CVV Connect

WHERE KNOWLEDGE MEETS WISDOM

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM CHINMAYA VISHWA VIDYAPEETH DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY















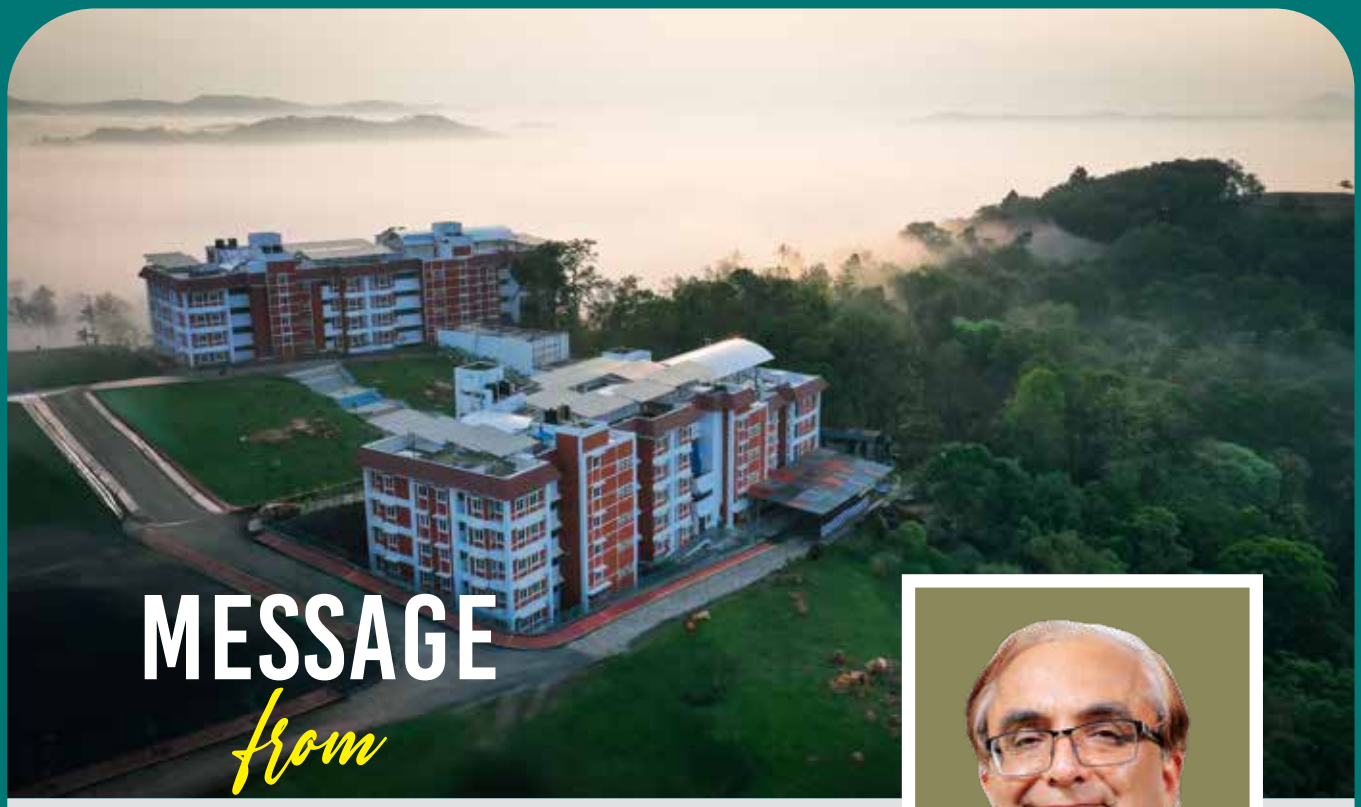




"To see the one in the many
Is the casual vision of knowledge.
To see the many in the one,
Is the mission wisdom."

— Swami Chinmayananda





MESSAGE *from*

VICE CHANCELLOR

Dear CVV Family Members,

Hari Om! Salutations!

