



DLA

NEWS

INDEX OF PURANAANUURU
V.I. SUBRAMONIAM, 2026, HB,
Crown 1/4, pp. 647,
Rs.1800/- (US\$ 180/-)

PAPERS ON MALAYALAM LINGUISTICS
AND RHETORICS
Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, 2025, PB,
Demmy 1/8, pp. 192,
Rs.400/- (US\$ 40/-)

THE INFLUENCE OF
SARASVATIKANTHABHARANA ON
PRAKRIYASARVASVA
P. Visalakshy, 2024, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 216,
Rs. 450/- (US\$ 45/-)

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July 2026

A MONTHLY OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

53RD ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTS AND SYMPOSIUM ON NEP 2020: EQUIPPING REGIONAL LANGUAGES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION - A GRAND ACADEMIC EVENT



53rd All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists and the Symposium on NEP 2020: Equipping Regional Languages for Higher Education held from the 18th to the 20th of June 2026 at the Department of Punjabi and Linguistics and Punjabi Lexicography, Punjabi University, Patiala in collaboration with the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) Mysuru, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Punjabi Linguistics Association (PLA), Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA), and the

International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL), Thiruvananthapuram was a grand success.

The Conference commenced at 10 AM on 18th of June 2026 at the Senate Hall of the Punjabi University, Patiala with a warm welcome address by Dr. Rajwant Kaur, Organising Secretary and Head, Department of Punjabi, in the presence of an august gathering such as the Vice Chancellor of Punjabi University, former Vice-Chancellors, distinguished professors, research scholars and students. Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira, Former Professor of Linguistics and Dean, Faculty of Languages, Punjabi University, Patiala, drew upon the *Upanishads* and the *Guru Granth Sahib* while reflecting on the purpose of academic conferences as spaces of true intellectual dialogue and exchange.

The Presidential Address was delivered by Dr. Jagdeep Singh, the Vice-Chancellor, Punjabi University, Patiala, who spoke on the National Education Policy 2020 and how it has opened wider opportunities for students to learn according to their interests and abilities with its emphasis on mother-tongue-based instruction and interdisciplinary learning. His address underlined the importance of linguistic diversity and language studies in contemporary education.

The address of the DLA President Prof. D.N.S. Bhat, was circulated among the audience and among other delegates of the conference in advance due to his inability to be present in person.

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The Keynote Address was by Prof. M.J. Warsi of Aligarh Muslim University, who raised a question that would echo across the entire conference: whether Artificial Intelligence truly understands human language or only processes its surface patterns. He emphasised that language is not merely a tool of communication, but also carries cultural, emotional, social, and experiential dimensions. He observed that the age of AI challenges scholars to rethink the nature and complexity of human language so as to reveal its identity and distinctness.

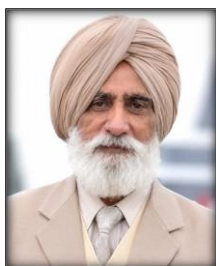
The Special Guest Address was delivered by Prof. K. Karunakaran, former Vice Chancellor of Tamil University and the Chairman of ISDL. Speaking about the contribution of the Dravidian Linguistic Association to linguistic research in India, he urged experts from different fields to work together for the preservation, development, and intellectual use of the regional languages of India.

Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Dean, DLA and Director, ISDL delivered the V. I. Subramoniam Centenary Remembrance address. He remembered Prof. V. I. Subramoniam as a distinguished linguist, founder of the Dravidian Linguistics Association of India, International School of Dravidian Linguistics, International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics, Dravidian University, Kuppam etc., and a scholar deeply committed to linguistic research and institution-building. He thanked Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira for taking the initiative to organise the conference at Punjabi University and for proposing the centenary remembrance. He also noted that the orbit of the DLA extends beyond Dravidian languages and now it includes wider linguistic questions, including regional and tribal language traditions of India.

The inaugural session included the release of the volume *Index of Purananuuru* by V I Subramoniam, published by the International School of Dravidian Linguistics, along with a felicitation ceremony for distinguished scholars. The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Jaswinder Singh Brar, Dean of Academic Affairs, Punjabi University.

