



DLA NEWS

PAPERS ON MALAYALAM LINGUISTICS
AND RHETORICS

Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2025, PB,
Demmy 1/8, pp. 192,
Rs.400/- (US\$ 40/-)

THE INFLUENCE OF
SARASVATIKANTHABHARANA ON
PRAKRIYASARVASVA

P. Visalakshy, 2024, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 216,
Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-)

ENGLISH-BANGLA-MALAYALAM BASIC
VOCABULARY

Dhrubajyoti Das, 2024, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 133,
Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-)

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February 2026

A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

INAUGURATION : 18TH FEBRUARY, 2026 AT 11 AM

by **SHRI RAJENDRA VISHWANATH ARLEKAR**

(Honourable Governor of Kerala)

Venue : A.R. Raja Raja Varma Auditorium, International School of
Dravidian Linguistics, V.I. Subramoniam Memorial ISDL Complex,
Menamkulam, Thiruvananthapuram - 695586

The yearlong Centenary Celebrations of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam will be inaugurated by Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, the Honourable Governor of Kerala on 18-02-2026 at 11 AM. Prof. (Dr.) N. Chandrasekar, Vice-Chancellor, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli, will be delivering the special address. Prof. (Dr.) Rajan Gurukkal (Former Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University & presently the Vice-Chairman of the Kerala State Higher Education Council) will be delivering the keynote address.



Prof. V.I. Subramoniam
(18/02/1926 - 29/06/2009)

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Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar was sworn in as the 23rd Governor of Kerala on January 2, 2025. His interest in public service began even from his student days. Before becoming the 23rd Governor of Kerala, he was the Goa State President of BJP (2003-2007), Member of the Goa Legislative Assembly (2002-2007), Speaker of the Goa Legislative Assembly (2012-2017), Governor of Himachal Pradesh (2021-2023) and Governor of Bihar (2023-2024). His efforts to make Goa the first paperless state assembly in India was well appreciated all over India. As Minister of Forest & Environment and Panchayati Raj, his services to the protection of Environment and Forest were recognized and well commended both in India and abroad.

Latest Publications: PAPERS ON MALAYALAM LINGUISTICS AND RHETORICS, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2025, PB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 192, Rs. 400/- (US\$ 40/-) THE INFLUENCE OF SARASVATIKANTHABHARANA ON PRAKRIYASARVASVA, P.Visalakshy, 2024, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 216, Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-) PAPERS IN LINGUISTICS Vol. II, Panikkar (Ed.), S. Abdul Samed, N. Muraleedharan Nair (Asst. Eds.), 2024, PB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 320, Rs. 650/- (US\$ 65/-) DRAVIDIAN TOWNS IN THE MAHAVASTU AND MILINDAPANHA A DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY, Bryan G. Levman, 2023, PB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 152, Rs. 350/- (US\$ 30/-)

DIGNITARIES ON THE DAIS FOR THE INAUGURATION (Other than the Hon'ble Governor)**PROF. DR. N. CHANDRASEKAR (VICE CHANCELLOR, MANONMANIAM SUNDARANAR UNIVERSITY)**

Prof. Dr. N. Chandrasekar, Vice Chancellor of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli was the Former Head, Department of Centre for Geo-technology, MSU. He has over 35 years of teaching and research experience and has 17 years of administrative experience. He held several administrative positions such as Dean of Research in MSU & Dean of Faculty of Ocean Science and Technology in Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies.

He has been conferred with Indo-Hungarian Educational Exchange Fellowship award (UGC, 2011-2012), William Goldsmith Award (AGID), Brazil, 1994), Indian Geophysical Union Fellowship Award (IGU-CSIR, 2014). He is one of the leading scientists of our country

PROF. (DR.) RAJAN GURUKKAL (VICE-CHAIRMAN, KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL)

Prof. Rajan Gurukkal, Vice-Chairman, Kerala State Higher Education Council and former Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University, is a prominent Indian social scientist, historian, much respected professor and writer. He is noted for his interdisciplinary scholarship in history, social theory and knowledge production. He began his academic carrier at Union Christian College, Aluva, and later joined the Centre for Historical Studies at JNU. In 1988, he became the Professor and Director of the School of Social Sciences at Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam. He later served as the Vice-Chancellor of MGU from 2008 to 2012. Presently Prof. Rajan Gurukkal is the Vice-Chairman of the Kerala State Higher Education Council.

