

New studies on Kerala

Young Scholars' Forum, GIFT

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Investment, Finance, and Financial Institutions

Other Articles

1. Sodaran, K., & Athullya. (2026). The role of Kerala Bank in advancing financial inclusion: An analysis of cooperative banking development in Kerala. SSRN.

The paper analyses the institutional consolidation of cooperative banks under Kerala Bank between 2019 and 2025 and evaluates its impact on deposit mobilization, digital payments, financial outreach, and inclusive development. It argues that the strengthening of Kerala Bank contributed to Kerala's broader social-development model by improving access to banking and financial services, while also identifying persistent challenges such as governance issues, technology adoption gaps, and rising NPAs in weaker cooperative societies. The study recommends stronger supervision, financial literacy initiatives, digital onboarding, and performance-based reforms to improve the effectiveness of cooperative banking in supporting inclusive and sustainable economic development in Kerala.

2. P. T., R. (2026). Impact of digital accounting systems adoption on financial performance and transparency among SMEs in Kerala

The paper examines how the adoption of Digital Accounting Systems (DAS) affects the financial performance and transparency of SMEs in Kerala. Using survey-based quantitative analysis, the study finds strong positive relationships between digital accounting adoption, improved transparency in financial reporting, and better business

performance outcomes. The research argues that digitalisation of accounting practices enhances operational efficiency, accountability, and decision-making capacity among SMEs. It further recommends that policymakers and business-support institutions promote accounting digitalisation through training, awareness, and technological support initiatives to strengthen Kerala's SME ecosystem and financial management practices.

3. Sabu, A., (2026). Econometric investigation of sectoral contributions to remittance inflows in Kerala using the VECM framework. Discover Global Society, 4, Article 34.

This research examines how remittance inflows contribute to Kerala's economic development through different sectors such as agriculture, industry, and services. Using the Vector Error Correction Model (VECM), the study analyzes both long-term and short-term relationships between remittances and sectoral growth. The findings reveal that remittances significantly influence Kerala's economy, particularly through the agricultural and industrial sectors. The paper emphasizes the importance of channeling remittance income into productive investments rather than consumption alone. It also highlights Kerala's unique dependence on migration-driven financial inflows within the broader Indian economy. Overall, the study contributes to understanding remittance-led regional economic development.

4. Sharma, M., & Royit, A. (2026). FinTech's role in enhancing financial inclusion and e-governance.

This study examines how FinTech innovations contribute to improving financial inclusion and strengthening e-governance systems. The paper highlights how technologies such as digital wallets, mobile money, biometric authentication, and e-KYC reduce barriers faced by low-income and rural populations in accessing financial services. It also discusses how digital Government-to-Person (G2P) payment systems enhance transparency, efficiency, and accountability in welfare distribution and tax collection. The research finds that FinTech adoption lowers transaction costs, expands

financial access, and reduces corruption in public service delivery. The study concludes that supportive regulations and investments in digital literacy are necessary to maximize the benefits of FinTech for inclusive and effective governance.

Society and Culture

Book Chapter

1. Adhikary, S., Das, J., Das, P., & Elakodical, M. P. (2026). India's diversity and business.

India's Diversity and Business explores how India's vast cultural, linguistic, regional, religious, and economic diversity shapes its business environment. The book discusses how businesses must adapt their strategies to different consumer preferences, workforce dynamics, and regional market conditions. It highlights the opportunities created by diversity, such as innovation, market expansion, and inclusive growth, while also addressing challenges like social tensions and regional inequalities. The authors emphasize the importance of diversity management in organizations to improve productivity and competitiveness. Overall, the book presents diversity as both a social reality and a strategic business factor in India's evolving economy.

