



MEDIA CAPACITY STRENGTHENING WORKSHOP

17–19 September 2026

State Agriculture Management &
Extension Training Institute (SAMETI)
Anayara, Thiruvananthapuram



**KERALA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD
NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY**

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

(17.09.2026, TIME : 8.30 am)

State Agriculture Management & Extension Training Institute (SAMETI)

08:30 – 09:30 am	:	Registration
09:30 – 10:30 am	:	Inauguration
Welcome speech	:	Dr. V. Unnikrishnan Scientific Officer, KSBB
Presidential address	:	Dr. N Anil Kumar Chairman, Kerala State Biodiversity Board
Inaugural Address	:	Sri. Adv. Sunny Joseph Minister for Electricity, Environment and Parliamentary Affairs, Kerala
Keynote Address	:	Sri. Gopikrishna Warriar, Editorial Director, Mongabay India
Special remarks	:	Dr. K.K. Ramachandran The Executive Vice President, KSCSTE, Trivandrum : Sri. K. Gopalakrishnan IAS, Director, DoECC, Thiruvananthapuram
Felicitations	:	Dr. R. V. Varma, Board member, KSBB Dr. Minimol, J.S, Board member, KSBB Dr. Pramod G. Krishnan IFS, Board member, KSBB Dr. A.V. Santhosh Kumar, Board member, KSBB
Vote of Thanks	:	Dr. Akhila S. Nair Sr. Research Officer, KSBB
10.30 AM	:	Group Photo

INTRODUCTORY SESSION

Journey of KSBB in Managing Kerala's Biodiversity & Climate Action (10:30 am– 10:45 am)	:	Dr. V. Balakrishnan Former Member Secretary, KSBB
10:45 am–11:00 am	:	Tea
Climate Resilience & Carbon Neutrality : Agrobiodiversity & Food Security 11:00 am – 11:45 pm Panel - I	:	Dr. Oommen V. Oommen (<i>Chair</i>) Former Chairman KSBB Dr. Sekhar L. Kuriakose (<i>Co-Chair</i>) Member Secretary, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority Dr. C. George Thomas, (<i>Lead Talk</i>) Former Chairman KSBB Dr. R.V. Varma (<i>Expert Remarks</i>) Board member and Former Chairman KSBB Dr. V. Balakrishnan Former Member Secretary, KSBB
11:45 am -12:00 pm	:	Discussion
Marine & Coastal Ecosystems. Inland Waterscapes 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm Panel- II	:	Prof. A.Biju Kumar (<i>Chair</i>) Vice Chancellor, KUFOS, Kochi Dr. K.V. Jayachandran (<i>Co-Chair</i>) Prof & Dean (Rtd.), KUFOS Dr. Rajeev Raghavan, Assistant Professor, KUFOS Dr. V. Anitha, Director, CWRDM, Kozhikode Dr. Abhilash S. Director, Advanced Centre for Atmospheric Radar Research, CUSAT, Kochi Dr. Muhammed Jafer Palot, Scientist C., Zoological Survey of India
12:45 pm -01.00 pm	:	Discussion

01.00 pm -02.00 pm	:	Lunch Break
Man–Animal Conflict, Invasive Alien Species	:	Pramod G. Krishnan IFS <i>(Chair)</i> Board member, KSBB
2:00 pm –2:45 pm	:	Dr. Kannan C.S. Warriar <i>(Co-Chair)</i> Director, KFRI, Peechi
Panel- III	:	Dr. T.V.Sajeev , Chief Scientist, KFRI
	:	Dr. Minimol J.S , Board member, KSBB
	:	Dr. Suma , Director - Programme & Research, Hume Centre, Wayanad
02.45 -03.00 PM	:	Discussion
Urban Biodiversity & Heat Stress	:	Smt. V. Priyadarshini <i>(Chair)</i> Chairperson, District BMC, TVPM
3:00 pm –3:45 pm	:	Dr. A.V.Santhosh Kumar <i>(Co-Chair)</i> Board member, KSBB
Panel-IV	:	Mrs T.V. Anupama IAS Secretary, LSGD
	:	Adv. V.V. Rajesh , Mayor, TVPM Corporation
	:	Dr. Deepu Sivasdas , Scientist, KFRI
	:	Sri. P.N. Arun Kumar , Chairman, Peringammala BMC
03.45 pm -04.00 pm	:	Discussion
04.00 pm -04.15 pm	:	Tea
Media Perspectives on Biodiversity Governance (Moderated Dialogue)	:	Sri S. Gopikrishna Warriar , <i>(Chair)</i> Editorial Director, Mongabay India
04.15 pm - 6.30 pm	:	Sri. G.S.Unnikrishnan , <i>(Co-Chair)</i> Former Director, SAMETI, Dept. of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Kerala
Evening Panel	:	Sri. Madhu R. Sekhar , Joint director Rtd, CBC , Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
	:	Mrs. G. Jaya , Asst. Director Rtd., Door Darshan Kendra, TVPM
	:	Smt. Sangeetha Rajeesh , Multimedia & Strategic Communications Specialist
	:	Smt. Sandhya Sekar , Program director, Mongabay - India
Dinner	:	7.30 PM