*Dharamjeet Singh,
Head, Dept. of English, Punjabi University
(to be continued....)*

PROF. BHUPINDER SINGH KHAIRA - THE PRESIDENT OF DLA FOR 2026-2027



Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira former Professor of Linguistics and Dean, Faculty of Languages, Punjabi University, Patiala was unanimously elected as the President of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India for the period June 2026 to June 2027. This decision was taken at the General Body Meeting of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India held on 19-6-2026 at Punjabi University, Patiala. Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira is a distinguished linguist and has made significant contributions to Punjabi linguistics, sociolinguistics, language documentation, semantics, folklore studies, and lexicography. He has held several important academic and administrative positions. Prof. Khaira is the Founder President of the Punjabi Linguistics Association (PLA) and has played a leading role in promoting linguistic research and scholarly collaboration in India. He has organized and guided numerous national and international conferences on linguistics and folklore and has been actively associated with major linguistic organizations of our country.

DLA News Desk

MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY THE VENUE FOR 54TH AICDL

We proudly announce that the Department of Linguistics, Madurai Kamaraj University will be hosting the 54th All India Conference of Dravidian Linguists for the second time, the first being in June 1978 i.e., 48 years back. The 54th AICDL is tentatively scheduled during the month of June 2027.

OFFICE BEARERS OF THE DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTIC ASSOCIATION OF INDIA 2026-2027

- (a) **President** Prof. Bhupinder Singh Khaira (Punjab)
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| (ix) Dr. Sundarabalu (Coimbatore) | |



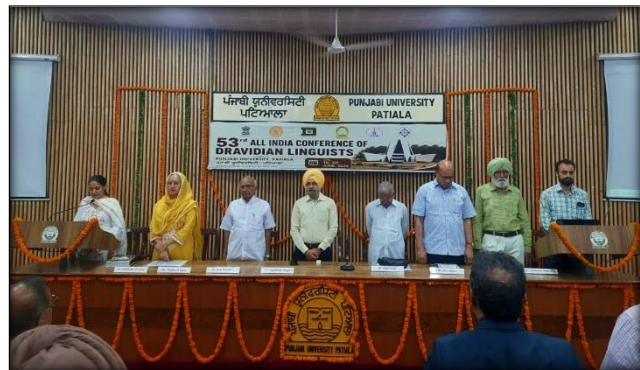
PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM REMEMBERED

The staff and researchers of ISDL
& DLA on 29/06/2026
paid homage to
Late Prof. V.I. Subramoniam,
the visionary behind the
formation of DLA, ISDL and IJDL
on his 17th death anniversary at
V.I.S. Smriti Mandapam and before
his statue, at ISDL Campus,
Menamkulam, Thiruvananthapuram.



DIVERSIFICATION OF PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

The Managing Committee of the Dravidian Linguistics Association of India had decided at its meeting held on 19-06-2026 at Punjabi University, Patiala to hold Centenary Celebration functions at different Universities of Tamil Nadu and Kerala in collaboration with DLA and ISDL. Accordingly linguistics Departments of Bharathiar University, Coimbatore and Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar have expressed their willingness to become part of Prof. V.I.S. Centenary Celebrations and the collaborative programs will be announced soon.

53rd AICDL - HIGHLIGHTS

PAPERS IN LINGUISTICS, G.K. Panikkar (Ed.), Mary Susan, S. Abdul Samed, N. Muraleedharan Nair (Asst. Eds.), 2023, HB, Demmy 1/8, pp. 512, Rs.1000/- (US\$ 80/-) **AN ACCOUNT OF BANGLA DISCOURSE PARTICLES**, Rajat Ghosh, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 142, Rs.300/- (US\$ 30/-) **GLOSSARY OF GRAMMATICAL TERMS IN TRADITIONAL MALAYALAM GRAMMARS**, C.S. Jayakumari Kunjamma, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 232, Rs.450/- (US\$ 45/-) **THE ART AND EDIFICE OF GENDERLECT**, B. Sreedevi, 2023, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 160, Rs.320/- (US\$ 32/-)

WARM WELCOME EXTENDED TO DLA DELEGATES AT KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY

An academic delegation consisting of scholars from the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India visited different departments of the Kurukshetra University which enabled the enhancement of knowledge on various on-going academic programs and research projects undertaken by some of the major departments of the Kurukshetra University.



