



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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A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

V.I. SUBRAMONIAM CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

As already announced, the year 2026 is going to be celebrated as V.I. Subramoniam Centenary year by the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics. As a renowned scholar in Linguistics, Prof. V.I. Subramoniam had been honoured by different universities in India and abroad by conferring honorary D.Litt. degree. Among them are the Madras University (Chennai), Rabindra Bharati University (Calcutta), Jaffna University (Sri Lanka), Deccan College (Pune), Madurai Kamaraj University (Madurai), Dravidian University (Kuppam) and Tamil University (Thanjavur). He is not only a renowned scholar in Linguistics but also an institution builder. Prof. V.I. Subramoniam is the first head of the Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala, first Pro-Chancellor, Dravidian University, Kuppam and the first Vice Chancellor, Tamil University, Thanjavur. He was the founder of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India, International School of Dravidian Linguistics and International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics. Prof. Subramoniam served UGC and the Government of India in various academic committees. His 100th birthday falls on February 18, 2026. On that day we plan to unveil the bust of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam at the ISDL Campus, Menamkulam, Thiruvananthapuram and to conduct a three day National Seminar. Throughout the year 2026, a series of Academic programmes and research oriented deliberations will be organized in honour of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, the visionary who made outstanding contributions to the development of Dravidian Linguistics both in India and abroad.

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CONTRIBUTIONS OFFERED

In connection with the Centenary Celebrations of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam, some of the students and friends of Professor V.I. Subramoniam expressed their desire to become part of the celebration by making voluntary contributions. Anybody who wishes to do so may please remit their contributions to the following account.

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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/-)

WORKSHOP ON TESTING AND EVALUATION, AND ITEM WRITING IN MALAYALAM

Central Institute of Indian Languages in Collaboration with The Directorate of General Education, Kerala & The International School of Dravidian Linguistics, Thiruvananthapuram

Report

A Training-cum-Workshop on Testing and Evaluation, and Item Writing in Malayalam was organized by the National Testing Service-India (NTS-I), CIIL, in collaboration with the Directorate of General Education, Government of Kerala and the International School of Dravidian Linguistics, Thiruvananthapuram at ISDL Campus, in the offline mode from 22nd to 24th, 2025 and in the online mode from 25th to 27th, 2025. The programme was a grand success, with the active participation of 28 teachers from various secondary and higher secondary schools in Thiruvananthapuram. The programme aimed to enhance understanding of language and literature assessment, question item preparation, and testing strategies in alignment with the objectives of NEP 2020.



The workshop commenced at 10:00 a.m. with an introduction by Mrs. Greeshma C, ISDL, followed by a welcome speech by Dr. R. Shakunthala, Senior Resource Person, NTS-I, CIIL. The Presidential cum Inaugural Address was delivered by Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, Hon. Director (in-charge), ISDL, highlighting the objectives and significance of the programme. Prof. M. Sreenathan (Rtd.), School of Linguistics, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University felicitated the programme, emphasizing areas for teachers that align with NEP 2020. Dr. Aiswaria G. Shajan, Resource Person (Academic), NTS-I, CIIL proposed the vote of thanks.

The first academic session was conducted by Prof. M. Sreenathan ((Rtd.), School of Linguistics, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University, Tirur, focusing on *language aspects with respect to GFR* and their role in skill assessment. The afternoon session included a presentation by Dr. Anoop Jacob Thomas



(Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, Indian Institute of Information Technology, TN) on *Information and Communication Technology*, focusing on recent applications useful for teaching and academic material preparation. This was followed by a session by Dr. R. Shakunthala on the *basic concepts of Testing and Evaluation*. The first day programme concluded at 5:10 p.m.

