



ROOTS

Newsletter of Alumni
Association of NSSCE

VOL 5 ISSUE 4 JULY 2025

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VISION OF OUR COLLEGE

"To achieve excellence in technical education through determined learning and research inculcating values and shaping socially responsible professionals."

MISSION OF OUR COLLEGE

"1. To impart technical competence to face present & emerging challenges towards building sustainable and quality living.

2. To inculcate spirit of research, innovation and entrepreneurship through decisive learning

3. To foster a culture conducive to well-being of society through ethical and professional practice."

Message

Dear Alumni,

It is a pleasure to connect with you through ROOTS, a publication that celebrates the spirit, accomplishments, and enduring bond of our alumni community. Each edition is a testament to your journeys, and it reminds us of the legacy that continues to inspire generations on our campus.



As our institution grows in strength and vision, we take immense pride in the achievements of our alumni across diverse fields. You are not only our ambassadors in the world but also an integral part of our academic and cultural fabric.

We warmly invite you to collaborate with us through mentoring students, delivering guest lectures, offering internships or career guidance, building industry-academia linkages, or simply by sharing your experiences. Your insights, time, and presence whether virtual or in person bring unmatched value to our institution.

Let us continue to build bridges between the past and the future, drawing from your success to shape the aspirations of our students.

With warm regards,

Dr. Saju N
Principal

We solicit literary contributions from NSSCE alumni, faculty and students for the bimonthly newsletter published by AANSSCE. The articles in the form of poems, short stories, travelogues or cartoons may be mailed to secretarynsscealumni@gmail.com

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

ധ്വനി...

The idea of doing a musical evening with the talents of our college was first thought of three years back as an opportunity to reminisce the musical moments we cherished during our college days. The program was named 'Dhwani', which was indeed the most appropriate one. The pilot episode was organized on 29th of May 2022 which was dignified by the august presence of play back singer Ms. Aparna Rajeev, grand daughter of Sri. O.N.V. Kurup. Dhwani program inaugurated by Ms. Aparna, three years back has since then made its successful journey by boarding in more and more talents of our Alma mater. Each episode of Dhwani with its vast and diverse collection of songs acts as a bridge between cultures and emotions. Also it empowers alumni to explore their artistic potential. Dhwani 15 organized on 30th May, 2025 themed around the timeless songs of Vayalar, with the sober and beautiful introduction of songs by Dr. Prasad Varma Thampan (Retd. Professor and HoD of Civil Engineering Department, NSSCE) accompanied by his wife Yamuna (D/o Sri.Vayalar Ramavarma) created anticipation and excitement, thereby setting the stage for the listener's emotional journey. Listening to them share their personal memories and the stories behind some of the most iconic songs added an unforgettable layer to the evening. It gave us a rare glimpse into the life and legacy of Vayalar in a way no book or article ever could. Vayalar's songs which are often celebrated for their poetic beauty, emotional depth and the way they blend beautiful language with profound meaning were sung in an amazing way by our incredibly talented singers.

Since 3 years, Dhwani is definitely providing an Online stage for creativity and connecting us through music, memories, and shared passion, thus bringing out a global alumni community of musicians. More than 30 singers have joined the ധ്വനി family and many more to come...

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF
NSS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

ധ്വനി

THE MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA
(Musical evening with the talents of NSSCE)
Stay tuned to the pilot episode



29th May
2022

7.00-8.30
PM

Guest : Smt. Aparna Rajeev, Playback Singer

Our alumni, staff, students and their family showing off their talents, don't miss this opportunity to relive those cherished moments in our alma mater.

JOIN THE FUN

Dr.P.R. Sreemahadevan Pillai
President

Dr. Vasanthi.V
Secretary

Dr.Umadevi.P.P & Er.Raji Ajith
Coordinators

For further details contact : secretarynsscealumni@gmail.com

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF
NSS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

ധ്വനി-15

THE MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA
A musical evening with the talents of NSSCE Alumni

വയലാർ രാമവർമ്മ

'ഒരു അനശ്വര കാവ്യ സൗന്ദര്യം'

On Friday, 30th May 2025
7.00 PM IST



ഗായകർ :

1. Er.E. S. Wilson, 1976 batch
2. Dr.Mayaja N.A., 1988 batch
3. Er.Manuj Menon, 1990 batch
4. Er.Thulasi Ramachandran, 2002 batch
5. Er.Kalash Karunakaran, 2009 batch
6. Er.Lakshmi Mohandas, 2014 batch
7. Dr.Rajesh Menon B, Faculty, Dept of ME, NSSCE
8. Dr.Dinesh K.U, Former faculty, Dept of CE, NSSCE

ഗാനങ്ങളുടെ അവതരണം :

Smt. Yamuna (D/o Sri.Vayalar Ramavarma) &
Dr. Prasad Varma Thampan (Retd. Faculty NSSCE &
Son in law of Sri. Vayalar Ramavarma)

STAY TUNED

Our alumni, staff, students and family are showcasing their talents. Don't miss the opportunity to pay tributes to this immortal lyricist and celebrate his songs...