1. Department of Punjabi Language, Kurukshetra University

The first visit of the delegation was to the Punjabi Department of the Kurukshetra University. The Department of Punjabi at Kurukshetra University formally organized a felicitation ceremony and academic reception for the visiting team from the Dravidian Linguistics Association of India (DLA) on 17th June 2026. The delegates visit to Punjab and Haryana regions coincided with the 53rd AICDL at Punjabi University, Patiala and its related scholarly programs. The visit to Kurukshetra University facilitated high-level academic exchange and provided the delegates a comprehensive overview of the region's cultural, historical, religious and the Puranic heritage and also the degree of love, affection and respect the faculty members, researchers and M.A. students of that university shower upon the visiting academicians from other universities and institutions.

At Punjabi department the faculty members, staff and students extended a warm reception to the visiting academic guests. Then the formal proceedings commenced with a lively affectionate traditional reception i.e., first giving a glass of water, then snacks with sweets and then tea/coffee. After that, each member of the delegation was honoured with Punjabi Phulkari shawls. Subsequent to it Dr. Kuldeep Singh, Associate Professor and Chairperson of the Department of Punjabi welcomed the delegates.



The ceremony was attended by prominent university officials, faculty members from language departments including scholars like Prof. Pushpa Rani, Department of Hindi and Former Dean, Faculty of Arts & Languages, Dr. Lata Khera: Assistant Professor, Department of Punjabi, Capt. Parmjeet Singh (Retd.). Ms. Manpreet Kaur and Ms. Amanpreet Kaur, Research Scholars, Department of Punjabi looked after the mode of arrangements for the reception of the guests.



A core component of the reception was a structured, high-level scholarly discussion and exchange of ideas which helped in continuing the relationship of the Kurukshetra University and the DLA. The interactions focused on contemporary linguistic and literary paradigms, methodology, and strategic developments in language research and higher education. The participating academic team of the DLA comprised of notable scholars and administrators, including Prof. K. Karunakaran, Former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University and Chairman ISDL, Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Dean – DLA and Director, International School of Dravidian Linguistics (ISDL), Prof. P. Visalakshy, Former Director and Emeritus Professor of Sanskrit, ORIML, University of Kerala, Prof. N. Rajasekharan Nair, Former Director, CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University, Prof. Kunjamma, Former HOD, Department of Linguistics, University of Kerala, Prof. E. Sainuddin, Former Professor, University College, Thiruvananthapuram, Dr. Pramod Sreedharan, Professor, School of Engineering, Amrita University, Prof. Preetha P. K. Vice-Chairperson, Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, School of Engineering, Amrita University, Dr. S. Abdul Samed, Treasurer, DLA, Dr. N. Muraleedharan Nair, Former Senior Research Fellow, ISDL, and the staff and Research Fellows representing both ISDL and DLA.

In order to strengthen the delegation's understanding of the regional history and culture, the university authorities had coordinated formal receptions at two premier curatorial repositories:

2. Dharohar Haryana Sangrahalaya



Located on the Kurukshetra University campus, this museum hosted an official reception to the DLA delegates and showed the collections in the repository which highlight the culture of Haryana and Punjab. This museum consists of large collections comprising agricultural and domestic implements tracing regional socio-economic history, archaeological remnants, regional artefacts, ancient manuscripts, wall paintings of yester years, traditional ornaments, weaponry and the local musical instruments of Punjab and Haryana. In addition, there exists a specialized gallery dedicated to the documentation of Haryana's military heroes. There after two

exhibition wings showcasing traditional folk crafts and regional artistic techniques were also shown to the visiting delegates.

3. The Shri Krishna Museum

As instructed by Shri Pankaj Setia, Chief Executive Officer, Kurukshetra Development Board, the museum officials including its curator Shri Balwan Singh, extended a formal reception and access to the visiting DLA delegation to the Shri Krishna museum as their guests. Shri Amrik Singh, a staff member of the museum designated 'Guide' showed the historical and Puranic artefacts believed to be related to the ancient Kurukshetra war. The delegates visited nine specialized galleries distributed across three interconnected buildings. The exhibits systematically analyze and highlight the multi-dimensional persona of Krishna cult ranging from the concepts of Shri Krishna as a theological god-head, as a philosopher, as an epic hero, statesman, the chief figure of Indian classical and folk arts and the literatures of Indian languages.



