

GOVERNMENT SIDDHA MEDICAL COLLEGE, PALAYAMKOTTAI

HERBAL GARDEN / BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE VISIT REPORT

Educational Visit to Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI), Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

Date of Visit	16.09.2026
Institution Visited	Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI), Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
Purpose	Academic and educational visit to observe laboratory functioning, herbal/botanical resources, tissue culture procedures and related research activities.
Departments	Department of PG Gunapadam; Department of PG Gunapadam Marunthiyal & Marunthakaviyal
Students	PG II Year – Gunapadam Department; PG I Year – Gunapadam Marunthiyal and Gunapadam Marunthakaviyal Departments
Teaching Faculties	Dr. S. Sulfin Nihar, MD(S), Professor; Dr. C. Thirumavalavan, MD(S), Reader; Dr. R. Antony Duraichi, MD(S), Lecturer Grade II; Thiru. A. Rajeesh, M.Sc., Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Permission	Official permission was issued by the Principal, Government Siddha Medical College, Palayamkottai, for the academic visit on 16.09.2026.

1. Introduction

An educational visit to the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI), Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, was undertaken by the postgraduate students of Government Siddha Medical College, Palayamkottai, on 16 September 2026. The visit was organized as an academic exposure programme to strengthen the students' understanding of medicinal plants, botanical resources, laboratory-based research and plant tissue culture techniques relevant to Siddha medicine.

2. Objectives of the Visit

- To gain practical exposure to the functioning of a botanical research institute and its laboratory facilities.
- To understand the identification, conservation and scientific documentation of medicinal and useful plants.
- To observe the basic principles and procedures involved in plant tissue culture and propagation.
- To understand the relevance of botanical research, plant biotechnology and related analytical approaches to Siddha drug research.
- To interact with scientific personnel and obtain academic information related to medicinal plant research.

3. Academic Exposure

During the visit, the students were exposed to the institutional research environment and botanical resources. Particular academic interest was given to medicinal plants and their conservation, laboratory facilities, plant biotechnology and tissue culture. The visit helped the students relate classical knowledge of medicinal plants used in Siddha medicine with modern botanical and research methodologies.

4. Tissue Culture and Plant Biotechnology

The visit provided an opportunity to understand the importance of tissue culture in the multiplication and conservation of valuable plant species. The students were introduced to the general workflow of plant tissue culture, including selection of plant material, establishment under controlled conditions, aseptic handling, culture maintenance and subsequent propagation. Such techniques are useful for conserving medicinal plant resources and supporting the sustainable availability of botanically authenticated material.

5. Relevance to Siddha Medicine

Medicinal plants constitute an important raw-material base for Siddha formulations. Scientific authentication, conservation, propagation and research on medicinal plants are therefore relevant to quality assurance and academic research in Siddha medicine. The exposure gained during the visit may support postgraduate students in future research involving pharmacognosy, pharmacology, phytochemistry, standardization and cultivation of medicinal plants.

6. Learning Outcomes

The visit enhanced the students' awareness of the relationship between traditional medicinal-plant knowledge and contemporary botanical research. It also provided practical insight into laboratory organization, plant conservation and tissue culture-based propagation. The interaction with the research environment encouraged the students to consider scientific approaches for documentation and further study of medicinal plants used in Siddha medicine.

7. Conclusion

The educational visit to JNTBGRI, Palode, on 16.09.2026 was academically useful for the postgraduate students of Government Siddha Medical College, Palayamkottai. The programme provided exposure to botanical research, medicinal plant resources, laboratory functioning and tissue culture practices. The knowledge gained is expected to contribute to the students' academic training and future research activities in Siddha medicine.

8. Photographic Documentation



Group photograph of PG students and teaching faculty during the educational visit to JNTBGRI, Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala — 16.09.2026.

L.Dis. No. 8032/ME1/2026

Office of the Principal,
Govt. Siddha Medical College,
Palayamkottai.
Dated: 02.09.2026

Sub: Medical Education - Government Siddha Medical College, Palayamkottai –
PG II & I Year students studying in Gunapadam, Gunapadam Marunthiyal &
Gunapadam Marunthakaviyal Department -request for permission to visit the
NTBGRI, Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, Keralam on 16.09.2026- permission
order issued -Reg.

Ref: 1. Representation received from PG II & I Year students, Gunapadam,
Gunapadam Marunthiyal & Gunapadam Marunthakaviyal Department,
GSMC, Palayamkottai, dated 28.08.2026

With references to the above, the following Teaching Faculties, Second & First year
PG students studying in Gunapadam, Gunapadam Marunthiyal & Gunapadam Marunthakaviyal
Department are permitted to visit the Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute
(NTBGRI), Palode, Thiruvananthapuram, Keralam for academic purpose on 16.09.2026. This may be
treated as On Duty.

Teaching Faculties:

1. Dr. G. Essakypandian, MD.,(S), Professor
2. Dr. S. Sulfin Nihar, MD.,(S), Professor
3. Dr. C. Thirumavalavan, MD(S), Reader
4. Dr. R. Antony Duraichi, MD(S), Lecturer Grade II
5. Thiru. A. Rajaesh, M.Sc., Ph.D., Assistant Professor

PG students:

Sl. No.	Name of the student	Department	Sl. No.	Name of the student	Department
1.	AMARIN SABARAL M	PG II Year Gunapadam Department	11.	ABARNA V	PG I Year Gunapadam Marunthiyal
2.	SRINIJA E		12.	ARTHIDEVI M	
3.	VISHNUKANTH R		13.	DAVID HADLEE V	
4.	RAGURAMAN N		14.	DHARSHNI G	
5.	DEEPA G		15.	DHIVYA V	
6.	THUSHARA M		16.	ANUJA J	PG I Year Gunapadam Marunthakaviyal
7.	ISHWARYA K		17.	INDHIRA S	
8.	KAVIDHARSHINI D		18.	JAISHNAA R G	
9.	SIVAMATHI T		19.	KRISHNA VENI K	
10.	KEERTHANA J				

Principal, 2/9/26
Govt. Siddha Medical College,
Palayamkottai

To: 1. All Faculties mentioned above.
② PG II & I year Students,
Gunapadam, Gunapadam Marunthiyal &
Gunapadam Marunthakaviyal Departments

2/9/26
- through H.O.D.

Copy to:

1. The H.O.D.,
Gunapadam, Gunapadam Marunthiyal &
Gunapadam Marunthakaviyal Departments

-the H.O.D is requested to issue
attendance based on the attendance
certificate issued in Conference

2. Vice Principal, GSMC, Palayamkottai

Official permission/order issued by the Office of the Principal, Government Siddha Medical College, Palayamkottai, for the academic visit to
JNTBGRI on 16.09.2026.