Dr.P.R. Sreemahadevan Pillai
President

Dr. Vasanthi V.
Secretary

Dr. Umadevi P.P & Er. Raji K.P.
Coordinators

Er. Sreejith V.K.
Host

For further details contact : secretarynsscealumni@gmail.com



Farewell to Dr. Rajeev N., Principal who retired on 31/05/2025 by Executive committee of Alumni Association on 24th May 2025. Members of Executive committee of PALMNEST (Palakkad Chapter) also attended the function.

BATCH GET-TOGETHER



Get together of the 1960-65 (first) batch of the college, in the college auditorium on 18th June, 2025.

NEWS FROM CHAPTERS

From UAE Chapter



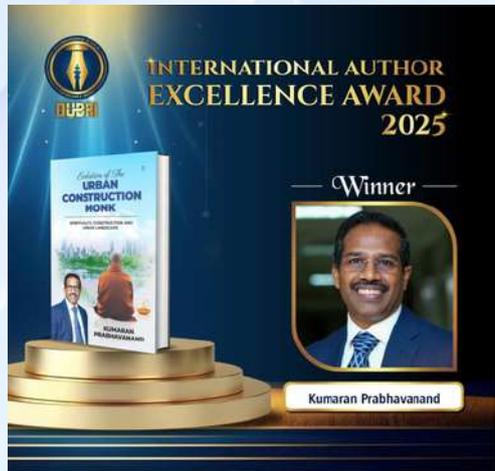
Blood donation campaign on 16th May, 2025.



Members participated actively in the 5 kms Global Running Day Marathon on 31st May, 2025.



Runner - Up in Feathers Badminton Tournament on 15th June, 2025.



Mr. Kumaran Prabhavanand (1995 CE) won International Author Excellence Award 2025 on 10th June.



NSSCE EXCOM member Mr. Sreekanth awarded pilot license in UAE on 1st June, 2025.



Won 1st Runner - Up for CUBA Ormachivadukal organised on 25th May, 2025.



A get-together along with Dr. P R Sreemahadevan Pillai Sir at Dubai on 4th May, 2025.



A small get-together with Sree Mahadevan Pillai Sir at Abudhabi on 5th May, 2025.

ANECX Qatar Conducts Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of ANECX Qatar, the alumni chapter of NSS College of Engineering, was held in 18th June, 2025. The meeting commenced with a condolence tribute to the late Mustafa Chakkala and included a review of the year's key achievements - scholarship programs, cultural engagements, and community initiatives. A notable resolution was the expansion of the scholarship program, allowing part of the fund to support employability - focused initiatives such as career guidance, skill development, and startup encouragement for recent graduates.

A new Executive Committee for the 2025 - 2027 term was unanimously elected, with Ms. Leena Harigovind becoming the first female President in the chapter's history.

New Executive Committee 2025 - 2027 :

- * President : Leena Harigovind
- * Vice President : Swathy Raj
- * General Secretary : Aneesh N
- * Treasurer : Mohamed Ashpher
- * Secretary - Arts : Anusree Bipin
- * Secretary - Data : Sayuj Rajan
- * Secretary - Sports : Ifaj KT
- * Members : Dileep B, Shanavas Elachola, Anusree Nikhil, Ziyad Kassim
- * Ex Officio : Dr. Abdul Hameed, Mohammed Anvar

The AGM concluded with a vote of thanks and a fellowship dinner. ANECX Qatar continues to foster alumni unity and engagement in Qatar. ANECX Qatar will be completing 30 Glorious years by 2027 during this Committee and looking forward for whole hearted support from the members and parent bodies.



ANECX Qatar Organizes TechFest 25

ANECX Qatar, the alumni chapter of NSS College of Engineering, successfully organized TechFest 25, an inter-school science and technology festival aimed at inspiring and empowering the next generation of innovators. Held in May 2025, the event brought together students from various Indian schools across Qatar for a day of learning, creativity, and collaboration.

The fest featured a wide range of activities including:

- * Quiz Competitions
- * Science Exhibitions
- * Seminars on emerging topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Renewable Energy, and Sustainability.

