

## Event Report: Book Release and Keynote on "Future Prospects of Indian Agriculture"

The Post Graduate Department of Economics at Mahatma Gandhi College, Thiruvananthapuram, hosted an academic event on June 20, 2025, launching the publication "Future Prospects of Indian Agriculture," edited by Lt. Dr. Binu Kumar BJ and his research scholars. The event at the College Seminar Hall gathered academics, researchers, policymakers, students, and agricultural practitioners. The event began with a prayer, followed by a welcome address from the Post Graduate Department of Economics, highlighting the publication's significance and agricultural development discussions. The publication represents collaborative research from institutions across the country. Lt. Dr. Binu Kumar B.J, Assistant Professor in Economics at MG College, delivered the presidential address on agriculture's role in India's economic development, emphasizing evidence-based policy making and academic institutions' contribution to agricultural knowledge. Dr. Anandakumar V M, Principal of Mahatma Gandhi College, spoke about the institution's commitment to agricultural research and interdisciplinary studies, highlighting its role in bridging academia and practice in the agricultural sector. Sri. Anu S Nair, IAS, Director of the Institute of Land and Disaster Management, delivered the keynote



Figure 1: Sri Anu S Nair IAS releasing the book by presenting it to the principal

address, discussing challenges in Indian agriculture, climate resilience, technological integration, and sustainable farming practices. He emphasized Kerala's innovative agricultural policies and technology applications in precision farming. Following his address, Anu S Nair



Figure 2: Dr. Binukumar BJ delivering the welcome speech

unveiled the book and presented it to Sri. Anil Kumar R for the library of the University of Kerala. The event featured the felicitations of notable dignitaries. Sri. Anil Kumar R, University Librarian I/C at the University of Kerala, discussed knowledge dissemination and academic libraries' role in agricultural

research. Dr. Vishnu Gopan, Member Senate, Dr. Chithra VS, IQAC Co-Ordinator, Dr. Dileep AS, Dr. Sajith Kumar S, District Manager at KSDC for SC/ST Ltd, Government of Kerala, faculties Smt. Anilakumari R and Dr. Sanoop S, Research scholars Smt. Neena S Johnson, and Smt. Sulfath A congratulated the event. Sri. Adwaith Gopan delivered the vote of thanks, where he thanked all the dignitaries, authors, and students for their contribution to the book and event.

Lt. Dr. Binu Kumar B J is an Assistant Professor in Economics at Mahatma Gandhi College, Thiruvananthapuram, with 17 years of academic experience. He holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Kerala (2019) and Masters degrees in Economics, Education, Philosophy, and Sociology. He has NET qualifications in Education (2006) and Economics (2007). His publications appear in journals like The Open Public Health Journal and Journal of Global Economy. As chief editor of "Future Prospects of Indian Agriculture," this is his sixth ISBN book, following works on Indian economic development and rural

economy. Dr. Kumar specializes in rural economics, sustainable development, and public policy, focusing on Kerala's economy. He organizes international webinars and serves as ANO of NCC Army wing, promoting nationalistic and social awareness. The book "Future Prospects of Indian Agriculture" was released during the ceremony. It covers technological innovation, sustainable farming, agro-tourism, digital transformation, and environmental conservation strategies, addressing both traditional concerns and emerging trends, such as satellite technology and urban farming. This event marked a significant milestone in the agricultural discourse at Mahatma Gandhi College. The publication now serves as a resource for researchers, policymakers, students, and practitioners working toward sustainable agricultural development in India.



*Figure 2: Sri Anu S Nair IAS receiving the gift from the university librarian Sri. Anil Kumar*