

OBITUARIES 2026

Current Affairs for the Kerala High Court - Office Attendant Exam

Kerala, India and World | January - 7 October 2026 | Prepared for Entri

How to use this PDF. Entries are listed latest first. Learn the **name, date, place, age and the one thing the person is known for**. Kerala and legal/constitutional entries come first because they are the most likely to be asked. Shaded rows = high-probability for Kerala-focused exams. 25 practice questions with answers are at the end.

Must-know 12 at a glance

Salim Kumar (6 Jun) National Award, Best Actor - Adaminte Makan Abu	M. P. Parameswaran (11 Aug) KSSP architect; first Kerala Sree awardee
S. Janaki (11 Jul) 4 National Awards; 14 Kerala State Awards	Soorya Krishnamoorthy (23 Sep) Founder of Soorya Festival
Justice M. S. Liberhan (2 Aug) Babri demolition inquiry commission	Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap (4 Jun) Constitution expert; ex-Lok Sabha Sec-Gen
Asha Bhosle (12 Apr) Playback singer; Dadasaheb Phalke Award	Ajit Pawar (28 Jan) Maharashtra Dy CM; Baramati plane crash
Madhav Gadgil (7 Jan) Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel	Ayatollah Khamenei (28 Feb) Iran's Supreme Leader since 1989
Sir Garfield Sobers (17 Jul) Greatest all-rounder; 365* in 1958	King Harald V (28 Aug) King of Norway since 1991

1. Kerala and Malayali personalities (2026)

Date	Name	Known for / key exam facts
29 Sep 2026	M. A. Krishnan ('M A Sir') Age 97	RSS pracharak, cultural organiser and former editor of the weekly Kesari . Died at Amrita Hospital, Kochi; cremated at his family home in Aivarkala, Kollam.
23 Sep 2026	Soorya Krishnamoorthy	Theatre director, cultural organiser and former ISRO scientist. Founder of the Soorya Stage and Film Society and the Soorya Festival (Limca Book of Records: Asia's longest-running cultural festival). Former chairman, Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi. Wrote and directed the play <i>Melvilasam</i> . Died at KIMS, Thiruvananthapuram. Born 11 April 1951.
23 Sep 2026	Savithri Sreedharan	Theatre and film actress from Kozhikode; played 'Umma' (Jameela) in Sudani from Nigeria (2018, dir. Zakariya Mohammed). Won a Special Mention at the 66th National Film Awards and the Kerala State Film Award for Best Character Actress (2019). Film debut: <i>Kadavu</i> (1991, M. T. Vasudevan Nair). Died at Mankavu, Kozhikode.
7 Sep 2026	R. Sarath	Filmmaker and cultural administrator. Debut film Sayahnam (2000) won 7 Kerala State Film Awards and the Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director. Documentary <i>The Painted Epics</i> (Raja Ravi Varma murals). Junior Fellowship, Ministry of Culture (1996). Retired as Deputy Director, I&PRD, Kerala. Died at KIMS, Thiruvananthapuram.
11 Aug 2026	M. P. Parameswaran Age 91	Nuclear scientist (BARC, 1957-75) and science communicator; turned the Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishad (KSSP) into a mass people's science movement; helped found the All India People's Science Network. Proposed the 'Fourth World' theory; expelled from CPI(M) in 2004. First Kerala Sree Award (2022); Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award for Overall Contribution (2017). Helped design the Malayalam typewriter keyboard layout. Died at Thrissur.
11 Jul 2026	S. Janaki Age 88	Playback singer, 'Nightingale of South India' / 'Janaki Amma'. Debut: Tamil film <i>Vidhiyin Vilayattu</i> (1957). 4 National Film Awards (1976, 1980, 1984, 1992); record 14 Kerala State Film Awards for Best Playback Singer. Declined the Padma Bhushan in 2013 (said it came 'too late'). Died at Mysuru; state funeral by Karnataka.