TechFest 25 not only showcased the scientific talent of students but also provided them with valuable exposure to current industry trends and future technologies. The event was well received by participating schools, teachers, and parents, and served as a meaningful platform for knowledge sharing and skill development.

As a curtain raiser to TechFest 25, ANECX Qatar conducted an online quiz competition titled “Samasya”, which saw enthusiastic participation from ANECX members and family. Designed to spark curiosity and set the tone for the main event, Samasya tested participants’ knowledge in science, technology, and current affairs.

Through initiatives like TechFest, ANECX Qatar continues its commitment to community development and educational outreach, staying true to its vision of giving back and building future - ready generations. It was proud to see various techno social personalities in the event.

Chief Guest of the Day: Eng. Ahmed Jassim Al Jolo, President, Federation of Global Engineers.

Guest of Honours :

Dr. Abdulla Mohsin Al Wahedi, Director of Shared Services Department, Kahramaa

Eng. Ali Ebrahim Karboon, Section Head of Projection & Automation Section, Kahramaa

Eng. Muhammed Kahlid Al Sharshani, EV unit Head, Kahramaa

Mr. Thaha Mohammed, President IBPC

Dr. Sreemahadevan Pillai, President, College Global Alumni.

Quiz Master : Eng. A R Ranjith.

From Palakkad Chapter (PALMNEST)

Parambikulam Outing - The joy of nomadic travel

PALMNEST, Palakkad Chapter of Alumni association of NSSCE organized a one day family excursion to Parambikulam. The pleasant drive to the sanctuary past quaint villages and endless rows of coconut trees was mind-boggling. We had a brief stoppage at Pollachi town for breakfast and then continued the journey. Peacocks were sitting pretty without fear in the coconut farm fields on the way. Upon nearing the reserve the terrain became mountainous with steep rocky turnings leading past Topslip Reserve in Tamil-Nadu state.

The drive inside Parambikulam reserve was serene with the surrounding trees which seemed to wilder and the serene waters mesmerizing. Some spotted deers could be found in the jungle. We also saw long tailed monkeys which were busy with their business unconcerned as the passengers looked on in awe. The bus continued making its way uphill and deeper into the forest. There were stoppings at a few places so that photographs of beautiful wilderness of Parambikulam which was in Palakkad district itself, could be taken from a height which revealed how beautiful is our home district, Palakkad. The trip provided an eager anticipation of seeing a rare bird or animal in the curiosity that kept moving. Nilgiri long tailed monkeys called langurs were swinging from branch to branch and diverse species of birds were chirping across the lush green valley. Our own emotions were reflected in the enthusiasm which made us feel as if we were part of the eco system. We could safely unleash the impulsive wild child trapped within us. Lunch was a simple homely cooked meal at a small restaurant in Parambikulam village. Then the vehicle started its journey back to the Park gate. During our journey back we could spot a wild elephant roaming around freely which was a majestic sight. Lastly we saw a few long tailed monkeys up in the trees as a final farewell from the wild. Towards the end even though we didn't see any big predators, the safari was extremely rewarding as all were reminded of the beauty and importance of nature. Parambikulam is a place which made us feel at home while at the same time provided an escape from the daily busy chores. It is a place having 2 dams with beautiful catchment areas that will speak to us in a way that transcends language. We could romance and fall in love wildly with life itself. This affair filled us with joy for having been lucky enough to have experienced it.

On our way back we sipped our evening coffee under coconut surroundings of a resort at Pollachi. During our onward and return bus journey, we friends for ever, left space among our conversation to listen to each other's new stories to find out what has changed since we last caught up. We cannot express the sojourn in words, a trip that made us feel bursting into songs. The games we played during our bus journey circled back to the idea that life is held together by mere friendship. Through melancholy and joy, the transformation from adolescence to adulthood with passion and heartache, this piece of earth offered a magnificent orchestra.





From Kochi Chapter



AAPECK the erstwhile association of the alumni of the NSS College of Engineering based out of Cochin was revived after a span of 9 years, as AAPECK - Connect. Within a time span of three months from February 2025; this unity has a membership of 625 plus Alumnus currently and growing under the able guidance of our Patron Mr. Krishna Prasad,; General Council Board Members Ms. Lekha Balachandran, Mr. Prakash Bare, Mr. Dinesh Thampi, Mr. Abhilash T Pillai, Mr. Prasad Balakrishnan Nair, Mr. Majrooh James; Mr. Abhay Sadasivan. The concerted effort of the General Council Committee Members-Mr. Tojan Thomas, Mr. Prakash Madhavan, Ms. Sandhya, Mr. Ravi Menon, Mr. Ajith Aboobacker, Mr. Pradeep Kumar, Ms. Lakshmi Rajagopal, Mr. Rajesh, Mr. Harish R Pillai, Ms. Smitha, Ms. Lakshmi Atul, Mr. Geeverghese and others managed to make the reunion "SMRITHI SANDHYA" possible on the evening of Saturday, 17th May 2025.