The energy and spiritual vibrance of Mahashivaratri continues to inspire us as we move forward with renewed dedication and purpose. This sacred occasion reminds us of the power of perseverance and unity—values that are integral to our journey at Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth. With this same spirit, we must now come together as one team for the upcoming NAAC visit.

Accreditation is not just a process but a collective effort that reflects our commitment to academic excellence and institutional growth. I urge each of you to contribute with diligence and collaboration, ensuring that we present the best of CVV.

Additionally, as the next admission cycle gains momentum, let us work with focus and enthusiasm to welcome aspiring students into our academic family. Each one of us plays a vital role in shaping the future of CVV, and our combined efforts will help strengthen the institution further. Let us move forward with confidence, teamwork, and a shared vision for success.

Prof. Ajay Kapoor
Vice Chancellor
Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth

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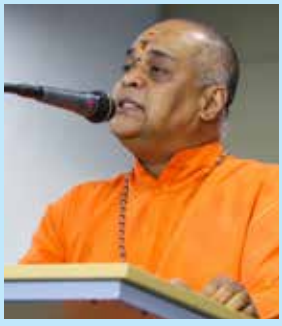
UNIVERSITY DAY 2025

CVV CELEBRATES 8TH FOUNDER'S DAY







CVV celebrated its 8th Founder's Day with great enthusiasm at the Lalita Pratishthanam facility in Onakkoor on 16 January 2025.

In his address to the students, the chief guest Sri Madan Padaki, Founder and CEO of 'One Bridge', shared his experiences of overcoming challenges in entrepreneurial life and highlighted the importance of resilience. He emphasised the need for a shift in education beyond securing jobs to fostering a purpose-driven approach.

Swami Sharadananda Saraswati, Chinmaya International Foundation, delivered an

















enlightening discourse on education, adding spiritual depth to the occasion.

The programme was presided over by Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Vice Chancellor of CVV. Prof. T. Asokan, Registrar and Dean of Academics of CVV extended a warm welcome to all attendees and, together with Prof. Sunitha Grandhee, Dean of Lifelong Learning and Wellness, presented the University's annual report for 2024.

Dr. Appa Rao Mukkamala, Managing Trustee of CVV Trust, conveyed felicitations. Sri N. M. Sundar, Executive Secretary of the CVV Trust, announced the entrepreneurship and innovation initiatives at CVV. Dr. Abha Mohan, the University Day Event Coordinator and Assistant Dean of Student Relations announced the Dean's Merit List for the academic year 2024-25, and the names of students who excelled in extra-curricular activities during the year 2024 who were then felicitated with certificates of appreciation by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Swami Sharadananda, and Sri Madan Padaki.

The celebration was further enlivened by a captivating dance











performance by students, symbolising India's rich heritage and unity.

The event was a fitting tribute to the University's mission of blending tradition and modernity, emphasising holistic development and excellence.







Lakshmi Narayana Puja





On 15 January 2025, CVV conducted the auspicious Lakshmi Narayana Puja at its Lalita Pratishthanam facility, Onakkoor. The ceremony witnessed the participation of Prof. T. Asokan, Registrar, Sri N.M. Sundar, Executive Secretary of CVV Trust, Sri B. Bhavesh, Joint Secretary, Sri Ananthanarayanan Iyer, Chief Coordinating Officer and Dr. Sunitha Grandhee, Dean of Life-Long Learning and Wellness. The event concluded with the distribution of Mahaprasad, uniting the CVV community in devotion.







Expert Lectures by **Dr. Asha Vas– 'Creativity and the Brain'** and **'Cognition and Neuroplasticity'**



Two insightful sessions by Dr. Asha Vas, Professor of Occupational Therapy at Texas Woman's University, were organised by the School of PPSH to explore cognitive psychology and neuroscience.

The first session, titled **'Creativity and the Brain'**, was held on 20 January 2025, at the Warriam Road facility. Dr. Vas discussed the stages of creativity, the influence of emotions, and the interplay between creativity, education, culture, and technology. She highlighted how diverse cultural contexts shape creativity and how technology acts as both, a catalyst and a challenge. The interactive workshop allowed participants to exchange ideas and understand strategies for fostering creativity in personal and professional contexts. The session concluded with an engaging Q&A, enriching the discussion further.

