



NOVEMBER 2025

VOLUME 5

ISSUE 2

From the Chairman



Heartfelt salute and sincere thanks to the CETAAT – Ragatharangam team and the **Sub Committees** for orchestrating the spectacular Devaragasandhya **Season 6**, themed Vayalar Smruthiyil - 2. This musical evening was made even more memorable with the inaugural **CETAAT Devarajan Master Puraskaram**, awarded to **Shri P Sreekumaran Thampi** for his outstanding contributions to the Malayalam film industry. We also extend our deep gratitude to **Shri K Jayakumar**, IAS (Retd) poet, lyricist & former Chief Secretary, for graciously heading the jury for this prestigious selection.

After much deliberation and overcoming initial hurdles, our **Art and Cultural Forum – Kalakairali** is now ready for a grand inauguration on **19th November '25**. Please stay tuned for the official program announcement. We look forward to your enthusiastic support and active participation.

Another pressing matter is the long-standing aspiration for **autonomy for CET**, a vital step toward elevating our alma mater to the status of a **Centre of Excellence**. The time to act is now, delays may cost us dearly. We urge all members to engage in constructive dialogue to unite and persuade stakeholders. Your insights and suggestions are invaluable.

On a more ambitious note, we propose the idea of establishing a **CETAAT Club**, a dedicated space with playgrounds, rooms, and halls funded through club memberships and sponsorships. This vision, though bold, is achievable with collective will and support. We invite all members to share thoughts and feedback to help initiate and shape this endeavour. Warm regards to all.

Sincerely,
Anil G, Chairman CETAAT

CETAAT *News Letter*

We solicit literary contributions from CET alumni and their family members for the quarterly News Letter being published by CETAAT.

The articles in the form of short stories, poems, cartoons, travelogue etc. will be published in the forthcoming issues of CETAAT NEWSLETTER.

The articles can be mailed to the e-mail: mgknair@gmail.com

Editorial Board : MGK Nair, KG Chandrasekharan, Jaya G Nair



Secretary's Report

Presented below is a brief report of the activities carried out between 15 July 2025 and 31 October 2025. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank each member of the Managing Committee for their unconditional support and dedicated assistance.

During the period under review, three regular Managing Committee meetings and one special MC meeting for Devaragasandhya were conducted.

▶▶ Webinars

- The August webinar, "Understanding Our Heritage", was held on 19 August 2025 and delivered by renowned architect Prof. N. Ramaswamy Iyer.
- The September webinar, "Wind Engineering", was presented by Dr. Sureshkumar on 16 September 2025.

Both sessions were well attended and highly appreciated by the participants.

▶▶ CETAAT Flagship Event – Devaragasandhya Season 6

Devaragasandhya Season 6 was conducted in a grand manner on 05 October 2025 at Tagore Theatre, Trivandrum. The event drew an audience of more than 1,000 people and received overwhelming appreciation.

Renowned poet and filmmaker Sri Sreekumaran Thampi was conferred the first CETAAT Devarajan Master Puraskaram, followed by a nostalgic address by him.

Twenty-four songs written by Sri Vayalar Ramavarma and one song written by Sri Sreekumaran Thampi were performed by our CETAAT members—each performance was outstanding. The show extended over four hours, and the sincere efforts of the Devaragasandhya Organising Committee and the Ragatharangam team were duly recognized by the MC.

▶▶ Membership

A total of 36 new members joined CETAAT during this period. The excellent work of the Membership Committee was greatly appreciated by the MC.

▶▶ CETAAT Kalakairali

CETAAT Kalakairali—a platform to nurture the artistic, literary, and cultural talents of members—was formed. A subcommittee has been constituted, and preparations are underway for the inauguration on 19 November 2025 at Trivandrum Club Hall. The event will be inaugurated by the eminent writer Sri Paul Zacharia.

▶▶ Sports Activity

The annual CETAAT Doubles Badminton Tournament is scheduled for 30 November 2025. The MC has approved the budget, and the Srimulam Club badminton court has been booked for the event.

▶▶ Endowments and Scholarships

The list of beneficiaries for endowments and scholarships has been received from the Principal, CET. Distribution is planned for December 2025.

▶▶ CETAAT Tech Know – 7th Edition

The 7th edition of CETAAT Tech Know is scheduled for 21–22 January 2026. The Organizing Committee has been formed, and preparatory work is progressing well.

Thank you all.

