



NICHE Chronicle

BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY WITH NICHE

Dr. Tessa Thomas
Vice-Chancellor



SHAPING THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

M. S. Faizal Khan
Chancellor



A NEW CHAPTER IN CREATIVE EXCELLENCE

Dr. Pramod Payyannur
Assumes Charge as
Director, School of Multimedia
& Film Technology



WHERE HERITAGE INSPIRES LEARNING

There are places dedicated to preserving the echoes of the past and places to build the blueprints of tomorrow. At Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE), these two distinct paths converge to create something truly remarkable. Inspired by a region where heritage, nature, and learning exist in perfect harmony, NICHE was founded with the vision of transforming lives through quality higher education. Today, it has grown into a premier multidisciplinary Deemed-to-be University offering programmes in engineering, health sciences, management, humanities, basic sciences, and emerging technologies.

At NICHE, education extends beyond the classroom. With distinguished faculty, state-of-the-art laboratories, modern infrastructure, and a vibrant research ecosystem, students are empowered to think critically, innovate confidently, and lead responsibly. Interdisciplinary learning, industry partnerships, global collaborations, and experiential education prepare graduates to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.

The University's commitment to academic excellence is matched by its dedication to research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and social responsibility. Every learning experience is designed to nurture knowledge, character, creativity, and a lifelong passion for discovery — as NICHE continues to build a legacy of empowering learners, advancing

knowledge, and shaping leaders who contribute meaningfully to society and the world.

A VISIONARY WHO BUILT A LEGACY



Remembering Dr. A.P. Majeed Khan

Education was never merely an institution-building exercise for Dr. A.P. Majeed Khan — it was a mission to transform lives. Through extraordinary vision, determination, and an unwavering commitment



to academic excellence, he laid the foundation of NICHE, creating an institution that has empowered thousands of students and contributed significantly to India's higher education landscape.

Driven by the belief that quality education should be accessible and socially transformative, Dr. Majeed Khan established NICHE as a centre of excellence in science, engineering, technology, management, and research. His visionary leadership led the institution to attain Deemed-to-be-University status in 2008 — a defining milestone in its journey of academic growth and innovation.

Beyond infrastructure and academic expansion, he nurtured a culture rooted in integrity, innovation, research, and service to society. His emphasis on interdisciplinary learning, industry collaboration, faculty empowerment, and student-centric education positioned NICHE to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving world.

Though Dr. A.P. Majeed Khan is no longer with us, the ideals he cherished continue to inspire every classroom, laboratory, and research initiative at NICHE. His legacy lives on in the achievements of the institution he founded and in the countless lives transformed through education. As the NICHE family remembers its Founder-Chancellor with profound respect and gratitude, we reaffirm our commitment to carrying forward his vision of excellence, innovation, and nation-building through higher education.

KERALA CHARTS NEW REFORMS TO REVITALISE HIGHER EDUCATION

The Kerala Government has unveiled a series of transformative initiatives in the Revised Budget 2026-27 aimed at strengthening higher education and reducing the migration of students and young professionals. Recognising the need to retain the State's demographic dividend, the Government has proposed the establishment of the Global Job Watch Tower, a future skills and employment intelligence mission that will align higher education with emerging global workforce demands. Another flagship initiative, the Kerala Knowledge Valley, seeks to position Kerala as a world-class higher education hub by promoting cutting-edge academic programmes, advanced research parks, and centres of excellence.



FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S DESK

M. S. Faizal Khan | Chancellor

In a rapidly changing world marked by technological advancement and social complexity, the true purpose of education lies in nurturing individuals to become intellectually competent, emotionally balanced, and ethically grounded.

At NICHE, we are committed to this higher vision of education. Rooted in the timeless principles of Indian knowledge systems and strengthened by contemporary scientific inquiry, the University continues to evolve as a centre for holistic learning and research.

At NICHE, we are steadfast in our commitment to cultivating a culture of intellectual curiosity, innovation, and dedicated service. Our interdisciplinary curricula, cutting-edge research endeavors, and active community collaborations serve as the primary engines that drive innovation, inspire transformative learning, and empower our students to create meaningful solutions for the challenges of an ever-evolving world.

