

SACRED HEART COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), THEVARA, KOCHI

Report of Environmental and Biodiversity Conservation Activities during 2025

Submitted for the Kerala Biodiversity Conservation Award 2025 (Category 4), instituted by
the Kerala Biodiversity Board

Summary of Environmental Activities (2025)

The table below provides a consolidated, chronological overview of the environmental and sustainability programmes undertaken by Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Thevara, during the academic year 2025–2026, in support of its application for the Paristhithi Mithra Award 2026.

Sl. No.	Date / Period	Programme / Activity	Category
1	05 Jun - 30 Jun 2025	World Environment Day Observation (month-long)	Awareness/Celebration
2	17 Jun 2025	Waste to Life - Upcycling Workshop	Workshop
3	05 Jun 2025	World Environment Day - NCC	Awareness
4	Jun 2025	Sapling Distribution (200+ saplings)	Plantation
5	13 Jun 2025	Inter-School Painting Competition	Competition
6	13 Jun 2025	Inter-College Essay Writing Competition	Competition
7	Jun 2025	Green Idea Hackathon	Competition
8	Jun 2025	Wall Painting, Marine Drive (Kochi Beautification)	Community Service
9	01 Jul 2025	Carry the Change! Carry a Bag	Awareness
10	28 Jul 2025	Workshop on Art of Aquarium Fabrication	Workshop
11	Jul 2025	Green Thevara Initiative	Awareness
12	06 Jul 2025	Poster Designing Competition (World Zoonoses Day)	Competition
13	10-12 Jul 2025	Lakeview Envirothon International Conclave 2025	Conference

Sl. No.	Date / Period	Programme / Activity	Category
14	Jul 2025	Lecture on Green Chemistry	Lecture
15	30 Jul 2025	People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) Seminar	Seminar
16	30 Jul 2025	Lecture on UN Global Development Agenda	Lecture
17	Jul/Aug 2025	Mangrove Momentum	Field Activity
18	13 Aug 2025	Beneath the Lens and Beyond the Sky	Academic Extension
19	Aug 2025	Environmental Lecture Series - Blue Carbon & Climate Action	Lecture
20	Sep 2025	World River Day - Riverine Fishes Talk	Lecture/Awareness
21	Sep 2025	World Ozone Day - Ozone-Climate Dynamics Talk	Lecture
22	Sep 2025	Perandoor Canal Awareness Drive	Community Outreach
23	28 Sep 2025	Lakeview Envirothon Marathon 2025	Marathon/Mass Event
24	10 Sep 2025	Udhayam - Upcycling with Mithrakulam	Workshop
25	24 Sep 2025	World Rivers Day - NCC Cleaning Drive & Rally	Cleaning Drive
26	02 Oct 2025	Gandhi Jayanti Cleaning Drive - NCC	Cleaning Drive
27	02 Oct 2025	Gandhi Jayanti Cleaning Drive - NSS, Panampally Nagar	Cleaning Drive
28	Nov 2025	Mud Crab Farming & Fattening Session	Lecture/Skill Dev
29	28 Nov 2025	Invited Talk: Intelligence, Human and Artificial	Lecture
30	21,24,25 Nov 2025	AquaFest 2025 (World Fisheries Day)	Fest
31	Nov-Dec 2025	E-Waste Collection Drive	Collection Drive
32	Nov -2025	Re'store Thrift Exhibition & Sale 2025 (Rs.4,000)	Sustainability/Thrift

Sl. No.	Date / Period	Programme / Activity	Category
33	Nov-2025	Venue Cleaning Drive - Kochi-Muziris Biennale	Cleaning Drive
34	Dec- 2025	RSETI 10-Day Mushroom Cultivation Workshop	Skill Development
35	15 Nov - 17 Dec 2025	Election Duty - Service Learning (SIR)	Civic Service
36	25 Feb 2026	Aryankavu Fish Stocking (200 Varal fish)	Field Activity
37	Feb -2026	Plastic Collection Challenge (NSS)	Collection Drive
38	Feb -2026	Arayankavu Paddy Field Visit	Field Visit
39	18 Jan & 08 Feb 2026	Digital Crop Survey (Krishi Bhavan)	Survey
40	2026	Bird Watching - Campus Bird Count (45 species)	Biodiversity Survey
41	2026	Thrift Store - 5th Stall (Total Rs.11,000)	Sustainability/Thrift
42	28 Feb 2026	Sacred Earth & Life Cycling (Kochi-Thiruvalla)	Mass Event
43	2026	The Guardians of Green, Champions of Change	Awareness Talk
44	2026	Visit to Dept. of Science & Tech, Kavaratti - Lakshadweep	Field Visit
45	23 Jan - 16 Feb 2026	Cloth Collection Drive (SWASH)	Collection Drive
46	22 Feb 2026	CISF Vande Mataram Coastal Cyclothon 2026	Mass Event
47	2026	Community Connect - Baseline Village Survey, Kumbalam	Survey
48	10-11 Feb 2026	Indo-Korean Symposium - Air Pollution & Human Health	Symposium
49	20 Feb 2026	Southern Regional Agriculture Fair (KAU, Vellanikkara)	Field Visit

Sl. No.	Date / Period	Programme / Activity	Category
50	24 Feb 2026	Haritha Keralam National Environment Summit 2026	Summit
51	2026	Global Tech, Local Impact - Strategic Dialogue	Lecture
52	28 Mar 2026	Commemorating Earth Hour	Awareness
53	Weekly (since 2016)	Fort Kochi Beach Cleaning Drive	Cleaning Drive
54	Ongoing	Community Service Learning, Samridhi (North) Fortkochi	Community Service
55	Ongoing	Food Serving - Capuchin Mess, Thripunithura	Community Service
56	28 Mar 2026	Trash Hunt - Beach Cleaning Activity, Fort Kochi	Cleaning Drive
57	22-29 Apr 2026	Empowering Voices - Election Awareness, Kunjippara Tribal	Civic Awareness
58	22-29 Apr 2026	Earth Week	Awareness/Celebration
59		BIOBOUQUET PRACTICE	
60		WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANT	

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY OBSERVATION



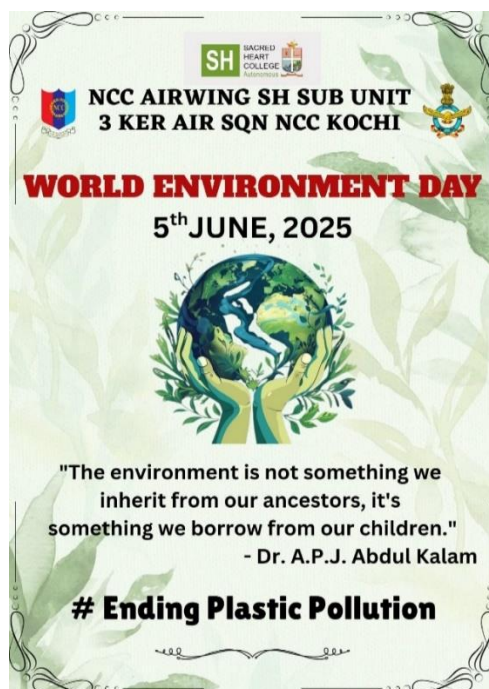
Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Thevara, in association with the Organic Charitable Trust of Kerala, observed World Environment Day 2025 through a month-long celebration (June 5th – June 30th, 2025). The program was designed to engage students, faculty, and the community in awareness-building, academic discussions, and practical initiatives toward mitigating plastic pollution.

"WASTE TO LIFE"



The Sacred Heart Women's Association for Service, Truth and Integrity (SWASTI), in association with the Zoology Association of Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Thevara, successfully organized an inspiring and eco-conscious session titled **"Waste to Life"**. The event aimed to promote sustainable practices by focusing on the concept of upcycling waste into decor and utility products.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY –NCC



One of the major highlights of the celebration was the distribution of Environment Day greeting cards and seed packets. These were presented to the Principal, all teaching and non-teaching staff, and fellow students as tokens of environmental awareness and goodwill. The seed packets included a variety of native plant seeds, encouraging everyone to grow a plant and contribute to increasing green cover around their homes and community.

SAPLING DISTRIBUTION



As part of the World Environment Day service learning in association with the cloth thrift store of our campus - Restore distribute plan saplings for students and teachers. The saplings was collected from Krishibhavan, Nettoor. Through this initiative the aim was to promote the habit of planting trees and conserving the green environment around us. More than 200 saplings were distributed and most of them were fruit bearing plants.

REPORT ON THE INTER-SCHOOL PAINTING COMPETITION



An inter-school painting competition was organized by Sacred Heart College, Thevara, with the aim of promoting environmental awareness and civic responsibility among young students. The event took place at the East Campus of the college, attracting participants from various schools in the region.

REPORT ON THE INTER-COLLEGE ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION



Sacred Heart College, Thevara, hosted an inter-college essay writing competition aimed at stimulating critical thinking and promoting a "plastic-free" future. The event provided a platform for college students to express their views on a pressing global issue.

GREEN IDEA HACKATHON



As part of the celebration, a Green Idea Hackathon was organized, where participants were invited to present innovative and sustainable ideas to help protect and preserve the environment. Students actively participated by sharing creative solutions related to waste management, renewable energy, pollution control, and sustainable living.

WALL PAINTING, MARINE DRIVE



As part of Kochi beautification project, in association with Kites foundation, Sacred heart college students participated in the wall painting activities at marine drive, Kochi. In the first phase, the corporation has identified 10 locations in the city. “Ernakulam South and North

bridges, Willingdon Island, and Marine Drive are some of the locations identified. The core objective of this is cleaning the littered spots and creating wall paintings to deter people from dirtying the place again. These paintings include elements that represent Kochi city

CARRY THE CHANGE! CARRY A BAG



The Department of Botany, Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Thevara, organized an environmental awareness programme titled “Carry the Change! Carry a Bag” on 1st July 2025 as part of its sustainable campus initiatives. The event aimed to promote eco-conscious practices among students by encouraging the use of reusable cloth bags and reducing dependence on single-use plastics.

