

NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
“CONSERVATIONAL STRATEGIES AND
SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT IN WESTERN GHATS”

09/11/2023 & 10/11/2023

ORGANIZED BY

DEPARTMENTS OF GEOGRAPHY & ZOOLOGY
GOVERNMENT COLLEGE KARIAVATTOM

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
DIRECTORATE OF COLLEGIATE EDUCATION
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA



**Directorate of
COLLEGIATE EDUCATION**
Government of Kerala

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The college was established in 1993 as an annexure of the Undergraduate Wing of University College Thiruvananthapuram. Later, in 1997, these courses were shifted back and the college was renamed Government College Kariavattom. The college introduced undergraduate courses in the Choice Based Credit and Semester Scheme (CBCSS) of University of Kerala. Today, the college offers seven undergraduate programs and two postgraduate programs. The college is located in the northern part of Thiruvananthapuram city and is about 14 km from the city center.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENTS

The National Seminar has been jointly organized by Department of Geography and Zoology. The Department of Geography proudly crosses its 25th year of academic cherishment with a good alumni as well as scholars in earth sciences and environmental management. The department invites and offers physical and human components and their interactions on Earth space. The department can offer good technological innovations in geospatial technologies and employment opportunities due to its proximity to the district's IT hub (Technopark). The Department of Zoology was established in 1997 at Government College Kariavattom which offer Zoology major and minor courses to undergraduate students. The department possess ICT enabled classroom and well equipped research laboratories. This course inspires students to take a journey into and investigate the field of science and enables them to study the animal kingdom, its diversity, evolution, behavior, taxonomy, habitats, embryology, physiology, genetics, etc., down to the molecular level.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The seminars focus on progressing in an Interdisciplinary manner as we intend to organize this event jointly with the Departments of Geography and Zoology of this institution. The main theme of the program fits well with the subject matter in both these disciplines. The coordination and delimitation of the elements of biodiversity and the conflicts of the social elements can be discussed on good platforms of these two disciplines. We, particularly every life form residing in the South Indian region, have been benefiting in one way or another from the western ghats. Therefore, we intend on setting up this seminar on a larger platform so that presenters and audience members from diverse backgrounds can participate and express their opinions.

The Western Ghats are a mountain range that stretches along the west coast of India and is considered one of the 8 hottest biodiversity hotspots in the world. The region hosts an incredible diversity of flora and fauna, provides water for irrigation and domestic use, contributes to climate regulation in the Indian subcontinent, has cultural and historical significance, and is a popular ecotourism destination. The Western Ghats are home to a vast array of flora and fauna, with over 7,400 species of flowering plants, 139 species of mammals, 508 species of birds, 179 species of amphibians, and 290 species of freshwater fish. The Western Ghats are the source of many of India's great rivers, including the Godavari, the Krishna, the Cauvery, and the Tungabhadra. These rivers provide water to millions of people for irrigation, drinking, and other domestic purposes. Given their critical role in India's biodiversity, water resources, climate regulation, and cultural heritage, it is important to protect and conserve the Western Ghats for the benefit of the people who depend on them.

The Supreme Court passed a judgement in June 2022 in connection with the conservation of the Western Ghats. It declared one kilometre around protected forests as ecologically sensitive zones (ESZ). It also banned permanent constructions within ESZs. Mining within national wildlife sanctuaries or national parks was also prohibited. The court noted that a complete ban was not right and would interfere with people's daily activities. **"What should be banned should be banned. What needs to be controlled must be controlled,"** the court said.

THRUST AREAS

- **ECOSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN GHATS**
- **BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES**
- **SOCIAL AWAKENING IN WESTERN GHATS**
- **BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT**
- **ZONE MANAGEMENT IN WESTERN GHATS**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day 1 09/11/2023 Thursday

Registration starts from 9.00 am

Session 1 - Inauguration by **Shri A K Saseendran**

(Hon. Minister for Forest and Wildlife, Govt. of Kerala)

Key Note Address - Prof. Jayachandra Kumar, Principal (Retd), Govt. College Munnar, Idukki.

Session 2 - Invited Talk on "*Biodiversity Conservation Challenges*" -

Dr PS Easa, Chairman, Aranyakam Nature Foundation & Director (Former) Kerala Forest Research Institute

Session 3 - Invited Talk on "*Western Ghats and Endemism*" -

Dr. TR Jayakumari, Head (Retd.), Dept. of Botany, Government Womens College, Thiruvananthapuram.

Session 4 - Invited Talk on "*Sustainability of Tourism Destinations in Western Ghats*" -

Dr Sindhu Joseph, Head, Dept. of Travel and Tourism Management, GPM Govt. College, Manjeswaram, Kasaragod

Day 2: 10/11/2023 Friday

Session 5 - Invited Talk on "*Discovering and Conserving Soil Biodiversity: the case of Western Ghats*" -

Dr Ramachandran Kotharambath, Asst Prof., Department of Zoology, Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod.

Session 6- Invited Talk on "*Zone Management in Western Ghats: Challenges and Facts*" -

Dr Richard Scaria, Asst Prof., Department of Geography, Govt College Chittur, Palakkad.

Session 7: - Invited Talk on "*PFM & Social Empowerment in Western Ghats: Special Scene in Kerala*" -

Sri. Baiju Krishnan, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Kerala Forest Department.