As we move forward, our endeavour remains to uphold excellence in education while staying anchored in values that promote harmony within individuals and in the wider world. I extend my best wishes to all students of NICHE as we continue this collective journey of learning and transformation.

BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY WITH NICHE

Dr. Tessy Thomas | Vice-Chancellor



We are delighted to welcome prospective students to NICHE, as admissions for the 2026-27 academic year is now gaining strong momentum. We know that selecting your future university is one of life's most consequential steps—and we do not take that trust lightly. Our promise is simple: NICHE offers a dynamic learning ecosystem designed to cultivate professional excellence alongside personal integrity, ensuring you graduate as a complete, confident

individual.

Our university offers a diverse range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes designed to meet the evolving needs of industry and society. With a curriculum that integrates academic excellence, research, innovation, and experiential learning, students gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence required to succeed in a rapidly changing world. Supported by distinguished faculty,

state-of-the-art infrastructure, and a vibrant campus environment, our students are encouraged to think critically, innovate boldly, and contribute meaningfully to society.

I warmly invite you to begin your academic journey with NICHE and become part of a community dedicated to excellence, innovation, and holistic development. Together, let us build a future of knowledge, leadership, and purpose.

INDUSTRY-READY EDUCATION

Bridging the gap between the classroom and the cutting-edge tech world, NICHE's industry-integrated model is built for real impact. Our strategic partnerships—IBM Centre for Excellence, Intel Unnati AI, Apple iOS, and AWS Certification—fuel a dynamic learning culture centered on projects, software development, and lifelong upskilling.

Students don't just study; they build, code, and innovate alongside industry mentors while gaining hands-on experience through internships and coding challenges. NICHE partnerships with R06

Aerotech, Faceprep, and Toonz Animation offer on-the-job training, giving learners a distinct competitive edge throughout their academic journey. This immersive approach sharpens analytical thinking, sparks entrepreneurial drive, and hones professional skills—opening doors to careers in software engineering, product development, and beyond.



BUILDING RESILIENCE, SAVING LIVES

YUVA AAPDA MITRA Volunteer Training Programme



Reaffirming its commitment to building a disaster-resilient society, NICHE, in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority and the Kanniyakumari

District Administration, successfully conducted a seven-day YUVA AAPDA MITRA Volunteer Training Programme on campus.

The programme was

inaugurated by Thiru M. Prathap, IAS, District Collector of Kanniyakumari, in the presence of senior district officials, along with Dr. Tessy Thomas, Vice-Chancellor; Dr. K.A. Janardhanan, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Administration); Dr. A. Shajin Nargunan, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academics); and Dr. P. Thirumalvalavan, Registrar.

The intensive training equipped students with essential skills in disaster preparedness, first aid, search and rescue operations, emergency response, and community resilience. Through hands-on sessions and expert guidance, participants gained the practical knowledge and confidence to serve as trained volunteers during emergencies and natural disasters.

By fostering a spirit of service, leadership, and civic responsibility, the initiative reflects NICHE's dedication to preparing socially responsible graduates who are ready to contribute meaningfully to the safety and well-being of their communities.

EMBRACING AI, EMPOWERING THE FUTURE

Ansa Shabinam Shafeek | Pro-Chancellor



As Artificial Intelligence redefines the boundaries of possibility, we at NICHE embrace its transformative potential with both excitement and mindfulness. We recognize AI as far more than a technological milestone—it is a strategic enabler of academic distinction, research depth, and meaningful community impact.

Our vision is to cultivate an AI-powered educational environment where students acquire cutting-edge competencies without losing sight of the human element. Through interdisciplinary integration, we foster not just

technical proficiency but also the creative insight, analytical rigor, and ethical grounding essential for responsible leadership.

Ultimately, our approach to AI is guided by a simple yet profound principle: technology is most powerful when it uplifts humanity. In keeping with this philosophy, NICHE endeavors to shape graduates who are not only skilled innovators but also compassionate citizens—ready to contribute to a better, more equitable world.