Date	Name	Known for / key exam facts
20 Jun 2026	P. Narayana Kurup Age 92	Malayalam poet and literary critic; Padma Shri . Honours include the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award, Odakkuzhal Award and Vallathol Award. Died at his home in Peroorkada, Thiruvananthapuram (funeral 21 June).
6 Jun 2026	Salim Kumar Age 56	Actor, director and writer from North Paravur. National Film Award for Best Actor (2010) for <i>Adaminte Makan Abu</i> (India's entry to the 84th Academy Awards). Kerala State Award for Second Best Actor for <i>Achanurangatha Veedu</i> (2005). Directed <i>Karutha Joothan</i> . Died at Kochi (liver-related complications); cremated with state honours on 7 June.
29 May 2026	T. U. Kuruvilla Age 89	Deputy Chairman of Kerala Congress; PWD Minister in the V. S. Achuthanandan cabinet (2006; resigned Sept 2007 over the Munnar land controversy). Kothamangalam MLA (2006, 2011). Headed the Kerala State Housing Board and Plantation Corporation of Kerala. Born 13 Sept 1936.
3 Mar 2026	K. P. Unnikrishnan	Former Union Cabinet Minister (Surface Transport / Telecommunications, V. P. Singh government, 1989-90) and six-time Lok Sabha MP from Vadakara (1971-1991). Began in the Socialist Party; joined Congress in 1960. Died at Kozhikode.
6 Jan 2026	V. K. Ebrahimkunj Age 73	IUML leader; PWD Minister (2011-16, Oommen Chandy government); Industries and Social Welfare Minister (2005-06). MLA: Mattancherry (2001, 2006), Kalamassery (2011, 2016). Associated with the Palarivattom flyover case. Died at Lakeshore Hospital, Kochi.

2. Judiciary, law and Constitution

Date	Name	Known for / key exam facts
2 Aug 2026	Justice Manmohan Singh Liberhan Age 87	Former Chief Justice of the Madras High Court (July 1997) and Andhra Pradesh High Court (Feb 1998). Headed the one-man Liberhan Ayodhya Commission (appointed 16 Dec 1992) probing the Babri Masjid demolition; report submitted 30 June 2009 after 48 extensions (17 years). Commission set up under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952. Died at Chandigarh.
4 Jun 2026	Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap Age 97	Constitutional expert and former Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha (until 1990); Padma Bhushan ; author of 100+ books on the Constitution and Parliament. Member of the high-level committee on simultaneous elections headed by Ram Nath Kovind. Died at New Delhi.
Early Jul 2026	Justice R. Bhaskaran	Former Kerala High Court judge, noted for civil-law judgments. The High Court held a Full Court reference on 9 July 2026 to mourn him; Chief Justice Soumen Sen paid tribute.

3. India - national obituaries (2026)

Date	Name	Known for / key exam facts
29 Sep 2026	Kalki Bhagawan Age 77	Born Vijay Kumar Naidu; spiritual leader, founder of the Oneness movement (now Ekam), headquartered at Varadaiahpalem, Tirupati district. Died in Chennai.
24 Sep 2026	Mushtaq Khan	Hindi film and TV actor (<i>Welcome</i> , <i>Gadar: Ek Prem Katha</i>). Died of cancer at Nanavati Hospital, Mumbai.
11 Sep 2026	Solomon Pappaiah Age 90	Tamil scholar and orator; Padma Shri ; popularised the pattimandram (debate) form on television. Died at Madurai.
4 Sep 2026	S. R. Janakiraman Age 98	Carnatic musician and musicologist; last disciple of Tiger Varadachariar; Padma Shri . Died at Chennai.
21 Aug 2026	Sowcar Janaki Age 94	Veteran actress in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam cinema for 7+ decades; Padma Shri (2022) . Died at Chennai.
4 Aug 2026	D. Y. Patil Age 90	Educationist and politician; former Governor of Tripura (2009-13), Bihar (2013-14) and West Bengal (2014).
12 Jun 2026	Jaspal Rana Age 49	Pistol shooter and coach; Padma Shri (2002) ; won 3 golds and a silver at the 2006 Asian Games. High-performance coach of Paris Olympics double-bronze medallist Manu Bhaker . Died at Delhi (cardiac complications).
10 Jun 2026	Bharathiraja Age 84	National Award-winning Tamil director (<i>16 Vayathinile</i> , <i>Kadal Pookkal</i>). Died at Chennai.

