



FIFTEENTH KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE

ON

**PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS
(2023-26)**

FIFTY THIRD REPORT

(Presented on 21.03.2025)

**SECRETARIAT OF THE KERALA LEGISLATURE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

2025

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On

**The action taken by Government on the Recommendations contained in the
Eighty Eighth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2019-21)
relating to Indian Institute of Information Technology and
Management - Kerala, based on the Report of the
Comptroller and Auditor General of India for
the year ended on 31st March 2009**

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS (2023-26)

COMPOSITION

Chairperson:

Shri. E. Chandrasekharan

Members:

Shri A.P.Anilkumar

Shri Anwar Sadath

Shri Ahammad Devarkovil

Shri T. V. Ibrahim

Shri P. Mammikutty

Shri K. P. Mohanan

Shri D. K. Murali

Shri P. Nandakumar

Shri Kadakampally Surendran

Shri P. Ubaidulla

Legislature Secretariat:

Dr. N. Krishna Kumar, Secretary

Shri Venugopal R., Joint Secretary

Shri Anilkumar B., Deputy Secretary

Shri Mohanan O., Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on Public Undertakings (2023-26) having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Fifty Third Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Eighty Eighth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2019-21) relating to Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management - Kerala, based on the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 2009.

The Statement of Action Taken by the Government included in this Report was considered by the Committee in its meetings held on 22.05.2024.

This Report was considered and approved by the Committee in the meeting held on 18.03.2025

The Committee place on record their appreciation for the assistance rendered to them by the Accountant General (Audit), Kerala, officials of Electronics and Information Technology who were present during the examination of the Action Taken Statements included in this Report.

Thiruvananthapuram,
21.03.2025

E. CHANDRASEKHARAN,
Chairperson,
Committee on Public Undertakings.

REPORT

This Report deals with the Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 88th Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2019-21) relating to Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management - Kerala based on the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March 2009.

The Eighty Eighth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (2019-21) was presented in the House on 18th June 2019. The Report contained Four recommendations and the Government furnished replies to all these recommendations.

The Committee (2023-2026) considered and approved the replies received from Government after considering the explanation by the officials from Electronics and Information Technology Department at its meeting held on 22-05-2024.

CHAPTER – I

REPLIES FURNISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE WITHOUT REMARKS

| <i>SL No.</i> | <i>Para</i> | <i>Department Concerned</i> | <i>Recommendation of the Committee</i> | <i>Action taken by the Government</i> |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 1 | | <p><i>The Committee expressed great concern over the future of the students enrolled in the courses prior to the recognition of CUSAT. The Committee also finds that the Board of Directors had since beginning, been cautioning about the need for getting approval from AICTE. The Committee criticized the company for its failure in obtaining the mandatory approval from AICTE for conducting the Diploma courses in IT and ignoring the directions issued by AICTE to close down the courses and submit fresh proposal for approval. The Committee recommends to fix</i></p> | <p><i>Prior to upgrading the Post Graduate Diploma program to MS-IT in 2005, the institute was awarding Post Graduate Diploma in Information Technology (PGDIT) with due approval from Government of Kerala. The said Post Graduate Diploma did not require mandatory approval from AICTE. PGDIT program accredited by the University of Kerala was converted to MS-IT program and this was objected by AICTE in 2007. Therefore, MS-IT program offered by the Institute was withdrawn and students were awarded with Post Graduate Diploma in Information Technology (PGDIT) accredited by the Kerala University. During 2005, the PGDIT program was accredited by the Kerala University. So, future of the students was not jeopardized.</i></p> <p><i>The students, awarded with PGDIT were given placements in IT companies, recognizing their skill and technical knowledge. Hence the observation by the committee that the future of students was put in peril is without merit and practical relevance. The Master of Science programs offered by the Institute are with the affiliation of CUSAT. Representatives of the IIITM-K even</i></p> |