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Inclusion, Equity and Global Excellence

M.S. Faizal Khan | Chancellor



The higher education landscape is currently witnessing a profound transformation driven by globalisation, technological advancement, and the increasing mobility of students and faculty. Universities today are not merely centres of learning; they are engines of innovation, research, and global collaboration. In this evolving landscape, the pursuit of inclusive, equitable, and quality education has become both a moral obligation and a strategic necessity.

India stands at a pivotal moment in its educational journey. With one of the world's largest youth populations and the visionary framework of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the country has the opportunity to emerge as a global destination for higher education. Realising this vision requires institutions to embrace academic excellence while ensuring that quality education remains accessible to all.

At NICHE, we believe education achieves its true purpose only when every learner – regardless of socio-economic background, gender, geographical location, or physical ability – has the opportunity to succeed. Inclusion means creating a campus culture where diversity is respected, every voice is valued, and students receive the academic, financial, and emotional support necessary to realise their potential; equity ensures that each student is provided with the resources needed to thrive.

Internationalisation has become a defining feature of modern higher education. Beyond attracting students from different countries, it encompasses collaborative research, faculty exchanges, interdisciplinary programmes, and global academic partnerships that broaden perspectives, promote intercultural understanding, and prepare graduates to address complex challenges in an

interconnected world while remaining rooted in local realities.

Quality remains the cornerstone of institutional excellence. To remain responsive to both rapidly evolving knowledge paradigms and shifting industry demands, universities must proactively realign their curricula—embracing learner-centred pedagogies, immersive experiential learning, pioneering research, creative innovation, and deep-rooted digital transformation. Technology has expanded educational access through online learning and virtual classrooms, but institutions must also address the digital divide to ensure that no learner is left behind.

Research and innovation are equally vital in shaping the universities of tomorrow. By encouraging multidisciplinary research and international collaboration, higher education institutions can contribute meaningful solutions to global challenges such as climate change, healthcare, and sustainable development – generating knowledge and applying it for the benefit of society.



WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

► From Curiosity to Cybersecurity: My Journey at NICHE

I am a third-year B.Tech Information Technology – Cyber Security and Forensics student. When I chose cybersecurity, I had many doubts, but my journey at NICHE has given me the confidence and capability to grow in this field.

The programme offers a strong balance between theory and practical learning, helping me clearly understand cybersecurity concepts, with a curriculum aligned to industry needs – especially in areas like ethical hacking and digital security. The hands-on approach and supportive



faculty have strengthened my technical skills and critical thinking, while exposure to emerging technologies has further prepared me for real-world challenges. My experience at NICHE has been enriching and professionally rewarding, and I am confident of becoming a skilled cybersecurity professional in the coming years.

— Syed Aadil

B.Tech Information Technology
(Cyber Security and Forensics)

► Charting My Path in Logistics & Aviation at NICHE

I am a third-year BBA student in Logistics and Aviation. When I chose this field, I was curious but unsure about the opportunities ahead. My experience at NICHE has given me the clarity and confidence to pursue a career in this dynamic industry.

The programme provides a strong foundation in business along with specialised knowledge in logistics and aviation, and an industry-oriented curriculum that helps me understand

real-world operations and supply chain systems. I value the practical learning approach and exposure to current industry practices, and the guidance from faculty has helped me strengthen my skills and professional outlook. My journey at NICHE has been enriching and has prepared me to step into the industry with confidence.

— Jebeena J.P

BBA Logistics and Aviation



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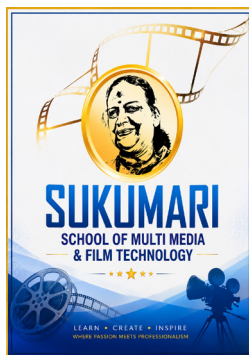
A NEW CHAPTER IN CREATIVE EXCELLENCE

Dr. Pramod Payyannur Assumes Charge as Director, School of Multimedia & Film Technology



Adding a luminous presence to our creative fraternity, NICHE proudly welcomes Dr. Pramod Payyannur, the acclaimed theatre and film director – who has officially assumed charge as Director of the Sukumari School of Multimedia & Film Technology.

