Institute and manuscript Library must be renamed as 'Institute of Indology & Manuscript Library' (IIML).

Recommendation: The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to rename the Oriental Research Institute and Manuscript Library (IIML) as 'School of Indology and Manuscript Library'.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to place the proposal before the Academic Council.

Proposal No.15

Renaming of Institute of Management in Kerala (IMK) must be renamed as 'Department of Management Studies' (DMS).

Recommendation: The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to rename the Institute of Management in Kerala (IMK) as 'Department of Management Studies'.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to place the proposal before the Academic Council.

Proposal No.16

Theatre Classrooms: In order to implement the strategy of combining online and face to face teaching learning, the upgradation of the infrastructure facility of the departments, is a must. University has already proposed the introduction of theatre classrooms in departments which will cater to the needs of online streaming of classes, recording of classes and also for playing video and audio recordings in order to enrich the classroom (Physical & Online) experience of the students.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to approve the same in principle. Further recommended to place the matter before the Combined Standing committees of Planning & Development and Finance for the implementation of the proposal.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.17

KU Padasala: University of Kerala has already launched a programme to develop video lessons, KU Padasala. Efforts are on to materialise the same. To begin with, videos must be made on one course in every semester of each Programme. The videos should be limited to 30 minutes. Students must be persuaded to interact with the teacher and also with other students about the topic after watching the video lesson.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to agree in principle and to obtain a detailed report on the matter from IQAC regarding the implementation of 'KU Padasala'.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Proposal No.18

Institutional Ethics committee: Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) is the committee formed of a group of people who go through the research protocol/proposal and state whether or not it is ethically acceptable. The intervention of IEC is essential for research that involves clinical trials on human beings. So, the establishment of separate committees are needed for dealing with divergent groups and fields like animals, plants, humans and bio-safety. So, there should be Animal Ethics committee, Human Ethics committee and Bio-safety Committee to verify and regulate research in these areas. All research proposals that involve clinical trials must be permitted only with the consent of the Ethics Committees.

Recommendation: *The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to obtain the report of the Standing Committee of the Academic Council in the matter.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to place the proposal before the Academic Council.

Proposal No.19.

Centres for Area Study: There are more than 60 centres for area studies and research in the university. While some of the centres are active with productive research work other centres are rather dormant and less productive in terms of research output. A review of the activities and contributions of the Centres must be conducted immediately to pick and choose the active centres. An academic audit on the functioning of these centres must be conducted. The inactive centres can be either merged with other centres or withdrawn. Revamping and

strengthening of Inter-University Centres with outreach programmes, training, knowledge dissemination and translational research must be considered. Industry linkages, external funding and programme mode research must be supported. The Centres must also address the contemporary issues of the State by seeking funds from external agencies on a real time mode. For administrative convenience, each centre must be attached to the department concerned and all communications must be routed through the Head of the Department. Moreover, advisory committees must be constituted for monitoring and managing the centres. The advisory committee should meet once in every six months.

Recommendation: The committee considered the above proposal and recommended to entrust the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Dr.S.Nazeeb, Convenor, SC on A & R and Dr.K.G.Gopchandran (Member, Syndicate) to submit a report on the functioning of various centres including Inter University centres established in the University.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Combined meeting of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Academics & Research and Planning & Development held on 20/08/2020, be approved.

Meeting came to an end at 5.30 pm.

Item No.17.21 Minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 19.06.2020-Reporting- of reg.

(M&C I)

Placed below are the minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 19.06.2020.

The action taken by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in having approved the recommendations of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 19.06.2020, subject to reporting to the Syndicate, exercising the powers vested under section 10(13) of the Kerala University Act 1974, is reported to the Syndicate.

Minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee

Date & Time : 19.06.2020, 03.00 pm
Venue : Pro Vice Chancellor's chamber

Members Present

•Dr.P.P.Ajayakumar	Pro Vice-Chancellor	Sd/-
•Dr.K.B.Manoj	Convener, SC on Exams	Sd/-
•Dr.B.Unnikrishnan Nair	Member, Syndicate	Sd/-
•Sri.Jairaj.J	Member, Syndicate	Sd/-
•Dr.Vijayan Pillai.M.	Member, Syndicate	Sd/-
•Dr.S.Nazeeb	Member, Syndicate	Sd/-
•Sri.Bijukumar.G	Member, Syndicate	Sd/-

Officers Present

•Dr.N.Gopakumar	Controller of Examinations	Sd/-
•Smt.S.J.Sunitha	Joint Registrar(Exams I)	Sd/-
• Smt.T.K.Ushadevi	Joint Registrar(Exams II)	Sd/-
• Sri.K.Unnikrishnan Nair	Joint Registrar(Exams CBCSS)	Sd/-

Members Absent

1. Adv.B.Balachandran	Member, Syndicate
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The meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee commenced at 03.00 p.m.

Item No .17.21.01 B.Ed Examination Scheduling

The Examination Monitoring Committee reviewed the preparations for the conduct of online examination for B. Ed final semester in the context of Covid-19 pandemic and recommended that

•specific instructions for the conduct of online examinations for B.Ed be issued to the examination centres

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

- two sessions be allowed in the FN and AN as follows:
FN 10.30 a.m to 11.45 a.m
AN 12.30 p.m to 01.45 p.m and
- to conduct S4 B.Ed online examinations scheduled for June 23 and June 24 for those students hailing from outside the jurisdiction of the University and unable to reach their colleges on account of Covid-19 at selected centres in districts outside the purview of the University. The examination for such students will be conducted in July, 2020 and the details will be made available in the website later. Online examination will be conducted at Lakshadweep on the scheduled date i.e, on 23 and 24 June.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 19.06.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.21.02: CV Camp for S6 CBCSS/CR Examination 2020

The Committee took note of the preparations for the process of valuation of S6 UG Examination and finalised the following schedule.

Completion of Additional valuation

B.Sc 01-07-2020

BA /B. Com 03-07-2020

Completion of Chief Valuation

07-07-2020

Publication of result

15-07-2020

The results of S5 UG will be published by 23-06-2020 and 24-06-2020.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 19.06.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.21.03 Conducting of S6 CBCSS/CR Practicals/ Viva voce Examination 2020

The Committee considered the conduct of Viva voce Examination, 2020 for BA/B.Com S6 students online and after obtaining the remarks of the Director, KUCC the following recommendations were made:

- to conduct the Viva voce online concurrently on the scheduled date for those students who cannot attend at the college on account of the Covid-19 restrictions being in force and are at present staying at home.
- the conduct of Viva voce Examination is entrusted with the college concerned.
- the colleges may utilise the app services such as Google Meet, Skype, Whatsapp and it is mandatory for the colleges to keep the screenshot with time stamp for identification and attendance.
- for conducting Viva vice Examination, the colleges should download the form uploaded from the University and duly filled-in form must be kept under the safe custody of the HOD and Chairman.

It was further recommended that an additional examination centre be allotted at Government College, Munnar in Idukki District for conducting S4 UG Examination which commences on 01.07.2020.

The meeting came to a close at 05.00 p.m.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 19.06.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.22 *Minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 07.08.2020-Approval of-reg.*

(M&C I)

The Vice Chancellor has approved the minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 07.08.2020. Considering the urgency Item no: 2 & 5 in the minutes have been approved by the Vice Chancellor subject to reporting to the Syndicate. The action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the same subject to reporting to the Syndicate is reported.

All other items in the minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 07.08.2020 are submitted before the Syndicate for approval.

Minutes of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee

Date & Time : 07.08.2020, 03.30 p.m
Venue : Online Meeting via google meet

Members Present

- Dr.P.P.Ajayakumar Pro Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair)
- Dr.K.B.Manoj Convener, SC on Exams
- Dr.Vijayan Pillai.M. Member, Syndicate
- Dr.B.Unnikrishnan Nair, Member, Syndicate

Officers Present

- Dr.N.Gopakumar Controller of Examinations
- Sri.K.Unnikrishnan Nair Joint Registrar(CBCS)
- V.L.Syamala Devi Joint Registrar(Exams I)
- T.K.Usha Devi Joint Registrar(Exams II)
- Dr.Vinod Chandra S Director KUCC in charge

Members Absent

- Adv.B.Balachandran Member, Syndicate
- Sri.Jairaj.J Member, Syndicate
- Dr.S.Nazeeb Member, Syndicate
- Sri.Bijukumar.G. Member, Syndicate

The Examination Monitoring Committee was conducted via Google Meet. The meeting commenced at 03.30 pm.

Item No.17.22.01: Permanent space for CE III section-reg.

(CE III Section)

The CE.III section was formed on August, 2019 vide U.O. no.Ad.A1.2/1739/2019 dt: 29.08.2019. The section is entrusted with the supervision and monitoring of the daily usage of answer scripts issued to colleges. The section is also maintaining the stock details of blank answer books issued to all colleges/centres and departments of University of Kerala. Section Officer, one Assistant, one Computer Assistant and a Casual Labourer are working in this section. Till date, no permanent space has been allotted to this section.

In the beginning, a small cabin in the EK.1 section was allotted to the section. The staffs were not even able to sit comfortably and work in that congested single cabin. Hence, a proposal was submitted before the Registrar to allow the section to share the room apportioned to RTI section in the 1st Floor of IQAC's office. The same was temporarily granted vide UO no.Ad.B1(3)869/2019/46/134 dt: 03.01.2020. The CE III section is again temporarily shifted to the two cubicles near the JR(CBCSS)'s office in the ground floor of CE Building vide UO no.Ad.B1/2020/66 dt: 02.06.2020.

Cubicles are designed to accommodate one employee. Hence, the space in two cubicles is not enough to accommodate 4 staffs, 2 computers, one printer, various registers and other files including that of confidential nature. It may also be noted that all storage spaces in one cubicle is found to be locked and keys are not handed over to the section. Repeated shifting of the section is creating lots of hurdles and interruption to the daily activities of the section. Hence, the matter was reported to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and also requested to allot a permanent space to the CE III section, so that the section can perform its day-to-day activities without any hindrance.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered the matter of a permanent space for CE III Section and recommended to allot the space being occupied by EE II P Section at the Ground Floor of the CE Buildings to CE III Section once the former is shifted.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 07.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.22.02 **Conduct of online meeting for the Pre-valuation Board Meeting of B.Com Degree Exam reg-**

(AR B.Com annual & SDC)

The examinations of B.Com (Annual private and supplementary) and B.Com (SDE) V and VI semester of April 2020 conducted in June 2020. For the valuation, Pre valuation Board Meeting has to be conducted. When contacted it came to know that the chairman of B.Com(Annual) course is residing in containment zone and unable to come to this office due to Covid 19. The Chairman of B.Com (SDE) V and VI semester is also in observation. But they are ready to conduct Pre Valuation Board Meeting through online if the question paper and scheme of valuation are e mailed to avoid delay in starting valuation.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered the proposal for conducting online meeting of Pre Valuation Board Meeting of B. Com Degree April 2020 Exam conducted in June 2020 and recommended to conduct Pre Practical /Pre Valuation /Passboard meetings via online mode for all examinations in the context of Covid 19 by strictly following the guidelines in this regard as detailed below:

Proposed guidelines for conducting Pre Practical/Pre Valuation and Pass Board Meetings Online for S4 PG Exams, June 2020/ Other Exams under Covid 19

For this the following may be done:

- a) Section concerned is to send the proposal for a particular subject with date and time to the KUCC.*
- b) The KUCC will create link. The link will be forwarded to Assistant Registrar concerned.*
- c) The Assistant Registrar in turn will forward to members of the meeting.*
- d) A screenshot is to be taken and the same to be taken in printed format for keeping a record of the meeting.*
- e) The Chairman has to send the minutes in mail, referring to the online meeting, from the Chairman's mail id used in GOOGLE MEET to the CE over e-mail.*
- f) The minutes should also include the name of members present.*
- g) The printed format of the minutes received over e-mail is to be pasted in the Minutes Book of concerned.*
- h) Also printed format containing the details of members who participated in the online meeting also to be pasted in the Minutes Book.*
- i) For Pass Board meetings, the statistics of the examination concerned may be forwarded to the Chairman concerned in advance specifying therein 'The statistics is a confidential record and to be kept strictly confidential.'*
- j) Forms and Bills for the Examiners will be forwarded in pdf format to the Chairman for claiming remuneration for the Practical Examinations conducted.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having approved the above recommendation of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 07.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.22.03 **Practical difficulty in obtaining the signature of candidates in the CE mark sheets.**

(CE Section)

Various sections in the university have reported that they experience certain difficulties in obtaining the signatures of candidates in the CE mark sheets forwarded from various colleges. The

signature of the Principal and undertaking have not been forwarded properly for ensuring the redressal of the students concerned.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered certain difficulties being experienced in obtaining the signature of candidates in the CE mark sheets and recommended that the principals of colleges concerned to submit an undertaking to the effect that CE marks have been formally brought to the notice of all the students.

The format of the affidavit may be as follows:-

Certified that the CE marks awarded have been communicated to the candidates concerned and complaints received if any have also been redressed for the finalisation of the above marks.

*Principal
(seal & signature)*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 07.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.22.04 Conduct of pending exams.

(CE Section)

The university has decided not to conduct examinations with effect from 15.07.2020 on account of the rapid spread of Corona virus. The matter of rescheduling such examinations is placed before the Examination Monitoring Committee.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee discussed in detail the possibilities of conducting the pending University examinations and recommended to reschedule all such examinations (S4 PG, S4 UG within Thiruvananthapuram Corporations limits and B. Ed, MBA, B.Tech Exms etc.) once the Government lifts the lockdown restrictions being imposed in containment zones on account of Covid 19.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 07.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.22.05 Valuation status of completed UG & PG exams.

The valuation of S6 UG examinations is being conducted at various CV camps & that of S4 PG has to be commenced soon. In order to publish the results urgently the valuation status of S6 UG examination be ascertained.

Recommendations of the Committee

After assessing the valuation status of ongoing S6 UG Examinations, the Committee recommended to accept the following schedule for publication of results :

S6 B.Com 15-08-2020

S6 BA/B. Sc 20-08-2020

The last date of submission of S4 PG dissertation is extended till August 13, 2020 and Viva Voce to August 24, 2020.

It was further recommended that the above recommendations pertaining to item no. 2 & 5 may be approved by the Vice Chancellor subject to reporting to the Syndicate by invoking 10/13 of Kerala University Act, 1974 as the recommendations have to be implemented urgently.

The meeting came to a close at 04.30 p.m.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having approved the above recommendation of the meeting of the Examination Monitoring Committee held on 07.08.2020, be noted.

Item No.17.23 ***Modernization of University Libraries – Vertical extension to Kerala University Library, Palayam - Electrification works – Execution of the electrical work at the risk & cost of the original contractor, Sri.Ajayakumar D - Note submitted by the University Engineer –Consideration of reg.***

(Pl.G)

As per G.O(Rt)No.466/2011/H.Edn dated:23.03.2011, the Government had released a total amount of Rs.6,55,00,000/- (Rupees Six Crore Fifty Five lakh only) for the Modernization of University Libraries under University of Kerala and out of this, an amount of R.1.5 crores each has been allocated for building (Palayam) and renovation respectively.

M/s Habitat Technology Group was appointed as the consultant for the vertical extension of Kerala University Library, Palayam as per the resolution of the Syndicate held on 16.11.2013 and an agreement was executed with the firm on 01.01.2014.

The detailed estimate amounting to Rs. 2,60,00,000/- (Rupees Two crore sixty lakh only) submitted by M/s Habitat Technology Group, verified and forwarded by the University Engineer, including consultancy fee, service tax etc. for the above work was approved vide U.O dated 28.02.2015. The civil work was awarded to the contractor, Smt. Santhamma on 10.02.2016. The site was handed over on 29.02.2016 with a time of completion of 300 days which expired on 28.12.2016.

The electrical work was tendered and agreement was executed with the contractor, Sri. Ajayakumar. D on 20.12.2016. Even though the agreement was executed on 20.12.2016, the site was handed over to the Contractor only on 02.08.2017 (through registered post). The delay in handing over site was due to the non-completion of civil work and non issuance of drawing by the consultant M/s Habitat Technology Group. M/s Habitat Technology Group the Consultant for this work has issued the roof frame drawing only on 01.03.2017. Hence, the contractor had requested to cancel the tender.

The meeting of the Syndicate held on 06.02.2018, vide item No. 32.32.03 considered the delay occurred from the part of the consultant and the contractor in completing the work and resolved:

- To Impose fine for delay to the consultant M/s Habitat Technology Group for 141 days from 25.12.2016 to 14.05.2017 for first extension.
- To impose fine to the contractor for second extension from 15.05.2017 till the completion of work.
- To obtain legal opinion for termination of agreement executed with the electrical contractor.
- To authorize the University Engineer to arrange the electrical work required for completing the civil works like false ceiling, tiling etc on quotation basis, as the amount towards this comes under the purview of the University Engineer.

Based on the opinion of the Legal Advisor, the electrical contractor Sri. Ajayakumar D was terminated vide office proceedings of the University Engineer dated 01.08.2018. On 11.08.2018 the contractor forwarded a lawyers notice for refund of the Security Deposit. As requested by the University Engineer revised Administrative Sanction for electrical works (Rs.10,27,690/-), Lift (Rs.15,00,000/-) and AC (Rs.35,00,000/-) have been issued vide U.O. dated 31.12.2018.

After the termination of the Electrical contractor Sri. Ajayakumar D, the work was re-tendered fixing with last date as on 22.10.2019. In response 3 tenders were received

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1.Sri. Sreekumar.P | - Quoted amount Rs.8,24,625/- |
| 2.Sri. Stephen Moses | - Quoted amount Rs.8,78,040/- |
| 3.S.L. Electricals | - Quoted amount Rs.9,96,566/- |

The Vice-Chancellor, invoking the provision under section 10(13) of the KU Act 1974, had approved the following recommendations of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development held on 26.06.2020, which is also approved by the Syndicate held on 17/07/2020, item No.14.14.01.

1. To authorize the University Engineer to submit a detailed note before the Syndicate in respect of execution of the electrical work at the risk & cost of the original contractor. Sri. Ajayakumar D.
2. The decision regarding the awarding of the work in re-tender to Sri. Stephen Moses at Rs.8,76,040/- after conducting a further negotiation with him.

Accordingly, the University Engineer has submitted a detailed note to place before the Syndicate (copy of the note is appended for perusal). The University Engineer has cited the following

decisions of the Syndicate held on 15/05/2020, vide item No.11.74, regarding the matter of imposing fine to the contractor in connection with construction of vertical extension to University Library:

- The time of completion may be extended from 25/12/2016 to 24/08/2017 without fine, since the delay was due to the non issuance of drawings by the consultant M/s. Habitat Technology Group.
- The time of completion from 25/08/2017 to 12/01/2018 may be extended with fine of Rs.1,50,000/- to the contractor.
- The time of completion from 31/01/2018 to 18/07/2018 may be extended without fine considering the delay in arrangement of allied electrical work in quotation basis.

Hence, the University engineer has requested that the risk and cost of the original contractor Sri. Ajayakumar D may be considered in accordance with the Syndicate decision regarding the extension of time of completion of civil work executed by the contractor Smt. S. Santhamma.

The Syndicate held on 14/08/2020, vide item No. 14.43.12 has resolved to approve the following recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development held on 07/08/2020:

- To accept the negotiation with Sri. Stephen Moses, Electrical contractor i.e, to reduce a further 1% resulting in an amount 6.2% below the estimate pack of Rs.9,26,221/- and to award the work to Sri. Stephen Moses as per the negotiated rate.
- To append the note from the University Engineer in respect of execution the electrical work at the risk & Cost of the Electrical Contractor. Sri. Ajayakumar D., for consideration of the Syndicate, noting that the risk and cost of Sri. Ajayakumar D shall be avoided, considering the fact that the delay was caused due to the lapse from the part of Consultant and civil contractor and they have been already penalized for the lapse.

Hence, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor the detailed note submitted by the University Engineer regarding exemption of electrical contractor Sri. Ajayakumar D from execution of electrical work at his risk and cost in the vertical extension of Kerala University Library is placed before the Syndicate for consideration and appropriate decision.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the item be referred to the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development.

Item No.17.24

Approval of appointment of Smt Sreelekshmi A N as Assistant Professor in Dept of Computer Science, Sree Ayyappa College, Eramallikkara-Letter from the Principal Secretary and Dy. DCE Kottayam-detailed report – approval kept in abeyance for the time being—reporting of-reg.

(Ac FII)

In the context of the WP(C) 13488/2020 filed by Smt Nisha R before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala, the Government has sought for urgent clarification relating to the approval of appointment of Smt. Sreelekshmi as Assistant Professor in Computer Science at the Sree Ayyappa College, Eramallikara under the Travancore Dewaswom Board vide letters no D1/128/2020/HEDN dated 04.08.2020 from the Principal Secretary to Government, and letter no. B2/4679/2020 dated 30.07.2020 from the Deputy Director of Collegiate Education, Kottayam.

