

CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES (2023 -2024)

1. INAUGURATION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CENTRE

Department of Chemistry has been elevated as a research centre in 2023 as per the order no. 8562/AC A6/2023/MGU dated 03.08.2023. The department is an approved interdisciplinary research centre of Mahatma Gandhi University. The research centre was inaugurated by Prof. (Dr.) Sabu Thomas, Chairperson, PrEST Research Centre, Government of Kerala, and the former Vice-Chancellor of MG University.



2. NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM/SEMINAR/WORKSHOP

2.1 National Symposium on Magnetic Resonance: Theory, Instrumentation and Applications

Department of Chemistry organized a three-day National symposium on National Symposium on Magnetic Resonance: Theory, Instrumentation and Applications. The symposium was conducted for three days from 23 June 2023 to 25 June 2023. Dr. C.T. Aravindakumar, the honourable Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University, inaugurated the programme and delivered key-note address. Dr. R. Pragash, Principal, Government College Kottayam, presided the programme. There were 9 distinguished resource persons from renowned institutions and 10 invited lectures. In addition, three short presentations of research scholars.



2.2 National Workshop on Advanced Materials Characterization

The interdisciplinary research centre, Department of Chemistry, organized a two-day National workshop on Advanced Materials Characterization. The workshop was conducted for two days from 18 to 19 January 2024. Prof. Sabu Thomas, Chairperson, Trest and the former Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University, inaugurated the programme and delivered key-note address. Dr. R. Pragash, Principal, Government College Kottayam, presided the programme. Dr. Jobin Cyriac, Professor of Chemistry and Dr. Jinesh K.B., Professor of Physics, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Dr. Biju V., Professor of Physics, University of Kerala, and Dr. Sunil Kumar, Scientist, IIRBS, MG University were invited speakers.



3. IRVING-LANGMUIR LECTURE SERIES

Irving-Langmuir Lecture Series was introduced in the department in the year 2013. It is one of the best practices of the department. Every year, as part of the Lecture Series, the department conducts expert talks. In this academic year, the department organized two invited lectures.

1. As part of the inauguration of Chemistry Association, Dr. Aravind K., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, SB College, Changanassery delivered a talk on 'Chemistry in Every Day Life' on 07 December 2023.
2. As part of observance of National Energy Conservation Day 2023, the department in association with the Bhoomithrasena, organized an invited talk on 'Electrical energy storage and conservation devices for sustainable society' on 20 December 2023. The expert talk was delivered by Dr. Ditty Dixon, Joint Director, School of Energy Materials, MG University.



4. ACTIVITIES OF THE CHEMISTRY ASSOCIATION

The Chemistry Association was formally inaugurated by Dr. R. Pragash, Principal, Government College Kottayam. Shri. Gautham, the association secretary, presented an outline of the programmes to be conducted in the present academic year. A poster making competition was conducted by the association. The winners were Aishwarya, I year BSc Physics (First), Athulyamol, I BA English (II), and Bharat, I BA English (III). Furthermore, Onam, Christmas and other popular celebrations at the department-level were organized by the Association.



5. INDUSTRY/INSTITUTION VISIT PROGRAMMES

One of the best practices of the department is to provide opportunities for students to visit industries and renowned institutions in every academic year. The financial support for this programme is given by the Directorate of Collegiate Education, Government of Kerala. In this academic year, the department organized visits to the Kerala Minerals and Metals Limited (KMML) on 08-02-2024, and Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII), Kottayam on 20-02-2024. Furthermore, as part of the curriculum, third year BSc students of the department undertook on-the-job-training at the Travancore Cements Ltd., Kottayam, first year MSc Industrial chemistry students undertook one-month industrial internship in HLL Lifecare Ltd, Thiruvananthapuram, and Travancore Titanium Products Limited (TTPL) Kerala. Moreover, second year MSc students did research oriented projects in reputed research institutions such as IISER, Thiruvananthapuram, IIST, Thiruvananthapuram, etc.

