



UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

Preliminary Minutes of the 26th Meeting of the Syndicate held on 07.07.2026

(Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A++' Grade)

Place of Meeting : University Buildings,
Thiruvananthapuram
Date & Time : 07.07.2026, 10.00 AM

Members Present:

1. Dr. Mohanan Kunnumal (*In the Chair*)
Vice-Chancellor
2. Smt. Afsana Perween IAS, Director of Collegiate Education
3. Smt. Mini M. R., Additional Secretary, Higher Education Department.
4. Sri. Rajesh Kumar M., Additional Secretary, Electronics & IT Department
5. Sri. Snehil Singh IAS, Director of General Education
6. Sri. Ajay D. N.
7. Dr. S. Nazeeb
8. Dr. K. Rahim
9. Prof. Manoj V
10. Sri. P. S. Gopakumar
11. Sri. Vinod Kumar T. G. Nair
12. Dr. K. Anil Kumar
13. Adv. Ajay Jewel Kuriakose
14. Dr. Noushad V
15. Dr. S. Prema
16. Dr. Manoj T. R.
17. Dr. Pramod N.
18. Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y.
19. Dr. Sibi C Babu
20. Sri. R. S. Sasikumar

Item No.1: Reconstitution of Standing Committees of the Syndicate – reg.

(Ac.AI)

- Ref:**
1. Notification No. 10965/Election/2026 dated 12.03.2026
 2. Notification No. Ac.AI/2/Stand. Com/2/2024 dated 07.09.2024
 3. Notification No. 28527/Election/2026 dated 05.07.2026

As per Reference (1) cited above, Dr. K. G. Gopchandran, Member of the Senate and Syndicate, has ceased to be a member of the Senate and Syndicate of the University of Kerala in accordance with the provisions of Section 44(1) of the Kerala University Act, 1974. Consequently, Dr. K. G. Gopchandran shall also cease to hold membership in any authority, body, or position within the University that he held by virtue of his membership in the Senate and the Syndicate.

Vide another Notification No. 10965/Election/2026 dated 12.03.2026, Dr. Bibin K. Jose, Professor, Department of Mathematics, S.D. College, Alappuzha, has been nominated to the Senate of the University of Kerala under Section 17 (Other Members – 5) and to the Syndicate as provided under Section 21 (Other Members – e) of the Kerala University Act, 1974.

Adv. R. B. Rajeev Kumar and Dr. M. Lenin Lal were elected to the Senate under Section 17 (Senate – Elected Members (7)) of the Kerala University Act, 1974, which provides for “one member elected by the members of the local authorities of each district in the University area from among

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themselves.” They were also elected to the Syndicate. However, both of them failed to be elected as members of the local authorities in the local authority elections conducted in December 2025.

Prof. (Dr.) Prakash K C who was elected to the Syndicate from the category of College Principals retired from service on 31.05.2026 and the term of the Student Member Sri, Vaibhav Chacko expired on 21.04.2026

As per the proviso under Section 18(3) of the Kerala University Act, 1974, no member nominated or elected in his capacity as a member of a particular body or as the holder of a particular office shall continue for a period longer than three months after he has ceased to be such member or holder of such office, unless, in the meantime, he again becomes a member of that electorate.

Adv. R. B. Rajeev Kumar and Dr. M. Lenin Lal were granted an extension for a period of three months, based on the legal opinion obtained from the Legal Advisor, and the said extension period expired on 20.03.2026.

Hence, the membership of Adv. R. B. Rajeev Kumar and Dr. M. Lenin Lal in the Syndicate terminated on 20.03.2026.

According to Section 18(5) of the Kerala University Act, 1974, when a person ceases to be a member of the Senate, he shall also cease to be a member of any authority of the University of which he is a member by virtue of his membership in the Senate.

Vide the notification referred to as Reference (3) above, the existing Government nominees to the Senate and the Syndicate of the University, namely Adv. G. Muraleedharan Pillai, Dr. Shiju Khan J. S., Dr. S. Jayan, Prof. (Dr.) P. M. Radhamany, Sri R. Rajesh, and Dr. Bibin K. Jose, have been replaced by Sri R. S. Sasikumar, Dr. Sibi C. Babu, Dr. Noushad V., Dr. S. Prema, Dr. K. Anil Kumar, and Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose..