It may be noted that Smt. Sreelekshmi A N was appointed as Assistant Professor in Computer Science by the Educational Agency in pursuance of the notification no. ROC/8468/15/Coll dated 03.03.2016 by Travancore Devasom Board. The Statutory Selection Committee, including the Government Nominee, had ranked the incumbent as second at its meeting held on 20.03.2019. The Educational Agency, on 30.09.2019, forwarded to the University, the proposal for the approval of the appointment of Smt. Sreelekshmi A N as Assistant Professor in Computer Science, Sree Ayyappa College w.e.f 06.06.2019, together with the proposal for the approval of the appointment of Dr Sreeraj M as Assistant Professor in Computer Science in the same College.

On verification of the proposal it was seen that Smt. Sreelekshmi A N has the qualification of MTech Degree in Computer Vision and Image Processing from the Amritha Viswa Vidyapeedam with CGPA of 6.5. She does not have NET or PhD in the relevant Subject. It may also be noted that the Eligibility Certificate submitted by the candidate initially, was not in order, and subsequently she

submitted the Eligibility Certificate, equating M.Tech Computer Vision and Image Processing with M.Tech in Computer Science with specialization in Digital Image Computing of University of Kerala.

During the pendency of the above proposal, the University received petition from certain Computer Science NET holders that the exemption accorded by the selection committee to M.Tech degree holders under the Faculty of Engineering and Technology from NET, by relying on the exemption clause provided in the UGC Regulations 2010, is not in order and challenging the appointment of the incumbent who had acquired her qualifying degree M.Tech under the Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

The whole matter was reported to the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Teaching and Non Teaching staff of Private Aided Colleges, for consideration. The Standing Committee held on 18.01.2020 recommended to consider the proposal for the appointment of Smt Sreelekshmi A N in the light of the Eligibility certificate presented by her subsequently, equating MTech Degree in Computer Vision and Image Processing with Mtech in Computer Science with specialisation in Digital Image Computing in University of Kerala. Further resolved to refer the entire proposal to the Syndicate.

The Syndicate held on 21.01.2020 resolved that the proposal be approved in principle and to authorise the Vice Chancellor to verify whether MTech Degree in Computer Vision and Image Processing be equated to MTech in Computer Science of Kerala University.

It may be noted that the UGC Regulations 2010, governing the selection of the concerned teacher provided for exemption from NET to those disciplines in which the said test was not conducted. Though it was observed that the UGC notification for NET included the subject of Computer Science, the AICTE which is regulatory authority in respect of degrees awarded under the Faculty of Engineering and Technology was neither offering nor prescribing any test at par with NET. Moreover no such test is prescribed as mandatory for appointment of teachers to Engineering Colleges.

It is pertinent to note that Smt. Sreelekshmi A N is duly qualified for the appointment as Assistant Professor in Computer Science as per existing University Regulations.

According to University notification No. Ac.L /19134/RTQ/2000 dated 01.07.2000, and Gazette notification No.34 dated 22.08.2000, Amendment No 118,made to the Regulations relating to qualification of Teachers in non-Professional Colleges affiliated to the University, M.Tech in Computer Science with minimum 55% marks is an eligible qualification for the appointment as Lecturer in Computer Science. It is also notified that candidates under this category shall be governed by AICTE Norms. In the note section to the amendment, it is specified that atleast 50% teachers for the Course in Computer Science should have their first Degree in Engineering.

In this context the Vice Chancellor, reckoning also the Regulations of University relating to qualifications prescribed for appointment of teachers in Computer Science in the Affiliated Colleges, accorded sanction to approve the appointment of the incumbent teacher. The Syndicate at the subsequent session dated 13.03.2020 considered that matter of confirmation of preliminary minutes of its previous session, 21.01.2020, and resolved to approve the initial appointment of Smt.Sreelekshmi.AN. Accordingly the appointment order in respect of Smt. Sreelekshmi and Dr Sreeraj M was been approved as per U O no Ac FII/34206/ 2019 dated 15.05 2020.

The Dy. DCE, Kottayam, along with the above mentioned letter (para 1) has forwarded the Judgement dated 31.10.2019 by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala on WA No. 735 /2017 , delivered in the context of a similar appointment in a college affiliated to the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam by relying on the exemption clause of NET, and thereby required the University to furnish the circumstances as to why approval was granted to the initial appointment in respect of Smt. Sreelekshmi A N as Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science, Sree Ayyappa College, Eramallikkara, under the Travancore Devaswom Board.

It may be noted in this context that the Hon' High Court of Kerala has relied on the remarks offered by the CSIR in delivering the above mentioned judgement which is verbatim quoted also. It does not appear that the remarks offered by the CSIR are conclusive on the applicability of the UGC-CSIR NET as a criterion for appointment of teachers in relation to degrees awarded under a different regulatory body with its own statutory authority. Further the AICTE has neither been included as a respondent in the case nor has its remarks been obtained. This is an obvious lacuna as the authority of AICTE cannot be appropriated by the UGC or the CSIR and if so, the appointment of teachers to Engineering colleges would also have to be governed by the same condition of possessing UGC-CSIR

NET which is not the case till date. The issue can become more complicated since it appears that the CBSE is presently conducting the NET. Therefore it is of prime importance to ascertain whether the AICTE accepts as judgement dated 31.10.2019 by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala on WA No. 735 /2017 principle the universality of UGC-CSIR NET with respect the degrees awarded under its statutory authority, in which the present method of appointment of teachers in Engineering colleges will have to be reviewed.

Although all the above mentioned facts may be brought to the attention of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala during the course of the hearing of the present Writ Petition, in which both the Government as well as the University are respondents, in view of the apprehension expressed by the Government, the Vice Chancellor was pleased to order, to keep in abeyance the sanction accorded to approve the appointment of Smt. Sreelekshmi A N until further orders, in deference to the Judgement dated 31.10.2019 by the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala on WA No. 735 /2017, brought to the attention of the University by the Government and to intimate the fact to the Government as well as to the Hon' High Court in the context of the present WP(C) 13488/2020 filed by Smt Nisha R .

The matter is reported to the Syndicate

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

Item No.17.25. Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance—Approval—reg.

(Ad .A VI)

The minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance held on 20.08.2020 is placed before the Syndicate for consideration and approval.

Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance

Date & Time : 20th August 2020, 12.30 p.m.
Venue : Syndicate Room, University Buildings

Members present

1. Adv. K. H. Babujan (Convener on Chair)
2. Adv. B. Balachandran
3. Sri. Bijukumar G
4. Adv. A. Ajikumar
5. Sri. B. P.Murali
6. Dr. Vijayan Pillai M
7. Dr. K.G. Gopchandran
8. Dr. K.B. Manoj

Members Absent

- 1 Dr. S. Nazeeb
- 2 Adv. Muralidharan Pillai. G
- 3 Dr. B. Unnikrishnan Nair

Item No.17.25.01: Revision of rent of Kaithavana Tourist Complex, Adoor where UIT Adoor Centre is now functioning-reg.

(Ad.AVII(A))

UIT Adoor is functioning at Kaithavana Tourist Complex on rent and the rent agreement was executed between Registrar and Sri. V T Kochukunju residing at Vilayil House, Karuvatta, Adoor Power of Attorney to Sri. Gee Varghese Oommen, Kaithavana Puthen Veedu, Karuvatta, Adoor. The rent agreement is executed only up to 30.04.2018 and the rent fixed was Rs. 29,030/- Now Sri. Gee Varghese has forwarded a notice to vacate the building.

The matter was placed before the Syndicate held on 30.10.2019 and resolved to authorise the Convenors, Standing Committees of the Syndicate on planning and Development & Department and Other Institutions of the University and Sri. Arun Kumar R, Member Syndicate to study and submit a report regarding the payment and revision of rent of UIT Adoor.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

The Committee members visited UIT Adoor on 19.11.2019 and met the owner of the building, Sri. Gee Varghese Oommen. Based on the discussion with the owner, the Committee recommended to give 25% increase in rent. (Report of the Committee appended). The owner of the building also requested to speed up the construction of new building at UIT, Adoor and he gave willingness to give the building for rent for one more year.

By increasing the rent amount by about 25%, the new rent becomes Rs. 36,287/- and this amount is to be given from 01.05.2018 onwards as earlier agreement was valid only upto 30.04.2018. Thus agreement is to be executed from 01.05.2018 onwards at the rate of Rs. 36,287/- per month as rent.

The former Principal of UIT Adoor vide letter dated 30.04.2020 has informed that an amount of 2 crores is sanctioned to construct building for UIT, Adoor from MLA fund of Sri.Chittayam Gopakumar and hence requested to take necessary follow up for the construction of the building otherwise Adoor would lose this educational institution.

The Syndicate at its meeting held on 04.06.2020 considered the matter vide item No.12.52 and resolved that the item be referred to the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended as follows:

1. *To enhance the rent to Rs.32,803/-(Rupees Thirty Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Three only) (13% increase in actual rent paid per month ie. Rs.29,030/-) from 01.05.2018 to 30.04.2020.*
2. *To enhance the rent to Rs. 36,287/- (Rupees Thirty Six Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty Seven Only) (25% increase in actual rent paid per month ie. Rs.29,030/-) from 01.05.2020.*

The Committee further recommended to entrust the subcommittee already constituted (Conveners, Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Planning and Development, Department & Other Institutions and Sri. Arun Kumar R, Member Syndicate) to submit a proposal for shifting the UIT, Adoor Centre to a new location in consultation with MLA, Adoor with immediate effect.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.25.02: *Imposing restriction to Chairman's fee for minor examinations (where the number of candidates is less than 10) – reg.*

(M&C I)

As per the UO No.M&C 1.2/1834/2018 dated 14.06.2018 and UO No.M&C 1.2/1847/2018 dated 11.09.2018 the minimum amount to be paid to an additional examiner shall be Rs.300/- and to the chairperson is Rs.4000/- irrespective of the answer scripts valued.

In certain examinations registered candidates and the fees collected are less and the chairman has to be paid Rs.4000/- Payment of such huge remuneration to the chairman for such minor examinations will lead to great financial loss for the University.

Considering the matter, the Controller of Examinations suggested that the matter regarding imposing restriction to Chairman's fee for such minor examinations (where the number of candidates is less than 10) may be looked into.

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter regarding imposing restriction to Chairman's fee for such minor examinations (where the number of candidates is less than 10) was placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations held on 26.02.2020 and the committee recommended to refer the item to the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance. The Syndicate at its meeting held on 28.04.2020 vide item no.10.169.20 approved the same.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to restrict the Chairman's fee for all examination as detailed below:

<i>SL.No.</i>	<i>Number of Candidates</i>	<i>Chairman's fee (in Rupees)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>1 to 10</i>	<i>1000/-</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>11 to 100</i>	<i>2000/-</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>More than 100</i>	<i>4000/-</i>

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.25.03 : **Setting up of Tagore Niketan Reading Corner - Purchase of paintings of Tagore for Rs.75,438/- request -reg.**

(Ad.AV)

Dr. Ajikumari T, University Librarian (i/c) was paid an amount of Rs.7,08,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Eight Thousand only) towards the purchase of portraits, furniture, history panels and for floor work, room painting, civil, electrical & artistic works and Rs.2,00,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh only) towards the purchase of books, totaling to Rs.9,08,000/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Eight Thousand only) as provisional advance for setting up of Tagore Reading Corner at the University Library, as per U.O. No. 1443/2020/UOK dated 29.05.2020, on the basis of the resolution of the Syndicate held on 21.01.2020.

The University Librarian (i/c), vide letter No.M/060/2020-21 dated 10.06.2020, has informed that, out of the sanctioned amount of Rs.2,00,000/-, an amount of Rs. 1,24,562/- had been utilized for purchasing maximum number of available books related with Rabindranath Tagore, and has requested to accord sanction to utilize the balance amount of Rs.75,438/- (Rupees Seventy Five thousand Four hundred and Thirty Eight only) for purchasing the paintings of Rabindranath Tagore.

The Finance has remarked that, as per the request by University Librarian (i/c), KUL, permission may be granted to University Librarian(i/c) for the utilization of balance amount for the purchase of paintings of Tagore out of 2 lakh sanctioned for the purchase of books for Setting up of Tagore NiketanReadingCorneratKeralaUniversityLibrary,subjecttoadministrativesanction.

Hence, as per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter of granting permission to the University Librarian (i/c), KUL, to utilize the balance amount of Rs. 75,438/- (Rupees Seventy Five thousand Four hundred and Thirty Eight only) (out of Rs.2,00,000/- sanctioned for the purchase of books), for purchasing the paintings of Tagore, is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance for consideration.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to accord sanction to the University Librarian (i/c) to utilize the balance amount of Rs. 75,438/- (Rupees Seventy Five Thousand Four Hundred and Thirty Eight only), out of 2 lakh sanctioned for the purchase of books for the purchase of paintings of Rabindranath Tagore from authorised agencies, after following purchase procedure.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.25.04: **Introduction of UNISPARK – Adoption of the system in the University of Kerala – Implementation - reg.**

Ref: 1. Government Order No. GO(P) No.103/2020/FIN dtd.04.08.2020 of Finance (ITSF) Department.

2. Minutes of the meeting of the Syndicate held on 14.08.2020 vide item No.16.55.

Government of Kerala has introduced GSPARK and UNISPARK as part of its initiative to develop and maintain a central repository of electronic data of all Human Resources/employee related service and pay roll matters for PSUs and Government in Aid institutions and Universities, similar to that of SPARK, in the case of Government Departments, vide G.O. cited above. Further it has been directed that all organizations receiving funds from the government should adopt the system on or before 01.09.2020, and that fund release for the second half of the Financial Year 2020-2021 will be sanctioned only after adoption of the system.

The automated software currently operational in the University is limited to disbursement of salary alone, unlike 'UNISPARK' which is envisaged as an integrated software. The work relating to input of service details, fixation of pay, sanctioning of leave etc, is at present, done by the respective Administrative/Finance sections. The data generated in various sections is manually incorporated into the automated software, thus enabling the disbursement of salary.

The scope of providing SPARK like software for PSUs/Universities etc was being examined by the Government since 2018. The officials of the University had attended training-cum-discussion sessions held by SPARK, PMU, for customizing the software to suit the requirements of the University. As part of this, a team of officials were sent to CUSAT in August, 2019 to get a hands on demonstration of the 'UNISPARK' software installed there. The report submitted by the officials and forwarded to the Administration, (copy appended) details a comparative study of the 'UNISPARK' software and the currently operational University software. The University Software was noted to be advanced in certain respects, to that of 'UNISPARK'.

On receipt of the Government directive to adopt, 'UNISPARK' on or before 01.09.2020, discussions were held with SPARK PMU officials, over telephone on 05.08.2020 and in person on 10.08.2020. The SPARK PMU officials have orally opined that the difficulties pointed out by the University in the earlier discussions have been addressed to and the software has been modified suitably. However, considering the Government directive to adopt the system urgently, and taking note of the fact that adoption of the entire operational field of 'UNISPARK', which is an integrated software, and transfer of data, within the stipulated limited time being improbable, the following proposals were submitted to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor for consideration and approval.

1. Adoption of 'UNISPARK' software in a phased manner.
2. Joint Registrar (Finance) may be nominated as Nodal Officer.
3. Two committee may be constituted for implementation, as follows
 - a. 'UNISPARK' Core Committee : Consisting of Registrar, Finance Officer, Joint Registrar (Finance), Joint Registrar (Administration), Deputy Registrar (Audit/ Accounts/ Administration). HOD, KUCC or his nominee may also be included as member. Core committee will monitor and supervise the progress of activities of the UNISPARK implementation committee.
 - b. 'UNISPARK' Implementation Committee: Consisting of Assistant Registrar (Audit/ Accounts/Administration), Section Officers (Audit/Accounts/Administration) and concerned Assistants. Section Officer in charge of Finance IT Cell will also be a member of the committee.

The committee will be responsible for the smooth implementation of UNISPARK in the University and shall report the user requirement and suggest modifications in the new system at the appropriate time.

As per orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter regarding the adoption of 'UNISPARK' software in the University was placed before the Syndicate for consideration.

The Syndicate meeting held on 14.08.2020 considered the matter vide Item No.16.55 and resolved to refer the same to the Standing Committee of Syndicate on Finance. The Vice-Chancellor has directed to implement the resolution of the Syndicate.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to implement the Government Order No. GO (P) No.103/2020/FIN dtd.04.08.2020 of Finance (ITSF) Department regarding "UNISPARK" in the University and to nominate Joint Registrar (Finance) as the Nodal Officer.

The Committee further recommended to authorise the Vice Chancellor to nominate Technical experts in the two committees to be constituted for implementing UNISPARK Software in the University as per requirement.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.25.Additional Item 1. Appointment of Library Assistants in UIMs and KUCTEs- Unification of remuneration – reg.

(Ad C)

Two vacancies of Library Assistants on contract basis exists in University Institute of Management, Kollam and Punalur. The existing Rank list for the post of Library assistants on contract basis in various University Institutes of Management which came into force on 03.09.2016 has completed 3 years. Hence the ranklist expired on 02.09.2019. Therefore file was submitted for orders of Vice-Chancellor for issuing a new notification inviting applications for the post of Library assistants on contract basis in various University Institutes of Management. The Vice- Chancellor has

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

ordered to place the matter before the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Departments and other Institutions.

The criteria for applying for the post of Library Assistants in UIMs as follows:

Educational Qualification:

Essential:

A degree obtained from the University of Kerala or any other University recognised by the University of Kerala and B.Lisc/ M.Lisc (recognised by the University of Kerala)

Desirable:

“Research, Experience or any other additional qualification”

Age: Not more than 40 years as on 01.01.2020 (Relaxation applicable as per norms)

Remuneration (Consolidated): Rs.17,500/- (Rupees Seventeen thousand and five hundred only per month)

The matter was placed before the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Departments and other Institutions held on 20.12.2019 and the committee recommended to issue notification inviting application for the post of Library Assistants on contract basis at University Institutes of Management and the Syndicate held on 13.01.2020 has approved the above recommendation. The Vice Chancellor has ordered to implement the above Syndicate resolution. When the file was put up for nominating a selection committee for the appointment of Library Assistants in University Institutes of Management, the Vice Chancellor has suggested that recently an interview was conducted for the post of Library Assistants for UITs and the list has been published. Hence to avoid duplication it is to be decided whether the same list can be made applicable for posting Library Assistants at University Institutes of Management also. Based on the interview held on 23.11.2019 a ranklist was prepared and approved by the Vice Chancellor on 04.01.2020 for the appointment of Library Assistants in UITs under the jurisdiction of University of Kerala including 41 candidates from which 6 appointments have been made.

As per orders of Vice Chancellor the matter was placed before Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Departments and other Institutions for consideration. The Committee recommended to issue a single notification for UIMs and KUCTEs. The Syndicate held on 28.04.2020 resolved to approve the above recommendation. Accordingly the first meeting of the Selection Committee constituted for the Appointment of Library Assistants on contract basis in UIMs and KUCTEs was held on 19.08.2020. The Selection Committee recommended to unify the qualification, remuneration and mode of appointment of Library Assistants in UIMs and KUCTEs and issue notification after placing the matter before Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance. The Library Assistants in UIMs are appointed on contract basis for a tenure of eleven months @ Rs. 17,500/- per month after executing an employment contract where as the Library Assistants in KUCTEs are appointed on daily wages @ Rs.740/- per day subject to monthly maximum of Rs.19,980/- for a period of one month and renewed after giving a day break (no employment contract is executed).

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to refer the item to the Syndicate.

The meeting came to an end at 1.00 pm

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the item be referred to the Combined Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings & Finance.

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Item No.17.26. Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings--Approval—reg.

(Ad. A VI)

The minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020 is placed before the Syndicate for consideration and approval.

Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings

Date & Time : 20th August 2020, 11.00 a.m.
 Venue : Syndicate Room, University Buildings,
 Thiruvananthapuram.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Members Present

1. Adv. B. Balachandran (Convener on chair)
2. Adv. K. H. Babujan
3. Dr. S. Nazeeb
4. Adv. Muralidharan Pillai G.
5. Adv. A. Ajikumar
6. Sri. Bijukumar G
7. Sri. B.P Murali
8. Dr. K. G. Gopchandran
9. Prof. K. Lalitha
10. Dr. K.B. Manoj

Members Absent

1. Dr. Mathew V
2. Smt. Renju Suresh

Item No.17.26.01: *Department of Botany---Engaging three contract lecturers for handling the classes of M.Sc. Biodiversity Conservation Course---reg.*

(Ad. A.VI)

The Head, Department of Botany has requested to take necessary steps for engaging three teachers (2 in Botany & 1 in Zoology) on contract basis for handling the classes of M.Sc. Biodiversity Conservation Course. The Head has informed that the guest lecturers engaged on hourly basis for handling M.Sc. Biodiversity Conservation course have full time engagement in taking theory and practical classes. Also, continuing them on hourly basis is difficult and their service is not enough for completing the classes in an efficient manner in stipulated time.