**THE DIGNITARIES OFF THE DAIS**

Well known scholars like Prof. K. Karunakaran (*Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur*), Prof. Murigeppa (*Former Vice-Chancellor, Kannada University, Hampi*), Prof. R.C. Sharma (*Former Professor and Head, Department of Linguistics, Delhi University*), Prof. Niladri Shekhar Dash (*Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata*), B.N. Patnaik (*(Retd.) Professor of English and Linguistics, IIT Kanpur*), Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira (*Former Professor, Punjabi University, Patiala*), Prof. Uma Maheshwar Rao G. (*Former Director, CALTS, Hyderabad*), Prof. N. Bhakthavathsala Reddy (*Former Professor of Folklore Studies & Dean, School of Folk and Tribal Lore, Telugu University, Warangal*), N. Rajasekharan Nair (*Former Director, CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University*), Prof. K. Rangan (*Former Registrar, Tamil University, Thanjavur*), Prof. V. Renuga Devi (*Emeritus Professor, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai*), Prof. K.C. Ataulh Khan (*Retd. Professor of Urdu, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit*), Prof. Mahidas Bhattacharya (*Former Director and Professor of Linguistics, School of Languages and Linguistics, Jadavpur University*), Prof. Panchanan Mohanty (*Former Professor, CALTS, University of Hyderabad*), Dr. Harpal Singh Bhatti (*Former Head, A.S. College, Khanna, Punjab*), Prof. Umaraj (*Head, Dept. of Linguistics, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai*), Prof. A.G. Menon (*Leiden, Netherlands*), and many other such scholars from different parts of India and abroad participate.

During this auspicious occasion, a bust of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam will also be unveiled and the V.I. Subramoniam Centenary special issue of IJDL will be released by Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Honourable Governor of Kerala.

The ISDL and DLA whole heartedly welcome each and every one of you to participate in the inaugural event and pay homage to Late Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, an academic luminary of our country.

After the Inaugural session, honouring the Family Members of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, the Founder Members of DLA, ISDL and IJDL, the Former Presidents and Chairmen of DLA and ISDL and also the senior linguists who attend the function will be done and which will be followed by the academic sessions of the National Seminar on "Contemporary Relevance of Indian Knowledge Systems" organized by the International School of Dravidian Linguistics in collaboration with the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru and the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India.

Seminar Registration Details**Bank Transfer Details:**

Name of the account: ISDL
Account No. 336602010004243
Union Bank of India,
Branch: Menamkulam
IFSC: UBIN0533661

For details, visit our website www.ijdl.org

For queries contact:

Dr. S. Abdul Samed Ph. 9495246269

Dr. N. Muraleedharan Nair Ph. 8301907098

Scan and register

**Offline Participants**

Faculty members who need accommodation	₹. 1500/-
Research Scholars and Students who need accommodation	₹.1000/-
Others who doesn't need accommodation but presenting papers	₹. 500/-
Those who don't require Accommodation & Not presenting Papers	NIL
Online participants presenting papers	₹. 500/-

ISDL GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of the Governing Council of the International School of Dravidian Linguistics will be held at 2.00 PM on 18th February 2026 at the ISDL Campus, Thiruvananthapuram. All Governing Council Members are requested to attend the same.

CONTRIBUTION TO VIS CENTENARY

1. Prof. M. Rama
Former Director, ISDL
Rs. 5,000/-
2. Prof. K. Rangan
Former Registrar, Tamil University
Thanjavur
Rs. 10,000/-