The second day programme began at 10:00 a.m. Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan engaged the first session on *Literature Aspects with respect to GFR* and guiding participants in question item preparation. After lunch break, the afternoon session featured Dr. R. Shakunthala discussing *subjective and objective item types*, providing illustrative examples. The final session of the day was conducted by Prof. Bindu T.V. (Department of Education, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram), focusing on the *Taxonomy of Educational Objectives with emphasis on Bloomfield's Taxonomy*, demonstrating its application in assessment. The second day's academic programs were interactive and ensured continuity in learning.

The third day programme commenced at 9:30 a.m. with an introduction about DLA by Mrs. Greeshma C. This was followed by the first session, conducted by Dr. R. Shakunthala, who presented an *Introduction to Dimensional Problems (Language & Literature)*, highlighting key elements in preparing question items. The second session, led by Dr. Aiswaria G. Shajan, introduced participants to *CIIL and NTS-I* and guided them through offline question item practice. The afternoon session, beginning at 2:00 p.m., included a *Question Paper Retrieval demonstration and online question item input*, conducted by Mr. Ancy Thomas (JRP-Technical, NTS-I, CIIL) and Mr. N. Kasyap (JRP-Technical, NTS-I, CIIL).

The valedictory session commenced at 3:00 p.m., with a welcome address by Dr. N. Muraleedharan Nair, Senior Research Fellow, ISDL, and chaired by Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, Hon. Director (in-charge), ISDL. Feedbacks were shared by participants, including Smt. Sunitha O., Dr. Binu, Smt. Aneesha, and Shri Rahim. Dr. R. Shakunthala presented the programme report, followed by an expression of gratitude by Dr. Aiswaria G. Shajan and the vote of thanks by Dr. S. Abdul Samed, Treasurer, ISDL.



The three-day workshop witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 28 teachers who engaged wholeheartedly in lectures, discussions, and hands-on practice. The sessions provided both practical and theoretical knowledge on assessment, question item preparation, and evaluation strategies.



The programme successfully aligned with the objectives of NEP 2020, fostering professional growth, interactive learning, and practical application for the teaching community. The participants expressed that such programmes are highly beneficial and appealed that they be conducted in offline mode for at least five days in future to allow for more extensive training and practice.

Aiswaria G. Shajan

ENGLISH-MALAYALAM GLOSSARY MEET MAKES SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS

The Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) under the Ministry of Education, Government of India along with the Department of Commerce, Kerala University conducted a five day meeting on the preparation of the fundamental English-Malayalam glossary from 16th September, 2025 at the Karyavattom Campus, University of Kerala.

The meeting marked significant progress in developing the glossary, which encompasses 3,837 technical terms in Commerce. The initiative was coordinated by Inderdeep Singh, Assistant Scientific Officer, CSTT, Biju A.V., Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, Kerala University, Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, Honorary Professor, International School of Dravidian Linguistics and former Deputy Director, Collegiate Education, Kerala and Dr. L. Darwin, Head, Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala. The five-day meeting concluded on September 20th.

Abdul Samed

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/-).

ASIATIC SOCIETY ON 'THE ODBL' A CENTURY OLD EPIC-LIKE GRAMMATICAL TEXT

The Asiatic Society conducted a Seminar cum Colloquium on “Revisiting the Hundred years of the ODBL by Professor Suniti Kumar Chatterji” at Humayun Kabir Hall, Kolkata. This was organized to mark the centenary of the publication of the ‘magnum opus’ publication ‘The Origin and Development of the Bengali Language (ODBL)’ by Bhāṣācārya Sunitikumar Chatterji. It was Chatterji’s research work, accepted for the Doctor of Literature degree by the University of London in 1921 and published by University of Calcutta in 1926, later by George Allen and Unwin Ltd (1970, 1972), Rupa & Co (1979, 1985, 1993) etc. A text of more than 1100-pages have become an epic-like creation of language study by the multifaced comparative method of language analysis. The text has tremendous influence on the analysis of modern Indian languages in the pre-Generative era. 100 years passed away, still this work attracts the scholars from different fields. The participants of this seminar also tried to locate the factual reasons behind this.