The second session on **'Cognition and Neuroplasticity'** was on 21 January 2025, at the Lalita Pratishthanam facility. Dr. Vas's lecture on brain function, cognition, and neuroplasticity emphasised strengthening cognitive skills and explained neuroplasticity in simple terms, highlighting its relevance and application in rehabilitation. Her research on executive function training for adults with traumatic brain injuries was also shared. Students actively participated in the Q&A session, gaining clarity on concepts and career opportunities in the field.

Both sessions were well-received for their practical insights and interactive nature. Dr. Vas's engaging approach and expertise left a lasting impression on the attendees.





Celebrating Excellence

Students Shine in Strategic Business Leader ACCA Professional Exam

The School of Contemporary Knowledge Systems (CKS) is thrilled to share the outstanding achievements of students who have excelled in the ACCA Strategic Business Leader (Professional Level) examination. Their remarkable success is a testament to their dedication, hard work, and the academic excellence fostered at Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth.

Achievers


Meera M. Nair


Ganga Suresh


Anjali P. Varma


Niya Vinu Panicker


Ann Mary Jiby


Akhil S. Warrior


Fayez Nazar Mangatt


V. J. Parvathy


Joel Joseph


Vishnu C. Satheesh


Ganesh Sai Manikandan


Sangeeth O. M.


Rohit R.

Congratulations

These talented individuals have demonstrated exceptional strategic thinking, analytical skills, and leadership potential through their performance in one of the most challenging ACCA modules. Their success underscores the institution's commitment to providing a robust curriculum, dedicated faculty support, and a conducive learning environment that empowers students to excel in global certifications like ACCA.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to each achiever for their hard-earned success. Their accomplishments inspire their peers and reaffirm our mission of nurturing future-ready professionals equipped to excel in a dynamic and competitive world.

CVV Celebrates the 76th Republic Day with Patriotic Fervour



















Bharat's 76th Republic Day was celebrated with grandeur and enthusiasm across CVV's various facilities, reflecting the institution's commitment to national pride and cultural heritage.

Lalita Pratishthanam (LP), Onakkoor

The event commenced with a welcome address by Prof. T. Asokan, Dean of Academics &



Registrar (I/C). The National Flag was hoisted with due reverence by Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of CVV, followed by the collective singing of the National Anthem.

Prof. Kapoor delivered an inspiring message on the significance of Republic Day, emphasising the ideals of democracy, equality, and responsibility towards the nation. The celebrations continued with a vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Sunitha Grandhee, Dean of LLW, expressing gratitude to all attendees. The event concluded with an energetic performance by students and the distribution of sweets.

Prajna Pratishthanam (PP), Warriam Road, Kochi

At the Warriam Road Facility, the celebrations began at 9:10 AM with an address by Mr. Arun Krishnadas, Assistant Registrar - Academics. The tricolor was unfurled by H. Capt. (Retd.) Ravindran V, Campus Administrator, followed by the National Anthem, sung in unison by all present.

H. Capt. (Retd.) Ravindran V delivered a speech underscoring the importance of constitutional values and the role of youth in nation-building. Prof. Manjula R. Iyer, Head, School of CKS, extended a heartfelt vote of thanks. The programme concluded with vibrant student performances and the traditional distribution of sweets, fostering a sense of unity and patriotism among attendees.



Chinmaya Nada Bindu Gurukula (CNBG) Campus, Pune

The CNBG campus echoed with patriotic fervour as the celebrations began with a welcome address by Sri. Atul R. Kamble. The tricolour was hoisted by Smt. Pramodini Rao, Academic & Campus Director - Administration, followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

In her address, Smt. Pramodini Rao highlighted the values of integrity, service, and dedication towards the nation, urging students to uphold these principles in their

lives. In her vote of thanks, Smt. Tara Kannan appreciated the collective effort in organising the event. The celebrations concluded with an engaging student performance, showcasing India's diverse cultural heritage, followed by sweet distribution.