As a token of respect towards DLA delegates the museum authorities presented two large size portraits depicting Vishwarupa of the Lord believed to be made visible to Arjuna during the Kurukshetra war, one each to Prof. K. Karunakaran and to Prof. G.K. Panikkar as being the group leaders of the visiting team.

Prof. Karunakaran, Chairman of the ISDL and Prof. G.K. Panikkar, Director, ISDL & Dean, DLA expressed their gratitude to all those who gave a warm welcome to DLA delegates in each and every Department of the Kurukshetra University where the DLA team had visited.

Arup Pandit



BEST PAPER AWARD WINNERS - 53RD AICDL

1. **The Award for the Best Paper presented in the Conference by a Young research Scholar**

Mr. Princepal Singh

Research Scholar, Dept. of English,
Punjabi University, Patiala



2. **Prof. Colin P. Masica Award**
for the best paper in the field of 'India as a Linguistic Area' or 'Pedagogical Linguistics'.

Shared by

Mr. Madan Mohan

Research Scholar, IIT Kanpur
&

Mr. Arup Pandit

Research Fellow, Dravidian Linguistic Association of India, TVM



3. **Prof. Vennelakanti Prakasam Award**
for the best paper in Systematic Functional Linguistics, including areas such as Phonology, Lexicogrammar, Semantics, and Pragmatics.

Dr. Praveen Kumar Sri & Dr. N. Vijayan

Dept. of Linguistics, Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore



4. **Best Paper on Telugu Linguistics presented in the 53rd AICDL**

Dr. R. Lalitharaja

Asst. Professor, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu
&

Dr. C.S. Swathi

Asst. Professor Osmania University, Telengana



5. **Dr. Manickam & P.N. Kamala Award**

for the best paper in Tamil Linguistics, Grammar, or Literature.

Mrs. Sreedurgalakshmi T.P.

Research Scholar, Thunchath Ezhuthachan
Malayalam University, Tirur, Kerala



6. **PLA Award for Best Paper in Punjabi Linguistics**

presented at the conference

Shared by

Ms. Neesha Rani

Dept. of Punjabi, Punjabi University, Patiala
&

Sardar Gurpreet Singh & Dr. Rajwant Kaur

Punjabi Department, Punjabi University, Patiala



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF DRAVIDIAN LINGUISTICS OFFICE-BEARERS FOR 2026-2027

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PROJECT DIRECTOR REQUIRED AT THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR STUDIES IN CLASSICAL ODA

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the position of Project Director in the Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Odia (CESCO), on a contractual basis with consolidated monthly emoluments/honorarium.

For application forms and further details, please visit the institute's website at www.ciil.org under the "Announcements" section. Duly filled applications may be submitted to the Director, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Manasagangothri, Hunsur Road, Mysuru - 570006, Karnataka, either in person, by post, or through online application portal (<https://apply.ciil.org/>). Applications received after the stipulated date will not be entertained.

Asst. Director (Admin)
CIIL, Mysuru.

THREE DAY TRAINING PROGRAMME IN FORENSIC LINGUISTICS

The Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University is organizing a "Three Day Hands-on Training Programme on Forensic Linguistics : Authorship and Speaker Identification" sponsored by Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), to be held from 27–29 July 2026 .

* PG Students * Research Scholars and * Faculty Members can apply for this training program.

Interested participants are requested to register using the link below:

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/9PUdj4PxdCbuzJwb6>

N. Vijayan

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Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh
(iv) Vice Chancellor, Kannada University, Hampi
(v) Vice Chancellor, Malayalam University, Tirur, Kerala |
|---|---|

B. Experts

- (i) Prof. M.J. Warsi (President, LSI) (ii) Director, CIIL, Mysuru

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- | | |
|--|--|
| (i) Head, Department of Linguistics,
University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram,
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(ii) Head, Department of Linguistics, Dravidian
University, Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh | (iii) Head, Department of English, Central
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(v) Secretary, Tamil Development, Chennai |
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- (i) Prof. M. Rama (ii) Prof. Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan

REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP ON TELUGU TRANSLATION TRADITIONS AND EDUCATIONAL INCLUSION

The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru, in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Telugu (CESCT), Nellore, is organising a Two-Day Regional Conference and Workshop titled "Telugu: Translation Traditions and Educational Inclusion" on 10–11 August 2026 at the Centre of Excellence for Studies in Classical Telugu, Nellore.