It may be noted that, as per U.O no. 438/2019/UOK dated 22.08.2019, a panel of 17 guest lecturers (8 in Botany & 9 in Zoology) was approved for handling the M.Sc. Biodiversity Conservation Course in the Department of Botany. At present, considering the availability of teachers, 2 guest lecturers in Botany & 1 guest lecturer in Zoology has been engaged on hourly basis at a time, from this panel.

The Faculty position in the Department of Botany is as follows: Only two faculty positions is vacant in the Department.

Post	Sanctioned	Filled	Vacant
Assistant Professor	7	6	1
Associate Professor	2	1	1
Professor	1	1	0

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to engage two contract lecturers in Botany for handling the MSc. Biodiversity Conservation Course in the Department of Botany.

The Committee further recommended to utilize the service of guest lecturers from the approved panel, for the conduct of Zoology classes.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No. 17.26.02: ക്ലറിക്കൽ അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് തസ്തികയിൽ നിന്നും അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് തസ്തികയിലേക്ക് തസ്തിക മാറ്റം വഴി സ്ഥാനക്കയറ്റം നേടിയ ബിരുദമില്ലാത്ത ജീവനക്കാർ തുടർ സ്ഥാനക്കയറ്റങ്ങൾ നൽകണമെന്നാവശ്യപ്പെട്ട് നൽകിയിരിക്കുന്ന അപേക്ഷ സംബന്ധിച്ച്.

(Ad.AI)

19.08.2002 - ലെ Acad.L.Ord/022263/2002 നമ്പർ നോട്ടീഫിക്കേഷൻ പ്രകാരം അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് തസ്തികയുടെ അടിസ്ഥാന യോഗ്യത ഡിഗ്രി ആണെങ്കിലും എസ്.എസ്.എൽ.സി -യോതത്തുല്യ യോഗ്യതയോളം ക്ലറിക്കൽ അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് - മാരുടെ തസ്തികമാറ്റം വഴി അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് തസ്തികയിലേക്ക് കയറ്റം സ്ഥാന

Item No.17.26.03: Dr. Jalaja Kumari C, Assistant Librarian (Rtd) - Reckoning prior service for pensionary benefits - Request -reg.

(Ad.AV)

Dr. Jalaja Kumari C, Assistant Librarian (Rtd), ide letter dated 01.01.2020, has stated that, she had 5 years prior service as Librarian Grade IV in the Municipal Common Service from 28.10.1991 to 13.12.1996 and her service book during that period was attached alongwith the University service book. Therefore, Dr. Jalaja Kumari C has requested to count her prior service of 5 years as Librarian Grade IV in the Municipal Common Service from 28.10.1991 to 13.12.1996 along with her University service for pensionary benefits. She has also apologized for the delay occurred in submitting her application. It may noted that, Dr. Jalaja Kumari C, Assistant Librarian has retired from the service on 31.03.2020.The University Librarian (i/c), University Library has recommended and forwarded the request.

The Finance has remarked that, "the prior Govt. service of University employees can be reckoned for granting pensionary benefits under G.O(P) No.517/09/Fin dated 19.11.2009. Dr.Jalaja Kumari C. has prior Government Service from 28.10.1991 to 13.12.1996 and as per the entries in her Service Book she joined University service on 16.12.1996. (The dates 14.12.1996 and 15.12.1996 being second Saturday and Sunday respectively)."

The Finance has also remarked that, 'as per the Rule 22 C, Part I, KSR,the employees who wish to reckon their past service for service benefits are required to apply for the same within 5 years from the date of his/her entry in the later service and the matter of granting condonation in such cases is not dealt with Finance. Administration may consider the request for condonation on its own merit to follow precedent.'

Therefore, as per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter of reckoning the prior service rendered by Dr.Jalaja Kumari C as Librarian Grade IV in the Municipal Common Service for 5 years from 28.10.1991 to 13.12.1996 and granting condonation for the delay in applying for the same, on the basis of the remarks of Finance, is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended as follows:

1. **To condone the delay occurred in submitting the request for reckoning prior service for pensionary benefits, in respect of Dr. Jalaja Kumari.C, Assistant Librarian (Rtd).**
2. **To count the prior service rendered by Dr. Jalaja Kumari C, Assistant Librarian (Rtd), as Librarian Grade IV in the Municipal Common Service from 25.10.1991 to 13.12.1996 along with her University Service, for pensionary benefits.**

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.04: ധനകാര്യവകുപ്പ് -ദിവസ വേതന സുരക്ഷാജീവനക്കാരുടെ വേതനം സ്പഷ്ടീകരണം- സംബന്ധിച്ച്.

(Ad AV)

കേരളയൂണിവേഴ്സിറ്റിസെക്യൂരിറ്റിസ്റ്റാഫ് അസോസിയേഷൻ്റെ 13.01.2020 -ലെ കത്ത് പ്രകാരം, 15.12.2019ലെ U.O.No.Ad.AV.1019/2019/UOK പ്രകാരം സുരക്ഷാ ജീവനക്കാരുടെ വേതനം 725/- രൂപയിൽ നിന്നും 740/- രൂപയായി ഉയർത്തുകയും എന്നാൽ പരമാവധി വേതനം 20,300/- രൂപയിൽ നിന്ന് 19,980/- ആയി നിജപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും അറിയിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. കൂടാതെ, നിലവിൽ സുരക്ഷാ വിഭാഗത്തിൽ ജീവനക്കാരുടെ ആംഗ്യ സംഖ്യ പരിമിതമാണെന്നും, ജീവനക്കാർ ഒരു ദിവസം അധിക സേവനം അനുഷ്ഠിക്കുവാൻ തയാറാണെന്നും, ആയതിനാൽ പ്രവൃത്തി ദിനങ്ങൾ 28 ദിവസമാക്കുവാനും അതിനനുസൃതമായ വേതനം നൽകുവാനും ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നു.

മേൽകത്തിനോടപ്പം ചേർത്തിരിക്കുന്ന 30.08.2019ലെ G.O.(P) No.119/2019/FIN ലെ സർക്കാർ ഉത്തരവ് പ്രകാരം, മന്ത്രിമാരുടെയും, സ്പീക്കർ, ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി സ്പീക്കർ,

എല്ലാവിഭാഗങ്ങൾക്കും ഓൺലൈൻ ക്ലാസ്സുകൾക്ക് പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനു ഒരു സ്റ്റുഡിയോ മാനേജറുടെയും ടെക്നിക്കൽ അസ്സിസ്റ്റന്റിനെയും സേവനം ലഭ്യമാക്കുന്നതിനു C&LK കോഓർഡിനേറ്റർ സമർപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പ്രൊപ്പോസൽ തോടൊപ്പം ചേർക്കുന്നു.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to refer the item to the Combined meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings, Finance and Academics & Research.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.07: Complaint against Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar, Printer Grade I, Kerala University Press-reg.

(Ad.DIII)

Sri.O.T Prakash, the Section Officer (Hr.Grade) and General Secretary, Kerala University Staff Union, has complained that when he warned Sri. A.K Sunil Kumar, Printer Grade I, Kerala University Press (wrongly mentioned in the request as Binder) against watching TV in the Staff Union Hall during Office hours (11.00 AM), he was suddenly attacked with a chair and has wounded him on hand and neck. Sri.O.T Prakash has also requested to take necessary action against Sri. A.K Sunil Kumar.

It may be noted that this is not the first time such complaints have been received against Sri A.K.Sunilkumar. He has been negligent in discharging duties and he has not attained required out-turn since 2004.

He has been on unauthorized absence for long intermittent periods since 2008. Several Memos of Charges were served on him during the last decade. He was suspended from service in 2009 but was reinstated following an enquiry by the Joint Registrar Sri.P.Raghavan and the period of absence of Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar was treated as LWA and was strictly warned. But he did not rejoin duty. On the basis of report from the Superintendent in-Charge of Kerala University Press, the Vice-Chancellor ordered that he be terminated from service in accordance with the Rules. He did not co-operate with the resultant proceedings.

It was decided to impose a major Penalty of Compulsory Retirement against Shri.A.K.Sunilkumar as part of disciplinary proceedings in accordance with Statute 25(vi) of Kerala University First Statutes, 1977, and also by invoking 49(ii) and (iii) of the Statutes.

It was during this course of action, a representation was received from Dr.A.K. Sudharma, sister of Shri.A.K Sunil Kumar, informing that **he had been undergoing treatment for Schizophrenia since 05.12.2014** (Medical Certificate attached) and has not recovered from his illness and hence advised rest for three months in order to recover fully and be fit, and so the disciplinary proceedings initiated against Shri A.K Sunil Kumar was kept in abeyance.

In response to the request of Shri A.K Sunil Kumar dated 10.06.2015 to reinstate him in service, he was directed to undergo a medical examination by a duly constituted Medical Board of the Government.

Based on the Standing Disability Assessment Board Certificate of the District Medical Officer, Thiruvananthapuram, certifying that Shri A.K Sunil Kumar is not suffering from any mental and behavioural disorder at present and is fit to resume his duties, vide U.O.No.Ad.DIII.1.9187/2015 dated 17.09.2015,

- i) The proposed imposition of Major Penalty of Compulsory Retirement against Shri.A.K.Sunil Kumar, Printer Gr I, Kerala University Press was dropped and
- ii) He was reinstated in service, with immediate effect, by regularizing the period of absence w.e.f. 29.10.2008 till the date of joining duty, as Leave Without Allowance. Accordingly he joined duty on 18.09.2015.

However since 2017, several complaints were reported against Shri A.K Sunil Kumar by the Superintendent, Kerala University Press, ranging from negligence in duty to damage of records and papers including Attendance Register. As in earlier instances Sri A.K.Sunilkumar has not been co-operating with the proceedings.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

The Syndicate at its meeting held on 28.12.2019 resolved to regularize the period of unauthorized absence of Sri A.K.Sunilkumar, Printer Grade I, Kerala University Press, treating his period of unauthorized absence as Leave Without Allowance. Accordingly his period of unauthorized absence from 25.03.2017 to 31.08.2019 has been regularized as Leave Without Allowance as per U.O.No.Ad.DIII.1.9187/2015 dated 25.01.2020. But he did not join duty and has responded to the resultant Memo by a letter totally incomprehensible.

Thus it can be seen that Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar has neither been doing his duty nor been co-operating with the University which has been magnanimous to give him ample opportunities to correct himself. He has a history of **Schizophrenia and only professionals in the field can ascertain whether the behaviour of Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar is because of derailed mind.**

It may here be seen that being a Printer in the Kerala University press, his work involves dealing with heavy Machinery and could be hazardous for himself and his co-workers, if he is in a disturbed state of mind.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to hear Sri. O.T Prakash, Section Officer (Hr. Grade) and Sri A.K Sunilkumar, Printer Gr I, Kerala University Press by the Committee.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.08: *Kerala University Press-Dereliction of Duty- Unauthorized Absence- Non submission of written statement of defence in response to the Memo of Charges and Statement of Allegations issued in respect of Shri. A.K Sunil Kumar, Printer Grade I- Consideration of-reg.*

(Ad.D III)

While considering the matter regarding the unauthorized absence, dereliction of duty and non-submission of written statement of defence in response to the Memo of Charges and Statement of Allegations issued to Shri.A.K.Sunil kumar, Printer Grade I, Kerala University Press, in connection with his Dereliction of duty, unauthorized absence and Leave Regularization Order dated 25.01.2020 issued to him, the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings at its meeting held on 06.05.2020, noted that Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar,Printer Grade I, Kerala University Press, has not yet responded to the Memo of Charges issued on 30.12.2019 and U.O.No.Ad.DIII.1.9187/2015 dated 25.01.2020 and not joined duty till date.

After considering all these matters, the Committee recommended to authorize the Registrar to issue a notice to Ari.A.K.Sunil Kumar, Printer Grade I, seeking explanation as to why he failed to rejoin duty despite his LWA being regularized and also to show-cause as to why his service in the University should not be terminated.

The above recommendation was approved by the Vice- Chancellor in exercise of the powers vested under Section 10(13) of the Kerala University Act 1974, subject to reporting to the Syndicate for initiating immediate action.

Accordingly Memo dated 11.05.2020 has been issued to Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar, Printer Grade I, KUP, seeking explanation as to why he failed to rejoin duty despite his LWA being regularized and also to show-cause as to why his service in the University should not be terminated and he is allowed 15 days time to submit his written Statement from the date of receipt of the Memo.

As resolved by the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings at its meeting held on 06.05.2020, the matter has been Reported to the Syndicate.

As per item No.11.59 the Syndicate at its meeting held on 15.05.2020 noted the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in the matter of Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar.

Kindly note that Acknowledgement of Memo issued to Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar, was received in this office and as per the Acknowledgement, Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar, accepted the Memo on 15.05.2020. But no explanation was offered by him to the Memo till date.

However vide letter referred (4) above, Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar has submitted a letter (Tapal No.13825 dated 28.05.2020), which is not legible. Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar has been directed to submit the application typed in English/Malayalam, since none of his letters were comprehensible.

It may here be seen that Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar was given plenty of opportunities to counter the Charges against him and correct himself. However he never made good of these Opportunities.

Another file regarding the Complaint submitted by Sri.O.T.Praksh, the Section officer and General Secretary, Kerala University Staff Union against Sri.A.K.Sunilkumar, has been placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings

In this scenario the Vice-Chancellor has ordered to place the matter of Dereliction of Duty- Unauthorized Absence-Non- submission of written statement of defence in response to the Memo of Charges and Statement of Allegations issued in respect of Shri. A.K Sunil Kumar, Printer Grade I, Kerala University Press, before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings for reporting the same.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to defer the item to the next meeting of the Committee.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.09: *Department of Sanskrit – Extension of the tenure of Contract Lecturer-Reg.*

(Ad DIII)

Ref: U.O No.Ad.DIII.1.41248/2011/19 dated 09.08.2019

As per U.O read above, Smt.Sabna T Thaj was engaged as Lecturer on Contract basis, in the Department of Sanskrit, University of Kerala, Kariavattom, for a period of Eleven months, w..e.f 11.07.2019 @ Rs.32,000/- per month as remuneration.This tenure of contract expired on 10.06.2020.

In this context, vide letter dated 12.06.2020, Dr.C.A.Shaila, Professor & Head, Department of Sanskrit has requested that steps may be taken to extend the tenure of Contract of Smt.Sabna T Thaj for one more year, as the service of the Contract Lecturer is inevitable in the Department.

In this regard the following may be noted.

- 1) Vide U.ONos.Ad.DIII.1132/2020/UOK dated **24.04.2020** Ad.DIII.1133/2020/UOK & Ad.DIII.1134/2020/UOK dated **27.04.2020**, two Assistant Professors and One Associate Professor were appointed in the Department of Sanskrit.
- 2) The Sanctioned strength and present strength of teaching faculties in the Department of Sanskrit is as follows.

Sanctioned Post	Sanctioned Strength	Present Strength	Total No. of Vacant Post
Assistant Professor	4	4	0
Associate Professor	1	1	0
Professor	1	0	1

As per the orders of Vice-Chancellor, **the matter regarding the extension of the period of Contract of Smt.Sabna T Thaj, Contract Lecturer in the Department of Sanskrit**, is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipments and Buildings, for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to submit a proposal along with the details of strength of students, work load statement etc. before the next meeting of the Committee.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.10: *Request from Smt.Smitha S, Computer Operator, CACEE, for conversion of the post of Computer Operator on contract -reg .*

(Ad A II)

The request of Smt. Smitha S who is working as Computer Operator on daily wages at CACEE for changing her category to that of contract basis was placed in the Monitoring Committee for CACEE held on 26.02.2020, which recommended to place the request before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings. The meeting of the Syndicate held on

28.04.2020 vide item No.10.181.07 resolved to approve the recommendation of the Monitoring Committee for CACEE held on 26.02.2020.

Smt. Smitha S has been working as computer operator in CACEE on daily wage basis from 01.06.2006. The post of Computer Operator of CACEE is treated as equivalent to DEO of the University Office for the purpose of remuneration. Currently she receiving remuneration of ₹740 per day to maximum of ₹19980 (Rupees Nineteen Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Only). The Director, CACEE has forwarded the detailed workload of Smt. Smitha S. (appended).

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to refer the item to the Syndicate with a report in detail, in respect of the employees whose mode of engagement has been changed from daily wage basis to contract.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to engage Smt. Smitha S, Computer Operator, CACEE on contract basis w.e.f. 24.08.2020.

Item No.17.26.11: ***Department of Islamic Studies-Creation of four (4) post of Assistant Professor and One Post of Associate Professor both in Islamic History and West Asian Studies-reg.***

(Ad A II)

The Head, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Kerala has requested to create four(4) post of Assistant Professor and One Post of Associate Professor both in Islamic History and West Asian Studies in the Department of Islamic Studies. The Department of Islamic Studies, University of Kerala, Kariavattom is offering MA in Islamic History, MA in West Asian Studies, MPhil in Islamic History and Ph.D Programme.

Sanctioned strength of the Department is one (1) Professor Post and Three (3) Assistant Professor post. One (1) post of Professor is currently laying vacant in the Department. The MA in West Asian Studies is newly started programme. The Head has forwarded the teaching hours statement of the Department (appended) and stated that University Departments are engaged in research and outreach programmes, faculty pattern is not based purely on teaching hours for admitting M.Phil and Research students, permanent faculties are required.

As per chapter 3 of KU First Statutes, 1977 1) Institution of posts-The Senate shall be competent to institute Professorships, Readerships, Lecturerships and such other teaching and research post required by the university on the motion of the Syndicate and/ or on the proposals of the Academic Council therefore endorsed by the Syndicate.

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor the request of the Head, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Kerala for creation of four (4) post of Assistant Professor and One(1) Post of Associate Professor both in Islamic History and West Asian Studies in the Department of Islamic Studies is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings for consideration and recommendation.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to seek permission from the Government for creating the following posts in Islamic History and West Asian Studies, in the Department of Islamic Studies.

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. | <i>Assistant Professor</i> | <i>4 nos.</i> |
| 2. | <i>Associate Professor</i> | <i>1. No.</i> |

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to place the proposal before the Senate for approval.

Item No.17.26.12: ***Release of pending salary in r/o Smt Shiji V J, Former Programmer on contract basis at School of Distance Education -reg :-***

(Ad. B III)

Smt. Shiji V J was permitted to join as Programmer on contract basis at School of Distance Education for a period of one year from the date of joining on a consolidated monthly remuneration of Rs 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty thousand only) vide Memo No.Ad.D1/UCC/2017(F) dtd.14.07.2017 and accordingly she had joined on 17.07.2017. But Employment contract in this regard was not executed by the Programmer and hence further contractual procedures were pending.

Meanwhile she resigned from the post due to health issues on 10.08.2017 without prior notice.

Now the Director, School of Distance Education has requested to take steps to release her pending salary for the period from 17.07.2017 to 10.08.2017, during which she had performed duty as Programmer on contract basis at school of Distance Education and also forwarded the Employment Contract cum Indemnity Agreement, Joining Report and Medical Fitness Certificate submitted by her.

When the file was forwarded for Endorsement from Finance, the Finance Officer remarked that the execution of contract for an already expired period, in r/o Smt. Shiji V J, who resigned on 10.08.2017 is irrelevant and suggested that necessary administrative sanction may be obtained for the release of the remuneration due to her for the period from 17.07.17 to 10.08.17, without the execution of Employment Contract. The Finance Officer further remarked that release of remuneration to the incumbent may be considered only after verifying the eligibility since no prior sanction was obtained. Accordingly the attendance of the incumbent during the above said period was verified and the Director, School of Distance Education has recommended to release the salary of the incumbent during this period.

When the file was submitted for administrative sanction, the Vice -Chancellor ordered to place the matter regarding the release of pending salary in r/o Smt. Shiji V J, former Programmer on contract basis at School of Distance Education before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipments and Building.

Hence, as per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the above said matter is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipments and Buildings for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to release eligible pending salary in respect of Smt. Shiji V J, former Programmer on contract basis in the School of Distance Education.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.13 : Department of Geology – Declaration of satisfactory completion of probation of Dr. Anil Kumar.Y, Assistant Professor – reg -

(Ad.DI)

Dr. Anil Kumar. Y, 'Arathy', TC-11/1463, PRA-188, Temple Road, Parottukonam, Nalanchira. P. O, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 015 was provisionally appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Geology, w.e.f 23.11.2016 F.N., subject to the final verdict of WP(C) 19190/2016 filed by Dr Anil Kumar Y ,himself against the University of Kerala and others. Dr. Anil Kumar Y had submitted a request to declare his probation, when he completed his one year of service as Assistant Professor. But, the Standing Counsel opined that, as the appointment is made conditionally subject to the final verdict of WP(C)No. 19190 of 2016, declaration of probation cannot be done without specific orders from the Hon'ble Court, to the effect. Hence, his request was not considered.