The session started with offering flowers to Prof. Chatterji’s portrait. Prof. Pabitra Sarkar, eminent linguist, chaired the first session. The Administrator of the Asiatic Society Lt. Colonel Anant Sinha welcomed the participants. Prof. Mahidas Bhattacharya introduced the theme and objective of the seminar. Professor Krishna Bhattacharya of Calcutta University talked on ‘S. K. Chatterji’s Vision of Morphology in ODBL’. Shyamsundar Bhattacharya, former philological secretary of the Asiatic Society then discussed on ‘Towards revisiting the nature of enormous lexical data appended on ODBL’. Following it Dr. Samir Karmakar, Jadavpur University talked on the ‘Origin and Development of the Bengali Language: “mega biblion, mega kakon: the great evil however has been done”’.

Professor G. K. Panikkar, Honorary Director, ISDL and Dean, DLA chaired the next session. Padma Shri Professor Anvita Abbi in her address, focused on ‘Austroasiatic Substratum on Indo-Aryan: An Assessment of the Ancient Migration in the Indus’ with reference to Professor Chatterji’s towering intellect, his contribution for presenting diachronically evolutionary work to define the roots of the language, culture, linguistic prehistory, especially in northern India and the ancient migration. Professor G.K. Panikkar, a senior academican introduced his experience with Professor Chatterji and his relation during the development of Dravidian Linguistic Association of India. Prof. Panikkar talked on the ‘ODBL beyond Indo-Aryan’ referring the ODBL, the Presidential speech of Prof. Suniti Kumar Chatterjee in the First All India Conference of DLA and three lectures delivered in the Annamalai University.

The post lunch session was chaired by Shri. Shyamsundar Bhattacharya. Prof. Uday Kumar Chakrabarti of Jadavpur University, spoke on ‘ODBL Bāñlābhāṣār Utsa Sandhāne (On the Search of Origin of the Bengali Language)’, Dr. Anita Banerjee of Sanskrit College and University, discussed *Āmār cokhe ODBL (ODBL in my eyes)*. Participants were from different universities, IIT, KGP and some local colleges.

Mahidas Bhattacharya coordinated the whole program on behalf of the Asiatic Society with the assistance of the Research Officer. Dr. Keka Banerji and the staff members of academic section.

Mahidas Bhattacharya

New Life Members of DLA

Name & Address	Membership No.	Name & Address	Membership No.
 Dr. Suman Ghosh Assistant Professor, Serampore College, Serampore, Hoogly	1715/2025	 Ms. Sheene Nancy Ph.D Scholar, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong - 793022	1717/2025
 Ms. Meghali Misra Ph.D Scholar, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong - 793022	1716/2025	CONTRIBUTION TO DLA NEWS ENDOWMENT FUND Dr. P.K. Pradeep - Rs. 2400/-	

A SOCIO-CULTURAL, HISTORICAL AND LINGUISTIC STUDY OF THE PATHANS OF KERALA, S. Abdul Samed, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8. pp. 104, Rs.130/- (US\$ 13/-) MAPPILA MIGRANTS IN ANDAMANS - A SOCIO-LINGUISTIC STUDY, N. Muralleedharan Nair, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp.225, Rs.260/- (US\$ 26/-). GRAMMAR OF RĀMACARITAM, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2022, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 395, Rs.500/- (US\$ 50/-). TAGORE’S GITANJALI, K. Jayakumar, 2022, PB, Demy 1/8, pp.95, Rs. 130/- (US\$ 13/-). ENDANGERED SPEECHES OF IDUKKI IN KERALA, V.R. Prabodhachandran Nayar & K. Velappan, 2021, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 12+500, Rs. 660/- (US\$ 66/-).

