



Ms. Sarada Muraleedharan

Former Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala

Ms Sarada Muraleedharan, former Chief Secretary of the Government of the Kerala, is distinguished by her deep commitment to social justice and development. She held several key positions at the Centre and in the State, including that of the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the Chief Operating Officer at the National Rural Livelihoods Mission and Additional Chief Secretary, LSGD, Kerala. Above and beyond positions held, her career is marked by the role she played in making governance inclusive and participatory. She also redefined leadership in public service. Her leadership in the Kudumbashree Mission was pivotal in conceptualising its core activities to address gender empowerment, poverty reduction and dignity at work. Ms Sarada Muraleedharan played a crucial role in promoting citizen's participation through the Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP), emphasising people-centric policy making.

Abstract of the Lecture

The year 2018 was a watershed year not only on account of the frightening realisation of how vulnerable Kerala was to the vagaries of climate change, but also with regard to the importance of local governments in disaster mitigation and climate adaptation. Professor George championed the cause of evidence based interventions of skilled communities for a more environment conscious local governance paradigm. Climate action for resilience has generally been regarded as the domain of national governments and the international community, but in Kerala a unique experiment has been unfolding in the local governance space - of risk informed master plans, tracking tools for disaster and climate implications, localised climate forecast modelling and local action plans to combat climate change. New technologies, new understanding, new fiscal models, and new systems approaches need to be deliberated upon so that local climate adaptation becomes a touchstone for global resistance and survival.

School of Management Studies (SMS)
Cochin University of Science & Technology (CUSAT)
and
Centre for Socio-economic & Environmental Studies (CSES)

Invite you to



PROFESSOR K K GEORGE

MEMORIAL LECTURE - 2025

Memorial Lecture on

Decentralised Governance and Climate Resilience

Ms. Sarada Muraleedharan

**Former Chief Secretary
Government of Kerala**

VENUE



**Seminar Complex
CUSAT, Kalamassery**

DATE & TIME



**20 November 2025, Thursday
10:30 AM (IST)**



**SCHOOL OF
MANAGEMENT STUDIES**
COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY





Professor (Dr.) K K George (KKG), an outstanding economist with a deep interest in public finance, welfare and development economics, passed away on August 11, 2022. He started his career as an officer in the State Bank of India for a brief period and then moved into academics. He got attracted to studies on Centre-state Financial Relations in

India and Inter-state disparities. His Essays in Federal Financial Relations with Professor I.S. Gulati set the scene for further academic studies in the area. Another major work is the Limits to Kerala Model of Development. While the sustainability of the Kerala model was being questioned by many on the basis of the weakening commodity-producing sectors in the state, Professor George emphasised the implications of the growing fiscal crisis for the state's development process. He has authored a few other books on the economy and society of Kerala. Most of Professor George's research works appeared in the Economic and Political Weekly. Prof. George retired as the Director of the School of Management Studies at Cochin University of Science and Technology. The positions held by him include Emeritus Professor, AICTE; Senior Fulbright Fellow, University of Maryland and Centre for Federalism, Temple University, USA; Fellow of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, St. Mary's University, Halifax; Member of the Advisory Board, Kerala State Planning Board; Visiting Fellow, Centre for Development Studies; Senior Fellow, ICSSR; Member-Expenditure Commission, Government of Kerala; Member-Working Group on Expenditure Policy, Planning Commission; Member, Board of Directors of the Federal Bank & Paravur Central Bank and Cochin Stock Exchange; and Advisor to the Government of West Bengal for preparing the memorandum to the Sarkaria Commission. He was the Founding Chairperson of the Centre for Socio-economic and Environmental Studies (CSES), Kochi.



Scan to know more about academic contributions of Professor KKG

PROGRAMME

Welcome

Professor (Dr.) Sam Thomas

Director
School of Management Studies, CUSAT

Presidential Address

Professor P K Michael Tharakan

Chairperson, CSES

Memorial Lecture

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TOPIC

Decentralised Governance and Climate Resilience

Vote of Thanks

Dr. Rakkee Timothy

Fellow, CSES



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