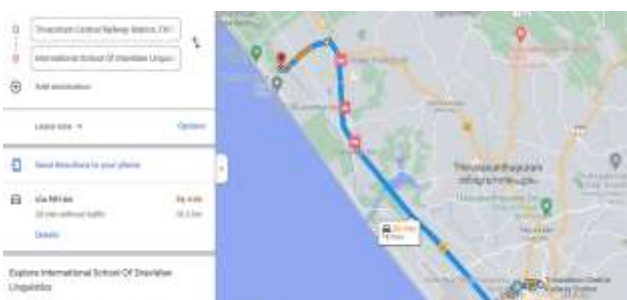
HOW TO REACH ISDL

Location: The ISDL Campus, Menamkulam is about 18 kms north of Trivandrum Central Railway Station and about 10 kms north of Kochuveli Railway station (Trivandrum North). It is 2.5 kms west of NH 66 (old number NH 47, Trivandrum - Attingal/Quilon/Alleppey/ Ernakulam road) on the side of Kazhakuttom - Arattuvazhi Road. One can get Prepaid Auto rickshaw or Uber / Rapido Taxi/Auto rickshaw to International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL) Campus from Airport/Railway station. The Trivandrum Transport stand is just opposite to the Central Railway Station and hence one can come to ISDL by Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) Buses first to Kazhakoottam and then by Auto Rickshaw/ Taxi or Share Auto to ISDL Campus. Share auto will be available in front of Amman Kovil near to A.J. Hospital, Kazhakuttom.

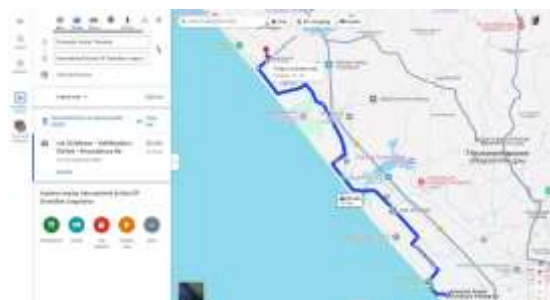
Those who opt to come by Veli-Thumba costal road will have to come to Arattukadavu and turn right and travel 500m towards Kinfra Apparel park, Menamkulam. ISDL Campus is located just opposite to Kinfra Apparel park Menamkulam, Kazhakoottam.

Google location of ISDL : <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Pyo4iokGJW7ZE44v9>

From Trivandrum Central Railway Station to International School of Dravidian Linguistics, Menamkulam = 18.3 kms



From Trivandrum Airport (Domestic Terminal) to International School of Dravidian Linguistics, Menamkulam = 14.8 kms



PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER

We are pleased to announce that Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Life Time Achievement Award for the promotion of Dravidian Languages and Linguistics has been conferred upon Prof. K. Karunakaran, Former Vice Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur and Former Professor and Head, Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore for his outstanding contributions to Dravidian languages and Linguistics.

He has been invited by many universities and institutions in countries like USA, UK, Canada, Malaysia, Mauritius, and Belgium for teaching Linguistics and Tamil language and also for guiding students for doctoral work. His long association with Annamalai University, Bharathiar University, Tamil University and Alagappa University on various capacities earned him an enviable reputation in Linguistics. Prof. Karunakaran has been in the field of Linguistics for over 60 years where he has accomplished substantial contributions for the promotion of Tamil language and Linguistics. His specialisations are:

Dialectology and Field Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Language Planning, Stylistics, Educational Linguistics, Lexicographical studies and Translation. As the President of Tamil Mozhiyiyal Sangam he has been doing remarkable service in the way of publishing the journal Thamizh Mozhiyiyal and high quality books and collected papers. His activities as the Chairman of ISDL is exemplary. The many awards which he received from India and abroad show his brilliant academic stature.

The Life Time Achievement Award and Memento will be given to Prof. K. Karunakaran by Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, the Honourable Governor of Kerala on 18th February, 2026 at the inaugural function of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations at ISDL Complex, Thiruvananthapuram.

TWO-DAY NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “BHARATIYA BHASHA PARIWAR: CONTACT AND CONVERGENCE”

The Department of Linguistics at the Central University of Kerala, in collaboration with the Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, hosted a significant two-day national conference titled “Bharatiya Bhasha Pariwar: Contact and Convergence” on January 22nd and 23rd, 2026. Held at Sabarmati Hall, the inaugural day featured a Presidential Address by Prof. Joseph Koyippally and an Inaugural Address by Prof. G. K. Panikkar. Tribute was paid to the late Prof. Pramod Pandey. Prof. R. C. Sharma launched the book Bharatiya Bhasha Pariwar before delivering the Keynote Address.