THE 70 YEARS OF LINGUISTIC EXCELLENCE

CASL Celebrates Platinum Jubilee

The Centre of Advanced Study in Linguistics (CASL), Annamalai University Celebrates Platinum Jubilee. In connection with the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, the CAS in linguistics is organizing an academically fruitful conference on linguistics. The details are as follows :

The CAS in Linguistics (CASL) at Annamalai University is an international hub for Dravidian Linguistics in general, and Tamil Linguistics in particular. It was established in 1954 as the Department of Dravidian Philology, which later evolved into the Department of Linguistics in 1956. In 1963, it was elevated to the status of a Centre of Advanced Study in Linguistics with a liberal grant from the UGC, making it one of the pioneering institutions in India dedicated to advanced research and learning in the discipline.

The Centre has played a pivotal role in promoting Dravidian studies, applied linguistics, and tribal language research for over seven decades. Under schemes such as the Commonwealth Educational Co-operation Programme and the Colombo Plan (1967), it acquired advanced facilities, including a 16-booth language laboratory. It was also brought under the UGC's Faculty Improvement Programme, enabling affiliated college teachers to enhance their academic qualifications. Today, its thrust areas mainly span around Sociolinguistics, Ethnolinguistics, Tribal Studies, Psycholinguistics, Computational Linguistics, Language Teaching, Translation, and Folklore.

Sub-Themes

(1) Digital Documentation of Dravidian and Tribal Languages (2) Corpus Linguistics and Computational Approaches (3) Artificial Intelligence, NLP, and Machine Translation (4) Clinical Linguistics in the Digital Age (5) Language Teaching and Technology-Enabled Learning (6) Ethnolinguistics and Identity in Digital Humanities (7) Digital Archiving and Heritage Preservation

Abstract : Participants who intend to present papers are requested to send their abstract of the paper in English / Tamil to the organizing secretary. The main points of the paper should be given not exceeding 300 words.

Papers: The beginning of the paper should contain six key words. It should be submitted in A4 size with margins of 1.5 on all the four sides of each sheet. They must be fully 1.5 spaced with soft copy to the following mail ID. CAS IN LINGUISTICS

Dates of Conference : 11, 12 & 13 March 2026 Venue : CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University

Location: The distance is approximately 240 km south of Chennai. It is well connected by road and train. Buses frequently ply from Koyambedu & KCBT, Kilambakkam. Train facility is available from Egmore & Tambaram. Hi-Tec deluxe bus service is also available from Chennai. The Annamalai University campus is situated at the East of Chidambaram town, 3 km from bus stand and 2 km from Railway station. **Accommodation will be arranged in the University guest house and hostels.**

Chief patron : Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University

Convenor : Prof. P. Chandramohan, Director, CASL

Organizing Secretaries : Prof. R. Saranya, Dr. P. Kumaresan

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FOR THE LOVE OF TAMIL**ESSAYS IN HONOR OF PROF. E. ANNAMALAI**

The Dravidian Linguistic Association of India is happy to bring to your kind attention to the releasing of the book '*For the Love of Tamil : Essays in Honor of E. Annamalai*', published by the Università de Napoli L'Orientale. Its open access version will also be available in a few months at the University's Publication Department's website.

The Committee on Southern Asian Studies, University of Chicago organized a workshop titled Whither Tamil Research in appreciation of long innings of teaching and researching Tamil at the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations. The select students of Tamil of this department that included some who have retired and some who are still pursuing their doctoral research shared their experience of learning Tamil and doing research on it. In the Round Table discussion at the end of the workshop thoughts were shared about the prospects of Tamil research in North America and Europe. In this workshop, a multi-disciplinary book of Tamil research titled '*The Radiance of Tamil*' edited by Constantine Nakassis, Francis Cody and E. Annamalai was released. The book contains selected papers from the first ten workshops of the annual Chicago Tamil Forum. The book was published last month by Oriental Blackswan; its open access editions will be available from April 01, 2026.

We, the office bearers of the DLA welcome each and every member of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India to enjoy these two new books on Tamil.