The event started off with a silent prayer followed by the lighting of lamp by the Senior-most Alumnus Mr. Mathew Kalarickal (1963 Admission). Mr. Majrooh James, President, AAPECK Connect welcomed the fellow alumnus and highlighted the need to remain a cohesive force to reckon with. Dr. Sremahadevan Pillai, President of the Alumni Association, Alma-mater was the Chief Guest of the evening and delivered the inaugural address and declared the event open. Patron Mr. Krishna Prasad and Council Board Member Ms. Lekha Balachandran felicitated the alumnus present. Mr. Abhay Sadasivan, Secretary AAPECK- Connect presented the way forward for the organization and highlighted the importance of being closely knitted self-help group. The cultural evening saw the scintillating performances by Mr. Antony Joseph (Magic Show); Mr. Sudhish Andavan (Mouth Organ); while Mr. Ullas Balakrishna, Mr. Saji P Varghese, Mr. Vinod Kumar A K, Mr. Sabu M K, Mr. Manoj Edward, Mr. Prasobh Ramachandran performed solo songs. The overwhelming subscription of 164 and the participation of 137 right from 1963 admission and up till 2012 admission, stands a testimony to the emotive nature of the gathering. Everyone present vowed to meet yet again, every other year.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS



ശ്രീ. നിരഞ്ജൻ ടി ജി (1989 മെക്കാനിക്കൽ) ഹാസസാഹിത്യ വിഭാഗത്തിൽ കേരള സാഹിത്യ അക്കാദമി അവാർഡ് നേടി. കൃതി: കേരളത്തിന്റെ മൈദാമകത (വറുത്തരച്ച ചരിത്രത്തോടൊപ്പം)



ശ്രീ. രാജൻ അഴീക്കോടിന്റെ (1985-89 സിവിൽ) രണ്ടാമത്തെ നോവലായ "ശ്രേഷ്ഠം" (ആറാമത്തെ പുസ്തകം) പ്രകാശനം.



തിരുവനന്തപുരത്ത് നടന്ന ചടങ്ങിൽ ശ്രീ.രാജൻ അഴീക്കോടിൻ (1985-89 സിവിൽ) മികച്ച യാത്രാവിവരണത്തിനുള്ള സത്യജിത് റേ അവാർഡ് ഏറ്റെടുക്കുന്നു.



Sri. Sanjeev (1997 Mechanical) receiving award for being listed among Top 50 CEOs of India. Company name is "Reply India".



Sri. Mohammed Saheer Alumni of 2020 EC batch has got a patent for his innovation "An electronic multi-handicap aid". He is currently working in Jaguar, London.



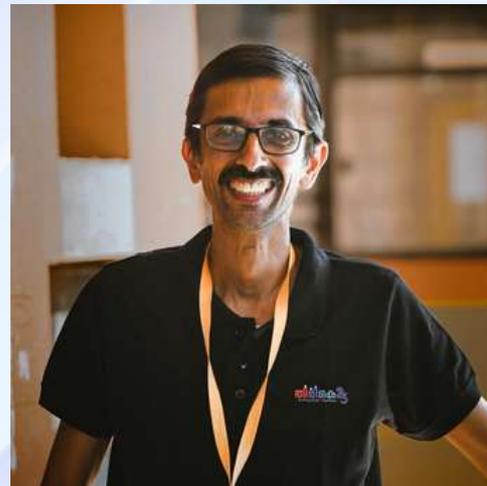
Dr. Leena N., (1998-2002 EEE batch) Faculty EEE Department delivered the keynote address for World telecommunication and Information Society day 2025 celebrations organized by IETE Palakkad Centre in association with BSNL Palakkad at BSNL Palakkad PGM Office.



The 11th book titled Satyjit Ray - Bala Sahithyam authored by Shri. Amarnath Pallath (1962-67) batch was released in Thiruvananthapuram at Satyajit Ray Film Society Kerala by the great Film personal Adoor Gopalakrishnan . The book was received by Saraswathy Samman awardee Prabha Varma. Shri. Amarnath Pallath also received a Golden Pen Award for the 10th book on "K P Sudheera - Heart's Imprint".



