

Kerala Regional AI Impact Conference 2026

From Innovation to Impact: Realising the Potential of AI Across Sectors

The Leela Kovalam, A Raviz Hotel, Thiruvananthapuram

23rd January 2026

PROGRAMME AGENDA

Time; Duration	Topic	Speaker/Owner
09:00– 10:00	Registration & Networking	
	Delegate Registration Access to AI Innovation Arena and Partner Showcases	
10:00 – 11:00	Introductory & Inaugural Session	
On The Dais	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hon'ble Speaker, Kerala Legislative Assembly Special Secretary, E&ITD, GoK Chief Operating Officer, India AI Mission, MeitY Director, KSITM, GoK 	
10:00 – 10:05	Welcoming the Dignitaries	Shri. Sandip Kumar IAS <i>Director, KSITM, GoK</i>
10:05 – 10:15	Summit Address	Shri. Seeram Sambasiva Rao IAS <i>Special Secretary, E&ITD, GoK</i>
10:15 – 10:35	Inaugural Address	Shri. A.N. Shamseer <i>Hon'ble Speaker, Kerala Legislative Assembly</i>
10:35 – 10:45	Keynote Address	Smt. Kavita Bhatia, <i>Chief Operating Officer (COO), IndiaAI Mission, MeitY, GoI</i>
10:45 – 10:50	Signing of MoUs	
10:50 – 10:55	Vote of Thanks	Shri. Muraleedharan Manningal <i>CEO, ICT Academy Kerala</i>
End of the Introductory & Inaugural Session		
11:00 – 12:00	Vision India AI Mission	<i>Team India AI Mission</i>

AT Roshini Hall

11:00 – 13:00	Round Table with Investors	<i>Government–Industry–Investor Dialogue: Advancing AI-Centric Investment Ecosystems</i>
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Parallel Breakout Sessions:

*Parallel breakout sessions will be conducted simultaneously across **two stages**, comprising curated Panel Discussions and Tech Talks.*

Sessions at Stage 1

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Time; Duration	Topic	Speaker/Owner
12:00 – 12:45	Panel Discussion 1: <i>The State of AI: Global Momentum, Governance Challenges and What Comes Next</i>	Panelists: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Shri. Himanshu Gupta IAS, Commissioner and Special Secretary, Department of IT&C, Government of Rajasthan Dr. N Subramanian, Executive Director, Society for electronic transactions & security (SETS) Dr. Karthik Adapa, Regional Adviser for Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence, WHO South-East Asia Dr. Sreenath Vijayakumar, Associate Professor, IIT Palakkad Shri. Alok Kumar Srivastava, GDC and Global Branches Head, NEC Shri. Srinath Chakravarthy, Senior Vice President, National Institute for Smart Government (NISG) Moderator: Shri. Krishna Kumar , Co - founder & CEO, GreenPepper
12:45 – 13:00	Tech Talk 1: <i>AI for Agriculture Farming</i>	Prof. Mukesh K Saini , IIT Ropar and Project Co-Director, Annam.AI, CoE in Digital Agriculture, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India
13:00 – 13:15	Tech Talk 2: <i>AI in Routine governance</i>	Dr. Santhosh Babu IAS (Retd.) , MD KFON, CMD & ED IKM, Government of Kerala
13:15 – 13:30	Tech Talk 3: <i>Emergence of cybersecurity in AI, and overview of research/development impact of DUK</i>	Dr. Preetam Mukerjee Assistant Professor, Digital University Kerala
13:30 – 13:45	Tech Talk 4: <i>Building Digital Infrastructure for the AI Era – AWS</i>	Shri. Alope Baidya , Head of PreSales, India Public Sector Business, Amazon Web Services (AWS)
14:00 – 14:45	Panel Discussion 2: <i>AI for Citizen Engagement & Digital Public Infrastructure: Building</i>	Panelists: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Rajan N Khobragade IAS, ACS, Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. of Kerala

	<i>Inclusive and Scalable Digital Governance</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. K Ravi Raman, Expert Member, State Planning Board, GoK Shri. Sunil Jain, Dy Director General, NIC & Director (Projects), NeGD, MeITy Dr. Sobha Lalitha Devi, Programme Director, AU- KBC Research Centre Prof. Girish Nath Jha, Professor of Computational Linguistics at the School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University Shri. Deva Joseph, VP & Head of Digital Development, Air India Centre of Digital Innovation Shri. Mathew Joseph, Head of AI Labs, CIMB Bank Shri. Rohit Kumar, Director, PwC India <p>Moderator: Dr. Arun Cyril Jose, Assistant Professor Indian Institute of Information Technology Kottayam</p>
14:45 – 15:00	Tech Talk 5: <i>AI-Powered Semiconductors: Faster Design, Smarter Manufacturing</i>	Dr. Shailesh Sivan , Principal AI Architect, Laennec AI Limited
15:00 – 15:45	Panel Discussion 3: <i>AI Skilling for the State: Building a Future-Ready Workforce and Institutions</i>	<p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph IAS, Principal Secretary Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Kerala Dr. Usha Titus IAS (Retd.), Chairperson & Managing Director, ASAP Kerala Dr. Amit Awekar, Associate Professor, IIT Guwahati Shri. Jibu Elias, Country Head, Mozilla Prof. Prabhakar Krishnan, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Research Scientist, Centre for Cyber Security Systems and Networks, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Shri. Ashutosh Gupta, Managing Director & VP, India & Asia Pacific Coursera Inc Shri. V Srikanth, Chief Executive Officer (i/c) ICT Academy of Tamil Nadu <p>Moderator:</p>