N. Muraleedharan Nair

PROF. N. NADARAJA PILLAI THE SECRETARY OF DLA FOR TAMIL NADU REGION DEPARTED US FOR EVER



Prof. N. Nadaraja Pillai, a renowned scholar in Linguistics and former Professor cum Deputy Director, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru passed away at Thanjavur on 17-9-2025 due to cardiac arrest. He was 76. After retiring from CIIL in 2009 he undertook many academic ventures. At the time of his demise he was serving as the Secretary of Dravidian Linguistic Association of India representing the Tamil Nadu region. He was the Emeritus Professor, Robert Caldwell Tamil Research Chair at Tamil University, Thanjavur and was the Mentor Professor, Dept. of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore. He was the syndicate member of the Institute of Asian Studies, Chennai.

He was born in Kesavanputhur, a tiny village near Nagercoil in Kanyakumari district of Tamilnadu on 5-3-1949. He passed M.A. Linguistics from Annamalai University with First class, First Rank securing Gold Medal in 1972. He was awarded PhD in Linguistics in 1982 from the Mysore University. His topic of research was "A Syntactic Study of Tamil Verbs". He started his career as a Research Assistant at the SRLC, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru in 1973 and retired as Professor cum Deputy Director, CIIL, Mysuru in 2009. He has successfully completed 16 years as the Head of the Dept. of Tamil in CIIL. He also served as the Controller of Examinations of CIIL for 2 years.

His focus of research was on Tamil Language Teaching. He was acclaimed as one of the authorities in the area of Tamil Second Language Teaching. He served as Teacher Trainer and Materials Designer at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Mauritius. He served as the Overseas Language Consultant to the Ministry of Education, Government of Singapore. He also served as Teacher Trainer in the National Institute of Education, Government of Sri Lanka. He received many prestigious awards like Best International Tamil Teacher (from Malaysia), Scholar Par Excellence in Creativity by Tiera, Chennai and Nakkeerar award, Nakkeerar Tamil Sangam, Chennai

He was associated with many professional bodies such as Tamil Mozhiyiyal Sangam, Coimbatore, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India, Thiruvananthapuram, Linguistic Society of India, Pune and International Tamil Teachers Association, Singapore.

He is survived by his wife Dr. S. Vimala, retired teacher of Maharajas School, Mysuru and sons Mr. Navin Nadaraja, Technical Head, Trident Tech Concepts, Bengaluru and Dr N. Vijayan, Asst. Professor of Linguistics, Bharathiar University.

He was an active member of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India and was closely associated with DLA and ISDL. The staff, researchers and members of DLA, ISDL and IJDL express their heartfelt condolences on the demise of Prof. N. Nadaraja Pillai and also join in the grief of the bereaved family.

N. Rajasekharan Nair

THE PUNJABI LINGUISTICS ASSOCIATION'S**11th ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF LINGUISTICS AND FOLKLORE - A MEMORABLE EVENT**

The 11th Annual Conference of the Punjabi Linguistics Association (AICFL), Patiala, organised at Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, from 8th to 10th October, under the aegis of Vice Chancellor of the university, Dr. Satbir Singh Gossal, was a great success. The guest of honour was Dr. Jagdeep Singh, Vice-Chancellor of Punjabi University, Patiala. The presence of Dr. S.S. Johal father figure in agricultural economics, was an honour to the conference. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. M.J. Warsi, HoD of Linguistics, Aligarh Muslim University and the President of the Linguistics Society of India. Prof. G.K. Panikkar, the doyen of Linguistics in India, was a leading figure in every session. His Excellency Governor of Punjab, was kind enough to bless the conference and conclude the valedictory



passionately and admirably. Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Director, ISDL and Dean, DLA delivered the Valedictory Address. Delegates from 22 states of India participated and presented their papers. For the first time, four faculty members from Folklore University of Karnataka marked their presence in Punjab. Delegates from faraway places like Tamil University, Madurai University, Kerala University etc., were our point of affection and satisfaction. Other men of prominence were Jaswant Singh Zaffar, Director, Language Department of Punjab, Amarjit Singh Grewal and Nirmal Jaura. Not the last, nor the least, our team, led by Dr. Jagdish Kaur, Dr. Sumedha Bhandari,

