



Dates To Remember

- 30th November 2011 : Registration and submission of Extended Abstracts
- 10th December 2011 : Submission of full paper by YSA contestants
- 15th December 2011 : Communication of acceptance of papers other than YSA contestants
- 31st December 2011 : Communication of acceptance of papers for YSA contestants & Closure of Registration for other participants.
- 7th January 2012 : Intimation letter to participants

President
24th Kerala Science Congress

Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai
Executive Vice President, Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment

Chairman
24th Kerala Science Congress Committee

Prof. C. G. Ramachandran Nair
Former Chairman, STEC.

Chairperson
Organising Committee

Smt. Sheela Thomas, I.A.S.
Chairman, Rubber Board, Kottayam

General Convenor
Organising Committee
24th Kerala Science Congress

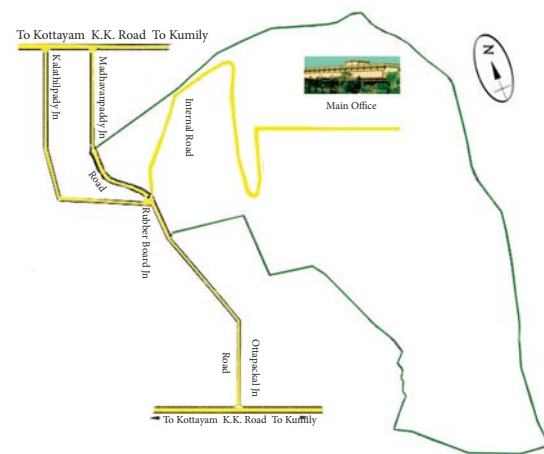
Dr. James Jacob
Director, Rubber Research Institute of India, Kottayam.

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

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RUBBER RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF INDIA, KOTTAYAM



24th KERALA SCIENCE CONGRESS

29-31 January 2012
Kottayam

Special Theme
“Climate Change :
Plantation Crops
& Spices of Kerala.”

Jointly sponsored by



Kerala State Council for Science Technology and Environment
Government of Kerala



Rubber Board
Government of India
Kottayam

Co-sponsored by



Department of Science & Technology
Government of India

INTRODUCTION

The Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE) as the umbrella organization of the research establishments in the State, in its effort to take stock of significant research and developments during the year, organises the annual Kerala Science Congress, to revitalize Research and Development (R&D) in the state and to identify new talents in scientific research in Kerala. The 24th session of the Kerala Science Congress (KSC) will be organised jointly by KSCSTE and Rubber Board at Kottayam during 29th to 31st January 2012.

Realising the critical role of Science and Technology in socio-economic development, Kerala has made substantial efforts to strengthen its science base through a number of research and development initiatives. In almost every key sector, whether it is agriculture, forestry, fisheries, industry, transport, environment, energy, material sciences, there are top class institutions undertaking research relevant to the needs of the State. Every sphere of science as well as the different phases of research – basic, strategic, applied and adaptive - are being addressed by the Universities and the R&D institutions in the State. Being a state with high population density and limited natural resources, wise use of the resources and building up human skills are essential.

SPECIAL THEME “Climate Change: Plantation Crops & Spices of Kerala”

The special theme for the 24th Kerala Science Congress is “Climate Change: Plantation Crops & Spices of Kerala”. The special theme will specifically consider the challenges and opportunities of climate change with particular thrust on its implications on Plantation Crops and Spices. The impact of climate change in the form of climate variability like floods and droughts could adversely affect spices and plantation crops to a large extent and thus there is an urgent need to adapt crop management, crop improvement and crop protection strategies in tune with projected climate change scenarios so as



to mitigate the ill effects of weather aberrations and sustain their production in ensuing decades. The productivity of spices and plantation crops is largely dependent on the environmental factors especially in different agro-ecological regions of Kerala. The total annual rainfall and its distribution, temperature and solar radiation are the most influential environmental factors governing their yield. Further, environmental factors are also responsible for the development of seasonal quality (flavour) in some regions in Kerala. It is also a known fact that pest and disease incidence is related to the weather pattern. Therefore, temperature rise, increase in ambient carbon dioxide concentration and extreme rainfall events (heavy rainfall and drought) brought about by climate change (global warming) can affect production and quality of crops through the influence of these factors on carbohydrate assimilation, respiration, evapotranspiration, pest and disease infestation, drought and flood incidence, and soil degradation. Eminent experts in the field will lead deliberations on the special theme.

OTHER SESSIONS :

There will be a panel discussion exclusively on “Science Communication and Journalism”. Science journalism is the key to the real treasure of the scientific knowledge, by virtue of which scientific knowledge and concepts could be carried to the common man. The real need for effective science communication to bring awareness and to inculcate scientific temper in common man has encouraged the KSCSTE to organise a panel discussion on the subject. The discussion would essentially concentrate on the trends now emerging in Kerala given the efforts, the slackness in quality and moves to improve it, the plurality of mass media, and a sound science and technology base of the State;

through an in-depth discussion it is intended at furthering the cause of science communication and inculcating scientific temper.

