

Six women from state to participate in Rio maths meet

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KOCHI: Six women maths teachers from the state will be participating in the nine-day 'International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) 2018' that begins in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil on Wednesday.

It is rare that all the participants of the conference from the state are women. This is a prestigious conference of the mathematics community held once in four years in which the Fields medal, which is considered the Nobel prize in Mathematics, is awarded.

The objective of the conference is to foster contact between mathematicians from different countries, present recent advances in the area and promote cooperation on several fronts.

The International Mathematical Union (IMU) is the body that brings together the mathematical societies from around the world.

The participants are Aparna Lakshmanan S from St Xavier's College for Women, Aluva; Chitra M R from Amrita School of Arts and Science, Edappally; Anu Varghese from BCM College, Kottayam; Anu V from St Peter's College, Kolencherry; Jeepamol J Palathingal from Panampilly Memorial Government College, Chalakudy; and Jasmine from Amaljyothi Engineering College.

"I would discuss in detail the opportunities and challenges faced by women in scientific research. It is a wonderful opportunity to present our research work on a global platform," said Aparna who was also a participant in the World Meeting for Women in Mathematics held in Rio on Tuesday.

The first edition of ICM was held in 1897. Throughout the years, the discussions and expositions in the ICM has helped disseminate new areas of research and foster meaningful exchanges. ICM has also been instrumental in the internationalization of mathematics.