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LOCALISATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

POVERTY FREE AND ENHANCED LIVELIHOODS VILLAGE

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Localization Of Sustainable Development Goals:
Poverty Free and Enhanced Livelihoods Village

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25 YEARS OF PEOPLE'S PLANNING A SUCCESS STORY OF DECENTRALISATION OF POWER IN INDIA

M B Rajesh
Minister for Local Self Governments, Rural Development and Excise
Government of Kerala

The People's Plan Campaign is a unique initiative that has transformed the landscape of developmental politics in Kerala. This great experiment encapsulated the democratic achievements, Kerala made over the decades. It included the land reforms initiated by the first Communist government led by EMS Namputiripad, the government which was the product of larger movement for land in the pre-independent era and also included the innumerable struggles for land- rights and surplus land in the post – land reform period by the tenants across the state.

In 1996, the state launched the People's Plan Campaign, which was designed and implemented as a successful methodology for transferring fund, functions and functionary that constitutional amendments in 1992 envisaged as the necessary condition to make the devolution of power possible. The campaign and the related process empowered the local level leadership and people at large to plan and implement their own development projects, ensuring inclusive development. Potential of our decentralized government system which was nurtured by the People's Planning process got its effective manifestation during the time of 2018 flood and Covid. Along with the Kudumbashree movement, decentralisation of power through the people's planning has achieved remarkable success in enhancing the quality of life of

people of Kerala and expanding the vistas for economic wellbeing and social development.

Today, in yet another transformative moment of Nava Keralam, new responsibilities are placed confidently on the shoulders of local governments in Kerala. Government expects local governments to become the leaders of economic development by fostering the growth and employment on par with that of developed nations, as it has been in the case of human development. In the journey of creating a Nava Keralam, we also pin hope on our local self-government institutions to make Kerala waste free by clearing the waste produced in our own neighbourhoods through the sustainable systems.

The series of 25 books published by KILA is a valuable contribution to the knowledge base on decentralization, documenting the experiences of the People's Plan Campaign and capturing the essence of decentralization and the role of local governments in development. I am confident that these books will serve as a valuable resource for other states and countries that are striving to achieve sustainable development through decentralization.

I congratulate the team at KILA and the local governments of Kerala for their outstanding work and am proud of the achievements of decentralization in Kerala. I am confident that the state will continue to scale new heights in the years to come.

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DISTRICT

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HOUSING FOR ALL
COMPLETE HOUSING SCHEME

Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation

Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation is the oldest and largest (by area and population) city corporation in the state of Kerala, India. It administers the city of Thiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum), which serves as the capital of Kerala. The city corporation covers an area of 214.86 km2 and comprises 100 wards, housing a population of 957,730 inhabitants. It includes the Legislative Assembly constituencies of Thiruvananthapuram, Vattiyoorkavu, Nemom, Kazhakkoottam, and 5 wards of the Kovalam constituency. The Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation has undertaken significant efforts to address the fundamental human need for housing through its transformative initiative, the "Housing for All - Complete Housing Scheme." With a strong focus on providing homes to homeless families and revitalizing slums into well-equipped residential complexes, the municipality has effectively implemented the state government's Life Complete Housing Scheme. This comprehensive endeavor aims to ensure that every citizen has access to decent and affordable housing, uplifting the lives of the underprivileged and transforming the face of Thiruvananthapuram city.

During the period of 2021-22, the Municipal Corporation achieved remarkable progress in fulfilling the dream of housing for all by executing a range of impactful projects. A key aspect of their approach was the focus on slum development through the BSUP (Basic Services for Urban Poor) scheme. As part of this initiative, the municipality successfully constructed and handed over 318 flats in Kalladimugam Colony, 115 flats in Kannammula Bund Colony, 22 flats in Rajiv Nagar Colony, and an impressive 360 flats in Karimatham Colony. The latter project involved a comprehensive development plan encompassing 560 houses, community buildings, and essential infrastructure. The municipality also prioritized enhancing amenities in the wards of coastal area through the completion of community buildings and infrastructure. The Vizhinjam Mathipuram Colony witnessed comprehensive development under the Rajiv Awas Yojana, where the municipality constructed 1032 houses and a community hall that can accomadate up to 1000 people at a time. Moreover, active participation in the National Urban Livelihood Mission resulted in the construction of 72 units of flats at Karimath during the same period.

The Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation has emerged as a leader in implementing the LIFE-PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana) housing scheme, a collaborative initiative between the Central-State Governments and the Municipal Corporation, aimed at achieving housing for all. It is noteworthy that the municipality has approved the construction of 8572 houses of which 5628 beneficiaries has already completed their homes, and others are progressing through various stages of construction.

In their commitment to inclusivity, the municipality extended support to the Life PMAY beneficiaries by allocating 90 working days and financial assistance under the Ayyankali Employment Guarantee Scheme. This ensured additional support for the beneficiaries for meeting theirh housing needs. Furthermore, the municipality demonstrated their dedication to affordable housing by collecting and utilizing the bricks used during the Attukal Pongala festival to construct houses for the needy in Poonkulam Colony. In line with their inclusive approach, the construction of 12 units of flats for SC categories was undertaken during this period.

With the successful implementation of these comprehensive development projects, Thiruvananthapuram city is witnessing a transformation through the upliftment of the lives of the underprivileged. The municipality continues to be resolute in its pursuit of complete housing for all, ensuring a better quality of life and a brighter future for its residents.

NEDUMANGAD'S AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT TAKES OFF A PROMISING BEGINNING

Nedumangad Block Panchayat

1. NEDUMANGAD BLOCK PANCHAYAT ORGANIC VILLAGE RAISING EGG POULTRY (PROJECT NO: 98/22)

Nedumangad Block Panchayat is located in Nedumangad taluk of Thiruvananthapuram district. The Panchayat was formed in 1954 and covers an area of 123.5 square kilometers. Karakulam Gram Panchayat, Aruvikkara Gram Panchayat, Vembayam Gram Panchayat, Anand Gram Panchayat, and Panavoor Gram Panchayat constitute this Block Panchayat. 'Jivagrama Poultry Scheme' implemented in the organic village of this Block Panchayat with the aim of promoting sustainable agriculture and therby boost the rural economy is a pioneering scheme. This novel initiative involves the maintenance of 1000 high-yielding laying hens of BV 380 category in a state-of-the-art technology based poultry shed. The scheme not only aims to enhance agricultural productivity but also contributes to the local economy and generates employment opportunities for the community.

The core of the Jivagrama Poultry Scheme is the modern and technologically advanced poultry shed, thoughtfully designed to house 1000 high-yielding laying hens of

the BV 380 category. The BV 380 category hens are known for their exceptional egg-laying capabilities, resulting in a consistent daily production of 800-900 chicken eggs. This steady supply of fresh and nutritious eggs serves as a valuable resource, benefiting not only the organic village but also nearby areas and various establishments. The daily production of 800-900 chicken eggs under the Jivagrama Poultry Scheme has far-reaching economic implications. By strategically selling the eggs to local markets and establishments, the scheme generates an average income of 5,000 rupees daily. This substantial revenue boosts the local community, providing a steady source of income and stimulating economic activities in the region.

The Jivagrama Poultry Scheme is not just about egg production; it also plays a pivotal role in generating employment opportunities for the local community. With 100 working days dedicated to poultry-related activities each year, residents of the organic village actively participate in caring for the hens, managing the poultry shed, and handling egg distribution. This active engagement not only provides a source of income for individuals but also fosters a sense of empowerment and community pride.

The Jivagrama Poultry Scheme has proved to be a transformative initiative in the organic village of the Block Panchayat, redefining the landscape of sustainable agriculture and rural livelihoods. The maintenance of high-yielding laying hens and the subsequent production of eggs not only boosts local income but also fosters community empowerment. Moreover, its association with the Jivagrama Biogas Plant exemplifies a circular economy approach, making it a model for sustainable agricultural practices. With the Jivagrama Poultry Scheme as a beacon of progress, the organic village sets an example for other regions, paving the way for a brighter and more sustainable future for rural communities.

2. KERA SAMRIDDHI - COCONUT SEEDLING NURSERY. (PROJECT NO: 46/22)

The "Kera Samrudhi - Coconut Palm Nursing" project is one of the most notable and commendable initiatives undertaken by the Block Panchayat in the agricultural sector during the year 2021-22. The scheme focuses on promoting the prosperity of coconut palms and addressing the challenges posed by diseases that affect its yields,

particularly the one affecting coconut trees in Kerala. This project endeavours to rejuvenate the richness of coconut trees, which have been facing various issues in recent times. The project mainly aims to bring back our state's glory in coconut tree cultivation.

With an investment of 1,035,000 rupees from the planned budget, this project has become an integral part of the Block Panchayat's Jivagrama, contributing to the minimal residue and disease-resistant coconut saplings in the region. Moreover, the project has been instrumental in establishing 10,000 coconut saplings in the Block Panchayat's Jivagrama, enhancing coconut cultivation in the region. As part of the MGNREGS scheme, the Block Panchayat has also distributed coconut saplings free of cost to farmers. The initiative has witnessed significant progress over the last three years, with the establishment of 10,000 coconut saplings and their successful protection under the scheme. Additionally, 10000 coconut saplings have been distributed free of cost to farmers through the Kerala Krishi Karshaka Samrudhi Project. The creation of 10,000 nursing centres for coconut saplings in Jivagrama not only promotes coconut cultivation but also acts as a free source of quality coconut saplings for the farmers. The success of this project is a testament to the collective efforts of the Block Panchayat and the community in revitalizing the coconut cultivation in the region.

In conclusion, the Kera Samrudhi - Coconut Palm Nursing project has proven to be an instrumental and transformative initiative in the agricultural sector. With its focus on organic practices and sustainable growth, the project aims to restore Kerala's reign in coconut tree cultivation. Through this endeavour, we strive to create a greener and more prosperous future for our homeland.

3. SUBHIKSHA KERALA DAIRY COW MANAGEMENT (PROJECT NO: 30/22)

The Block Panchayat has taken a significant step towards implementing the Subhiksha Kerala (Prosperous Kerala) project, particularly the Calf Rearing Project, during the year 2021-22. As part of the scheme, the Block Panchayat provides financial assistance to 60 women from five Gram Panchayats within its jurisdiction to purchase calf-rearing cows. 50% of the cost for procuring the cattle has been provided as a free subsidy by the Block Panchayat, while the remaining 50% is

facilitated through bank loans.

Furthermore, under the MGNREGS (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme), the Block Panchayat has also included the farmers in the Dairy Farming Project. By involving them in this initiative, the Block Panchayat supports the creation of employment opportunities in the dairy sector. In addition to the Calf Rearing Project, the Block Panchayat has actively cooperated with the MGNREGS scheme by providing financial assistance to the farmers for the construction of cattle sheds. The construction of these sheds ensures that the beneficiaries have adequate facilities to rear their cattle, thereby enhancing milk production. The Block Panchayat's involvement in the MGNREGS scheme has also contributed to creating employment opportunities in the dairy sector, leading to an increase in milk production. This initiative has played a crucial role in promoting self-sufficiency in the dairy sector of this region.