Other articles

1. Arunlal, K., & Srinivas, C. S. (2026). Governmentality and Malayalam cinema in the 20th century.

This paper examines how Malayalam cinema reflects and critiques Kerala's social, political, and cultural transformations in the postcolonial period. Drawing from theories of governmentality and modernity, the book explores how cinema represented institutions such as education, healthcare, migration, and family structures in shaping the "modern Malayali subject." It particularly focuses on the impact of liberalization and Gulf migration on Kerala society during the 1980s-2000s. Through analyses of

popular melodramas like Thaalavattam, Varavelpu, and Arabikkatha, the authors show how films captured tensions between modernization, cultural identity, and social change. The book argues that Malayalam cinema serves as a key site for understanding Kerala's developmental history and collective social imagination.

2. Mathew, S., & Thomas, S. (2026). *Kinship, language and cultural identity: An analysis of kinship terms in Hermann Gundert's A Malayalam-English Dictionary*. *ISHAL PAITHRKAM*, 86-95.

The study analyses kinship terminology in *A Malayalam-English Dictionary* by Hermann Gundert to explore the relationship between language, kinship, and cultural identity in nineteenth-century Kerala. The article argues that Gundert's dictionary functioned not only as a linguistic resource but also as an ethnographic record documenting Kerala's plural social structure, including matrilineal and patrilineal traditions, caste relations, regional linguistic variation, and multilingual cultural exchange. By examining the historical meanings and transformations of kinship terms, the study demonstrates how language encoded social hierarchy, community identity, and cultural values. The paper further positions Gundert's lexicographic work as an early form of sociolinguistic inquiry that reveals the deep interconnections between Malayalam language development and Kerala's cultural history.

3. Manoj, P. K., & Aithal, P. S. (2026). *The intersection of tribal arts and ecotourism: A catalyst for sustainable development in Kerala, India*. *ShodhKosh: Journal of Visual and Performing Arts*, 7(10s).

The study explores how tribal art forms contribute to ecotourism and sustainable development in biodiversity-rich regions of Kerala such as Wayanad, Idukki, Parambikulam, and Vazhachal. Using a mixed-methods approach, the paper analyses the role of tribal dances, rituals, handicrafts, and cultural performances in enhancing ecotourism while generating livelihood opportunities for indigenous communities. The findings suggest that participation in ecotourism activities significantly increases

seasonal household incomes for tribal artisans, although commercialization also creates risks of cultural commodification and "staged authenticity." To address these concerns, the study proposes a Cultural Sustainability Index (CSI) framework along with a decentralized ICT-enabled direct-to-consumer model aimed at reducing economic leakage and preserving the authenticity of tribal cultural heritage. The paper highlights the importance of integrating indigenous knowledge systems and cultural preservation into Kerala's sustainable tourism and regional development strategies.

4. *Al-Hudawi, M. J. A., & Ahmad, K. (2026). Community institutions and minority resilience among Muslims in Kerala. Hamdard Islamicus, 49(1).*

The article examines the institutional foundations that have enabled Muslim communities in Kerala to preserve their religious identity and social cohesion within a pluralistic social environment. The study argues that Kerala's Muslims maintained strong religiosity and communal resilience not through major reinterpretations of Islamic law, but through the development of locally rooted community institutions such as the Mahal system of self-governance, Q??? institutions, religious educational networks, scholarly associations, and community leadership structures. Drawing on secondary literature and field observations, the paper highlights how these institutions contributed to socio-economic stability, peaceful coexistence, and continuity of religious traditions over centuries. The study positions Kerala's experience as an alternative model to contemporary minority jurisprudence debates and emphasizes the continuing importance of community-based institutional frameworks in sustaining minority resilience within non-Muslim majority societies.

Agriculture and Rural Economy

Scopus Indexed

1. Alphonso, R., Arumugam, T. D., & Cheela, V. R. S. (2026). *Integrated environmental and economic trade-offs in rice cultivation in emerging economies using a life cycle approach. Discover Environment, 4, 47*

