



BioXplore

Field Studies in Biodiversity (*Ex-situ*)

at Thiruvananthapuram Zoo and Museum
on Saturday, 3rd January 2026



**A 'Walk with Scientist'
Programme under Every Child
a Scientist and Artist
(ECASA) Project**

An Initiative of
Kerala State Biodiversity Board



KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

Email: keralabiodiversity@gmail.com,

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About the Programme

BioXplore, is the second programme under the “Walk with Scientist” category of Every Child a Scientist and Artist (ECASA) project. This Programme is organized in collaboration with the **Thiruvananthapuram Zoo and Museum** and features guided walks and interactive sessions with experts, helping students gain a practical understanding of plants, animals, biodiversity, and conservation.

Objectives

1. Identify plants and study animal behavior while understanding natural habitats versus zoos.
2. Discover butterfly diversity and their host plants.
3. Visit the Natural History Museum to enhance observation and nature documentation skills.
4. Explore the Snake House and foster responsibility for protecting plants, animals, and habitats.
5. Appreciate the role of zoos in ecosystem protection.

Programme Schedule

The programme will be held on Saturday, 3 January 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Thiruvananthapuram Zoo & Museum. It will be attended by selected students from School Biodiversity Clubs of **Cottonhill Govt. Model Girls Higher Secondary School; Government Model Boys Higher Secondary School, Thycaud; Haji CH Mohammed Koya Memorial School, Vallakadavu and VMJUPS Vallakadavu**

9:00 AM	:	Inauguration
Welcome	:	Dr. V. Unnikrishnan Scientific Officer, KSBB
Presidential Address	:	Dr. N. Anil Kumar Chairman, KSBB
Inauguration	:	Padmasree M.C. Dathan Scientific Advisor to Chief Minister of Kerala
Presence	:	Mrs. P.S Manjula Devi Director, Department of Museums and Zoos
	:	Sri. Rajesh V Superintendent, Zoological Garden Thiruvananthapuram
Vote of Thanks	:	Dr. Akhila S. Nair S.R.O., KSBB

Sessions

- 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM :** **Exploring Nature:** Identification of Exotic, Indigenous, Invasive, and Alien Plant Species, and Studies of Animal Behavior
- 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM :** **Fluttering Wonders:** Butterflies & their Host Plants Study
- 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM :** **Journey through Time:** Natural History Museum Visit
- 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM :** **Slithering Secrets:** Snake House Visit

3:30 - Review and interactive session with ECASA State Advisory Committee Chairman & Members

- » **Padmasree M.C. Dathan** (Chairman, ECASA)
Scientific Advisor to Chief Minister of Kerala
- » **Dr. S. Pradeep Kumar**
Former Member Secretary, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment – KSCSTE
- » **Dr. M. P. Radhamani**
Principal (Rtd), DIET Thiruvananthapuram;
Former Deputy Director, Directorate of Culture, Kerala;
Former Programme Officer, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
- » **Prof. Shajikumar T.**
Head (Rtd), Department of Applied Arts,
College of Fine Arts, Thiruvananthapuram

Our Experts in this Programme

- » **Dr. M. Rajendraprasad**
Senior Principal Scientist, Plant Systematics & Evolution Division (PS&ES), JNTBGRI, Thiruvananthapuram
- » **Dr. Nikesh Kiran**
Veterinary Doctor, Thiruvananthapuram Zoo
- » **Smt. Gana Vijayan**
Garden Superintendent-In Charge
- » **Sri. Baiju K.**
Travancore Natural History Society