Overall, the Subhiksha Kerala project, with its various components and interventions, has significantly contributed to the growth and development of the agriculture and dairy sectors in the Block Panchayat's jurisdiction. By empowering farmers and providing support through various schemes and subsidies, the Block Panchayat has demonstrated its commitment to enhancing the prosperity of the region and the livelihoods of its people.

4. KERA SAMRIDDHI - COCONUT SEEDLING NURSERY (PROJECT NO. 13/22)

Kera Samriddhi is a groundbreaking and commendable project initiated by the Nedumangad Block Panchayat in the agricultural sector for the year 2021-22. With a focus on reviving the significance of coconut cultivation and addressing the rising challenges of coconut diseases, the project aims to restore the prominence of the Kera tree, commonly known as the coconut tree, in the state of Kerala. The project endeavours to take Kerala back to its roots when coconut cultivation was a vital part of the agrarian culture. The agricultural landscape of Kerala has seen a shift towards cash crops, leading to a decline in traditional coconut cultivation. Additionally, the increase in the diseases affecting coconut trees has further contributed to the alienation of the Kera tree in the region. To counter these challenges, the Kera Samriddhi project has been introduced as an ambitious effort to rejuvenate the

coconut industry and promote sustainable agricultural practices.

To support the implementation of the project, a sum of 1,335,000 rupees has been allocated from the project funds. As part of this initiative, a state-of-the-art nursery will be established, dedicated to producing 10,000 high-yielding and disease-resistant coconut seedlings of the Kuttiadi variety. This nursery will be situated in the organic village of the block panchayat, emphasizing the commitment to environmentally friendly and sustainable practices. Additionally, these coconut seedlings will be protected for the duration of three years after planting, ensuring their successful establishment and growth. The Kera Samriddhi project is strategically aligned with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), further enhancing its reach and impact. By fostering the cultivation of coconut trees, the project envisions a future where coconut farming regains its importance, contributing significantly to the agricultural and economic growth of the region.

In conclusion, the Kera Samriddhi - Coconut Seedling Nursery project embodies a collective effort to promote sustainable agriculture, preserve traditional practices, and rekindle the bond between the people of Kerala and the iconic Kera tree. This ambitious endeavor holds the promise of revitalizing the coconut industry and building a prosperous and resilient agricultural landscape for the benefit of the entire community.

5. AGRICULTURE BUSINESS INCUBATION CENTRE - EMPOWERING RURAL ENTREPRENEURS

The Agriculture Business Incubation Center, located in the Aruvikkara Gram Panchayat of the Block, contributes much in fostering the creation of value-added agricultural products. The center provides various training programas, offering both men and women in the region with valuable skills and knowledge to develop and promote their entrepreneurial ventures in the agricultural sector. Through this initiative, the Gram Panchayat aims to empower local farmers and entrepreneurs by supporting them in the production and marketing of high-value agricultural products.

The Agriculture Business Incubation Center conducts a range of free training

programs and workshops that cater to the specific needs of individuals in the agriculture sector. These initiatives equip them with the necessary expertise and insights to enhance the quality and marketability of their agricultural products. The centre not only imparts knowledge but also helps these individuals' access to opportunities in the agricultural industry and explores viable employment prospects within the agricultural domain.

The Agriculture Business Incubation Centre plays a pivotal role in the advancement in the agricultural landscape and the overall economic development of the region. By fostering local talent and entrepreneurship, it empowers rural individuals to explore innovative opportunities and achieve sustainable growth in the agricultural sector.

6. SUBHIKSHA KERALA - CATTLE REARING PROJECT (PROJECT NO: 10/22)

As part of the Subhiksha Kerala Project, the Block Panchayat took a significant step during the year 2021-2022 by launching the Cattle Rearing initiative. Through this project, the Panchayat supports and promotes cattle farming among women in five selected Gram Panchayats within its jurisdiction. Six women from each of these Panchayats are provided with financial assistance to procure cattle for rearing. The project subsidizes 50% of the cost of acquiring the cattle, while the remaining 50% is facilitated through bank loans.

The aim of the project is to enhance livestock production and empower women in the agricultural sector. By offering substantial support and financial assistance, the Block Panchayat encourages women to actively participate in cattle rearing, which can be a sustainable and profitable agricultural endeavor. Additionally, the Panchayat has also incorporated the farmers into the MGNREGS (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme) program. This inclusion helps farmers engage in agricultural activities, contributing to the overall development of the dairy sector and promoting self-sufficiency in milk production.

The Cattle Rearing Project not only generates livelihood opportunities for women but also plays a crucial role in enhancing the dairy industry's productivity in the region. The project's comprehensive approach to supporting cattle farming and empowering women has the potential to uplift rural communities and foster economic growth in the agricultural sector.

PROMOTING PROGRESS THROUGH POVERTY ALLEVIATION: PULLAMPARA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S EXEMPLARY INITIATIVES

Pullampara Gram Panchayat

Pullampara Gram Panchayat is a vital local governing body situated in the Vamanapuram Block Panchayat, which is part of the Nedumangad Taluk in Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala, India. As a part of the decentralized governance structure, this Gram Panchayat serves the rural communities in its jurisdiction. In the pursuit of a truly prosperous and thriving society, the eradication of poverty becomes a fundamental goal. Pullampara Gram Panchayat, located in Thiruvananthapuram district, has embarked on an inspiring journey towards progress by effectively implementing central and state schemes aimed at poverty alleviation while devising unique and innovative initiatives to uplift its residents. The Gram Panchayat's commitment to empowering its people is exemplified by its groundbreaking implementation of the "Mikav" scheme under the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). By creating maximum employment opportunities for the members of the employment guarantee scheme, Pullampara Gram Panchayat ensured a reliable income source for its workforce. The Mikav scheme, a first-of-its-kind in Kerala, demonstrates the Panchayat's dedication to developing employment skills, particularly for women, thereby ensuring better wages and taking

significant strides towards poverty alleviation.

A hallmark of Pullampara Gram Panchayat's progressive approach is its focus on creating self-employment opportunities for all. By establishing small enterprises involved in the production of lotions, soaps, dosa and appam flour, and unadulterated coconut oil, the Panchayat has opened doors for individuals to embark on entrepreneurial ventures and build sustainable livelihoods. The provision of work sheds and functioning sewing units stands as a testament to the Panchayat's commitment to fostering economic independence and growth. The collaborative efforts of Kudumbashree, a women's self-help group, and Harita Karma Sena, an organization committed to environmental conservation, have played a crucial role in generating employment and income opportunities for numerous individuals within the community. These initiatives have contributed significantly to Pullampara's progress as a panchayat that not only dreams of a better future for its residents but actively works towards turning those dreams into reality. One of the proudest achievements of Pullampara Gram Panchayat is its participation in Kerala's esteemed housing project. By making housing accessible to many, the Panchayat has made a meaningful impact on improving the lives of its citizens. The provision of housing, a basic human right, showcases the Panchayat's unwavering commitment to ensuring a high standard of living and eliminating hunger within its jurisdiction.

Pullampara Gram Panchayat serves as an exemplary model of vigilance and dedication to safeguarding the democratic society's right to dignified employment. Through its multifaceted efforts, the Panchayat has created an environment where its residents can lead prosperous lives, free from the shackles of poverty. Their unwavering pursuit of progress stands as an inspiration for other communities striving for equitable growth and social upliftment.

In conclusion, Pullampara Gram Panchayat's remarkable initiatives in poverty alleviation, employment generation, and skill development demonstrate the vital role that local governance plays in creating a just and equitable society. Their commitment to ensuring the welfare and prosperity of their citizen serves as a beacon of hope, illustrating that with determined efforts, no dream of progress is too distant to achieve.

NURTURING AGRICULTURE: KARAKULAM PANCHAYAT'S FARMER-CENTRIC SUCCESS STORY

Karakulam Gram Panchayat

Karakulam, a panchayat in Nedumangad Taluk inThiruvananthapuram District in the state of Kerala, India is the most populated panchayat in the district according to the 2011 census. Vazhakrishi (paddy cultivation) and Kizhangu Vargangal (tuber crops) are the two major agricultures practices of this Gram Panchayath. To encourage Vazhakrishi, farmers were provided with a 100% subsidy for distributing 20,000 high-quality paddy seeds. Additionally, tuber crops, which are closely related to paddy cultivation, were distributed with 100% subsidy for distributing seeds worth 1,00,000 rupees. As part of the 2021-2022 annual projects, farmers in the Kizhangu Vargangal received a 100% subsidy for distributing seeds of different tuber crops like yams, colocasia, cassava, and sweet potatoes.

This farmer-centric project has been successfully implemented, aiming to enhance the livelihood of farmers by providing financial assistance and ensuring the availability of quality seeds. Farmers from different segments of the society, especially those involved in paddy and tuber crop cultivation, were the primary beneficiaries of this initiative. The project has played a crucial role in uplifting the farming community by supporting them with necessary subsidies and ensuring

the availability of high-quality seeds. As a result, it has not only boosted agricultural productivity but also facilitated access to reasonably priced crops for consumers, thereby creating a win-win situation for all stakeholders.

Overall, the Panchayath's agriculture-focused initiatives have been instrumental in empowering farmers and promoting sustainable agriculture practices in the region. By providing support and assistance in the form of subsidies and quality seeds, the Panchayath has taken significant steps towards strengthening the agricultural sector and improving the overall well-being of the farming community.

KULATHOOR PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING GROWTH AND INCLUSION

Kulathoor Gram Panchayat

Kulathoor Gram Panchayat, which includes Parassala Block in Neyyattinkara Taluk of Thiruvananthapuram District, heavily relies on agriculture and fishing as the main sources of income for its residents. Despite a large percentage of people living below the poverty line, the Panchayat exhibits high standards in social and cultural spheres. Over the years, significant progress has been made in fostering local economic development. One noteworthy initiative was the integration of Kudumbashree and the agriculture sector, leading to the formation of Kudumbashree Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) that promote banana and paddy cultivation in coordination with agriculture. In the rice cultivation domain, the Nellikonam Pada Sekara Samiti has undertaken distinctive activities, creating its own brand called "Kulathoor Kuthari," which has gained popularity among the public.

The Panchayat has facilitated economic development by providing loans totalling Rs. 150 crores to Kudumbashree JLG groups, which in turn initiated various self-employment projects for poverty alleviation in rural areas. By ensuring uniform marketing and distribution of products produced by these enterprises, the Panchayat

has effectively promoted local goods in the public domain. To empower women from below the poverty line, the Panchayat has initiated specific schemes, including a goat rearing scheme and a cow rearing scheme, each funded with Rs. 10 lakhs for the financial year 2021-22. Additionally, a sum of Rs. 69,000 was allocated for yoga training programa for women. The focus on women's empowerment stretches from the kitchen to other arenas, aligning with the goals and values of the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme, which saw an infusion of Rs. 10 crore for poverty alleviation. Kulathoor Gram Panchayat, comprising six coastal wards, set aside a dedicated budget for coastal zone development activities in its annual plans. These initiatives have included providing laptops and furniture to the children of fishermen pursuing higher education. Additionally, 49 children studying in the development oriented BRC (Beneficiary Rehabilitation Centre) have benefited from a modernized building and new technical equipment. The Panchayat's emphasis on empowering the differently abled community was evident when they won the overall championship at the district level during an art festival organized by Kudumbashree. Overall, Kulathoor Gram Panchayat has demonstrated commendable efforts in uplifting its local economy and fostering inclusive development, bringing positive changes to the lives of its residents.

