# Pala Palate

## SJIHMCT PALAI NEWSLETTER

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY · QUARTERLY · VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4, JAN-MAR 2026 · OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SJIHMCT PALAI



NAAC ACCREDITED & WORLDCHEFS RECOGNISED HOTEL MANAGEMENT COLLEGE

ST. JOSEPH'S INSTITUTE *of* HOTEL MANAGEMENT & CATERING TECHNOLOGY, PALAI

MANAGED BY THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PALAI · APPROVED BY AICTE · AFFILIATED TO MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY, KOTTAYAM

# Pala Palate

SJIHMCT PALAI NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4, JANUARY - MARCH 2026



# SJIHMCT Newsbites

*Small Portions. Rich Flavour.*

## OUR CORE VALUES

- Abiding faith in the almighty
- Integrity and openness
- Respect for the individual
- Gender and social equity
- Recognition for creativity and innovation
- Total quality and market relevance
- Service to mankind
- Accountability to society
- Positive approach to everything
- Harmony with nature

## EDITORIAL MESSAGE

January to March 2026 unfolded as a season of milestones, memories, and meaningful learning at SJIHMCT Pala. At its heart stood Graduation Day—a proud and emotional celebration marking the culmination of journeys, the beginning of new paths, and the transformation of students into hospitality professionals ready for the world.

The campus continued to thrive with vibrant energy through Sports Day, spirited competitions, and a range of academic and club activities that blended skill, creativity, and collaboration. Signature experiences like the fine dining luncheon and Amchigele Konkan – Edition 2 further reflected our commitment to excellence and experiential learning.

Together, these moments capture the essence of growth, passion, and possibility that define our institution.

– The Editorial Team

## IN FOCUS

### A Grand Celebration of Achievement: Graduation Day of the 2022–26 Batch

The Graduation Day ceremony for the 2022–26 batch of St. Joseph's Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology was held on 27th March 2026 with great pride and grandeur. The event commenced with a formal procession, followed by the official declaration by the principal. The ceremony was graced by the esteemed Chief Guest, Dr. T. P. Sreenivasan IFS, and Guest of Honor, Mr. Anoop Peter, GM of Ferns, whose inspiring addresses motivated the graduating students.

A highlight of the programme was the presentation showcasing the journey of the batch, along with prize

distribution and recognitions. Deepu Joshy was honoured as the Best Outgoing Student, while Aravind Prasad received the Best Budding Chef award, Diana Mary Joseph was recognized as the Best Baker, Abhijith J Roy as the Best Front Office professional, and Christo Santhosh as the Best Housekeeping professional. The ceremony concluded with the graduation pledge, national anthem, and celebrations, marking a memorable milestone.





## Decoding Decisions: Insightful Guest Lecture on the Science Behind Decision Making

SJIHMCT, Pala, had the privilege of hosting a guest lecture on the thought-provoking topic “Science Behind Decision Making.” The session was led by Mr. Sarath Nambiar, Director, Trade and Investment Commission & Education South Asia, Government of Australia, who served as the resource person.

The programme was presided over by Hon. Chairman Msgr. Fr. Joseph Thadathil, while the Principal, Dr. Sheri Kurian, extended a warm welcome to the gathering.Ms. Rismrithi Joseph of IDP Kochi graced the occasion as the Guest of Honor. The session was highly engaging, offering valuable insights into decision-making processes, and witnessed active participation from both students and faculty.

The institution expressed its gratitude to Austrade for organizing the session. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof. Varghese Johnson.



## A Taste of Elegance: Fine Dining Luncheon for Distinguished French Guests

An atmosphere of sophistication and warmth marked the fine dining luncheon hosted at SJIHMCT, Pala for a distinguished group of French guests, including engineers, aviation experts from Airbus Industries, and academicians. The guests were treated to an exquisite menu thoughtfully curated by the institution’s talented chefs, reflecting culinary finesse and artistic presentation. Impeccable service was delivered by the students, showcasing professionalism, precision, and a deep understanding of hospitality standards. The occasion served as a perfect blend of cultural exchange and experiential learning, leaving a lasting impression on the guests while providing students with valuable real-world exposure.






## Flavours of the Coast: Amchigele Konkan – Edition 2 Unveiled

SJIHMCT, Palai proudly presents the second edition of Amchigele Konkan under its signature brand, Pala Palate—a vibrant celebration of coastal heritage and culinary artistry. This exclusive event invites distinguished guests and invitees to indulge in the soulful flavours of authentic Konkani cuisine, thoughtfully curated to offer a truly immersive dining experience.

Crafted by a skilled visiting chef in collaboration with the passionate students of SJIHMCT, the menu beautifully blends tradition with creativity. Each dish tells a story of culture, spice, and craftsmanship, reflecting the essence of Konkan's rich gastronomic legacy. More than just a feast, the event stands as a platform for experiential learning, innovation, and the celebration of hospitality excellence.