The study by R. Alphonso, T. D. Arumugam, and V. R. S. Cheela analyses the environmental and economic trade-offs associated with rice cultivation across different Indian agro-climatic regions, including Kerala, using an integrated Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA) framework. The research identifies key sustainability challenges such as greenhouse gas emissions, water stress, ecotoxicity from chemical inputs, and rising production costs linked to imported sustainable alternatives. The study further highlights a major trade-off between reducing mechanisation to lower carbon emissions and the resulting increase in labour intensity and production costs. By comparing rice production systems across multiple states, the paper demonstrates the need for region-specific policy interventions, balanced subsidy reforms, improved access to sustainable agricultural inputs, and stronger environmental regulation. The findings contribute to broader debates on sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, rural employment, and equitable development in emerging economies

2. Sreedaya, G. S., Smitha, S., Mathew, R., Patil, S. S., Sreelakshmi, K., Aswathi, K. R., Chinchu, V. S., Gopika, S., & Shalini, J. R. (2026). *Key catalysts and constraints of urban agriculture for sustainable food systems: A case study of Thiruvananthapuram, India. Plant Science Today, 13(sp1)*

The study examines the major catalysts and constraints influencing urban agriculture in Thiruvananthapuram city, Kerala, using a mixed-methods approach involving surveys and focus group discussions with urban farmers. The findings show that urban agriculture contributes significantly to sustainable food systems through socio-

economic benefits, ecosystem services, and improvements in physical and psychological well-being. Among these, fitness and well-being emerged as the strongest motivating factors, with participants highlighting mental health benefits and reduction in lifestyle-related disorders. The study also identifies several barriers to the expansion of urban agriculture, including limited access to timely information, weak extension support, shortage of agricultural inputs, poor soil fertility, and rising labour and input costs. The research concludes that strengthening institutional support, improving extension services, and promoting sustainable urban farming policies are essential for enhancing food security, environmental sustainability, and urban resilience in Kerala.

Other articles

1. Meena, D., Thasnimol, F., Jain, D. K., Kumari, D., & Vijayan, A. (2026). Economic analysis of sugarcane cultivation in Kerala, India. Journal of Scientific Research and Reports, 32(2), 533-543.

The study by Deepak Meena and co-authors analyses the economics and resource-use efficiency of sugarcane cultivation in Kerala using data collected from 120 farmers through multi-stage random sampling. The findings show that sugarcane cultivation is profitable, with a benefit-cost ratio of 1.27 and positive net returns at cost C2. However, the study also reveals that hired human labour constitutes a major share of production costs, accounting for more than half of total cultivation expenses. Using a Cobb-Douglas production function, the research identifies that inputs such as setts, fertilizers, and human labour significantly contribute to production outcomes. The resource-use efficiency analysis further indicates overutilization of organic manure and labour, alongside underutilization of chemical fertilizers, machine labour, and quality planting materials. The study highlights the need for better input allocation and mechanisation strategies to improve productivity and profitability in Kerala's sugarcane sector.

2. Amaljith, V. J., & Sunil, V. G. (2026). *Exploring farmer-ranked constraints affecting Kole paddy productivity: A study from Thrissur district of Kerala, India. Archives of Current Research International, 26(1), 42-50.*

The study investigates the major constraints affecting the productivity of Kole paddy cultivation in Thrissur district, Kerala. Using data collected from 120 farmers across selected Padasekharams and applying Garrett's ranking technique, the study identifies climate change-induced extreme weather events as the most critical challenge affecting production stability. Other major constraints include rising input costs, pest and disease outbreaks, labour shortages, delayed subsidy disbursement, inadequate mechanisation, and weak irrigation and drainage infrastructure. The research also highlights institutional weaknesses such as poor coordination among departments and limited farmer awareness of government support schemes. The study concludes that improving the sustainability and productivity of Kole farming requires integrated policy interventions combining climate-resilient agricultural practices, institutional reforms, technological support, and better rural infrastructure.