The conference aims to highlight the rich translation heritage of the Telugu language and its role in preserving literary, cultural, and knowledge traditions while promoting inclusive education in multilingual contexts. Organised under the National Conference and Regional Workshop Series on "Sundar Bharatiya Bhasha: Mother Tongues, Multilingual Education and Bharatiya Knowledge Traditions," the event will bring together scholars, faculty members, researchers, translators, students, and language experts.

The programme will feature keynote lectures, technical sessions, panel discussions, interactive workshops, and cultural programmes. Selected outstation participants will be provided travel reimbursement and modest accommodation as per programme norms. Interested participants are invited to register through the official registration link:

<https://forms.gle/nWQRksFeR7zt8UBm6>

NEW PROJECT DIRECTOR FOR CENTRE FOR CLASSICAL MALAYALAM

Dr. M. Sreenathan, former Senior Professor of Linguistics, Thunchath Ezhuttachan Malayalam University has been appointed as the Project Director of the Centre for Classical Malayalam, an institution supported by the Central Government to promote research, preservation, and dissemination of the rich linguistic and literary heritage of Malayalam, one of India's Classical Languages. Prof. Sreenathan has made distinguished contributions to the advancement of Indian linguistic scholarship.

He worked for a long period as a linguist with the Anthropological Survey of India and subsequently as an Associate Professor at Dravidian University, Kuppam. At the time of his appointment he was working as a Senior Fellow at the International School of Dravidian Linguistics. He has authored numerous books and scholarly articles in both Malayalam and English, enriching the study of Indian languages and Dravidian linguistics.

Prof. Sreenathan was also a member of the expert committee constituted by the Government of India to examine and recommend the conferment of Classical Language status on Malayalam, a recognition that affirmed the antiquity, literary richness, and cultural heritage of the Malayalam language within India's linguistic atlas.

Prof. Sreenathan's appointment is widely regarded as a recognition of his lifelong commitment to the study of Indian languages and to the preservation of the nation's diverse linguistic traditions. His leadership is expected to strengthen efforts to promote Classical Malayalam as an integral part of Bharat's cultural legacy and to inspire further research that highlights the unity and diversity of the country's pluralistic linguistic heritage.

DLA News Desk

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SANGAM LITERATURE, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS, AND MOTHER TONGUE EDUCATION: PERSPECTIVES, PRACTICES, AND PEDAGOGIES

The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru, in collaboration with Pondicherry University, Puducherry, will organise a Two-Day National Conference on "Sangam Literature, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, and Mother Tongue Education: Perspectives, Practices, and Pedagogies" on 23–24 July 2026 at Pondicherry University.

Held under the National Conference and Regional Workshop Series on "Sundar Bharatiya Bhasha: Mother Tongues, Multilingual Education and Bharatiya Knowledge Traditions," the conference aims to explore the enduring relevance of Sangam literature and its contribution to India's literary and cultural heritage. It will also examine its role in strengthening mother tongue-based education, promoting interdisciplinary research, so as to support the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The programme will include keynote lectures, technical sessions, and panel discussions, bringing together faculty members, researchers, language experts, students, translators, policymakers, and other stakeholders. Selected outstation participants will be provided travel reimbursement and modest accommodation as per programme norms.

