

Kerala State Higher Education Council
Minutes of the 22nd Executive Body meeting held on 30.04.2026

The 22nd Executive Body Meeting of the fourth Council was held on 30.04.2026 at 11.00 am through online mode. Prof. Rajan Gurukkal P.M., Vice Chairman presided.

The following members attended the meeting.

1. Prof. Rajan Gurukkal P.M.	:	Vice Chairman, KSHEC.
2. Dr. Sabu Thomas	:	Member, Executive Body, KSHEC
3. Dr. M.S. Rajasree	:	Member, Executive Body, KSHEC
4. Dr. K.K. Damodaran	:	Member, Executive Body, KSHEC
5. Dr. P.P. Ajayakumar	:	Member, Executive Body, KSHEC
6. Dr. Rajan Varughese	:	Member Secretary, KSHEC

The following agenda was transacted and decisions taken.

Item No. 1 KSHEC Annual Report 2025-26.

After detailed discussion it was resolved to approve the Annual Report for the year 2025-26 (Annexure -1).

Item No. 2 KSHEC Audit and Accounts 2025-26.

It was resolved to approve the Audit and Accounts for the year 2025-26.

Item No. 3 Reporting – Internship Guidelines.

Resolved to approve the KSHEC Internship guidelines and status report on Internship. (Annexure -2).

A brief report on the status of Internship opportunities provided under FYUGP scheme was also approved as given below.

In a significant stride toward bridging the gap between academia and industry, the Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC), acting under the direction of the Department of Higher Education, Government of Kerala, has successfully operationalized a comprehensive internship framework for the inaugural batch of the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP). Backed by proactive government intervention, the initiative has already unlocked over 80,000 active internship opportunities, signalling a paradigm shift in the State's approach to professional skilling and employability.

The internship model, structured to meet the government's vision of a knowledge-based economy, is built upon a unique four-layered architecture designed to ensure total coverage for students. At the primary level, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are mapping opportunities within local firms. Complementing this, the Department has empanelled professional agencies—including ASAP Kerala, KELTRON, ICT Academy, IHRD, and Rutronix—which are currently training approximately 12,000 students in high-demand sectors such as Generative AI, Data Analytics, and Machine Learning.

Central to this ecosystem is a unified state internship portal coordinated by KELTRON. The platform has seen a massive influx of participants, with 641 colleges and 54 major industries already onboarded. Currently, 30,000 students have registered, gaining

access to domestic roles and AICTE-approved hybrid internships with certifications from global technology giants like Google and Microsoft. Simultaneously, the KSHEC is facilitating placements within cooperative banks, the Science and Technology Museum, and Gandhi Village Industries. Notably, over 100 students have already commenced internships at the Kerala Literacy Mission headquarters.

The framework is set for further expansion by integrating local self-government institutions. Under this plan, it is expected that each local body, including Panchayats and Municipal Corporations, can engage at least 10 interns simultaneously, offering direct exposure to public administration and grassroots development. To maintain professional quality, the KSHEC has published comprehensive guidelines for internships within government departments, focusing on roles in policy formulation, project identification, and administrative refinement.

To ensure academic rigor, the Council has standardized the certification process. Upon completion, students receive certificates detailing National Occupational Standards (NOS) codes, credit eligibility, and performance grades. While providing this extensive support, the policy remains student-centric, allowing individuals the flexibility to secure independent internships with college approval.

Looking ahead, the KSHEC is moving into a second phase focused on industry-sponsored internships, aiming to provide students with high-quality training and potential part-time income. Addressing placement concerns, the Council clarified that any student unable to secure an internship in the current phase will be provided with dedicated opportunities during the fifth semester. The KSHEC continues to monitor the process closely under government oversight, ensuring the successful realization of the FYUGP's objectives.

The Government of Kerala has already declared higher education up to graduation level as free for students. In this context, it is essential that students belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) categories are provided adequate institutional support to successfully complete the mandatory internship component without financial burden. Hence resolved to recommend to the government to ensure free internship opportunities to SC/ST students under FYUGP in various universities and colleges in the state.

It was also decided to explore internship opportunities in various research centres, MSMEs and KSIDC in the state.

The format of the Internship Certificate submitted by Rutronix was approved.