A Nation United in Spirit

The Republic Day celebrations across the various facilities of CVV were a testament to the institution's commitment to fostering a sense of patriotism and civic responsibility among students and faculty. The presence of esteemed academicians and administrators added to the significance of the occasion, making it a memorable event for all.

As the institution moves forward, CVV continues to instil the values of education, service, and national pride in its students, ensuring they contribute meaningfully to society while upholding the democratic ideals of the nation.













Release of ISBN Book by School of CKS



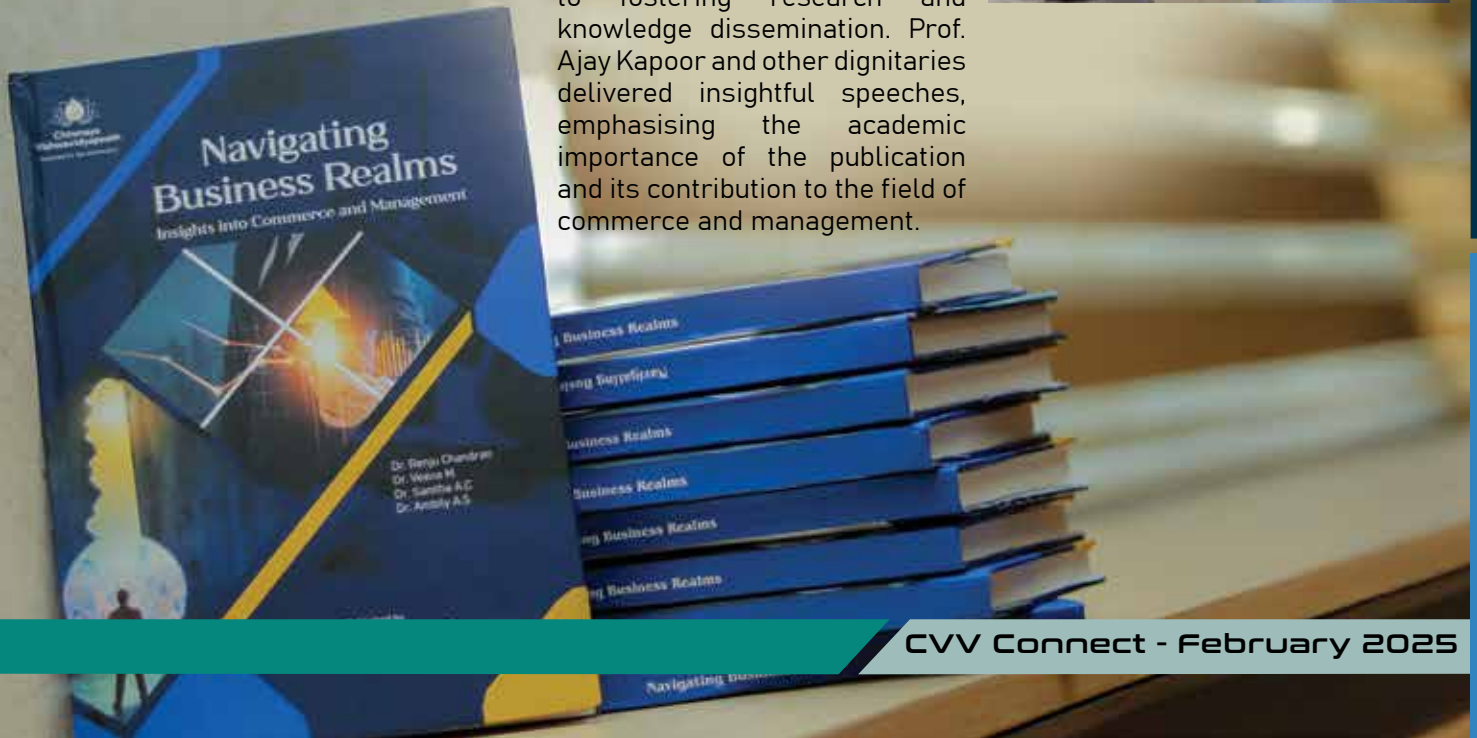


The School of Contemporary Knowledge Systems (CKS) released a book with an ISBN on 31 January 2025 at the Prajna Pratishthanam facility. The book 'Navigating Business Realms: Insights into Commerce and Management' is a compilation of 13 carefully selected research papers presented at the International Conference organised by the School of CKS in collaboration with the Kathmandu University School of Management. The academic rigour of the review process ensured high-quality research, with plagiarism maintained below 5%. Notably, this publication marks the first ISBN registration for CVV after successfully registering on the ISBN website.

The editors of the book are assistant professors from the School of CKS, Dr. Renju Chandran, Dr. Veena M., Dr. Sanitha A. C., and Dr. Ambily A. S. The event was attended by Prof. Ajay Kapoor, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor; Prof. T. Asokan, Registrar and Dean of Academics; Dr. Krishnakumaran Thampi, Controller of Examinations; Dr. P. Rajendran, Director of NAAC & IQAC; and Prof. (Dr.) Manjula R. Iyer, Head of the School of CKS.



The book release was officiated by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ajay Kapoor. The unveiling of the book symbolised the institution's commitment to fostering research and knowledge dissemination. Prof. Ajay Kapoor and other dignitaries delivered insightful speeches, emphasising the academic importance of the publication and its contribution to the field of commerce and management.



ANNUAL INTRAMURAL SPORTS MEET

Urja 2025, the annual intramural sports meet was held from 22 January to 1 February 2025. The opening ceremony of Urja 2025 was a grand affair that set the stage for two weeks of exhilarating competition.