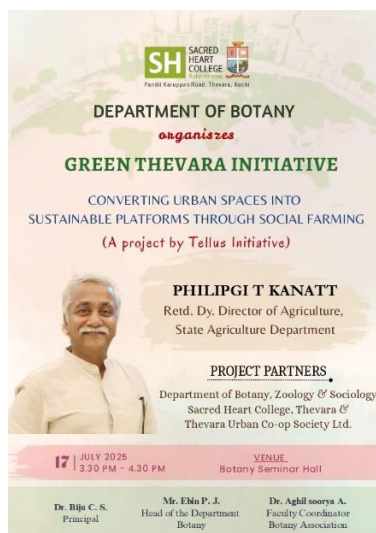
WORKSHOP ON "ART OF AQUARIUM FABRICATION"



The Department of Aquaculture successfully conducted a one-day workshop on Glass Aquarium Construction and Filter Unit Setting on 28th July 2025 at Room No. 239. This

hands-on training session provided a valuable opportunity for students and faculty members to gain practical knowledge in the fabrication and design of aquariums, as well as the installation of filtration systems. The workshop was led by two highly experienced professionals from the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Mr. K.M. Venugopal, Retired Senior Technical Officer, CMFRI and Mr. A.K. Shaji, Senior Assistant Technician, CMFRI

GREEN THEVARA INITIATIVE



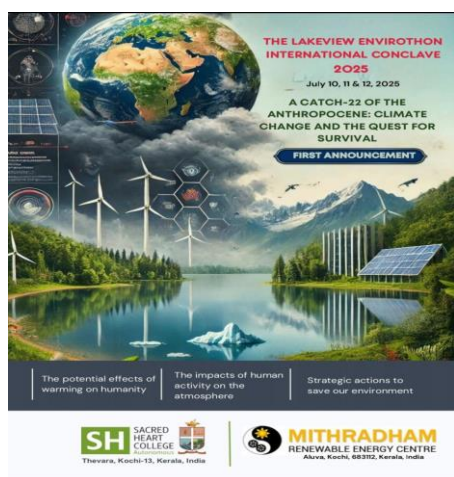
The session intended to create awareness on transforming urban spaces into sustainable green hubs and to encourage student participation in community-based social farming projects. It was also designed to explore academic and research opportunities linked to sustainability initiatives. Through an active interaction with the resource person, the student community gained a clear understanding of how social farming can be integrated into academic and community projects. The session inspired participants to identify potential spaces and collaborations to implement sustainability practices.

POSTER DESIGNING COMPETITION



World Zoonoses Day, observed annually on July 6th, marks the anniversary of the first successful vaccination against a zoonotic disease. In connection with this global observance, the department aimed to raise awareness about zoonotic diseases—those transmitted from animals to humans—through this innovative and interactive student competition. Students were allowed to participate either individually or in teams of two. Each team was required to register in advance, and chart paper was provided on the spot. Participants were also marked present for the event, encouraging greater involvement. The competition saw enthusiastic participation from 15 undergraduate students team across various disciplines, who creatively depicted themes related to the transmission, prevention, and impact of zoonotic diseases.

THE LAKEVIEW ENVIROTHON INTERNATIONAL CONCLAVE



The Lakeview Envirothon International Conclave – 2025, organized by Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Thevara, through its Department of Environmental Studies and IQAC, was successfully held from July 10 to 12, 2025. This second edition of the conclave solidified its status as a distinguished international platform for environmental scholarship, advocacy, and collaboration. Centered on the thought-provoking theme, “A Catch-22 of the Anthropocene: Climate Change and the Quest for Survival,” the event brought together experts, researchers, students, and practitioners from across the globe to engage in critical discussions concerning climate resilience, ecological research, and sustainable innovations.

Research and Publications

The conclave served as a vibrant hub for diverse research. Presentations explored key topics including biodiversity documentation, climate communication, carbon sequestration, aquaculture sustainability, green chemistry, environmental policy, and AI-driven ecological modeling. To further disseminate this valuable knowledge, select research papers have been recommended for publication in prestigious journals such as the *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of India*, *Indian Journal of Environmental Protection* and *JSTOR*.

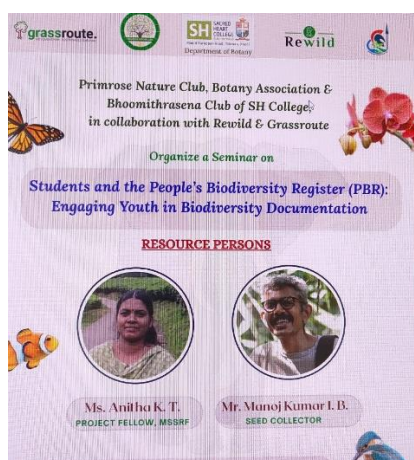
thereby amplifying the academic impact of this gathering. Across both days, a total of 68 paper presentations were delivered, highlighting the breadth and depth of research showcased.

LECTURE ON GREEN CHEMISTRY



The primary aim of this lecture was to create awareness among students and faculty about the significance of Green Chemistry in sustainable development. The session aimed to inspire young minds towards adopting and promoting environmentally benign chemical practices.

PEOPLE'S BIODIVERSITY REGISTER (PBR)



The Department of Botany, in association with the Primrose Nature Club, Botany Association, and Bhoomithrasena Club of Sacred Heart College, in collaboration with Rewild and

Grassroute, organized a seminar titled **“Students and the People’s Biodiversity Register (PBR): Engaging Youth in Biodiversity Documentation”** on 30 July 2025 at Fr. Melesius Hall. The session was led by Mr. Manoj Kumar I.B., Seed Collector, and Ms. Anitha K.T., Project Fellow at MSSRF. The seminar introduced students to the importance of biodiversity documentation and the preparation of the People’s Biodiversity Register for Nayarambalam Grama Panchayat. Participants gained insights into community-based conservation, field-based environmental research, and opportunities to contribute to biodiversity documentation as part of their academic projects.

LECTURE ON UN GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA



The Department of Economics and IQAC at Sacred Heart College hosted a lecture on the UN Global Development Agenda on 30th July 2025. Dr. Abraham Joseph highlighted the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals, global challenges, and the importance of global cooperation. The session inspired students to engage actively with global issues and sustainable development, fostering a strong sense of global citizenship and responsibility. The event included interactive discussions and concluded with a pledge to support sustainable futures.

MANGROVE MOMENTUM



The event's theme was encapsulated in the profound quote: "Their roots twist through salt and soil, connecting land and water reminding us that strength lies in adaptation, not resistance." This theme underscored the resilience and unique characteristics of mangrove ecosystems. The primary objective was to immerse students and participants in a practical understanding of mangrove conservation and the critical role these unique trees play in coastal ecosystems. The "Mangrove Momentum" event was a successful and impactful initiative. It went beyond a traditional lecture format, providing participants with a holistic and hands-on learning experience. By connecting students with experts and a live conservation project, the event effectively fostered an appreciation for mangrove ecosystems and inspired a sense of responsibility toward their conservation. The focus on "adaptation, not resistance" served as a powerful metaphor for both the natural world and our approach to environmental challenges.

SEEDLING TO HARVEST HEALTH



The initiative, coordinated by Dr. Aghil Soorya A., aimed to promote home gardening, strengthen food security, encourage sustainable living, foster environmental awareness, and build a healthier community. A total of 948 vegetable seedlings, including varieties such as beans, tomato, okra, chilly, brinjal, and green and red spinach, were distributed to 91 participants comprising students, faculty, and staff from both the Central and East campuses. To assist participants, an informative pamphlet containing guidelines on seedling care, pest management, and disease control was also provided.

“BENEATH THE LENS AND BEYOND THE SKY”





SACRED
HEART
COLLEGE
Autonomous
Pandit Karuppan Road, Thevara, Kochi



INSTITUTION'S
INNOVATION
COUNCIL
(Ministry of HRD Initiative)

Department of Environmental Studies Academic Extension activity

*"Beneath the Lens and
Beyond the Sky"*





Target Group:- Higher Secondary students
Date :- 13/08/2025
Environmental Science Lab (Room No: 418), East Campus
Time: 2:00 pm -4:00 pm

Coordinators:

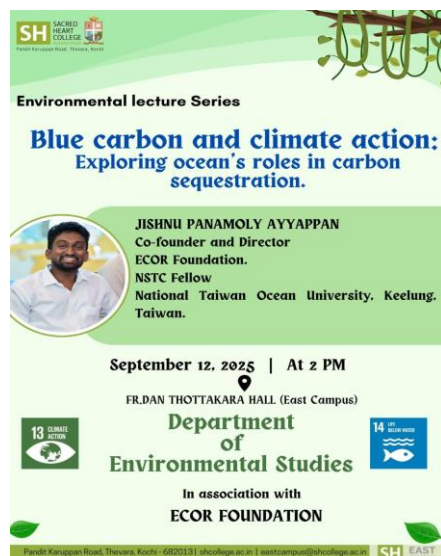
Dr.T.J James (Head of the Department)	Dr. Nadirsha PS Nawab (Asst.professor)	Dr. Haritha T Nair, (Asst.professor)	Ms Anjana Prasad (Asst.professor)
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The Department of Environmental Studies, Sacred Heart College, Thevara, organized an academic extension activity titled “*Beneath the Lens and Beyond the Sky*” on 13 August 2025, under the banner of the Institution’s Innovation Council. The programme was designed to provide higher secondary students with practical exposure to environmental science research techniques and to bridge the gap between classroom concepts and real-world applications

ENVIRONMENTAL LECTURE SERIES



The environmental lecture, titled "Blue carbon and climate action: Exploring ocean's roles in carbon sequestration," focused on the critical role of the ocean in addressing climate change through the process of carbon sequestration. The event, which was part of the college's Environmental Lecture Series, highlighted the concept of blue carbon—the carbon stored in coastal and marine ecosystems. Mr. Jishnu Panamoly Ayyappan of the ECOR Foundation explained the mechanisms by which marine ecosystems, such as mangroves, salt marshes, and seagrasses, act as significant carbon sinks. He discussed how these ecosystems absorb and store atmospheric carbon dioxide at a rate far greater than terrestrial forests, making them an invaluable tool in the fight against climate change. The lecture also touched on the various threats faced by these vital habitats, including coastal development, pollution, and rising sea temperatures.

