

# KERALA PRIVATE COLLEGE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

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## STATE COMMITTEE 2026 - '27

February 18, 2026  
Thiruvananthapuram

To **The Hon. Minister for Higher Education  
Government of Kerala**

Madam,

**Sub:** - Prevention of Commercial Exploitation and Promotion of Equity and Quality in FYUGP Internships

The Kerala Private College Teachers' Association (KPCTA) brings to your urgent attention serious concerns arising from the implementation of internships under the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUGP).

The internship portal developed by the Government of Kerala in association with KELTRON is intended to serve as platform to provide internship opportunities for students pursuing UG programmes in the universities in Kerala. However, it has been observed that almost all the internships listed on the portal require students to pay substantial fees. GST is also being collected from the students.

Since internship is a compulsory academic component under the FYUGP, this model of internship facilitation is a clear case of exploitation of the students. A large additional financial burden is forced on the students and in turn on their families. This affects students from economically weaker sections in particular, many of whom are enrolled in aided and private colleges across the State. The beneficiaries of this ill-conceived system are visibly profit making industries.

We strongly urge the Government to ensure that companies and institutions offer internships to students without charging any fees. This is critical for maintaining equitable access.

In cases where a fee is unavoidable, an Internship Scholarship Scheme is essential to assist students who are financially disadvantaged and required to undergo internships as part of their curriculum.

The said portal should function as a facilitative platform and not as a proprietary gateway. Students must be permitted to undertake internships through alternative accredited sources, subject to regulation and quality appraisal. Further, there is a need to establish a clear regulatory mechanism to examine and monitor the quality, duration, supervision, and academic relevance of internships offered through the portal.

Education is a primary instrument of public policy to advance equity and social justice. The internship mechanism envisaged through the said portal that exploits students directly contradicts this core objective and will institutionalise inequality within the higher education system.

Unless immediate remedial measures are taken, this portal will turn into a government-sponsored umbrella to exploit students and permit unsupervised commercial practices under the guise of academic training. In this context, KPCTA demands your immediate intervention in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr. Premachandran Keezhoth**  
President

**Dr. Abraham A.**  
General Secretary



(Digitally transmitted; no physical signature required)



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