Dr. Ramaswamy K.P. (2003-07 batch), Professor in Civil Engineering has been designated as the Dean (Accreditation & Ranking) of TKM College of Engineering, Kollam.



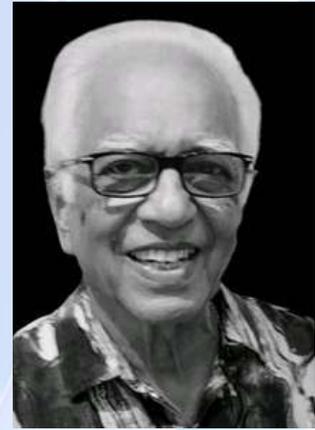
Sri. Krishnan (Civil) appointed as Chief Engineer of Kerala State Pollution Control Board, at Thiruvananthapuram.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

THE SUCCESS STORIES - 09

AMARNATH PALLATH :

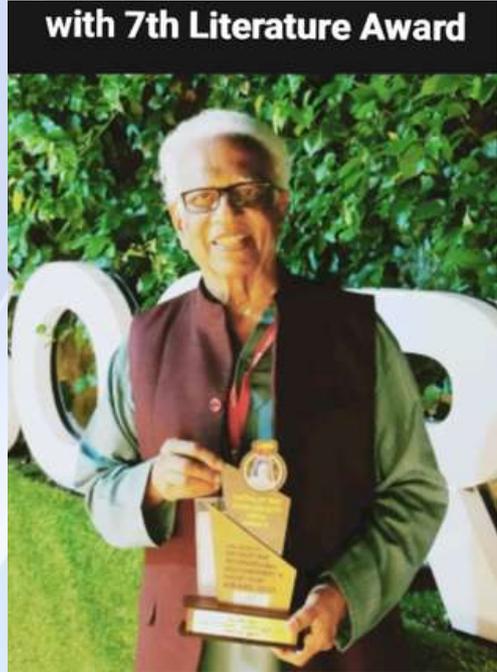
Mr. Amarnath Pallath, a 1962 Mechanical Engineering graduate of NSSCE, was a vibrant presence on campus—captaining the hockey and basketball teams, participating in football, cricket, and excelling in elocution and drama competitions. His involvement earned laurels for the college and shaped his lifelong connection with the institution. Even after retirement, his bond with NSSCE remained strong. He launched the “I Can” talk series featuring distinguished alumni, supported by Dr. Uma Devi through inspiring sessions. He also played a key role in organizing the Global Alumni Meet, strengthening ties across generations.



His commitment was recently recognized when he was appointed Chairperson of the Malabar Alumni Chapter (Kozhikode, Malappuram, and Wayanad), a role announced by Professor Dr. Mahadevan Pillai. His passion for writing took off post-retirement. At the age of 73, he published his first Malayalam novel, which is now being adapted into a short film with support from fellow alumni. Since then, he has authored 11 books, spanning genres such as biography, fiction, poetry, essays, and management. His latest work on Satyajit Ray was launched by legendary filmmaker Adoor Gopalakrishnan in the presence of acclaimed poet Prabha Varma at the Satyajit Ray Film Society Convention. Mr. Pallath’s creative talents extend to the stage and screen. A lifelong theatre enthusiast, he has acted in several acclaimed short films, including “Who Am I?” and “Balyakalasakhi”, the latter winning over eight awards. He also appears in upcoming feature films, including “Itthikkara Komban” and another directed by award-winning filmmaker Sajin Lal. His journey has not been without hardship. Two decades ago, a near-fatal health crisis left him physically crippled and given little hope. Defying the odds, he returned stronger, capturing his experiences in the powerful memoir “Death Counter and Encounters.” His story was later published by the SRNA Association in the U.S. Today, he continues to speak to students in schools, sharing his story of perseverance and encouraging them to dream beyond limitations.

Professionally, Mr. Pallath built a distinguished career, holding leadership roles such as Director, General Manager, and Chief Operations Officer in multinational corporations across the UK, US, Saudi Arabia, Japan, and India. He began his journey humbly—as an unpaid apprentice at Gwalior Rayons in Kozhikode—and steadily rose through the ranks. Currently, he serves as Director of Distribuddy, a promising start-up. Now based in Kozhikode, he continues to live a life enriched by creativity, leadership, and service. At over 80 years of age, when asked what keeps him going, he says with a smile, “It’s a good time pass.” But his life and contributions tell a far deeper story—one of inspiration, resilience, and enduring alumni spirit.