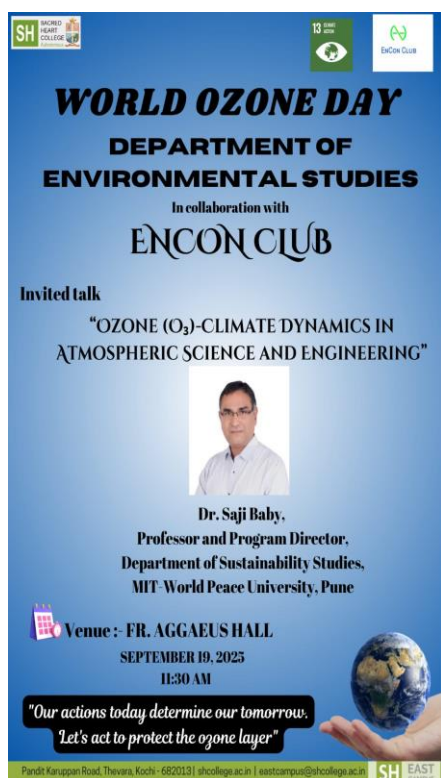
WORLD RIVER DAY



As part of the celebration, all participants took a pledge to protect rivers, reaffirming their commitment toward environmental conservation and sustainable use of water resources. Mr.

Shaik Junaid introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Anvar Ali P. H., Assistant Professor at KUFOS (Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies). Dr. Anvar Ali delivered an insightful and engaging invited talk on the topic “Riverine Fishes of India.” His session covered various aspects including the biology and taxonomy of riverine fishes, the ecological importance of river systems, and the significant role rivers play in supporting livelihoods and biodiversity.

WORLD OZONE DAY



"OZONE (O ₃)-CLIMATE DYNAMICS IN ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING"	
SILENT PRAYER	
WELCOME ADDRESS	DR. NADIRSHA P. S. NAWAB
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS	DR. T. J. JAMES
INTRODUCTION OF ENCON CLUB	CLUB REPRESENTATIVE
ACADEMIC SESSION	
INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER	DR. HARITHA T. NAIR
INVITED TALK	DR. SAJI BABY
VOICE OF THE ENVIRONMENT	FIRST YEAR MSC ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE STUDENTS
VOTE OF THANKS	MS. HARICHANDANA

The Department of Environmental Studies, in collaboration with the ENCON Club, organized a special event to commemorate World Ozone Day. The event featured an invited talk by **Dr. Saji Baby**, a distinguished Professor and Program Director from the Department of Sustainability Studies at MIT-World Peace University, Pune.

The talk, titled "**Ozone (O₃)-Climate Dynamics in Atmospheric Science and Engineering**," **focused on exploring the intricate relationship between the ozone layer and global climate patterns.** Dr. Baby delved into the scientific principles governing atmospheric science and the critical role of the ozone layer in safeguarding life on Earth. He also discussed the engineering challenges and solutions related to preserving this vital atmospheric shield. The event served as an important platform for students and faculty to deepen their understanding of a crucial environmental issue, aligning with the event's powerful message: "Our actions today determine our tomorrow. Let's act to protect the ozone layer." The session aimed to inspire a new generation of environmental stewards by highlighting the urgent need for sustainable practices and informed action to combat climate change and ozone depletion.

PERANDOOR CANAL AWARENESS DRIVE



The Department of Environmental Sciences conducted a community outreach activity aimed at promoting responsible waste management and the protection of urban freshwater systems. As part of the programme, students distributed awareness pamphlets in nearby communities and interacted directly with residents to explain the importance of solid waste segregation and the need to prevent dumping into canals. The initiative highlighted the ecological significance of urban freshwater ecosystems and encouraged behavioural changes that support environmental sustainability. The activity strengthened the linkage between scientific knowledge and community engagement, promoted civic responsibility and environmental stewardship among participants, and effectively integrated research, extension, and governance perspectives in addressing local environmental challenges.

LAKEVIEW ENVIROTHON



The Second Edition of the SH Kochi Lakeview Marathon – Envirothon 2025 was successfully conducted on Sunday, 28th September 2025 at the Sacred Heart CMI Public School Ground, Thevara, Kochi. With the guiding motto - Run for health, Lakes our wealth, the marathon aimed at protecting both public health and the lakes of Kochi. The event featured three categories — the 21.1 kms Half Marathon, 10 kms Run, and 5 kms Fun Run — attracting over 1,000 participants, including runners from France, Germany, and Africa, giving the event a truly international character. More than 300 student volunteers added colour, coordination, and youthful energy to the event.

UDHAYAM – UPCYCLING WITH MITHRAKULAM



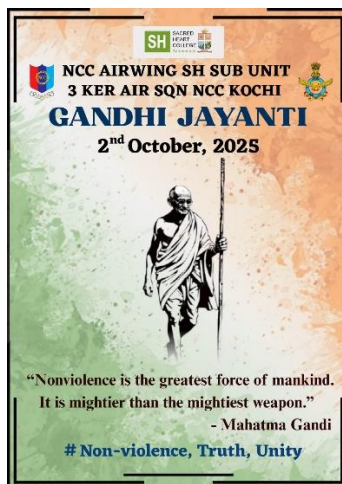
The Department of Social Work, Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Kochi, organized a hands-on upcycling workshop titled “Udhayam: Upcycling with Mithrakulam”. The event formed a part of the SWASH Association Inauguration Day activities and was conducted in collaboration with Mithrakulam Charitable Trust. Alongside the live sessions, an exhibition of upcycled products by Mithrakulam was held, showcasing innovative transformations of waste materials into useful items.

WORLD RIVERS DAY



The NCC Air Wing Cadets of Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Thevara, actively celebrated World River Day on September 24th, 2025, with a comprehensive program aimed at promoting environmental conservation and raising public awareness. The day's activities included a dedicated cleaning drive along the college's lake view side and a placard rally through the surrounding area.

GANDHI JAYANTI CLEANING DRIVE - NCC



As part of the programme, special emphasis was given to the Swachh Bharat initiative, inspired by Gandhiji's principle that "Cleanliness is next to Godliness." This year, due to the circumstances, Cadets actively engaged in cleanliness drives from their own homes and surroundings. Each Cadets ensured that their living spaces, courtyards, and nearby areas were properly cleaned and maintained

GANDHI JAYANTHI CLEANING DRIVE- NSS



SH College Students' Gandhi Jayanti Cleaning Drive at Panampally Nagar in Association with Cochin Corporation. In commemoration of Gandhi Jayanti, students from SH College collaborated with the Cochin Corporation to organize a community cleaning program at

Panampally Nagar. This initiative aimed to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's ideals of cleanliness, community service, and civic responsibility.

MUD CRAB FARMING & FATTENING



The presentation and discussion focused on key aspects of mud crab fattening, including water quality requirements essential for healthy crab growth, traditional and modern fattening methods, and common challenges such as disease management and cannibalism. Participants were also introduced to the economic potential and profitability of mud crab fattening as a sustainable aquaculture practice. The session highlighted various entrepreneurship opportunities in mud crab farming and its role in enhancing livelihoods in coastal communities. The interactive nature of the

programme encouraged active participation, knowledge sharing, and meaningful discussions, making the event both informative and engaging for all attendees.

INVITED TALK ON INTELLIGENCE, HUMAN AND ARTIFICIAL



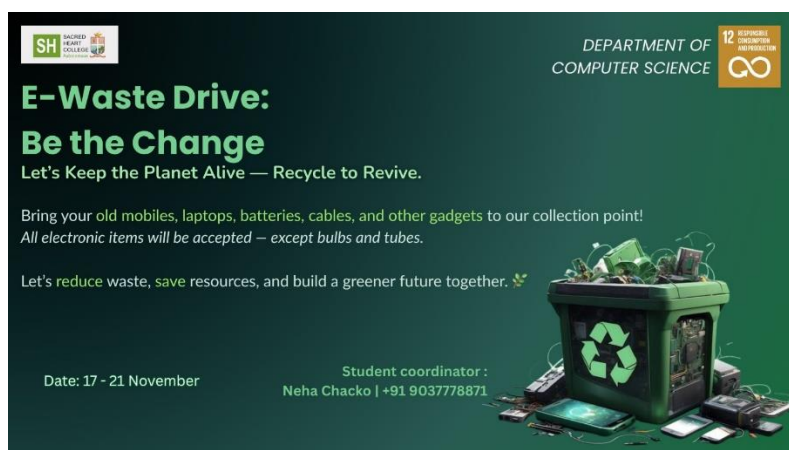
The Departments of Environmental Studies, Chemistry, and Zoology of Sacred Heart College (Autonomous) jointly organized an invited talk titled “Intelligence, Human and Artificial” on November 28, 2025, at Fr. Aggaeus Hall, East Campus. The session was delivered by Dr. K. Seshan, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Science & Technology, University of Twente, The Netherlands. The talk explored the fundamental concepts of human intelligence, its cognitive processes, and the ways in which artificial intelligence (AI) draws inspiration from biological systems. Dr. Seshan presented an interdisciplinary perspective connecting neuroscience, computational modelling, and technological innovation. The session helped students and faculty understand how AI systems are developed, how they differ from human intelligence, and how both fields continue to evolve in relation to global technological advancements.

AQUAFEST



AquaFest 2025, organised by the Department of Aquaculture, was celebrated on 21, 24 and 25 November 2025 in connection with World Fisheries Day. The three-day event aimed to spread awareness on sustainable fisheries, highlight student talents, and provide a vibrant platform for academic interaction, creativity, and community participation.