Vide the Notification referred to in Reference (2) above, the Standing Committees of the Syndicate were reconstituted by nominating Adv. G Muraleedharan Pillai, Dr. Shiju Khan J S, Dr. S Jayan, Prof.(Dr.) P M Radhamany, Sri. R Rajesh, Dr. K. G. Gopchandran, Adv. R. B. Rajeev Kumar, prof.(Dr.) Prakasah K C, and Dr. M. Lenin Lal as members of various Standing Committees. Adv. G Muraleedharan Pillai was the Convenor of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance, Dr. Shiju Khan J S was the Convenor of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Building and Equipments, Prof.(Dr.) P M Radhamany was the Convenor of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Student Services, Sri. R Rajesh was the Convenor of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Affiliation of Colleges, Dr. K. G. Gopchandran was the Convenor of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics & Research, and Adv. R. B. Rajeev Kumar was the Convenor of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Departments and Other Institutions of the University.

Vide Notification No. Ac.AI/2/Stan.Com/3/2025 dtd 04.10.2025 Sri. Vaibhav Chacko was nominated to various Standing Committees of the Syndicate and nominated as the Convenor of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on student’s Services replacing Dr. P.M. Radhamany.

Since Adv. G Muraleedharan Pillai, Dr. Shiju Khan J S, Dr. S Jayan, Prof.(Dr.) P M Radhamany, Sri. R Rajesh Dr. K. G. Gopchandran, Adv. R. B. Rajeev Kumar, Prof.(Dr.) Prakash K C Sri. Vaibhav Chacko and Dr. M. Lenin Lal have ceased to be members of the Senate and Syndicate, they shall also cease to be members of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate

As per the orders of the Vice-Chancellor, the matter regarding the reconstitution of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate, by excluding the members who have ceased to be members of the Syndicate and including the newly nominated members of the Syndicate, is placed before the Syndicate for consideration and appropriate decision.

Resolution of the Syndicate

Sri. R. S. Sasikumar put forward the proposal to re-constitute the ten Standing Committees of the Syndicate into Seven Standing Committee of the Syndicate as follows:

I. Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance

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| 1. Sri. R. S. Sasikumar | (Convener) |
| 2. Dr. S. Prema | (Member) |
| 3. Dr. Sibi C. Babu | (Member) |
| 4. Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y | (Member) |

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| 5. Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose | (Member) |
| 6. Dr. Noushad V. | (Member) |
| 7. Dr. K. Anil Kumar | (Member) |
| 8. Prof. Manoj.V | (Member) |
| 9. Dr. Nazeeb S | (Member) |
| 10. Dr.Rahim K | (Member) |
| 11. Dr. Pramod N | (Member) |
| 12. Dr. T.R. Manoj | (Member) |
| 13. Sri. Ajay D.N | (Member) |
| 14. Sri. P.S Gopakumar | (Member) |
| 15. Dr. Vinodkumar T. G. Nair | (Member) |

II. Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff, Equipment and Buildings and Planning and Development

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| 1. Dr. S. Prema | (Convener) |
| 2. Sri. R. S. Sasikumar | (Member) |
| 3. Dr. Sibi C. Babu | (Member) |
| 4. Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y | (Member) |
| 5. Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose | (Member) |
| 6. Dr. Noushad V. | (Member) |
| 7. Dr. K. Anil Kumar | (Member) |
| 8. Prof. Manoj.V | (Member) |
| 9. Dr. Nazeeb S | (Member) |
| 10. Dr.Rahim K | (Member) |
| 11. Dr. Pramod N | (Member) |
| 12. Dr. T.R. Manoj | (Member) |
| 13. Sri. Ajay D.N | (Member) |
| 14. Sri. P.S Gopakumar | (Member) |
| 15. Dr. Vinodkumar T. G. Nair | (Member) |

III. Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academics and Research

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| 1. Dr. Noushad V. | (Convener) |
| 2. Dr. S. Prema | (Member) |
| 3. Dr. Sibi C. Babu | (Member) |
| 4. Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y | (Member) |
| 5. Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose | (Member) |
| 6. Sri. R. S. Sasikumar | (Member) |
| 7. Dr. K. Anil Kumar | (Member) |
| 8. Prof. Manoj.V | (Member) |
| 9. Dr. Nazeeb S | (Member) |
| 10. Dr.Rahim K | (Member) |
| 11. Dr. Pramod N | (Member) |
| 12. Dr. T.R. Manoj | (Member) |
| 13. Sri. Ajay D.N | (Member) |
| 14. Sri. P.S Gopakumar | (Member) |
| 15. Dr. Vinodkumar T. G. Nair | (Member) |

IV. Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Examination

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| 1. Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y | (Convener) |
| 2. Dr. S. Prema | (Member) |