The competition featured a range of events designed to challenge students' strength, agility, and strategic thinking. The events included athletics, badminton, basketball, cross-country running, cricket, chess, carrom, football, kabaddi, kho-kho, table tennis,









volleyball, and throwball. Each event was met with excitement, and students displayed outstanding sportsmanship, perseverance, and teamwork, making every match thrilling and competitive. The participation level was remarkable with 500 men and 400 women, striving to outperform their previous records. The crowd, consisting of enthusiastic spectators and fellow students, added to the vibrant atmosphere by cheering for their respective teams, further elevating the excitement of the competition.

Besides the students, around 100 teaching and non-teaching staff competed in badminton, cricket, chess, carrom and table tennis. Their involvement not only ensured the smooth execution of events but also encouraged students by setting an example of dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship. The friendly matches between faculty and students added an extra layer of excitement. The B.Tech CSE teams emerged as the undisputed champions, winning both the Overall Men's and Women's Championships, highlighting their unwavering commitment and excellence.







The closing ceremony on 1 February 2025 was a grand celebration of the athletes' dedication and hard work. In his inspiring speech, chief guest, **Mr. Tom Joseph, former Indian Volleyball Team Captain and Arjuna Awardee**., shared his experiences as an athlete and motivated students to pursue sports with passion and determination. Following this, Ananthanarayanan Iyer, Chief Coordinating Officer, delivered the felicitation address.

The winners were honoured for their outstanding performances in various sports events at the hands of the dignitaries in the prize distribution ceremony. URJA 2025 was a phenomenal success, uniting students in a spirit of healthy competition and teamwork. The event showcased exceptional performances and intense competition, with each participant giving their best effort. Beyond competition, the event cultivated discipline, resilience, and camaraderie, leaving a lasting impact on the university's sporting culture.















Placement Career Workshop Series 7 & 8

The CVV Placement Cell organised Placement Career Workshop Series 7 & 8 for the first-year and second-year students of BBA and B.Com. at the Wariom Road facility Prajna Pratishthanam on 21 January 2025. The workshops were conducted in the morning and afternoon of the same day with resource persons from different organisations.