Session 8: Valedictory Function

Keynote address - Sri. James K Jacob, President, Upputhara Grama Panchayat, Idukki District.

CALL FOR COMPETITION

The following activities were planned related to the seminar's theme to increase student awareness and interest:

Competitions in ESSAY WRITING and QUIZ are offered for higher secondary/ high school level students.

POSTER MAKING and ELOCUTION COMPETITION are offered for graduate/postgraduate students.

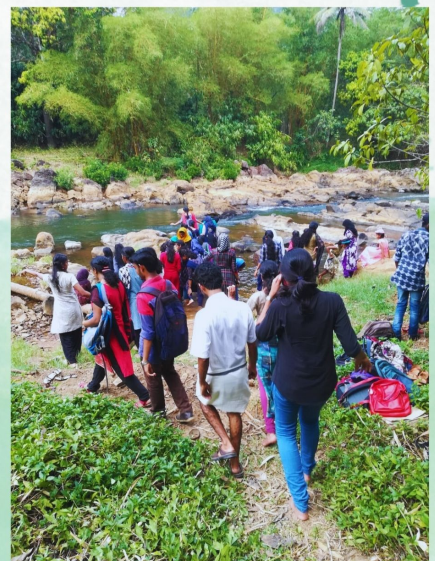
Only one team per institution, with two-member team allowed to compete in the quiz competition. A maximum of two participants from a single institution may compete in the essay writing, elocution and poster-making competitions. The winners' medals and cash awards will be presented out on 09 November 2023, during the seminar's inauguration.

For participation and further details, Kindly visit <https://govtcollegekariavattom.ac.in> or mail us at cssewg@gmail.com.

FIELD TRIP

In connection with this National Seminar, a field trip has been organized on 11/11/2023 (3rd Day of the seminar) to visit the activities in conserving Vamanapuram River at Pullampara Grama Panchayat near Venjaramoodu, Thiruvananthapuram District for creating a sense of reality in a real awareness for the participants. The Vamanapuram river has its origin in the ChemunjiMotta hills on the Western Ghats at about 1,860m, above MSL. The river has length of 88 km and ends up in Anjengo lake in Varkala which spreads along the Thiruvananthapuram and Kollam districts. Field trip will be between 8.00 am - 01.00 pm.

Interested participants can register for the trip on the first day of seminar.



Inauguration



Shri A K Saseendran

Hon. Minister for Forest and Wildlife,
Government of Kerala

Our speakers (DAY 1)



Dr P S Easa

Chairman, Aranyakam Nature Foundation &
Director (Former)
Kerala Forest Research Institute



Prof. Jayachandra Kumar

Principal (Retd.),
Govt. College Munnar, Idukki



Dr. T R Jayakumari

Writer, Environmentalist and
Head (Retd.), Dept. of Botany,
Government Womens College,
Thiruvananthapuram.



Dr Sindhu Joseph

Head, Dept. of Travel and Tourism
Management, GPM Govt. College,
Manjeswaram, Kasaragod

Our speakers (DAY 2)



Dr Ramachandran Kotharambath,

Asst Prof., Department of Zoology,
Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod.



Dr Richard Scaria

Expert Member- Kerala Coastal Zone
Management Authority, Government of Kerala &
Asst Prof., Department of Geography,
Govt College Chittur, Palakkad



Sri. Baiju Krishnan

Assistant Conservator of Forests,
Forest Department, Government of Kerala



Sri. James K Jacob

President, Upputhara Grama Panchayat,
Idukki District.



Registration

Prospective participants are requested to register in advance for the seminar. Registrations can be made by completing the online registration form available in the following link - <https://forms.gle/XvrXa67iMb5SZy8A6> or by scanning the barcode. Limited number of spot registrations may also be available.



Venue & Accommodation

The venue of the seminar is at **Seminar Hall, Government College Kariavattom** at Kariavattom, Thiruvananthapuram. Accommodation for the registered participants may be arranged on request. For Tariffs and other details, please contact the convener, National seminar on “conservational strategies and social empowerment in western ghats”

For more details, Kindly visit our web site <https://govtcollegekariavattom.ac.in> or mail us at : cssewg@gmail.com

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Advisory Committee

Prof. (Dr.) Sandhia GS (Principal, Government College Kariavattom)
Dr. Tina Elizabeth Mathew (Vice Principal, Government College Kariavattom)
Dr. Radhika A (IQAC co-ordinator, Government College Kariavattom)

Co-ordinator

Dr. Dhanush DM (Asst. Prof. & Head, Department of Geography, GCK)

Convener

Dr. Raghul Subin S (Asst. Prof., Department of Zoology, GCK)

Organizing Secretaries

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Dr. Sabeen HM (Asst. Prof. & Head, Department of Geology, GCK)
Dr. Nishad N (Asst. Prof., Department of Geography, GCK)
Dr. Karthika K (Asst. Prof., Department of Geography, GCK)
Smt. Mereena CS (Asst. Prof., Department of Geography, GCK)
Dr. Abhilash A (Asst. Prof., Department of Zoology, GCK)
Dr. Prakash S (Asso. Professor, Department of Hindi, GCK)
Sri. Manoj KS (Asst. Professor, Department of Malayalam, GCK)
Sri. Aneesh Kumar (Lab Asst., Department of Geography, GCK)
Sri. Shibin Raj (Lab Asst., Department of Zoology, GCK)



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CONTACT DETAILS

Co-ordinator

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