EMPOWERING AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS: OTTOOR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S REMARKABLE ENDEAVORS

Ottoor Gram Panchayat

In the picturesque landscape of Ottoor Gram Panchayat, nestled amidst nature's abundance, a remarkable transformation has been taken place in the agriculture sector. The Gram Panchayat's unwavering commitment to fostering sustainable agriculture practices and empowering the local farmers has resulted in an allocation of Rs 86,31,550 for the agriculture sector in the financial year 2021-22. Through well-planned initiatives and innovative projects, Ottoor Gram Panchayat has taken significant strides towards enhancing food security, promoting mixed farming, and ensuring the economic development of the community. One of the noteworthy projects undertaken by the Ottoor Gram Panchayat is the comprehensive rice cultivation development project in the region of Kedaram. Spanning across 80 hectares of fertile land, this project has not only provided seeds at a 100% subsidy but has also brought 5 hectares of fallow land under productive cultivation. By encouraging and supporting local farmers, the Gram Panchayat has achieved a substantial increase in rice production, contributing to food self-sufficiency in the area.

The Subhiksha Kerala intercropping project has been another game-changer for Ottoor Gram Panchayat.

Through the distribution of pepper seedlings, banana seedlings, tuber variety kits, and fruit trees at a 100% subsidy, the Gram Panchayat has successfully promoted mixed farming practices. This holistic approach to agriculture not only ensures food security but also adds value to the products, creating opportunities for local economic development. With the support of Kudumbashree, monthly markets, and special stalls, products like turmeric powder, jackfruit powder, kasturi turmeric powder, pickles, and more are produced and marketed locally, benefiting both farmers and consumers. In its mission to enhance livelihoods and boost animal husbandry, Ottoor Gram Panchayat has distributed goats to over 250 beneficiaries and provided calves to several others in the last financial year. This strategic initiative has not only increased the income of villagers but has also contributed to achieving partial self-sufficiency in milk production, benefiting the community as a whole.

Additionally, the Gram Panchayat has taken steps to utilize its public ponds for fish farming, offering them on lease to the public. This forward-thinking approach not only generates additional income for the beneficiaries but also promotes sustainable fishing practices and boosts the local economy. Ottoor Gram Panchayat's relentless efforts in agriculture, livestock management, and value-added product marketing have resulted in significant progress and self-sufficiency in various sectors. These initiatives have empowered the farming community, created new livelihood opportunities, and strengthened the village's economic backbone. Through sustainable practices and community-driven projects, Ottoor Gram Panchayat continues to be a shining example of rural development and empowerment, setting a standard for other communities to follow.

CHEMMARUTHI PANCHAYAT'S PATH TO PROSPERITY

Chemmaruthy Gram Panchayat

Chemmaruthi is a Gram Panchayat located in Varkala taluk of Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala, India. It is a part of the Varkala Block Panchayat. The name "Chemmaruthi" is derived from the plant known as "Chuvanna Maruthi," which is abundantly found in this area. Chemmaruthy Gram Panchayat takes great pride in its agricultural heritage, and we have been placing a strong emphasis on promoting and supporting agriculture. With the allocation of 58 lakh rupees annually to the production sector, we have been able to make remarkable progress in this field. One notable project is the Keragramam project, inaugurated by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture. Through this project, we have protected approximately 42,000 coconut trees within the panchayat. Farmers have received various benefits, such as cleaning and medicating coconut trunks, providing organic fertilizers, drip irrigation, and coconut lifting machines. Our efforts in raising awareness through workshops and seminars have been highly beneficial for farmers, making the Keragramam project a resounding success.

Additionally, we have witnessed the dedication of young farmers, returning from the Gulf, who have transformed

11 acres of barren land into thriving paddy cultivation fields. Our commitment to inclusivity has also seen the active participation of differently abled individuals in the agriculture sector, contributing significantly to agricultural productivity. Integrated farming has also gained popularity among farmers, further boosting production levels. We are proud to mention the significant role of women farmers in Chemmaruthy Gramapanchayat's agriculture and allied sector. Many women farmers are working together, and we, the Department and Panchayat, have provided them with the necessary support and assistance. Our collective efforts have resulted in a substantial increase in production in various areas. Notably, Chemmaruthy Gram Panchayat received an award for having the most milking farmers last year.

Furthermore, we have initiated the 'Thirinana' System, which allows interested farmers to engage in farming while managing other essential tasks. Greenhouses have been established to enhance agricultural practices, and the distribution of fruit tree seedlings has been implemented to promote home-grown fruits. Mushroom cultivation is especially significant to women farmers, and we have provided them with training, financial assistance, and support to continue this practice. Going forward, we plan to expand our projects to involve more farmers in mushroom cultivation. In conclusion, our commitment to the agriculture and allied sector in Chemmaruthy Gram Panchayat has borne remarkable results, thanks to the dedication and support of our farmers and the community. We will continue to prioritize the growth and prosperity of our agricultural community, ensuring a sustainable and thriving future for all.

KOLLAM DISTRICT

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2. Rising Beyond Adversity: Mynagappally Panchayath's Journey in Poverty Alleviation
3. Shabu's Green Triumph: A Farmer's Journey to Success and Sustainability by Sooranad North Panchayat
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5. Golden Nectar: The Journey of a Successful Honey Processing Unit at Anchal Block Panchayat
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10. Nature's Guardians: Pesticide-Free Panchayath's Journey towards Sustainable Agriculture by Kulasekarapuram
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15. Harvesting Success: Ummannoor Panchayath's Tale of Best Agricultural Practices
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EMPOWERING LIVES: A PANCHAYATH'S TALE OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION TRIUMPHS

West Kallada Gram Panchayat

West Kallada Gram Panchayat is a local governing body located in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Committed to the welfare and progress of its community, West Kallada Panchayath actively engages in various developmental initiatives, social welfare programas, and infrastructure improvements to enhance the lives of its residents.

West Kallada Gram Panchayat, primarily an agricultural village, has made poverty alleviation a top priority during the year 2021-22. Several initiatives were undertaken to uplift the disadvantaged and improve their living conditions. The panchayat ensured access to nutritious food by providing breakfast and midday meals, with complete drinking water supply through the Life Bhawan Yojana Janjeevan Mission. Additionally, free medicines were made available to those in need, and self-employment opportunities were created through Kudumbashree projects. Agricultural animal welfare projects were introduced to support farmers, while the Employment Guarantee Scheme included projects aimed at poverty alleviation. Food kits were distributed to the needy to mitigate food insecurity.

During 2021-22, linkage loans amounting to Rs. 3 crores

were provided, leading to the establishment of three catering units, three tailoring units, and two fish farming units. Amrutam Nutravita, an organization, expanded its reach by purchasing a new 25-cent property and constructing a building to supply complete food within and outside Kerala. Financial assistance was extended to members of the neighboring community suffering from chronic diseases. Housing was provided to six families who were homeless under the LIFE housing scheme, with a total expenditure of Rs. 2 crores and 40 lakhs. The panchayat also ensured access to household drinking water for families who did not own land by buying and repairing 37 houses at a cost of 10 lakhs. Additionally, financial aid was provided to families engaged in va, goat, and Kitari rearing projects.

Under the Kudumbashree scheme, five work units were formed to increase income through agriculture, with groups given vegetable crops and fertilizers to start farming. Poverty alleviation activities under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme included the implementation of seven works, providing 13933 working days and 100 working days to 122 families, with a total expenditure of Rs. 4 crore and 79 lakhs. The panchayat took steps to improve sanitary waste disposal by constructing two compost pits and four soakpits. The livelihoods of chicken farmers were supported through the construction of nine sheds by the MCF, along with two sheep flocks and ten chicken coops. Five wells were constructed to ensure drinking water supply, and 50 cents of land were allocated for fodder cultivation to support animal husbandry.

Through these comprehensive poverty alleviation activities, West Kallada Gram Panchayat demonstrated its dedication to the well-being and empowerment of its residents, creating opportunities for a better future for all.

RISING BEYOND ADVERSITY: A PANCHAYATH'S JOURNEY IN POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Mynagappally Gram Panchayat

Mynagapally Panchayath is a local governance body located in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Committed to the welfare and progress of its community, Mynagapally Panchayath actively engages in various developmental initiatives, social welfare programs, and infrastructure improvements to enhance the lives of its residents. With a focus on sustainable growth and inclusive governance, Mynagapally Panchayath strives to create a vibrant and harmonious living environment for all its inhabitants. Emphasizing on preserving its cultural heritage and natural resources, Mynagapally Panchayath endeavors to pave the way for a prosperous and promising future for its citizens. Mynagappally Gram Panchayat has made significant efforts under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to alleviate poverty and promote sustainable development. During the financial year 2020-2021, a total of 8,43,800 rupees was allocated for poverty alleviation, leading to the creation of 2,06,351 working days. Among these, 10,960 working days were provided specifically to families belonging to scheduled castes, empowering them economically.

The poverty alleviation projects embraced sustainable

development principles, resulting in the construction of various infrastructure facilities. Initiatives like sheepfold construction, compost pit establishment, soak pit construction, chicken coop development, and well recharge were undertaken. These transformations not only provided employment opportunities but also contributed to the overall well-being of the community.

In Ward 20, the Florance Day Care center has been established as a poverty alleviation initiative. This day care center is operated by a five-member team of Kudumbashree, a women-oriented community organization. The panchayat has extended full support to ensure the smooth functioning of this initiative. The dedication and entrepreneurial skills of a Kudumbashree member from Mynagappally Panchayat were recognized when she won the first prize in the Kottayam Saras Mela for exhibiting chiratta products. This recognition further highlights the success and positive impact of poverty alleviation efforts in the region.

As part of the poverty alleviation program during the financial year 2021-2022, the construction of 180 houses was completed under the Life Project. Out of these, 119 houses were allocated to the general category and 61 houses to families belonging to the scheduled caste category. This housing project has significantly improved the living conditions of the beneficiaries, providing them with a secure and comfortable place to call home.

Atlas Pathiri is another noteworthy initiative taken up by the Kudumbashree unit named Samskara in Mynagappally Gram Panchayat. This unit operates with unity, love, and cooperation among all members. Their collective efforts have resulted in remarkable achievements, with the unit generating a profit of around 35,000 rupees every month. The strong support from the panchayat has played a crucial role in the success of this entrepreneurial endeavor.

Overall, Mynagappally Gram Panchayat's commitment to poverty alleviation and sustainable development has made a significant positive impact on the lives of its residents. By implementing various projects and providing necessary support, the panchayat has succeeded in empowering its community members and creating a more resilient and self-sustaining local economy.

SHABU'S GREEN TRIUMPH: A FARMER'S JOURNEY TO SUCCESS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Sooranad North Gram Panchayat

The success story of Mr. Shabu, a village farmer in Sooranad North Gram Panchayat, Kollam district, is an inspiring tale of dedication to agriculture and the conservation of land and water resources. Sooranad North Gram Panchayat has earned its reputation as the best panchayat in Kollam district by providing maximum person days in the MGNREGS project, surpassing the annual targets set by the district mission. With more than 10,200 laborers achieving their hundred days in the MGNREGS scheme, the panchayat has exemplified its commitment to rural development and welfare.