We are honoured to welcome Mr. Amarnath Pallath to the pages of this magazine.



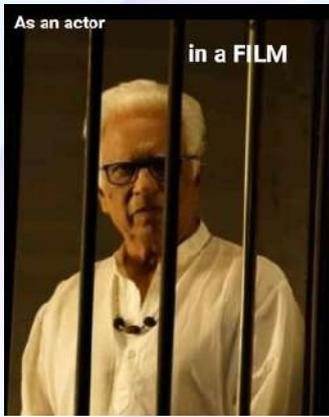
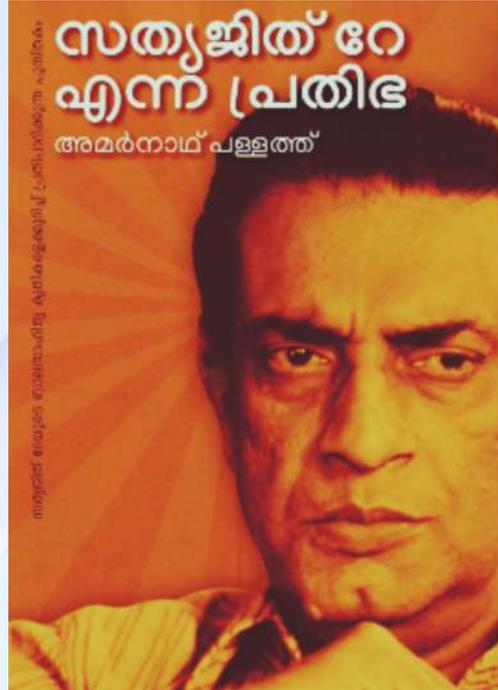
with 7th Literature Award



ചെറിയ ജലയാളി ക്ലബ്ബ് അംഗങ്ങൾക്ക് എഴുത്തുകാരനും അഭിനേതാവുമായ അമർനാഥ് പള്ളത്ത് പുസ്തകങ്ങൾ കൈമാറുന്നു

'കേൾക്കാത്ത ശബ്ദങ്ങൾ' കലാരൂപം ശ്രദ്ധേയമായി

ചെറിയ ജലയാളി ക്ലബ്ബിന്റെ 'കേൾക്കാത്ത ശബ്ദങ്ങൾ' കലാരൂപം ശ്രദ്ധേയമായി. പരിപാടിയിലെ പതിമൂന്നോളം കലാപാത്രങ്ങളെയും അവതരിപ്പിച്ച് ജലയാളി ക്ലബ്ബ് അംഗങ്ങൾ തന്നെയാണ് കലാപാത്രങ്ങൾ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചത്. ക്ലബ്ബ് അംഗം മീന കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി സംഗീതം ഒരുക്കി. ക്ലബ്ബ് അംഗം സ്വപ്ന നേതൃത്വം നൽകി. എഴുത്തുകാരനും അഭിനേതാവുമായ അമർനാഥ് പള്ളത്ത് മുഖ്യാതിഥിയായി. അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ എട്ടു പുസ്തകങ്ങൾ ക്ലബ്ബിലെ ഇതര അംഗങ്ങൾക്ക് കൈമാറിയുണ്ട്.



As an actor in a FILM



on STAGE NSS CE - Global Alumni Meet

TRAVELOGUE

Grahan: The Sanctuary of Serenity

Embarking on a journey to a beautiful destination is like stepping into a living canvas, where nature's artistry unfolds in breathtaking vistas and unfamiliar terrains. It's an invitation to leave behind the familiar rhythms of daily life and immerse oneself in the raw, unfiltered beauty of a new landscape - be it rugged mountains cloaked in snow, rolling meadows kissed by wildflowers, or winding trails that whisper tales of ancient travelers. Each step across a different terrain, whether it's the crunch of gravel underfoot, the slip of icy paths, or the soft give of forest earth, awakens the senses and stirs the soul. The air carries unfamiliar scents - crisp pine, damp moss, or the faint smoke of distant hearths - while the horizon unveils scenes that feel plucked from dreams: peaks piercing the sky, rivers glinting like silver threads, and skies so vast they seem to hold the universe. Such journeys are more than mere travel; they are a pilgrimage to rediscover wonder, to find tranquility in the heart of the wild, and to weave memories that linger like the echo of a mountain breeze.