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| | | <p><i>responsibility against the delinquent officials responsible for putting the future of students in peril and for violating AICTE directions, and to take stringent disciplinary action against them.</i></p> | <p><i>appeared before a committee constituted by the AICTE at Bangalore on 23/03/2011 and clarified its position. The AICTE did not pursue the matter any further.</i></p> |
| 2 | 2 | <p><i>The Committee recommends to take stringent disciplinary action and fix responsibility against the delinquent officials responsible for admitting students in post-graduate courses during 2001-08 and upgrading the diploma courses to post graduate diploma courses [MS(IT)] in 2005 without creating infrastructure facilities stipulated by AICTE thereby resulting in denial of mandatory recommendation from AICTE, and incurring loss of ₹.5.69 crore. The Committee also demands that revenue recovery proceedings should be initiated against</i></p> | <p><i>For the period from 2000-2001 to 2007-2008, the company had an accumulated loss of 5.69 crore, which represents the sum total of loss from all its activities. The fact that the company did not generate revenue, could not be attributed to non-approval from AICTE and can be attributed as a loss during the infancy of the institute till it gained a good footing in the educational arena. It also be considered that the world witnessed Global Economic Recession during the set period and suddenly, jobs in IT Industry looked less appealing to prospective students and that had also contributed towards the lower rate of student enrollment for programs offered by IIITM-K towards the end of the said period.</i></p> <p><i>IIITM-K is a company registered under the Companies Act 2013 and as a general rule, Directors and officers in default are not personally liable on behalf of the company unless commission of fraud or gross negligence is proved against them in the conduct of the business at the relevant time. This aspect of law is reiterated by courts in several judgments. However, there are</i></p> |

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| | | <p><i>the erring officials.</i></p> | <p><i>exceptional circumstances listed in the Act where director could be held liable.</i></p> <p><i>The total loss of the company for the years from 2000-2001 to 2007-08 aggregating to Rs.5.69 Crore, the loss on the account of conduct of the course is Rs. 49,53,027.29/-. Therefore it is pertinent that the lose to the company on account of the PGDIT is only Rs. 49,53,027,29/- and the rest of the loss is due to other developmental activities undertaken by the company. Only a small amount of loss is attributable to the academic activities and hence the conclusion that the entire loss is due to the conduct of the course is without merit.</i></p> <p><i>In the light of the above, the observation by the committee that revenue recovery proceedings may be initiated against the erring officials is not correct as they have acted in good faith and with full justice to their fiduciary capacity, their roles in the company, warranted.</i></p> |
| 3 | 3 | <p><i>The Committee criticizes the financial mismanagement and anarchism which was noted to prevail in the Institute and recommends to run the institution by following prudent financial management practices per Memorandum of Association.</i></p> | <p><i>IITM-K is an Institute having self financing nature, other than the academic programmes, faculty members are involved in various projects sponsored by the Government and other Departments to generate more revenue. Institute is carrying out all statutory requirements as per Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Government of Kerala within the stipulated time. The Institute is one among the very few PSUs which completes its annual accounts on time and it is pertinent to mention that the Audit of the Institute for the FY 2018-19 has also been completed in July 2019 itself. During the FY 2018-19, the Institute</i></p> |

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| | | | <p><i>has reported an operating profit of Rs. 25.47 lakhs making it one among the very few PSUs making profit. Thus the Institute is adopting best financial management practices as per the Memorandum of Association and completing all statutory requirements on time.</i></p> |
| 4 | 4 | <p><i>The Committee wants to be furnished with details of the courses conducted by the institution and activities in its present functioning.</i></p> | <p><i>4. The main programmes of the institute are:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Masters Programme</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>M.Phil programmes</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ph.D Programmes</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Postgraduate Diploma programmes</i> <p><i>Four specialized Post Graduate Programmes (M.Sc.) in Computer Science with specialization in Cyber Security, Machine Intelligence, Data Analytics, and Geospatial Analytics with the affiliation of Cochin University of Science and Technology. Institute had been closely working with the State Government in various sectors viz., education, agriculture, health, e-governance, science and technology etc. Following are the some of the portals and services of the Institute that has developed at that time.</i></p> <p><i>i. Kerala Education Grid: www.edugrid.ac.in</i></p> <p><i>Portal to assist teachers and students in the colleges to teach and learn</i></p> |