Dr. Ranjit Kaur, Rakhpreet Walia and Advocate Jang Singh deserves the appreciation and commendation of Punjabi Linguistics Association, Patiala. We appreciate Dr. Pawan Tibba, who is part of our mission. We thank the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India and CIIL, Mysuru and the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India. All major Linguistics organisations of India requested the Vice Chancellor of Punjabi University, Patiala to take ample care for the department of Linguistics and Lexicography and bring it back to its past glory. Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira the founder President of the Punjabi linguistic Association was the key figure in making the conference an ever memorable academic event.

*Punjabi Linguistics Association - News Desk
(Detailed report in the next issue)*

**PROF. KHAIRA RE-ELECTED AS PRESIDENT, PLA FOR 2025-26**

Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira, an eminent Punjabi linguist and the retired professor of Linguistics, Punjabi University, Patiala and the Vice-President of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India, is re-elected as the new president of the Punjabi Linguistics Association.

The other Office Bearers of the Punjabi Linguistics Association are :

Vice Presidents	: (1) Dr. Paramjit Kaur Rehal	(2) Prof. Surinder Kumar Deweshwar
General Secretary	: Dr. Harpal Singh Bhatti	Secretary : Dr. S. Vijay Rajeshweri
Joint Secretary	: Giani Bhajan Singh	Cashier : Shri. Mohinder Singh Sidhu
Treasurer	: Dr. Jai Gopal Goyal	
Executive Members	: (1) Shri. Lachhman Dass Musafir	(2) Dr. Harinder Kaur Sohal

LINGUISTIC SKILLS FOR BUSINESS

The Department of Linguistics, Madurai Kamaraj University successfully conducted a transformative five-day Skill Enhancement Course (SEC) on "Linguistic Skills for Business" from September 8th to 12th, 2025. The course was funded by the prestigious RUSA 2.0. The program was meticulously designed to bridge the critical gap between theoretical linguistics and its practical applications in the dynamic world of commerce. The course provided an immersive platform for approximately 50 participating students from diverse academic backgrounds, including Linguistics, Journalism, Management Studies, and English, to acquire cutting-edge competencies. Through a series of expert-led lectures, interactive sessions, and practical workshops, the program equipped attendees with the essential verbal, written, and strategic communication skills necessary to thrive in contemporary business environments. The overarching goal was to transform participants from mere communicators to strategic influencers, adept at leveraging language as a key business asset.

The course commenced with a formal inaugural ceremony that set a profound intellectual tone. Dr. K. Umaraj, Head of the Department and Programme Coordinator, extended a warm welcome and outlined the course objectives, emphasizing that linguistic intelligence is as crucial as business acumen in globalized markets. Prof. K. Karunakaran, Former Vice Chancellor of Tamil

University, delivered the presidential address, eloquently advocating for strategic corpus planning for regional languages to empower local businesses. Dr. M. Sivakumar, Chairperson of the School of Business Studies, provided a compelling industry perspective, introducing the concept of "cognitive empathy"—the ability to frame messages to align with a client's mental models. Felicitation addresses from Dr. S. Jeneffa and Prof. A. Velanganni Joseph further enriched the session, linking strong communication to youth entrepreneurship and startup success. Dr. R. Kumarasamy proposed a formal vote of thanks.

The five-day Skill Enhancement Course on "Linguistic Skills for Business" was an unequivocal success. It successfully demystified the application of linguistic theory in the commercial domain, empowering a new generation of professionals with the communication skills vital for leadership, negotiation, and strategic influence. The event not only provided valuable knowledge but also left all attendees inspired and significantly better equipped to navigate and excel in the future of business, where effective communication is the ultimate currency. The Department of Linguistics of the Madurai Kamaraj University reaffirms its commitment to developing such innovative, industry-aligned programs that enhance the employability and holistic development of its students.