E- WASTE COLLECTION DRIVE



E-waste was collected from the college campus and several nearby residential apartments, including Willingdon Enclave, Chackolas Water Scapes, West Gate Terrace, Uparika Malika, Chitra Malika, White Waters, Chackolas Water Ford, and Chackolas Pinnacle. Additionally, contributions were received from St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church & Shrine of St. Jude, Thevara.

Items collected included old computers, peripherals, mobile phones, wires, chargers, small household electronics, and batteries. Student volunteers actively participated by coordinating with residents' associations, handling logistics, and managing the collection counters.

RE'STORE SHINES AT THRIFT EXHIBITION & SALE 2025



As part of this initiative, Re'store, the thrift store run by the Civic Engagement Cell (SDO) of Sacred Heart College, Thevara, was invited to participate. Joining Re'store were two other well-known Kochi-based thrift collectives—Kuppayam and Second Threads—who also showcased their curated collections.

We are proud to announce that Re'store recorded a remarkable sale of ₹4,000 at the exhibit

CLEANING DRIVE AHEAD OF KOCHI-MUZIRIS BIENNALE 2025



As part of the preparations for the upcoming Kochi-Muziris Biennale, students from Sacred Heart College, under the Civic Engagement Cell, volunteered for a large-scale cleaning drive organized by the Directorate of Samoochika Sannadhasena. The volunteers contributed by cleaning various venues, including Aspinwall House, Pepper House, and Armaan & Co, where exhibitions and events will be held. During the initiative, students also had the opportunity to interact with the District Collector of Ernakulam and the founder of the Biennale.

RSETI ORGANISES 10-DAY MUSHROOM CULTIVATION WORKSHOP



The Student Development Office (SDO), in association with the Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) under MoRD, successfully conducted a 10-day Mushroom Cultivation Workshop at our college. A total of 22 candidates from in and around Ernakulam, including our students, actively participated in the programme. The workshop focused on entrepreneurship development, aligning closely with our commitment to community engagement and skill-based learning. The entire programme was generously supported by Union Bank

ARYANKAVU FISH STOCKING



The Department of Aquaculture, in association with the Student Development Office, organized an educational field visit to Aryankavu on 25/02/2026. As part of the programme, the department carried out a fish stocking activity by releasing 200 Varal fish into a pond at the site.

The programme was coordinated by SDO Sooraj. Students and teachers of the department actively participated in the field visit and stocking activity, making the programme successful and informative.

The main objective of the visit was to provide students with practical exposure to natural pond fish stocking methods and to create awareness about the importance of conserving and promoting indigenous fish species. Through direct observation and participation, students gained valuable knowledge about pond ecosystem management, fish stocking techniques, and sustainable aquaculture practices.

PLASTIC COLLECTION CHALLENGE



As part of the State-Level Plastic Waste Collection Challenge, the National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of Sacred Heart College organized a plastic waste collection drive at Panampilly Nagar. The event aimed to promote environmental awareness and community participation in reducing plastic pollution.

ARAYANKAVU PADDY FIELD VISIT: A JOURNEY ROOTED IN SOIL AND SPIRIT

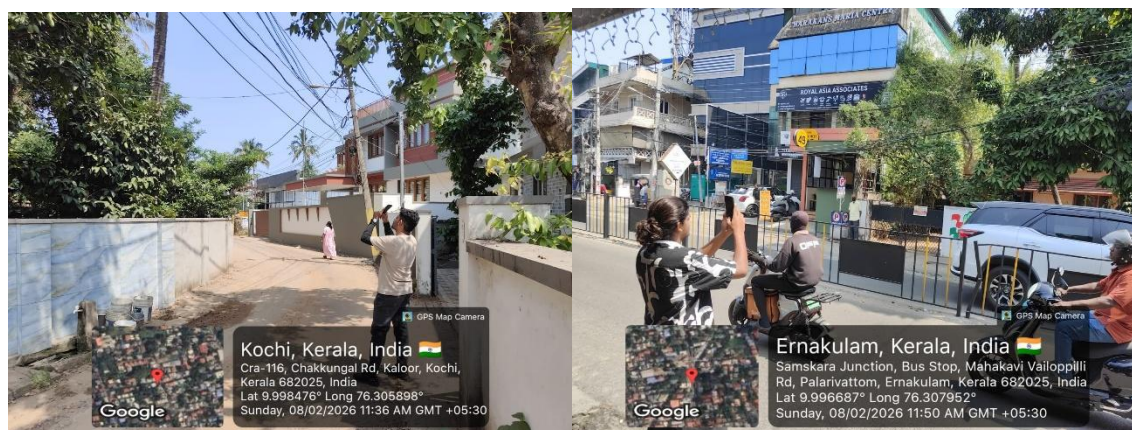


The visit to the Arayankavu paddy field offered students a meaningful exposure to rural life and agricultural practices. It provided an opportunity to understand the deep connection between humans, land, and labour, especially for those from urban backgrounds.

Through active participation in farming activities, students experienced the dignity of manual work and the importance of teamwork and shared responsibility. The paddy field served as a practical learning space where social differences diminished, fostering a strong sense of unity and togetherness.

The experience also highlighted the value of rural wisdom and emphasized the importance of staying connected to one's roots. Overall, the visit was both enriching and reflective, leaving students with a renewed appreciation for agriculture and community life.

DIGITAL CROP SURVEY



The Digital Crop Survey conducted by Kerala Krishi Bhavan, Vyttila, was organized to collect accurate information about the types of crops cultivated by farmers in the region. The survey aimed to build a digital database that records crop varieties, land usage, irrigation methods, and cultivation practices. This initiative was intended to replace outdated manual records with reliable digital data, thereby improving transparency and efficiency in agricultural planning and policymaking.

BIRD WATCHING



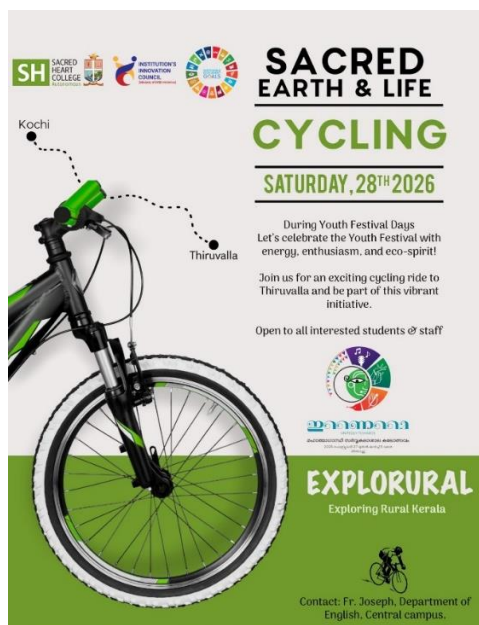
Students from Sacred Heart College, Thevara, participated in Campus Bird Count, which was organised to list and document all the avian species present in the college campus, including Lake View campus, East campus, and Communication campus. The campus bird count was guided by Abhay K V, a student from the college with experience of over six years in the field. Campus Bird Count is a citizen science project that aims to document the bird diversity in educational institutions and spread awareness about biodiversity in urban areas. A total of 45 individual species were found within all three campuses. This includes 31 species found from the lake view transect, 23 species found from the east transect, and 7 species found from the communication transect

THRIFT STORE CONCLUDES ACADEMIC YEAR WITH FIFTH STALL, RECORDS ₹11,000 IN TOTAL SALES



Thrift Store successfully completed its fifth stall, which was also the last one for this academic year. Altogether, the five stalls conducted this year recorded a total sale of ₹11,000, showing the growing thrifting culture on our campus.

SACRED EARTH & LIFE CYCLING



Sacred Earth & Life Cycling is an eco-conscious initiative that celebrates the spirit of youth, sustainability, and exploration. As part of the Youth Festival celebrations, students and staff come together for an exciting cycling journey from Kochi to Thiruvalla, promoting healthy living, environmental responsibility, and a deeper connection with nature. Through this ride, participants explore the beauty of rural Kerala while embracing the values of unity, wellness, and sustainable living.

THE GUARDIANS OF GREEN, CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE

SH SACRED
HEART
COLLEGE
Autonomous

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

In collaboration with the ENCON Club

THE GUARDIANS OF GREEN, CHAMPIONS OF CHANGENESS PROGRAM

Resource person



Vinayak Salunkhe
Senior Manager at EARTHDAY.ORG
Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

Venue :- Room No -417
JANUARY 16, 2026 2:00 PM
You're Cordially Invited

Paroli Karuppan Road, Thiruvalla, Kochi - 682013 | shcollege.ac.in | eastcampus@shcollege.ac.in

SH EAST CAMPUS



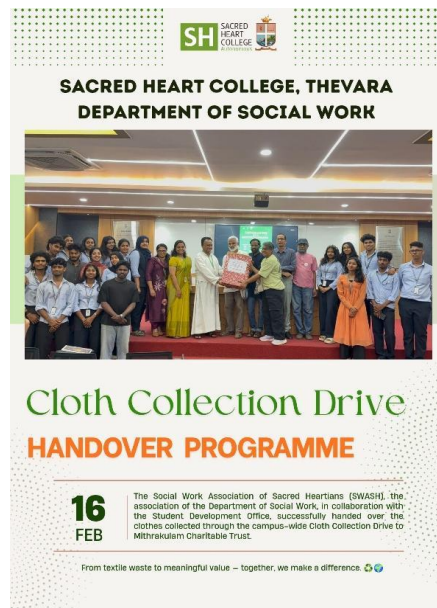
The Department of Environmental Studies, in association with the ENCON Club, Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), organised an awareness and interaction programme titled “The Guardians of Green, Champions of Change” as part of its ongoing efforts to promote environmental consciousness and youth leadership. The session was conducted with the objective of inspiring students to actively participate in climate action, sustainability initiatives, and responsible citizenship. The programme was led by Mr. Vinayak Mahadev Salunkhe, who delivered an engaging and thought-provoking session highlighting the urgent need for individual and collective action in addressing environmental challenges. The talk emphasised the role of youth as change-makers in combating climate change, protecting biodiversity, promoting sustainable lifestyles, and driving community-based environmental solutions.