On the morning of May 24, 2024, we arrived at the Parvati Valley base camp in Kasol, Himachal Pradesh, greeted by a delicate drizzle that wove shimmering threads between heaven and earth, as if the skies were stitching a tapestry of dreams. The mist draped the emerald hills in a gossamer veil, softening the rugged outlines of the mountains, which seemed to hum with ancient secrets of tranquility. The air, sharp at under 7°C, carried the intoxicating scent of pine and wet earth, a fragrance that stirred the soul and whispered of adventures yet to unfold. Here, in the heart of the Parvati Valley, we prepared for a pilgrimage to Grahan Village - a hidden sanctuary, a nest for lost souls seeking peace, where the world's chaos dissolves into the embrace of nature's serenity. After a soul-warming brunch of steaming parathas and spiced chai at the base camp, we packed our gear, our hearts alight with anticipation. The Parvati Valley, with its verdant meadows and the silver ribbon of its gushing river, was a masterpiece of nature's artistry, but the promise of Grahan, perched at 2,347 meters, called to us like a siren's song. Known for its secluded charm, Grahan basks in gentle summers with temperatures of 10-20°C, yet in the snow season, it transforms into a crystalline wonderland where subzero chills and ice-draped trails reign supreme. The winter terrain is a rugged symphony of snow-laden paths weaving through forests of towering pine and deodar, each step a dance with the frozen earth. As we embarked, the drizzle swelled into a torrential downpour, casting the landscape in hues of silver and mist, like a painting brushed with liquid starlight. The cold was a relentless force, piercing through our five layers of clothing and ponchos, rendering them mere whispers against the mountains' icy breath. We clambered into sturdy jeeps, their tires embracing a kaleidoscope of terrains - tarmac, sand, gravel, wood, and snow - with a grace that sang of resilience. The hour-long drive was a journey through a living canvas, where snow-dusted peaks pierced the heavens and the Parvati River roared its timeless ballad, its waters glinting like molten silver under the clouded sky.





The jeep's journey ended 4 kilometers from Grahan, where the true adventure began - the trek. The first 1.8 kilometers were a vision of enchantment. For someone stepping into snow for the first time, it was like wandering into a dreamscape from a fairy tale, where the world was hushed, soft, and impossibly radiant. Snowflakes clung to every leaf and branch, transforming the forest into a gallery of ice sculptures, each glistening with a delicate, prismatic glow. At 1:30 p.m., the subzero air bit at our fingertips, yet the beauty before us - trees draped in snowy lace, their branches bowing under the weight of winter's artistry - stole our breath and warmed our spirits. The path wound through a forest frozen in timeless grace, each crunching step a note in nature's silent symphony, punctuated only by the drip of melting snow or the ethereal call of a Himalayan bird. The ascent grew fiercer as the snow path gave way to a perilously steep, three-foot-wide trail that tested our mettle. The first stretch was a quagmire of mushy, rain-soaked earth, where each step sank into a slippery embrace of mud that clung to our boots like a jealous lover. The cold numbed our shivering hands, making balance a fleeting hope, yet our fellow trekkers offered steady hands and warm smiles, while those of us with larger frames laughed through chattering teeth, rethinking every indulgent meal. The hike was far from over, and the challenge was unrelenting.

Hope flickered when we reached concrete pavements, but their slick surfaces mocked our optimism. I stumbled every ten steps, my falls outnumbering those of my entire adult life, each tumble a humbling badge of the journey. Hailing from Palakkad, where 23°C feels like winter, the plunging cold - now below -4°C - was a language my trembling jaws couldn't articulate. Yet, the valley's beauty was a relentless muse: snowflakes falling down the sky like tiny stars, catching the faint light in a prism of iridescence, while mist curled around ancient trees, painting scenes of otherworldly splendor that urged us onward.

We were awestruck by the local women, their faces etched with over sixty years of wisdom, striding up the path with giant bags balanced on their heads, their ease was a slap to our struggles. They shared a masterclass in navigating the terrain - plant your foot here, lean there - but theory bowed to the reality of the slippery slopes. Our confidence lasted a fleeting fifteen seconds before we were back to stumbling, the lesson a reminder that knowledge without practising is worth nothing. Exhaustion pleaded for pause, but the plummeting temperature and fading light pushed us forward. With no mobile signal, we relied on grit and the valley's beauty - the pristine snow glittering like crushed diamonds, the pines standing sentinel, their branches dancing with winter's embrace - to fuel our resolve.