Date	Name	Known for / key exam facts
4 Jun 2026	Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap Age 97	See 'Judiciary, Law and Constitution' (Lok Sabha Secretary-General).
19 May 2026	Maj. Gen. B. C. Khanduri (Retd.) Age 91	AVSM; twice Chief Minister of Uttarakhand (2007-09 and 2011-12); Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways in the Vajpayee government (Golden Quadrilateral / NHDP). Died at Dehradun. (Some outlets report 20 May.)
26 Apr 2026	Raghu Rai Age 83	Photojournalist; Padma Shri (1972) for his Bangladesh war coverage; Magnum Photos member; documented the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy; Picture Editor at India Today. Born 18 Dec 1942, Jhang. Died at Delhi.
12 Apr 2026	Asha Bhosle Age 92	Legendary playback singer; Dadasaheb Phalke Award ; two-time Grammy nominee; 12,000+ songs; younger sister of Lata Mangeskar. Died at Breach Candy Hospital, Mumbai (multi-organ failure); last rites at Shivaji Park.
28 Mar 2026	Vijaypat Singhania Age 87	Former Chairman of the Raymond Group (1980-2000); Padma Bhushan ; aviator and holder of the hot-air-balloon altitude record. Transferred his 37% stake to son Gautam. Died at Mumbai.
25 Feb 2026	R. Nallakannu Age 101	'Comrade RNK'; veteran CPI leader and freedom fighter; Tamil Nadu State Secretary of the CPI for 13 years (1992-2005); Ambedkar Award. Died at Chennai.
28 Jan 2026	Ajit Pawar Age 66	Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra (record six non-consecutive terms) and NCP leader; nephew of Sharad Pawar. Killed when a chartered Learjet 45 crashed while landing at Baramati airport (Pune district) en route to campaign for Zilla Parishad elections.
25 Jan 2026	Sir Mark Tully Age 90	BBC's 'Voice of India'; BBC New Delhi bureau chief for two decades; author of <i>Amritsar: Mrs Gandhi's Last Battle</i> ; Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan ; knighted 2002. Died at New Delhi.
7 Jan 2026	Dr. Madhav Gadgil Age 83	Ecologist; chaired the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (Gadgil Committee) - report of 2011 widely discussed after Kerala's floods and landslides. Padma Shri (1981), Padma Bhushan (2006); UNEP Champions of the Earth Lifetime Achievement (2024). Founder of the Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc. Died at Pune (some reports say 8 Jan).
6 Jan 2026	Suresh Kalmadi Age 81	Congress leader; Pune MP; Minister of State for Railways (1995-96); President of the Indian Olympic Association (1996-2011) and Asian Athletics Association (2000-13); central figure in the 2010 Commonwealth Games case. Died at Pune.

4. World obituaries (2026)

Date	Name	Known for / key exam facts
28 Aug 2026	King Harald V of Norway Age 89	Monarch since 17 January 1991 (35 years); succeeded his father Olav V; Europe's oldest reigning monarch. Succeeded by his son, who reigns as King Haakon VIII . Died at Oslo University Hospital.
25 Aug 2026	Dolly Parton Age 80	US country-music icon; songs <i>Jolene</i> , <i>9 to 5</i> , <i>I Will Always Love You</i> ; founder of Dollywood and the Imagination Library (children's book programme, 1995). Died at Nashville.
14 Aug 2026	Yayoi Kusama Age 97	Japanese avant-garde artist known for polka dots, pumpkin sculptures and Infinity Mirror Rooms . Died at a Tokyo hospital on 14 Aug; death announced on 27 Aug.
17 Jul 2026	Sir Garfield Sobers Age 89	West Indies all-rounder (Barbados), regarded as cricket's greatest all-rounder. 93 Tests, 8,032 runs, 235 wickets; 365* vs Pakistan (1958) ; first to hit six sixes in an over in first-class cricket (1968, for Nottinghamshire). Knighted 1975; ICC's top annual award is named after him.
6 May 2026	Ted Turner Age 87	Founder of CNN (launched 1 June 1980), the first 24-hour news network; also TBS; founded the United Nations Foundation.
19 Mar 2026	Chuck Norris Age 86	US martial artist and action star (<i>Walker, Texas Ranger</i> ; <i>Way of the Dragon</i>); founded Chun Kuk Do. Died in Hawaii; family announced on 20 March.
28 Feb 2026	Ayatollah Ali Khamenei Age 86	Supreme Leader of Iran since 1989 (succeeded Ayatollah Khomeini); President 1981-89. Killed in joint US-Israeli strikes on Tehran on 28 Feb 2026; Iranian state media confirmed the death on 1 March and declared 40 days of mourning.
15 Feb 2026	Robert Duvall Age 95	Oscar-winning US actor (Best Actor for <i>Tender Mercies</i>); known for <i>The Godfather</i> , <i>Apocalypse Now</i> ; debut as Boo Radley in <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> (1962).