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| 3. | Dr. Sibi C. Babu | (Member) |
| 4. | Sri. R. S. Sasikumar | (Member) |
| 5. | Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose | (Member) |
| 6. | Dr. Noushad V. | (Member) |
| 7. | Dr. K. Anil Kumar | (Member) |
| 8. | Prof. Manoj.V | (Member) |
| 9. | Dr. Nazeeb S | (Member) |
| 10. | Dr.Rahim K | (Member) |
| 11. | Dr. Pramod N | (Member) |
| 12. | Dr. T.R. Manoj | (Member) |
| 13. | Sri. Ajay D.N | (Member) |
| 14. | Sri. P.S Gopakumar | (Member) |
| 15. | Dr. Vinodkumar T. G. Nair | (Member) |

V. Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Affiliation of Colleges and Student Services

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| 1. | Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose | (Convener) |
| 2. | Dr. S. Prema | (Member) |
| 3. | Dr. Sibi C. Babu | (Member) |
| 4. | Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y | (Member) |
| 5. | Sri. R. S. Sasikumar | (Member) |
| 6. | Dr. Noushad V. | (Member) |
| 7. | Dr. K. Anil Kumar | (Member) |
| 8. | Prof. Manoj.V | (Member) |
| 9. | Dr. Nazeeb S | (Member) |
| 10. | Dr.Rahim K | (Member) |
| 11. | Dr. Pramod N | (Member) |
| 12. | Dr. T.R. Manoj | (Member) |
| 13. | Sri. Ajay D.N | (Member) |
| 14. | Sri. P.S Gopakumar | (Member) |
| 15. | Dr. Vinodkumar T. G. Nair | (Member) |

VI. Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Teaching and Non-teaching staff of Private Colleges and Students' Discipline

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| 1. | Dr. Sibi C. Babu | (Convener) |
| 2. | Dr. S. Prema | (Member) |
| 3. | Sri. R. S. Sasikumar | (Member) |
| 4. | Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y | (Member) |
| 5. | Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose | (Member) |
| 6. | Dr. Noushad V. | (Member) |
| 7. | Dr. K. Anil Kumar | (Member) |
| 8. | Prof. Manoj.V | (Member) |
| 9. | Dr. Nazeeb S | (Member) |
| 10. | Dr.Rahim K | (Member) |
| 11. | Dr. Pramod N | (Member) |
| 12. | Dr. T.R. Manoj | (Member) |
| 13. | Sri. Ajay D.N | (Member) |
| 14. | Sri. P.S Gopakumar | (Member) |
| 15. | Dr. Vinodkumar T. G. Nair | (Member) |

VII. Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Departments and Other Institutions of the

University

1. Dr. K. Anil Kumar (Convener)
2. Dr. S. Prema (Member)
3. Dr. Sibi C. Babu (Member)
4. Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y (Member)
5. Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose (Member)
6. Dr. Noushad V. (Member)
7. Sri. R. S. Sasikumar (Member)
8. Prof. Manoj.V (Member)
9. Dr. Nazeeb S (Member)
10. Dr. Rahim K (Member)
11. Dr. Pramod N (Member)
12. Dr. T.R. Manoj (Member)
13. Sri. Ajay D.N (Member)
14. Sri. P.S Gopakumar (Member)
15. Dr. Vinodkumar T. G. Nair (Member)

13 (Thirteen) members of the Syndicate viz Sri. R. S. Sasikumar, Dr. S. Prema, Dr. Sibi C. Babu, Sri. Ahamed Fazil Y, Adv. Ajay Juel Kuriakose, Dr. Noushad V., Dr. K. Anil Kumar, Dr. Vinodkumar T. G. Nair, Sri. P.S Gopakumar and four Govt. Officials agreed to the above proposal. However, Sri. P. S. Gopakumar & Dr. Vinodkumar T.G. Nair expressed their dissent for not awarding the convenorship. 6 (Six) members of the Syndicate viz Prof. Manoj.V, Dr. Nazeeb S, Dr. Rahim K, Dr. Pramod N, Dr. T.R. Manoj and Sri. Ajay D.N. expressed their dissent on the above proposal.

The Syndicate **RESOLVED** to approve the proposal to re-constitute the ten Standing Committees of the Syndicate into Seven Standing Committees of the Syndicate with the convenors and the members in each committee, as proposed.

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Item No:2 Appointment of Standing Counsel for University of Kerala before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala - Replacement of Adv. Thomas Abraham by Adv. Girija Gopal - Reporting of - reg.