3. Jestas, J., Sangeetha, K. G., & Anupama, S. (2026). *Farmer preparedness and constraints for agribusiness opportunities at Vizhinjam International Seaport, Kerala. Indian Journal of Extension Education, 62(1), 200-204*

The study examines the preparedness of farmers in Thiruvananthapuram district to utilize emerging agribusiness opportunities linked to the Vizhinjam International Seaport. Using survey data from 100 farmers along with focus group discussions and expert consultations, the research identifies and ranks the major constraints affecting participation in port-led agribusiness activities. The findings reveal that institutional and policy-related barriers, including frequent policy changes and inadequate export-extension support, are the most significant obstacles to farmer readiness. Additional challenges include fragmented markets, weak farmer producer organizations, labour shortages, digital divides, and land fragmentation. The study concludes that governance and systemic constraints play a more decisive role than farm-level issues

in shaping export preparedness. It recommends stable policies, ICT-enabled extension services, stronger farmer collectives, and targeted capacity-building programmes to integrate smallholder farmers more effectively into global agricultural value chains through the Vizhinjam port project.

4. Anupama, S., Sangeetha, K. G., & Thomas, A. (2026). *Constraints affecting the adoption of low-carbon agricultural technologies in Kerala. Indian Journal of Extension Education, 62(1), 221-225*

The study investigates the major constraints affecting the adoption of low-carbon agricultural technologies among farmers in Kerala. Conducted across the districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, and Kasaragod, the research identifies unpredictable weather conditions, labour shortages, and high input costs as the most severe barriers to adopting climate-friendly farming practices. The study further highlights market and economic challenges, including inadequate marketing facilities and limited access to inputs, as important obstacles limiting farmers' willingness to shift toward sustainable agriculture. Interestingly, knowledge and awareness-related factors were ranked relatively lower, suggesting that awareness alone is insufficient without addressing deeper structural and financial barriers. The research concludes that district-specific extension strategies combined with broader state-level policy support are necessary to accelerate Kerala's transition toward carbon-neutral and sustainable agriculture.

5. Devi, V. & Anitha, V. (2026). *Unveiling the economics of garlic cultivation in Kerala: A comprehensive investigation in Kanthalloor. International Journal of Social Science and Economic Research, 11(3).*

This study explores the economic aspects of garlic cultivation in Kanthalloor, a major agricultural region in Kerala. The paper discusses the significance of agriculture in Kerala's economy and highlights garlic as a high-value crop with strong market demand and medicinal importance. It examines the cultivation practices, production

requirements, and profitability associated with garlic farming. The study also emphasizes the economic benefits for farmers, including low input costs, long storage life, and high returns on investment. Additionally, the research considers the broader contribution of garlic cultivation to rural livelihoods and agricultural diversification in Kerala. Overall, the article presents garlic farming as a sustainable and economically viable agricultural activity.

Labour

Scopus Indexed

1. Rajan, S. I., & Akhil, C. S. (2026). Recruitment Costs of Migrant Workers. In Indians in the United States of America (pp. 257-274).

The study analyses the recruitment costs incurred by migrant workers from Kerala using data from the Kerala Recruitment Cost Survey 2023. Focusing on the Sustainable Development Goal indicator related to fair migration costs, the study finds that migrant workers bear substantial financial burdens before overseas employment, with median recruitment expenses exceeding two months of salary. Travel costs and private recruitment agency fees emerge as the largest components of expenditure, while less-educated and lower-income migrants face disproportionately higher burdens. The study further shows that although social networks remain the dominant recruitment channel, dependence on private agencies and informal intermediaries significantly increases costs and vulnerability. The findings highlight structural inequalities within labour migration systems and call for stronger regulation of recruitment practices, better migrant protection policies, and more transparent migration governance frameworks.

2. Kurian, S. A., & Ajayaghosh, D. (2026). How a flexible mindset unlocks work-life balance and mindfulness: Insights from Kerala's bank managers. In R. El Khoury

(Ed.), *Empowering business through technology: Innovations shaping our future (Studies in Systems, Decision and Control, Vol. 620)*

The study examines how a flexible mindset mediates the relationship between mindfulness and work-life balance among commercial bank managers in Kerala. Using a mixed-methods approach involving interviews with managers and survey data from 200 respondents, the study analyses psychological and organisational dimensions of employee well-being in the banking sector. Structural equation modelling reveals that a flexible mindset fully mediates the relationship between mindfulness and work-life balance, suggesting that adaptive thinking patterns are essential for managing workplace stress and maintaining personal well-being in a rapidly changing banking environment marked by mergers, privatisation, and organisational transformation. The study contributes to discussions on human resource management, workplace mental health, and organisational sustainability in Kerala's banking sector and recommends managerial strategies to improve employee resilience and productivity.