Now, the Head, Department of Geology, has forwarded a copy of the Judgement dated 15.06.2020 in WP(C)No. 19190/2016, along with the Progress Report and request in respect of Dr. Anil Kumar Y to do the needful to declare the satisfactory completion of his probation. As per the judgement dated 15.06.2020 in WP(C)No.19190/2016 filed by Dr.Anil Kumar.Y, there is no impediment in making the appointment or declaring the probation of the petitioner. The interim order has been made absolute and the WP has been closed.

The Finance remarked that, Dr. Anil Kumar Y has not availed any eligible leave during his period of probation.

Sanction has been accorded by the Vice-Chancellor to place the matter regarding declaration of satisfactory completion of probation of Dr. Anil Kumar Y before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings.

Accordingly, the matter regarding declaration of satisfactory completion of probation of Dr. Anil Kumar Y, Assistant Professor, Department of Geology, w.e.f 23.11.2017 F.N., is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to declare the satisfactory completion of probation of Dr. Anil Kumar Y., in the post of Assistant Professor, Department of Geology as on 23.11.2017 F.N.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.14: *Irregular moderation due to software error - Regularizing the period of suspension of Dr.Vinod Chandra S.S, Director (i/c), University Computer Centre - reg -*

(Ad.D.I)

The Syndicate at its meeting held on 22.11.2019 ([Special Item 1](#)), while considering the Report of the Expert Committee regarding the alleged unauthorized hike in moderation marks, had resolved to suspend Dr.Vinod Chandra S.S, Director, University Computer Centre with immediate effect, pending enquiry and Dr.Vinod Chandra S.S, was placed under suspension with immediate effect, vide U.O.No.Ad.DI.1/UCC/2019 dated 22.11.2019.

Later, the Syndicate, at its Meeting held on 15.05.2020 ([Item.No.11.34](#)), considered the explanation and apology submitted by Dr. Vinod Chandra S.S on the matter and observed that, he has not carried out his responsibilities as the Director, KUCC conscientiously and that, arguments put forward by him against the disciplinary action is not acceptable. As the said damage / loss is huge, the same cannot be computed and quantified in pecuniary terms. However, considering the fact that he has accepted the moral responsibility for the software error and has appealed for reinstating him in service, the Syndicate resolved the following:

- To limit his period of suspension to **six months**.
- To compensate the loss suffered by the University by collecting the amount equal to the difference between the amount paid as Subsistence Allowance during the period of suspension and the total salary due for him during the period of six months as **Fine**.

Accordingly, [U.O.No.Ad.DI.1/UCC/2019 dated 21.05.2020](#) was issued and Dr.Vinod Chandra S.S was granted permission to rejoin duty on 22.05.2020 and he rejoined duty on 22.05.2020. Here, it may also be seen that, later, Dr.Vinod Chandra S.S was technically relieved from the post of Director, University Computer Centre, w.e.f 11.06.2020 F.N. to assume the charge of Professor, Department of Computer Science, in compliance with the resolution of the Syndicate at its meeting held on 04.06.2020 (Additional Item No.1) and he has also been given the full additional charge of the post of Director, University Computer Centre, w.e.f 11.06.2020 F.N., vide U.O.No. Ad.D.1.2/ UCC/ 2012 dated 11.06.2020.

The Finance/Audit has pointed out that, as per **Rule 56B.(1), Part I, KSRs, "When an officer who has been suspended is reinstated, the authority competent to order reinstatement shall consider and make a specific order:-**

1. **regarding the pay and allowances to be paid to the officer for the period of suspension ending with reinstatement or the date of his retirement on superannuation, as the case may be; and**
2. **whether or not the said period shall be treated as a period spent on duty."**

Here, it may be seen that, decision on how the period of suspension in r/o Dr.Vinod Chandra S.S shall be treated was not taken, while it was decided to limit his period of suspension to six months. But, it was directed to compensate the loss suffered by the University by collecting the amount equal to the difference between the amount paid as Subsistence Allowance during the period of suspension and the total salary due for him during the period of six months as fine.

The Finance/Audit has also pointed out that, **normally the salary can be disbursed for period of suspension, when such period is regularized against the eligible leave in credit of the suspended employee (ie. other than LWA and dies-non). Also in the case where suspension made has been declared as wholly unjustified, full pay and allowances is granted under Rule56B. (3) Part I, KSRs.**

But, the Rule 56B. (3), Part I, KSRs cannot be made applicable here, since the suspension does not stand wholly unjustified, as the Syndicate, at its Meeting held on 15.05.2020 (Item.No.11.34) had observed that,

1. Dr.Vinod Chandra has not carried out his responsibilities as the Director KUCC conscientiously.
2. The arguments put forward by him against the disciplinary action is not acceptable.
3. The said damage/loss is huge; the same cannot be computed and quantified in pecuniary terms.
4. Dr.Vinod Chandra had accepted the moral responsibility for the software error and appealed for reinstating him in Service

The Vice-Chancellor has ordered to place the matter regarding regularizing the period of suspension of Dr.Vinod Chandra S.S, Director (i/c), University Computer Centre, as stipulated in Rule 56B.(1), Part I, KSRs, before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings for consideration.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to seek legal opinion from the learned Standing Counsel of the University.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.Additional Item No.01:

Permission to create and run You Tube Channel - employees of the University - reg .

(Ad.AI)

- Ref:
1. Representation from 8 Assistants/Computer Assistant dated 09.06.2020, seeking permission to create a You Tube Channel named 'TEAM MUKHARI' to upload their dance performances
 2. Submission from Smt. Ahina Fathima. S, Assistant (Selection Grade)

Vide representation cited (1) above, 8 Women Employees of the University, Smt. Akhila V S, Assistant Ad. A II section, Smt. Arathy. K M, Computer Assistant Gr. II, EF section, Smt. Gopika M S, Assistant, Audit I(A) section, Smt. Joshna K R, Assistant, Audit IV B section, Smt. Nileena T. Raghavan, Assistant, EE II R section, Smt. Lekshmi S, Assistant (Selection Grade) EE II J section, Smt. Padma K P, Assistant (Selection Grade) & Smt. Resmi Chandran, Assistant (Selection Grade) have requested permission to create a Youtube Channel named "Team Mukhari" to upload their dance performances.

Vide submission cited as (2) above, Smt. Ahina Fathima S, Selection Grade Assistant also put a request similar in nature, requested to issue her No Objection Certificate, for a You Tube Channel, which she has already started using her own email id. She has stated that the You Tube Channel was created during the Lock down period and is currently being operated by the members of her family. However she has not mentioned the purpose for which the You Tube Channel was started for. She has requested to issue her No Objection Certificate for the same.

In the first instance, the file had been forwarded to Finance for remarks in this regard. The Finance has thus remarked on the request of the employees, which are as follows.

1. Rule 48 of the Kerala Govt Servant's conduct Rules, 1960 under the title Private Trade or employment – states that "No Government servant shall, except with the previous sanction of the Government, engage directly or indirectly in any trade or business or undertake any employment: Provided that a Government Servant may, without such sanction undertake honorary work of a social or charitable nature or occasional work of a literary, artistic or scientific character, subject to the condition that his official duties do not thereby suffer, but he shall not undertake or shall discontinue such work if so directed by the Government.
2. Under para 2(ii) of the GO(P) No. 28/2015/P&ARD dated 11.11.2015, in the case of presentation on news based or other programmes in private Radios, Television Channels or participation in art, sports, entertainment and game shows conducted by such establishments and for performing or engaging other activities in Film/Serial/Professional drama; sanction shall be accorded to employees only after examining the merit of the individual cases.

3. You Tube is a video channel which spotlight videos and events, akin to a private television channel, therefore the stipulation issued vide the aforesaid G.O stands applicable. Administrative sanction is required for such engagements. Provisions are there for a You Tuber to earn money. Accepting money on account of the same shall come under 'Private trade/employment, which may be avoided

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

The decision on issuance of No Objection Certificate to the applicants under the circumstances may be taken at the administrative level, the Finance has stated; adding that if the NOC is issued, the applicants will be personally responsible for the contents of the programme. They will have to strictly abide by the rules applicable to them as employees of the University and further it would come under the purview of the IT Act 2000.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to examine as to whether there is any legal impediment in issuing NOC for starting a You Tube Channel by the employees of the University and to submit the same before the next meeting of the Committee.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.Additional Item No.02:

Career Advancement Scheme of UGC Regulations 2010-Change in effective date of placement granted to Dr.Indu K.V., Assistant Professor of Hindi, SDE-request-reg.

(Ad.DII)

Dr.Indu K.V., was appointed as Assistant Professor of Hindi at School of Distance Education, University of Kerala w.e.f. 06.06.2013. Prior to joining University of Kerala, she had been working as Assistant Professor at Government College, Kasaragod from 28.06.2010 to 08.06.2011 and in PTM Government College, Perinthalmanna from 09.06.2011 to 05.06.2013. The prior service rendered by Dr.Indu K.V was reckoned as qualifying service along with University service vide UO no.Ad.BIII.2/1720/2013 dated 31.10.2013. She was placed as Assistant Professor (Stage 2) w.e.f. 11.11.2014.

As per Career Advancement Scheme of UGC Regulations 2010, Assistant Professor having Ph.D, who have completed four years of service in (Stage 1), fulfilling the following eligibility conditions shall be recommended for placement to the post of Assistant Professor (Stage 2):-

- 1) Minimum API scores using PBAS scoring proforma developed by the concerned University.
- 2) One Orientation and Refresher/ Research Methodology Course of 2/3 week duration.
- 3) Screening cum Verification process.

Though she completed four years of service as Assistant Professor (stage 1) on 27.06.2014, she attended the mandatory orientation course only from 14.10.2014 to 10.11.2014. Hence her effective date of placement to Assistant Professor (stage 2) was extended to 11.11.2014 ie, the next day of completion of orientation course.

However, UGC vide public notice F.No.2-16/2002(PS)/Pt.FI.II dated 16.10.2018 extended the date of participation in Orientation /Refresher course in respect of teachers for the purpose of career advancement scheme upto 31.12.2018 for all candidates to ensure uniformity. On the basis of this public notice Dr.Indu K.V. has now requested to revise the date of placement as Assistant Professor (Stage 2) wef 28.06.2014 (the date of completion of four years of service) instead of 11.11.2014(the date of completion of orientation course) .

It may be noted in this regard that, on receipt of similar requests from teachers viz. Dr.Hepsy Rose Mary, Dr.P.Jeyakrishnan and Dr. Pushpam M., the Syndicate had resolved to approve the recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings to revise the effective date of their placement irrespective of the date of attending the orientation/ refresher course on the strength of the public notice dated 16.10.2018, issued by UGC.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to revise the effective date of placement of Dr. Indu K. V., Assistant Professor in the School of Distance Education, as Assistant Professor (Stage 2), with effect from 28.06.2014 (the date of completion of four years of service), on the strength of UGC vide public notice F.No.2-16/2002(PS)/Pt.FI.II dated 16.10.2018.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.26.Additional Item No.03:

Declaration of satisfactory completion of probation in r/o Dr. Synudeen Sahib.S, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Kariavattom-reg.

(Ad.DI)

The Professor and Head, Department of Zoology, has forwarded the request from Dr.Synudeen Sahib.S, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, for declaration of satisfactory completion of probation.

Dr.Synudeen Sahib.S was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Zoology, Kariavattom w.e.f 17.04.2019 FN in the pay band of ₹15600- 39100+ AGP 6000 vide U.O No.Ad.DI.3/Zool/13578/2019 dtd. 15.05.2019. He has successfully completed 1 year in this post on 16.04.2020. Hence, Dr.Synudeen Sahib.S has requested to declare his probation.

The Finance has remarked that **Dr.Synudeen Sahib.S has not availed himself of any eligible leave during the period of probation and he may be declared to have satisfactorily he completed his period of probation in the post of Assistant Professor on 17.04.2020 FN.**

Therefore the matter of declaration of satisfactory completion of probation in r/o Dr.Synudeen Sahib.S in the post of Assistant Professor in the Department of Zoology, Kariavattom w.e.f. **17.04.2020 FN** is placed before the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to declare the satisfactory completion of probation of Dr. Synudeen Sahib S., in the post of Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, as on 17.04.2020 FN.

The meeting came to an end at 12.00 Noon

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment & Buildings held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.27

Department of Botany-Adopting selected schools in TVPM district for setting Medicinal plant/Butterfly gardens-selection of schools-Consideration of-reg.

(Ad.A.VI)

The Head, Department of Botany had forwarded a project proposal for "Adopting selected schools in Thiruvananthapuram district for setting Medicinal plant/Butterfly gardens" co-ordinated by Dr. T. S. Swapna and Dr.P M Radhamany., Professors, in connection with the proposals for extension activities as part of the NAAC accreditation. It is noted that the total expected expenses for the project amounting Rs.1,75,000/- (One lakh seventy five thousand only).

The Syndicate at its meeting held on 17.07.2020, vide item no.14.12.09, resolved to approve the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance held on 22.06.2020, to approve the proposal and to pay an amount of Rs.1,75,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Only) as provisional advance to the Head, Department of Botany for the conduct of the project. and to submit a list of Aided/Government schools adopted for the project, before the next meeting of the Syndicate. Accordingly the Head, Department of Botany has forwarded the list of schools for setting up the Medicinal plant / Butterfly garden (copy appended).

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the list of schools for setting up Medicinal plant / Butterfly garden is placed before the Syndicate for consideration.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to approve the list of schools for setting up Medicinal plant/ Butterfly garden submitted by the Head, Department of Botany.

Item No.17.28

Dept. Of Communication & Journalism - Relinquishing the headship of Dr. Lalmohan P. -Consideration of- reg.

(Ad.A.VI)

Dr. Lalmohan P, Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Communication & Journalism, has forwarded a request, along with supporting documents to prove his illness, to relinquish the charge of headship. He has informed that, he is suffering from Systemic hypertension and

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

has undergone sclerotherapy twice for systemic hypertension and upper GI bleed and in this Covid-19 pandemic situation, such patients need extra care. Hence, Dr. Lalmohan P. has requested to relieve him from the duties of the Head, Department of Communication & Journalism.

It may be noted that vide Notification No.Acad L/S/2446/2011 dated 04.04.2013, amendments made to the Kerala University First Statutes, 1977, Amendment No. 232, Statute 18, in Chapter 3 of the Kerala University First Statutes, 1977 be substituted as follows:

Head of the Department – The Professor, Associate Professor/ Reader or Assistant Professor incharge of the Department shall be Head of the Department. The Head of the Department shall be nominated on a rotation basis for three years starting with the seniormost teacher of the Department. The Syndicate shall nominate the seniormost Professor as the Head of the Department for a period of three years and at the end of the three years, next seniormost Professor shall be nominated. After all the Professors are given a turn, the rotation shall then be implemented among Associate Professors/Readers as per seniority.

To become eligible for considering for Headship, a teacher should possess a Ph.D Degree and has to put in atleast two years of service in the Department concerned, except in cases where there is no senior teacher in the Department. A teacher shall be eligible to take up Headship only if he/she has a minimum of 6 months of service remaining till retirement. In the Departments where there are no Professors or Associate Professors/ Readers, eligible for Headship, it shall be rotated among the Assistant Professors.

It shall however be open to the teacher who has been nominated as the Head of the Department to make a request that he/she shall be relieved of such responsibility for academic reasons. In such cases, the next seniormost teacher shall be the Head of the Department. The other members of the teaching staff shall work under the direction of the Head of the Department and shall assist him in the performance of his/her duties.

It may also be noted that there are three permanent teaching faculties in the Department of Communication & Journalism except Dr. P. Lalmohan.

Sl No.	Name & Designation	Date of Entry in service	Date of Retirement	Ph.D (YES/NO)
1.	Dr.P. Lalmohan Assistant Professor and present head	29.03.2017	31.05.2038	YES
2.	Dr. M. S Harikumar Assistant Professor (Former Head)	28.09.2012	31.05.2031	YES
3.	Smt. Maggie J Assistant Professor	29.09.2012	31.05.2028	NO
4.	Sri. Suresh K.S Assistant Professor	31.03.2017	31.01.2039	NO

Among the other three teaching faculties Dr. M. S Harikumar, Assistant Professor is the only faculty having Ph.D. He is the former Head of the Department (from 01.12.2016 to 30.11.2019) and has informed his reluctance to assume the charge as the Head of the Department, via e-mail.

As per the orders of the Vice Chancellor the matter of relieving Dr. Lalmohan P. Assistant Professor, Department of Communication & Journalism and nominating another suitable person, in compliance with the existing norms for the nomination of Head of the department, is placed before the Syndicate for consideration.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED not to consider the request of Dr.Lalmohan. P, Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Communication and Journalism since the duties of the headship shall be relieved only for academic reasons.

Item No.17.29. Meeting of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development – Minutes - approval of -reg.

(Pl. G)

The minutes of the meeting of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held at 4.00 P.M on 20.08.2020 (COPY APPENDED), is placed before the Syndicate for approval.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE SYNDICATE
ON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Date and Time : 04.00 P.M; 20.08.2020

Venue : Syndicate room, Senate House Campus, Thiruvananthapuram

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Members

1. Adv.A.Ajikumar, Convener		Sd/-
2. Adv.K.H.Babujan, Member, Syndicate.	–	
3. Dr.S.Nazeeb, Member, Syndicate.		Sd/-
4. Dr.K.B.Manoj, Member, Syndicate.	–	
5. Sri.B.P.Murali, Member, Syndicate.		--
6. Adv.Muralidharan Pillai.G, Member, Syndicate.		Sd/-
7. Sri.Bijukumar. G, Member, Syndicate.		Sd/-
8. Sri.Jairaj. J, Member, Syndicate.		Sd/-
9. Dr.K.G. Gopchandran, Member, Syndicate.		Sd/-
10. Dr.Vijayan Pillai. M, Member, Syndicate.		Sd/-
11. Sri.Viswan Padanilam, Member, Syndicate.		--
12. Sri.Arun Kumar. R, Member, Syndicate.		Sd/-

The Director (P&D), Deputy Registrar (P&D), University Engineer, Sri. Ramesh G.S (Assistant Executive Engineer), Joint Registrar (Administration) also attended the meeting.

The meeting began at 04.15.PM.

Item No.17.29.01: Kariavattom Campus- Reconstruction of Compound wall with fencing on either side of National Highway-Budget 2020-21 - Estimate – reg.

[Ad. B I]

An amount of Rs. 40.00 Lakhs has been envisaged in the Budget estimate of the University for the year 2020-21 for providing fencing to the both sides of the National Highway in front of the Kariavattom campus and planting bougainvillea.

Accordingly, the University Engineer, vide letter no.DB2/ Compound Wall / 902 / 2020 dated 25.06.2020, has informed that the Pro Vice Chancellor, Members of the Syndicate and the Registrar have inspected the site and directed to reconstruct the compound wall on either side of the NH for a total length of 1Km. Subsequently, a sketch showing the front elevation of the compound wall was prepared and submitted to the Pro Vice Chancellor for approval.

Some modifications were suggested in this plan and accordingly the drawing was revised and submitted. A detailed estimate has been prepared for the work in 'PRICE' Software based on "DSR 2016" with 37.93 % cost index.

As per the suggestion of the PVC and the members of the Syndicate, it is proposed to construct new compound wall in the area between the boundary near church (near Kariavattom Junction) to the entrance of the Green field stadium in the North side, and in the south side it is from old 'F' type quarters end to "Theeram " Park area (opposite to the Green field stadium). The estimate consist of 22 Nos of items which included all the essential items for the proper completion of the work. The total estimated cost comes to Rs.1,16,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Sixteen Lakhs only).

The estimate was placed before the Technical committee held on 24.06.,2020 (vide item no.01) and the Technical committee has recommended to approve the estimate after considering the present widening proposal of Kazhakoottom to Kesavadasapuram Stretch with the NH wing of Kerala PWD, and also recommended to provide parking facility in the rear side of the compound wall where ever sufficient space is available. Hence, the University Engineer requested for the orders of the above work and to entrust the Joint Registrar (Campus Administration) to cut and remove the trees in the near by area of the proposed compound wall considering that the roots of which will damage the compound wall in future.

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the above said estimate amounting to Rs.1,16,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Sixteen Lakhs only) is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION:

- To agree to the proposal for reconstruction of the compound wall at Kariavattom campus on either sides of the National Highway, in principle and to refer the matter to the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Finance for further consideration.
- The exact boundary for reconstruction of compound wall be finalized after ensuring the details of area earmarked by the National highway authorities for the purpose of road widening.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to explore the possibility of meeting of additional fund from the Alumni Association, University of Kerala.

Item No.17.29.02: Budget Speech 2020-21-Renovation of Astronomical Observatory- "Observatory Development and Space Museum"-reg.

[Ad. A V]

An amount of Rs.25,00,000 (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh only) has been earmarked as financial assistance for the Observatory Development and Space Museum in Astronomical Observatory in the Budget Speech 2020-21 (Item No.6).