Shamnad MS

Hon. Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 19 November 2025 – Inauguration of CETAAT Kalakairali at Trivandrum Club Banquet Hall (6:30 PM)
- 30 November 2025 – CETAAT Badminton Doubles Tournament at Srimulam Club Court, Trivandrum (11 AM – 2 PM)
- Early December 2025 – CETAAT Endowment & Scholarship Distribution for CET students at CET, Trivandrum
- 21–22 January 2026 – CETAAT Tech Know – 7th Edition at Hotel Regency, Statue, Trivandrum
- First Quarter of 2026 – CETAAT Family Meeting

Once again, I convey my deep appreciation and gratitude to the Chairman, Past Chairmen, Senior Members, all other MC members, and Subcommittee members for their constant support and thoughtful guidance.

LEADERS WHO INFLUENCED THE NATION-FROM CET

The College of Engineering Trivandrum (CET) started functioning in 1939, under the University of Travancore, which itself was established in 1937, by the then Maharaja of Travancore, Sree Chitra Thirunal Balarama Varma. The college started functioning on 3rd July 1939 at the premises of the present PMG office and the Kerala State Science and Technology Museum. The college was shifted to the present location at Kulathur in 1961. Students then doing their final years in 1961 -1962, had the privilege to be the first batch to graduate from the new premises.

In its nascent phase, CET offered degree courses only in three branches viz. Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. Diploma courses were also offered in the same engineering streams. In 1939, 21 students were admitted for the degree course and same numbers of students were enrolled for the diploma courses. Besides this, there was also a certificate course with 40 students. Though seven seats were allotted for each branch of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical engineering, some of the seats in the electrical branches were not filled in some of the academic years. Adjustments were made among the branches in order to maintain the total number of seats. Thus, the first batch to pass out in 1943 had 11 civil, 5 mechanical and 3 electrical graduates.

The name and fame of an educational institution is amplified by its illustrious Alumni and the College of Engineering Trivandrum (CET) is no exception. CET boasts of many multifaceted engineers, academicians and administrators among its alumni, who adorned or are adorning the top positions in institutions all over the globe. Among them are leaders who have guided and inspired the younger generation.

CETAAT News Letter will carry a series 'THE LEADERS' which will portray personal details and the professional achievements of senior CETians, with the aim of introducing them to the younger Alumni

Er.R. BALAKRISHNAN NAIR



We are pleased to feature Er. R. Balakrishnan Nair in the LEADERS column of this issue. A 1958 Civil Engineering graduate from CET, Er. Balakrishnan Nair completed his early schooling in Neyyattinkara and later studied at the Salvation Army School, Kowdiar, Thiruvananthapuram. He pursued his intermediate studies at the University Intermediate College before obtaining his B.Sc. (Engg.) in Civil Engineering from CET.

Immediately after graduation, he joined the Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) as Junior Engineer, initially working at the head office in Thiruvananthapuram in the project design division. Over the next three decades, he served in various capacities in several major hydroelectric projects in Kerala.

He had a long tenure with the prestigious Idukki Hydroelectric Project, where, as Assistant Executive Engineer, he played a vital role in infrastructure development works. He was later transferred to the Chief Engineer's Office as Executive Engineer (Designs & Planning). Subsequently, he served as Executive Engineer for the execution of the Kuttiadi HEP and Kuttiadi Augmentation Schemes.

He also served as Deputy Chief Engineer, Kuttiadi HE Project, Kozhikode.

He was later promoted and posted as Chief Engineer (Planning & Research) at Vidyuthi Bhavanam, Thiruvananthapuram. In this role, Er. Balakrishnan Nair made significant contributions to the planning and development of numerous hydroelectric projects, preparing project reports for mini, small, and large HEPs. After more than 33 years of dedicated service, he retired in 1991 as Chief Engineer (Planning).

Following his retirement from KSEB, he joined Asian Tech Pvt. Ltd. as General Manager (Projects), overseeing the company's projects in Himachal Pradesh and Delhi from 1991 to 1993.

A recognized expert in water resources, Er. Balakrishnan Nair served as a technical witness for Kerala before the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal. His expertise in water resource analysis and dam design made him a valued advisor to the Government of Kerala on water management and dam safety.

Even after retirement, he remained active in social initiatives. He was the founder president of the Ambalamukku Residents' Association and also established the Kowdiar Veterans Group.