The morning session was on 'Self-Reflection and Goal Setting' by Sri Swaroop Menon, an edtech consultant and professional mentor at Veranda Race Academy. Smt. Sindhu G. Thomas, Head of Operation at Bookotrip, conducted the afternoon session on 'Career Planning and Language Improvement'. Smt. Sindhu is also a former language trainer and academic counsellor.

Post both lectures, the speakers involved the students in collaborative group activities for further exploring and applying the concepts presented.







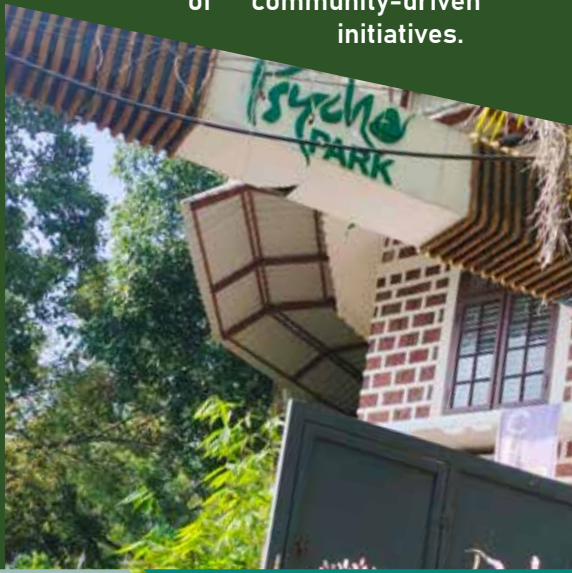
Community Sensitisation Camp at Mitraniketan: A Journey of Learning and Awareness















Students of the second, third, and fourth-year B.Ed. programmes embarked on an inspiring community sensitisation camp at Mitraniketan, Thiruvananthapuram, from 9 to 11 January 2025. The camp was an enriching blend of hands-on learning, meaningful interactions, and exploration.

Starting with an interaction at the education center of Chinmaya Padmanabha, where the group interacted with Sri Suresh Mohan, Trustee of CVV and Smt. Shobha, the academic coordinator of Chinmaya Mission TVM on the ardent nature of the profession of teaching. The interaction left the students with a renewed sense of purpose, a reminder that teaching was not just a job, but a chance to ignite the spark of learning in young minds and shape the future.

The campus of Mitraniketan was captivating with its serene environment. This institution, rooted in the principles of rural development and sustainable living, offered profound insights into community upliftment activities that appreciated the significance of preserving indigenous skills. Mitraniketan boasts of impactful initiatives in education, rural development, and self-reliance. The campus buzzed with life as we interacted with students, sharing stories, ideas, and experiences.

The camp concluded with a visit to the renowned Psychology Park in Thiruvananthapuram, an experiential learning space dedicated to understanding the human brain and psychology, where the students delved into the intricate workings of the brain and about human psychology which laid down a new perspective on the importance of mental health and neuroscience in education and everyday life.

This journey enhanced the understanding of rural upliftment and psychological sciences and also deepened appreciation for the power of community-driven initiatives.

The Why, What, and Wow of Data Storytelling: A Transformational Workshop by Ms. Sunita Menon

On Friday, 31 January 2025, CVV hosted Ms. Sunita Menon, a distinguished expert in data strategy and data storytelling, for a full-day workshop for the first-year MBA students. Ms. Menon is a seasoned global data executive with a strong professional presence on LinkedIn. Beyond her expertise in data storytelling, she is a long-time devotee of Chinmaya Mission, dedicating herself to selfless service across various mission centres in the United States. The session explored the evolving role of data in business decision-making and leadership.



Ms. Menon opened with a strong assertion that while one may not be in the business of data, data is deeply embedded in every business. She highlighted how major companies like Amazon and Meta generate and analyse vast amounts of data every minute.

She traced the evolution of data analytics from descriptive and diagnostic to predictive, prescriptive, and now cognitive analytics, underscoring AI's growing influence in decision-making. Along with a distinguished member of the audience that day, she also pointed to India's data revolution, citing the impact of NCPI-UPI payments.