The Budget Implementation Cell, at its meeting held on 27.04.2020 recommended to authorize the Director, Observatory in consultation with University Engineer to submit a proposal on the said item, as envisaged in the Budget Speech and to place it before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development. The Syndicate, held on 28.04.2020, vide item no.10.239, has approved the recommendation.

The Director, Astronomical Observatory, University of Kerala vide Letter No.02/2020-21 dated 02.07.2020 has submitted the proposal for renovation of Astronomical Observatory proposed in the Budget Speech 2020-21. He is also informed that, exact amount for implementation can be estimated only after conducting a survey of the Observatory Campus and the Engineering wing had initiated the process for conducting survey. According to his opinion the amount mentioned is for the first phase of the Programme.

Accordingly, as per the orders of the Vice - Chancellor, the proposal submitted by the Director, Astronomical Observatory towards the "Observatory Development and Space Museum" is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development, for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION:

- **To entrust the University Engineer to submit a detailed estimate on the proposal from the Director, Astronomical Observatory for renovation of the Observatory.**

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.29.03: Budget Speech 2020-21 – Construction of indoor training hall at Kariavattom campus – reg.

[Ad. B I]

As envisaged in the Budget Speech 2020-21(item no. 17), Rs.1 Crore (total estimated cost of the work is Rs. 5 Crore) has been earmarked for the primary expenses to establish an indoor training hall at Kariavattom Campus for training in Hand Ball, Basket Ball, Volley Ball, Shuttle, Badminton, Boxing, Gymnastics and Yoga.

The University Engineer, vide letter dated. 05.05.2020 has informed that the following immediate steps needed to be initiated for implementing the proposal,

1. To identifying a suitable site for the training hall.
2. A Committee with experts from each sports items may be constituted for finalizing the requirements and to monitor the project as the Engineering Unit has less expertise in designing and implementing of such projects. The plan and detailed estimate can be prepared by the Engineering Unit under the guidance of the expert committee based on their requirements and approved site conditions, and the work can be executed accordingly.

Regarding the identification of the suitable site for the construction of the Training Hall, the University Engineer has suggested that the vacant land between the Telephone Exchange and the entrance road to Greenfield Stadium may be utilized. Approximately 3 acres of land is available in the said location.

As per the orders of the Vice Chancellor the aforesaid matter is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Noted that the team constituted, consisting of Adv. Balachandran, Dr. S Nazeeb, Dr. K.G Gopchandran, Members, Syndicate, Director of Physical Education and the University Engineer had submitted report after site inspection on 02.07.2020.

- **Recommended to accept the Report of the committee dated 02.07.2020 suggesting the location at the earthen play ground in the rear site of the Golden Jubilee building and the related recommendations in the report. [Copy appended] APPENDIX 01**

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved with the following modification:

- Recommended to accept the Report of the committee dated 02.07.2020 suggesting the location at the '*eastern play ground*' in the rear site of the Golden Jubilee building and the related recommendations in the report. [Copy appended] APPENDIX 01

Item No.17.29.04: ***Construction work with the accredited agencies – approval of plan & drawings from the Local Bodies before taking up the construction work – Reg.***

[Pl. G]

The meeting of the Syndicate held on 21.01.2020 considered the minutes of the meeting of the Vice-Chancellor with accredited agencies in the presence of members of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development held on 04.01.2020 and resolved to cancel the original MoU already executed and execute a new one in accordance with the G.Os dated 03.08.2018 and 04.07.2019, based on the recommendation of the Technical Committee.

Accordingly, the University Engineer, vide letter dated 01.02.2020, has submitted a draft MoU incorporating the suggestions of the Technical Committee and reported that the draft MoU can be treated as a general one which can be applied in the case of Govt. Accredited Agencies.

The Syndicate held on 28/04/2020, vide item No. 10.232, considered and approved the draft MoU vetted by the Legal & Finance and the proposal of Finance that stages of work to effect payment should form the part of MoU, even if presented as separate annexure.

Meanwhile, the Government, vide G.O.(Rt)No.788/2020/HEDN dated 15.06.2020, had ratified the action taken by the University of Kerala in having entrusted the 6 works to the accredited Agencies, without the prior sanction of the Government, subject to the condition that in future, the identified Accredited Agencies, if any, shall submit the PRICE estimates at the time of Working Group approval and the Engineering Unit of the University shall supervise the work. No SPV shall be allowed except for works of Rs 100 Crore or above.

Now, the University Engineer, vide letter No. DB2/Local Body/approval/2020 dated 25/07/2020 has intimated that as per clause 1(h) of the terms and conditions of the draft MoU to be executed with the accredited agencies, the accredited agency should assist the client to get approval of the drawings from the local and statutory bodies by preparing necessary drawings and documents without any extra charges.

Hence, the University Engineer has requested to make appropriate decision on the following:

- 1.The accredited agencies M/s. WAPCOS (construction of Staff Quarters) and Kerala State Housing Board (construction of new hostel for men & ICCR students and construction of School of Communication and Library Sciences at Kariavattom) may be directed to prepare and submit the drawings to the Local Bodies immediately after signing the MoU, so that the time required for tendering and for getting approval from the Local Bodies can be used simultaneously, or else,
- 2.University has to take a decision to start the construction of buildings by these agencies in anticipation of getting exemption from Government, as decided in the Syndicate held on 20/12/2014 and if so, the Government may be once again approached seeking a favorable decision on the matter of granting exemption to the University for the construction works at its campus.

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the above requests from the University Engineer is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION:

- **Toproceed with the construction of buildings, ie; Staff Quarters, new hostel for men & ICCR students and construction of School of Communication and Library Sciences at Kariavattom, in order to avoid delay and to approach the Government seeking a favorable decision on granting exemption to the University for the construction works at its campus.**

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.29.05: Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Fire Fighting System for AICTE approval at Kariavattom Campus-Single Tender - reg.

[Ad. B I]

As per the U.O. No. Ad.B1(1)812/2015/096 dated. 17.10.2019, an estimate amounting to Rs. 73,85,000/- has been approved for the fire fighting and allied works in the buildings housing University College of Engineering, Dept. of Computer Science, Dept. of Futures Studies, and Dept. of Opto Electronics, at Kariavattom Campus.

The University Engineer, vide letter dated. 25.05.2020 has informed that e-tenders were invited for the fire fighting works. Since no tender was received on first call, the work was retendered and opened on 06.02.2020, with PAC of Rs. 41,58,702/-. In response, a single tender was received from M/s. Fathima Enterprises at Rs.51,21,000/- (Rupees Fifty One Lakh Twenty One Thousand only) ie. 23.14% above the PAC amount. Negotiation was held to reduce the rates and the firm offered a discount of 1.50% on the quoted price. The negotiated amount comes to Rs.50,44,185/- (Rupees Fifty Lakh Forty Four Thousand One Hundred and Eighty Five only). As per the G.O (P) No. 54/2019/Fin dated. 04.05.2019, negotiation should be done to reduce high quoted rates so as to explore the possibility for bringing them within DSR + 10% tolerance limit or LMR whichever is lower.

It is also informed that, the technical committee member Sri. P. Mohan has submitted a tender analysis report with the remark that the estimate rate is justifiable, considering the present situation. The Assistant Executive Engineer, Electrical has remarked that the firm may be called for further negotiation at the higher level. Hence the University Engineer has forwarded the tender received from M/s. Fathima Enterprises along with the remark of the Technical Committee member for conducting a further negotiation in the Standing Committee (Planning and Development) in presence of the Finance Officer.

The Syndicate at its meeting held on 17.07.2020, vide item.no. 14.14.17, has considered the matter and resolved that the final rate to be fixed shall be inclusive of 18% GST and shall be after further negotiation with the bidder to give a discount of 5.5% in total from the quoted rate. It was also resolved that, no GST shall be paid extra against the work. The Syndicate further resolved to have a negotiation with the firm by the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development immediately.

As ordered by the Vice Chancellor, the aforesaid matter is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development for conducting a negotiation with M/s. Fathima Enterprises and for appropriate recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The committee hold negotiation with M/s. Fathima Enterprises

- **To approve the negotiated rate, ie; rate be inclusive of 18% GST and a futher discount of 2% resulting in total discount of 7.5% from the quoted rate for Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Fire Fighting System at Kariavattom Campus**

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.29.06: Budget Speech, 2020-21-Construction of New Guest House Building at SH Campus-reg.

[Ad. B I]

Annual Budget Estimates 2020-21 (Budget speech Item. No 92) of the University has earmarked an amount of Rs. 1.00 Crore as the 1st allotment for constructing a new Guest House at SH Campus, Palayam.

The University Engineer, vide letter dated. 30.06.2020 has informed that a suitable site is to be fixed for the Guest House and a suitable design is to be obtained from an Architect/Structural consultant. The University Engineer has suggested that the new building can be constructed in the vacant land in between the Institute of English building and Gandhian Studies building at SH Campus.

The University Engineer has requested that the matter may be placed for discussion and further steps as requested may be initiated so that the estimate can be prepared and submitted in due course based on the above decision.

As per the orders of the Vice Chancellor the matter on identifying a suitable site and the building design to be obtained from an Architect/Structural consultant in connection with constructing a new Guest House Building at SH Campus is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development for consideration and appropriate recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **To refer the matter to the combined meeting of the Standing committees of the Syndicate on Planning and Development and Finance.**

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.29.07: Kariavattom Campus- Expenditure in connection with Harithalayam Project- Payment-releasing of -Reg

[Ad. B I]

Vide U.O no.2288/2020/UOK dated 31.07.2020, an amount of 10,61,400/-, (Rupees Ten Lakh Sixty One thousand and Four Hundred Only) was sanctioned as provisional advance to Sri. Aswininikumar C, DR (CA, Admn) Kariavattom to meet the expenditure in connection with Harithalayam Project. The Audit has verified the bills/vouchers in connection with the expenditure of the work and found in order and remarked that,

1. The bills and vouchers for Rs. 15,000/- and Rs. 25,000/- sanctioned for planting Teak saplings and for providing irrigation facility and manuring respectively, shall be furnished by the Joint Registrar, Admn.
2. Passed for payment and work satisfactory report have to be furnished by the person who has drawn the advance.

As per the orders of the Vice Chancellor, vide letter no. 17980/Admn B1/2020/UOK dated 18.08.2020, Sri. Aswinikumar C, Deputy Registrar Campus Administration was directed to take necessary action to release the payment.

In the mean time, Sri. C.Mohanam, Proprietor C. M, Earth Movers and Construction Mylamood, Thiruvananthapuram vide letter dated.20.08.2020, has informed that as per the work order dated 19.06.2020 issued by the Engineering Unit, Kariavattom the work in connection with the Harithalayam Project was initiated on 20.06.2020, using JCB and successfully completed the work assigned as per the work order. It is also informed that an amount of Rs. 7,14,345/- towards the payment of the aforesaid work has not been made till date. Hence, Sri. C.Mohanam has requested to take necessary action to make the payment at the earliest.

But, vide letter no. CA.Admn/1/2020 dated. 20.08.2020, the Joint Registrar CA, Admn has informed that the Deputy Registrar CA, Admn was directed to make the payment in connection with the Harithalayam Project from the provisional advance sanctioned to the Deputy Registrar and the same has not been made so far.

As per the orders of the Vice Chancellor the matter of releasing of payment in connection with the Harithalayam project is placed before the standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning and development for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- **To entrust the Registrar and the Finance officer to verify the particulars in the concerned file relating to the release of payment and to prepare a report on any lapse that happened in the proper payment and to place it before the Syndicate.**

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.29.08 : *Report on the activities to be initiated in the University of Kerala – Implementation – reg.*

[P.L.G]

A report on the activities to be initiated for implementation has been forwarded by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor's office with direction to place before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development .

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor the report (copy appended) is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning & Development for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

<p>Knowledge Portal: Knowledge portal is a repository of digital resources. University of Kerala should develop a portal which should function as an institutional repository. Institutional repository (IR) is an online archive for collecting, preserving, and disseminating digital copies of the intellectual output of an institution, particularly a research institution. It can be viewed as a set of services that the university offers to members of its community for the management and dissemination of digital materials created by the institution and its community members.</p>	<p>Recommendation: To entrust the Directors of the IQAC and Computer Centre to submit a detailed report on the concept.</p>
<p>Research on the Impact of COVID-19: Research is one of the major responsibilities of a University department. So, the departments should respond to the issues that demands academic research. The impact of COVID-19 has opened up immense possibilities for research in various fields from Bio-sciences to Social Sciences. So the University departments should concentrate on research on the impact of COVID- 19 on the society, economy and culture of Kerala. Documentation of how Kerala prevented the spread of COVID-19 should also be done.</p>	<p>Recommendation: To inform the Head of the Departments to frame and submit reports on post covid academic activities after necessary discussions in the Department Council</p>
<p>Kerala University Technology and Business Start Up Centre (KUTBSC): Startups are usually small and initially financed and operated by a handful of founders or one individual. In the early stages, startup companies' expenses tend to exceed their revenues as they work on developing, testing and marketing their ideas. University of Kerala encourages start-ups in their formation and functioning in the campus with sharing of university expertise and resources for innovation and idea generation, working in association with KSUM, along with that University has MoUs with other institutions for new start-ups and encouragement interventions for deeper involvement. Proper infrastructure facilities will be provided for the Incubation Centre. Apart from supporting startups University should take a stake in those start-ups from the campus. This will help the University to generate funds when these companies grow big. Some of the world's greatest companies like Google and Lenovo were born in the campuses. The entrepreneurial spirit at the university level is willing and eager: nearly 90 percent of young people believe</p>	<p>Recommendation: The Director be requested to furnish a proposal for restructuring of office of KUTBSC in consultation with the University Engineer</p>

<p>that entrepreneurship education is important. With the advent of the internet, free access to resources, and lowered barriers to the entry into the world of business, students can start companies with minimal capital.</p> <p>Special emphasis must be given for promoting startups in the campus and see that at least few more startups come into reality in the near future. Steps must also be taken to nurse the existing startups to realize the goal and explore the possibility of making the expenditure incurred by the University into equal number of shares in the startup so that University can get its due share in future, once the company becomes a profit making one.</p>	
<p>Consultancy Services: Each department must start consultancy service related to the field of study as there is immense scope for taking up consultancy services to support the projects of governmental and non-governmental organisations. While, Botany/Biotechnology Departments can support tissue culture initiatives of local bodies and private nurseries, Archaeology Department can help in setting up museums. Language departments can take up translation work, language training, training in the preparation of reports etc. This will also develop extension activities of the University Departments. One teacher from each Department will be given charge to coordinate the activities related to the consultancy services.</p>	<p>Recommendation: To entrust the Directors of the IQAC and Computer Centre to submit a detailed report on the concept.</p>
<p>Access to digital Resources: At present Kerala University has many electronic resources subscribed through IP which can be accessed at the campus only. Many libraries have the most common method of off-campus access through the VPN and proxy server options. In addition to this, off-campus access can be provided through Shibboleth Access mechanism available through the INFED initiative of INFLIBNET. Kerala University Library can use any of the above methods preferably through Shibboleth for providing remote access to its electronic resources. The Shibboleth System is a standard based, open source software package that facilitates authentication of authorised users using organization's internal identity and access management system.</p>	<p>Recommendation: To entrust the University Librarian to call for additional details in the matter and to submit a detailed report on the concept.</p>
<p>Library Networking: We have a central library at Palayam, a reference library at Kariavattom and various department libraries at Palayam campus and Kariavattom campus. Networking of the catalogues of all these libraries will be of great importance for researchers, students and teachers, as they could identify and locate the book of their choice without visiting these libraries. This has been achieved through a multi lingual, integrated, web enabled database with complete automation of in-house services which comply with all the international standards using KOHA, an integrated open source software. Currently, more than 85% of the work related to this is complete. The libraries of the Colleges affiliated to the University, the regional centres of the University, and self-financing institutions of the University will also be integrated. The possibility of including all University Libraries in Kerala under one network may be explored.</p>	
<p>Centre for Academic & Professional Training (C-APT) Training is integral to professional development and upgradation. In this era of knowledge explosion and technological advancement, regular training programmes are a must for updating the knowledge and skill of our teachers.</p>	

<p>The Human Resource Development Centre is conducting various training programmes for teachers regularly. But most often HRDC could not meet on its own the huge demand for training for teaching and non-teaching staff. Teachers will have to be familiar with new areas in various disciplines and must be well equipped to teach those topics.</p> <p>An English teacher has to teach Film Studies without any training in that field. This will result in the failure of the course outcomes of the curriculum. So proper training in the relevant areas is very important for teachers to improve the quality of teaching. If we develop this centre further it could be used for providing training for professionals from Government organisations, Local bodies, Private companies and voluntary organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Training for Students: C-APT can provide professional training for students which will improve their employability. • ASAP programme already initiated by the University could be routed through this centre. • The training and refresher programmes for employees could also be implemented through this centre. • HRDC may be asked to present a project report based on the above concept. 	<p>Recommendation: To entrust the Director, HRDC and Director, Research to submit a detailed report on the concept.</p>
<p>Public Relations Division In-order to intervene in social media, appoint two social media managers. Qualified candidates from among University Assistants can be considered. Produce short videos on prestigious institutions, University Departments and prestigious projects undertaken by the University.</p>	<p>Recommendation: To entrust Prof. Lal, Institute of English, Prof. Ajitha, Department of Public Administration and Dr. Aji, Department of Computer Science submit a detailed report on the concept.</p>
<p>Department of Publications Publish Kindle editions of well known books published by the University. Publish eBooks.</p>	<p>Recommendation: To entrust the Dr. Aji and Dr. Vinod Chandra, Department of Computer Science submit a detailed report on the concept.</p>

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved with the following modification:
Kerala University Technology and Business Start Up Centre (KUTBSC): The Director be requested to furnish a proposal for restructuring of '**Centre**' of KUTBSC in consultation with the University Engineer

Item No.17.29.09 : ***Renovation works of the vehicle shed in front of the Faculty Guest House building at SH Campus-Estimate – reg.***

[Ad. B I]

The University Engineer, vide letter dated. 19.12.2019 has submitted an estimate amounting to Rs.2,30,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Thirty Thousand only) for the work of renovation of the vehicle shed in front of the Faculty Guest House building at SH Campus.

The University Engineer has informed that the existing vehicle shed is in dilapidated condition. Hence providing new structural steel members and GI roofing sheet for the renovation work. The estimate amounting to Rs.2,30,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Thirty Thousand only) is prepared based on DSR 2016 with cost index 37.93% for Thiruvananthapuram.

As ordered by the Vice-Chancellor, the estimate amounting to Rs.2,30,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Thirty Thousand only) based on DSR 2016 with cost index 37.93% for the work of renovation of the vehicle shed in front of the Faculty Guest House building at SH Campus, is placed before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development, for consideration and appropriate recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

•To approve the estimate amounting to Rs.2,30,000/- (Rupees Two Lakhs Thirty Thousand only) based on DSR 2016 with cost index 37.93% for the the work of renovation of the vehicle shed in front of the Faculty Guest House building at SH Campus.

The meeting came to an end at 05.15.P.M

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.30.

Meeting convened in connection with verification of pending payments in construction of Platinum Jubilee Academic Complex for School system at Kariavattom Campus – Minutes – approval by Vice Chancellor – reporting of – reg.

(Pl. G)

The Vice Chancellor, on the basis of the complaint, from Crescent construction company, Thiruvananthapuram, received on 17.08.2020, regarding delay in payments in construction of Platinum Jubilee Academic Complex for School system at Kariavattom Campus, issued directions to the Registrar to look into the issue by holding a meeting of the concerned. Accordingly a meeting was convened by the Registrar at 02.30 p.m on 18.08.2020 and the minutes of the meeting was approved by the Vice Chancellor. (Copy appended).

The action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the minutes of the meeting convened by the Registrar on 18.08.2020, in connection with verification of pending payments in construction of Platinum Jubilee Academic Complex for School system at Kariavattom Campus is reported to the Syndicate.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING CONVENED IN CONNECTION WITH VERIFICATION OF PENDING PAYMENTS IN CONSTRUCTION OF PLATINUM JUBILEE ACADEMIC COMPLEX FOR SCHOOL SYSTEM AT KARIAVATTOM

Date and Time : 02.30; 18.08.2020

Venue : Registrar's Chamber, Senate House Campus, Palayam

Members

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. The Registrar | Sd/- |
| 2. The Director, Planning and Development | Sd/- |
| 3. Finance Officer. | Sd/- |
| 4. University Engineer | Sd/- |

The Joint Registrar (Campus Admn. Kvtm), Smt. Bindu A (Assistant Engineer), Sri. Ramesh G.S (Assistant Executive Engineer),Sri. Manojkumar M S (Overseer) also attended the meeting.

The meeting began at 02.30 P.M

The meeting discussed the status of final bill payment to M/s Crescent construction company in respect of construction of Platinum Jubilee Academic Complex for School system at Kariavattom campus, in view of the complaint expressed by the contractors, in delay of settlement of final bill and heard the representative of the agency.