Interested participants are requested to register on or before 15 July 2026 through the official registration link: <https://forms.gle/xDnQYkZMHaxnQbip7>

Annie Tisha Jerald

COLLECTED PAPERS OF LV RAMASWAMI IYER, G.K. Panikkar, K. Rangan & Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Eds.) 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp.826, Rs. 990/- (US\$ 99/-) **INDEX OF EARLY MAṆIPRAVĀLA WORKS**, N. Gopinathan Nair, 2021, PB, Crown 1/4, pp. 1086, Rs. 2240/- (US\$ 224/-). **INDEX OF RĀMAKATHAPPĀṬṬU**, G. Sulekha, 2021, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1742, Rs. 1960/- (US\$ 196/-). **THE DRAVIDIAN CULTURE AND ITS DIFFUSION**, T.K. Krishna Menon, 2020, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. 58, Rs. 75/- (US\$ 7.50/-). **MOTHER GODDESS IN BENGAL AND IN KERALA**, T. Madhava Menon, 2020, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. vi + 463, Rs. 600 (US\$ 60/-). **INDEX OF KAṆṆAŚŚA RĀMĀYAṆAM**, Puthuserry Ramachandran, 2020, HB, Demy 1/8, pp. 1122, Rs. 1930/- (US\$ 193/-).

V.I.S Centenary Celebrations Program No. 6

Topic: A Comparative Study of Brahui Infinitives

LIVE

29th July 2026 - 10:30 am

The International School of Dravidian Linguistics is arranging a Lecture on the topic: "A Comparative Study of Brahui Infinitives" on 29th July 2026 from 10:30 am (IST) as part of the V.I.S. Centenary Celebrations (Program No. 6).

Mode of Lecture: Virtual (Google meet)

Link: <https://meet.google.com/fjp-crhr-ghc>

Speaker:-

**Dr. Nazir Shakir Brahui
(Dr. Nazir Ahmed)**

Director
Brahui Research Institute
Sindh, Pakistan

All are cordially invited



Convenor,
ISDI. Research Forum

FORTHCOMING ONLINE LECTURES

ISDL in collaboration with DLA has arranged a series of online lectures by distinguished professors as part of Prof. V.I. Subramoniam Centenary Celebrations. Forthcoming lectures are by Prof. E. Annamalai, Prof. G. Balasubramoniam and Prof. Gregory Anderson respectively. The details will be informed later.

MEETING OF THE BHARATIYA BHASHA PUSTAK YOJANA (BBPY)

The Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India and the Central University of Kerala jointly organize the first meeting of the Bhasha Pustak Yojana (BBPY) in Keralam on the 21st of July 2026 at 10.30 AM in the Committee Hall of the Central University of Kerala. Scholars from different parts of Kerala are invited to participate in the meeting which aims to discuss the preparation of high quality text books and learning resources in accordance with NEP 2020 and to identify the lead institutions for each disciplines and to evolve a Kerala action plan for the same.

New Life Members of DLA

<i>Name & Address</i>	<i>Membership No.</i>	<i>Name & Address</i>	<i>Membership No.</i>
 Dr. Pawan Tibba Lecturer, Northern Regional Language Centre, Punjabi University Campus, Patiala	1735/2026	 Dr. Ramanpreet Kaur Professor, Department of Punjabi, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda, Punjab	1738/2026
 Prof. Ramesh Chandra Bhardwaj Retd. Senior Professor of Sanskrit, Delhi University	1736/2026	 Dr. Leema Metilda A. Assistant Professor, Dept. of Tamil, University of Kerala, Kariavattom Campus, TVPM	1739/2026
 Ms. Bhavya C.P. Ph.D Research Scholar Dept. of Linguistics, Art Faculty University of Delhi New Delhi	1737/2026	 Mr. Agathiyan Sivamani Senior Software Engineer, Accenture, Bengaluru	1740/2026

COLLECTED PAPERS ON TAMIL, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan (Ed.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. x + 374. Rs. 400/- (US\$ 40/-).
TRIBUTES OF LOVE AND AFFECTION: REMINISCENCES OF PROF. V.I. SUBRAMONIAM, Naduvattom Gopalakrishnan, T.P. Sankarankutty Nair & C.S. Hariharan (Eds.), 2019, PB, Demy 1/8, pp. vi + 212, Rs. 300/- (US\$ 30/-).

48th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF INDIA (ICOLSI - 48)

The Department of Linguistics, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore is hosting the 48th International Conference of the Linguistic Society of India (ICOLSI - 48) in collaboration with the Linguistic Society of India (LSI), Pune and the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru, from 18th to 20th November 2026 at Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu. The theme of the conference is **“Exploring the Unearthed System of Systems in Linguistics”**. Scholars are requested to submit their abstracts at the earliest.