Apart from this, there is a special session on the “Cutting edge research areas in science and technology and their implications on Kerala’s development”. This scientific session will provide wide opportunities for intensive exchange of ideas on emerging trends in the fields of frontier areas of Science & Technology. The core science session will not only update on the current status of science and technology and new developments, but also in particular, consolidate and develop its understanding and application in frontier areas at a higher level.

The 24th Kerala Science Congress will have a number of sessions for providing an opportunity for intense interaction and knowledge sharing. General papers, contest papers and posters in the identified subject areas will be included. Particular thrust will be given to encourage young researchers through Young Scientist Awards and Children’s Science Congress. Kerala Science Congress will also provide a platform for interaction and exchange of ideas between scientists and young researchers working in different parts of the country.

VENUE AND DATE

The 24th Kerala Science Congress will be held at Rubber Research Institute of India, Rubber Board P.O., Kottayam during 29-31 January 2012.

BROAD SUBJECT AREA

Code	Subject Area
01	Agriculture
02	Fishery and Veterinary Sciences
03	Biotechnology
04	Chemical Sciences & Technology
05	Earth System Science & Geo-informatics
06	Engineering Science
07	Information Technology & Computer Science
08	Environmental Science including Forestry & Wildlife

- 09 Health Science
- 10 Life Science
- 11 Physical Science
- 12 Science & Society

Topics other than those mentioned in broad subject areas and papers on social aspects of Science and Technology can also be included, depending upon the merit of the study.

PARTICIPANTS

Participants for the Kerala Science Congress include researchers, technologists, teachers, industrialists, environmentalists, engineers, planners, policy makers, social workers and students.

LANGUAGE

Language of the congress is English. Papers may also be written and presented in Malayalam.

INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

Contributions in the form of Extended Abstracts on any of the broad subject areas are invited under one of the following three categories :

- (a) Contest papers for Young Scientist Award
- (b) Oral presentation
- (c) Poster presentation

YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARDS

The best contribution that satisfies the conditions of award in each of the broad subject areas (Code 01-12) will be awarded a Certificate of Merit with a prize money of ₹25,000/-. The awardees are also eligible for a contingency grant of ₹1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakh only) for two years for pursuing further



research. The contestants should submit Extended Abstract and full length paper as per the guidelines along with the nomination form provided in the conference website.

POSTER SESSION

Participants are encouraged to contribute Extended Abstracts for poster presentation. The best poster in each of the twelve broad subject areas will be awarded a Certificate of Merit.

MEMORIAL LECTURES

There will be three Memorial Lectures in honour of S & T visionaries, viz. P.T. Bhaskara Panicker, P.K. Gopalakrishnan and P.R. Pisharody.

CHILDREN’S SCIENCE CONGRESS

The state level winners of the National Children Science Congress will be felicitated during the Kerala Science Congress. They will be encouraged to present their project work before the scientific forum.

“SCIENCE EXPO”

An exhibition on S&T will be an additional attraction of the Science Congress, with the participation of major R&D Organisations, S&T Institutions and Industry. Science Expo will also host Students Science Exhibition and People Science Pavilion. Those who wish to participate in the exhibition may contact the Member Convenor, 24th Kerala Science Congress Committee (24ksc2012@gmail.com) on or before 30th December 2011 for further details.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONGRESS

All the accepted Extended Abstracts will be published in the Proceedings Volume. All registered participants are entitled for a free copy of the Proceedings Volume. It will be distributed only at the Science Congress venue.

REGISTRATION

Online registration alone is allowed for the 24th Kerala Science Congress. Kindly log on to the Science Congress 2012 website (www.ksc.kerala.gov.in) and follow the instructions to make online registration.

Registration Fee

The registration fee for the Science Congress is ₹500/- (Rupees five hundred only). However, bonafide students need to pay only ₹ 250/- (Rupees two hundred and fifty only). All the persons intending to participate in the Science Congress will have to register themselves by paying the registration fee



MODE OF PAYMENT

Registration fee can be paid through Bank Transfer using the NEFT facility. Money can be transferred to SB ACCOUNT – 3148395613 of CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, RRII EXTENSION COUNTER, RUBBER BOARD P.O., KOTTAYAM – 686 009 (IFSC Code of the branch: CBIN 0010955) from any Nationalised or scheduled bank having the NEFT facility. Delegates have to collect the Transaction ID from the bank which will be required for the completion of the registration process. Please note that along with the transaction ID, a short name of the registrant also should appear in the bank transaction list so as to reconcile the registration. Demand Draft drawn in favour of “Kerala Science Congress 2012” payable at Kottayam is also accepted under unavoidable circumstances. In such cases the demand draft number is to be incorporated into online registration form.

ACCOMMODATION

The Organizers will provide shared lodging facilities for registered participants based on a first-come first-serve basis.