K. Umaraj

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON “THE TRAJECTORY AND LANDMARKS OF GRAMMATICAL STUDIES IN MALAYALAM”

The Department of Malayalam, University of Madras is organizing a three day National Seminar on "The Trajectory and Landmarks of Grammatical Studies in Malayalam" from 5th - 7th November 2025 at The Platinum Jubilee Auditorium, Oriental Research Institute, Marina Campus, University of Madras. The seminar aims to provide an overview of Grammatical Studies in Malayalam from the late 20th century to the early 21st century.

Thematic Areas : 1. Contribution of Eminent Scholars to the development of Malayalam Grammar and Linguistics 2. Malayalam Grammatical studies from different points of view : • Historical Approach • Comparative Approach • Descriptive Approach • Socio Linguistic Approach • Critical Discourse Analysis Approach • Cognitive linguistic Approach • Eco linguistic Approach etc.3. Emerging trends in Linguistics : • Generative Grammar • Embodied Construction Grammar • Bio linguistics • Genetics of Language • Computational Linguistics • Forensic Linguistics • Neuro Linguistics • AI & Linguistics etc.

Deadline of Registration and Abstract Submission : 5th October 2025 Acceptance Notification : 10th October 2025 Full Paper Submission : 25th October 2025

Registration Link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSed7OAjZ3dFwdOxIpKwbiRaPezzAgR8KRzSi6bSomzMEezgw/viewform?usp=pp_url

Coordinators : Dr. P.M. Girish (HOD, Professor, Department of Malayalam, University of Madras)
Dr. Rakesh Cherucodu (Lecturer and Principal (i.c) SRLC, CIIL Mysore)

For details: ciilnationalseminar25@gmail.com

N.B. Food and accommodation will be provided. TA will be provided subject to the availability of fund.

P.M. Girish

TAMIL FROM OUTSIDE: REFLECTIONS ON A SCHOLARLY RELATIONSHIP**E. Annamalai**

I joined the Tamil language and literature graduate class at Annamalai University in 1958 after four years of undergraduate study with Mathematics as the main subject at the American college, Madurai. This four-year study made me eligible to skip the first year of the three-year Tamil course, which meant learning on my own *Nannūl*, *Yāpparuṅkalakkārikai* along with some literary texts. This, I believe, encouraged me to read texts and interpret them outside the framing of them by teachers out of the pedagogical ways of transmitting the traditional understanding of texts. Teachers did differ from the traditional reading of texts but the difference by and large was elaboration, not disruption, of the tradition. With regard to the meaning of the texts, any deviation from the commentaries or the pedagogical practice was informed by the contemporary ideology of the Tamil language and literature, be it Indian or Dravidian nationalistic. This was true not of just literary texts but also of grammatical texts. Ideology had no place in mathematics education I had. I read the untaught texts as objects governed by their internal principles without relying only on tradition.

Another perspective I brought to the study of Tamil relates to argumentation in proving a proposition. Unlike in mathematics, the proof of truth of a proposition was often citation of earlier authority revered in the tradition. Though this was never a part of mathematical proof, it is similar to the citation of other authors in support of one's statements in modern research. But, in Tamil commentarial tradition, citation of an authority was acceptable as truth and not merely as the acknowledgment of the chronology of a proposition or provision of support for the empirical validity of the proposition, as done by modern researchers. The role of the authoritative figure in establishing the truth of a proposition was treated as equivalent of theoretical justification. I entertained only later when I did Linguistics the question 'what is the theory behind this statement or conclusion', though I had learned in Mathematics that theory is paramount.