		Dr. Ebin Deni Raj , Associate Dean – Academic Affairs, Indian Institute of Information Technology Kottayam
15:45 – 16:00	Tech Talk 6: <i>Kerala Government's VidyAI Programme</i>	Shri. Muraleedharan Mannungal CEO, ICT Academy Kerala
The audience from Stage 1 and Stage 2 will converge		
16:00 – 16:15	Tech Talk 7: <i>AI From Innovation to Impact - Transforming e-Governance Service Delivery</i>	Dr. Suchitra Pyarelal , SIO, NIC Kerala
16:15 – 17:15	Panel Discussion 4: <i>Kerala's AI Roadmap 2031: Vision, Investment & Global Positioning</i>	<p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Col. Anand Bajpai, Executive Director - Strategic Leadership, Cohort Indian Army College of Defence Management, Govt. of India Smt. Kavita Bhatia, Chief Operating Officer (COO), IndiaAI Mission Scientist 'G', Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) Shri. Narayana Moorthy, Chairman Keltron Prof. Omkumar Krishnan, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode Shri. Sreekanth Menon, SVP & Global AI Head, Genpact Shri. Vivek Kumar Rai, Business Head, HPC & AI, NVIDIA South Asia <p>Moderator: Smt. Rajasree S, Senior Director & Scientist CDAC – Thiruvananthapuram</p>
17:15 – 18:00	Cultural Activity	Kerala Dance Fusion – YUGMA
18:00 -18:30	Valedictory Session at Stage 1	

Sessions at Stage 2

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Time; Duration	Topic	Speaker/Owner
12:00 – 12:45	Panel Discussion 1: <i>AI Startup Engagement & Translational Research: From Innovation to Scalable Public Sector Solutions</i>	Panelists: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Adeela Abdulla IAS, Special Secretary, Social Justice Department Dr. V R Santhosh Mithra ARS, Principal Scientist, ICAR - Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India Dr. P.V. Unnikrishnan, Member Secretary, KDISC Shri. Farish C V, Regional Lead, AI Startup Programs- India, Google Shri. Vijay Sivaram, Co-founder RVAI Global Shri. Muraleekrishnan Rajendran, MD, Evolver India Dr. Jeena Thomas, Assistant Professor, IIIT Kottayam Moderator: Dr. Sunil TT , Director, ICFOSS
12:45 – 13:00	Tech Talk 1: <i>AI for Sustainable and Resilient Blue Economy: Kerala's Fisheries Experience</i>	Shri. B. Abdul Nasar IAS , Secretary, Fisheries Department
13:00 – 13:15	Tech Talk 2: <i>Key Breakthroughs and future of AI 2026</i>	Dr. Vedant Ahluwalia , MD, Dataviv Technologies, VP Stanford Angels
13:15 – 13:30	Tech Talk 3: <i>Krishi AI</i>	Shri. AJIT. C , Deputy Director of Agriculture (IT), Directorate of Agriculture, GoK
13:30 – 13:45	Tech Talk 4: <i>Re-engineering the SOC with AI Agents</i>	Shri. Gopi Krishnan , Senior Solutions Engineer, Innspark Solutions
14:00 – 14:45	Panel Discussion 2: <i>Attracting GCC (Global Capability Centers) investments focusing on AI domain</i>	Panelists: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Deepak Mishra, Professor, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Trivandrum Dr. Vikas Prasad, President & Managing Director, Webasto Roofsystems India

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Shri. Anoop Rajagopal, CTO, GXP Technologies Smt. Pooja Singh, Head of GBS and India Teva Pharmaceutical Smt. Renu Gupta, Global leader, ANKO GCC Shri. Divesh Kumar Singla, SVP, Global Operations Services and Managing Director, India Signant Health <p>Moderator: Shri. Anoop Ambika, Chief Executive Officer, KSUM</p>
14:45 – 15:00	Tech Talk 5: <i>AI That Works: Government Success Story – SAS</i>	Dr. B Radha Krishna , Director – Customer Advisory, SAS Institute (India) Pvt Ltd
15:00 – 15:45	Panel Discussion 3: <i>Convergence of AI and Deep Technologies</i>	<p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. Pennan Chinnasamy, Faculty - IIT Bombay and Director, Rural Data Research and Analysis (RuDRA) Labs, IITB Dr. Pankaj Kumar Sa, Professor, Dept of Computer Science and Engineering, NIT Rourkela Dr. Sekhar L Kuriakose, Member Secretary, KSDMA Dr. Deepthi K, Associate Professor, Central University Kerala Shri. Nitesh Ambuj, Head – AI & Intelligent Automation, Ericsson Shri. Alope Baidya, Head of Pre-Sales, India Public Sector Business, Amazon Web Services (AWS) Shri. Sunando Bhattacharya, Chief Revenue Officer (CRO), Yotta Data Services Private Limited <p>Moderator: Dr. V. Raghava Mutharaju, Associate Professor, IIT Palakkad</p>
15:45 – 16:00	Tech Talk 6: <i>AI in Geospatial Intelligence & Climate Risk</i>	Shri. Sanjay Shukla , Founder & CEO, Jarbits
16:00 -18:30	Technical Discussion & Valedictory Session at Stage 1	

Valedictory Session

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Time; Duration	Topic	Speaker/Owner
18:00 – 18:03	Welcome Address	Shri Seeram Sambasiva Rao IAS <i>Special Secretary, E&ITD, GoK</i>
18:03 – 18:30	CM's Address: Government's Vision on AI in Governance	Shri. Pinarayi Vijayan <i>Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala</i>
18:30 – 18:35	Vote of Thanks	Shri Sandip Kumar IAS <i>Director, KSITM, GoK</i>
Summit Ends		