VISIT TO DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, KAVARATTI – LAKSHADWEEP



As part of the SEM II Marine Ecosystem Field Study (2025–2026), students of the Department of Environmental Studies undertook an academic field visit to the Department of Science & Technology, Kavaratti, under the Administration of Lakshadweep, Government of India. The students had an interactive session with Dr. Idress Babu, Scientist at the Department of Science & Technology, U.T. of Lakshadweep, who provided valuable insights into ongoing scientific research, marine biodiversity conservation initiatives, and climate-related challenges faced by island ecosystems.

CLOTH COLLECTION DRIVE: A STEP TOWARDS RESPONSIBLE LIVING



The Social Work Association of Sacred Heartians (SWASH), in collaboration with Mitrakulam Charitable Trust and the College Student Development Office, organised a Cloth Collection Drive from 23 January to 16 February 2026. The collected clothes were handed over to the Trust for upcycling, promoting sustainability through collective campus action.

CISF VANDE MATARAM COASTAL CYCLOTHON DATE: 22ND FEBRUARY 2026



CISF Vande Mataram Coastal Cyclothon-2026 culminated in Sacred Heart College Kochi on 22 February 2026, marking the conclusion of a 6,553-km journey.

Over the past 25 days, 130 CISF cyclists — including a historic 50% women contingent — pedalled through India's eastern and western coastlines reaching Kochi on Sunday evening. Celebrities including actors and sports personalities attended the concluding ceremony.

The event brought together coastal communities, youth, women, fishermen, sister security agencies, industry stakeholders and civil society under one powerful theme — Surakshit Tat, Samridh Bharat (Secure Coasts, Prosperous India).

Sacred Heart College proudly salutes the entire cycling team and is honored to host the event at our Lakeview Ground.

COMMUNITY CONNECT: BASELINE VILLAGE SURVEY AT KUMBALAM



As part of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) initiative, the Department of Social Work in collaboration with the Student Development Office conducted a Baseline Village Survey at Kumbalam Grama Panchayat to understand socio-economic conditions, access to welfare schemes, livelihood patterns, and emerging community needs.

A total of 150 households were covered through systematic data collection by BSW students under faculty supervision, ensuring meaningful community engagement and reliable field-based insights.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN SPARC-SPONSORED INDO-KOREAN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON AIR POLLUTION AND HUMAN HEALTH (10 AND 11 FEB 2026)



Students of the Department of Environmental Studies participated in the SPARC-sponsored Indo-Korean International Symposium on “*Air Pollution and Human Health: Emerging Challenges*” organized by the School of Environmental Studies (SES), Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), on 10 and 11 February 2026. The symposium was conducted under the SPARC (Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration) programme, aimed at strengthening international academic and research collaboration between Indian and Korean institutions.

VISIT TO KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF KERALA



Students of the Department of Environmental Studies, Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Thevara, participated in the *Southern Regional Agriculture Fair 2026* held at Kerala Agricultural University, Vellanikkara, on 20 February 2026. The participation was facilitated through an invitation shared by the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) Cell of the College

PARTICIPATION IN SESSION: *CHALLENGES IN GHG ACCOUNTING AND NET ZERO CAMPAIGN*



The Department of Environmental Studies actively participated in the *Haritha Keralam National Environment Summit 2026*, organised under the aegis of the Haritha Keralam Mission. The summit brought together policymakers, researchers, academicians, industry experts, and youth representatives to deliberate on sustainable environmental governance and climate-resilient development strategies in Kerala.

ELECTION DUTY



Sacred Heart College, Thevara, actively participated in election duty from **15 November to 17 December 2025** as part of its Service Learning Initiative. Students supported the Election Administration during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) by assisting in voter verification, data entry, digitisation, and document management across various locations in Ernakulam district.

Following orientation and training, students worked alongside Booth Level Officers and government staff, ensuring accuracy and efficiency in electoral roll preparation. This engagement enhanced students' understanding of democratic processes, governance, and public administration while developing skills in teamwork, responsibility, and digital tools.

GLOBAL TECH, LOCAL IMPACT: A STRATEGIC DIALOGUE FOR SMART SUSTAINABILITY



The Department of Environmental Studies at Sacred Heart College organized a strategic dialogue titled “*Global Tech, Local Impact: A Strategic Dialogue for Smart Sustainability.*” The session aimed to explore the intersection of global technological advancements and their practical applications in addressing local sustainability challenges. The talk was delivered by Mr. Bhaskaran S., an industry expert with extensive experience in technological solutions and sustainability practices.

COMMEMORATING EARTH HOUR



Department of Sociology marking its 20th anniversary, this global WWF initiative encourages individuals and institutions to turn off non-essential lights to raise awareness for climate change and biodiversity loss under the theme "Give an Hour for Earth".

FORT KOCHI BEACH CLEANING DRIVE

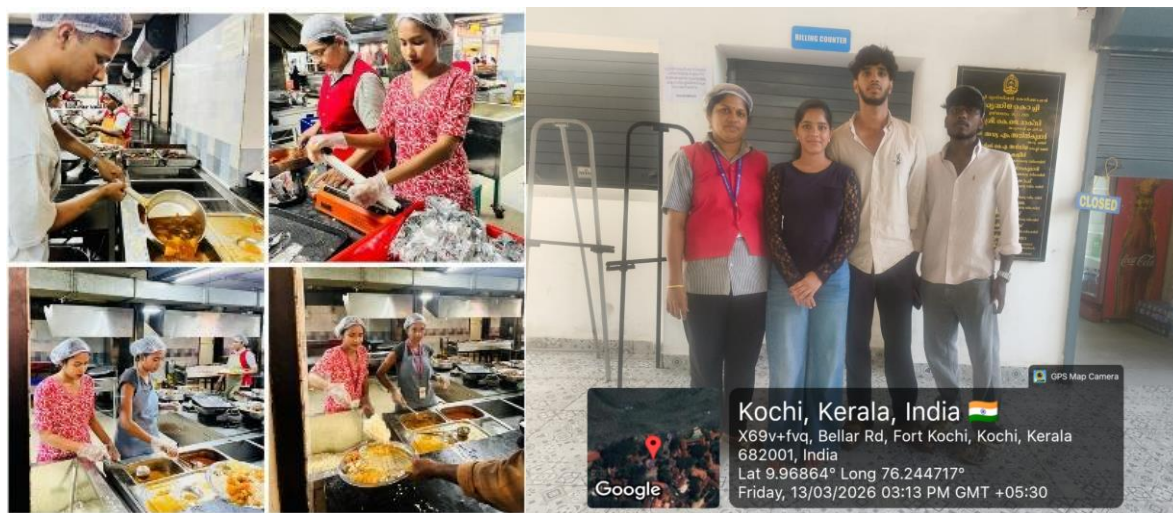


The beach cleaning drive at Fort Kochi Beach is an ongoing environmental initiative that has been conducted **regularly since 2016**. Every Saturday, students actively participate in cleaning the shoreline, contributing towards maintaining a cleaner and healthier coastal environment.

Through the collection of plastic waste and other debris, the initiative raises awareness about marine pollution and the importance of sustainable practices. It also instills a sense of responsibility, teamwork, and environmental consciousness among participants.

This consistent effort reflects a strong commitment towards community service and environmental protection.

SERVICE LEARNING AT SAMRIDHI(NORTH), FORTKOCHI, KADAVANTRA



The Service Learning Programme at Samrudhi, Kochi, has been a regular weekend engagement activity for students over the past three to four years. These sustained engagements have helped students develop empathy, compassion, and a deeper understanding of community realities while applying classroom learning in real-life settings. The programme has fostered meaningful relationships between students and community members, promoting civic responsibility and social commitment..

FOOD SERVING – CAPUCHIN MESS, THIRIPUNITHURA



Our students have been actively participating in a community service initiative at the Cappuchin Mess in Thripunithura every weekend. The mess, owned by a Capuchin priest, provides free food to those in need. Our students volunteer their time to help prepare food and serve customers. This selfless act of service not only provides essential support to the community but also instills values of compassion, empathy, and social responsibility in our students.

TRASH HUNT- BEACH CLEANING ACTIVITY



Trash Hunt. 4 " largest Beach clean-up Drive in Kerala was held on March 28,2026,at Fort Kochi , Ernakulum. Around 150 students from the college was part of the event and secured 3rd position in the event.The event was organised by Captains Social Foundation, in collaboration with UNICEF Yuwaaah India and Meri LiFE by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, with support of Duravit India. Students engaged in Beach Cleaning activity and Collected around 250 kg of waste with in 2 hour.

EMPOWERING VOICES: ELECTION AWARENESS DRIVE AMONG KUNJIPPARA TRIBAL COMMUNITY AT KUTTAMPUZHA



The BBA Department and Student Development Office, in collaboration with the Electoral Literacy Club, organized an election awareness campaign at Thalavachipara, Puyamkutti, Kuttampuzha for the tribal community. The aim was to encourage people to vote and understand the importance of their democratic rights. The interaction with the community was meaningful and informative. Our students and the tribal community members performed cultural programmes and also shared their experiences of living in that area, including the main issues they face. This made the experience more lively and memorable.

EARTH WEEK



Sacred Heart College (Autonomous), Thevara, celebrated **Earth Week 2026** from **22–29 April 2026** with a series of activities promoting environmental sustainability and community engagement. Organized in collaboration with environmental partners, the programme included a door-to-door awareness campaign, sustainability pledge, paddy field visit, thrift store, campus green audit, ideathon, cleaning drives, sustainability awareness programmes, and *thaneerkudam* placement initiatives. Students actively participated in field visits, waste management activities, biodiversity conservation efforts, and environmental audits. The week-long celebration fostered environmental consciousness, encouraged sustainable lifestyles, and strengthened students' commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals through meaningful action and community involvement.