Book Chapter

1. Rahman, A., & Ansari, P. A. (2026). COVID-19 and its effects on Gulf returnees in India: A case study of Kerala. In A. Rahman & M. Suhail (Eds.), Migration, diaspora and transnationalism (International Perspectives on Migration).

The chapter examines the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Gulf return migrants in Kerala, focusing on their post-return vulnerabilities and challenges. The study highlights how migrant workers, who previously formed a crucial pillar of Kerala's economy through remittances and overseas employment, became economically and socially marginalized after returning during the pandemic. Based on a study of 500 participants from Malappuram and Ernakulam districts, the research reveals that many returnees, particularly those employed in informal sectors in Gulf countries, lacked social protection, labour rights awareness, and institutional support. The chapter argues that despite Kerala's widely praised pandemic response, return migrants struggled with unemployment, social exclusion, reintegration

difficulties, and weakened social networks. By situating the experiences of Gulf returnees within broader discussions on migration, labour precarity, and transnational vulnerability, the study highlights the need for stronger rehabilitation policies, labour protections, and reintegration frameworks for migrant workers in Kerala

Other articles

1. Anandhu, P. S., & Sadath, A. C. (2026). Structure of labour market in coir spinning and its implications for workers' welfare: Evidence from Kerala (Post-print hal-05459865). HAL.

The study examines labour-market conditions in Kerala's traditional coir spinning industry, focusing on how labour-market imperfections affect workers' welfare. Using panel data from 40 coir primary societies in Alappuzha district between 2010 and 2024, the paper estimates labour supply elasticity to assess the degree of monopsony power in the sector. The findings reveal that labour supply remains relatively inelastic, indicating limited worker bargaining power and restricted mobility. Even after correcting for endogeneity through 2SLS estimation, the results continue to show structural constraints and monopsonistic tendencies within the industry. The study concludes that the persistence of such labour-market conditions adversely affects worker welfare and highlights the need for policy measures aimed at improving wage structures, labour mobility, and social protection for workers in Kerala's traditional rural industries.

2. Jana, R., & Srivastava, A. K. (2026). Rural job loss and livelihood challenges during the COVID-19 crisis. Mansarovar Global University.

This article examines the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on rural employment and livelihoods in India. It highlights how lockdowns, market disruptions, and migration reversals caused significant job losses among agricultural workers, informal labourers, and small-scale rural workers. The study discusses the economic hardships faced by rural households, including reduced income, food insecurity, and growing

debt burdens. It also evaluates government relief measures such as employment schemes, food distribution, and cash transfers, noting the limitations in implementation. The paper emphasizes the structural weaknesses of rural labour markets and calls for stronger social protection systems, diversified employment opportunities, and sustainable rural development strategies.

Gender and Social Inclusion

Scopus Indexed

I.T., Chandra, P., & Filal, F. (2026). Kudumbashree's Lunch Bell project and digital solidarity economy in Kerala, India. Internet Policy Review, 15(1) huppilikkat, A. A

The study examines the Kudumbashree Lunch Bell project, a platform-based meal delivery initiative launched in Kerala in 2024, as an example of a digitally enabled solidarity economy. Using qualitative methods such as interviews, participant observation, policy analysis, and app walkthroughs, the paper analyses how state-supported digital platforms can promote feminist economic principles and gender-inclusive entrepreneurship. The study argues that the project challenges the gendered paradox in which women predominantly perform unpaid domestic cooking but remain marginalised from commercial food entrepreneurship. Although the initiative operates within a state-designed framework, the research finds that it adopts a reflexive and gender-sensitive approach to labour organisation within the digital economy. The paper concludes that state-supported digital solidarity models like Lunch Bell demonstrate the potential for combining digital innovation, women's economic empowerment, and social justice within Kerala's development framework.