After an eternity of effort, we were finally there, and Grahan Village unveiled itself like a vision from a dream. Its wooden houses, aglow in the twilight, were cradled by snow-draped hills, their warmth a beacon of solace. We were welcomed with steaming plates of pulao, its fragrant spices weaving a spell that rivaled the finest feasts, each bite a warm embrace against the biting cold. As Christmas festivities sparked to life, the village pulsed with unity. A campfire roared into existence through shared effort, its flames dancing like spirits, casting golden light across faces weary yet alight with joy. By midnight, sky lanterns rose into the velvet sky, glossy pearls adrift among the stars, transforming the night into a canvas of celestial magic. Songs and dances wove through the air, and a rich Christmas cake, shared in generous slices, sealed the moment in sweetness. For those fleeting hours, the cold, the mud, and the falls melted away, replaced by a warmth that filled the soul to overflowing. By 3 a.m., we retreated to cozy rooms, sinking into rest for the descent ahead.

Morning broke, and we set out to explore Grahan's ethereal beauty. The village's deodar-wood houses stood as relics of timeless craftsmanship, their carved facades softened by blankets of snow, each plank whispering tales of generations past. Narrow lanes, dusted with fresh powder, crunched underfoot, leading us past frozen streams that sparkled like veins of crystal in the morning light. Smoke curled from chimneys, rising in delicate, silvery wisps that danced with the dawn's golden rays, weaving a spell of quiet magic that seemed to still the world. The snow was a pristine quilt, untouched save for our footprints, its surface catching the sunlight in a dazzling play of light and shadow, as if the valley itself were breathing with life. Beyond the village, the snow-capped peaks of the Parvati Valley soared, their summits kissed by clouds, their slopes glistening with a purity that felt almost sacred. Pine and cedar forests, laden with snow, framed the horizon, their branches sagging gracefully, as if bowing to the valley's majesty. The air, crisp with the scent of woodsmoke and frost, carried a purity that cleansed the spirit, filling the soul with a quiet reverence for this untouched paradise. Every vista was a painting, every moment a brushstroke of wonder, as Grahan's beauty wove its magic deep into our hearts.

Later that morning, around 10 a.m., we began our descent, a journey as unforgettable as the ascent. The path, softened by milder temperatures, was kinder now, the villagers' thoughtful scattering of soil and gravel over icy patches offering grip where we once faltered. Our falls, though fewer, marked the valley with our presence, each stumble a playful signature on this sacred land. With no rush to reach the base camp, we savored every step, the moonlight casting the snow in a silvery glow, transforming the trail into a corridor of stardust. The landscape was a storybook come alive—snow-laden pines glowing faintly, their silhouettes etched against a sky strewn with stars, and distant peaks standing as silent guardians of this enchanted realm.



The beauty was overwhelming, each turn revealing a new marvel: a frozen brook reflecting the moon, a snowflake catching the light like a tiny prism, a wisp of mist curling like a spirit through the trees. Our hearts and eyes brimmed with the valley's magic, an ethereal splendor that felt like a gift from the divine. Grahan Village is a pilgrimage for the soul, a sacred journey where the heart finds solace in the embrace of nature's untouched splendor. Each step through the snow-draped trails, beneath the watchful gaze of towering, snow-capped peaks, feels like a communion with the divine, where the world's chaos dissolves into a profound tranquility. The air, crisp with the scent of pine and woodsmoke, carries a stillness that soothes the spirit, while the gentle crunch of snow underfoot and the whisper of mist through ancient trees weave a symphony of peace. The village's rustic wooden homes, glowing softly against the pristine white landscape, seem to cradle the weary traveler, offering a sanctuary where time slows and the soul breathes freely. In Grahan, the ethereal beauty of the Parvati Valley - its shimmering snowfields, crystalline streams, and starlit skies - casts a spell of serene magic, filling the heart with a quiet joy that lingers long after the journey ends, making it a true haven for those seeking to rediscover their inner peace.

Grahan Village is more than a destination; it is a feeling - a place where the heart finds solace, where the clamor of the world fades into the gentle rustle of leaves and the whisper of the wind. The journey back to the base camp was bittersweet, the memories of snow-laden trails and the serene beauty of Grahan etched into our souls. For those seeking tranquility, peace, and a refuge for the weary spirit, Grahan is the answer - a nest for lost souls, a place where the mountains cradle you in their timeless embrace.



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Dr. Saju N., Professor in Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering has been designated as the Principal of NSS College of Engineering Palakkad from 1st June 2025.



Students of Computer Science & Engineering Department (2021-25 batch) have secured 100% in S8 results.



World Environment Day Celebrations 2025 organized by the Department of Civil Engineering in association with the IEI Civil Students Chapter. Principal Dr. Saju N inaugurated the celebrations by planting saplings on our campus.



Art by Sri. Arun T Nair,
Tradesman, Electrical
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OBITUARY



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