BIOBOUQUET PRACTICE



SH College introduced the **BioBouquet**, a sustainable token of love presented to guests during college programs. This initiative reflects the institution's deep commitment to biodiversity by replacing conventional bouquets with eco-friendly alternatives. It highlights SH's dedication to protecting nature, demonstrating that even the smallest actions can contribute to environmental conservation.

WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANT



Sacred Heart College, Thevara, has implemented an efficient waste management system to promote environmental sustainability. The campus operates three waste-processing machines dedicated to paper waste, food waste, and bio-waste such as dry leaves and garden waste. Paper is collected for recycling, while food waste and bio-waste are scientifically processed into small organic granules. These granules are used as natural fertilizer for the college gardens, plants, and flower beds, reducing the need for chemical fertilizers. The system encourages waste segregation at source, minimizes landfill waste, supports a clean and green campus, and fosters environmental responsibility among students and staff.

DIVERSITY PROJECTS

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

SH SACRED
HEART
COLLEGE
Autonomous

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the project report entitled "DIVERSITY OF CRABS IN KUMBALAM, ERNAKULAM" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Ms KRISHNAPRIYA S (Reg. no.: 23UZOO1112) in the Department, as part of the B.Sc. Degree course during the period 2025-2026

for *Maney Vincent*
JOBIN C. THARIAN
Head of the Department

JOBIN C. THARIAN
Assistant Professor & Head
Department of Zoology
Sacred Heart College
Thevara, Kochi-13

Place: Thevara
Date: 16/04/2026

1. *Booth 17/4/26*
2. *MHA 16/4/2026*

2

SACRED HEART COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

SH SACRED
HEART
COLLEGE
Autonomous

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the project report titled "Assessment of Fish Diversity at Areekodu Region of Chaliyar River in Malappuram District" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by DEVANANDA. A (Reg. No.: 23UZOO11147) in the Department of Zoology, Sacred Heart College, Thevara, as part of the B. Sc. Degree course during the year 2025-2026.

for *Maney Vincent*
Mr JOBIN C. THARIAN
Head of the Department

Examiners:
1. *Booth 17/4/26*
2. *MHA 17/4/2026*

Date: 17/4/2026
Place: Thevara

2

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

SH SACRED
HEART
COLLEGE
Autonomous

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that project work entitled SPIDER DIVERSITY AT ALUNGAL FARMS: "A BIODIVERSITY STUDY" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Mr. P Devanarayanan (Reg. no: 23UZOO11155) in the Department, as part of the B. Sc. Degree course during the period 2023-2026.

for *Maney Vincent*
JOBIN C. THARIAN
Head of the Department

Dr. MONCEY VINCENT
Assistant Professor & Head
Department of Zoology
Sacred Heart College
Thevara, Kochi-13

Examiners:
1. *Booth 17/4/26*
2. *MHA 17/4/2026*

Place: Thevara
Date: 17/4/2026

4

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

SH SACRED
HEART
COLLEGE
Autonomous

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the project report titled "An Investigative Study on Fish Diversity of Malayattoor, Focusing on Malayattoor Lake and Periyar River" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Mr. KEN STEVE NIJO (Reg. No.: 23UZOO11126) in the Department of Zoology, as part of the B. Sc. Degree course during the period 2025-2026.

for *Maney Vincent*
Mr. JOBIN C. THARIAN
Head of the Department

JOBIN C. THARIAN
Assistant Professor & Head
Department of Zoology
Sacred Heart College
Thevara, Kochi-13

Examiners:
1. *Booth 16/4/26*
2. *MHA 16/4/2026*

Place: Thevara
Date: 16/4/2026

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that project work entitled "A STUDY ON LEPIDOPTERAN DIVERSITY OF EROOR ISLAND" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Mr. KRISHNAKANTH V S (Reg. no: 23UZOO11102) in the Department, as part of the B. Sc. Degree course during the period 2023-2026.

for 
Dr. Jobin C. Tharian
Head of Department
Dr. MONCEY VINCENT
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPT. OF ZOOLOGY
SACRED HEART COLLEGE
THEVARA - 682 013, KOCHI

Place : Thevara

Date : 16/4/2026

Examiners :

1. Valued
16/4/26

2.

4

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that project work entitled "A Study on Butterfly Diversity of Iringole Kavu, Perumbavur, Ernakulam District" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Mr. KIRAN R (Reg. no: 23UZOO11122) in the Department, as part of the B. Sc. Degree course during the period 2025-2026.

for 
Jobin C Tharian



Head of the Department
JOBIN C. THARIAN
Assistant Professor & Head
Department of Zoology
Sacred Heart College
Thevara, Kochi-13
Examiners

Place: Thevara

Date: 16 April
16 March 2026

1. Valued
16/4/26

2.

16/4/2026

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that project work entitled "A STUDY ON BIRD DIVERSITY IN KONTHURUTHY, THEVARA, ERNAKULAM, KERALA" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Ms. SANIYA ANTONY (Reg. no: 23UZOO11131) in the Department, as part of the B. Sc. Degree course during the period 2023-2026.

for 
Jobin C Tharian

Head of the Department
JOBIN C. THARIAN
Assistant Professor & Head
Department of Zoology
Sacred Heart College
Thevara, Kochi-13
Examiners

Place: Thevara

Date: 16/04/2026



1. Valued
16/4/26

2.

16/4/2026

4

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that project work entitled "COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT OF MOTH DIVERSITY IN DISTINCT HABITATS: SACRED HEART COLLEGE CAMPUS AND ALUNGAL FARM" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Mr. JOYAL MARTIN (Reg. no: 23UZOO11158) in the Department, as part of the B. Sc. Degree course during the period 2023-2026.



JOBIN C. THARIAN
Assistant Professor & Head
Department of Zoology
Sacred Heart College
Thevara, Kochi-13

Place: Thevara
Date: 17/4/2026

Examiners
1. Valued
2. 17/4/26
17/4/2026

SACRED HEART COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the project work "A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CRAB DIVERSITY IN MANGROVES OF KADAMAKKUDY, MALIPPURAM, MANGALAVANAM AND ANDROTT ISLAND OF LAKSHADWEEP" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by ALFIYA RAFEEQUE DN (Reg.No:23UZOO11157) in the Department of Zoology, Sacred Heart College, Thevara, as part of the B.Sc.Degree course during the year 2025-2026

Mr. JOBIN C. THARIAN
Head of the Department

Dr. MONTEMYNOR
Assistant Professor
Department of Zoology
Sacred Heart College
Thevara - 682 013, Kochi

Examiners:

1.

2.

Date: 17/4/2026
Place: Thevara

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that project work entitled "DIVERSITY OF SPIDERS (ARACHNIDA: ARANEAE) OF PONNAKUDAM TEMPLE, THEVAKKAL, KOCHI, KERALA, INDIA" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Mr. DERICK JOSEPH THALAKKAL (Reg.no: 23UZOO11150) in the Department, as part of the B. Sc. Degree course during the period 2023-2026.

JOBIN C. THARIAN
Assistant Professor & Head
Department of Zoology
Sacred Heart College
Thevara, Kochi-13

Examiners

Place: Thevara
Date: 16/4/2024

1. 17/4/26
2. 17/4/26



LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

1. Sudhin, P.P., **Sankaran, P.M.** & Sen, S. (2025). First record of the genus *Piratula* Roewer, 1960 from India, with the description of a new species (Araneae: Lycosidae: Zoicinae). *Zootaxa* 5659(4): 593-598. doi:10.11646/zootaxa.5659.4.9
2. **Sankaran, P.M.** (2025). On a new synonym in the genus *Sphingius* Thorell, 1890 from India (Araneae: Liocranidae). *Zootaxa* 5665(4): 597-599. doi:10.11646/zootaxa.5665.4.9
3. **Sankaran, P.M.** & Caleb, J.T.D. (2025). On the taxonomic validity of Indian ground spiders: VI. Genera *Ladissa* Simon, 1907, *Melicymnis* Simon, 1885, and *Poecilochroa* Westring, 1874 (Araneae: Gnaphosidae). *Zootaxa* 5673(1): 132-142. doi:10.11646/zootaxa.5673.1.9
4. **Sankaran, P.M.**, Tripathy, A. & Tripathi, R. (2025). On the identity of *Plator indicus* Simon, 1897, and a catalogue of Indian trochanteriid fauna (Araneae: Trochanteriidae). *Zootaxa* 5686(3): 447-450. doi:10.11646/zootaxa.5686.3.8
5. Paul, J. & **Sankaran, P.M.** (2025). Redescription of *Leucauge subgemmea* Bösenberg & Strand, 1906 from India (Araneae: Tetragnathidae: Leucaginae). *Zootaxa* 5719(4): 590-594. doi:10.11646/zootaxa.5719.4.7
6. **Sankaran, P.M.**, Abraham, A., Williams, S.H. & Asima, A. (2026). New data on Indian nursery-web spiders (Araneae: Pisauridae). *Zootaxa* 5757(1): 1-25. doi: 10.11646/zootaxa.5757.1.1
7. **Sankaran, P.M.**, Golovatch, S.I. & Hollier, J. (2026). Synopsis of the Indian and Sri Lankan Trichopolydesmidae Verhoeff, 1910 (Diplopoda: Polydesmida: Trichopolydesmoidea), with the description of two new epigean species from India. *Zootaxa* 5796(3): 401-436. doi: 10.11646/zootaxa.5796.3.1
8. Sudhin, P.P., **Sankaran, P.M.** & Sen, S. (2026). On the identity of the Indian species of *Desis* Walckenaer, 1837 (Araneae: Desidae: Desinae). *Zootaxa* 5828(1): 146-150. doi: 10.11646/zootaxa.5828.1.10

ചെന്നായയെ പോലെ ഓട്ടക്കാൻ ഈ ചിലന്തി

കൊച്ചി വലയൊന്നും വേണ്ട, ഇറയെ ഓടിച്ചിട്ടു പിടിച്ച് ഭക്ഷണമാക്കും. പറഞ്ഞുവരുന്നത് വല നെയ്യിലിൽ മുൻപന്മാരായ ചിലന്തിയെക്കുറിച്ചുതന്നെ. എന്നാൽ, ബംഗാളിൽനിന്നു കണ്ടെത്തിയ പുതിയ ചിലന്തി ജനുസ്സിന് ഇറയെ പിടിക്കാൻ വലയുടെ ആവശ്യമൊന്നുമില്ല. ഇരയ്ക്കുപുറകേ ഓടി അവയെ പിടികൂടി ശാപ്പിടും.