The academic sessions were led by a distinguished cohort of resource persons. Session 1, chaired by Dr. Anusree Sreenivasan, featured presentations from Prof. Sonal Kulkarni Joshi, Prof. K. Srikumar, and Prof. M. C. Kesava Murthy. The second day began with Session 2, chaired by Dr. Rajeev V, involving key speakers Dr. Ravishankar S. Nair, Prof. M. Sreenathan, Prof. Naresh Annem, and Dr. S. Prema. The final academic session was chaired by Dr. G. Palanirajan and featured presentations by Prof. Joseph Skariah and Dr. Sivaprasad.

These experts explored linguistic convergence, historical contact between Dravidian and Rigvedic traditions, and the development of languages like Telugu and Malayalam. A panel discussion on the new linguistic framework was also held which was chaired by Dr. S. Thennarasu. The conference concluded with a valedictory session, marking it as a vital forum for fostering linguistic solidarity and re-envisioning multilingualism.

*Pooja B. Pradeep
CUK, Kasaragod*

ELAMITE AND DRAVIDIAN : A REASSESSMENT, Filippo Pedron, 2023, PB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 264, Rs.450/- (US\$ 40/0) **PAPERS IN LINGUISTICS**, G.K. Panikkar (Ed.), Mary Susan, S. Abdul Samed, N. Muraleedharan Nair (Asst. Eds.), 2023, HB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 512, Rs.1000/- (US\$ 80/-) **AN ACCOUNT OF BANGLA DISCOURSE PARTICLES**, Rajat Ghosh, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 142, Rs.300/- (US\$ 30/-) **GLOSSARY OF GRAMMATICAL TERMS IN TRADITIONAL MALAYALAM GRAMMARS**, C.S. Jayakumari Kunjamma, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 232, Rs.450/- (US\$ 45/-) **THE ART AND EDIFICE OF GENDERLECT**, B. Sreedevi, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 160, Rs.320/- (US\$ 32/-) **A DICTIONARY OF SANSKRIT, PRAKRIT AND PALI WORDS IN TAMIL AND MALAYALAM**, N. Gopinathan Nair, 2022, HB, Crown 1/4, pp. 988, Rs.2300/- (US\$ 230/-) **COLLECTED PAPERS OF LV RAMASWAMI IYER**, G.K. Panikkar, K. Rangan & Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Eds.) 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp.826, Rs. 990/- (US\$ 99/-) **INDEX OF EARLY MAṆIPRAVĀLA WORKS**, N. Gopinathan Nair, 2021, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 1086, Rs. 2240/- (US\$ 224/-).

IN HONOUR OF LATE PROF. V. GNANASUNDARAM



The Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, in collaboration with Tamil Mozhiyiyal Sangam, Coimbatore, organised a Students' Newsletter and Book Release Function on 05.02.2026 at the department's Seminar hall. The programme marked the release of the Students' Newsletter 'Voice of Linguistic Novices' and special academic volume honouring Late Prof. V. Gnanasundaram, former Professor-cum-Deputy Director, CIIL, Mysuru and Visiting Fellow (UGC), Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University.

The programme commenced with a warm welcome by Dr. N. Vijayan, Assistant Professor, who welcomed the dignitaries on and off the dais and briefed the gathering about the Students' Newsletter. He highlighted that 'Voice of Linguistic Novices' is entirely gathered, compiled, edited and designed by the M.A. students of Linguistics, a commendable academic practice sustained for the past ten years. He also shared his academic association and personal experiences with Late Prof. V. Gnanasundaram, recalling his scholarliness and mentorship. Following this, Ms. Subhasri Ranjani, II M.A. Linguistics, spoke about the newsletter's objectives, design and content. She particularly highlighted the "Eminent Indian Linguists" section, stating how it helped students to learn about leading Indian linguists and their contributions, thereby enriching their academic exposure.

The newsletter was formally released by Dr. S. Sundarabalu, Associate Professor & Head (i/c), Department of Linguistics and the first copy was received by the Chief Guest, Prof. (Dr.) G.K. Panikkar, Hon. Director, ISDL, Thiruvananthapuram.