Mr. Shabu's journey to success began with the awarding of a farm pond project in Ward 14 under the MGNREGS scheme in 2020-2021. The laborers of Ward 14 enthusiastically engaged in land development to commence the construction of the pond, along with other unskilled manual works required for the project. With focused efforts, they completed the pond, measuring 18 meters in length, 15 meters in width, and 3.5 meters in depth, within just 30 days. To protect the sides of the pond, quare geo textiles were employed, ensuring its stability and longevity.

The technical advice and supervision for the project were

provided by the MGNREGS team of Sooranad North Gram Panchayat, under the vigilant monitoring of the Block Programame Officer of Sasthamcotta Block. The project was executed in collaboration with the Subiksha Keralam mission plan of the state government. Following the guidelines set by the fisheries department, the pond was meticulously cultivated with fish species like Katla, Rohu, Assam Vala, among others, contributing to the systematic and sustainable farming.

Mr. Shabu's dedication and well-planned approach to farming resulted in the maximum yield and successful cultivation of the pond. His exemplary efforts became a model project for MGNREGS in Sooranad North Gram Panchayat, garnering recognition, and appreciation from all quarters.

The culmination of Mr. Shabu's successful endeavor was marked by a grand harvesting ceremony, inaugurated by the honorable president of the Gram Panchayat, Shree S. Sreekumar, in the presence of MGNREGS workers and officials. The event celebrated the achievements of the project and served as an inspiration to others in the community.

In conclusion, Mr. Shabu's success story exemplifies the spirit of rural development and agricultural innovation fostered by Sooranad North Gram Panchayat. Their commitment to providing opportunities for employment and sustainable agriculture through the MGNREGS scheme has uplifted the lives of many in the community and serves as a shining example of local self-government's impact on rural livelihoods.

A HELPING HAND FOR MANUAL LABORERS

Chadayamangalam Block Panchayat

Chadayamangalam Block Panchayath is a vibrant and proactive local governing body situated in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Nestled in the picturesque landscapes of the region, Chadayamangalam Panchayath plays a crucial role in promoting the welfare and development of its residents. With a commitment to providing efficient and transparent governance, the panchayath strives to create a sustainable and inclusive community where every individual can thrive and prosper.

Chadayamangalam Block Panchayath is known for its dedication to various social and developmental initiatives, catering to the diverse needs of its populace. With a strong focus on improving healthcare facilities, education, infrastructure, and environmental conservation, the panchayath has been at the forefront of implementing innovative programas to uplift the quality of life for its residents.

In addition to its efforts in public welfare, the panchayath is committed to empowering marginalized and differently abled individuals, ensuring their active participation in the decision-making process. Collaborative initiatives such as forming the Differently Abled Grama Sabha

exemplify the panchayath's approach towards inclusivity and equal opportunities for all.

Through progressive policies, sustainable development projects, and community-driven efforts, Chadayamangalam Block Panchayath continues to make significant strides towards achieving its vision of a vibrant, prosperous, and harmonious community. With a dedicated team of administrators and the support of its residents, the panchayath stands as a shining example of effective local governance and a catalyst for positive change in the region.

While planning and implementing local economic development projects in three-tier panchayats, those who seek livelihood through traditional occupations in the selection of beneficiaries will not fulfil the intended objectives of the project. This is why, while planning the local economic development plans for the year 2021-22 of Chadayamangalam block Panchayat. 3 lakh rupees were allocated for the purpose of ensuring maximum working days and providing raw materials according to the working capacity of the women. To raise the standard of living of the women each were given Rs. 1.5 lakh each to purchase raw materials worth Rs. 3 lakhs without women empowerment. Empowerment cannot be possible so that women have been selected as beneficiaries of the project. Chadayamangalam Block Panchayat has been able to make 8 women who manufacture products from bamboo into self-sufficient and good entrepreneur through this project. The Panchayat is thinking of continuing this model project.

GOLDEN NECTAR: THE JOURNEY OF A SUCCESSFUL HONEY PROCESSING UNIT

Anchal Block Panchayat

Anchal Block Panchayat, also known as a rural block or a rural development block, is a local administrative unit in India. It is a part of the decentralized governance system established under the Panchayati Raj system.

As part of the Subhiksha Keralam project, the Anchal Block Panchayat included a new project called the Honey Processing Unit in their 2021-22 annual plan, which has been successfully implemented. The Honey Processing Plant was established by Horticorp at a cost of 16 lakhs from the block's share, with an additional 18 lakhs allocated for beneficiary support and other facilities.

Currently, 100 farmers in the Anchal block are cultivating honeybees under the Eram VFPCK market. Given the area's abundance of vegetables, fruits, and rubber, it provides a favourable environment for honey production. The honey obtained from the comb is considered raw honey, containing numerous yeasts that make it susceptible to spoilage if stored for a long time.

To ensure good quality honey and enable farmers to fetch better prices for their produce, the moisture content is reduced through processing. The international market has a high demand for quality honey, which is

widely used in Ayurvedic medicine and cosmetic products for its beauty-enhancing properties throughout the country.

The honey collected from the farmers undergoes quality checks and is then transported to the honey processing unit. It is subsequently filled into bottles, sealed as well-hydrated honey, and delivered to the markets."

KULATHUPUZHA: TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Kulathuppuzha Gram Panchayat

Kulathupuzha is a town in the east part of Kollam district of Kerala, India. It is one of the important pilgrim spots linked with the legend of Sabarimala. Kulathupuzha is also the birthplace of the Malayalam music legend Raveendran. Kulathupuzha is the source of the Kallada river, Thenmala Dam is located on this river. As declared by Governor Arif Mohammad Khan, Kulathupuzha panchayat is the first in India to have achieved Constitution-literacy.

Sustainable development is the commitment to achieving the overall development goals of man and society.

Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat's "Kanivu" project was led by the vision of sustainable development not just by creating absolute assets.

There is a section among us who cannot fully experience the roads, bridges, buildings, and everything that is done for the progress of the country.

Our approach to this category should not be a mere programa that grieves for the necessary paperwork during every project formulation. Through this project, 59 differently abled people and 12 mentally challenged

people found through the screening camp were provided with necessary aids. Gram Panchayat spent Rs 1423953 for this. The scheme has been prepared in such a way as to help all the deserving people.

Also, in the year 2021-22, the Gram Panchayat has spent Rs.3567806 on these sections which deserve special attention.

PATHS TO PROSPERITY: A PANCHAYATH'S SAGA OF POVERTY ALLEVIATION INITIATIVES

Yeroor Gram Panchayat

Yeroor Gram Panchayat is an agricultural area located in Anchal block belonging to the eastern hilly region of Kollam district. The total area is 44.74 square kilometers. Kalladayaar and Thenmala Gram Panchayats share the border in the north, Alayamon Gram Panchayat border in the south, Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat in the east and Karavalur Gram Panchayat in the west.

37280 people live in 19 wards in total 8729 families. Yeroor Gram Panchayat has focused its attention on systematic activities to achieve the goal of poverty alleviation by ensuring that all the families in the Gram Panchayat have a secure house and ensure a stable income for at least one person in a family, Yeroor Gram Panchayat has focused on systematic activities for this in the past years.

Projects implemented by Life Kudumbashree which is the proud scheme of the state itself. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme Annual projects undertaken by the panchayat in the fields of agriculture, animal protection, conservation, and development etc., by combining all of these, accurate review and proper implementation of necessary changes, the panchayat has been able to reach this goal.

71 families belonging to Scheduled Castes and 285 people including 214 Kudumbashrees belonging to General category have been allocated houses by spending more than 10 crore rupees included in the LIFE scheme.

Through the MGNREGs project, 2145 people were given employment for 100 days, 71.84 % created 32796 employment days and an amount of 12 crores was spent on the project. Gram Panchayat gives importance to providing livelihood to the people through the MGNREGs project.In the past period, they have been able to provide cowsheds for 62 families, goat shed for 142 people, poultry sheds for 42 people and the income of the people have increased through this project. Many people included in the annual plan of the Gram Panchayat are distributed cows, goats, and calves. Systematic activities in the field of agriculture have enabled the farmers to get better yields and ensure a market for the produce, through such activities, the Gram Panchayat has reached the goal of poverty alleviation.

FIELDS OF PLENTY: A PANCHAYATH'S TRIUMPH IN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Perinad Gram Panchayat

Perinad Panchayath is a local governing body situated in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Committed to the welfare and progress of its community, Perinad Panchayath actively engages in various developmental projects, social welfare initiatives, and infrastructure improvements to enhance the lives of its residents. With a focus on sustainable growth and inclusive governance, Perinad Panchayath endeavors to create a vibrant and harmonious living environment for all its inhabitants. Emphasizing preserving its cultural heritage and promoting social cohesion, Perinad Panchayath aims to pave the way for a prosperous and promising future for its citizens.

'Perinad' is an area based on the agricultural wealth system of Kollam district. But this place lies adjacent to Kollam town and has now changed a lot due to urbanization. However, this area is still active in the field of agriculture, fish, and milk production. The panchayath has been given a lot of importance for sustainable development through this sector. Chief Minister's Green Award 2018 (2nd position), Kerala University Water Safety Award, Malayala Manorama Nabad 2018, recognition for the best activities in the agricultural sector etc.

The panchayath is implementing excellent rice cultivation extension activities through sitting cultivation in 20 hectares of land. The Agricultural Task Force is also working to help the agricultural sector. In 2021-2022, as part of Perinadan coconut oil and milk production, mushroom cultivation, rain forest cultivation, fragrance crop cultivation, chickpea cultivation as an intercropping to rice cultivation, started by neighbouring groups and JLJ groups, 25 varieties of saplings were distributed free of charge to all households through Krishi Bhavan Cultivation of chillies was implemented by 100 families.

Various activities are being carried out under the leadership of the Panchayath for the protection of fish life of Ashtamudi lake in an affordable way for the agricultural sector, monthly agricultural market, distribution of fertilizer at subsidized rate, model cultivation garden, bio-fertilizer production, construction of dung heaps is also being implemented to support the agriculture sector. Along with stocking, regional distribution is also being implemented. The milk that is produced in excess is transferred to "Milma". During the 2021-22 plan periods, 223526 rupees have been allocated for the agriculture sector, and during the 2021-22 plan period, seventy-six lakhs thirty-two thousand nine hundred sixty-one rupees have been allocated for the ksheera development sector activities.

FIELDS OF ABUNDANCE: A PANCHAYATH'S SUCCESS IN PADDY CULTIVATION

Thazhava Gram Panchayat

Thazhava Panchayath is a local governance body situated in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Dedicated to the welfare and progress of its community, Thazhava Panchayath actively engages in various developmental initiatives, social welfare programas, and infrastructure improvements to enhance the lives of its residents. With a focus on sustainable growth and inclusive governance, Thazhava Panchayath strives to create a vibrant and harmonious living environment for all its inhabitants. Emphasizing preserving its cultural heritage and promoting social cohesion, Thazhava Panchayath aims to foster a strong sense of community and prosperity among its citizens. Thazhava Gramapanchayat, situated in the vibrant state of Kerala, India, has emerged as a shining example of agricultural development and sustainable progress. The panchayat's dedication to revitalizing fallow lands and promoting self-sufficiency among its farming community has yielded remarkable results, contributing to both economic prosperity and food security in the region. Thazhava Gramapanchayat's successful endeavors in agricultural development serve as an inspiration to others, illustrating the power of sustainable initiatives in fostering a prosperous and

food-secure future for the community.