She discussed the **Data-Wisdom Pyramid**, illustrating how raw data progresses to information, then to knowledge, and ultimately to wisdom. Businesses, she emphasised, must go beyond data collection and visualisation to derive real insights. MBA students were able to see parallels from the familiar Hierarchy of Needs!



Despite AI advancements, storytelling remains a uniquely human skill—an art, science, and technology that transforms raw data into meaningful narratives. India's rich storytelling tradition (Katha) reinforces the power of narratives in generating insights. She linked this to 'Darshan', which signifies insight, explaining that great leaders, should be like 'marga darshis' and use storytelling to guide and unify organisations.

She underscored the importance of storytelling for top management, enabling them to persuade board members, set vision, and unify teams. Effective storytelling makes insights **memorable, engaging, and persuasive.**

The Storytelling Framework and Strategy

Organisations with a **well-defined data strategy** overcome the **last-mile problem**—the gap between analysis and actionable insights. Many businesses excel at data preparation, visualisation, and modelling but fail to translate findings into meaningful decisions.



- She outlined the three key elements of effective data storytelling:
- Data – Strong, credible, and relevant data sets.
- Uncluttered Visuals – Clear and intuitive representations.

Brilliant Narrative – A compelling story that drives action.

She introduced **Freytag's Pyramid,** a storytelling structure that enhances data narratives, and recommendedinsightfulresources, including **Brent Dykes, Simon Sinek's TED Talk, Chip Heath's work, effectivedatastorytelling. com, and Rowan Gibson's **Four Lenses of Innovation. The morning session concluded with students performing data mining using real-life datasets.

Mastering LinkedIn: A Digital Office for Professionals

In the afternoon, Ms. Sunitha Menon conducted a session on **leveraging LinkedIn for professional growth and networking**. She described LinkedIn as a digital office where all are welcome and emphasised the importance of intentional networking.

She provided a structured approach:

- Think Differently – Develop a unique and authentic presence.
- Explore Possibilities – Engage with diverse ideas and opportunities.
- Take Action – Share insights, connect meaningfully, and contribute to discussions.

Her key takeaways for optimising LinkedIn included:

- Being authentic by sharing real experiences.
- Offering support and resources to others.
- Practising intentional networking with clear objectives.

Ms. Menon's workshop provided MBA students with invaluable insights into data storytelling and professional branding. As businesses continue to evolve in a data-driven world, the ability to craft compelling narratives from data will be an indispensable skill for future leaders. The workshop reflected the university's commitment to holistic education, integrating data-driven insights with timeless wisdom.

Asst. Prof. Karthik Sharma at Shastrartha Sabha at Maha Kumbh Mela 2025

Acharya Shankar Sanskritik Ekta Nyas, under the Department of Culture, Government of Madhya Pradesh, organised a two-day **Shastrartha Sabha** on Advaita Vedanta as part of the Maha Kumbha Mela on 25 and 26 January 2025 at Prayagraj. Academicians from various reputed institutions across the country participated and presented their insights.

Karthik Sharma, Assistant Professor at the School of Vedic Knowledge Systems, delivered a presentation on one of the fundamental tenets of Advaita, **jīvabrahmaikya**, referencing verses from the 13th chapter of the **Bhagavad Gita**. His presentation focused on analysing and elaborating on the objections raised by the Dvaita School of Vedanta against **Advaita**, based on the text **Advaita Vijaya Vaijayanti,** authored by Mahamandaleshwar Kashikanandagiri ji Maharaj.

The **Shastrartha Sabha** was conducted in the esteemed presence of Jagadguru Sri Sri Vidhushekhara Bharathi Sannidhanam of Sri **Sharada Pitham, Sringeri**.



Watch the presentation here

CLICK HERE



SAKSHI
THE OBSERVER



For a dancer, each performance is a battle against inner fears. Once we commit to a stage performance, our minds become a whirlwind of thoughts. The first concern is selecting the right dance pieces, followed by choreography, rigorous practice, and the inevitable anxieties. Will I be able to perform well? Should I choose this item or another? Should I repeat a piece I have performed before? What if someone in the audience has already seen it? Will they compare my performance? Should I choreograph something new? But then, the thought of recording, investing money, and the time-consuming process of creating a fresh piece feels overwhelming. Oh! That's impossible! Thus, my mind wanders restlessly before each performance.