Subsequently Prof. (Dr.) K. Karunakaran, Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur, President, Tamil Mozhiyiyal Sangam, and Chairman, ISDL, Thiruvananthapuram, delivered the introductory address honouring Late Prof. V. Gnanasundaram. He recalled their long association from Annamalai University onwards and spoke about the academic relevance of the books released.

Two books were then released: They are : (1) Language, Cultures and Areal Linguistics, edited by Prof. (Dr.) Pon Kothandaraman (Portko) and Prof. (Dr.) K. Rangan, Former Head, Department of Linguistics, Tamil University and published by Tamil Mozhiyiyal Sangam. (2) "மொழி இழப்பு - மொழி அழிவு - மொழி மீட்டல்" (Language Loss - Language Endangerment - Language Revival) authored by Prof. V. Gnanasundaram and published by New Century Book House. The books were released by the Chief Guest and the first copy was received by Prof. (Dr.) K. Karunakaran.



In his Chief Guest's address, Prof. (Dr.) G. K. Panikkar remembered Prof. Gnanasundaram as a calm, principled scholar who lived by his values and contributed selflessly to linguistics. This was followed by a special address by Prof. (Dr.) K. Rangan, Former Head, Department of Linguistics, Tamil University, who spoke about their close academic and personal association starting from Annamalai University, CIIL, Mysuru.

The felicitation addresses were delivered by Prof. (Dr.) C. Shanmugom, Former Head, Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, Prof. (Dr.) N. Rajasekharan Nair, Former Director, CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University, Prof. (Dr.) V. Thayalan, Former Head, Linguistics Department, Bharathiar University, Prof. (Dr.) Sam Mohan Lal, Former Professor-Cum-Deputy Director, CIIL, Prof. (Dr.) S. Chithra, Former Head, Tamil Department, Bharathiar University, Prof. (Dr.) C. Maheswaran, Former Director, Tribal Research Centre, Dr. S. Sundarabalu, Associate Professor & Head (i/c), Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University and Dr. V. M. Subramanian, Associate Professor in Linguistics, Bharathiar University. Each speaker shared the reflections on Prof. V.Gnanasundaram's scholarly depth, humbleness, mentorship and lasting impact on linguistics, tribal studies and language documentation.

The programme concluded with Dr. P. Sankarganesh, Assistant Professor, proposing the vote of thanks, recalling his personal experiences with Prof. V. Gnanasundaram and expressing gratitude to all dignitaries, organisers and students for making the event meaningful and memorable.

N. Vijayan, Bharathiar University



SHRI T. MADHAVA MENON PASSED AWAY

Shri T. Madhava Menon (96), a former IAS officer, the Life Time Fellow of ISDL a renowned scholar and prominent researcher on Adivasi languages, passed away on 12-2-2026. With his demise, Kerala has lost one of its foremost scholars who dedicated his entire life to the study and preservation of indigenous tribal cultures.

As an IAS Officer he occupied several important official positions. He served as the Vice-Chancellor of Kerala Agricultural University (KAU).

Shri T. Madhavan Menon began his academic journey with a deep interest in tribal studies. He conducted extensive research on the problems encountered by various tribal communities across Kerala and other parts of India. His pioneering efforts helped in documenting and preserving several endangered tribal languages and cultures. Shri T. Madhavan Menon was widely respected for his scholarly contributions. His works include studies on tribal cultural traditions.

Shri Madhava Menon was the Senior Fellow of ISDL and he will be remembered for his outstanding academic contributions like the 'Encyclopaedia on Dravidian Tribes' (3 volumes), 'Handbook of Kerala' (2 volumes), 'The Mother Goddess in Bengal and in Kerala', 'Kēraḷa Bhāṣā Vijnānīyam' [A Study on Malayalam Linguistics] (Tr.), 'The Purananuru' (Tamil Sangam Classic), 'Gundert: Kerala Pazhama' (Tr.), 'Gundert: Keralopatti' (Tr.) published by ISDL / DLA. On 1 November 2022, the Kerala Piravi day, Government of Kerala announced the conferment of the first ever Kerala Prabha award on T. Madhava Menon in recognition of his social work.