2. Gopalakrishnapillai, R., & Natarajan, V. (2026). Feminization of labor and women workers of Kerala's handloom sector. Asian Women, 42(1), 168-182.

The study examines the feminization of labour in Kerala's handloom industry, where women constitute nearly 78 percent of the workforce. Drawing on field research from

major handloom clusters in Kerala, the paper analyses how gendered labour structures shape the experiences of women weavers within traditional industries. The study finds that despite their central contribution to production and cultural preservation, women workers face insecure earnings, weak social protection, ageing workforce challenges, and vulnerabilities linked to informalization. At the same time, women actively negotiate these structural constraints through everyday forms of agency and survival strategies while balancing productive and domestic responsibilities. By situating Kerala's handloom sector within broader debates on feminized labour and inequality in the Global South, the article highlights the persistence of gendered hierarchies in labour markets and calls attention to the need for stronger social justice and labour protections for women workers.

3. *Krishnan, N. (2026). The intersection of disability and caste in Kerala: A public economics perspective. Kerala Economy, 7(1), 60-66.*

This paper explores how disability and caste intersect to create compounded social and economic disadvantages in Kerala. Using data from the Census of India, NSS, PLFS, and Kerala government reports, the study examines inequalities in healthcare, education, employment, and social protection among disabled individuals from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Although Kerala is known for its strong social development indicators, the paper argues that caste continues to shape the lived experiences of persons with disabilities. Drawing on intersectionality theory and Amartya Sen's Capability Approach, the study highlights the limitations of existing disability policies that overlook caste-based inequalities. The paper concludes by recommending more inclusive and caste-sensitive public policies for equitable development.

Book Chapter

1. *Raseena, C. (2026). Social problems of tribal women in Kerela. LEXARCHEUS PUBLICATIONS*

Social Problems of Tribal Women in Kerala examines the historical, social, and economic conditions of tribal communities in Kerala, with special attention to the experiences of tribal women. The book discusses how indigenous communities in regions such as Wayanad, Idukki, and Attappady have historically faced marginalization due to colonial land policies, social exclusion, and development disparities. It highlights the intersection of gender and tribal identity, showing how tribal women experience multiple layers of disadvantage in areas such as education, healthcare, land rights, and employment. The work also explores the cultural diversity among Kerala's tribal communities and the challenges posed by modernization and state policies. Overall, the book provides a socio-historical understanding of tribal women's struggles and their place within Kerala's development discourse.

Other Articles

1.Thomas, M. K., & Reshma, V. (2026). Gender inequality-A comparative analysis of gendered time inequality in India and Kerala. International Journal of Innovative Research Findings, 13(7).

The study analyses gendered time inequality in India and Kerala by examining how unpaid domestic and care responsibilities are disproportionately borne by women despite improvements in literacy, health, and social development indicators. The paper highlights the paradox of Kerala, where women achieve higher educational attainment and favourable demographic indicators but continue to experience "time poverty" due to rigid gender roles and unequal household labour distribution. The study finds that excessive unpaid work restricts women's participation in paid employment, economic independence, leisure, and personal development. By comparing national and regional patterns, the article demonstrates that gender inequality persists not only through income disparities but also through unequal allocation of time and responsibilities, thereby reinforcing structural barriers to women's empowerment and inclusive development.

2. Jamsheer, T. P. M., & Chengodan, N. (2026). *Who are the women in Kerala's gig economy? A socioeconomic and income-based analysis using logistic regression. Journal of Economics, Management and Trade, 32(3), 25-38.*

The study investigates the socioeconomic profile and income determinants of women engaged in Kerala's gig economy using survey data from 300 women workers across Kannur, Ernakulam, and Thiruvananthapuram districts. Employing descriptive statistics, chi-square analysis, and binary logistic regression, the research finds that gig work creates important opportunities for women's labour-force participation and income generation, but also exposes workers to precarious employment conditions and financial insecurity. The study reveals that traditional social identity factors such as caste and religion do not significantly determine income vulnerability, whereas household size and rural residence have stronger effects on earnings insecurity. Women from larger households and rural areas are more likely to experience unstable incomes. The paper concludes that although gig platforms expand economic participation, structural vulnerabilities remain significant, highlighting the need for inclusive labour policies, stronger social protection mechanisms, and targeted skill-development programmes for women gig workers in Kerala.