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Begins	:	8 th June 2026
Abstract Submission Deadline	:	31 st July 2026
Acceptance Notification	:	1 st September 2026
Last Date of Registration	:	30 th September 2026
Conference Dates	:	18 th - 20 th November 2026
Post - Conference Excursion	:	21 st November 2026
Registration & Accommodation	:	https://forms.gle/z39LFaCPmdBRddiw9 (Online link)

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES : Abstract submissions must be uploaded through ‘EasyAbs’ (<http://easyabs.linguistlist.org/conference/ICOLSI-48/>). Scholars and Academicians are encouraged to submit abstracts of their papers in about 250-300 words in any of the related areas in PDF/Docx format. To ensure fairness for all participants, the conference will permit only one first - author submission per participant: For every paper accepted for oral, at least one author must complete an individual conference registration.

DETAILS OF REGISTRATION FEE

Sl. No	Category	With Accommodation	Without Accommodation
1	Faculty Members	Rs. 3000	Rs. 2000
2	Research Scholars	Rs. 2500	Rs. 1500
3	P.G Students	Rs. 2000	Rs. 1000
4	Local Participants (Research Scholars and staff members from Bharathiar University/ Affiliated Colleges)	–	Rs. 1500
5	Foreign Delegates	\$300	\$200
6.	SAARC Country Nationals	\$200	\$150

PAYMENT DETAILS

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Account Number	822610210000133
Name of the Account	CONVENOR ICOLSI 48 CONFERENCE
IFSC Code	BKID0008226
MICR Code	641013011
Name of the Bank	BANK OF INDIA
Name of the Branch	BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY BRANCH

For Queries, Questions and Comments, please reach out to mail id: icolsi48.bu@gmail.com, sundarabalu@buc.edu.in

Anju B.



PROF. R. SARANYA APPOINTED AS DEAN

Prof R Saranya, CAS in Linguistics, Annamalai University, assumed office as the Dean, Faculty of Indian Languages, Annamalai University on 8-7-2026. The tenure is for three years. She is an active Member of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India. The DLA & ISDL extend full support and co-operation to her in this new venture.

N. Rajasekharan Nair

CIIL ORGANIZES TWO-WEEK ORIENTATION PROGRAMME ON INDIAN GRAMMATICAL TRADITION

The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru, under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India, will organize a Two-Week Orientation Programme on Indian Grammatical Tradition from 31 August to 14 September 2026 at its Manasagangotri campus. The programme is designed for postgraduate students, faculty members, and research scholars to deepen their understanding of the theoretical foundations, historical evolution, and contemporary relevance of the Indian grammatical tradition. Sessions by eminent scholars will cover the grammatical traditions of Sanskrit, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Prakrit, Pali, and other Indian languages, with special emphasis on the contributions of Pāṇini, Kātyāyana, Patañjali, Tolkāppiyar, and other classical grammarians. The orientation program will also examine the relevance of classical grammatical knowledge to contemporary linguistics, language documentation, computational linguistics, and language education. By bringing together scholars from diverse linguistic disciplines, the programme seeks to promote academic dialogue and strengthening the investigations on India's rich grammatical heritage. The last date for submitting applications for admission is 12th July 2026. The programme is being coordinated by Dr. Sujoy Sarkar under the patronage of Prof. Basavaraja Kodagunti, Director, CIIL.

Registration Link : <https://forms.gle/EfidCausPCnAU9oc7>

For further information please contact: igt.ciil2026@gmail.com 0821-2345049/91-9717225610

Remya L.B

BE PROUD TO BE A LIFE MEMBER OF DLA AND AVAIL SPECIAL PRIVILEGES

Requests to become a member of the Dravidian Linguistic Association of India (DLA) so as to get free copies of the International Journal of Dravidian Linguistics and the DLA News. So also the DLA members are eligible to get 50% discount for all DLA / ISDL publications and discounts in registration fee for ISDL/DLA sponsored conferences, Workshops and Seminars. **For details visit our website : www.ijdl.org**