He was closely associated with Prof. V.I. Subramoniam in the academic deliberations of the International School of Dravidian Linguistics. Scholars, students, and cultural activists have expressed deep sorrow at his passing away. His death marks the end of a significant chapter in the field of Adivasi language studies in Kerala.

He was an active member of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India. The staff, researchers and all members of the DLA, ISDL and IJDL express heartfelt condolence on the demise of Shri T. Madhava Menon and also grieve along with the bereaved family.

Abdul Samed S., ISDL

BHARTIYA BHASHA PARIWAR NATIONAL CONFERENCE

A two-day national conference on "Bhartiya Bhasha Pariwar and Artificial Intelligence: Challenges and Possibilities in the 21st Century" was organized by School of Languages, Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur in collaboration with Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India on 30-31 January, 2026.



Prof. M.J. Warsi, a distinguished scholar, Chairperson of the Department of Linguistics, AMU and the President, Linguistic Society of India has delivered the inaugural address.

DLA News Desk

INAUGURAL FUNCTION LIVE TELECAST

The inaugural function of the V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations will be live streamed through our YouTube channel, the link of which will be shared to all the life members of DLA on 18-2-2026.



PROF. PRAMOD PANDEY PASSED AWAY

Prof. Pramod Pandey, distinguished linguist, former Professor at the Centre for Linguistics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and former Vice-Chancellor of Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Pune, passed away on the 19th of this month. His demise marks an irreparable loss to the field of linguistics and to the academic community in India and beyond.

Introduced to linguistics at a young age through the International Phonetic Alphabet by his father, Sudhakar Pandey, he went on to pursue an illustrious academic journey. He earned his B.A. from Ferguson College, Pune, followed by Master's degrees in English (University of Pune) and Linguistics (Deccan College, Pune), M.Litt. from CIEFL, Hyderabad, and Ph.D. in Linguistics from Deccan College.

Prof. Pandey developed a scholarly vision that sought to integrate formal and functional approaches to linguistic analysis. His academic career spanned over four decades, during which he taught and conducted research at several institutions in India and abroad, including Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Sana'a University (Yemen), South Gujarat University, and the University of Jabalpur.

His seminal two-volume work, *Sounds and Their Patterns in Indic Languages* (Cambridge University Press India, 2014), stands as a landmark contribution to the study of Indian languages.

Prof. Pandey also played a pivotal national role as UGC Subject Coordinator for Linguistics under the E-PG Pathshala programme, contributing significantly to accessible postgraduate education. He served on numerous academic bodies and Boards of Studies and later provided visionary leadership as Vice-Chancellor of Deccan College, Pune.

Prof. Pramod Pandey will be remembered as an eminent scholar, an inspiring teacher, an able academic administrator, and a compassionate human being. His legacy endures through his writings, students, and his enduring contributions to linguistics. The staff, researchers and all members of the DLA, ISDL and IJDL express heartfelt condolence on the demise of Prof. Pramod Pandey and also grieve along with the bereaved family.

*Anusree Sreenivasan
CUK, Kasaragod*

MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONS LINGUISTIC HERITAGE AT GLOBAL CONFERENCE



Report

The rich tapestry of the world's linguistic diversity took center stage at Madurai Kamaraj University with the successful hosting of the 13th International Conference and Workshop on Endangered and Lesser-Known Languages (ELKL-13). Held from December 17 to 19, 2025, the event convened global experts under the theme

“Preserving Voices, Documenting Heritage in India and Beyond.”

Organized by the University's Department of Linguistics, in partnership with the Society for Endangered and Lesser-Known Languages (SEL) and the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru, the conference served as a vital forum for scholars, field linguists, and community language activists. The program featured insightful plenary addresses by national and international experts, including Dr. Alexander R. Coupe and Prof. Panchanan Mohanty, who underscored the critical urgency of language documentation and preservation. Over three days, participants engaged in panels exploring revitalization strategies, linguistic heritage, and digital tools for language inclusion, alongside a practical hands-on dictionary workshop.