Growth and Development

Scopus Indexed

1. Mathew, P. V., & John, A. (2026). *Returnee entrepreneurs: An empirical investigation on entrepreneurial success and psychosocial satisfaction. Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship, 31(1), 2650002.*

This study examines the entrepreneurial success and psychosocial well-being of Gulf returnee entrepreneurs operating MSMEs in Kerala, India. Using human capital and social capital theories, the research analyzes how international experience, entrepreneurial orientation, and local environmental adaptation influence business success. Based on structural equation modeling of survey data from 234

entrepreneurs, the study finds that entrepreneurial success depends not only on foreign-acquired skills but also on effective integration into the local market environment. The research further shows that successful entrepreneurship significantly improves psychosocial satisfaction and societal reintegration among returnees. The paper highlights the importance of policy support for local market integration rather than relying solely on migrants' international exposure.

2. Dinesh, H., Trivikram, T. N., Surekha, K. C., et al. (2026). *Accessibility as a factor in assessing urban public spaces: A case of Kannur, Kerala. City, Territory and Architecture*, 13, 8

The study examines accessibility as a key factor in evaluating urban public spaces in Kannur, Kerala. Using a multidimensional accessibility framework that combines spatial mapping, photographic documentation, and qualitative comparative analysis, the research assesses how physical, visual, and symbolic dimensions of access shape the usability and inclusiveness of public spaces. The study finds that congestion, poor connectivity, underutilization, and inadequate pedestrian infrastructure limit the effectiveness of public spaces as inclusive community hubs. It argues that improvements such as pedestrian-friendly pathways, better visual accessibility, enhanced safety measures, and integrated urban design can significantly improve social interaction, cultural engagement, and community participation. By linking local urban challenges with global accessibility debates, the paper emphasizes the importance of equitable and well-connected public spaces in sustainable urban development and advocates policy interventions that prioritize accessibility and inclusivity in urban planning.

Other Articles

1. Neethu, L. (2026). *Food price rise and consumption behaviour: A comparative study of APL and BPL in Fort Kochi. International Journal of Social Science Research (IJSSR)*, 3(2), 822.

This study investigates the impact of food inflation on the consumption behaviour of Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in Fort Kochi, Kerala. The paper highlights how rising food prices reduce purchasing power, especially among vulnerable and fixed-income groups. It examines the coping strategies adopted by households and evaluates the socio-economic consequences of inflation on food security and daily living standards. The research also assesses the role of ration shops and the public distribution system in providing affordable food during inflationary periods. The findings aim to support policymakers in designing targeted measures to improve food security and economic resilience among vulnerable urban populations.

2. *Thottathodi, M. H. (2026). India in Hindu eschatology: A survey on Kerala Bhakti literature. Life and Death: Journal of Eschatology, 3(2), 72-85.*

The study examines the eschatological dimensions of Kerala's Bhakti literature and explores how devotional writings shaped India's spiritual and political imagination. Focusing on the works of prominent Malayalam Bhakti poets such as Thunchaththu Ezhuthachan, Poonthanam Namboodiri, and Melpathur Narayana Bhattathiri, the article analyses concepts such as Kaliyuga, moral decline, devotion, and salvation through a hermeneutic textual approach. The study argues that Kerala's Bhakti corpus transformed scriptural ideas into vernacular moral philosophy, presenting devotion as a path to redemption and social renewal during periods of ethical decline. It further conceptualizes India (Bharath) as a spiritually redemptive geography where divine grace and moral regeneration converge. By linking devotional literature with historical resilience and political imagination, the article contributes to debates on Hindu eschatology, cultural identity, and the continuing influence of Bhakti traditions on India's ethical and cultural modernity.