A skill I noticed that was different in The Tamil essays written in the class was the absence of premium for the brevity of writing style, which was an integral part of mathematical training. The essays that my fellow students wrote for assignments were longer than mine. The size did not devalue my essay, of course but it stood out and was commented upon. Elaborating a point of its multiple sides and extensions was a skill imparted to Tamil students. These three practices made me look like an outsider to Tamil studies; feel that I pursued the study of Tamil not from the interior (*akam*) like other students, regarding perspective and practice, but from the exterior (*puram*).

In the 1960s, three dominant trends continued in Tamil research, which had been in practice since many decades before that period. One is discovering and editing and printing Tamil literary and grammatical texts in palm leaf manuscripts with their commentaries, where available or writing new commentaries where needed. The second is investigating the chronology of Tamil texts and writing a history of Tamil literature. The third trend is reinterpretation of the texts in the framework of Tamil nationalism, which is committed to establishing Tamil antiquity and Tamil identity as independent of Sanskrit. This is counter move to the research line that any idea in Tamil literature and grammar is derivative of Sanskrit. The second trend was tied with this trend to find earlier dates for the Tamil texts. Mythological stories circulated in the Tamil texts were used for dating texts as earlier along with linguistic facts and historical references. During the same period, inscriptions were copied and read for historical information about Tamil rulers. However, the methods of copying and reading and interpreting inscriptions were not part of Tamil graduate education as also the methods of editing palm leaf manuscripts and of historiography of Tamil literature.

(To be continued...)

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WORKSHOP ON SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL TERMINOLOGY IN INDIAN LANGUAGES

The Linguistic Research Unit (LRU) of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata organized a three-day workshop on "Transcreation of Uniform Scientific and Technical Terminology for Indian Languages: Challenges and Opportunities" from 1-3 of September 2025. The workshop was held under the aegis of Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India. In the inaugural session held at the Platinum Jubilee Auditorium of ISI, Prof. Niladri Sekhar Dash, Head of LRU, delivered the welcome address. Prof. Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay, Director ISI in his chairman's address spoke about the Institute's contributions to language technology and recalled Prof. P.C. L. Mahalanobis's vision of multi-disciplinary research. Prof. Dipti Prasad Mukherjee, Deputy Director, ISI graced the occasion as the guest of honour and shared his insight on the interdisciplinary importance of the initiative.

Prof. Biswabrata Pradhan, Dean of Studies, was the special guest, while Prof. S. Arulmozi, Head of CALTS, University of Hyderabad, joined as Distinguished Guest. Both emphasized the significance of Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti's efforts to promote uniform scientific and technical terms.

Prof. L. Ramamoorthy, former Head of LDC-IL, Central Institute of Indian Languages in his keynote address highlighted the National Education Policy's emphasis on education in one's mother tongue and pointed out that multilingual higher education is crucial for India's global competitiveness. He also expressed his interest in roots of Sanskrit and Dravidian languages.

Dr. Mendem Bapuji, LRU, proposed the vote of thanks.

During the workshop, scholars, researchers, and professionals engaged in detailed discussions on strategies for creating a National Terminological Framework, identifying pan-Indian scientific terms, and preparing multilingual glossaries, dictionaries and encyclopedias. Sessions covered terminology across disciplines such as natural sciences, social sciences, juridical sciences, engineering and technology. The event featured talks by eminent speakers including Prof. Ashwin Kumar (Chanakya University, Bangalore), Prof. Urmishree Bedamatta (Ravenshaw University, Cuttack), Prof. Naresh Annem (University of Hyderabad), Dr. Namrata Singh (University of Delhi) and Prof. Sandip Mitra (ISI, Kolkata).

The workshop also generated valuable insights to support national projects such as Bhashini, AI4Bharat, and the National Translation Mission. During the three day workshop participants contributed towards building strategies to define, evaluate, and promote the use of Scientific and Technical Terminology in multiple Indian languages. The initiative not only raised awareness about the importance of standardized terminology but also encouraged wider adoption of such terms in academic professional and research settings.

Niladri Sekhar Dash