ഈ ഓട്ടം കാരണം ഈ ചിലന്തികൾക്ക് വിളിപ്പേര് ചെന്നായച്ചിലന്തിയെന്നാണ്. അമേരിക്കയിലും യൂറോപ്പിലുമെല്ലാം മാത്രം കണ്ടിരുന്ന ചെന്നായച്ചിലന്തിയെ തേവര സേക്രഡ് ഹാർട്ട് കോളേജിലെ ചിലന്തി ഗവേഷണ കേന്ദ്രത്തിന്റെ പഠനത്തിലാണ് കണ്ടെത്തിയത്. ചെന്നായച്ചിലന്തി കുടുംബത്തിൽപ്പെട്ട പിരാറ്റുല എന്ന ചിലന്തി ജനുസ്സിനെയാണ് ബംഗാളിലെ കസ്തലയിൽ നിന്നു കണ്ടെത്തിയത്. ശാരീരിക പ്രത്യേകതകളുടെ അടിസ്ഥാനത്തിൽ പിരാറ്റുല അക്യുമിനേറ്റ എന്നാണ് പുതിയ ചിലന്തിക്ക് പേരു നൽകിയിരിക്കുന്നതെന്ന് ചിലന്തി ഗവേഷണ കേന്ദ്രത്തിലെ ഡോ. പ്രദീപ് എം. ശങ്കരൻ പറഞ്ഞു. സുവോളജിക്കൽ സർവേ ഓഫ് ഇന്ത്യയിലെ പി.പി. സുധിൻ, സൗവിക് സെൻ എന്നിവരും പഠനത്തിൽ പങ്കാളികളായി. പുതിയ കണ്ടെത്തൽ അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര ശാസ്ത്രമാസികയായ സൂടാക്സയിൽ പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

വല നെയ്യിലു

ഇര പിടിക്കാൻ വല നെയ്യിലു എന്നതിനൊപ്പം ഈ ചെന്നായച്ചിലന്തിക്ക് പ്രത്യേകതകൾ വേറെയുമുണ്ട്. ഇവരുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിൽ പെൺചിലന്തികളാണ് ഭീമന്മാർ. ആൺ ചിലന്തികൾക്ക് വലുപ്പം കുറവായിരിക്കും.



പിരാറ്റുല അക്യുമിനേറ്റ

പത്തു മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളം വലുപ്പം വയ്ക്കുന്ന ഈ ചിലന്തികൾ ചെറുപ്രാണികൾക്കൊപ്പം മറ്റു ചിലന്തികളെയും ഭക്ഷണമാക്കാറുണ്ട്. കരിയിലകൾക്കുള്ളിലും കല്ലുകൾക്കിടയിലും നിലത്തുവളരുന്ന ചെറുപുല്ലുകൾക്കിടയിലുമെല്ലാം ഇവ കാണപ്പെടും.



മുങ്ങി... ഒടുവിൽ പൊങ്ങി 128 വർഷങ്ങൾക്കുശേഷം

അപൂർവയിനം ചിലന്തികളെ കണ്ടെത്തി



▶ പ്ലേറ്റർ ഇൻഡിക്കസ്



▶ ലൂക്കാജെ സബ്ജെമ്മിയ

**കെ.പി. പ്രവിത
കൊച്ചി**

▶ നീണ്ടകാലം ഒളിവുവാസത്തിലായിരുന്നു പ്ലേറ്റർ ഇൻഡിക്കസ്. ഒന്നും രണ്ടുമൊന്നുമല്ല. 128 വർഷം. ഒടുവിൽ ഉത്തരാഖണ്ഡിലെ രുദ്രപ്രയാഗിൽനിന്ന് കക്ഷിയെ കൈയോടെ പിടികൂടി. ഒളിവെന്നുകേട്ട് സംശയിക്കേണ്ട. പ്ലേറ്റർ ഇൻഡിക്കസ് ഒരു പാവം ചിലന്തിയാണ്. 1897-ന് ശേഷം ഇതാദ്യമായാണ് ഇവയെ വീണ്ടും കണ്ടെത്തുന്നതെന്ന് മാത്രം.

പ്രഞ്ച് ചിലന്തി ഗവേഷകനായിരുന്ന യൂജിൻ സൈമണാണ് 1897-ൽ ഈ ചിലന്തിയെ ഇന്ത്യയിൽ കണ്ടെത്തിയത്. പിന്നീട് ഇവയെ കാണാൻ 128 വർഷം കാത്തിരിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നു. ട്രോക്കാനെറിഡെ (Trochantariidae) കുടുംബത്തിൽപ്പെടുന്നതാണ് പ്ലേറ്റർ ഇൻഡിക്കസ്. ഇതിനൊപ്പം ടെട്രാഗനാത്തിഡെ (Tetragnathidae) കുടുംബത്തിൽ പെടുന്ന ലൂക്കാജെ സബ്ജെമ്മിയ (Leucogae Subgemmaea) ചിലന്തിയെയും ഗവേഷകർ കണ്ടെത്തി. ജപ്പാനിലും സമീപപ്രദേശങ്ങളിലുമായി കാണപ്പെട്ടിരുന്ന ഈ ചിലന്തിയെ ആദ്യമായാണ് ഇന്ത്യയിൽനിന്ന് കണ്ടെത്തുന്നത്. കേരളത്തിലെ പാലക്കാട്, വയനാട്, കർണാടകയിലെ ചിക്കമംഗലൂർ എന്നിവിടങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നാണ് കണ്ടെത്തിയത്.

തേവര സേക്രഡ് ഹാർട്ട് കോളേജിലെ ചിലന്തി ഗവേഷണ കേന്ദ്രത്തിലെ ഡോ. പ്രദീപ് എം. ശങ്കരൻ, കോഴിക്കോട് സെയ്ന്റ് വിൻസെന്റ് കോളനി ഗേൾസ് ഹയർ സെക്കൻഡറി സ്കൂളിലെ

ഡോ. ജിമ്മി പോൾ, ഗവേഷണ വിദ്യാർഥികളായ ആശീർവാദ് ത്രിപാദി, ഋഷികേശ് ത്രിപാദി എന്നിവരുടെ പഠനങ്ങളാണ് ഇവയുടെ കണ്ടെത്തലിലേക്ക് നയിച്ചത്. ഈ കണ്ടെത്തലുകൾ അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര ശാസ്ത്രമാസികയായ സൂടാക്ലിയിൽ പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഫ്ലാറ്റ് സ്പൈഡർ

നീണ്ടുപരന്ന ശരീരത്തോടുകൂടിയ പ്ലേറ്റർ ഇൻഡിക്കസ് ചിലന്തികൾക്ക് ഫ്ലാറ്റ് സ്പൈഡർ എന്നും വിളിപ്പേരുണ്ട്. ഏഴു മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളം ഇവയ്ക്ക് ശരീരവലുപ്പം വയ്ക്കും. ഇര പിടിക്കാൻ വല നെയ്യില്ല. പാറകളിലും വൃക്ഷങ്ങളിലും മണ്ണിലും കാണപ്പെടുന്ന വിടവുകൾക്കുള്ളിലും കരിയിലകൾക്കിടയിലുമാണ് ഇവയുണ്ടാവുക.

ചുവപ്പും ചാരകലർന്ന വെളുപ്പും നിറത്തോടുകൂടിയതാണ് ശരീരം. കാലുകൾ നീളമേറിയതും മുളളുകൾ നിറഞ്ഞതുമാണ്.

മുത്തുമാലയണിഞ്ഞ്

ലൂക്കാജെ സബ്ജെമ്മിയ ചിലന്തികളുടെ ശരീരത്തിന്റെ പൂർവ്വഭാഗത്തായി മുത്തുമാലയുടെ ആകൃതിയിൽ കറുത്തപുള്ളികളുണ്ട്. ചാരകലർന്ന മഞ്ഞയും വെളുപ്പും നിറത്തോടുകൂടിയതാണിവ. നാലുമുതൽ അഞ്ചു മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളം ശരീരവലുപ്പം വയ്ക്കും. ഇരപിടിക്കാൻ വല നെയ്യില്ല. ഉരുണ്ട ശരീരത്തോടുകൂടിയ ഈ ചിലന്തികൾ ഉയരം കുറഞ്ഞതും പച്ചിലകൾ നിറഞ്ഞതുമായ ചെടികളോടനുബന്ധിച്ചാണ് കാണപ്പെടുന്നത്.

കേരളത്തിൽ നിന്നും അഞ്ച് അപൂർവ്വയിനം ചിലന്തികൾ

ചിലന്തികൾക്കുമുണ്ട് നഴ്സറി

കെ.പി. പ്രവിത കൊച്ചി

► കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾക്കായി പ്രത്യേകം നഴ്സറികൾ ഒരുക്കുന്നവർ ഇത്തിരിക്കുഞ്ഞൻമാരായ ചിലന്തികളുടെ കൂട്ടത്തിലുമുണ്ട്. ശത്രുക്കളെ അകറ്റാനാണ് ഈ നഴ്സറികൾ. പ്രത്യേകമായി വല നെയ്താണ് സുരക്ഷ ഒരുക്കൽ. 'നഴ്സറി വല' എന്നാണ് ഗവേഷകർ ഇതിനെ വിശേഷിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്.