A highlight of the closing ceremony was the conferring of the Anvita Abbi Award to Ms. Rajitha Muthuswamy in recognition of her seminal work in documenting Paniya oral history and supporting cultural identity reclamation.

K.Umaraj, M.K. University



MEMORIAM : PROF. V. JEYADEVAN (1947–2026) A TITAN OF LEXICOGRAPHY AND LINGUISTICS

It is with a heavy heart and profound sorrow that the academic community records the passing away of Prof. V. Jeyadevan on the morning of February 4th, at the age of 79. A stalwart in the field of linguistics and a revered senior member of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA), his departure marks the end of an era. His demise is undoubtedly an irreparable loss to global scholarship. Prof. Jeyadevan was a monumental figure in Tamil studies, particularly renowned for his expertise in lexicography. During his distinguished tenure as the Head of the Department of Tamil Language at the University of Madras, he served as a lighthouse for academic excellence, mentoring generations of scholars who now lead prestigious institutions worldwide. His visionary leadership as the Chief Editor of the Tamil Lexicon Revision Project set a global benchmark for linguistic precision, while his influential roles in ASIALEX and the Lexicographical Society of India solidified his legacy as a pre-eminent international ambassador for the Tamil language.

Beyond his institutional leadership, Prof. Jeyadevan was a meticulous gatekeeper of academic quality, serving with distinction on the editorial board of *Nokku*, a UGC Care-listed journal. To those of us in the DLA and the wider linguistic fraternity, he was much more than a scholar; he was an embodiment of rare character whose immense academic brilliance was matched only by his profound kindness and humility. He possessed the unique ability to simplify complex linguistic theories, making them accessible to young researchers while always providing unwavering support for innovative projects. His passing away is a deep personal loss to the students, colleagues, Tamil scholars, linguists and lexicographers all around the world.

The staff, researchers and all members of the DLA, ISDL and IJDL express heartfelt condolence on the demise of Prof. Jayadevan and also grieve along with the bereaved family.

*N. Rajasekharan Nair
Bharathiar University*

THE ONE-DAY SEMINAR AT VISVA-BHARATI

The Centre for Endangered Languages, Department of Linguistics, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, organized a one-day National Seminar on “Documentation of Indigenous Languages: Successes and Challenges” on 12 February 2026. The seminar was conducted in hybrid mode at the Conference Room, Bhasha-Bhavana, Visva-Bharati.

The seminar aimed to provide an academic platform for teachers, researchers, research scholars, and students to share field experiences, methodologies, challenges, and best practices in documenting indigenous and lesser-studied languages. Scholars from various institutions presented research papers. The seminar witnessed active participation from teachers, researchers, and students, contributing to meaningful academic deliberations on the documentation and preservation of indigenous languages.

Greeshma C., ISDL

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BHARATIYA BHASHA PARIWAR

Srimad Andavan Arts and Science College, Tiruchirappalli, Tamilnadu and Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal in collaboration with the Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti had organized a two-day National Conference during January 29 - 30, 2026 on Bharatiya Bhasha Parivar. Leading linguists and language experts from various parts of India participated.

Anju B., ISDL

WORKSHOP ON PHONETIC TRANSCRIPTION**Report**

Workshop for Skill Development on Phonetic Transcription of Typical and Atypical Speech Using Digital Tools, was successfully conducted and organized by Department of Linguistics, UCASS, Osmania University, on 11th February 2026, sponsored by RUSA 2.0, Osmania University, with Dr.C.S.

Swathi as the Convener. The objectives of workshop were to create awareness on Phonetic Transcription, enhancing knowledge and practical skills and the use of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) across 8 Indian languages (Indian English, Hindi, Telugu, Bengali, Malayalam, Tamil, Kannada and Marathi). The Resource Persons for the workshop and the training manual were scholars in phonetics from different Indian Universities. The workshop concluded with the Valedictory Programme, presided over by Prof. Lingappa, Dean, Faculty of Arts, UCASS, Osmania University, as the Chief Guest. Prof. Srinivasulu, Nodal Officer, RUSA 2.0, Osmania University, conveyed his best wishes and appreciated the interdisciplinary and multilingual focus of the workshop.