During the discussion it was concluded that Smt. Bindhu A (A.E) be authorised for audit branch and technical branch verification of bill in co ordination with Sri. Manojkumar M.S (Overseer) and be forwarded to the Divisional Accounts officer on or before 24.08.2020.

The bill verification has to be done by the Divisional Accounts officer and submit to the University Engineer for passing, on or before 27.08.2020. The University Engineer shall pass the measurements and return the documents on or before 3rd September 2020 and to hand over the

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

same to Smt. Bindhu A (A.E) for closing the bill and submit to Divisional Accounts officer on or before 5th September 2020. The Divisional Accounts officer shall submit it to the University Engineer on 07.09.2020 for approval. The bill will be forwarded to Finance Officer by University Engineer on the next day.

Also recommended to obtain explanation from the Assistant Executive Engineer on the delay happened in submitting the bill to the University Engineer; ie only on 31.01.2020 after an elapse of 13 months.

The discussion concluded to initiate urgent steps so as to forward documents to treasury for final payment on or before 7th September 2020.

The Assistants in the Engineering Unit be directed to verify the remaining bills pending with them and submit to Divisional Accounts officer, immediately, by putting in effort though working at office and at home, as per arrangements of duty due to covid pandemic situation.

The meeting ended at 04.00 P.M

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having approved the above recommendations of the meeting in connection with verification of pending payments in construction of Platinum Jubilee Academic Complex for School system at Kariavattom Campus held on 18.08.2020, be noted.

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Item No.17.31 **Department of Publications –Purchase of RA-1 size Maplitho paper and 220 GSM White Art Card–Payment- Sanction-Reporting of- reg.**

(Ad.BIV)

(a) Sanction has been accorded by the Vice-chancellor to make payment of an amount of Rs.4,56,300/-(Rupees Four lakh fifty six thousand and three hundred only) including GST to M/s. Aswin Paper Company, Ernakulam towards the cost of 500 reams of RA-1 size Maplitho paper supplied for use in the Department of Publications, after deducting TDS @ 2% meeting the expenditure from the Head “Part I-NP-MH-52- Department of Publications-4-2805- Printing Charges (incl.cost of paper)” provided in the current year's Budget Estimate of the University. Accordingly, U.O.No.Ad.BIV.CP.02.20 dated 30.06.2020 was issued.

(b) Sanction has also been accorded by the Vice-chancellor to make payment of an amount of Rs.1,76,517/- (Rupees One lakh seventy six thousand five hundred and seventeen only) inclusive of taxes to M/s Sadana Offset Printing, Thiruvananthapuram towards the cost of 39.90 reams 220 GSM White Art card (56x71 cm) supplied for use in the Department of Publication, after deducting TDS @ 2% meeting the expenditure from the Head Part I-NP-MH-52- Department of Publications-4-2805- Printing Charges (incl. cost of paper)” provided in the current year's Budget Estimate of the University.

Accordingly, U.O.No.Ad.BIV.CP.02.20 dated 12.06.2020 was issued.

The action taken by the Vice Chancellor (detailed above as (a) and (b)) is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

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Item No.17.32 **Harithalayam Project- License Agreement with M/s.Model Agro Service Centre, Parassala, under Kerala State Agricultural Mechanization Mission -approval- Reg.**

(Ad.BI(I))

The Syndicate at it's meeting held on 17.07.2020 (item no.14.14.11) has resolved that steps be initiated to get the license Agreement with M/s. Model Agro Service Centre, Parassala, under Kerala State Agricultural Mechanization Mission vetted by the coordinator and to place the matter before the next meeting of the Syndicate. The chief coordinator, Harithalayam Project, vide letter dated 19.08.2020, has informed that the license agreement submitted by the M/s. Model Agro Service Centre, Parassala, under Kerala State Agricultural Mechanization Mission may be approved and also requested to sanction Rs.3,00,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs only) to the M/s. Model Agro Service

Centre, Parassala as second installment for the first phase harvesting of the paddy cultivation, scheduled on the first week of September.

As per the orders of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, the matter is placed before the Syndicate for the consideration and appropriate decision.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to approve the license agreement submitted by the M/s. Model Agro Service Centre, Parassala, under Kerala State Agricultural Mechanization Mission and sanction an amount of Rs.3,00,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs only) to the M/s.Model Agro Service Centre, Parassala as second installment for the first phase harvesting of the paddy cultivation.

FURTHER RESOLVED to change the name of Kazhakuttom Panchayat in the licence agreement as Thiruvananthapuram Corporation.

Item No.17.33. Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations held on 20.08.2020-Approval of-reg .

(M&CI)

The minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations held on 20.08.2020 is placed before the Syndicate for approval (Minutes appended).

Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations

Date & Time : 20.08.2020 , 02.30 p.m.
Venue : Syndicate Room

Members Present

• Dr.K.B Manoj	Convener	Sd/-
• Dr.Mathew.V.	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Dr.Vijayan Pillai M	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Sri.Jairaj.J	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Prof.K.Lalitha	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Sri.Bijukumar.G.	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Sri.Arunkumar R	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Adv.Muralidharan Pillai G	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Dr.K.G.Gopchandran	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Dr.B.Unnikrishnan Nair	Member Syndicate	Sd/-
• Dr.S.Nazeeb	Member Syndicate	Sd/-

Members Absent

1. Sri.Mohammed Yaseen	Member Syndicate
2. Adv.K.H.Babujan	Member Syndicate

Officers Present

1. Dr.N.Gopakumar	Controller of Examinations	Sd/-
2. Sri.K.Unnikrishnan Nair	Joint Registrar (CBCSS)	Sd/-
3. Smt.S.J.Sunitha	Joint Registrar (Exams I)	Sd/-
4. Smt.T.K.Usha Devi	Joint Registrar (Exams II)	Sd/-

Item No.17.33.01:- Missing of answer books from the Chief Examiner-Delay in publishing revaluation results - reg.

(EJ III)

As per the letter from the Chief Examiner Smt. SREEVIDYA.B, Asst Professor, Department of Computer science, CAS, Mavelikkara three answer books bearing false no. 998463, 998473, 998475 for the subject 'Graphics And Multimedia Systems' of Second Semester M.Sc. Computer Science (SDE) Examination November 2018 were irrecoverably lost. She was informed by a calling letter to forward the above said answer books at the earliest for revaluation on 18.02.2020 following several oral requests were made. Accordingly a regret letter was forwarded back to the section on 23.03.2020. The Last date for applying revaluation was on 12.09.2019 and the date which revaluation results to be published was on 02.10.2019. (The revaluation process delayed by Four months due to the non-availability of software, The Kerala University Computer Centre issued software for processing the applications for revaluation & scrutiny of the above said course only after the third week of February). Out of the Eight subjects applied by Three different candidates, the revaluation of

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Five answer books were completed except the above mentioned three answer books. Therefore the revaluation section is unable to publish the result of Second Semester M.Sc. Computer Science (SDE) Examination November 2018.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered the matter and recommended the following

- i. Smt. Sreevidya. B, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science CAS, Mavelikkara be called for a hearing*
- ii. Publish the revaluation results of five answer books of the candidates for which the revaluation has been completed*
- iii. The feasibility of collecting answer books from the Chief Examiners by the University after valuation may be explored.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to constitute a sub-committee consisting of the Convenor, Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations, Adv.B.Balachandran, Adv.G.Muraleedharan Pillai, Dr.M.Vijayanpillai, Sri.R.Arunkumar, Prof. K. Lalitha, Members Syndicate to conduct the hearing.

Item No.17.33.02:- *B.Com Commerce & Hotel Management & Catering Degree-Second semester examination, May 2019-Missing answerscripts in r/o Smt.Sinsy Alosious - reg.*

(ES V)

The Principal, Sree Narayana College, Sivagiri has informed that the result of second semester B.Com Commerce & Hotel Management & Catering Degree Examination, May 2019 in r/o the candidate Smt. Sinsy Alosious with candidate code 33917134017, has not been published. It was also informed that the candidate had attended the examination for the subject HM 1241 – Financial Accounting in her improvement / supplementary chance and that the answerscript in r/o the candidate was forwarded as a separate bundle, since name of the candidate was not included in the Nominal Roll forwarded to the College.

On verification of the records maintained in the section it has been found that the name of candidate was not included in the Nominal Roll forwarded to the college as she has not registered for the examination within the prescribed time limit. The candidate has registered for the examination at a later date by submitting an offline application & Hall Ticket was also issued accordingly.

On verification of the examination database, no false number & mark for the subject HM 1241 – Financial Accounting (QP Code – G 2514) has been found entered against the candidates name & code.

The EK II – CD Unit has stated that the answerscript bundles with QP Code 2514 received from SN College Varkala on 2/7/2019 (2 bundles) & 30/7/2019 (1 bundle) were forwarded to PCVC Section on 4/7/2019 & 30/7/2019 respectively and has produced the copy of the relevant pages of the transit register in proof.

However, PCVC Section has remarked that, even after carrying out thorough search in the Section, the particular answerscript could not be traced out.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered the matter and recommended the following

- i. Reexamination be conducted to Smt. Sinsy Alosious for the subject HM 1241 Financial Accounting in the context of missing answer script.*
- ii. The Assistant Registrar and the OS of PCVC Section be heard in connection with the missing of the said answer script.*
- iii. An orientation may be arranged to all the staff who have been deputed to the CV camps.*

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED to constitute a sub-committee consisting of the Convenor, Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations, Adv.B.Balachandran, Adv.G.Muraleedharan Pillai, Dr.M.Vijayanpillai, Sri.R.Arunkumar, Prof. K. Lalitha, Members Syndicate to conduct the hearing.

Item No.17.33.03:-

Certificate, Diploma, Post Graduate Diploma courses-Valuation of answerbooks-Fixing of remuneration reg.

(EG I)

The EG-1 section is conducting various examinations of Certificate, Diploma, Post Graduate Diploma courses. But the remuneration to examiners for evaluating the answer papers has not been fixed till date. The details of various courses are listed below:-

Sl. No	Name of the Course	Duration	Viva/ Practical/ Records/ Projects
1	Post Graduate Diploma in Medical Law (PGDML)	1 Year	Nil
2	Post Graduate Diploma in Patent Law (PGDPL)	1 Year	Nil
3	Post Graduate Diploma in Human Rights (PGDHR)	1 Year	Nil
4	Diploma in German	1 Year	Viva - Voce
5	Diploma in Russian	1 Year	Viva - Voce
6	Integrated Diploma in Russian	1 Year	Viva - Voce
7	Certificate course in German	1 Year	Viva - Voce
8	Certificate course in Russian	1 Year	Viva - Voce

For payment of remuneration to examiners, Audit section has insisted on specific U.Os. Hence file had been submitted to M&C 1 section seeking U.O for payment of remuneration to examiners for answer paper evaluation. M&C 1 section had remarked that the University is conducting Certificate, Diploma & PG Diploma courses in various subjects. But the remuneration for valuation of answer scripts of such courses has not been fixed and disbursed yet due to lack of U.Os. Further stated that as per the order no. M&C 1.2/1834/2018 dated 14.06.2018 the remuneration for Private and Distance Education courses under home valuation scheme and the remuneration for PG examinations are fixed as detailed below:

for Private & Distance Education under home valuation

1. Additional Examiner Rs.27/- per paper subject to a minimum of Rs.300/-
2. Chief Examiner Rs.6/- per paper handled (including revaluation and rechecking) and minimum amount for chief examiner shall be 600/-.

for PG Examinations

1. Rs.36/- per paper will be paid as remuneration

The examiners are mostly external faculties.

Hence the M&C 1 section sought orders on whether the rate fixed for private and distance education candidates may be made applicable to the certificate, diploma/ PG Diploma courses or whether remuneration fixed for PG Examinations be made applicable. Rates have to be fixed for the conduct of Viva Voce for the Diploma and Certificate Courses also i.e., Rs. 25/- per student.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered the matter and recommended to refer the matter to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the item be referred to the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance.

Item No.17.33.04:-

Non disbursement of remuneration to University Examinations-reg.

(M&C I)

Dr. Vidia Panicker M.S, Associate Professor in Zoology, Sree Narayana College, Chempazhanchy (as Chief Superintendent of Examination from the period March 2014 to July 2018) has informed that the remuneration bills till March 2017 session of both Regular CBCSS and IDE were submitted to the University through the Principal, Sree Narayana College, Chempazhanchy in November 2017 and all bills were passed by University and the amounts credited in Principal's account, which were not cashed and disbursed among the staff, after giving submissions to do so to the principal Dr S. R. Jitha, Sree Narayana College, Chempazhanchy. It is also mentioned that she had advanced the remuneration of a number of staff members on demand, with the consent of Dr. L Thulaseedharan who was the Principal of Sree Narayana College till 7th December 2017. The petitioner has submitted the details of bills as mentioned below:

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Item No.17.33.06: *Proposals of the Expert Committee for consideration of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations.*

1.LMS: LMS shall be used to conduct all Internal Examinations during this academic year. Submission of Assignments, conduct of test papers can also be done in this platform.

Training programmes to familiarise teachers with the LMS shall be organised without delay.

2.Online Submission of Projects and conduct of Viva: Students shall be allowed to submit Projects in pdf format. The Projects shall be duly recommended by the guide and the Head of the Department. Plagiarism checking shall be conducted before submission, and certificate shall be attached with the Projects. Comprehensive Viva-Voce and Project Viva-Voce shall be conducted online. Evaluation of the Projects shall also be conducted online. KUCC shall be directed to develop a software for the online submission and evaluation of Projects and dissertations immediately.

3.End Semester Examination: During the academic year 2020-21 conduct of examination will not be possible at the end of each semester in the present condition of the spread of COVID-19. So instead of waiting for the examination to be over, the classes for the ensuing semesters shall be started as per the Academic Calendar, and the date for the examination can be fixed after considering the situation in the areas under the jurisdiction of the University.

4.M Phil/Ph D/PG Dissertations: Permission may be given to submit the soft copies of M Phil Dissertation and Ph D thesis. Hard copy need not be insisted. But one hard copy of the Dissertation shall be submitted in the Department for reference. In the case of PhD Dissertations Hard copies shall be submitted in the University and the thesis shall be sent as per the choice of the evaluator. Hard copy can be sent for evaluation if the expert insists on sending the hard copy.

5.Student Life Cycle Management System for the Examination: University has taken steps to develop SLCMS to automate all activities related to the conduct of examination. This will be a total software solution for the conduct of examination. It will cover the whole process from registration to the publication of results.

6.Data Centre for Quick reference at CEs office: A Data Centre will be started in CE's office for getting information about the number of examination centres, seating capacity of each centre, details of examinations conducted each day, current status of examination and evaluation etc. The Data Centre will provide quick access to the statistical data extremely important for planning examinations and making quick changes in case of an emergency.

Long Term Projects

7.Question Bank: University should go forward for the creation of online question bank which could generate questions on demand for every programme. This will to a great extent solve the issues related to the preparation of questions. Moreover, this will also help in conducting repeated examinations if necessary.

8.Examination on Demand: Most often it is found that some students cannot attend examinations due to a variety of reasons such as health issues, for participating in national level championships or due to similar assignments assigned by the University, as a result of which an entire year is lost. In order to help such students, the facility for examination on demand can be introduced. There should be strict regulations for the conduct of such special examinations.

9.Bar-coded Answer books: At present, false numbering of the answer books and transportation of papers from different examination centres to the University centre and back to the evaluation centres after false numbering has become a time-consuming affair. If bar-coded answer books are used, the answer books could be transported directly from the examination centres to the valuation camps.

10.Analytical Type Questions: Currently, majority of the questions at the end semester examinations are those that test the memory of the students and they tend to answer them with assisted means. If the questions are good enough to test the analytical skill of the students the real knowledge of the student will be tested and the tendency of copying answers from other sources can be prevented.

11.The possibility of conducting **online examination** for the students of SDE can be considered since students are from different regions. This will also help in enhancing the enrolment to various programmes.

12.Provision for joining **Viva-Voce online** must be retained for those who could not travel or otherwise held up due to valid reasons.

13.There must be fixed centres for examination. Students will be informed of the examination centre well in advance.

14. Instead of conducting examination on working days the possibility of conducting examination on holidays (Saturdays and Sundays) can be explored.

15. Distribution of question papers must be made online. The QP will be sent to the examination centre half an hour before the start of examination.

16. **The School of Distance Education** has been conducting examinations of two semesters jointly at the end of the year though the academic programmes are conducted semester wise. This practice of conducting the examination for two semesters as one will be continued.

17. All internal examinations must be done through LMS. This will ensure the smooth conduct of the internal assessment.

18. All assignments and projects must be submitted in pdf format. This will be beneficial for the students and the teachers as the management of the paper clutter is a real headache for the administration. Moreover, this will enhance our journey towards the environment friendly concept of paperless office. Comprehensive Viva-Voce and Project Viva-Voce must be conducted online.

AFFILIATED COLLEGES

19. Question Paper for the UG programmes must also be sent online on a phased manner introducing the system at the beginning for the Career Related Programmes and BSc Programmes. The feasibility of the conduct of on-line examination in future must also be explored.

20. The practice of on-line submission of projects can continue.

21. Members of the Examination Boards must be allowed to join online for the meeting in future as well.

22. Provision for joining Viva-Voce online must be retained for those who could not travel or otherwise held up due to valid reasons.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered the matter and recommended the following

Para No. 1. Approved in principle.

Para No 2. pertaining to online submission of Projects and conduct of Viva recommended and be referred to the Academic Council.

Para No 3. pertaining to the conduct of End Semester Examination during 2020-21 recommended and be referred to the Academic Council

Para No. 4 pertaining to the submission of soft copies of M. Phil/Ph.D/PG Dissertations recommended and be referred to the Academic Council

Para No. 5 Approved in principle

Para No 6. Entrust the Controller of Examinations and the Director, Kerala University Computer Centre for implementation of Data Centre for Quick reference at CEs office.

Para No 7 & 8. Approved in principle and an Expert Committee be constituted to implement the creation of online Question Bank and Examination on Demand with members from the academic and software community.

Para No 9. Approved in principle

Para No 10. Approved in principle.

As entrusted by the Committee, the Convener has proposed the following for consideration of the Syndicate.

For the Degree programmes the choices available to the candidates in the various categories of questions shall be suitably enhanced by increasing the number of questions in each section keeping the general format of the question paper unchanged.

Part A: No Change

Part B: 8 questions to be answered out of 12 questions. It should be enhanced to 16 questions

Part C: 6 questions to be answered out of 8 questions. It should be enhanced to 12 questions

Part D: 2 questions to be answered out of 4 questions. It should be enhanced to 6 questions

The above pattern of question papers should be applicable only for the pandemic ridden period.

Para No. 11 Approved in principle. To be implemented after detailed study.

Para No 12 pertaining to online Viva Voce recommended and be referred to the Academic Council

Para No. 13 to 17 approved in principle.

Para No 18. Approved. Submission of assignments and projects in PDF and conduct of Comprehensive Viva-Voce and Project Viva- Voce online be implemented uniformly at SDE, Affiliated Colleges and Departments under the University.

Para No. 19 to 22 pertaining to the scope of online conduct of examination related activities in affiliated colleges were approved in principle.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations held on 20.08.2020, be approved with the following modification:

Para Nos.1 to 8- to approve the proposal in principle and place before the Academic Council for consideration.

Para No.10 - to approve the proposal submitted by the Convenor, Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations.

Para No.12 - to approve in principle and place before the Academic Council for consideration.

Item No.17.33.07: *Letter of the Principal Immanuel College, Vazhichal for permitting Rejin Gilbert GR of BA-CE and Abhijith ML B. Com-TTM to appear in the upcoming examination.*

Sri. Jairaj J, Member Syndicate has forwarded the letter of the Principal Immanuel College, Vazhichal for permitting Rejin Gilbert GR of BA-CE and Abhijith ML B. Com-TTM to appear in the upcoming examination as they could not remit the fee on time.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered the matter and recommended the following

i)The college authorities be heard.

ii)Rejin Gilbert GR of BA-CE and Abhijith ML, B.Com-TTM are permitted to appear for the upcoming examination after remitting the requisite fee.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examinations held on 20.08.2020, be approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the permission be granted to all other similar candidates to appear upcoming examination after remitting the requisite fee.

ALSO RESOLVED to constitute a Sub-committee consisting of the Dr.K.B.Manoj, Dr.M.Vijayan Pillai and Adv.G.Muraleedharan Pillai, Members Syndicate for conducting the hearing.

Item No.17.33.Additional Item No:01: *Scheduling of special examination/pending examinations and other related issues.*

The Committee considered the scheduling of special examination/pending examinations and other related issues.