DAY2 – FIELD ENGAGEMENTS

(18.09.2026, TIME : 8.30 am)

State Agriculture Management & Extension Training Institute (SAMETI)

Time	Programme Group A - Coastal Ecosystem Visit	Persons in the group
8.30 am	Departure from SAMETI	1. Aathira Haridas 2. Subair P 3. M Mujeeb Rahiman 4. Dr. Geofry Paul 5. Sugathan P Balan 6. Sreemol T C 7. Anil Kumar P Y 8. Sunesh Davy 9. Dr. N. Anil Kumar, KSBB 10. Dr. V. Unnikrishnan KSBB 11. Dr. Akhila S. Nair, KSBB 12. Mrs. Akshaya, KSBB 13. Mr. Jayachandran (Kadinamkulam BMC)
9:15 am – 10:15 am	Visit to Lathef Agro Farm – Observation of agricultural biodiversity and farming practices. Mr. Lathef - 9946324696	
10:15 am – 11:15 am	Visit to Thetthiyar Restoration Project – Study of restoration activities and biodiversity conservation. Mr. Praveen - 9400275300	
11:15 am – 12:00 pm	Visit to Sacred Grove – Observation of traditional biodiversity conservation practices. Mr. Jayachandran - 7907611973	
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm	Kadinamkulam Mangrove Restoration Project – Mangrove ecosystem and restoration activities. Mr. Jayachandran - 7907611973	
12:45 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch Break	
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Travel to Muthalapozhi	
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Visit to Muthalapozhi – Coastal ecosystem observation, biodiversity assessment and field discussion	
3:30 pm– 3:50 pm	Evening Tea / Refreshment Break	
3:50 pm– 4:00 pm	Concluding discussion, documentation and departure	

Time	Programme Group B - Agro Ecosystem Visit	Persons in the group
8.30 am	Departure from SAMETI	1. Arathi MR 2. Ayswarya Murthy 3. Sayooj Sanjeevan 4. Jeff Joseph Paul Kadicheeni 5. Vaishnavi VS 6. Aravind Babu 7. S.V. Rajesh 8. Sasikumar Chelannur 9. Bavijesh 10. Dr. Prajith , KSBB 11. Ms. Savitha , KSBB 12. Dr. Beena , Kau 13. Dr. Aparna Radhakrishnan , KAU 14. Mr. Anooj , KAU 15. Mr. S. Suresh Kumar Kalliyoor BMC
9:00 am	Punchakkari -Field visit to Punchakkari wetland, observe wetland biodiversity, habitat condition, threats and ongoing conservation needs. Documentation through field notes and photographs	
11.00 am	Kannukalichal Restoration Site -Inspect restoration activities, assess site condition, restoration measures undertaken, native species/ components and maintenance requirements	
11:30 am	Kalliyoor BMC -Visit to BMC office, interaction with BMC members/ secretary; review BMC activities, PBR related works, biodiversity conservation initiatives	
1:30 pm	Lunch and Short break	
02:00 pm	Agriculture College Vellayani-Visit and interaction with relevant faculty or experts, discuss biodiversity conservation, restoration, agrobiodiversity and possible technical support/ collaboration	
04:00 pm	Review-Summarise observations, discuss key findings and record action points for BMC/site level follow up	
04:15 pm	Tea and Departure	