Er. Balakrishnan Nair earned a sterling reputation as a brilliant Engineer, equally proficient in planning,

design, and project execution. He was also a capable administrator, firm, efficient, and at the same time warm and cordial with colleagues, earning their respect and affection. An engineer of high competence, efficiency, and integrity, he was a role model for young generations.

His contributions to the Kerala power sector are truly commendable. After a long innings of hardwork he is now leading a peaceful retired life at Ambalamukku, Thiruvananthapuram. He was married to the late Smt. P. S. Santhakumari and has a daughter and a son.

Compiled by

Er. K. G. Chandrasekharan, Past Chairman, CETAAT

DEVARAGASANDHYA SEASON 6

CETAAT Devaragasandhya - Season 6, Vayalar Smrithiyil Randam Bhagam, was held at the iconic Tagore Theatre on 5th October 2025. This year's theme was a heartfelt tribute to the legendary lyricist Shri Vayalar Ramavarma, marking the 50th year of his passing. All the songs performed during the evening were timeless masterpieces penned by Vayalar and composed by Devarajan Master, rekindling the golden era of Malayalam film music.

A new milestone was introduced this year - the CETAAT Devarajan Master Puraskaram, instituted to honour artists who have made outstanding contributions to Malayalam film music. A distinguished three-member jury, consisting of senior CETAAT members Er. A.K. Nair, Er. Ravindran T. Nair, and chaired by Shri K. Jayakumar IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary and acclaimed poet, selected the first recipient of this award - the legendary Shri Sreekumaran Thampi.

The formal function was presided over by CETAAT Chairman Er. Anil G, with event coordinator Er. Oommen Thomas delivering the welcome address and CETAAT Secretary Er. Shamnad M.S. proposing the vote of thanks.

The Puraskaram comprised a cash award of ₹50,000, a memento, and a certificate of honour. In his acceptance speech, Shri Sreekumaran Thampi fondly recalled his deep friendship and creative association with Devarajan Master.

Following the brief inaugural ceremony, the audience was treated to a spellbinding musical performance by CETAAT Ragatharangam, led by Ar. Zeril Jose, Er. Dilip Kumar, Er. Thomas Job, Ar. Harikrishnan, Er. Mohandas, Shri Ramgopal, along with keyboard maestro Shri Gopalakrishnan and other talented CETAAT members. Our lead vocalists - Er. Vinayachandran, Er. Harikrishnan, Dr. Parvathy Suresh, Er. Deepa Suresh, and other singers - transported the audience to the timeless world of Vayalar-Devarajan classics.

The event's technical brilliance was ensured through meticulous coordination by CETAAT Treasurer Er. Padmakumar, with Shri Jerry managing sound and Shri Gopalakrishnan R creating a stunning visual experience through the video wall.

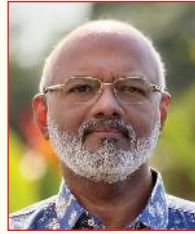
Special appreciation goes to the Sponsorship Committee, headed by Er. Jayachandran V.S. and Er. Nandakumar K, for their relentless efforts and commitment in mobilizing funds for the event.

CETAAT Devaragasandhya has now grown into one of the most eagerly awaited cultural events in Thiruvananthapuram - a reputation reaffirmed year after year by the packed audience that remains spellbound until the very last note of the final song.

DEVARAGASANDHYA TEAM



Harikrishnan Sanjayan
1990 Mechanical
Management Consultant
Co-founder Grochange Global



Vinayachandra Menon. V
1987 Electronics and Communication
Retired after 38 years in Telecom & IT



Jayachandran.V.S
1984 Civil
Co-founder MANSIONS



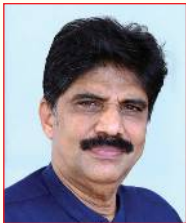
Jeevan Sathyan
1972 Electrical
Former Electrical Inspector
Dept:of Electrical Inspectorate,
Govt.of Kerala
Chairman, SathyanFoundation



Rajan Ampara
1988 Civil Former Executive
Engineer in Kerala Water Authority
and Project Manager in
KSFDG-KIIFB Project
Presently Project Co ordinator in
Kerala for M/s PITHAVADIYAN
& Partners, Chennai.