(Legal)

The Registrar via email dated 28.06.2026 informed that the Vice Chancellor held discussions with the Registrar on 24.06.2026 and thereby expressed his concerns over the cases pending before the Hon'ble High Court. Subsequently, the Registrar ordered to furnish a report detailing the present status of cases related to i) suspension of Dr.K.S. Anilkumar, the then Registrar ii) case in which an interim stay continues against the appointment of permanent Vice Chancellor, iii) petition filed by another member Syndicate challenging the decision of the Hon'ble Chancellor against the promotion under the CAS granted to a teacher who is also a member Syndicate and iv) cases where the Standing Counsel was prepared to express before the Hon'ble High Court his unwillingness to accept notices addressed to the Vice-Chancellor. It was also ordered to submit a report narrating the steps taken by the former Standing Counsel in the above matters. Since they are of utmost seriousness and highly prejudicial to the interests of the University, in order to ensure the expeditious disposal of the aforesaid writ petitions and to safeguard the interests of the University, it was ordered to furnish the report urgently.

In obedience to the above orders, the status of the Writ petitions was furnished before the Registrar, which was submitted before the Vice-Chancellor along with the following note.

1. In W.P.(C) No. 35976/2025, the Hon'ble High Court insisted on the personal appearance of the Vice-Chancellor due to the failure to furnish timely instructions to the Standing Counsel, despite the requests for instructions having been made well in advance.
2. It is also submitted that necessary communications were issued to the Standing Counsel to address the matter before the Court based on the instructions received from the University.
3. Further, in W.P.(C) No. 28246/2025, the Hon'ble High Court observed that there existed an apparent conflict between the statement filed by the Standing Counsel on behalf of respondents

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1 and 3 and the counter affidavit filed by the 2nd respondent. The Standing Counsel submitted before the Court that he had received instructions on behalf of the University from the Registrar, in his capacity as the petitioner. The Hon'ble Court refrained from making further comments on the situation but observed that the state of affairs, indicating differences between the Registrar and the Vice-Chancellor, was "unsavoury".

The Vice Chancellor noted the above and ordered to replace Adv. Thomas Abraham, the Standing Counsel of the University before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala from the said post by Adv. Girija Gopal, Advocate Chamber No.848, Kerala High Court Advocates Association Chamber Complex, Adjacent to High Court, Ernakulam-19 as the regular Standing Counsel of the University of Kerala with immediate effect on the existing terms and conditions, subject to reporting to the Syndicate. The action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having replaced Adv. Thomas Abraham by Adv. Girija Gopal was in exercise of the powers conferred under section 10(13) of the Kerala University Act, 1974. Accordingly U.O.No.5850/2026/UOK dated 29.06.2026 was issued.

The matter of appointment of Adv. Girija Gopal as regular Standing Counsel was duly brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Registrar, High Court of Kerala for effecting corresponding changes in the Court Upon receipt of University order and subsequent communication from the University requiring for handing over of case bundles to the newly appointed Standing Counsel, Adv. Thomas Abraham as per Letter No. TA/SC-Lt-26/2026 dated 30.06.2026 raised certain objections to his removal from the said post.

In the meantime, Dr. Manoj T.R., one of Members of the Syndicate, filed WP(C) No. 22287 of 2026 before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala challenging the authority of the Vice - Chancellor to invoke Section 10(13) of the Kerala University Act, 1974, in having appointed the Standing Counsel for the University. The petitioner prayed for an interim direction staying the operation of U.O. No.5850/2026/UOK dated 29.06.2026. However, the Hon'ble High Court refused to grant interim relief as prayed for by the petitioner, instead pleased to adjourn the case to 13.07.2026.

Subsequently, Adv. Thomas Abraham as per Letter No. TA/SC-Lt-27/2026 dated 01.07.2026, tendered his resignation. Further, on 05.07.2026, Adv. Thomas Abraham handed over the case bundles pertain to the University to the officials assigned for that purpose. The case bundles so received were handed over to Adv. Girija Gopal, the Standing Counsel on the same day. Thus, the directives in the University Order No.5850/2026/UOK dated 29.06.2026 and subsequent communication have been complied with.

The action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having appointed Adv. Girija Gopal as the Standing Counsel for the University of Kerala before the Hon'ble High Court is reported to the Syndicate as per section 10(13) of the Kerala University Act, 1974.

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

Resolution of the Syndicate

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in having appointing Adv. Girija Gopal as the Standing Counsel for the University of Kerala before the Hon'ble High Court, be noted.

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VICE-CHANCELLOR

University Buildings,
Thiruvananthapuram
07.07.2026

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VICE-CHANCELLOR