A distinguished creative visionary with decades of experience in theatre, cinema, and visual media, Dr. Payyannur brings a wealth of artistic expertise, academic insight, and industry leadership to the University. His appointment marks



a significant milestone in NICHE's mission to strengthen education in film, multimedia, and the creative arts.

Under his leadership, the school is set to offer industry-

oriented programmes, experiential learning opportunities, and a dynamic academic environment that nurtures creativity, innovation, and professional excellence. With stronger industry collaborations and a forward-looking curriculum, students will be equipped with the knowledge, practical skills, and creative confidence required to excel in the rapidly evolving world of media and entertainment. The University looks forward to Dr. Payyannur's leadership in inspiring the next generation of filmmakers, storytellers, media professionals, and creative artists.

A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION FOR CLEANER WATER

NICHE AquaFloc: An Indo—Japanese Water Purification Project

The University marked another milestone in research and innovation with the inauguration of NICHE AquaFloc, an advanced Indo-Japanese Water Purification Project jointly developed by the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Human Genetics & Biotechnology under the Indo-Asian Project.

Designed to enhance groundwater purification, AquaFloc employs an innovative pre-treatment technology that efficiently removes impurities before water enters conventional filtration and reverse osmosis (RO) systems. The technology improves water quality, enhances filtration efficiency, extends the life of filtration systems, and promotes sustainable water reuse – offering an eco-



friendly solution to contemporary water management challenges.

The project was inaugurated by Dr. K.S. Chandrasekhar, Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu, in the presence of Shri M.S. Faizal Khan, Chancellor; Mrs. Ansa Shabinam Shafeek, Pro-Chancellor; and Dr. Tessy Thomas, Vice-Chancellor, along with university officials, faculty members, researchers, and students.

THE INDUSTRY IS LOOKING FOR INNOVATORS, AND THAT JOURNEY BEGINS WITH CURIOSITY

Dr. A. Shajin Nargunam | Pro Vice Chancellor — Academics



Technology is no longer evolving—it is leaping. As the World Economic Forum’s Future of Jobs report highlights, this transformation isn’t just replacing roles; it is actively creating millions of new career portfolios. In this era of transformation, success belongs to those who remain curious, embrace innovation, and challenge conventional thinking. At NICHE, we encourage every learner to ask questions, explore new possibilities, and transform ideas into impactful solutions. Innovation begins with curiosity, and the future belongs to those who dare to imagine it.

WOMEN DRIVE INDIA’S HIGHER EDUCATION GROWTH

The latest All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2023-24 highlights a significant milestone in



India’s education landscape. Women now account for 49.7% of total higher education enrolment, with female enrolment increasing by 42% over the past decade—outpacing the growth in male enrolment. The Gender Parity Index has reached 1.08, reflecting improved access to higher education, particularly among Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities.

While these gains are encouraging, challenges remain. Women’s participation continues to be lower in engineering and technology, and many face barriers in securing quality employment after graduation. The findings underscore the need for stronger industry-academia partnerships, greater leadership opportunities for women, and skill-oriented education that translates academic success into meaningful careers.

Source: The Hindu, 11 July 2026.

The full AISHE 2023-24 report is available at <https://aishe.gov.in/aishe-final-report/>

NICHE SIGNS MOU WITH SIVASAKTHI SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Strengthening Research, Innovation, and Academic Collaboration

The Department of Allied Health Sciences at NICHE, Kanyakumari, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Sivasakthi Science Foundation (SSF), Thiruvananthapuram, marking a significant milestone in fostering research, innovation, and academic collaboration.

The partnership aims to promote joint research projects, industry-oriented learning, research internships, faculty and student development, and skill enhancement in emerging fields such as genomics, artificial intelligence, computational biology, and open science.