Item No. 4 Degree Certificate for FYUGP Students after Three Years

It was resolved to recommend an amendment to the FYUGP Regulations to enable the issuance of provisional certificates to students upon the successful completion of three years of study under the FYUGP scheme, so as to fulfil the eligibility criteria for employment and higher studies prescribed by the PSC, UPSC, and other higher education institutions.

Item No. 5 Payment to Govt. College for Women in connection with the NRC.

Resolved to approve an amount of Rs. 2,68,611/- (Rupees Two Lakh Sixty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Eleven only) to the account of PTA, Government College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram towards venue preparation and essential maintenance work in connection with the National Research Conference by deducting the advance amount of Rs. 1,50,000/- and non-admissible claim amounting to Rs.

99,796/-, out of the total claim of Rs. 5,18,407/- submitted by General Coordinator, National Research Conference.

Item No. 6 Cancellation of Committees.

Resolved to cancel the following committees constituted by the Council, and no expenditure was incurred in connection with the activities of these committees.

1. Committee to Study the draft National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP 2020).
2. Committee to Study the Problems of SC/ ST Students related to admission and other issues in Higher Education Institutions in the state.
3. Expert committee for performance evaluation of state universities.
4. Committee to evolve the executive procedures implementation plan and legal framework for converting Government Brennen College, Thalassery , Kannur District into a modern Digital State University with a special academic focus on Digital Humanities, innovative and inter disciplinary programmes
5. Committee to formulate details of the Higher Education Fund.
6. Committee to study the matters related to unification of statutes related to inter university transfer.
7. Committee to amend conduct rules related to examinership of government college teachers.

Additional Agenda

Item No. A1. Revised Schedule for the construction of Unnatha Vidya Bhavan - Letter from ULCCS.

The Executive Body considered the letter submitted by ULCCS dated 25.04.2026 regarding the revised schedule for completion of the construction of *Unnatha Vidya Bhavan*. The delays and the reasons cited therein, including labour shortages and related constraints, were discussed in detail.

The Executive Body also took note of the legal opinion obtained in the matter and the concurrence of the Technical Sanction Committee.

Resolved that the request of ULCCS for extension of time for completion of the project be and is hereby approved, and the contract period is extended up to **28.11.2026**, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Contractor shall complete and finalise all works relating to the construction of *Unnatha Vidya Bhavan* on or before 28.11.2026.
2. No further extension of time shall be granted under any circumstances.
3. The Contractor shall not be entitled to claim or receive any additional cost, compensation, escalation, damages, or any other financial benefit arising out of or in connection with the extension of time.
4. The Contractor shall execute the supplementary agreement voluntarily, of its own free will and without any coercion or undue influence.

5. All other terms and conditions of the original agreement and subsequent supplementary agreements shall remain unchanged.

Further resolved to approve the supplementary agreement incorporating the above conditions for execution.

Item No. A2. Publishing of the Proceedings of National Research Conference (NRC) and KSHEC Initiatives.

It was resolved to publish the proceedings of selected papers and abstract presented in the National Research Conference (NRC) in two volumes and publish a volume on the major initiatives of the Council. It was further resolved to entrust the preparation of a volume on the KSHEC initiatives and a documentary on important activities of the Council to Mr. Rajagopal K (former Director, Keala Media Academy).

Item No. A3. Approval of Reports

Resolved to approve the following report

1. Guidelines on K – Learn Digital Platform (Annexure -3).
2. Report related to the proposal on TA/ DA of Syndicate members (Annexure -4).
3. Report on VBSA Bill 2025 (Annexure -5).
4. Consolidated Report on K -REAP implementation (Annexure -6).
5. Report on the Restructuring of Undergraduate Programmes under FYUGP (Annexure -7).
6. Report on the Implementation of the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) and National Academic Depository (NAD) Interaction in Kerala (Annexure -8).
7. Guidelines for Effective Design and Implementation of the Fourth Year under FYUGP (Annexure -9).
8. Report on Centres of Excellence Established by the Kerala State Higher Education Council with financial support from the Department of Higher Education, Government of Kerala (Annexure -10).

The Minutes were read and confirmed

The meeting which started at 11.00 am concluded by 12.30 pm.



Member Secretary



Vice Chairman