5. Recap - Kerala, July to December 2025

Date	Name	Known for / key exam facts
2 Dec 2025	Sanal Potti Age 55	Kerala journalist and Malayalam TV news anchor.
20 Dec 2025	Sreenivasan	Celebrated Malayalam actor, writer and director. Died 20 December 2025.
21 Jul 2025	V. S. Achuthanandan Age 101	Former Chief Minister of Kerala (2006-11) and Leader of Opposition (2001-06); veteran CPI(M) leader; withdrew from public life after a stroke in 2019. Funeral procession of about 150 km across Kerala.

6. Practice questions (25)

1. Who won the National Film Award for Best Actor (2010) for 'Adaminte Makan Abu' and died on 6 June 2026?
(A) Mamukkoya (B) Salim Kumar (C) Innocent (D) Jagathy Sreekumar
2. M. P. Parameswaran (d. 11 Aug 2026) is best known for leading which organisation's people's science movement?
(A) Kudumbashree (B) Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishad (C) SNDP Yogam (D) Kerala Kalamandalam
3. Soorya Krishnamoorthy (d. 23 Sep 2026) founded which cultural platform?
(A) Soorya Stage and Film Society / Soorya Festival (B) Kerala Kalamandalam (C) Kerala Lalithakala Akademi (D) Chalachitra Akademi
4. S. Janaki, known as the 'Nightingale of South India', died in which city?
(A) Chennai (B) Hyderabad (C) Mysuru (D) Kochi
5. How many National Film Awards for Best Female Playback Singer did S. Janaki win?
(A) 2 (B) 3 (C) 4 (D) 5
6. Which honour did S. Janaki decline in 2013?
(A) Padma Shri (B) Padma Bhushan (C) Padma Vibhushan (D) Bharat Ratna
7. Which commission, headed by Justice M. S. Liberhan (d. 2 Aug 2026), inquired into the Babri Masjid demolition?
(A) Liberhan Ayodhya Commission (B) Srikrishna Commission (C) Kapur Commission (D) Nanavati Commission
8. The Liberhan Commission submitted its report in:
(A) 2001 (B) 2005 (C) 2009 (D) 2014
9. Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap (d. 4 Jun 2026) was a former:
(A) Attorney General (B) Lok Sabha Secretary-General (C) Chief Election Commissioner (D) CAG
10. Asha Bhosle, who died on 12 April 2026, was awarded which top film honour?
(A) Dadasaheb Phalke Award (B) Bharat Ratna only (C) Sahitya Akademi Award (D) Jnanpith Award
11. Ajit Pawar, who died in a plane crash at Baramati on 28 Jan 2026, was Deputy Chief Minister of:
(A) Karnataka (B) Maharashtra (C) Gujarat (D) Madhya Pradesh
12. Madhav Gadgil (d. 7 Jan 2026) chaired which panel?
(A) Kasturirangan Committee (B) Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (C) Nilgiri Biosphere Panel (D) Swaminathan Commission
13. K. P. Unnikrishnan (d. 3 Mar 2026) represented which Lok Sabha constituency six times?
(A) Kozhikode (B) Kannur (C) Vadakara (D) Palakkad
14. V. K. Ebrahimkunj (d. 6 Jan 2026) was a leader of which party?
(A) IUML (B) CPI (C) Kerala Congress (M) (D) RSP
15. T. U. Kuruvilla (d. 29 May 2026) served as PWD Minister in whose cabinet?
(A) E. K. Nayanar (B) V. S. Achuthanandan (C) Oommen Chandy (D) Pinarayi Vijayan
16. Which actress, 'Umma' in 'Sudani from Nigeria', died on 23 Sep 2026?
(A) KPAC Lalitha (B) Kaviyoor Ponnamma (C) Savithri Sreedharan (D) Sukumari
17. R. Sarath's debut film 'Sayahnam' won which national honour?
(A) Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film (B) Swarna Kamal for Best Film (C) Rajat Kamal for Best Actor (D) Nargis Dutt Award
18. King Harald V, who died on 28 Aug 2026, ruled which country since 1991?
(A) Denmark (B) Sweden (C) Norway (D) Netherlands
19. Sir Garfield Sobers (d. 17 Jul 2026) scored an unbeaten 365 against which team in 1958?
(A) England (B) Australia (C) India (D) Pakistan
20. Ted Turner (d. 6 May 2026) founded which news network?
(A) BBC World (B) CNN (C) Fox News (D) Al Jazeera
21. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei had been Iran's Supreme Leader since:
(A) 1979 (B) 1981 (C) 1989 (D) 1997
22. Jaspal Rana (d. 12 Jun 2026) was the coach of which Olympic medallist?
(A) Manu Bhaker (B) P. V. Sindhu (C) Mirabai Chanu (D) Neeraj Chopra
23. Raghu Rai (d. 26 Apr 2026) was a renowned:
(A) Sculptor (B) Photographer (C) Painter (D) Architect
24. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a programme for:
(A) Free books for children (B) Music scholarships (C) Hospital care (D) Rural housing
25. V. S. Achuthanandan (d. 21 Jul 2025) died at the age of:
(A) 95 (B) 99 (C) 101 (D) 103