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## Exploring the Future: Masterclass on Artificial Intelligence in Business

SJIHMCT, Pala, organized an engaging online masterclass on "Artificial Intelligence in Business: Redefining the Manager's Role" on 13th March 2026 from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM. The session was conducted by Dr. Jordon Lazell from Essex Business School, University of Essex, who served as the resource person.

The masterclass provided valuable insights into the growing influence of artificial intelligence in modern business practices. Dr. Lazell highlighted the impact of AI on management and leadership, real-world applications across industries, and strategic approaches to organizational challenges. He also addressed the ethical and operational considerations involved in AI adoption.

The session was conducted live in an interactive format, allowing students to actively engage and gain a deeper understanding of emerging technological trends. The programme proved to be highly informative and enriched participants with knowledge essential for future industry readiness.




# ACADEMIC & CLUB ACTIVITIES

## Induction Programme Conducted for Second Semester Students

The induction programme for second semester students was successfully conducted on 5th and 6th January 2026,

following a well-structured schedule. The programme aimed to familiarize students with academic expectations, institutional practices, and various development opportunities. Sessions were carried out as per the planned schedule, ensuring a smooth and organized flow of activities. The initiative provided students with valuable guidance and orientation, helping them adapt to the new semester with clarity and confidence. Overall, the programme was effectively implemented and served as a beneficial platform for student engagement and preparedness.




## Interactive Peer Session on Table Service Enhances Learning

As part of a peer teaching initiative, a session on "Types of Table Service" was conducted for club members on Monday, 12 January 2025, at 3:35 p.m. in the Language Lab. The session was led by Muhammaed Razi of the VIII Semester, who presented the various styles of table service in a clear and engaging manner, making the concepts easy to understand. To reinforce learning, a quiz competition followed the session, generating enthusiastic participation among the members. Varghese M.T of the II Semester emerged as the winner, demonstrating a strong grasp of the topic. The session proved to be both informative and interactive, contributing significantly to the academic growth and professional development of the participants while promoting an effective peer learning environment.







## A Refreshing Learning Experience: Cinderella Mocktail Workshop

As part of its peer teaching initiative, the Le Sommelier Club organized a hands-on session on the "Cinderella Mocktail" on 13 January 2026 under the guidance of Faculty Coordinator Mr. Varghese Johnson, with Sherin Thomas, an VIII Semester BHM student specializing in Food & Beverage Service, serving as the resource person. The session provided practical training on the preparation, presentation, and service of a classic non-alcoholic beverage, where participants learned about ingredients, preparation methods, and the importance of balance, hygiene, and effective garnishing. Special emphasis was placed on glassware selection and presentation techniques to enhance visual appeal. The interactive session proved to be both informative and engaging, significantly enhancing the participants' practical knowledge and creativity while strengthening their understanding of professional beverage service standards.

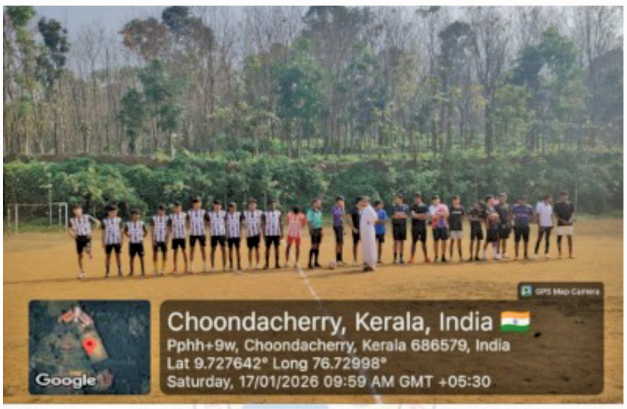





## LUSAIL 2K26 Fourth Edition Kicks Off with Great Enthusiasm

The fourth edition of LUSAIL 2K26 commenced at 9:30 a.m. on 17 January 2026 at the college ground, marking an exciting start to the much-anticipated event. The competition was formally inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Thomas Karottukizhakkayil, Fr. Joseph Vattapillil, Director of SJIHMCT, and Dr. Sheri Kurian, Principal of SJIHMCT, whose presence added significance to the occasion.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation and vibrant team spirit among students. After a series of competitive activities, the 4th Semester C Batch emerged as the overall winners, while the 8th Semester B Batch secured the position of First Runner-up. The event concluded on a high note, celebrating teamwork, sportsmanship, and student excellence.







## Front Office Club Hosts "Speak at the Desk" to Boost Communication Skills

The Front Office Club, in association with IQAC, successfully organized "Speak at the Desk" on 20th January 2026 at Room No. 50 from 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM, engaging students from the 2nd, 4th, and 8th semesters of BHM in a dynamic Front Office Extempore and Group Discussion session.