But the moment I step onto the stage, everything changes. Stage fright fades within seconds as I surrender to the rhythm of dance. All thoughts and fears dissolve. I no longer worry about the audience's perception—I simply dance. They may watch in awe or critique my movements; they may applaud or remain silent. But in that ecstatic moment, I lose myself, and HE dances through me. I become an observer, a mere child witnessing His performance. In that instant, the Sakshi—the witness—awakens within me. I realize I am but an extension, an instrument in His hands, like the Damaru. The bliss of dance lingers eternally.

May Shiva dance through us, filling the world with divine rhythm.

Anonymous

CVV Signs MOU with NATS and ASAP





CVV's Placement Cell signed MOUs with the National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) and Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP), Kerala, on the 22nd and 29th of January 2025 respectively. The MOUs were signed by the Registrar and Dean of Academics, Prof. T. Asokan on behalf of CVV. The NATS, under the Board of Apprenticeship and Training (BoAT), Ministry of Education, Government of India, was represented by Assistant Director - NATS, Sri Rajamani. Smt. Resmi Ann Thomas, Associate Director and Sri Anandhu Rajendran, Programme Manager, represented ASAP Kerala. The representatives of both NATS and ASAP also undertook orientational presentations and interactive sessions with the students on the scheduled event days.

The National Apprenticeship Training Scheme is one of the flagship programmes of the Government of India for skilling Indian youth in trade disciplines that provide on-the-job training (OJT) to young people The students in the final year having an industrial training component (internship) can be covered under NATS on a stipendiary basis. The students of each batch will be provided a six-month apprenticeship trainee programme in industrial/ commercial establishments in line with the Apprentice Act, of 1961.

The Additional Skill Acquisition Programme (ASAP) Kerala is a Section 8 Company of the Department of Higher Education, Government of Kerala, focused

















on skilling students and the general community to enhance their employability instituted in 2012. ASAP Kerala transitioned to a company under the Companies Act, 2013, in 2021. ASAP Kerala is now a premier government edTech company, building integrated learning and talent management solutions offering 150+ contemporary courses in 19 domains and curating a ready-to-deploy workforce.

Prof. Manjula R Iyer Chairs Session at International Conference on Commerce and Economic Research

Prof. Manjula R Iyer, Head, School of CKS and Asst. Dean (FDCC), had the honour of chairing a session at the International Conference on Commerce and Economic Research hosted by Rajagiri College of Management and Applied Sciences (RCMAS), Kakkanad, Ernakulam, on 14 and 15 January 2025.

She was invited to provide feedback to the delegates. In her concluding remarks, she encouraged them to explore innovative research ideas that can make a meaningful impact in the field of commerce and beyond.

This engagement reflects Prof. Iyer's commitment to fostering academic excellence and collaboration within the global research community.



Alok Kumar Wins State-level Shastriya Competition

Alok Kumar, a first-year M.A. Sanskrit student, participated in the state-level Shastriya competition organised by Central Sanskrit University, Thrissur campus on 28 and 29 January 2025. He secured the first place in the following events:

1. Sahitya Elocution
2. Shastra-based Quiz
3. Samasyapurti (Extempore Sanskrit Poetry Writing)
4. Aksharashloki

Being the winner, he will now represent Kerala at the national-level competitions to be held by Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi, in Haridwar in March 2025.



Faculty and Staff Development Programme







Faculty and Staff Development Program held at Lalita Pratishthanam Facility (LP), Onakkoor on 18 January 2025









PICTURE OF THE MONTH





A View from Parambikulam Tiger Reserve

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Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth Deemed to be University
Chinmaya Eswar Gurukula Campus, Adi Sankara Nilayam, Veliyanad P.O.,
Arakunnam Via Ernakulam Dist., Kerala – 682313

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www.cvv.ac.in