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| | | | <p><i>better.</i></p> <p>ii. <i>Plan space portal, CM portal www.cmopcmg.kerala.gov.in</i></p> <p>iii. <i>Computational Chemistry Portal: www.compchem.in-</i></p> <p><i>The only computational portal in India till that date allows any research scholars, faculty or teachers to access advanced computing facilities for molecular structural, molecular dynamics and other calculations in Chemistry.</i></p> <p>iv. <i>Kerala Agriculture Services Portal: www.kiss.ankerala.net-</i></p> <p><i>The Portal serves the farmers and agriculture related enterprises of the State. The Institute, the Department of Agriculture and the Kerala Agricultural University, jointly manages the services portal.</i></p> <p>v. <i>Virtual University for Agriculture Trade: www.vuatkerala.org -</i></p> <p><i>The portal is operated by the Kerala Agricultural University, Department of Agriculture. It was developed and serviced by the</i></p> |
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| | | | | <p><i>Institute. This is intended to educate the farmers on the profitability, sustainability, practices and new opportunities to enhance agrarian prosperity.</i></p> <p>vi. <i>E-krishi Agriculture Trading Portal:</i> www.e-krishi.org-</p> <p><i>This portal developed in association with the Kerala State IT Mission using UNDP funds. It was intended to help the small and homestead farmers get better market returns and opportunities for value addition to their produce.</i></p> <p>vii. <i>Krishideepam TV serial:</i> <i>This was a weekly TV serial produced by the Institute in association with the Department of Agriculture and broadcast over the Asianet TV channel.</i></p> <p>viii. <i>Agriculture and related Trade call Centre:</i> <i>This was service to help the farmers even if they do not have access to internet.</i></p> <p>ix. <i>Trivandrum City Police for Community Interaction:</i> www.tvmcitypolice.org –</p> <p><i>This is a new concept e-governance police-community interaction</i></p> |
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| | | | <p><i>portal that integrates the services across 20 police station offices of the city and effectively acts as forum for involving the city community in policing related issues.</i></p> <p><i>i. Support for Telemedicine services and Continuing Medical Education:</i></p> <p><i>This was being done in association with ISRO and the Department of Health, Government of Kerala.</i></p> <p><i>Other activities of the Institute are placed annexure.</i></p> |
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Thiruvananthapuram
21.03.2025

E.Chandrasekharan
Chairperson
Committee on Public Undertakings

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ANNEXURE

Research and Development

- Theoretical Computer Science
- Machine Intelligence
- Medical Image Computing
- Computational Linguistics
- Computational Sciences and High Performance Computing
- GIS and Remote Sensing
- Information Systems, Services and Management
- Networks, Grid and Cloud Computing
- Educational Technologies
- E-Governance

Research Groups

The various research groups with the state of the art labs are functioning in the Institute and more than 100 national and international research publications are produced from IIITM-K during the last 10 years.

i. Centre for Excellence in Applied Machine Intelligence and Pattern Analysis:

The thematic research areas of the centre are: Pattern Recognition Circuits and Systems, Re-configurable and Parallel Neuromorphic Systems, Sequence Matching for Biological Sequences, and Computing for Medical Images.

ii. Virtual Resource Centre for Language Computing

Natural Language Processing, Computational Linguistics, e-Governance Interoperability and Localization, Software Engineering, Object Constraint Modeling

iii. Center for Medical Information Systems:

Imaging Technology-Image computing and Modeling-Medical Signal/Image Processing-Medical Data Analytics-Telemedicine-Computational Techniques in Medical Diagnostics-Information Security for Medical applications-Web Based Medical Data Archival Systems-Soft Technology in Translational Health Informatics-Machine Intelligence for Medical applications.

iv. HPC and Computational Sciences:

High Performance Computing: Cluster, Cloud, Grid Computing, Design and development of nano-mechanical systems; electronic gates; organic reaction mechanism.

v. Centre for Ecological Informatics:

Ecological Modelling, Quantitative Ethno Botany, Statistical Analysis

vi. Informatics Systems and Services:

Library & Information System Management and Services, Digital Library Development and e-Resource Access facilities, Multimedia Technology and Services, Agri informatics, Geographical Information Systems, Remote Sensing, Global Positioning System, Photogrammetry, Educational Technology, Strategic Project Management

vii. E-Governance and Software Service Delivery

KISSAN(Karshaka Information Systems Services and Networks) a multi-modal delivery of Agricultural Information System, which disseminates information and advisory services for the farming community across Kerala.