Recommendations of the Committee

The Committee considered the matter and recommended the following

- i. S6 CBCSS/CR Special Examination to be scheduled from September 15 onwards continuously and the examinations so conducted deemed to be that of March, 2020*
- ii. S4 UG to be conducted on September 8,11,14*
- iii. S4 MBA September 14 onwards : S2 MBA(Pending Exams)-September 8,9.*
- iv. S5 Integrated LLB September 8 onwards*
- v. S8 B. Tech September 8 onwards*
- vi. S2 MBA (SDE) September 15 onwards*
- vii. Part I & II Annual Scheme UG supplementary(BA/B. Sc/B. Com Private Study) September 8 onwards*
- viii. S1 LLM September 15 onwards*
- ix. It was recommended to expedite the B.Tech valuation being carried out and the publication of results. Further recommended to place the details of pending notifications of B.Tech Examinations/ Practicals before the Syndicate.*
- x. The valuation of LLB Examinations be conducted only centrally at CV camps.*
- xi. S2 B.Ed special examination be conducted for those candidates who cannot write the S2 Regular and Supplementary examination, May – June 2020 on August 24 & 26.*

The committee considered the matter and recommended to authorize the Superintendent (i/c), KUP to borrow 1000 reams of RA 1 paper from the Exam store with immediate effect to overcome the present crisis and the same shall be returned as and when the purchase of paper for printing of SLM's of SDE is effected and further recommended to entrust the Superintendent (i/c), KUP to hand over the materials for printing of odd semesters of SLM's of SDE to outside presses, on or before 24.08.2020.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

The Vice-Chancellor ordered to place the whole matter regarding printing and supply of SLMs in SDE before the SDE Monitoring Committee, but the same was not placed. Considering the above, the Syndicate **FURTHER RESOLVED** to refer the matter before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings for a detailed study.

Item no.17.34.02 *Proposal for conducting Supplementary Exam for third and fourth semester UG students (2017 admission)*

The third and fourth semester examinations of UG students (2017 admission) were conducted during the month March 2020 and the results are expected to be published in June 2020. Normally, a student of third and fourth semester (2017 admission) will get a chance for appearing supplementary exam only when the examinations are conducted for the 2018 admission batch students. The examinations of the third and fourth semesters of 2018 admission will be conducted only after the completion of their contact classes. It has been decided to conduct online classes for third and fourth semester students (2018 admission) and scheduled to complete the classes by July 15, 2020. In this context, if a student of third and fourth semesters of 2017 admissions, who may fail and do not appear for the examinations is likely to lose a year.

Hence it is proposed to conduct a supplementary examination for the UG third and fourth semesters (2017 admission) in the month of July 2020.

The committee considered the matter and recommended to authorize the Director, SDE to take necessary steps to issue notification for the supplementary examinations for UG third and fourth semesters (2017 admissions).

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item no.17.34.03 *Printing of SLMs for UG & PG programmes for 2020-'21 admission.*

As per UGC (ODL) Regulation 2017, the syllabus of the SDE has to be on par with that of the regular mode of the University. An amount of Rs.5 lakh has been allocated in the budget of 2020 - 21 for conducting workshop for revising the syllabi of ODL programmes from the academic year 2020-21 onwards.

It is learnt that the University has not completed the syllabus revision for the regular UG/PG Programme. The application for recognition for ODL Programmes has been submitted to UGC –DEB during the month of December 2019. It is expected to start admission during the month of July, 2020. There won't be enough time to prepare lessons based on the new schemes and syllabi before the commencement of the new academic year. Also, the workshop can be conducted only after revising the syllabus for regular mode.

In this context, it is proposed to follow the existing syllabi for both UG and PG Programmes for the academic year 2020-21 also. It is also proposed to print the lessons on war footing for distributing the same once the admission procedures started.

It is further noted that our proposal for recognition of the 26 UG/PG programmes during 2020-21 is being under the consideration of the DEB of UGC.

The committee considered the matter and recommended to defer the matter to the next SDE Monitoring Committee

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item no.17.34.04 Rooms in the SDE building occupied by Department of Linguistics

Vide, UO No. Ad.BI(3)/2019/109 dated 14.11.2019, the building in which the Department of Malayalam and Department of Linguistics had been functioning was allotted to the SDE. However, till date two rooms, one in the first floor (adjacent to Seminar Hall) and one in the second floor has not been vacated by the Department of Linguistics. The contact classes and exams are being conducted at SDE. Also, about 200 students are writing exams in SDE. Due to Covid –19 protocol and increase in number of students, the class rooms presently available are not enough for catering this large number of students. These two rooms were also reported as part of SDE while reporting build up area to the UGC-DEB. Hence direction may be given to vacate the two rooms occupied by the Department of Linguistics at the earliest.

The committee considered the matter and recommended to direct the HoD, Department of Linguistics to vacate the rooms occupied in the SDE building, at the earliest.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item no.17.34.05: Proposal to purchase or hire a vehicle on contract basis for the SDE

The School of Distance Education is one of the largest departments of the University. SDE has an enrollment of about 28,000 students. The SDE has now been shifted to the Kariavattom Campus from the SH Campus.

The day to day working of SDE requires a lot of man power and logistics. The staff has to liaison regularly with the main office at Senate House Campus. Liaisoning with the various Government departments with respect to the e-grants of students are also a regular feature. The SDE hires private vehicles daily to transport SLMs to the post office which are being dispatched to the students.

The SDE being the largest department of the University and placed on the furthest end of the Kariavattom Campus, a vehicle is a must for the smooth and speedy logistics during the daily operations in the SDE. Taking all those facts into consideration it is proposed to purchase or hire a suitable vehicle for the SDE at the earliest.

The committee considered the matter and agreed to approve the idea of purchasing a vehicle to avoid hiring of the vehicle for transportation of SLM's to the post office (for despatch to students), preferably a Mahindra Bolero, meeting the expenditure from the Department Development Fund and referred the matter to the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item no. 17.34.06 Upgradation of SDE website through the University server platform - request from the Director – for consideration

The official website of SDE (www.ideku.net) is currently being hosted by Asianet. As of 2010 academic year 1 GB data storage plan was being activated by this service provider for the initial 8000 - odd students. But due to the increase in the number of programmes and the number of students (about 28000) over the years, we find difficulty in uploading data requirements for these students with the present plan. Hence it is requested that the existing plan may be upgraded. The server which had been purchased for the purpose of admission of SDE is presently kept at KUCC.

As of now, this website is being up loaded with SDE course details, syllabus, assignment topics, model question papers, tuition fee details, circular, contact classes adding to space congestion and network traffic problems. Moreover, during the covid pandemic situation, soft copies of SLMs

and online classes, numerous PPT presentations of the online classes etc. are also uploaded in this server which consumes more data space.

Furthermore, the frequent online assessment from UGC-DEB regarding curriculum activities are also being conducted through this website. In addition, thousands of SDE students keep accessing our website at a time.

In the above circumstances, it would be most appropriate that the SDE website be made a part of the Kerala University website, so that more data space can be utilized and the tie up can be ended with private Asianet webserver, thereby keeping confidentiality of all SDE data. It would also be cost effective, since the present Asianet Technical team has informed that the extension of plan through them would cost around Rs.26,000/-per year.

The committee considered the matter and recommended to constitute a sub - committee with Dr. K.G. Gopchandran, Member, Syndicate as Convener and Director, Computer Centre, Director, SDE & Dr. S. Aji S., Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science as members to submit a report on feasibility of upgradation of SDE website and hosting the same in University server platform.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item no.17.34.07 Remuneration for external faculties engaging online classes of SDE

At present, the remuneration for external faculty members engaging contact classes of SDE is being paid at the rate Rs.500/- per hour for PG and Rs. 400/- per hour for UG classes. Due to current Covid-19 protocol the classes are now being conducted in online mode. Though most of the sessions are handled by the teachers of SDE, some courses in certain programmes need to be engaged by the external faculty members.

Hence it is proposed that, remuneration may be paid to external faculty members who are engaging in contact classes online at the rate Rs.500 /- per hour for PG and Rs. 400 /- per hour for UG respectively, upto a maximum of 3 hrs per day.

The committee considered the matter and recommended to place the matter before the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item no.17.34.08 Shifting of SDE Computer Lab from S.H Campus to Kariavattom Campus

The SDE was shifted to Kariavattom Campus from Senate House Campus during December 2019. At the time of shifting the SDE Computer Lab was not shifted, since it was an examination centre for UG & PG Lab exams of SDE. Also shifting of the Lab requires relatively more time and expenses compared to moving other sections of SDE and hence shifting the lab got delayed.

The matter of relocating the Computer Lab to SDE at Kariavattom was discussed in the Department Council held on 11.06.2020. The Council recommended to relocate the Lab to the SDE, Kariavattom and to meet the expense in this regard from the DDF.

The committee considered the matter and recommended to authorize the Director, SDE to proceed with the same following the existing norms for shifting.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item no.17.34.09 Engaging a Male Gardner cum messenger on daily wages basis in the SDE

The SDE compound in the Kariavattom Campus is large. It requires daily maintenance like cleaning, deweeding etc. The SDE intends to setup a garden in the front yard and also to plant fruit bearing plants and trees in the compound as part of campus beautification. Also, the University has

entrusted the SDE with the maintenance and upkeep of mango trees planted as part of 'Harithalayam' Project.

Further, the SDE has to liaison with the administrative office at the SH Campus on a day to day basis, the service of a messenger is highly required in the office. Taking those aspects into consideration, it is proposed to engage a Male Gardner cum Messenger in the SDE office on daily wages to take of those works detailed above. The Male Gardner cum Messenger should have a valid licence to ride a bicycle. The practice followed in engaging casual employees in the University stadium, University Hostel, University Press may be followed in this regard.

The committee considered the matter and recommended to carry out the gardening works making use of the service of anyone of the casual laborers engaged in SDE.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item no.17.34.10 *Levy of condonation fee*

A request dated 10.02.2020 was received from the Students of M.A English (2017 Admission) to exempt them from shortage of attendance in contact classes of SDE as 90% of them are employees and find it difficult to attend regular classes. Moreover, they state that levying condonation fees for shortage of attendance is unjust and is abane for financially backward students.

The SDE is at present collecting condonation fee for attendance shortage @ Rs 525/- for each semester. As per the details in clause 2.19 of the SDE prospectus 2018-19, 50% attendance in contact classes is mandatory for every student, and "exemption can be granted to those who cannot attend contact classes owing to unavoidable difficulties. In such cases a condonation fee of Rs 500/- for each semester is to be remitted".

It is well understood from this clause that students, who seek admission to SDE programmes, after going through the SDE prospectus, need to be aware that Contact Classes are an integral and inevitable part of the programmes.

Since 2017, when the distance learning mode was redefined and a new course structure came into force, condonation fee has been collected from every student who has had attendance shortage, as instructed in the SDE Regulations. In this circumstance, waiving this Regulation for a particular batch of students, may not be considered.

The committee recommended, not to consider the request for exemption of condonation fee.

The committee further recommended the item no. 1 of the minutes may be approved by the Vice-Chancellor, subject to reporting to the Syndicate, due to exigency.

The meeting came to an end at 4.30 p.m

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations of the meeting of the SDE Monitoring Committee held on 17.08.2020, be approved.

Item No.17.35 *Providing accommodation to University staff attending Covid duty at Guest House, Kariavattom- Consideration of- Reg.*

(Ad.A.IV)

Ref: Letter dated 29.07.2020 from Secretary, Kerala University Employees Union.

The Secretary, Kerala University Employees Union vide reference above has represented follows.

That on the orders of the Government of Kerala, employees residing at Staff quarters, Kariavattom are appointed for covid duty. On return from Covid duty they have to quarantine for mandated days. But the quarters do not have such facilities. Hence it is requested that such employees be allowed to stay at our Guest House, Kariavattom.

When the file is put up for orders, Vice Chancellor has ordered to placed in the matter before the Syndicate for consideration.

It is pointed out that Kariavattom Guest House is a place where guests of University are accommodated. The Faculty Guest House at Palayam has limited rooms to be allotted. Hence in this circumstance the matter is placed before Syndicate for consideration.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to consider the matter based on the request from the employees residing at Staff Quarters, Kariavattom

Item No.17.36. Board of Studies in Engineering (Pass III)- reconstitution- reporting of -reg.

(Ac.D)

The reconstitution of 15 Board of Studies was placed in the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics & Research held on 02.07.2020. The committee recommended to entrust the Convener, Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics & Research to submit a panel before the Syndicate for the nomination of members to the 15 BoS. The Syndicate at its meeting held on 14.08.2020 vide item no: 16.08.D5 resolved to approve the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics & Research.

Meanwhile, an exigency occurred for reconstituting new Board of Studies in (Engineering Pass III) so as to approve the syllabus of courses conducted in the University College of Engineering. The monitoring committee of the University College of Engineering at its meeting held on 03.08.2020 recommended to implement the syllabus same as that of APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University (KTU) syllabus and to place the matter before the Academic Council scheduled on 27.08.2020 which was approved by the Vice Chancellor, subject to reporting to the Syndicate. Before placing the syllabus to Academic Council, the same has to be recommended by the Board of Studies and Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

Considering the exigency, the Vice Chancellor has reconstituted the Board of Studies in Engineering (Pass III) with the following members, subject to reporting to the Syndicate.

1.	Dr. Vinod Chandra S S Professor, Department of Computer Science University of Kerala.	Chairperson
2.	Dr. Shamna H R Associate Professor, Department of Information Technology, Government Engineering College, Barton Hill.	3. Dr. Asok Kumar A Associate Professor, Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Government Engineering College, Barton Hill.
4.	Dr. Manu J Pillai Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, TKM College of Engineering, Kollam.	5. Smt. Shyba S Associate Professor, Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering TKM College of Engineering, Kollam
6.	Smt. Preetha Basu Associate Professor, Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering TKM College of Engineering, Kollam.	7. Dr. Nelsa Abraham Assistant Professor, Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering, Government Engineering College, Barton Hill.

As per orders of the Vice Chancellor, the matter is reported to the Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

Item No.17.37 Dr.Johnson. R, Assistant Professor (Under Suspension), Department of Psychology – reply submitted by Dr.Johnson. R to memo of Charges and Statement of allegations – consideration - reg

(Ad.AII)

The Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in judgement dated 19.12.2019 in WP(C) No.32701 of 2019(K) directed the University to finalise the enquiry pertaining to suspension of Dr.Johnson R at the earliest, and at any rate, within two months from the date of receipt of the judgement (ie within 08.03.2020, two month of date of receipt of judgement copy), after providing sufficient opportunity of hearing and participation to the petitioner and any other interested persons.

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Vice-Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor ordered to place the reply submitted by Dr.Johnson R to memo of Charges and Statement of allegations and the judgement of Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings. Accordingly the same was placed before the meeting of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipments and Buildings held on 26.02.2020. The Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipments and Buildings considered the matter and recommended to complete the enquiry pertaining to suspension of Dr.Johnson R at the earliest in the view of the judgment dated 19.02.2019 of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No.32701 of 2019(K). The recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipments and Buildings was approved by the Vice- Chancellor in exercise of the powers vested under Section 10(13) of the Kerala University Act 1974, subject to reporting to the Syndicate for initiating immediate action. The meeting of the Syndicate held on 13.03.2020 vide item No.10.128.08 resolved to note the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having approved the recommendation of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings held on 26.02.2020.

The University approached the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala for getting atleast three (3) months extension of time limit to finalise the enquiry pertaining to suspension of Dr.Johnson R, for which the orders of Hon'ble High Court is pending. The Vice-Chancellor vide U.O No. Ad.AIL/0/236760/19 dated 24.02.2020 cancelled the appointment of Registrar as Enquiry Officer and constituted an Enquiry Committee comprising of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Chairman), Dr.B.S Jamuna, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Dr.A Gangaprasad, Dean, Faculty of Science and Dr.K.S Chandrasekhar, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies.

As ordered, the Enquiry Committee conducted the hearing of Dr.Johnson R, Assistant Professor(Under Suspension), Dr.Jasseer J, HoD, other faculty members and 22 students belonging to Semester II M.Sc (Psychology) from the Department of Psychology, University of Kerala, Kariavattom at Pro-Vice-Chancellor's Chamber on 03.03.2020.

As ordered by the Vice-Chancellor the report of the Enquiry Committee based on the hearing of Dr.Johnson R, Assistant Professor (Under Suspension), Dr.Jasseer J, HoD, other faculty members and 22 students belonging to Semester II M.Sc (Psychology) from the Department of Psychology, University of Kerala, Kariavattom was placed before the meeting of the Syndicate held on 04.06.2020.

The meeting of the Syndicate held on 04.06.2020 vide itemNo.12.04 resolved the following

1. Accept the Report of the Enquiry Committee
2. To issue urgent notice to Dr.Johnson R, Assistant Professor (Under Suspension) with the findings of the Enquiry Committee
3. Based on the allegations and findings of the Enquiry Committee Dr.Immanuel Thomas, Former Head of the Department be removed from all academic activities related with the Department. Also Dr.Immanuel Thomas is not permitted to enter the Campus without permission of the University, later modified as "not to permit to enter the Department of Psychology"
4. To seek explanation from the Head, Department of Psychology regarding the presence of Dr.Immanuel Thomas
5. To convene the meeting of the Department Council in the Presence of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar

In accordance with the resolution of the Syndicate the Vice-Chancellor ordered

1. To issue show cause notice to Dr.Johnson R based on enquiry committee report
2. Forward a letter to the Head, Department of Psychology, University of Kerala
 - a. To remove Dr.Immanuel Thomas from all academic activities related with Department.
 - b. Seeking explanation regarding the presence of Dr.Immanuel Thomas in the Department
 - c. Directing to convene the meeting of the Department Council only in the presence of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar in future
3. Direct the Security Officer, Karivattom Campus not to permit Dr.Immanuel Thomas to enter the Karivattom campus without the prior permission of the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor or the Registrar
4. Direct Dr.Immanuel Thomas not to enter the Kariavattom Campus without the prior permission of the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor or the Registrar.

As per the direction of the Vice-Chancellor the Notice and letters were issued in this regard.

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Vice-Chancellor

In response to the notice, Dr.Johnson R has submitted his reply via email stating that the enquiry Committee did not follow any procedure and stated the allegations against him raised by the students are malicious in nature. He has further requested to drop all charges against him and reinstate him in service.

A letter was issued to the Head, Department of Psychology seeking explanation regarding the presence of Dr.Immanuel Thomas in the Department, in response Dr.Jasseer J , the HOD has stated that Dr.Immanuel Thomas is PG Board of studies chairman, for participating in the meeting he used come to the department, for receiving letters which were sent to Dr.Immanuel Thomas in department address for collecting it he used to come to the department and the Vice-Chancellor in many meeting insisted to utilize the service of the retired teachers, hence Dr.Immanuel Thomas was invited couple of times for engaging classes.

Dr.Immanuel Thomas in his letter to the Vice-Chancellor has stated that restriction imposed on his entry into Kariavattom campus has resulted in irreparable damage to his reputation as dedicated and respected teacher in the university and he is staying close to the Kariavattom campus, everyday he used to make use of a road which goes through campus for travel, he bank with SBI inside Kariavattom campus and he is the member of the Employees Co operative Society inside the campus hence he has requested to withdraw restrictions imposed.

The teaching faculties of the Department of Psychology (Dr.Jasseer J, Dr.Bindu P and Tissy Mariam Thomas) in their letter to the Vice-Chancellor has requested to lift the restrictions imposed on Dr.Immanuel Thomas and the decision of the university convene the meeting of the Department Council only in the presence of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar as it hampers effective and efficient functioning of the department.

Kerala University Retired Teachers' Union (KURTU) and Psychology Action Forum has also requested to revoke the action of the university in imposing restriction to Dr.Immanuel Thomas in their letters.

As the whole matter is ordered by the Vice-Chancellor placed before the syndicate for consideration.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to constitute a sub-committee consisting of Adv.B.Balachandran, Dr.K.B.Manoj, Adv.G.Muraleedharan Pillai & Dr.G.Suresh Singh, Professor and Head, Department of Mathematics and place the whole matter before the sub-committee for detailed discussion and appropriate recommendation.