Thazhava Gramapanchayat has taken significant strides in promoting agricultural development and revitalizing fallow lands to foster self-sufficiency and prosperity among its farmers. One such notable project is the cultivation of Pavumba Vattakayal, which remained uncultivated for over 13 years. Through the collective efforts of 65 farmers, the panchayat successfully cultivated paddy on 130 hectares (325 acres) of Punja, yielding an impressive 700 tons of paddy and 800 tons of straw.

The outcomes of this cultivation extended beyond rice production, as an additional benefit of Rs. 1,43,000 worth of fish was obtained. The panchayat allocated Rs. 22,10,000 for this project, which was used to pay rent to the farmers who owned the cultivated land. Additionally, Rs. 1,96,00,000 worth of paddy was procured through Supplyco, further contributing to the economic gains for the farmers and the local community.

In parallel, Thazhava Gramapanchayat also focused on the revival of 60 hectares of paddy cultivation in 8 padasekharas. Despite 20 hectares being barren, the project still yielded 210 tonnes of paddy and 300 tons of straw. The panchayat allocated Rs. 14,80,000 for this agricultural endeavor, providing rent to 140 farmers who owned the cultivated land.

The remarkable results of this cultivation project included the procurement of paddy worth Rs. 58,80,000, which was used to fulfill the food requirements of the community. Thazhava Gramapanchayat's initiatives in agricultural development have not only improved the livelihoods of local farmers but also contributed to food security in the region. By reclaiming fallow lands and implementing well-managed agricultural projects, the panchayat has demonstrated a commitment to sustainable development and fostering self-reliance among its farming community.The success of these cultivation projects serves as an inspiration for other regions to follow suit and prioritize agricultural revitalization for a more prosperous and food-secure future. Thazhava Gramapanchayat's proactive approach in supporting its farmers and promoting agriculture showcases its dedication to fostering economic growth and overall well-being in the community. cultivation and rice were used for food.

PADDY CULTIVATION IN DRY LAND

25 hectares cultivated with paddy. 50 tons of paddy was obtained through this cultivation. 70 tons of straw was obtained through this cultivation. Rs.2,50,000 project allocation expenditure for this agriculture. 2,50,000 was paid as rent to 120 farmers who are the owners of this cultivated land. Rs.14,00,000 worth of paddy was received as part of this cultivation and the rice was used for food.

In all three cases, the lease rent has been allowed excluding the amount given free of charge. 8,31,600 costs for seed.

Total in Panchayat

215 hectares of paddy were cultivated. 980 tons of rice was received.1170 tonnes of straw received. Rs.47,71,600 has been spent on the project allocation. Paid Rs.47,71,600 as rent to 325 farmers who are landowners. Received paddy worth Rs.2,68,80,000. (Price only) Received straw worth Rs.17,55,000. Received fish worth Rs.1,43,000 (Auction).

NATURE'S GUARDIANS: A PESTICIDE-FREE PANCHAYATH'S JOURNEY TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Kulashekarapuram Gram Panchayat

Kulasekharapuram Gram Panchayat is an agricultural village consisting of an area of 16.75 sq Km. It is in the Kollam District in the State of Kerala and having a population of 49157 with 23297 male and 25860 female and literacy near to 100 %. For administrative convenience this panchayath is divided in to 23constituencies. It is an ISO 9001:2008 certified panchayath honoured for its good and effective service delivery system. The panchayat has its own revenue generation strategies, and it is the best one among the State of Kerala. This panchayath had developed a pesticide -free agricultural system and became a Bio- agricultural panchayath. This panchayth with its notable developmental and agricultural achievements remarked as "**Kulasekhara Puram Model**" in all over the state.

Kulasekharapurm Gram Panchayat is basically an organic panchayat concentrated for production of pesticide free agricultural products.

1. 13500 families were given 5 varities of 5 seeding of eathnic vegitables at their door- steps through Karshika karma sena members, based on a survey conducted. 74 Metric Tons of vegetables were produced by families in

the month of December 2021-22. Most of vegetables were on consumption and rest marketed through 'ECO SHOP' conducted by the Panchayat.

2. Crop health management

For attaining maximum productivity at minimum expense for crop health management monitoring system is functioning in the panchayat. A Lab has been established with soil testing facilities, pest diseases forecast and identifying pests at critical stage and suggesting remedies in consultation with experts through online devices.

Our proud project is the promotion of Adinadu Coconut. It has been decided to produce the seeds of adinadu Coconut a rare variety on an industrial basis. In collaboration with Kerafed cultivation has been started on 10 acres of land promote valuable Onattukara seasame, which has been awarded earth inducts status. With the help of Oachira Block a coconut & seasame oil production until all OCTAC was started as a joint Venture of five GramanaPanchayat. Eco-Shop started Operants for Agriculturist to sell their products and get better seedings.

This is a coastal Panchayat. T S canal on the west coast flood prone area with abandunt wetlands. In this panchayat, which has a long tradition in the field of agriculture. But climate change, population growth, liberalization of paddy field rules affected agriculture. After Tsunami 33 settlement rehabitation centres, 900 houses more than 3000 people were suddenly relocated. This construction was not far from the T S Canal functioned as safety walls for draining rainwater. Due to the flow of natural flows of drain water salt water from the T S canal was destroyed the traditional agriculture. It has been decided to promote coconut cultivation and upland paddy cultivation as alternative farming methods.

Cross bars were installed to prevent saltwater drain water harvesting installed in all houses. Strong action was taken against the filling of wetlands and paddy fields. The Farmers association formed to promote the spread of agriculture lead by padasekhara samithy and the department of agriculture.

Poverty is the most kind of tragedy which removes the dignity and decency of human life. It has multiple dimensions. Addressing poverty is one of the toughest challenges in the world. There are several economic, social, gender and other deprivations contributing to poverty. To ensure sustainable employment and eradicate poverty we need to invest human capital. So, this Gramapanchayath decided to prepare a plan for the care and rehabilitation of the destitute. For Poverty allevation Programas this panchayath have been spent 107501934/- rupees for the financial year 2021-22.

As a part of poverty alleviation programas around 500 buffaloes have been distributed to Jeevanam Yojana. For dairy farmers Milk subsidy, Fodder Subsidy, Milking Machine, Milking Cow etc. Kudumbashree Mission begins with identification and consolidation of grass root level needs of the panchayat. There are 486 self-help groups. Key Developments are micro enterprises programas, catering units, group farming, umbrella unit, building material, readymade garments, soap powder units, footwear units. Many schemes are implented for the upliftments of women. The Panchayat has already spent 6.5 crore rupees around poverty allevation in connection with the employment guarantee scheme.

After its launch the revolutionary programa is named Life Mission Kerala, over 300 houses were constructed and handed over to beneficiaries. In the financial year 2021-22, 27626135/- rupees have been spent on life mission projects. The mission proposes to utilize the services of kudumbashree units, MGNREGS skilled labours for the construction of houses.

Our women have undertaken and implemented projects ranging from biofloc fish farming to pond construction. There were some difficulties in the initial period of implementation of such projects.

1. Lack of proper implementation.
2. Lack of active participation of beneficiary groups.
3. Lack of infrastructure
4. Duplication of programas.

5. Pointless or Unproductive meeting compared to the poverty; Number of resources allocated for these programas is not sufficient.

But with the help of self-groups, Asha's, literacy workers, MGNREGS, Anganvadi worker, Community resource persons, Ward level Committee the projects were almost successful.

POSHAKASREE PROJECT

Ithikkara Block Panchyath

In the Itthikkara block of Kollam district, several agriculture-related activities are being implemented as part of the "Poshakasree" project, which aims to promote paddy cultivation and achieve self-sufficiency in vegetable production. No-till farming is a conservation agriculture practice where crops are grown without disturbing the soil through plowing or tilling. This method helps to reduce soil erosion, conserve moisture, and improve soil health.The Tirthana system is a water-saving technique that involves the controlled release of irrigation water in fields. It helps in optimizing water usage and prevents waterlogging in the fields.Promotion of Paddy Cultivation: Efforts may be made to promote traditional and improved methods of paddy cultivation. This could include providing farmers with high-yielding paddy varieties, better seed storage facilities, and training on modern cultivation practices.

To achieve self-sufficiency in vegetable production, the project may focus on encouraging farmers to cultivate a diverse range of vegetables. Techniques such as vertical gardening, raised bed cultivation, and use of organic fertilizers may be promoted. Efficient water management techniques, like drip irrigation and rainwater harvesting,

may be introduced to ensure optimal water usage and sustainable agriculture practices. Farmers in the area might be provided with training and workshops on modern agricultural practices, pest and disease management, soil health improvement, and sustainable farming techniques.

The project is being implemented in five panchayats: Adichanaloor, Chathanoor, Kalluvathukkal, Chirakkara, and Poothakulam, in the Ithikkara block panchayat of Kollam district. Its aim is to promote paddy cultivation and achieve self-sufficiency in vegetable production. The project concept, called 'Poshakasree,' has been formed by scientifically combining innovative concepts in agriculture, such as no-till farming and the Tirthana system. Kollam district panchayat has included 150 units in the project and implemented it during the year 2022-2023."

HEALING HOOVES: THE TALE OF A PANCHAYATH'S INNOVATIVE MOBILE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Ithikkara Block Panchayat

The establishment of a Veterinary Hospital in Itthikkara Block marks a significant milestone in ensuring the well-being and prosperity of our community. This much-awaited project is a testament to the progressive and compassionate vision of the Itthikkara Block Panchayat, aiming to address the essential healthcare needs of our beloved livestock and support the farmers who rely on them.

For years, our community has been grappling with the challenges of limited veterinary services and the high costs associated with private veterinary care. With the introduction of the Veterinary Hospital, these concerns are finally being addressed, heralding a new era of accessible and affordable animal healthcare.

Ithikkara Block Panchayat has undertaken the Traveling Veterinary Hospital as an innovative project for 32 years. Rs. 8,35,435 has been allocated as a plan cent, and the Block Panchayat should take it up as an innovative project because it is not in the guidelines. The five panchayats included in Ithikkara Block Panchayat are Poothakulam, Adichanallur, Chirakkara, Chathanoor, and Ksheera. These panchayats have areas with a higher number of farmers. The Milk Producer Cooperative has

been selected as the beneficiary, and this benefit is provided to the farmers who prepare milk in it.

Medicines are procured through Ekinter for the implementation of this scheme. Every month, camps will be conducted in dairy groups, and good quality dewormers, mineral mixtures, and drugs to increase milk will be distributed to the farmers as per their requirements. These drugs are very expensive to buy over the counter, especially calcium powder, which is essential in this weather. It is crucial for farmers to pay extra attention to their cows during this time.

We receive this kind of service at least 2 times a month, which enables us to get these medicines for the farmers at a very low price."

FIELDS OF EXCELLENCE: UNRAVELING THE BEST AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES OF POOTHAKULAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Poothakulam Gram Panchayat

Poothakulam Gram Panchayat is a local governing body situated in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Committed to the welfare and progress of its community, Poothakulam Gram Panchayat actively engages in various developmental projects, social initiatives, and infrastructure improvements to enhance the lives of its residents. With a focus on sustainable growth and inclusive governance, Poothakulam Gram Panchayat strives to create a vibrant and harmonious living environment for all its inhabitants. Emphasizing on preserving its cultural heritage and promoting social cohesion, Poothakulam Gram Panchayat aims to pave the way for a prosperous and promising future for its citizens.