The programme aimed to enhance communication skills and build the professional confidence required in front office operations, with participants actively contributing to discussions and extempore rounds, demonstrating clarity of thought, subject knowledge, and effective hospitality communication. The session was lively and interactive, providing a valuable platform for students to express their ideas and refine their front office competencies, and it concluded successfully with certificates of achievement announced for the winners.







## Tourism Club Celebrates National Tourism Day with Photography Competition

In observance of National Tourism Day, the Tourism Club organized a photography competition titled "Explore the Unexplored" on 20 January 2026 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Seminar Hall. The programme commenced with a

welcome address by Mr. Athul Biju, setting an enthusiastic tone for the event. Five students participated, capturing unique and lesser-known perspectives from across the college campus, creatively highlighting its hidden beauty and tourism potential. Mr. Alan Joseph Babu of IV Semester A Batch secured the first prize, while Mr. Adarsh P. Roy won second place. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Ms. Aparna Sudarsanan, marking the successful completion of a creative and engaging celebration.



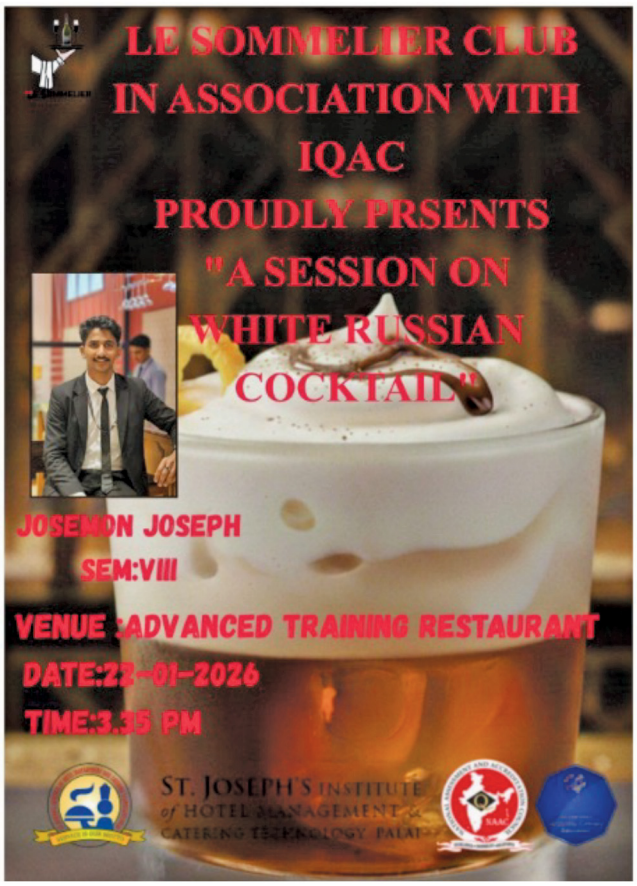





## Le Sommelier Club Conducts White Russian Cocktail Workshop

As part of its peer teaching initiative, the Le Sommelier Club organized a practical session on the preparation of the "White Russian Cocktail" on 22 January 2026 under the guidance of Faculty Coordinator Mr. Varghese Johnson, with Josemon Joseph, an VIII Semester BHM student specializing in Food & Beverage Service, serving as the resource person. The session focused on providing hands-on training in cocktail preparation, presentation, and service, where participants learned about ingredients, preparation methods, and the importance of balance, hygiene, and effective garnishing. Special emphasis was placed on glassware selection and presentation techniques to enhance visual appeal. The session was both informative and engaging, significantly enhancing the participants' practical knowledge and skills in professional cocktail preparation.



## Paryavarana Club Conducts Insightful Seminar on Climate Change

The Paryavarana Club successfully organized a seminar on “Climate Change” on 29 January 2026 at Room No. 205, with Ms. Criss Maria Benny of II Semester serving as the resource person. The session aimed to raise awareness about the causes, impacts, and long-term consequences of climate change, covering key topics such as global warming, greenhouse gases, melting glaciers, rising sea levels, and extreme weather conditions in a clear and engaging manner. Emphasis was also placed on the role of individuals and communities in adopting sustainable practices to mitigate environmental challenges. The seminar witnessed active participation from 17 students, who engaged in meaningful discussions and raised insightful questions. The programme concluded with an interactive session, encouraging students to embrace environmental responsibility and incorporate eco-friendly habits into their daily lives.