Through this collaboration, students and faculty will gain valuable



opportunities to participate in interdisciplinary research, knowledge exchange, and innovation-driven initiatives — strengthening the interface between academia and scientific research, and reflecting NICHE's continued commitment to building strategic partnerships that prepare students for the rapidly evolving world of science and technology.

DRIVING THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE THROUGH AI

Dr. Nadeem Shah Shares Insights at Mathrubhumi Evolve Health Summit



The Mathrubhumi Evolve Health Summit (Edition 2) brought together leading healthcare professionals, researchers, and industry experts to discuss the future of healthcare, innovation, and artificial intelligence.

Representing NICHE, Dr. Nadeem Shah, Director

– Medical Innovations, delivered an insightful talk titled “Smarter Systems, Better Care: Transforming Healthcare Management Through Artificial Intelligence — Opportunities, Challenges, and the Road Ahead.”

His presentation explored the transformative role of artificial intelligence in modern healthcare, highlighting its potential to enhance clinical decision-making, optimise healthcare management, improve patient outcomes, and create more efficient, intelligent healthcare systems, while also addressing the associated opportunities and challenges. The summit provided a valuable platform for exchanging ideas, fostering collaboration, and exploring emerging trends — reflecting NICHE's commitment to advancing innovation, research, and thought leadership in healthcare technology.



CELEBRATING INCLUSION, INSPIRING HOPE

NICHE Welcomes Participants of Swapnachirak

It was a moment of profound inspiration when NICHE, Kanyakumari, opened its doors to the participants of Swapnachirak. This remarkable initiative—rooted in the principles of inclusion, resilience, and unwavering aspiration—found a warm and welcoming home within our institution, reaffirming our commitment to nurturing dreams beyond boundaries.

The campus came alive

with joy, laughter, and meaningful interactions as participants explored the University, engaged in various activities, and created lasting memories. The visit reflected NICHE's enduring commitment to fostering an environment built on compassion, equality, mutual respect, and human dignity.

At NICHE, education is viewed as a transformative journey that extends

beyond academic excellence. By embracing diversity and promoting inclusivity, the University strives to create a community where every individual feels valued, empowered, and inspired to realise their full potential — a powerful reminder that an inclusive society is built through empathy, shared experiences, and the collective celebration of every individual's unique abilities.

Kerala Automobiles MD Inspires with Vision for the Future of Mobility

NICHE had the privilege of hosting Mr. Rajeev Subrahmanian, Managing Director of Kerala Automobiles Limited (KAL), for an interactive session with students. He shared insights into the latest trends in the automobile industry, highlighting the rapid growth of electric vehicles (EVs), smart mobility, automation, artificial intelligence, connected vehicles, and sustainable manufacturing. Encouraging students to

prepare for the future, he emphasized the importance of building strong technical knowledge, gaining practical



industry exposure, and developing skills in emerging areas such as EV technology, battery management systems, embedded systems, and vehicle electronics. He also stressed the value of innovation, problem-solving, teamwork, and continuous learning. The session inspired NICHE engineering students to embrace new technologies and equip themselves to become future leaders in India's evolving automotive industry.

SILVER JUBILEE REUNION

Celebrating 25 Years of Friendship



After a quarter of a century, the 1997–2001 batches of CSE, ECE, EEE, and Mechanical Engineering made a heartwarming return to their alma mater at NICHE, Kanyakumari. Gathering for their Silver Jubilee Reunion, the campus echoed once again with laughter, fond reminiscence, and the timeless warmth of rekindled friendships. Alumni reunited with classmates and faculty, revisited familiar landmarks, and reflected on a journey shaped by learning, lifelong bonds, and shared success. The reunion was a heartwarming reminder that while years may pass, the spirit of the NICHE family continues to grow stronger, inspiring lasting connections across generations.

UNIVERSITY—SCHOOL CONNECT PROGRAMME



NICHE Kanyakumari continues to bridge the gap between school education and higher learning through its University-School Connect Programme. The initiative introduces students to higher education, career pathways, emerging technologies, innovation, and skill development through interactive sessions, expert mentoring, and campus experiences. By inspiring young minds and providing meaningful exposure to future opportunities, NICHE empowers students to make informed career choices and confidently prepare for tomorrow's challenges.