Poothakulam Gram Panchayat has implemented various agriculture-related activities to support and promote the agricultural sector within the community. These initiatives aim to enhance agricultural productivity, improve livelihoods, and foster sustainable farming practices. Some notable agriculture-related activities in Poothakulam Gram Panchayat include:

1. **Comprehensive Agricultural Development**: The Panchayat has implemented a comprehensive agricultural development project, which includes various measures

to support farmers and enhance agricultural practices in the region.

2. **Crop Cultivation and Weather Challenges**: Despite adverse weather conditions, the Panchayat has extended support to farmers facing challenges in crop cultivation. Efforts are made to provide necessary assistance and resources to overcome weather-related obstacles.

3. **Organic Vegetable Cultivation**: The Panchayat has implemented a scheme for organic vegetable cultivation, providing support to farmers in terms of seeds, fertilizers, and technical guidance. This initiative promotes sustainable and eco-friendly farming practices.

4. **Livestock Rearing**: Poothakulam Gram Panchayat encourages livestock rearing among farmers. Projects such as chicken rearing are implemented to improve egg production and support the livestock sector.

The successful trapping and destruction of more than 3000 mosquitoes under the "Kera Safety Project" by spending about one and a half rupees has brought significant attention to the activities in the coconut farming sector. This action has proven to be highly effective in combating mosquito-related issues. There is now an effort to extend this successful scheme to neighboring panchayats, but its implementation hinges on the adoption of the "T scheme."

As part of comprehensive agricultural development, a project costing 17,72,000/- has been successfully implemented. Despite adverse weather conditions during the second crop of paddy cultivation, farmers have managed to overcome these challenges and cultivate 77 hectares of land. Additionally, the scheme for organic vegetable cultivation, which received a contribution of Rs. 512,00, has provided vegetable seedlings and fertilizers to approximately 2700 beneficiaries.

To achieve gains in egg production, 48 farmers have undertaken the chicken rearing project. This initiative aims to enhance the overall production and availability of eggs in the region. These achievements exemplify the dedication and hard work of the farmers and the proactive approach of the panchayat in promoting sustainable agricultural practices and improving livelihoods. By investing in innovative projects and schemes, the panchayat has created opportunities for growth and progress in the agricultural sector.

GREEN REVOLUTION: A PANCHAYATH'S JOURNEY WITH BEST AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

kulakkada gramapanchayat

Kulakkada Gramapanchayat, situated along the scenic banks of the Kallada River, is an agricultural haven known for its remarkable contributions to the farming sector. Under the visionary leadership of the Agriculture Officer and the Krishi Bhavan, the panchayat has emerged as a front-runner in agricultural development within the district during the year 2021-22. Through the implementation of various projects worth 1,793,000 rupees in the annual plan, the panchayat has made significant strides in promoting organic vegetable cultivation, ensuring food security, and empowering local farmers.

One of the noteworthy projects undertaken is the Vallam Nira Organic Vegetables Cultivation, covering an expansive 18-acre area. This initiative, coupled with the Employment Guarantee Scheme, has yielded fruitful results in boosting organic vegetable production. The department of Agriculture conducts the Peedika Pacha programa every Sunday, where cultivation of crops like ladies' finger, chilli, tomato, Amara, brinjal, kachil, and paval takes place, empowering local farmers and promoting sustainable practices.

Additionally, the implementation of the Subhiksha

Keralam scheme has led to the cultivation of paddy, vegetables, and bananas across 71 acres of land. During the challenging COVID period, these agricultural produces were provided to the people in the form of kits, ensuring food availability and supporting the community during the crisis.

Kulakkada Gram Panchayat has also taken proactive measures in promoting home gardening and agriculture. As part of this effort, vegetable seeds have been distributed to every household within the panchayat area, encouraging self-sufficiency and a green revolution at the grassroots level.One of the most significant achievements of the panchayat is the successful cultivation and harvesting of watermelon through systematic and diligent work. This accomplishment has set a precedent in the district and showcases the panchayat's dedication to innovation and excellence in the agricultural domain.

With its commitment to sustainable farming practices, food security, and rural empowerment, Kulakkada Gram Panchayat stands as a shining example of agricultural prowess and progress in the region. Through strategic planning and community engagement, the panchayat has carved a path towards a prosperous and self-reliant agricultural landscape for the betterment of its residents and the environment.

HARVESTING SUCCESS: A PANCHAYATH'S TALE OF BEST AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Ummannoor Gram Panchayat

Ummannoor Gram Panchayat's exceptional dedication to agricultural development in the year 2021-22 has played a pivotal role in transforming the region's agricultural landscape. With a significant percentage of their project expenditure focused on agricultural initiatives, the panchayat has made remarkable strides in optimizing cultivable land and promoting agricultural diversity. Through effective strategies and successful projects, Ummannoor has not only achieved economic growth but has also instilled resilience and self-sufficiency among the local farming community.

In the year 2021-22, Ummannoor Gram Panchayat demonstrated a remarkable dedication to agricultural development, with 99.50% of the total agricultural project expenditure amounting to 1,881,681 rupees being spent on various agriculture-related initiatives. The panchayat's efforts were focused on optimizing the cultivable land, leading to a current cultivation area of 3,148.13 hectares out of the total 3,182.56 hectares available.

An essential aspect of Ummannoor's agricultural success was the successful conversion of 19.43 hectares of barren land into cultivable areas. Through effective land utilization strategies, the panchayat achieved an increase

in cultivable land, facilitating the cultivation of various crop varieties.

During the 2021-22 annual period, Ummannoor Gram Panchayat effectively implemented integrated paddy cultivation and betel nut cultivation projects, contributing to agricultural diversity, and enhancing crop productivity. The panchayat's rich agricultural diversity plays a vital role in ensuring a thriving and sustainable agricultural sector.

Ummannoor's commitment to agricultural development has not only resulted in economic growth but has also fostered a sense of resilience and self-sufficiency among the local farming community. The panchayat's effective management of agricultural funds and well-executed projects have proven to be instrumental in driving progress in the region's agricultural landscape.

As Ummannoor Gram Panchayat continues its journey towards agricultural prosperity, it remains a shining example of how strategic planning and focused efforts can lead to substantial agricultural development and positively impact the lives of the local farming community.

Ummannoor Gram Panchayat stands as a shining example of how a focused and strategic approach to agricultural development can yield outstanding results. By converting barren land into cultivable areas and implementing integrated cultivation projects, the panchayat has created a sustainable and diverse agricultural sector. The positive impact of these efforts goes beyond economic growth, fostering a sense of empowerment and pride among the local farming community. As Ummannoor continues its journey towards agricultural prosperity, it serves as an inspiration for other regions to prioritize agricultural development for a thriving and self-sufficient future.

BOUNTIFUL FIELDS: A PANCHAYATH'S PURSUIT OF BEST AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Vettikkavala Block Panchayat

Vettikavala Block Panchayath is a vital local self-government body situated in the scenic district of Kollam, Kerala, India. Nestled amidst lush green landscapes and picturesque surroundings, Vettikavala Block Panchayath takes pride in its dedication to promoting comprehensive development and enhancing the well-being of its residents. With a focus on inclusive governance and community-driven initiatives, the panchayath strives to create a harmonious and sustainable environment, fostering growth and prosperity for all its constituents. Kozhigramam is a remarkable project initiated under the leadership of Vettikkavala Block Panchayat during the financial years 2021 and 2022. The project aims to achieve nutritional satisfaction by combining local chicken eggs with the milk of local cows. The unadulterated and nutritious chicken eggs have been cherished by the Malayalees both in the past and present, resulting in an annual expenditure of about 840 crores.

To accomplish this goal, the expansion of backyard poultry and commercial egg farming was emphasized. The Kozhigramam project encourages small units to raise laying hens within their home premises, thereby generating a steady income. The project's success has

been phenomenal, with a 100% success rate according to the set targets. Even today, numerous families continue to earn a stable income through this initiative.

By promoting the rearing of laying hens in local households, the project not only fulfills the nutritional needs of the community but also contributes to the economic well-being of the families involved. The project's vision aligns with the goal of achieving self-sufficiency and sustainable livelihoods through poultry farming, making it a noteworthy endeavor in the region.

AGRICULTURAL OASIS: UNRAVELING WEST KALLADA 'S BEST FARMING PRACTICES

West Kallada Panchyath

West Kallada Panchayath is a local governing body situated in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. With a rich cultural heritage and a thriving community, West Kallada Panchayath actively engages in various developmental initiatives, social welfare programas, and infrastructure improvements to uplift the lives of its residents.

West Kallada, known for its rich agricultural heritage and rice cultivation, has undertaken noteworthy projects to uplift the rice farming sector. The comprehensive rice cultivation development project has successfully maintained 30 hectares of rice cultivation. In the financial year 2021-2022, an additional 8.3 hectares of paddy cultivation were spread, with the larger goal of expanding rice cultivation to 100 hectares. The panchayat allocated Rs. 141,100 in its public planning scheme for this endeavor. To promote the cultivation of Karanel rice, the panchayat distributed high-quality seeds suitable for its cultivation free of cost through Krishi Bhavanam. As a result, the cultivation area of Karanel expanded by 6 hectares, reviving the interest in paddy cultivation even in coconut groves.

Furthermore, the cultivation of high-yielding rice varieties such as Andra and Jyothi have gained popularity,

particularly in the field of brown rice cultivation, with farmers showing increased interest and achieving good yields. West Kallada Gram Panchayat has also actively promoted sustainable agriculture by implementing the cultivation of vegetables in earthen pots. This project aims to encourage households to grow non-toxic vegetables in their home gardens. In the financial year 2021-2022, 432 families benefited from this scheme, with the panchayat spending Rs. 518,400 on providing families with 10 earthen pots, vegetable seeds, and compost soil mixture.

To revive the once-abandoned sugarcane cultivation, the panchayat, along with Krishi Bhavan, provided financial assistance and included the farm in the Atma scheme of the Department of Agriculture. The goal is to expand sugarcane cultivation and produce pathiyan jaggery under the West Kallada brand for the market. The cultivation of the nutritious and marketable Red Lady papaya variety has been successfully experimented with on an industrial basis. A demonstration garden on 25 cents of land resulted in healthy growth and a good yield of 250 papaya plants, which were well-received in the market. This success has motivated other farmers to cultivate papaya on an additional 25 cents of land. Fish farming has also been a significant success for West Kallada Gram Panchayat. Widespread fish farming in fishponds and cages has not only increased fish wealth but also provided numerous employment opportunities.

With initiatives in rice cultivation, sustainable agriculture, and fish farming, West Kallada Gram Panchayat has demonstrated its commitment to agricultural development and the well-being of its farming community. These projects have not only improved agricultural practices but also contributed to the economic growth of the region.