The chief guest also inaugurated a YouTube Channel named Brain-Language-Linguistics (<https://www.youtube.com/@Brain-Language-Linguistics>), started by Dr.Swathi. The workshop witnessed active participation of more than 140 participants with students from Speech and Hearing Institutes and Linguistics departments, along with faculty members, and research scholars.

C.S.Swathi
Osmania University

MATRIBHASHA DIWAS 2026

The Department of Language, Culture and Society, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur, is organising Matribhasha Diwas 2026, an Intercollegiate Cultural Fest, on 16th February 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Dr. T. P. Ganesan Auditorium. It is centred on the theme “Where Languages Live and Cultures Perform”. The event will showcase India’s rich linguistic and cultural diversity through tribal language booths, folk music & dance, storytelling, crafts, regional food court, panel discussions, and a range of creative on-stage and off-stage competitions including street play, poetry recitation, folk song, fusion dance, creative writing, poster making, and translation challenges.

The programme invites enthusiastic participation from students across institutions and promises a vibrant platform for cultural expression and linguistic deliberation.

For more details contact : Dr. J. Karisma Ph.: 9788925788 E mail : mldfest26@gmail.com

Dhrubajyoti Das
ISDL

TO THE WELL WISHERS OF V.I. SUBRAMONIAM CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

As already announced the year-long centenary celebrations of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam will commence from 18th February 2026. It is envisaged as a grand academic event having intermittent academic programs throughout the year. Those who would like to support this celebration financially may make their contributions to the following account.

A/C No. 336602010008000 Union Bank of India, Menamkulam Branch, Thiruvananthapuram.

IFSC Code : UBIN0533661 Swift code : UBININBBKHU

Please share the details of the payment along with the name and contact number of the remitter to dlavis1971@gmail.com



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Price Rs. 5/-

RNI 29572

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ijdlvm@gmail.com

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON ACOUSTIC PHONETICS

The Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala, Kariavattom Campus, is organising a Three-Day National Seminar titled “Decoding Sounds: Relevance of Acoustic Phonetics in Interdisciplinary Linguistics” from 5 to 7 March 2026. The seminar will be conducted in hybrid mode. The seminar aims to explore the interdisciplinary significance of acoustic phonetics by focusing on: (i) Clinical aspects of speech production and language comprehension (ii) Enhancement of speech technologies such as ASR, TTS, speaker and language identification (iii) Applications of forensic phonetics in speaker verification and linguistic profiling (iv) Analysis of dialectal and accent variations and (v) Examination of language change in workplaces, digital media, and global youth vernaculars. The event will also include non-thematic sessions covering broader areas of linguistics including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and psycholinguistics. Students, research scholars, teachers, professionals, and freelancers interested in both thematic and non-thematic areas are eligible to participate. The seminar will be held at the Department of Linguistics, School of Indian Languages, University of Kerala, Kariavattom Campus, Thiruvananthapuram – 695581, Kerala.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

(i) Abstracts should align with the conference theme (ii) Must include title, methodology, results, and keywords (iii) Submission format: Word or PDF (iv) Author details - name, designation, affiliation and email must be included (v) References, if any, should follow APA 7th edition style (vi) Late submissions will not be accepted.

Article Submission Guidelines

(i) Full paper should not exceed 15 pages (ii) Must include figures, tables, and references (iii) Formatting: Times New Roman, 12-point font for body text (iv) Margins: 1.5 inches on all sides (v) References must strictly follow APA 7th edition style (vi) Submission format: Word document only (vii) Accepted papers will be published as conference proceedings

The registration fee for paper presentation is ₹250.

Important Dates

Abstract submission opens : 30 January 2026 ➤ Abstract Submission deadline : 16 February 2026

Acceptance notification : 20 February 2026 ➤ Registration Starts : 21 February 2026

Full paper submission : 12 March 2026

For Queries & Information

For further information, participants may contact: Dr. Syam S. K. – 94956 26431, Dr. Shagi G. U. – 99468 72788, Rahul Krishna H. S. – 94460 27036 & Keerthana K. S. – 95261 48108

Please Note : Organizers do not provide accommodation or TA/DA.

*Annie Tisha Jerald
ISDL*