Answer key

Q	Answer	Why	Q	Answer	Why
1	B	Salim Kumar, born in North Paravur, died at Kochi.	14	A	PWD Minister 2011-16.
2	B	KSSSP; he was also the first Kerala Sree awardee (2022).	15	B	He was Kothamangalam MLA.
3	A	Soorya Festival: Limca Book of Records - Asia's longest-running cultural festival.	16	C	Special Mention, 66th National Film Awards.
4	C	Died on 11 July 2026 at Mysuru, aged 88.	17	A	Also 7 Kerala State Film Awards.
5	C	1976, 1980, 1984, 1992.	18	C	Succeeded by King Haakon VIII.
6	B	She said it had come 'too late'.	19	D	Record Test score for 36 years.
7	A	One-man commission appointed 16 Dec 1992.	20	B	Launched 1 June 1980.
8	C	30 June 2009, after 48 extensions.	21	C	He succeeded Khomeini.
9	B	Also a Padma Bhushan awardee.	22	A	Manu won double bronze at Paris.
10	A	Aged 92; sister of Lata Mangeshkar.	23	B	Magnum member; Padma Shri 1972.
11	B	Record six non-consecutive terms.	24	A	She died on 25 Aug 2026 at 80.
12	B	The Gadgil report (2011) on the Western Ghats.	25	C	Kerala CM 2006-11.
13	C	1971-1991.			

Notes and sources

- Coverage: deaths from 1 January to 7 October 2026 (plus a short Kerala recap for Jul-Dec 2025). Compiled on 7 October 2026 from news reports and reference pages.
- Dates follow the first reliable report of the death (IST for Indian events). A few outlets differ by a day (for example Gadgil, B. C. Khanduri, Jaspal Rana); those are flagged in the entries.
- Ages are omitted where reports disagreed (for example Soorya Krishnamoorthy, Savithri Sreedharan, R. Sarath, K. P. Unnikrishnan).
- Shaded rows mark entries with a higher chance of appearing in Kerala-focused exams. For anything the exam notification emphasises, cross-check against the official source.
- Main sources: Onmanorama, Kerala Kaumudi, All India Radio (newsonair.gov.in), ETV Bharat, PTI/UNI reports, The Hindu, LiveLaw, Wikipedia, GKToday, TCYonline, BankExamsToday, TestNeeti.