Koshy Alex
1984 Architecture Managing
Director
Vasthushilpalaya Consultancy Pvt.
Ltd, Trivandrum



Joshy.P.M
1981Civil Retired Civil Engineer
Worked as Technical Manager in an
Insurance Company, Abu Dhabi



Dr. Parvathy Suresh
W/o Dr.Suresh.G, 1987 Electrical
Associate professor,
All Sains' College,Trivandrum



Deepa Suresh
D/o Suresh Kumar S,1984
Civil Technical Lead,
Allianz Technology



Anand.V
2005 Mechanical
Headof Delivery-NYD Systems



Prem Kishore.P
1996 Electrical & Electronics
Business-Signum Innovations-IT
Consultancy



Jazeela Sherif
1987 Civil Worked as Chief
Financial Officer for a Public Sector Invest
Company at the State Industrial Park Muscat
and as Management Faculty at SQU and
MUC Muscat and IMG Kerala
Currently fulltime Artist

DEVARAGASANDHYA TEAM



Nandagopal.J.L
2012 MTech,EEE
Scientist/Engineer, VSSC



Gopika S
2024 MTech
D/o N S Sanil Kumar, 1987 Electron-
ics & Communication



Sivameena Jayachandran
W/o Jayachandran V.S,
1984 Civil
Partner, MANSIONS



Beena Zeril
W/o Zeril Jose,
1987 Architecture
Entrepreneur (Homemakers'
Atelier)



Beena Anil
1988 Civil
Deputy Director, VSSC



Dr. Pramada Ranjit
W/o Ranjit Kumar V,
1988Electrical Former Senior
Manager, R&D, EICL



Priya Murali
W/o Murali LS,
1988 Civil

ORCHESTRA



ZeriJose
1987 Architecture Director
& Chief Architect
Vasthushilpalaya Consultancy Pvt.
Ltd, Trivandrum



Thomas Job
1984 Civil
Partner in M/s Haven Builders &
Developers.
Associated with M/s Mansions in
several contract projects



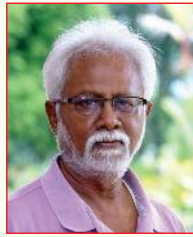
Harikrishnan K K
1993 Architecture
H&A Architects, Trivandrum Owner
and Principal Architect

DEVARAGASANDHYA TEAM



DilipKumar.H

1981 Electrical
Former Electrical Inspector, Department of Electrical Inspectorate, Govt. of Kerala. Presently working as Electrical Safety Consultant and Trainer. Active in the music field for the past forty five years.



Mohandhas

1978 Electrical
Retired after 30 years service in Power Infrastructure Development and Smart Grid India. Presently a Technical Committee member to KINFRA



Ramgopal Harikrishnan

S/o Harikrishnan S, 1990 Mechanical
Founder, Resonant Audio Media Solutions(www.rams.studio)



PadmaKumar. G

Technical Director
1988 Electrical
General Manager, Thought Line, Technopark



Balachandran.M

Stage Management
1987 Mechanical
An Oil Industry Professional with careers in Bharath Petroleum and the Shell International.

GUEST ARTISTS



Gopalakrishnan.C

Formerly worked with KSFE. Renowned Artist in the field of music and movies



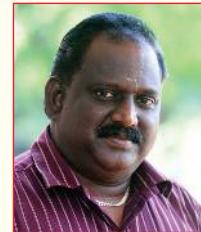
VijayaKumar.K

AIR/DD A grade Artist and composer. Winner of Kerala Sangeetha Nadaka Academy Gurupooja Puraskaram, 2022 and BSS Music Award (New Delhi), 2021.



Sureshbabu.A

Renowned artist for the past thirty five years.



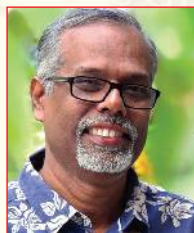
Kishore Guruvayur

Renowned flutist in the music field for the past thirty years.



Renny Varghese

Renowned artist in the music field for the past thirty five years



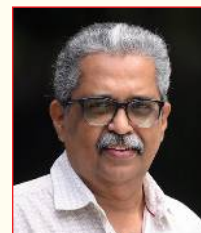
Tennyson Sound Engineer

Renowned Sound Engineer active in the field for the past forty five years.



Jerin Das

Sound Engineer



R.Gopala Krishnan

Renowned
Cine photographer









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Published by : Shri MGK Nair, 10 D, SFS Richmond Apartments, Sasthamangalam, Trivandrum-10

Design : Akshara Offset, Thiruvananthapuram-695 035