Item No. 17.38 ***Request for sanctioning Leave Without Allowance (LWA) for two years for the period from 30/07/2020 to 29/07/2022, submitted by Dr. Arun Kumar K, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Kerala - legal opinion sought - reg***

(Ad.AII)

Dr. Arun Kumar K has been appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science, University of Kerala w.e.f 23/03/2020 and the incumbent is currently on one year probation. He has requested for Leave Without Allowance (LWA) under Appendix XII A for working in a NEWS Channel (24 News, Insight Media City, Kochi) for two years from 30/07/2020 to 29/07/2022, with the freedom to rejoin the service before the expiry of the sanctioned period. The remarks of the Finance Section as follows. "As per G.O.(P) No. 359/2015/Fin dated 13-08-2015 (Kerala Service (Second Amendment) Rules, 2015), the employees in the regular service who have not completed probation in the entry cadre shall be granted Leave without Allowances under Appendix XII A, Kerala Service Rules subject to the condition that such officers will have to start their probation afresh and complete their probation on return from Leave without Allowances. Such officers will forfeit the service benefits that have accrued to them prior to their proceeding on Leave without Allowances and they will be deemed as new entrants to Government service on return from Leave without Allowances. Their right to rejoin -Government service in the same entry cadre is protected, as if they were new entrant. As per G.O. (P) No.529/2013/Fin. dated 22-10-2013, the employees who have been granted Leave Without Allowance under Appendix XII A, Kerala Service Rules is eligible to rejoin duty in the next arising vacancy on their application by cancelling the unavailed portion of Leave Without Allowance. The time lag between the date of request/report for duty and the actual date of

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rejoining duty will be treated as extension of Leave Without Allowance." The Legal Opinion rendered by the Legal Adviser is as follows. "As per Statute 10, Chapter 3 of the Kerala University First Statutes, 1977, the KSR for the time being in force as amended from time to time shall mutatis mutandis be applicable to the teachers of the University." The Legal Adviser has therefore endorsed the remarks of Finance Section. The Legal Adviser has found no legal embargo in sanctioning LWA to Dr. Arun Kumar K on the condition that, on his rejoining, he shall start his probation afresh and complete his probation on return from such leave. Further, all service benefits that have accrued prior to his proceeding on LWA will be forfeited and he will be deemed to be a new entrant to the University Service on return. Leave without allowances under Appendix XII A, KSR can be granted to Dr. Arun Kumar K subject to stipulations in G.O(P) No.359/2015/Fin. dated 13/08/2015 the Kerala Service (Second Amendment) Rules 2015, and also G.O(P) No.529/2013/Fin. dated 22/10/2013. The Legal Adviser further added that, a suitable decision may be taken by the Syndicate. As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter regarding the request for sanctioning Leave Without Allowance (LWA) for two years for the period from 30/07/2020 to 29/07/2022, submitted by Dr. Arun Kumar K, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science is placed

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to grant sanction leave without allowance to Dr. Arun Kumar.K, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science for one year from the date of availing leave.

Item No. 17.39 Request received from transgender candidates – relaxation in upper age limit – reg.

(Ac.H)

Requests have been received from three transgender candidates regarding UG admission. In the request, it has been stated that they wish to apply for degree programme during the academic year 2020-21. But all the three candidates are age over and hence, could not apply through online mode.

It has been requested that relaxation may be given in upper age limit and permission may be granted them to apply for degree course during this academic year. The details of the candidates are as follows.

1. Syam S Adhilakshmi – Date of Birth : 08/04/1994 (26 years)
2. Prameesh P - Date of Birth : 24/05/1991 (29 years)
3. Krishnachandran C – Date of Birth : 10/03/1987 (33 years)

As per clause 4.3, Reservation for Transgender candidates “two seats shall be created over and above the sanctioned strength in all courses in affiliated Arts & Science Colleges exclusively for admitting Transgender students. (G.O.(Ms)No.153/2018 HEdn dated 03.07.2018).

As per the prospectus for UG admission 2020, clause 2.1, “the maximum age limit for admission to the UG programmes shall be as follows as on 1st June of the academic year

For General / SEBC candidates - 23 years

For SC/ST candidates - 25 years.

During UG Admission 2019, as per the request received from Akhil K.K, transgender candidate of 24 years old, seeking relaxation in upper age limit for applying for UG courses, the Syndicate at its meeting held on 08.08.2019 has resolved to grant age relaxation in upper age limit for applying for UG courses as a special case considering the fact that, special attention is needed for transgender category.

The matter regarding the relaxation in upper age limit for transgender candidates was placed before the Syndicate at its meeting held on 14.08.2020 and it has been resolved to grant relaxation in upper age limit for transgender candidates for applying for UG programmes during the academic year 2020-21. But the maximum age limit was not decided. **It may be noted that the relaxation permissible for SC/ST candidates is upto 25 years of age. The Vice-Chancellor has ordered to place the matter before the Syndicate for decision regarding maximum age limit to be made applicable for transgender candidates.**

It may be noted that the last date for registration for UG courses is 25.08.2020.

Hence, the matter regarding fixing of upper age limit for transgender candidates for applying for UG programme in affiliated Arts & Science colleges and UIT’s is placed before the Syndicate for consideration and decision.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to send a letter to the Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department to seek clarification regarding the relaxation of upper age limit for transgender candidates for applying UG programme in affiliated Arts & Science colleges and UIT's.

Item No.17.40 *Transfer of vehicle to General pool(Administration)- Allotment of vehicle to Director, IQAC-Reporting of-reg.*

(Ad.A.IV)

The Director, Inter University Centre for Geospatial Information Science and Technology, has requested to take steps to transfer the vehicle(Mahindra - Bolero) along with the driver possessed by the Centre which was purchased from the project grants sanctioned to the Centre, to University since the allocation head for the maintenance and salary of the driver is exhausted.

The Assistant Engineer, Mechanical has forwarded a report on the status of the vehicle and requested to consider the driver of the vehicle posted in CGIST for absorbing in University since he has 12 years of service and has maintained the vehicle in immaculate condition.

Sanction has been accorded by the Vice Chancellor, subject to reporting to Syndicate, 1. to transfer the vehicle bearing Regn.No KL 22 A 458(Mahindra Bolero) used by the Director,Inter University Centre for Geospatial Information Science and Technology(IUCGIST) to the General pool of vehicle along with the driver Sri.Arunkumar K. 2. to execute the tasks mentioned in the report of the Assistant Engineer, Mechanical. 3. to allot this vehicle to the Director, IQAC for the smooth working of the NAAC preparation

The Finance has given concurrence for meeting the expenditure towards the cost of fuel, repair and maintenance of the vehicle etc from the expenses of the general pool vehicles(Administration wing).

Accordingly, U.O no.2562/2020/UOK dated 19.08.2020 was issued.

The matter is reported to Syndicate.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in having accorded sanction as detailed above, be noted.

Item No.17.41 *Inordinate delay in releasing the payments in respect of Harithalayam Project – Report of the Registrar Placed – Reg.*

(Ad.BI)

In pursuance to the resolution of the Syndicate met on 17.07.2020 (Item No. 32) sanction was accorded to the following in connection with the implementation of Harithalayam Project. Orders has been issued accordingly vide U. O. dt.31.07.2020.

Sl. No	To whom sanctioned	Purpose	Amount (Rs.)
1	HoD, Dept. of Botany	Purchase of planting materials and contingency	1,50,000/-
2	HoD, Dept. of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries	Fish Culture	1,00,000/-
3	HoD, Dept. of Environmental Science	Planting Banana trees	47,000/-
4	JR Admin	Planting Teak Saplings	15,000/-
5	JR Admin	For Irrigation facility and accessories	25,000/-
6	JR Campus Admin	Clearing Land for Plantation by Social Forestry Dept. Etc	7,14,400/-
7	JR Campus Admin	Initial expense for auctioning acacia tree	10,000/-
Total			10,61,400/-

The amount was sanctioned in favour of Sri. Aswini Kumar, Deputy Registrar, Campus Administration as Provisional Advance with directions to release the payment to the parties.

But it is noticed that Sri.Aswini Kumar has not yet released the payments. Instead he has raised some objections/doubts which are detailed below.

1. Whether the JCB hiring charge include bata to the operator.

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2. Instead of tenders only quotations were invited. Quotation is not published in the website. So ratification of the finance officer is required.
3. No specific directions issued to release the cheque to the proprietor of the quotionalist "M/S C.M. Constructions and Earth Movers.
4. The J.R. Campus Admin and the JR Admin I are required to certify that the work was done satisfactorily and that the rate claimed is in order and prevailing in this area.
5. As per the U.O.dtd 31.07.2020 the execution of the project is vested with three HoD's and two Joint Registrar's. But the J.R. Campus Admin wrote in the note file that the two JRs are the authority for execution. This is not true.

In view of the objections/doubts raised by Sri.Aswini Kumar DR, the Standing committee on Planning and Development has directed the Registrar to submit a report in this regard. Accordingly the Registrar has examined the file and observed as follows:

1. The quotation for hiring of JCB was invited by the Engineering Wing. The lowest quotation was accepted. Accordingly work order was issued and the whole work was done satisfactorily. The Registrar has also certified that the quotation submitted by M/S C.M. constructions and Earth Movers is the lowest one. At this point the objection whether the amount quoted by the quotationalist is inclusive of driver bata or not is irrelevant.
2. The payment due to the hire charges for JCB is payable to "M/S C.M. Constructions and Earth Movers". No separate order is necessary to the effect that the amount is to be paid in favour of the proprietor of the company. Since the quotation has been accepted by the Registrar, there is no need for further ratification.
3. The mandatory certifications to the effect "the work has been done satisfactorily and that the rate claimed is prevented in this area" has been furnished by 02.8.2020.
4. The authority for the expectations of the project as ordered in the U.O.dated 31.07.2020 will stand good. The notings in this regard by the J.R. Campus Administration in the running note is not a hindrance to make the payment due to the parties.
5. In short all the objections/doubts raised by Sri.Aswini Kumar.C, D.R. are flimsy and cannot be treated as innocent occurrence since he is a responsible officer in charge of an Audit wing, there is reason to believe that he is deliberately trying to delay the payment due to the parties for the work done by them one month before. The Provisional Advance was credited to his account on 06.08.2020. All the bills and vouchers with mandatory certificates reached him by 02.08.2020.

The entire amount of **Rs.10,61,400/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Sixty one Thousand and Four Hundred Only)** was idling in his account.

It is also noted that his action in delaying the payment is a clear case of insubordination, dereliction of duty and violation of the Principles of Financial Propriety.

The Registrar in the report has recommended the followings.

- (A) Suitable disciplinary action may be initiated against Sri.Aswini Kumar. C, D.R. on the charges detailed above.
- (B) Penal interest@18% per annum may be recovered from him for the period in which the provisional advance idled in his P.D. Account.
- (C) The J.R., Campus Administration may be put in charge of the D.R, Campus Admin (replacing the D.R. for a reasonable period)with directions to release the Payments due to partia.

The Vice-Chancellor has ordered to place the matter before the Syndicate along with the report of the Registrar. Accordingly the matter is placed before the syndicate for consideration (the report of the Registrar is appended).

REPORT ON THE INORDINATE DELAY IN RELAEASING THE PAYMENTS IN RESPECT OF HARITHALAYAM PROJECT

In pursuance to the resolution of the Syndicate met on 17.07.2020 (Item No. 32) sanction was accorded to the following in connection with the implementation of Harithalayam Project. Orders has been issued accordingly vide U. O. No.2288/2020/UOK dtd, 31.07.2020.

Sl.No	To whom sanctioned	Purpose	Amount (Rs.)
1	HoD, Dept. of Botany	Purchase of planting materials and contingency	1,50,000/-
2	HoD, Dept. of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries	Fish Culture	1,00,000/-
3	HoD, Dept. of Environmental Science	Planting Banana trees	47,000/-
4	JR Admin	Planting Teak Saplings	15,000/-
5	JR Admin	For Irrigation facility and accessories	25,000/-
6	JR Campus Admin	Clearing Land for Plantation by Social Forestry Dept. Etc	7,14,400/-
7	JR Campus Admin	Initial expense for auctioning acacia tree	10,000/-
Total			10,61,400/-

The amount was sanctioned in favour of Sri. Aswini Kumar.C, Deputy Registrar, Campus Administration as Provisional Advance with directions to release the payment to the parties.

But it is noticed that Sri. Aswini Kumar C, has not yet released the payments. Instead he has raised some objections/doubts which are detailed below.

1. Whether the JCB hiring charge include bata to the operator.
2. Instead of tenders only quotations were invited. Quotation is not published in the website. So ratification of the finance officer is required.
3. No specific directions issued to release the cheque to the proprietor of the quotionalist "M/S C. M. Constructions and Earth Movers.
4. The J.R. Campus Admin and the JR Admin I are required to certify that the work was done satisfactorily and that the rate claimed is in order and prevailing in this area.
5. As per the U.O.dtd 31.07.2020 the execution of the project is vested with three HoD's and two Joint Registrar's. But the J.R. Campus Admin wrote in the note file that the two JRs are the authority for execution. This is not true.

In view of the objections/doubts raised by Sri.Aswini Kumar DR , I have examined the file and observed as follows:

- i. The quotation for hiring of JCB was invited by the Engineering Wing. The lowest quotation was accepted. Accordingly work order was issued and the whole work was done satisfactorily. The Registrar has also certified that the quotation submitted by M/S C. M. constructions and Earth Movers is the lowest one. At this point the objection whether the amount quoted by the quotationalist is inclusive of driver bata or not is irrelevant.
- ii. The payment due to the hire charges for JCB is payable to "M/S C.M. Constructions and Earth Movers". No separate order is necessary to the effect that the amount is to be paid in favour of the proprietor of the company. Since the quotation has been accepted by the Registrar, there is no need for further ratification.
- iii. The mandatory certifications to the effect "the work has been done satisfactorily and that the rate claimed is prevented in this area" has been furnished by 02.8.2020.
- iv. The authority for the expectations of the project as ordered in the U.O.dated 31.07.2020 will stand good. The notings in this regard by the J.R. Campus Administration in the running note is not a hindrance to make the payment due to the parties.
- v. In short all the objections/doubts raised by Sri.Aswini Kumar, D.R. are flimsy and cannot be treated as innocent occurrence since he is a responsible officer in charge of an Audit wing, there is reason to believe that he is deliberately trying to delay the payment due to the parties for the work done by them one month before. The Provisional Advance was credited to his account on 06.08.2020. All the bills and vouchers with mandatory certificates reached him by 02.08.2020.

The entire amount of **Rs.10,61,400/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Sixty one Thousand and Four Hundred Only)** was idling in his account.

It is also noted that his action in delaying the payment is a clear case of insubordination, dereliction of duty and violation of the Principles of Financial Propriety.

Recommendations

- (A) Suitable disciplinary action may be initiated against Sri.Aswini Kumar.C, D.R. on the charges detailed above.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

- (B) Penal interest@18% per annum may be recovered from him for the period in which the provisional advance idled in his P.D.Account.
- (C) The J.R., Campus Administration may be put in charge of the D.R., Campus Admin (replacing the D.R. for a reasonable period)with directions to release the Payments due to partia.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

Thiruvananthapuram
21.08.2020

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the above recommendations at (B) & (C) of the Report be approved.
FURTHER RESOLVED to entrust the Registrar and Joint Registrar (Admn.) to take appropriate disciplinary action against Sri.Aswini Kumar.C, Deputy Registrar, Campus Administration on the charges detailed in the Report.

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Item No.17.42 Election to the Senate of the University and Kerala University Union 2019-20 from among the members of the General Council of the University – reg.

(Election)

The term of 10-student members elected by the General Council to the Senate of the University has expired on 21.06.2020 and the term of the present University Union 2018-19 which was extended by the Syndicate of the University (as requested by the Chairman) will also expire on 30.08.2020.

In this connection following points may be noted,

1. Most the Office Bearers of the University Union, Members of Executive Committee and Account Committee are elected from the General Council of the Kerala University Union.
2. The General Council of the Kerala University Union consists of University Union Councillors elected from Affiliated Colleges/Departments.
3. The constitution of General Council and Election to the University Union Executive Committee, and Accounts Committee are conducts as per (1) the By-law of the Kerala University Union, for students, (2) Kerala University First Statutes 1974 (Conduct of Election to various Authorities and Bodies) and (3) Lyngdho Committee Recommendations.
5. As per clause -(6)- of By-law of the Kerala University Union “ Tenure of Office” - The Term of the office of the members of the General Council, Executive Committee and Accounts Committee shall be twelve (12) month from the date of reconstitution of General Council or until the next reconstitution of the General Council notwithstanding the fact that they ceased to be students.
6. As per clause 21 of the By-law of the Kerala University Union (copy appended) the General Council, of the University Union was reconstituted by Vice-Chancellor before 28th February every year.
7. The present General Council was reconstituted on 27.02.2020.

The term of the Kerala University Union 2018-19 ended on 27.02.2020, with the reconstitution of the General Council of the University Union 2019-20. Even though the General Council, of the University Union 2019-20 was reconstituted further steps were stalled by the Covid 19 outbreak and conduct of election of University Union Officer bearers, members to the Executive Committee, and Account Committee was not be possible time bound, owing to the extra ordinary circumstances.

Hence on request of the Chairman, the Syndicate meeting held on 04.06.2020 decided to extend the term of the Union up to 30.08.2020.

As the Covid-19 epidemic is spreading worse, the situations seems to be very difficult to conduct an election with University union Councilors of all colleges of all our districts, due to Hot spots and Containment Zones.

As the matter was brought to the attention of the Vice Chancellor, he ordered to place the matter before the Syndicate to considering the following for appropriate decision.:

1. to consider the difficulties in conducting an election at the Senate House Campus in the present situation and postpone the election to a favorable date after the present restrictions.
2. to reconstitute the Executive Committee and/ or Account Committee or fill up the casual vacancies in these bodies by nomination or any other method as the Syndicate may decide, in case the elections could not be conducted as envisaged provided that any such action taken by the Syndicate shall be subject to the ratification by the Senate.

Therefore the matter is herewith place before the Syndicate for consideration and appropriate decision.

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED to initiate necessary steps to conduct the election of Kerala University Union 2019-20 before 30.09.2020.

Additional Item 1 Appointment of Officers in the vacant posts in various categories – consideration of – reg

(Ad.AV/ Ad.D1/ Ad.DIII)

The Syndicate considered the request from Adv.B.Balachandran, Member, Syndicate regarding the appointment of officers in various posts and Resolved to initiate action as detailed below:

1.	Lexicon Editor	By deputation from among the Professors or Associate Professors from a University in the State of Kerala
2.	Director, Physical Education	Advertise and fill on regular basis as per norms
3.	Director, Publications Department	On contract basis for a period of one year
4.	NSS Co-ordinator	Advertise and fill on regular basis as per norms
5.	Director, CLIF	On contract basis from among Senior Professors (Retired) of Science and Technology having sufficient experience.

Additional Item 2 Installation of portrait of Lt. Col. P.R. Godavarma Raja in the Department of Physical Education – reg

(Ad.B1)

The Syndicate considered the request of Adv.B.Balachandran, Member Syndicate and **RESOLVED** to entrust the Director, Physical Education to initiate steps for the installation of portrait of Lt. Col. P.R. Godavarma Raja, in the G.V.Raja Pavilion, Department of Physical Education, PMG Junction, Thiruvananthapuram.

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

University Buildings,
Thiruvananthapuram,
24.08.2020

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor



UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

**Preliminary Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the
Syndicate held on 01.10.2020**

Place of Meeting : University Buildings
Thiruvananthapuram
Time : 10.00 AM

Members present:

1. Prof.(Dr.) V.P.Mahadevan Pillai (*In the Chair*)
Vice-Chancellor
2. Prof.(Dr.) P.P.Ajayakumar
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
3. Adv.B.Balachandran
4. Sri.Jairaj.J
5. Sri.Viswan Padanilam
6. Dr.M.Vijayan Pillai
7. Sri.Arunkumar R
8. Sri.Bijukumar.G
9. Sri.B.P.Murali
10. Dr.K.G.Gopchandran
11. Dr.S.Nazeeb
12. Dr.K.B.Manoj
13. Adv.A.Ajikumar
14. Dr.B.Unnikrishnan Nair
15. Adv.K.H.Babujan
16. Adv.G.Muralidharan Pillai
17. Prof.K.Lalitha
18. Smt. Renju Suresh

Online presence

19. Dr.Mathew.V
20. Sri.Vijayakumar. R, Joint Secretary, Higher Education Department.

**Item No.18.02. Confirmation of the Preliminary Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the
Syndicate held on 24.08.2020 -reg.**

(Ac.A.I)

The Syndicate considered and approved the Preliminary Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the Syndicate held on 24.08.2020 with the following modification:

Item No.17.26.03 Recommendation at Sl.No.2 be corrected as 'To count the prior service rendered by Dr. Jalaja Kumari C, Assistant Librarian (Rtd), as Librarian Grade IV in the Municipal Common Service from **28.10.1991** to 13.12.1996 along with her University Service, for pensionary benefits'.

(Ad.AVI)

Item No.17.29.03 Resolution be corrected as '**RESOLVED** that the above recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Planning and Development held on 20.08.2020, be approved'.

(Pl.G)

Item No.17.41 Recommendation at Sl.No.(C) be modified as 'The financial power of releasing of payment of the Harithalayam Project be transferred to the Joint Registrar, Campus Administration, Kariavattom from the Deputy Registrar, Campus Administration,

Registrar i/c

Pro-Vice-Chancellor

Vice-Chancellor

Kariavattom. In the report submitted by the Joint Registrar (Administration) Sl.No.(iii) be modified as 'The mandatory certifications to the effect "the work has been done satisfactorily and that the rate claimed is *'prevalent'* in this area" has been furnished by 02.8.2020'.

(Ad.B1)