Time	Programme Group C - Hill Ecosystem Visit	Persons in the group
8.30 am	Departure from SAMETI	1. Neenu Mohan 2. Kavya Pradeep M 3. Shawn Sebastian 4. Jinesh Poonath 5. TJ Sreejith 6. S Ahkil 7. Rosamma Thomas 8. Sandeep Thomas 9. Smt. Sandhya Sekar 10. Dr. E. Kunhikrishnan 11. Dr. Mahadevan, Ksbb 12. Ms. Riya, Ksbb 13. Smt. Sangeetha 14. Sri. Salim Pallivila Peringammala BMC
10.00 am – 1.00 pm	<i>Proposed Local Biodiversity Heritage Site</i> – Myristica Swamps, Sasthamnada -Field visit to the Myristica swamp ecosystem; assessment of biodiversity values, ecological significance, threats, conservation status and potential for declaration as a Local Biodiversity Heritage Site.	
1.00 pm – 1.30 pm	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
1.30 pm – 2.00 pm	<i>Interaction with Peringamala BMC-</i> Interaction with BMC members and President & Secretary and experts from JNTBGRI; review of BMC functioning, PBR-related activities, biodiversity conservation initiatives, ongoing projects and issues requiring follow-up.	
2.00 pm – 3.00 pm	<i>Acacia Replantation & Afforestation Project Site</i> – Boundary Junction- Site inspection of replantation and afforestation activities; assessment of pl, ecological restoration measures, species composition, maintenance and future management requirements.	
3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	<i>Mangayam Ecotourism Site</i> -Visit to the ecotourism site; assessment of biodiversity conservation measures, habitat management, visitor management, waste management and opportunities for biodiversity-friendly ecotourism.	
04:15 pm	<i>Tea and Departure</i>	

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	<i>Evening Reflection Panel</i>	Dr. E. Kunhikrishnan, Prof (Rtd.), University College, Trivandrum (<i>Chair</i>) Sri. Renjan Mathew Varghese, (<i>Co-Chair</i>) State Director, WWF-India Dr. Raghavendra, Director, Sameti Dr. Narendra nath veluri IFS Social Forestry Dr. E. S. Santhosh Kumar (BMC Member, TvpM Corporation)
07.30 pm	Dinner	

DAY 3 – STORY DEVELOPMENT LAB&VALEDICTORY

(19.09.2026, TIME : 9.15 am)

State Agriculture Management & Extension Training Institute (SAMETI)

Story Clinic 9:15 am–10:00 am	:	Smt. Sangeetha Rajeesh , Multimedia & Strategic Communications Specialist (<i>Chair</i>) Sri. G.S.Unnikrishnan , Former Director, SAMETI, Dept of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Kerala (<i>Co-Chair</i>) Sri. Madhu R. Sekhar , Joint director Rtd, Centre Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Mrs. G. Jaya , Asst. Director Rtd., Door Darshan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram
10.00 am -10.15 am	:	<i>Discussion</i>
10.15 am -10.30 am	:	Tea
Fact - Check & Clarification Desk 10:30 am – 11:15am	:	Smt. Sangeetha Rajeesh , Multimedia & Strategic Communication Specialist (<i>Chair</i>) Mrs. G. Jaya Asst. Director Rtd., Door Darshan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram (<i>Co-Chair</i>) Sri. Madhu R. Sekhar joint director Rtd, Centre Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Sri. G.S.Unnikrishnan Former Director, SAMETI, Dept of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Kerala
11:15 am – 11:30 am	:	<i>Discussion</i>
Story Pitching & Editorial Feedback 11:30 am – 12:15 pm	:	Smt. Sangeetha Rajeesh , Multimedia & Strategic Communication Specialist (<i>Chair</i>) Sri. Madhu R. Sekhar , Joint director Rtd, Centre Bureau of Communication, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (<i>Co-Chair</i>) Sri. G.S.Unnikrishnan Former Director, SAMETI Mrs. G. Jaya Asst. Director Rtd., Door Darshan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram
12:15 pm – 12:30 pm	:	<i>Discussion</i>

VALEDICTORY SESSION

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	:	Valedictory Function
Welcome	:	Smt. A. Haseena Beegum Administrative Officer and Member Secretary (i/c), KSBB
Special address	:	Dr. S.M. Vijayanand IAS Former Chief Secretary to Government of Kerala
Distribution of Certificates to participants	:	Dr. Ommen V. Ommen Former Chairman KSBB
Distribution of Certificates to <i>'Ideation Challenge Winners'</i> of KSBB	:	Dr. R.V. Varma Board member and Former Chairman KSBB
Closing Remarks	:	Dr. N. Anil Kumar Chairman, Kerala State Biodiversity Board
Vote of Thanks	:	Dr. Prajith K.K Research Officer, KSBB
1.30 pm	:	Lunch





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