S. Abdul Samed, Treasurer, DLA

UGC NET ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM

UGC NET online Training Program in Linguistics will be organised by Kolkata Society for Asian Studies. It commences on 3rd August 2026. For details contact: - Mobile: 9432490361,

E-mail:- ksasianstudies@gmail.com

THE WORD ஐங்குலம் (AIṅKŪLAM) AND TAMIL ANTIQUITY

Continued from the June issue

4. How Ainchoolam (Aiṅkūlam) became INCH in English

The system of measurement based on அங்குலம் (aṅkūlam) was, as argued here, of Tamil origin. Yet somehow, the British appropriated this system and presented it as their own under the name “British System” or the Foot-Pound-Second (FPS) system. How the Tamil word came to be rendered as “INCH” in English becomes clear when one writes the intermediate form ஐங்குலம் (aiṅkūlam) in Roman script:

AINCHOLAM (aiṅkūlam)

Truncating the initial “A” and the terminal “OOLAM” (ūlam) from this transliteration yields precisely “INCH”. The letters “CH” in “INCH” represent the “க்” (‘k’) sound of “க்” (kū) in ஐங்குலம், since in English, “ch” frequently renders the ‘k’ sound (as in “chemical”, “chord”, “character”). The truncation is thus phonetically precise, not merely orthographic. English has a well-documented history of adopting foreign words through truncation — as in “bus” from *omnibus*, “gym” from *gymnasium*, and “flu” from *influenza*. The case of AINCHOLAM → INCH follows precisely the same mechanism. As a parallel from our own context: the city name Thiruvananthapuram was similarly truncated by British administrators into “Trivandrum”.

5. Propagation to Other Languages

The word “அங்குலம்” (aṅgūlam) did not stop at Tamil and English. It spread across a wide family of languages, in each case preserving the core meaning of a finger-width or inch-equivalent measure: Sanskrit: अंगुल (aṅgula) — Finger-breadth; unit of linear measure, Hindi: अंगुल (aṅgul) — Finger; a unit of length, Telugu: అంగుళం (aṅgulaṁ) — Inch; finger-breadth, Kannada: ಅಂಗುಲ (aṅgula) — Inch; finger-breadth Malayalam: അങ്കുലം (aṅgulaṁ) — Inch; finger-breadth Marathi: अंगुळ (aṅgul) — Finger; unit of length Bengali: অঙ্গুল (aṅgul) — Finger; unit of length English: inch (from AINCHOLAM) — Unit of length = 2.54 cm. The spread of this word into Sanskrit is especially significant. The oldest of the Vedic texts, the Rigveda, contains in its celebrated Purusha Sukta the following line: ओम् सहस्रशीर्षिपुरुषः । सहस्राक्षः सहस्रपात् । स भूमिं विश्वतो वृत्वा । अत्यतिष्ठद्दशाङ्गुलम् ।

The final word “daśāṅgūlam” is a compound: daśa (ten) + āṅgūlam (aṅgūlam) — meaning “ten angulams”. Here the very same word, with the very same meaning, appears in the most ancient stratum of Sanskrit literature. The reader is invited to draw his/her own conclusions as to which language, this term originally belonged to.

6. Conclusion

This note has demonstrated, through physical evidence, phonological analysis, and literary documentation, that:

- (1) The unit of measurement known as the “inch” derives from the ancient Tamil word “ஐங்குலம்” (Ainkoolam), meaning the length of five rice grains placed end to end.
- (2) The English word “inch” was obtained by truncating the Romanised form AINC HOOLAM — a process well attested in the history of English word formation.
- (3) The word “அங்குலம்” (aṅgūlam) spread from Tamil into Sanskrit and thence into Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Bengali and other languages, each time preserving its original meaning.
- (4) The presence of this Tamil-origin word in the Rigveda’s Purusha Sukta — the oldest stratum of Sanskrit literature — provides compelling evidence of Tamil’s antiquity relative to Sanskrit with regard to this word.

What is most remarkable about this discovery is its simplicity: anyone, anywhere, with a few grains of rice and a ruler, can verify it in moments. Ancient Tamil scholars defined a unit of measurement so naturally and so precisely that it survives — unrecognised — at the heart of the modern inch.

A. Krishnamurthy, Chennai