Plan-space -web based information system which facilitates effective monitoring and concurrent evaluation of plan schemes implementation across all Government Department and public sector organisations in the state.

RTI Knowledge portal- Provides RTI information and allows online certification on RTI for citizens.


Technology Enhanced Learning and Teaching- Consultancy Services to various institutions for establishing web based e-Learning solutions, Learning Management System with collaboration and Knowledge sharing spaces

Some of the ongoing projects of the Institute

| Sl No | Title | Funding Agency | Current Status | Coordinator |
|--------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Knowledge Centre in Software Engineering & Project Management | Kerala State Planning Board | Ongoing | Pradeep Kumar K |
| 2 | PLANSPEACE Kerala project | Kerala State Planning Board | Ongoing | Ajith Kumar R |
| 3 | ICT enabled Pest Surveillance System | Department of Agriculture | Ongoing | Ajith Kumar R |
| 4 | Kissan Kerala | Department of Agriculture | Ongoing | Ajith Kumar R |
| 5 | Soil Nutrient Management Information System Project | Department of Agriculture | Ongoing | Ajith Kumar R |
| 6 | Soil Nutrient Management Information system for Coffee | Coffee Board, Govt. of India | Ongoing | Ajith Kumar R |
| 7 | Coconut Research Project | State Planning Board | Ongoing | Ajith Kumar R |
| 8 | Information Security Education and Awareness phase 2 project | GoI | Ongoing | MeraJ Uddin |
| 9 | An Assistive Communication Technology for Divyaang-Back to Lab programme for developing software and tool for Autism Child | KSCSTE -GoK | Ongoing | Dr. Elizabeth Sherly |

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| 0 | Virtual resource center for language computing(VRCLC) 2011 onwards | Planning Board | Ongoing | Dr. Elizabeth Sherly |
| 1 | Center for Excellence in Data Engineering & Computational Modeling | Planning Board | Ongoing | Dr. Manoj Kumar T |
| | ESDM | Sponsored by Govt of Kerala, | Ongoing | Dr.Asharaf |
| | AEPD - SPB Coconut Research Project | Department of Agriculture, Govt of Kerala | Ongoing | Prof. Ajith Kumar |
| | AEZ Data Base Generation Project | Department of Agriculture, Govt of Kerala | Ongoing | Prof. Ajith Kumar |
| | BIRAC | | Ongoing | Dr. Asharaf |
| | CARMDI | State Planning Board | Ongoing | Dr. Asharaf |
| | Centre for Geo Informatics | State Planning Board | Ongoing | Prof. Radhakrishnan |
| | Centre for Ecological Informatics | State Planning Board | Ongoing | Dr. Jaishanker R |
| | Centre for Innovation and Technology Incubation | State Planning Board | Ongoing | Dr. Elizabeth Sherly |
| | Centre of Excellence in Patten and Image Analysis | State Planning Board | Ongoing | Dr. Elizabeth Sherly Dr. Joseh Paul Dr. Tony |
| | CM Monitoring Portal | State Planning Board | Ongoing | Prof. Ajith Kumar R |
| | CRICTR | State Planning Board | Ongoing | Dr. Sabu M. Thampi Dr. Tony |

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| | | | | Prof. Meraj Uddin |
| 23 | Earth Science Sacred Grove Project | GoI | Ongoing | Prof. Radhakrishnan |
| 24 | Haritha Kerala Mission | Haritha Kerala Mission | Ongoing | Prof. Radhakrishnan |
| 25 | TEL4HQE | State Planning Board1 | Ongoing | Shri David Mathews |
| 26 | Nidhi Prayas | Social Innovation for Entrepreneur | Ongoing | Dr. Asharaf |


RAJESH KUMAR. M
 Additional Secretary to Government
 Electronics & Information Technology Dept.
 Govt. Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram