



OCT 2025  
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# JWALADHWANI

ENERGISING KOCHI REFINERY

KOCHI  
REFINERY  
TURNS 60

DIAMOND JUBILEE

MOS (MOPNG &  
TOURISM)  
INAUGURATES  
CELEBRATIONS

YEAR LONG MOMENTS PLANNED







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# Kochinoor

The word *Kohinoor*, derived from Persian, means *Mountain of Light*. A name that evokes awe, beauty, and legacy. Once found in the soils of India, this legendary diamond now rests among the British Crown Jewels. But closer to home, atop the verdant landscape of Ambalamugal, stands another gem—radiant, robust, and deeply Indian - a light that we call the *Kochinoor*.

Since 23rd September 1966, Kochi Refinery has been a luminous presence in the nation's energy landscape—fuelling progress, powering dreams, and embodying resilience. As the Refinery steps into its 60th year, we pause to honour a journey defined by innovation, service, and steadfast commitment to the nation. We call our Refinery, the *Kochinoor*, the ever shining light in Kochi.

This Diamond Jubilee is more than a milestone—it is a moment to reflect on six decades of growth. From pioneering sustainable technologies and fostering community development, to empowering employees and fortifying India's energy security, Kochi Refinery has emerged not just as an industrial marvel, but as a symbol of national pride.

On 23rd September 2025, we were privileged to have the Hon'ble Minister of State for Petroleum & Natural Gas and Tourism, Government of India, inaugurate the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. A dignified ceremony followed, led by our Chairman & Managing Director, alongside past and present leaders of the Refinery—each of whom played a vital role in shaping this glorious legacy. We are delighted to share the Hon Minister's greetings to Team KR on this glorious occasion.

To mark this momentous year, we will be dedicating a series of initiatives across the KR fraternity. From exclusive brand stories and retrospectives to special media campaigns, we aim to celebrate the *Kochinoor* in all its facets—with pride, with purpose, and with people at the heart.

And what better time than now to introduce a refreshed edition of *JwalaDhwani*! Redesigned and reinvigorated, our 60th year edition is more than a magazine—it is your monthly infotainer reimagined. New features, insightful stories, and deeper engagement await you from page one. We invite you to stay connected with us through our social media channels, where the spirit of Kochi Refinery continues to shine.

In the end, some jewels don't belong in a crown, they belong to the people. The *Kochinoor* is one such gem, and as it gleams into its Diamond Jubilee year, we salute its timeless brilliance.

Warmly,

George Thomas  
Editor



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*Dear Kochi Refinery Team,*

*On this special occasion when you step into  
the sixth decade of fuelling the nation's progress,  
I extend my warmest congratulations to every member of the  
Kochi Refinery family—past and present.*

*Your dedication has built more than a refinery;  
you have built a legacy of excellence.*

*Let's step into the future with renewed energy, deeper purpose, and a  
commitment to leading Kerala—and the Nation—  
into a new era of energy leadership and industrial strength.*

*Here's to a future filled with continued growth, innovation, and  
excellence—where we **lead the way** not just in refining, but also in  
petrochemicals and beyond.*

*I will cherish this moment of being with you  
as you begin a year of celebrations on the achievements of the past,  
along with your aspirations for the exciting opportunities ahead!*

*My best wishes to each one of you!*







## HON MOS (MOPNG & TOURISM) INAUGURATES KR DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Diamond Jubilee celebration of Kochi Refinery of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited was launched by Mr. Suresh Gopi, Hon'ble Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Tourism in the presence of Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Director (Refineries) with additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director, BPCL, Mr. M Sankar, Executive Director (Kochi Refinery), Mr. Senthilkumar GR, Executive Director, (Coordination), Refineries, Mr. George Thomas, Chief General Manager (HR) and senior most employees Smt Sajikumary PK and Mr. Rameshkumar KV on 21 September 2025.

To mark the occasion, Mr. Suresh Gopi lit the ceremonial lamp and planted a tree sapling. He lauded Kochi Refinery for its energizing presence in Kerala and recalled the pivotal role it had played in the economy of the State. "I firmly believe that over the years, Kochi Refinery has become more than just an oil & gas entity. It has grown as an institution of trust, contributing to Kerala's economic self-reliance, energy security, and sustainable development. The Refinery has played a catalytic role in the socio-economic transformation of Kerala through direct and indirect job creation, empowering thousands of families in and around Kochi," he said.

The Hon MoS began his address with a personal anecdote of his warm memory of Kochi Refinery. Though he has been very close to the Refinery since several years, this is his very first visit to Kochi Refinery. "From its beginnings in 1966 with a modest 50,000 barrels per day to today's 15.5 MMTA capacity, Kochi Refinery has grown into a hub of fuels, petrochemicals, and specialty products – strengthening India's energy security as the largest PSU refinery, creating livelihoods, and advancing sustainability," the Hon MoS appreciated.







**Hon MoS also signed his special greetings for Kochi Refinery and presented the card to Mr. Sankar M, ED (KR).**

Presiding over the ceremony, Mr. Sanjay Khanna highlighted BPCL's strong Q1 performance and Kochi Refinery's proactive efforts in reducing Energy intensity index (EII) and cutting raw water consumption by 20-25% through multiple initiatives like maximization of water recycling from Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) through RODM plant, cooling tower make-up optimization and various water conservation initiatives across the refinery.



"As it steps into the Diamond Jubilee journey, Kochi Refinery continues to fuel progress with landmark projects like the Propylene Derivative Petrochemical Project and the upcoming ₹5,044 crore Polypropylene Unit – shaping a self-reliant and sustainable future for India," he said.

ED(KR), Mr. Sankar M, welcomed the Chief Guest and guests of honour and Mr. George Thomas, CGM(HR) proposed the vote of thanks at the close of the ceremony. BPCL was represented by members from Marketing BUs in Kerala and other stakeholders. Students from SDI- Kochi also participated. The programme showcased *BPCL 50 Years of shaping the future* and Kochi Refinery's advancement into its sixth decade. From planning to execution, the programme was coordinated seamlessly by the KR HR team and anchored by Ms. Kavitha Mathew, Manager (Brand), KR.







**KOCHI  
REFINERY  
TURNS  
60**

## A HISTORIC FOUNDATION DAY, UNFOLDING A NEW LEGACY

The Kochi Refinery, a flagship installation of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, marked a historic milestone as it celebrated its Diamond Jubilee Foundation Day on 23 September 2025, commemorating the entry into the 60<sup>th</sup> year of continuous excellence, innovation, and service to the nation.

The 60th Foundation Day celebration was held in the esteemed presence of Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Director (Refineries) with additional charge of Chairman & Managing Director of BPCL. "Since its inception on 23 September 1966, the refinery has powered not just Kerala, but the nation, evolving into a hub of cutting-edge technology, community engagement, and sustainable operations," Mr. Khanna said.

Mr. V.R.K. Gupta, Director (Finance), along with several former senior leaders of Kochi Refinery, blessed the occasion with their gracious presence.

Like the Kohinoor, the precious diamond of India, this day marked the start of the year long celebrations to talk about another shining diamond in Kochi. The Kochi Refinery, the noor of Kochi, the *Kochinoor* a glowing diamond atop Ambalamugal, the jewel that has been radiating energy for India since Sept 1966.

As Kochi Refinery enters its 60th year, we mark an unparalleled journey of 60 years of fuelling the nation, adopting futuristic technologies, caring for the community, empowering employees and contributing continuously towards building a great nation. We salute the timeless journey of Kochi Refinery, standing tall and alert to serve for several decades more.







A highlight of the celebrations was a grand gathering of the past leadership of the Refinery. In two separate sessions former Directors Mr. Mohammed Ali (Refineries), Mr. Cherian N Punnose (Finance); former Executive Directors Mr. E Nandakumar, Mr. John Minu Mathew, Mr. Prasad K Panicker, Mr. Murali Madhavan P and Mr. Ajith Kumar K; and former Director Finance (BPCL) Mr. N Vijayagopal, shared their experiences and insights. The conversations with the senior leadership was facilitated by Mr. Viswas Kobraghade, GM(Manufacturing).

The commemorative event culminated with a symbolic cake-cutting ceremony featuring both the current and former leadership teams, marking six decades of unparalleled service and commitment. Mr. M Sankar, Executive Director (Kochi Refinery) welcomed the dignitaries and Mr. George Thomas, Chief General Manager (HR) proposed the vote of thanks.

The special day was coordinated by KR HR team at the KR auditorium with live-relay to Kochi Refinery team members. Ms. Kavitha Mathew, Manager (Brand), Kochi Refinery curated and anchored the programme that had short AVs encapsulating the powerful journey of 50 years of BPCL- shaping the future, the transformational contributions of Kochi Refinery and concluding with the BPCL 50 years anthem, *Echoes of Pride, Rhythms of Progress*. Penned by the legendary Gulzar Saheb, composed by Shantanu Moitra and sung by the talented Shaan, this iconic anthem resonates with the rich heritage of BPCL and the vision for shaping the future. It instantly united the entire gathering, that happily clapped and sang along.

Looking ahead, Kochi Refinery has planned a series of engagements throughout the year involving employees, their families, and key stakeholders. These events aim to celebrate the legacy, honour contributions, and chart the path forward, as Kochi Refinery continues to uphold its stature as *the refinery that never sleeps*.

As we celebrate this diamond milestone, we salute the vision, dedication, and resilience that have powered Kochi Refinery's journey—standing tall as a radiant beacon of India's energy aspirations for generations to come.







## BPCL HOSTS KPLEX 2025 INTERNATIONAL POLYMER EXPO IN KOCHI

PlastIndia Foundation strikes the first deal with Bharat Petroleum at the KPLEX 2025 International Polymer Expo in Kochi. Inaugurating the Expo and the BPCL pavillion, Mr. Ravish Kamath, President, PlastIndia Foundation confirmed the order from Big Bags International for 1000 tonnes to Mr. Sankar M, Executive Director (Kochi Refinery) immediately after the briefing of the new Polypropylene Unit that is coming up at Kochi Refinery.

Also present on the occasion were Mr. Arvind Mehta, Chairman (GC) AIPMA, Mr. Manoj R Shah, President AIPMA, Mr. GS Prakash, Joint Director (MSME- Thrissur), Dr. KA Rajesh, Director (CIPET)-Kochi, Mr. PJ Mathew, Convenor, KPLEX-25, Mr. J Sunil, President, KPMA, Mr. PBI Mohamed Ashraf, Gen Secy (KPMA), Mr. Atul Khanwalkar, Head, BPCL Petchem Task Force, Mr. Jaikishen C Nath, Chief General Manager ( PP Project), Kochi Refinery, Mr. Tarian Peter, State Head (Kerala) LPG and Mr. Priyadarshee Panda, State Head (Kerala) Industrial & Commercial- BPCL along with other representatives of BPCL Business Units from Retail, LPG, Kochi Refinery, Bina Refinery, Aviation and Lubes.

Mr. Sankar M, ED(Kochi Refinery) expressed that BPCL was delighted to partner as principal sponsor of KPLEX 2025, as the Expo serves as a strategic platform for BPCL to enhance its market presence, strengthen partnerships, and showcase its capabilities in the fast-growing polymer sector, given the Polypropylene Unit that is coming up at Kochi Refinery. The unit is scheduled to be operational in 2027-28.







BPCL is implementing a 400 KTPA Polypropylene (PP) Project focused on the production of Homopolymer grades of Polypropylene at Kochi Refinery. The project entails the establishment of a state-of-the-art Polypropylene (PP) Unit, supported by essential utilities including a Cryogenic Nitrogen Plant, a Compressed Air System, and a Cooling Water System. These facilities are being developed within the Kochi Refinery premises to ensure seamless integration and operational efficiency. The PP unit is designed to manufacture a wide range of polypropylene resin grades tailored for various industrial applications, ensuring high product quality and reliability.

The KPLEX-2025 is a flagship event of the Kerala Plastics Manufacturers' Association (KPMA) and Karnataka State Polymer Association (KSPA) being organised in association with CIPET, AIPMA, Plastindia Foundation and leading regional Plastics Manufacturers' Associations. Prof (Dir) Shishir Sinha, Director General of the Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET) & Chairman of the organising Committee of KPLEX 2025, addressed the gathering online. Mr. Jaikishen C Nath, CGM(PP- Project) received the token of recognition for exhibitors on behalf of BPCL.

The expo provided a common platform for members in the plastic industry-manufacturers dealers, buyers and end-users; and is awaited each year for resourceful updates on latest technological trends, business potential and partners in this domain. It is supported immensely by industries across India & the globe. It has the patronage of major polymer producers and Govt. of India along with local governments.

BPCL Brand collaboration with this exhibition is part of the many such initiatives being taken up in Kerala as part of the golden jubilee year celebrations of BPCL, where we are focusing on "50 years of shaping the future". In addition to announcing BPCL's entry into the polymers space, BPCL also showcased the entire energy spectrum from hydrocarbon fuels, to petrochemicals and renewables in the exclusive first pavillion at the very entry of the expo. The exhibition inaugurated on 11 Sept 2025, was open up to 14 Sept 2025 at the Adlux International Convention Centre in Kochi.







## KOCHI REFINERY FLAGS OFF 2000TH PETCOKE RAKE

Kochi Refinery marked a major milestone on 17 September 2025 with the flag-off of its 2000th pet coke rake, reinforcing its commitment to efficient and sustainable logistics. The rake was jointly flagged off by Mr. M. Sankar, Executive Director (Kochi Refinery); Mr. Manoj Menon, Business Head (Industrial & Commercial); and Ms. M. R. Viji, Additional Divisional Railway Manager, Trivandrum Division.

The ceremonial dispatch took place in the presence of several senior officials including Mr. Mahendiran A, Chief General Manager(Operations) Kochi Refinery, Mr. Sumit Saha, Chief General Manager (Power & Utilities), Kochi Refinery, Mr. Vinod P L, General Manager(OM&S), Kochi Refinery, Mr. Sanjay Kargaonkar, Chief General Manager(Sales), I&C-HQ, Mr. Tarun Kumar, General Manager (Sales & Strategy), I&C-HQ, Mr. A. Anbukannan, State Head (I&C) Tamil Nadu and Mr. Priyadarshree Panda, State Head (I&C), Kerala. Employees from various departments of Kochi Refinery, along with team members from the Industrial & Commercial Business Unit at both Headquarters and Chennai, participated on the occasion.

Representatives from the Railways, including Mr. Vijuvin, Senior Divisional Operations Manager; Mr. M. Boopatiraja, Deputy COM (Freight); and Ms. Gayathri, Area Manager, were also present. The officials commended Kochi Refinery's continued efforts and seamless coordination in dispatching pet coke to multiple destinations across South India via rail.

The event also saw the participation of the operations and maintenance team from M/s. TKIL Industries Pvt. Ltd., led by Mr. Neenad Wilankar, Director (Services). In recognition of their outstanding service in managing the Pet-Coke Handling System at Kochi Refinery, the Executive Director awarded TKIL with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Adding to the significance of the event, key customers including Mr. V. Muralidharan, Assistant Vice President - Commercial, and Mr. T. Natarajan from Ramco Cements – the refinery's primary pet coke customer – and Mr. S. Gopinath, Senior Manager, Chettinad Cements, also joined the celebrations.

**The dispatch of the 2000th rake underscores Kochi Refinery's operational excellence and strong industry partnerships in the energy and logistics sector.**





## KOCHI REFINERY JOINS THE ENVIROTHON 2025

First-timers and seasoned runners came together for the Envirothon Lakeview Marathon, proudly hosted by Sacred Heart College in Kochi, co-sponsored by BPCL. With distances of 21 KM, 10 KM, and 5 KM, the marathon began at 6:00am and concluded by 8:00am with almost all runners being highly charged finishers on 28 September 2025.

A team from Kochi Refinery joined the run, raising awareness about environmental care and the importance of protecting our lakes. Leading the BPCL team was Mr. George Thomas, Chief General Manager (HR), Kochi Refinery.

This event, under the theme Run For Health, Lakes Our Wealth, aims to promote fitness, community spirit, and environmental consciousness, particularly lake conservation. Close to 500 runners from India and abroad participated in this very energising mission for a clean and green Kerala.

## ONAM MOMENTS FROM OM&S







## AVINYA'25, THE ANNUAL IS BUSINESS MEET SETS FOCUS ON DIGITAL

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Focusing on strategic digital transformation across the three refineries, Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Director Refineries with additional charge of C&MD, set a visionary tone, encouraging fearless innovation and scaling digital efforts in inventory management, reliability, loss reduction, and capability building. He appreciated the enthusiasm and commitment of Digital Champions and emphasized their role in driving transformation at Avinya'25, the Annual IS Business Meet organized by the IS, Digital and APC Solutions team of Mumbai Refinery

In his inaugural address, Mr. VR Rajan, CGM IS & Digital Strategy (Refineries) I/C, stressed the importance of an innovator's mindset and collaborative digital solutioning which is the main theme of Avinya'25. Mr. SK Balwant, CGM Digital Refineries, presented the insights on Robotics, Gen AI, and the need for responsible AI governance and cybersecurity.

Mr. ARS Bhandari, ED(MR), acknowledged the Ministry's focus on Industry 4.0 and encouraged responsible GenAI exploration. Mr. Chacko M Jose, ED(BR), stressed profitability and value optimization, while Mr. M Sankar, ED(KR), advocated a human-in-loop approach to innovation and the broader impact of digital on society.



Presentations from IS, Digital, and APC teams from across refineries showcased achievements, roadmaps, and challenges.

External experts Ms. Amrita Mr.vastava (Microsoft) and Prof. Faruk Kazi (VJTI) shared insights on Responsible AI, Cloud adoption, and cybersecurity. A motivational session by Ms. Manasi Joshi, Paralympian and Arjuna Awardee, added inspiration through her story of resilience and solution-focused thinking.

The meet was held at The Leela Palace, Udaipur from 12-14 September 2025 for IS / Digital /APC Team members. APC and Digital Champions of Kochi Refinery participated in the meet.



## GOOD MORNING ERNAKULAM BPCL CSR BREAKFAST SCHEME LAUNCHED

The breakfast scheme *Good Morning Ernakulam*, for students of government and aided schools in the Ernakulam constituency with the support of BPCL and implemented by MLA T.J. Vinod, was inaugurated at Perumanur St. Thomas School by Opposition Leader V.D. Satheesan.



A total of 7,970 students from 37 schools benefit from this scheme by receiving breakfast every day. At the inaugural event presided over by MLA T.J. Vinod, BPCL Chief General Manager (HR) George Thomas, Cheranalloor Panchayat President K.G. Rajesh, Deputy Director of Education Subin Paul, DEO Sakeena Malayil, Thevara, School Manager Sister Terly, and Headmistress Sister Gracemin spoke.

Since last six years, BPCL has been touching around 40,000 students across the district per day through out the year with this specific CSR initiative.

## SMOKE, FLAMES & SWIFT ACTION KR FIRE CREW SAVES THE DAY

Around 7:15 PM on 13 Sept 2025, a car suddenly caught fire near the public bus stop right next to the compound wall at Kochi Refinery. Thanks to a quick call from Thomas T.B. (Manager, Fire & Safety), KR, the fire crew jumped into action immediately!



The Volvo 3 fire truck - rolled out with a solid team onboard : Shift in Charge, S Chandra Babu, Senior Lead Fireman P.M. Abdul Salam, Driver AK Jayakumar and Firemen Ramu Jangam & Vivek Kumar. The team reached the spot in no time and got straight to work. Foam was sprayed over the car's bonnet where the fire had started, and once the flames were under control, they cooled the area with water. By 7:23 PM, the fire was completely out.

**The incident:** A car was heading toward Ambalamugal from Tripunithura when smoke started emanating. Thankfully, the driver and passengers noticed it in time and got out safely. No injuries, quick response by team KR and fire fully extinguished in no time .  
**Kudos Team KR!**





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SERVICE  
CITATIONS

TRAINING UPDATES



### How to Face an Interview Successfully

A Workshop on "How to Face an Interview Successfully" was conducted on 8th September 2025 at BPLC Annex, Maradu. 20 employees attended the workshop. Training sessions were facilitated by Mr. Sandeep K from M/s Glowmind Training Consultancy Pvt Ltd. Aluva. This workshop aims to help candidates develop confidence and enhance their interview skills. Major topics covered in the workshop were self-introduction techniques, effective communication and presentation skills, grooming and professional etiquette, mock interview practice.

### Basics of PSM & HAZOP

A full day training session on Basics of PSM & HAZOP was conducted on 10 September 2025 at the KR Fire Training Hall. Around 35 employees from various departments attended the sessions facilitated by Mr. Cijy V, Chief Manager (PSM), Mr. Ramaprasad Baral, Chief Manager (Inspection), Mr. Anoop C Viswam, Chief Manager (Process Safety Mgt.) & Mr. Alamgeer Khan K H, Manager (Fire & Safety). The program was designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to identify, assess and mitigate process hazards, ensuring a safe and efficient work environment through compliance with regulations, best practices and industry standards. Major topics covered in the training include *Introduction to PSM elements, Asset integrity-LOW exceedance, Corrosion Engineering, HAZOP BTA and Contract Safety Management.*



### Technical Refresher P&U

A two day Technical Refresher training session for Power & Utility department was organised on 17 & 18 September. The sessions were facilitated by internal facilitators. The primary goal of the refresher training was to update and reinforce the knowledge across various department, as well as to identify potential issues when problems arise within the respective department. Mr. Smit Kumar Pal, SM (F&S) also conducted a short written test for the participants.

### Pressure Fed Live Fire Fighting for Retail BU

Two day Training on Pressure Fed Live Fire Fighting was conducted at Main Fire training hall & Fire Training ground, KR during 15 & 16 September 2025. Training sessions were facilitated by internal resource persons from Main Fire Station for the 27 employees from Retail SBU. This programme aims to enhance safety awareness among employees, build practical skills in the use of firefighting equipment, develop preparedness for handling real - life fire emergencies, ensure compliance with BPCL safety protocols and statutory standards, protect people, assets and the environment, strengthen team coordination during critical situations and reinforce a zero incident culture by promoting safety first practices. In the concluding session, Mr. Bimal Raj V L, CM (F&S), handed over certificates to the participants.





## Onam celebrations 2025

Onam was celebrated in the school with great joy and cultural splendour on 29 September. A variety of programmes capturing the true spirit of the festival were showcased. The traditional art forms of Kerala came alive through a vibrant tableau, while the arrival of Maveli stole the hearts of the audience with his inspiring message.

As part of the occasion, Mrs. Rajeshwari, who is set to retire this year, was felicitated with warmth and gratitude. Principal Vinumoon K. Mathew extended his heartfelt Onam wishes to the entire CRS fraternity. The beautifully crafted Pookalam and festive decorations enhanced the ambience, creating a perfect setting for the celebration. The event concluded with a expression of gratitude by the Assistant Captain of Agni House. The entire programme was thoughtfully organized and presented by Agni House.



## Mega Tinkering Day



CR school celebrated Mega Tinkering Day 2025 enthusiastically on 12 August, under the initiative of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog. Along with schools across the country, our students took part in a 60-minute DIY Innovation Project, where they designed and built a Vacuum Cleaner.

With keen interest and creativity, the young innovators followed the step-by-step process, displaying remarkable teamwork, problem-solving ability, and hands-on skills. The activity not only enhanced their scientific temperament but also nurtured a spirit of innovation and collaboration.





## CRS shines at GPS Cup 2025

Cochin Refineries School team under the professional coaching of Ajrjuna Awardee Tom Joseph (Manager-Admn), KR achieved remarkable success at the GPS Cup 2025 Volleyball Tournament hosted by Global Public School.

The **Boys U19 Team emerged as Champions** with Surya Kiran of Class XII has been adjudged as the *Best Player* and Adwin A of Class XII has been emerged as the *Most Promising Player*.

The **Girls U19 Team secured the position of Runners-Up**, displaying outstanding skill and teamwork throughout the competition.

Adding to the school's glory, Vaishnavi K and Anna Collin Shinto brought pride by winning the Silver Medal in the tournament. Their achievements stand as a testament to the dedication, discipline, and sporting spirit of CRS students.

## Painting their thoughts green

A big contingent of painting enthusiasts painted their thoughts green, to bring home a host of prizes for CR School from the Painting competition held in connection with World Environment Day celebrations by *Breakthrough Science Society*. Winners participated in the District Level competition at SNVP School, Thripunithura on 9 August 2025.







## With gratitude to dear Teachers

Cochin Refineries School celebrated Teachers' Day on 29 August 2025 with joy, reverence, and heartfelt gratitude. The programme, coordinated by the students of Class XII, began with a red-carpet welcome for the teachers. Each teacher was honoured with a special package consisting of a framed portrait sketch, a customized pen, a bouquet, and a handmade card as tokens of love and appreciation from the students. Principal Mr. Vinumoan addressed the teachers.

A highlight of the day was the 'student-teachers' initiative, where students stepped into classrooms to experience the noble responsibility of teaching, making the celebration even more meaningful. A special felicitation ceremony was later organized on 10th September where the prestigious Service Awards and Excellence Awards were presented by Mr. George Thomas, School Board Chairman and CGM, (HR), KR, to recognize the dedication and outstanding contributions of the teaching faculty. Mr. Dinesh S. B, Manager (HRD) and School Coordinator, was also present.

**Service award** was presented to Smt Yamuna Varma P R for her 25 years of service. **Excellence awards** were presented to M/s Preethi Rajeev, Reby K B, Preethy Jayaraj, C Sathish Kumar, Shine P Jose, Anju B, Jayakrishnan P, Suresh Kumar C, Manju S, Premlatha Shaji, Merin T Elias, Ann Jackson Panakkal, Husna A K, Srividya R, Sangeetha K P, Sindhu S, Reshmi S Pillai and Vinitha Santhosh.

## Top wins for CRS at Cross Roads 2025

CRS students showcased their brilliance at Cross Roads 2025, an



interschool event hosted by Global School on 22nd August 2025. In the **Maathra** - A Mathematical Presentation, CRS secured the top honours. The First Prize winners were: **Akshaya M S** (XI B), **S Varshaa** (XI B), Sreenandana Shibu (XI A) and **Jacob Joshy Karukunnath** (XI B). Adding to the glory, in **Vaanijya Thanthram**, CRS once again emerged victorious. First prize winners are: **Pranav T Saji** (XII A), **Shreyas M R** (XII C), **Jephin Thomas** (XII C). The outstanding performances of these young talents brought laurels to the school, reflecting both their hard work and the guidance of their mentors.



## CRS applauded for excellence in XII Com

Mr. Sureshkumar C, PGT Commerce, Cochin Refineries School received the **Professional Excellence Award** in recognition of outstanding performance of class XII students in the CBSE Examination 2024-25 in Accountancy. The prestigious award was instituted by Commerce Teachers' Foundation (CTF), an ISO 9001-2015 Certified Organisation and awarded at the felicitation ceremony **Abhinandan 2025** organised at the India International Centre, New Delhi on 14th September, 2025.



## A Life Transformed

**BPCL-Kochi Refinery is not just where I work – it's where my life changed for the better. Over the years, this organization has become a pillar of strength for me and my family, touching every aspect of our lives.**

The respect I receive from society just by saying I work at BPCL is deeply fulfilling. It brings pride not just to me, but to my entire family. That recognition keeps me grounded and pushes me to live up to the values this organization stands for.

Financially, BPCL provided me with the stability I always hoped for. From building a home through a company-provided loan to managing emergencies without relying on others, I've been able to secure my family's future with confidence.

One of my proudest moments has been seeing my daughter pursue her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences – a dream made possible through her education at Kochi Refinery School and a five-year scholarship granted by the company. It's the kind of support that changes not just careers, but lives.

But perhaps the most emotional part of my journey happened 25 years ago, when my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. BPCL sanctioned a medical advance that helped us get her the best treatment under Dr. V.P. Gangadharan. Today, she's a healthy 87-year-old – a survivor, thanks to the timely support of this company.

I've also seen BPCL's heart in its community efforts. From funding school infrastructure in Perumbalam village to supporting local development initiatives, the company has consistently extended its impact beyond refinery walls.

To me, BPCL-Kochi Refinery isn't just an employer. It's been a life partner – empowering, uplifting, and unwavering in its support. I carry this badge with pride, and I'm forever grateful to be part of this incredible journey.

Sincere thanks from my mother and my entire family to this great organisation that I love and adore.

**Rajesh BK**  
OM&S

AI GENERATED IMAGE



## From the American Wild West

Philips Petroleum Company was a pioneer in the petroleum business and had the experience of over four decades. It came from the Wild Western State of Oklahoma.

Brothers Frank and LE. Phillips established Phillips Petroleum Company, headquartered in Bartlesville, the largest town in Oklahoma State, in 1917. It started marketing propane for home heating and cooking calling it Philgas in 1920. In 1926, Phillips formed its aviation department and designed an aviation truck for refuelling aircraft.

Philips began selling gasoline in Wichita, Kansas, the first of more than 10,000 service stations across the US. It entered the refining business by acquiring its first refinery near Borger, Texas. In 1930, Phillips began to increase refining and retailing capacities.

## A dream is born

By 1960s, Philips was one of the most coveted multi-national companies. Based on the agreement, Cochin Refineries Limited (CRL) was formally registered on September 6, 1963 at Emakulam."



One of the initial Board Meetings



The first CRL Chairman addressing AGM

At that time, Cochin Port Trust had provided us with a room at their office at Willington Island. Probably the address of that room would have figured as the Registered Office during the initial documentation, recalls Malhotra

On September 28, CRL adopted the Technical Service Agreement with Philips Petroleum Company by which Philips had to provide technical service necessary for the operation of the refinery, auxiliary and off-site facilities. Philips also had to furnish skilled and trained personnel in such number as may be in their opinion necessary, but not in excess of 12, including the managing director.

On the same day CRL also adopted the Refinery Construction Contract with Philips Petroleum International Corporation. As per this contract, Philips Petroleum International Corporation had to engineer, design, prepare plans, procure material and equipment and construct a complete and operable petroleum refinery in accordance with the terms and conditions in the contract. For the installation and completion of the plant, CRL would pay Philips Petroleum Corporation a total fixed amount of Rs.12,92,85,454.

There were many anxious moments in those initial days too. One such was the day before the public issue of the new company. "Assistant Company Secretary N S Rao had worked day and night for the public issue. Everything was set and in all newspapers the news of the event was given prominence. On the previous day JMF Lobo had gone to the Company Law Department at Kochi for the final approval. It was only then it was found that consent of one Director of the Company was not there. That particular Director was in Delhi. Lobo called me and I contacted the Director who was a Ministry official. In those days, communication was not that fast. I sent a fast telegram which reached the office at Kochi before the office closed.



## The Kite Flyer



The project was a matter of great prestige that Philips sent one of its finest engineers to India to help the venture take off. John W Loy who arrived on June 6, 1963 was a brilliant technocrat with a scientific bend of mind. He had to his name several US patents on different aspects of refining.

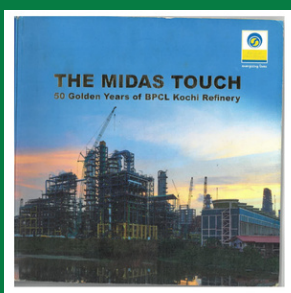
But here was also a man who applied his scientific temper in all walks of life. This was very evident from his passion for kite flying. Later in his life he recalled that while living in Tokyo in 1968-73, after his first stint in Kochi Refinery, he became interested in the fundamentals of why some kites fly and why some don't. Later, during his last stint in Kochi Refinery (1974-77), he made some headway on the technical side by flying and observing kites at Kochi. After retiring in 1979, he finally got around to constructing a rather capable wind tunnel. After three years of operating it, he compiled a large amount of data on the behavior of a wide variety of kites.

Loy even developed a hooded kite which was an improvement on the conventional sled type and the US Patent 4243191A filed in 1979 is all about this invention. In the summer 1989 issue of Kitelines, Loy wrote: "Most kites will readily agree that a wealth of technical knowledge is not a prerequisite to successful kite flying. Thus, I am not suggesting that you rush right out and buy or build a wind tunnel of your own. However, here we are at the tail end of the 20th century, and it is about time that serious kite fliers understand how a kite maintains its position in the absence of a pilot or instrumentation."

That was the methodic kind of mind that set Kochi Refinery on its flight to excellence.

Later, as he was leaving Kochi, a scribe of the Cochin Refinery Newsletter wrote an emotional piece on Loy. "His contribution to the building of this refinery will be remembered in glowing terms by future generations... As soon as he arrived in India he lost no time in getting himself posted with Indian situation and getting acquainted with not only people but also the intangible factors which would have a bearing on the task he had in hand. He never allowed himself to be overcome by the complexity and magnitude of any problem at any stage. His patience, industry and tact, supported by a sober sensible outlook. And unfailing sense of proportion carried him through the most difficult situations with extraordinary ease."

Old timers recall that the first Managing Director of CRL used to teach the children in the Jwalagiri Township to make and fly kites. In spare time, he used to enjoy the flight of his special kites in the summer sky of Kochi. In many ways, that sight would have been a metaphorical prophesy about the rising stars of Kochi Refinery



Stories adapted from  
**The Midas Touch**  
Golden Jubilee Coffee Table  
Book of Kochi Refinery





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