ജനനം മുതൽ വളർച്ചയുടെ ഒരു ഘട്ടം വരെ ചിലന്തിക്കുഞ്ഞുങ്ങൾ ഈ നഴ്സറി വലയിൽ കഴിയും. ഇത്തരത്തിൽ നഴ്സറി വല നെയ്യുന്ന അഞ്ച് അപൂർവ്വയിനം ചിലന്തികളെ ഗവേഷകർ കേരളത്തിൽ നിന്ന് കണ്ടെത്തി. ഇവയിൽ രണ്ടെണ്ണത്തിനെ നൂറ്റാണ്ടുകൾക്ക് ശേഷമാണ് വീണ്ടും കാണുന്നതെന്ന പ്രത്യേകതയുമുണ്ട്.

പിസോറീഡെ (Pisauridae) കുടുംബത്തിലുൾപ്പെടുന്നതാണ് ഈ ചിലന്തികൾ. തേവര സേക്രഡ് ഹാർട്ട് കോളേജ് ചിലന്തി ഗവേഷണവിഭാഗത്തിലെ ഡോ. പ്രദീപ് എം. ശങ്കരൻ, മഹാരാജാസ് കോളേജിലെ സുവോളജി വിഭാഗം മുൻ അധ്യാപിക ഡോ. അനിത എബ്രഹാം, ഗവേഷണ വിദ്യാർഥികളായ അസീമ അഷ്റഫ്, സ്റ്റീവൻ വില്യംസ് എന്നിവരുൾപ്പെടുന്നതാണ് ഗവേഷകസംഘം. ഈ കണ്ടെത്തൽ അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര ശാസ്ത്രമാസികയായ സ്ട്രാക്സയിൽ പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

പുതുമുഖങ്ങൾ ഇവ

ഹൈഗ്രോപോഡ കന്നിമര (Hygropoda kannimara)

മലപ്പുറത്തുനിന്ന് കണ്ടെത്തി. ഇന്ത്യയിലെ ഏറ്റവും വലിയ തേക്കുമരത്തിന്റെ പേരാണ് നൽകിയിരിക്കുന്നത്. ഒൻപതു മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളം വലുപ്പം വയ്ക്കും. ഇര പിടിക്കാൻ വല നെയ്യില്ല. നീണ്ട ശരീരം. അരുവികൾക്ക് സമീപം പാറക്കെട്ടുകൾക്ക് മുകളിൽ കാണപ്പെടുന്നു. വെള്ളത്തിലുള്ള ഷഡ്പദങ്ങളാണ് ആഹാരം. തവിട്ടും ചാരകലർന്ന വെളുപ്പും നിറമാണ് ശരീരം.



പെരിനിത്തെസ് സിൻഡിക്ക (Perenethis sindica)

126 വർഷങ്ങൾക്ക് ശേഷമാണ് ഇവയെ ഇന്ത്യയിൽ കാണുന്നത്. ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ചിലന്തി ഗവേഷകനായി



രുന്ന റെജിനാൾഡ് പൊക്കോക് 1900-ൽ ഇന്ത്യയിൽ നിന്നും ഇവയെ കണ്ടെത്തിയിരുന്നു. 10 മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളമാകും ശരീരവലുപ്പം. ഇരപിടിക്കാൻ വല നെയ്യില്ല. നീണ്ട ശരീരം. ഉയരം കുറഞ്ഞ ചെടികളുടെ ഇലകൾക്കും കരിയിലകൾക്കും മുകളിൽ കാണപ്പെടും. എറണാകുളത്താണ് ഇവയെ കണ്ടെത്തിയത്.

ഹൈഗ്രോപോഡ ഗ്രാസിലിസ് (Hygropoda gracilis)

135 വർഷങ്ങൾക്കു ശേഷം ആലപ്പുഴയിൽ നിന്നാണിവയെ കണ്ടെത്തിയത്. സ്വിഡിഷ് ചിലന്തി ഗവേഷകനായിരുന്ന തമെർലൻ തോറെൽ 1891-ൽ ഇന്ത്യയിൽനിന്നും ഇവയെ കണ്ടെത്തിയിരുന്നു. അഞ്ചു മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളമാകും ശരീരവലുപ്പം. ഇരപിടിക്കാൻ വല നെയ്യില്ല. നീണ്ട ശരീരം. നീളമേറിയ കാലുകൾ. ഉയരം കുറഞ്ഞ ചെടികളുടെ ഇലകൾക്ക് മേലെ കാണപ്പെടുന്നു. കറുപ്പും ചാരയും വെളുപ്പും നിറമാണ്.



പോളിബോയിയാ വൾവിന (Polyboea vulpina)

മലപ്പുറത്ത് നിന്നാണ് കണ്ടെത്തിയത്. നീണ്ട ശരീരം. ഒൻപത് മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളം വലുതാകും. ഇര പിടിക്കാൻ ഉയരം കുറഞ്ഞ ചെടികളിൽ പരന്ന ആകൃതിയോടു കൂടി വല നെയ്കും. മഞ്ഞ കലർന്ന തവിട്ടും കറുപ്പും നിറം. നീളമേറിയതും മുളളുകൾ നിറഞ്ഞതും കാലുകൾ.



ഡെൻഡ്രോലൈക്കോസ സഹ്യാദ്രിയെൻസിസ് (Dendrolycosa sahyadriensis)

ആലപ്പുഴ, എറണാകുളം, കൊല്ലം എന്നിവിടങ്ങളിൽ ഈ ചിലന്തിയെ കണ്ടെത്തി. നീണ്ടുരുണ്ട ശരീരം. 10 മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളം വലുപ്പം വയ്ക്കും. മഞ്ഞ കലർന്ന തവിട്ടും കറുപ്പും നിറത്തോടു കൂടിയതും വെളുത്തവരകൾ നിറഞ്ഞതാണ് ശരീരം. തടിച്ചുരുണ്ട കാലുകൾ.



94 വർഷം, വീണ്ടും പ്രത്യക്ഷപ്പെട്ടു... ആ തേരടകൾ

കെ.പി. പ്രവിത
കൊച്ചി

► നീണ്ട 94 വർഷങ്ങൾ... ഇന്ത്യയിൽ ആ സാന്നിധ്യം കണ്ടെത്താൻ കാത്തിരിക്കേണ്ടിവന്നത് ചെറിയ കാലയളവല്ല. കേരളത്തിലെ പശ്ചിമഘട്ട മലനിരകളിൽ കണ്ടെത്തിയ രണ്ടു തേരടകൾ കൗതുകമാകുന്നത് വർഷങ്ങൾ നീണ്ട ഈ ഒളിച്ചുകളിയുടെ പേരിലാണ്.

സ്യൂഡൊസ്സിയറോപേരിയ പ്ലാനാ, ഷോലാഫിലസ് സൈനസ് എന്നീ തേരടകളെയാണ് ഇടുക്കിയിലെ രാജമലയ്ക്ക് സമീപമുള്ള ചോലക്കാടുകളിൽനിന്ന് കണ്ടെത്തിയത്. ടൈക്കോപോളിയെഡ്സിയുടെ കുടുംബത്തിലുൾപ്പെടുന്നവയാണിത്. തേവരസേക്രഡ് ഹാർട്ട് കോളേജിലെ ചിലന്തിഗവേഷണ വിഭാഗത്തിലെ ഡോ. പ്രദീപ് എം. ശങ്കരൻ, റഷ്യൻ ഗവേഷകനായ സെർജി ഗോളോവാഷ്, സ്വിറ്റ്സർലൻഡിൽ നിന്നുള്ള ഗവേഷകൻ ജോൺ ഹോളിയർ എന്നിവർ നടത്തിയ പഠനങ്ങളാണ് ഈ കണ്ടെത്തലിലേക്ക് നയിച്ചത്. 94 വർഷങ്ങൾക്കുശേഷമാണ് ഈ രണ്ടു ജനുസ്സുകളിൽപ്പെട്ട തേരടകളെ ഇന്ത്യയിൽ കണ്ടെ

ത്തുന്നതെന്ന് ഗവേഷകർ പറയുന്നു. ഇതിൽ ഷോലാഫിലസ് തേരടകളെ ആദ്യമായാണ് കേരളത്തിലെ കാടുകളിൽ കണ്ടെത്തുന്നതെന്നും അവർ ചൂണ്ടിക്കാട്ടി. കണ്ടെത്തൽ അന്താരാഷ്ട്ര ശാസ്ത്രമാസികയായ സൂടാക്ലയിൽ പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ചുടിൽ ഒളിച്ചിരിക്കും... മഴയത്ത് ആക്ടിവ്

ചൂടുകൂടിയ സമയങ്ങളിൽ കരിയിലകൾക്കിടയിലും മറ്റും ഒളിച്ചുകഴിയാൻ ഇഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നവയാണ് ഈ തേരടകൾ. മഴക്കാലമാകുന്നതോടെ ഇവ സജീവമാകും. മണ്ണിലെ ജൈവാവശിഷ്ടങ്ങളും പായലുകളുമാണ് പ്രധാന ഭക്ഷണം.

നീണ്ടുരുണ്ട ശരീരപ്രകൃതിയാണ് രണ്ടുതേരടകൾക്കും. ചാരനിറം കലർന്ന വിളരിയ വെളുത്തനിറമുള്ള ഇവയുടെ ശരീരത്തിന്റെ വശങ്ങളിലും പുറംഭാഗത്തുമായി നീളം കുറഞ്ഞതും ഉരുണ്ടതുമായ മുളളുകൾ പോലെയുള്ള ഭാഗങ്ങൾ കാണാം.

സ്യൂഡൊസ്സിയറോപേരിയ



● സ്യൂഡൊസ്സിയറോപേരിയ പ്ലാനാ



● ഷോലാഫിലസ് സൈനസ്

പ്ലാനാ തേരടകൾ എട്ടു മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളം ശരീരവലുപ്പം വയ്ക്കും. ഷോലാഫിലസ് സൈനസ് തേരടകൾ 10 മില്ലിമീറ്ററോളവും. ഇവയ്ക്ക് രണ്ടിനും ശരീരത്തിൽ 19 വളയങ്ങളും 62 കാലുകളുമുണ്ട്.