NICHE VISION 2030 CLUBS 2.0

NICHE Vision 2030 Clubs 2.0 provides students with a dynamic platform to learn, lead, and innovate beyond the classroom. Spanning academics, technology, entrepreneurship, arts, culture, sports, research, and community service, the clubs encourage creativity, collaboration, and leadership while nurturing well-rounded personalities. Through diverse activities and hands-on experiences, students develop the skills and confidence needed to excel in a rapidly evolving world and become responsible leaders of tomorrow.



Choose **NICHE** Chart Your Future

A universe of programmes across engineering,
health sciences, business, media and law —
one address for your ambition.



Dr. Tessy Thomas | Vice-Chancellor

ENGINEERING

B.Tech / B.E.

1. Computer Science & Engineering
2. IT with Cyber Security and Forensics
3. Artificial Intelligence & Data Science
4. Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
5. Computer Engineering (Software Engineering)
6. Automobile Engineering
7. Fire Technology & Safety Engineering
8. Biomedical Engineering
9. Marine Engineering
10. Electronics & Communication Engineering
11. Aeronautical Engineering
12. Mechanical Engineering
13. Nanotechnology
14. Aerospace Engineering
15. Aircraft Maintenance Engineering
16. Electrical & Electronics Engineering
17. Electronics & Instrumentation Engineering
18. Civil Engineering

M.E/M.Tech

1. Computer Science & Engineering
2. Cyber Security
3. Control & Instrumentation Engineering
4. Structural Engineering
5. Applied Electronics
6. Aeronautical Engineering
7. Automobile Engineering
8. Nanotechnology
9. Communication Systems
10. Computer Integrated Manufacturing
11. Thermal Engineering

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

B.Sc

1. Computer Science
2. Artificial Intelligence with CAD Design (4-Year NEP 2020)
3. Cyber Forensics

4. Drone Technology & UAV Systems
5. Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (FACE Prep)

M.Sc

1. Chemistry
2. Mathematics
3. Physics
4. Computer Science
5. Human Genetics & Molecular Biology
6. Environment & Climate Change
7. Nanoscience
8. Material Science
9. Cybersecurity, Ethical Hacking and Digital Forensics

ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

B.Sc

1. Cardiac Care Technology
2. Renal Dialysis Technology
3. Perfusion Technology
4. Human Genetics & Molecular Biology
5. Forensic Science
6. Psychology

Professional Bachelors

1. Bachelor of Occupational Therapy
2. Bachelor of Physiotherapy
3. Bachelor of Audiology & Speech Language Pathology (Approved by RCI)

COMPUTER APPLICATION

BCA & MCA with Verticals in:

1. Cybersecurity, Ethical Hacking & Digital Forensics
2. Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing & DevOps
3. Cloud Computing and DevOps
4. Cybersecurity, Ethical Hacking and Digital Forensics
5. Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Data Science

MANAGEMENT / BUSINESS

BBA & MBA with Verticals in:

1. Human Resource Management
2. Health Care
3. Marketing
4. Finance
5. Operation
6. Systems
7. Disaster Management
8. Aviation Management
9. Shipping & Logistic Management
10. Artificial Intelligence
11. Machine Learning & Deep Learning
12. Hospital Management

ARTS, COMMERCE

B.A.

1. Political Science with IAS Coaching
2. English with Montessori Teaching (NEP 2020)

M.A English Literature

B.Com with ACCA, CMA + CPA, CA,
Logistics and Supply Chain Management

LAW

LLB (3 Years)

BA LLB (5 Years)

MULTIMEDIA & FILM

1. B.Sc. Visual Media & Communication
2. B.Sc. (Hons.) Film Making
3. B.Sc. (Hons.) Animation and Visual Effects
4. M.Sc. Visual Communication
5. B.Sc. (Hons.) Animation and Digital Design