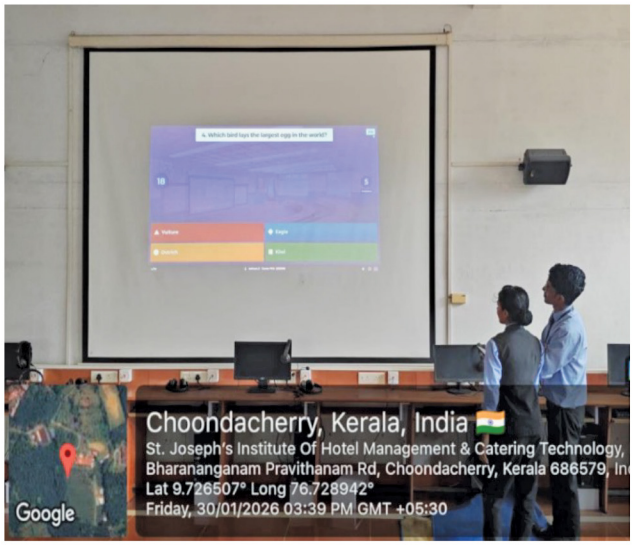




## Paryavarana Club Hosts “Wing & Wonders” Quiz for National Bird Day

The Paryavarana Club organized a quiz competition titled “Wing & Wonders” on 30 January 2026 in connection with National Bird Day, with the objective of enhancing students’ awareness about birds, their habitats, and the importance of conservation. The quiz featured engaging rounds on bird identification, fascinating facts, ecological significance, and threats faced by avian species, creating a lively and interactive learning environment. Students participated enthusiastically, demonstrating commendable knowledge and teamwork throughout the competition. The team of Athul Biju and Joshua Biju from IV Semester emerged as the winners, securing the first prize. The event successfully promoted environmental awareness while fostering healthy competition and collaborative learning among participants.




## Blossom Season 8” Showcases Floral Creativity and Talent

The Department of Housekeeping organized “Blossom Season 8”, a Flower Arrangement Competition, on 6 February 2026 at Room No. 312 under the coordination of Ms. Regy Joseph. The event aimed to promote creativity and enhance students’ decorative skills, witnessing enthusiastic participation from 38 students. Participants showcased their artistic flair by creating unique floral arrangements using a variety of flowers, foliage, and decorative elements. The exhibits were evaluated based on creativity, colour combination, theme, neatness, and overall visual appeal. The competition created a vibrant and engaging atmosphere, highlighting the significance of flower arrangement in hospitality settings such as hotels and events. The activity not only enhanced students’ presentation skills but also encouraged teamwork and time management. The event

concluded successfully, appreciating the efforts and creativity of all participants.



## Interactive Session on Bee's Knees Cocktail Preparation

The session commenced with an introduction to the history and significance of the "Bee's Knees" cocktail, followed by a detailed explanation of its ingredients and preparation method. The resource person demonstrated the step-by-step procedure, emphasizing accurate measurements, hygiene practices, and proper service etiquette. Students actively participated throughout the session, engaging in discussions, clarifying doubts, and exploring variations in cocktail preparation and presentation styles. The session proved to be both informative and interactive, significantly enhancing students' practical knowledge and understanding of professional cocktail service.




## Insightful Session on Sales & Marketing Strategies for Startups

The IIC and IEDC jointly organized a session titled "Effective Sales & Marketing Strategies for Startups" on 20 February 2025 at the Seminar Hall, coordinated by Mr. Anil Jose Vettom and Mr. Sujith Mathew George, with 48 participants in attendance. The session was led by Mr. Niby Kottaram, Founder and Managing Director of Kott Ventures Pvt. Ltd., who shared valuable insights from his entrepreneurial journey, highlighting challenges, risk-taking, and growth strategies. He elaborated on key concepts such as identifying target customers, building value propositions, leveraging digital marketing, and maintaining customer relationships. The interactive Q&A session further enriched the experience, addressing queries on funding, branding, and competition. The programme proved to be highly informative and motivating, offering practical exposure to real-world startup strategies.







## SJIHMCT Annual Sports Day Celebrated with Enthusiasm

The Annual Sports Day of St. Joseph's Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology (SJIHMCT) was held on 26 February 2026 at 9:30 AM at the college ground, witnessing enthusiastic participation from students and faculty members. The event was inaugurated by the Director, Fr. Joseph Vattapillil, marking the commencement of a day filled with energy, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Various sports and athletic events were conducted, encouraging active involvement and healthy competition among students. Faculty members extended their full support throughout the event and presented prizes to the winners, adding to the spirit of achievement and celebration. The programme concluded successfully, highlighting the importance of physical fitness, unity, and team spirit.




## Industrial Visit to Holiday Inn Kochi Enhances Practical Learning

An industrial visit to Holiday Inn Kochi was organized for Semester II, IV, and VIII students as part of the Student Development Programme, with 48 students participating. The visit commenced at 8:30 AM and featured informative sessions led by Ms. Sugandhi, HR Manager, and Mr. Vinu Kumar, L&D Manager. The students were introduced to the functions of the front office department, including reservation procedures, guest check-in and check-out processes, guest relations, and the use of property management systems. They also had the opportunity to interact with the front office manager and observe the real-time operations of a star hotel. The visit provided valuable practical exposure, helping students bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and industry practices, making it a highly informative and beneficial experience.




## SJIHMCT Annual Cricket Tournament Concludes with Exciting Matches

The SJIHMCT Annual Cricket Tournament was held on 27 February 2026 at the college ground, witnessing enthusiastic participation from eight teams. The event showcased remarkable sportsmanship, teamwork, and competitive spirit among the students. After a series of exciting matches, the 4th Semester C batch emerged as the champions, delivering an outstanding performance throughout the tournament. The 8th Semester B batch secured the position of First Runner-up, displaying commendable skill and determination. The tournament concluded on a high note, celebrating unity, athletic excellence, and the vibrant sporting culture of the institution.




## NDLI Club Hosts “Hospitality Master” Quiz with Enthusiastic Participation

The NDLI Club of SJIHMCT, in association with IQAC, organized a quiz titled “Hospitality Master” on 04 February 2026, attracting 48 registered participants. The event aimed to enhance students’ knowledge and awareness in the field of hospitality, creating an engaging and competitive learning environment. Participants showcased their expertise and quick thinking across various rounds, making the quiz both lively and intellectually stimulating. Jomal Jose of Semester 2B secured the first position, followed by Mathew George of Semester 2C in second place, while Abel Sabu of Semester 8A achieved third position. The programme concluded successfully, promoting academic excellence and encouraging students to actively engage in knowledge-based activities.



## Insightful Session on Statistical Tools and Data Analysis

The session commenced at 1:30 PM with an engaging introduction highlighting the importance of statistics in research and decision-making. Key statistical concepts, including measures of central tendency and dispersion, were clearly explained, providing a strong theoretical foundation. This was followed by guidance on questionnaire design, covering variables, their classification, and common errors to avoid during preparation. A live demonstration on accessing data through Google Forms and creating tables and charts for analysis added practical value to the session. Participants were also introduced to essential Excel functions, pivot tables, and various chart types. The session proved to be highly informative, enhancing students' understanding of data collection and analysis techniques.




## IV Semester Students Gain Practical Exposure at SJCET Hotel Kitchen

The IV Semester (2024–2028 Batch) students of SJIHMCT visited the SJCET Hotel Kitchen as part of their practical learning experience on 5th and 6th February 2026. To ensure effective observation and learning, the students were divided into three batches, each visiting the facility on different days. The visit provided valuable insights into professional kitchen operations, food preparation techniques, and hygiene standards followed in a hotel environment. Students had the opportunity to observe real-time culinary practices, enhancing their understanding of industry standards and bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application.







## Balancing Speed with Service: The F1 Butler Race Challenge

The F1 Butler Race Competition was organized by the Le Sommelier Club on 17 March 2026 at 1:00 PM. The event aimed to showcase essential food and beverage service skills. Four participants, dressed in proper waiter attire, competed by carrying a tray with a glass of water and racing to the finish line without spilling it. The competition tested balance, coordination, speed, and composure. The participants performed with great focus and determination, making the event both challenging and entertaining. Joyal K. Jomy and Nivil Shaji of IV Semester emerged as the winners.




## Every Drop Counts: World Water Day Awareness Seminar

The Paryavarana Club organized a seminar on the occasion of World Water Day 2026 on 31st March 2026 at 3:30 PM in Room No. 205, aiming to promote awareness on water conservation and sustainable practices. The session was led by Jibin Thomas, a II Semester student, who served as the speaker.

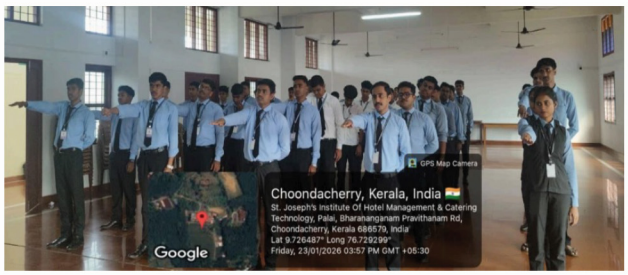
He shared insights on the importance of water as a vital resource, the challenges of water scarcity, and the need for responsible usage. The session also highlighted practical steps individuals can take to conserve water and protect the environment, making it both informative and impactful.




# EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

## NSS Unit Organizes Voters' Pledge Ceremony Ahead of National Voters' Day

In anticipation of National Voters' Day on 25 January, the NSS unit of SJIHMCT organized a formal "Voters' Pledge" ceremony on 23 January 2026 at 3:30 PM in the college Seminar Hall. The programme aimed to create awareness among students about their rights and responsibilities as citizens of a democratic nation. The event witnessed the participation of students, faculty members, and NSS volunteers. NSS Programme Officer Mr. Jojan Thomas addressed the gathering, emphasizing the significance of voting and the impact of each vote in shaping the nation's future. The ceremony featured the administration of the Voters' Pledge, where participants collectively affirmed their commitment to uphold the integrity of elections and vote responsibly. The session concluded with an encouraging note urging eligible students to register in the electoral rolls.







## Republic Day Celebrated with Patriotism and Pride at SJIHMCT

St. Joseph Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology celebrated Republic Day on 26 January 2026 at 9:00 AM with great enthusiasm and national spirit. The celebration began with the hoisting of the Indian National Flag by the esteemed Principal, Dr. Sheri Kurian, in the presence of students and faculty members, fostering a strong sense of unity and pride.

The ceremony included the singing of the National Anthem, followed by a brief address by the Principal highlighting the importance of patriotism, democracy, and the values enshrined in the Constitution of India. The celebration concluded on a meaningful note, inspiring participants to reaffirm their commitment to the nation's progress and uphold the ideals of the Constitution, making the event a memorable and successful occasion.






## Backwater Ripples Conducts Recruitment Drive at SJIHMCT

The Backwater Ripples team visited SJIHMCT at 11:30 AM to conduct a recruitment drive, providing students with a valuable career opportunity. The visit began with a meeting with the principal, followed by a detailed briefing on the company, its operations, and potential career prospects. This was followed by face-to-face interviews, where students had the opportunity to interact directly with the recruiters and demonstrate their skills and capabilities. The session offered meaningful exposure to real-world recruitment processes and played a significant role in enhancing students' career readiness in the hospitality industry.



## Housekeeping Training Programme Enhances Industry Skills

The Department of Housekeeping organized a training programme on 5 February 2026 at the Seminar Hall, coordinated by Ms. Regy Joseph, with the objective of enhancing participants' technical knowledge and practical skills in housekeeping operations. The session was led by Mr. Rajkumar, Regional Head of Schevran Company, and witnessed the active participation of 21 students. The resource person delivered an informative and interactive session on modern housekeeping practices, including the proper use of cleaning chemicals, safety precautions, and maintaining hygiene standards in the hospitality industry. He also emphasized the selection of suitable cleaning agents for different surfaces and introduced environmentally friendly cleaning solutions. The session included practical insights and demonstrations, with participants actively engaging through discussions and queries, making the programme highly beneficial and relevant to current industry practices.







## Seminar on AI and Its Applications Inspires Future-Ready Learning

The IEDC and IIC jointly organized a seminar titled "AI and Its Applications" on 6 February 2026 at the Seminar Hall, aimed at creating awareness about Artificial Intelligence and its growing relevance across industries, especially hospitality. The session was led by Ms. Rashmi Annamma George, Faculty of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science, SJCET, Palai, who delivered an insightful talk on AI fundamentals, core concepts, and real-world applications in healthcare, education, business, automation, and data analytics.

She also highlighted emerging trends, career opportunities, and the importance of acquiring AI-related skills. The seminar witnessed active participation from 62 students, followed by an interactive Q&A session that deepened their understanding. Overall, the programme was highly informative, motivating students to explore innovative AI-driven solutions.



## Faculty Development Programme at ASIET Strengthens Startup Ecosystem

Adi Shankara Institute of Engineering & Technology (ASIET), Kalady, organized a Faculty Development Programme on 13 February 2026 as a precursor to the IEDC Startup Summit 2026. The programme aimed to strengthen innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems across Central Zone institutions by enhancing faculty capacity in startup mentoring and IEDC engagement. The sessions covered key

areas such as outcome-based clustering models, governance structures, strategies for the Start-up Summit, strengthening IEDC initiatives, and fostering institutional networking. Resource persons from Kerala Startup Mission and leading engineering institutions shared valuable insights and practical frameworks.

The FDP served as an effective platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and strategic planning, empowering faculty members to mentor student innovators and contribute to a robust startup culture.

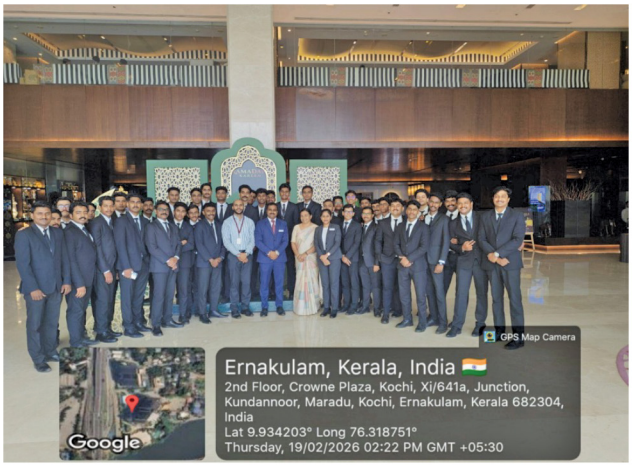



## Final Year Students Gain Industry Exposure at Crowne Plaza Cochin

An industrial visit (Accommodation IV) for final year specialization students was conducted on 26 February 2026 at Crowne Plaza Cochin. A total of 38 students participated, including 18 from Front Office specialization and 20 from housekeeping specialization.

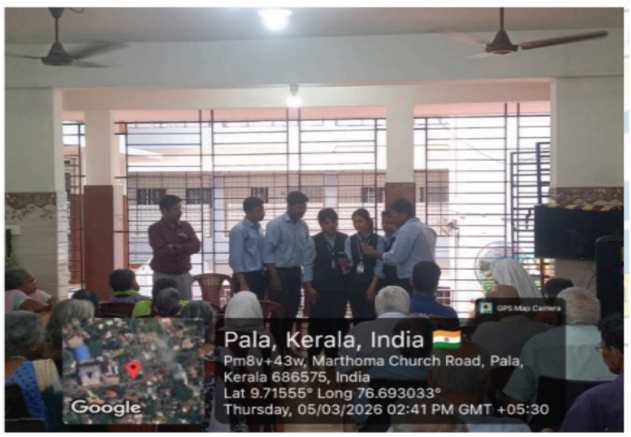
The visit featured two informative sessions led by the Front Office Manager and the Executive Housekeeper, providing valuable insights into departmental operations and industry practices. Students gained practical exposure to real-world hospitality standards and professional responsibilities.

The programme also included a buffet lunch for all participants, adding to the overall experience. The visit proved to be highly beneficial, enhancing students' understanding of accommodation operations and preparing them for future careers in the hospitality industry.




## Outreach Visit to S.D. Convent Spreads Joy and Compassion

On 5 March 2026, at around 2:00 PM, a group of students visited S.D. Convent as part of a meaningful outreach initiative. Prior to the visit, edible and non-edible items were collected from students, faculty, and non-teaching staff, which were then handed over to the Mother in charge at the convent. Around ten students actively participated in the visit, presenting songs and dance performances that brought joy to the residents. The team also spent quality time interacting with them, fostering a sense of compassion and connection. The visit concluded at approximately 4:00 PM, leaving behind memorable moments and a spirit of kindness and social responsibility among the participants.






## IEDC Summit 2026 Inspires Innovation and Entrepreneurial Thinking

The IEDC Summit 2026 was held on 6 and 7 March 2026 at Amal Jyothi College of Engineering, aiming to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among students and institutions. The summit featured insightful sessions by industry experts and startup leaders, beginning with an inaugural address by Mr. Anoop Ambika, CEO of Kerala Startup Mission. Day one included sessions on innovation ecosystems, startup incubation, entrepreneurship-driven career growth, CSR funding, and opportunities in the Smart India Hackathon, along with an outing for Nodal Officers to Kuttikanam. The second day featured notable speakers including Dr. Lillykutty Jacob, Seeram Sambasiva Rao IAS, and Dr. N. Jayaraj, alongside inspiring talks by Joy Sebastian, Nahaz Basheer, and Mohammed Ajmal C. Participants also explored innovative student projects and interacted with young entrepreneurs, gaining valuable insights and inspiration.




## Women's Day Celebration Brings Joy and Togetherness

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the lady faculty members of the college organized a delightful outing to Paika, creating a warm and cheerful atmosphere of togetherness. The gathering was hosted at the residence of a faculty member, where participants were warmly welcomed.

The day featured a variety of fun games and engaging activities that encouraged interaction, bonding, and team spirit among the faculty members. A delicious meal further added to the enjoyment, allowing everyone to relax and connect in a friendly setting.

The programme served as a refreshing break from routine, concluding successfully with cherished memories and a strengthened sense of camaraderie among all participants.




## IQAC Celebrates Women's Day with Inspiring Session

The IQAC organized a Women's Day Celebration on 09 March 2026 at the Seminar Hall to commemorate International Women's Day, aiming to recognize women's achievements and promote gender equality and empowerment. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Regy Joseph, who welcomed the participants and emphasized the importance of celebrating women's contributions across various fields. The session featured an inspiring talk by Ms. Sobhana Jaya Madhavan, who highlighted the significance of self-confidence, empowerment, and the role of women in shaping society, sharing valuable insights and experiences. The event saw the active participation of 16 attendees, fostering meaningful discussions and interaction. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks, marking a successful and impactful celebration that encouraged continued efforts toward equality and respect for women.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

## Placements for Outgoing Students

The placement season for the outgoing batch has been a remarkable success, reflecting the institution's strong industry connections and commitment to student development. Out of 116 students, 93 were successfully placed, while the remaining students chose to pursue higher studies or explore independent career opportunities.
A significant highlight of this year's placements is the achievement of 19 students securing international placements at KOUT, Kuwait. In total, students received 133 placement offers from 17 reputed hospitality brands.
This accomplishment stands as a testament to the dedication of our students and the continuous support of the institution in shaping future hospitality professionals.




## SJIHMCT NSS Volunteers Participate in MG University NSS Kalolsavam 2026

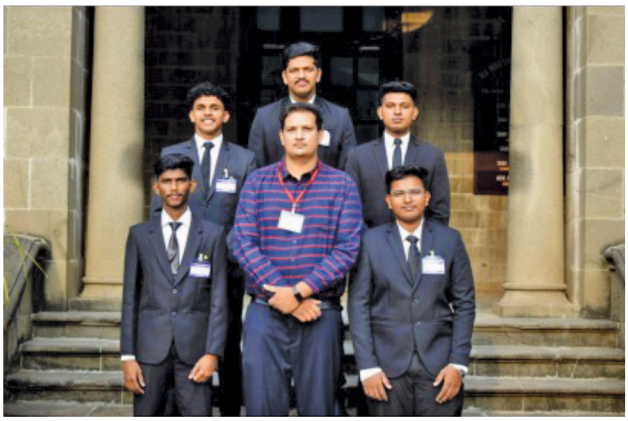
The NSS volunteers of St. Joseph's Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology (SJIHMCT), Unit No. 272, actively participated in the MG University NSS Kalolsavam 2026 held at DB College, Thalayolaparambu, on 6 February 2026. The festival, which celebrates the artistic talents and social commitment of NSS volunteers, witnessed enthusiastic participation from various colleges.

Representing SJIHMCT, a dedicated team of three volunteers showcased their skills across multiple literary and creative events. Aravind S (2nd Year BHM) competed in Spot Photography, Anugraha Santhosh (2nd Year BHM) participated in Malayalam Short Story Writing, and Adon Alex (1st Year BHM) took part in English Story Writing, Poem Writing, and Cartoon Drawing. Their active involvement highlighted the creative excellence and vibrant spirit of the institution.




## Athithya 2026 Showcases Excellence in Hospitality Education

The prestigious Athithya 2026 – National Hospitality Competition was successfully hosted at AISSMS College, Pune, bringing together talented hospitality students from across India. The event commenced with a grand inaugural ceremony led by delegates of the All India Shivani Society, who highlighted the importance of professionalism, innovation, and excellence in the industry. Participants engaged in a variety of hospitality-based competitions designed to test their skills, creativity, technical knowledge, teamwork, and presentation abilities. The event provided a vibrant platform for learning, competition, and cultural exchange among aspiring professionals. The competition concluded with a grand valedictory function, where winners and runners-up were honored with certificates, trophies, and special recognitions in the presence of esteemed dignitaries, judges, and faculty members.



## New Horizons in Hospitality: Launch of Master's in Tourism & Aviation Management

SJIHMCT, Pala proudly announces the introduction of a new postgraduate programme — the Master's in Tourism & Aviation Management (MATAM), marking a significant milestone in the institution's journey towards academic excellence and industry relevance. Designed to meet the evolving demands of the global tourism and aviation sectors, the programme offers a dynamic curriculum supported by experienced faculty and industry integration.
In addition, admissions for the Bachelor of Hotel

Management (BHM) programme are now open for the 2026 academic year. With a strong focus on practical learning, professional training, and placement opportunities, SJIHMCT continues to nurture future leaders in hospitality and allied sectors.

This new initiative reflects the institution's commitment to innovation, global exposure, and career-oriented education.




## From Campus to Global Career

SJIHMCT, Pala proudly celebrates the international placement of Mr. Anto Mon Anil (2021–2025 batch), who has been placed at Marquardt GmbH, Germany, as a Commis through the January 2026 campus recruitment. This remarkable achievement stands as a testament to his dedication, consistent hard work, and the disciplined approach he maintained throughout his academic journey, which ultimately prepared him to step confidently into a global professional environment.

His placement not only marks a proud milestone for him personally but also reflects the strong foundation, practical exposure, and industry-oriented training imparted at SJIHMCT, Pala. It highlights the institution's continued commitment to nurturing talent, ensuring quality training, and opening meaningful career pathways for students across international platforms. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Anto Mon Anil on this well-deserved achievement and wish him great success, growth, and new learning experiences as he begins this exciting chapter of his professional journey in Germany.




## REMEMBERING JOPPAN SEBAN

With deep sorrow, the SJIHMCT family remembers Joppan Seban of the BHM 2025–2029 batch, whose untimely passing has left a void that words cannot fill. Known for his warm smile and kind-hearted nature, he was a cherished member of our campus community.

Though his journey with us was brief, the memories he created and the friendships he nurtured will remain forever in our hearts. His presence brought joy to those around him, and his absence is deeply felt by classmates, faculty, and all who knew him. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. May his soul rest in peace.



# Pala Palate

SJIHMCT PALAI NEWSLETTER

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