BLOSSOMING HARVESTS: A PANCHAYATH'S STORY OF THRIVING AGRICULTURE

Pattazhi Gram Panchayat

Pattazhi, a picturesque agricultural village nestled in the hilly area of Kollam district, boasts a rich agricultural heritage, with a diverse range of farms cultivating various cereals, paddy, tubers, and more. Recognizing the importance of water conservation in agriculture, the Pattazhi Panchayat has taken significant steps to implement cost-effective and eco-friendly activities to conserve water and rainwater during the year 2021-2022. The Panchayat, in collaboration with Krishi Bhavan, has also undertaken projects to support the local farming community by providing quality seeds, fertilizers, and machinery needed for agricultural practices.

1. **Agricultural Traditions**: Pattazhi has a deep-rooted agricultural tradition, where the locals have engaged in farming various crops, including cereals, paddy, and tubers, for generations. The fertile lands and favorable climatic conditions have contributed to the success of agriculture in the region.

2. **Water Conservation Initiatives**: Understanding the significance of water conservation in sustaining agriculture, the Pattazhi Panchayat has introduced various cost-effective and environmentally friendly activities to preserve and efficiently utilize water resources during

the year 2021-2022.

3. **Collaboration with Krishi Bhavan**: To further support the farming community, the Panchayat has joined hands with Krishi Bhavan to implement projects aimed at providing quality seeds, fertilizers, and machinery to farmers. This support has been essential in empowering farmers who depend on agriculture as their primary livelihood.
4. **Rain Wells and Earthworks**: To prioritize water conservation, the Panchayat has taken up the construction of rain wells and earthworks to protect streams and other water bodies. These initiatives have been carried out in conjunction with the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, which has allowed for the involvement of the local community in developmental activities.
5. **Improved Quality of Life**: The Panchayat's strong interventions in the agricultural sector have resulted in significant improvements in the quality of life of the common people of Pattazhi. By focusing on water conservation and supporting farmers with essential resources, the Panchayat has contributed to sustainable agriculture and the economic well-being of the community.

Pattazhi, with its rich agricultural heritage, has taken commendable steps in water conservation and supporting its farming community. The Panchayat's initiatives in implementing eco-friendly practices for water conservation, in collaboration with Krishi Bhavan, have played a pivotal role in empowering local farmers. The construction of rain wells and earthworks, coupled with the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, has further involved the community in developmental activities. As a result of these efforts, the quality of life in Pattazhi has witnessed significant improvements, setting an example for sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

RICE PIONEERS: A PANCHAYATH'S JOURNEY IN FLOURISHING RICE CULTIVATION

Kummil Gram Panchayat

Kummil Gram Panchayat is a dynamic and community-driven local governing body located in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Set amidst the scenic landscapes of the region, Kummil Panchayath is known for its proactive approach towards fostering sustainable development and promoting the well-being of its residents.

With a strong commitment to effective governance, Kummil Gram Panchayat plays a pivotal role in providing essential services, infrastructure, and opportunities for its vibrant community. Through innovative projects and initiatives, the panchayath aims to uplift the living standards of its residents and create an inclusive environment where every individual can thrive and prosper.

Kummil Gram Panchayat's core values center around transparency, accountability, and community participation. By actively involving its residents in decision-making processes, the panchayath ensures that their voices are heard, and their needs are addressed.

Furthermore, Kummil Panchayath is dedicated to promoting sustainable practices and environmental conservation. With a focus on eco-friendly initiatives,

the panchayath seeks to preserve the natural beauty of the region and create a greener and healthier community for future generations.

As a beacon of effective local governance, Kummil Gram Panchayat continues to strive for excellence in providing essential services, implementing developmental projects, and fostering a strong sense of community among its residents. Through its relentless efforts and dedication, the panchayath stands as a testament to the power of collaborative action and the positive impact it can have on the lives of its people.

Kummil Gramapanchayat has made great progress in the field of agriculture to date. Rice farming is successfully carried out by libraries and farmers' associations. The Gram Panchayat also provides support to agriculture by including it in the Janakiyasutranam. Many migratory parrots are seen here as the farming practice is suitable for agriculture. Along with food security, biosecurity is ensured in these fields. Horticulture is done in Anganwadis and winter vegetables are grown in libraries and farms. Cabbage and cauliflower are grown here. Apart from these, the Kummil Gram Panchayat is carrying out many welfare activities. The 'Jaljeevan' project, which provides drinking water to the entire population of Kummil Gram Panchayat. The first thing required to implement this project, which costs 25 crores, is to construct a tank with a capacity of 3.5 lakh liters per day at the highest point of Kummil Gram Panchayat. For this purpose, 7.5 cents of land were purchased in the panchayat's Mullakkara ward and handed over to the water authority. For more than 30 years, it was the need of the people to get their own land for their own building. This was accomplished by purchasing 5 cents of land with the help of individuals. As mentioned above, 4 cents of land were bought and given to Cherukara Anganwadi. Kummil Gram Panchayat is continuing its development injection with this kind of welfare activities.

RICE SOWERS: A PANCHAYATH'S SUCCESS IN RICE CULTIVATION

Alayamon Gram Panchayat

Alayamon Gram Panchayat is a local self-government institution in India that operates at the village level. It is a part of the decentralized system of governance established by the Government of India to ensure grassroots democracy and efficient administration in rural areas. Located in the state of Kerala, Alayamon Gram Panchayat falls under the jurisdiction of the district administration. The panchayat is responsible for governing and providing various essential services to the residents of the village. These services include sanitation, water supply, public health, primary education, infrastructure development, waste management, and social welfare programas. Alayamon Gram Panchayat works towards the overall development of the village and the welfare of its residents. It formulates and implements various developmental projects and schemes aimed at improving the living conditions and promoting economic growth in the village. The panchayat also plays a vital role in addressing the grievances and concerns of the villagers, ensuring their active participation in decision-making processes.

By facilitating local governance and empowering the rural population, Alayamon Gram Panchayat aims to

create a self-sufficient and sustainable community. It strives to enhance the quality of life, preserve local culture and traditions, and promote inclusive development in the village.

Many projects are being undertaken in the agriculture sector in Minister of the Department of Agriculture, Mrs. Chinchu Rani, inaugurated the project "Nammalum Krishiyilekku" by conducting a Christmas market and a Farmer's Assembly in Netra of Krishi Bhavan. Additionally, vegetable seedlings were distributed to school students. A Farmers Market is conducted every year, and this year it was inaugurated by the Honorable Minister of the Department of Agriculture, Mrs. Chinchu Rani. The Honorable Panchayath President, Mrs. Sheena Manaf, conducted the distribution of vegetable seeds as part of the Onam Muram project. Tapioca cultivation was carried out on barren lands under the public planning scheme. Under the leadership of Krishi Bhavan, necessary training is being conducted for the farmers. Kollam district. Alayamon Gram Panchayat and Krishi Bhavan are jointly honoring the best farmers of the area on Chingam 01. Input distribution was done using technology funds under the Leeds project. Distribution of organic fertilizer produced by the farmers under the specific Prakriti Krishi scheme was carried out.

PATHANAMTHITTA DISTRICT

1. Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat – Empowering Lives Through Poverty Eradication Initiatives
2. Kadampanad Gram Panchayat - Community Well Being
3. Malayalapuzha Gram Panchayat – Empowering Lives and Building Prosperity: The Remarkable Efforts of Malayalappuzha Gram Panchayat
4. Pallickal Gram Panchayat – Janakeeya Hotel
5. Pramadom Gram Panchayat - Nurturing Prosperity and Inclusivity: Pramadom Gram Panchayat's Path to Development
6. Chittar Gram Panchayat- Kudumbashree Poverty Eradication Activities
7. Pandalam Thekekkara Gram Panchayat- Initiatives by Kudumbashree
8. Ayiroor Gram Panchayat – Pachathuruthu
9. Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat – Agricultural and Allied Sector Development
10. Cherukol Gram Panchayat- Fostering Sustainable Farming: Cherukol Gram Panchayat's Commitment to Agricultural Development
11. Kadampanad Gram Panchayat – Cultivating Prosperity: Kadampanad Gram Panchayat's Revival of Agriculture and Heritage

12. **Kallooppara Gram Panchayat - Livelihood Enhancement**
13. **Kottanad Gram Panchayat - Hunger Free Village**
14. **Pandalam Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat - Pursuit of Agricultural Excellence.**
15. **Thottappuzassery Gram Panchayat - Fostering Sustainable Agriculture: Thottappuzhassery's Pioneering Initiatives for Prosperity and Eco-Consciousness**

EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH POVERTY ERADICATION INITIATIVES

Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat

Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat is a land area spread over 278 square kilometers in the Konni taluk of Konni block of Iravan villages in Pathanamthitta district. Most of the land consists of forested areas, and agriculture is the primary source of income for most of the residents. The funds received from the state and central governments are utilized for social welfare programas.

During the year 2021-22, Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat implemented several poverty eradication programas. Being a geographically extensive village, the Gram Panchayat focuses on poverty eradication activities in its annual plans. The provision of basic human amenities such as food, shelter, and drinking water is given priority. The Life Mission Project, implemented by the Kerala government, has been particularly helpful for financially disadvantaged individuals in Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat. This project supports those who are unable to complete their house construction due to financial difficulties and helps individuals striving to achieve their dream of owning their own land.

The Poverty Alleviation Programa is designed to address the needs of the general population as well as scheduled tribe and scheduled caste communities. It includes

initiatives such as making houses livable, constructing new open wells, promoting women's self-employment ventures, and building and maintaining toilets. As part of the poverty alleviation efforts, a total of 78 beneficiaries have benefited from the Life Mission Project. The annual plan allocation received by the Gram Panchayat has been effectively utilized for deserving individuals and implemented for poverty alleviation programas in Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat. A report detailing these efforts has been submitted to the award determination committee.

COMMUNITY WELL BEING

Kadampanad Gram Panchayat

Kadampanad Gram Panchayat, a serene and beautiful village located in the Adoor taluk of Parakode block panchayath of Pathanamthitta district of Kerala, is a place where people live harmoniously, cherishing the memories of past events intertwined with legends and history. The pride of this Panchayat lies in its inhabitants, who find peace and happiness amidst the rich cultural heritage and spiritual essence of the region. The area is adorned with numerous Hindu temples and Christian places of worship, making it a diverse and spiritually significant location. Notably, Peruviruti Malanada stands as India's only temple dedicated to the Mahabharata character, Duryodhana.

The region of Kadampanad Panchayat, which encompasses places like Mannadi, Kadampanad, and Tuvayur, is steeped in historical events and legendary tales. Mannadi, situated in the east of Kadampanad Panchayat, holds significant historical importance and is renowned for being the final resting place of the revered freedom fighter Veluthampi Dalawa. Additionally, the Kerala Institute of Folklore and Folk Arts was established here, contributing to the preservation and celebration of the region's cultural heritage. Kadambanad

played a pivotal role in forming the first teacher association in Kerala, the Kerala Primary Teachers Association, showcasing the area's commitment to education and intellectual development.With 17 wards covering an area of 29.95 sq km, Kadampanad Panchayat predominantly comprises plains, making it conducive for cultivating rubber, cassava, vegetables, and tubers. The lowlands of Kadampanad Panchayat are particularly known for rice cultivation, which serves as a significant agricultural activity in the region.

Recognizing the importance of poverty alleviation and local economic development, Kadampanad Gram Panchayat has proactively implemented various projects aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals. Understanding the multi-faceted challenges of poverty, the Panchayat has taken concrete actions to improve the quality of life for its residents. Some of the initiatives undertaken include the development of rice cultivation, rearing of laying hens, pepper cultivation, organic vegetable cultivation, betel nut cultivation, Kerashree, Anganwadi nutrition, and providing scholarships for children facing physical and mental challenges. Moreover, the Panchayat has organized arts festivals for differently abled children, showcasing their talents and promoting inclusion in society.

In their commitment to ensuring better living conditions, Kadampanad Gram Panchayat has facilitated Life Mission loans in various categories to construct houses for the general and SC categories under the Life Housing Scheme. The Panchayat has successfully contracted and completed numerous houses, providing shelter and security to the residents. Additionally, various initiatives like providing study rooms for Scheduled Caste children, offering marriage assistance to Scheduled Caste girls, and subsidies for dairy farmers have significantly contributed to local economic development and poverty alleviation.

Promoting entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, the Panchayat has facilitated the establishment of Janasree hotels, women's enterprises, Kudumbasree Product Markets, and Kudumbasree Plant Nurseries. Furthermore, infrastructural development, especially in the health sector, has been prioritized with clear management and transparent financial allocation.

Through its strategic planning and effective implementation of projects,

Kadampanad Gram Panchayat continues to uplift its community, ensuring a better quality of life and sustainable development for its residents. With a strong sense of heritage and unity, Kadampanad stands as a shining example of progress and prosperity in Kerala's rich cultural landscape.

EMPOWERING LIVES AND BUILDING PROSPERITY: THE REMARKABLE EFFORTS OF MALAYALAPPUZHA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Malayalapuzha Gram Panchayat

Malayalapuzha Gram Panchayat is situated in the Konni taluk of the Konni block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat comprises of a total of 14 wards which covers an area of 27.53 Sq. Km. This is a picturesque place known for its scenic hills, meandering rivers, and abundant bayan trees. Situated just 6km away from Pathanamthitta, which serves as both the district and sub-district headquarters, Malayalapuzha village offers a serene and tranquil environment.

The Malayalapuzha Gram Panchayat has demonstrated commendable efforts in poverty alleviation activities within the district. By addressing various basic issues faced by the people, including housing, employment, and social security, the panchayat has become a driving force in improving the livelihoods of its residents.

One of the key initiatives is the provision of financial assistance to families through the Life Scheme, enabling them to acquire land and construct houses. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), houses have been allocated to deserving families, contributing significantly to shelter for the underprivileged. The panchayat's efforts have transformed it into a poverty-free region that uplifts the lives of its inhabitants.

To further enhance poverty alleviation, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) has been effectively utilized, creating numerous employment opportunities for the local population. The panchayat has focused on agricultural intervention, reclaiming and developing 32 acres of land for cultivation. This has led to increased crop production of cassava, plantain, and other backward crops, boosting income and employment opportunities for the community.

In line with the government's commitment to promoting employment and income generation, the Gram Panchayat has fostered self-employment ventures. With the active involvement of Kudumbashree and the support of the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), entrepreneur development programas have been implemented. Women's participation in the labor sector has shown notable growth, further empowering the community.

The Malayalapuzha Gram Panchayat's commitment to achieving a hunger-free Kerala is evident through its initiatives, such as community kitchens and Janakeeya hotels during the COVID-19 pandemic. Nutritional programas for children studying in 25 Anganwadis within the panchayat, as well as comprehensive nutrition programas for adolescents, girls, lactating mothers, and pregnant women, reflect the panchayat's dedication to the well-being of its residents.

Efforts to protect animals and promote local production have received significant attention, with updated government guidelines guiding these endeavors. While progress has been made, the panchayat remains committed to eradicating poverty completely, aligning with the goal shared by 20 to 30 other Gram Panchayats in the region.

The Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) has been meticulously prepared, incorporating valuable input from Kudumbashree. This approach has enabled the panchayat to implement projects effectively, addressing the livelihood development needs of its people and contributing to their overall well-being and prosperity.

Through its tireless efforts and people-centric approach, Malayalappuzha Gram Panchayat continues to be a shining example of a community dedicated to creating a sustainable, inclusive, and thriving environment for all its residents.

JANAKEEYA HOTEL

Pallickal Gram Panchayat

Pallickal Gram Panchayat is situated in the Adoor taluk of the Parakode block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat comprises of a total of 23 wards which covers an area of 45.43 Sq. Km. Pallickal Gram Panchayat stands out as one of the largest panchayats in the region due to its substantial land area and high population density. The panchayat's remarkable efforts in development and public welfare have garnered commendation from the community.

A significant development plan initiated by the Kerala Government, known as "Janakeeya Hotel," has been particularly appreciated by the public. The primary objective of this plan is to work towards achieving a poverty-free Kerala. Janakeeya Hotel has received widespread recognition for its innovative approach to providing safe and delicious food at an affordable price of Rs. 20/-, making it accessible to the public.

Situated in the central part of Chennampalli within Pallickal Gram Panchayat, Janakeeya Hotel is actively supervised by Kudumbasree, a community-based programa aimed at poverty eradication and women empowerment in Kerala. The hotel's operations are effectively managed by the organization, ensuring that

its objectives are met with efficiency and dedication.

The implementation of this initiative has been supported by a budget of 2 lakhs, which has been utilized effectively to carry out various activities. The inauguration of Janakeeya Hotel was a momentous occasion, graced by the presence of the Panchayat Assistant Secretary and other dignitaries. Since its inception, the hotel has witnessed a growing number of visitors seeking delicious and affordable meals, a testament to its popularity among the community.

Due to the overwhelming success and positive response, there are plans to expand Janakeeya Hotel to other locations within the panchayat. This expansion will cater to an even broader audience and extend the reach of this commendable initiative to uplift the community.

One significant aspect of the Janakeeya Hotel initiative is its commitment to providing free food for the poor. Ensuring that the underprivileged have access to nourishing meals is a noble and essential step towards addressing hunger and poverty in the region.

Overall, Pallickal Gram Panchayat's efforts in implementing Janakeeya Hotel showcase a strong commitment to the welfare of its residents and exemplify the collective determination to build a poverty-free and inclusive Kerala. By providing affordable and nutritious food options and catering to the needs of the community, the panchayat continues to make strides towards uplifting the lives of its people and fostering an environment of growth and development.

NURTURING PROSPERITY AND INCLUSIVITY: PRAMADOM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S PATH TO DEVELOPMENT

Pramadom Gram Panchayat

Pramadom Gram Panchayat, situated in the Konni taluk of Konni block of Pathanamthitta district, covers a vast area of 37.10 square kilometers and comprises two villages, Pramadom and V Kottayam. This panchayat takes immense pride in achieving 100% literacy among its population and boasts of being home to the sole indoor stadium in the Pathanamthitta district.

To uplift the livelihoods of its villagers and eradicate poverty, Pramadom Gram Panchayat has successfully implemented the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). During the year 2021-2022, the panchayat generated an impressive 93,682 job mandates through this scheme, providing a total income of 3.42 crore rupees to the villagers. The MGNREGS has played a pivotal role in enhancing the self-sufficiency of women and contributing to asset creation within the panchayat.

A significant portion, approximately 10%, of the land in Pramadom Gram Panchayat is dedicated to farming activities. The panchayat engages in the cultivation of various crops such as paddy, coconut, rubber, banana, pepper, cashew, groundnut, vegetables, spices, betel

leaves (vettila), and mulberry. Animal husbandry also holds a prominent position in the productive sector, ensuring self-sufficiency in milk and meat production.

The panchayat boasts a strong presence of Kudumbashree units, comprising 270 neighborhood groups with 3,475 members. These groups have generated a commendable income of five crore rupees with a linkage loan of fifteen crore rupees. Alongside this, Kudumbashree operates 66 thrift and credit groups and 44 individual enterprises. Moreover, the panchayat has established 24 Balasabha (children's groups) and 135 Sanga Krishi (collective farming) units, further contributing to community development.

Amidst the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic, Pramadom Gram Panchayat stepped forward to support the underprivileged and women in need by operating a community kitchen facility for nearly a year, serving an average of 150 meals per day. The panchayat also manages Janakiya Hotel and People's Hotel, providing essential food services to the common people since July 2021.

Efforts to improve living standards include the construction of 190 houses under the LIFE (Livelihood, Inclusion, and Financial Empowerment) project and eight houses under the PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana) project, benefitting those without homes. Additionally, Pramadom Gram Panchayat established Haritha Karma Sena, green volunteer groups dedicated to sanitation purposes, and set up Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and Mini MRF centers for effective waste management.

To ensure the well-being of its residents, the panchayat maintains a well-developed Primary Health Centre (PHC) and several sub-centers. Proactive measures against COVID-19, including the supply of preventive medicines through Ayurveda sub-centers and homeopathy dispensaries, vaccination drives at the PHC, and various medical camps, have been initiated. The panchayat also offers paid palliative units with ambulance services for emergencies.

Addressing the water needs of the community, Pramadom Gram Panchayat has implemented numerous drinking water projects, including the installation of more than 18 street taps for water supply. It also takes responsibility for proper

maintenance of streetlights, including high mast and mini mast lights, contributing to modern infrastructure development. Furthermore, the panchayat prides itself on two tourism destinations, Nedumbara Tourism and Valamchuzhi Tourism, showcasing the beauty of the region to visitors and locals alike.

KUDUMBASHREE POVERTY ERADICATION ACTIVITIES

Chittar Gram Panchayat

Chittar Gram Panchayat is situated in the Konni taluk of the Ranni block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat comprises of total 13 wards which covers an area of 25.90 Sq. Km. Chittar Gram Panchayat has a remarkable progress in uplifting the lives of its residents, especially through empowering Kudumbasrees. With a vision of achieving a poverty-free village, the Panchayat has been diligently working on several projects to support its community members.

Chittar Gram Panchayat takes great pride in supporting its 157 Kudumbasrees, empowering them to become self-sufficient. Through the Agathi Ashraya projects, the Panchayat provides food kits to those in need, aiming to eliminate hunger and ensure everyone's well-being.

The Panchayat recognizes the challenges posed by the post-corona period and has implemented the "Pravasi Bhadratha" loan scheme. This initiative extends financial support to those in need, helping them recover from the economic impact of the pandemic and rebuild their livelihoods.

One of the noteworthy projects under Kudumbasree is the Janakeeya Hotel. This initiative has provided

employment opportunities to around ten women, allowing them to earn a sustainable income to meet their daily needs. This not only fosters financial independence but also contributes to the economic growth of the village.

Recognizing the importance of fighting extreme poverty, the esteemed Kerala government has launched a new programa called "EPIP - Eradicate Extreme Poverty in the Next Five Years." Chittar Gram Panchayat has actively participated in this survey and formulated a well-oriented microplan to uplift the marginalized and vulnerable sections of society.

Chittar Gram Panchayat's unwavering commitment to poverty eradication and empowering its residents, particularly through the impactful work of Kudumbasrees, is truly commendable. The various initiatives, including the provision of food kits, the "Pravasi Bhadratha" loan scheme, and the Janakeeya Hotel project, are shining examples of the Panchayat's dedication to creating a poverty-free and prosperous village. By actively participating in the government's "EPIP" programa, the Panchayat further demonstrates its dedication to uplifting the underprivileged and creating a more equitable society.

INITIATIVES BY KUDUMBASHREE

Pandalam Thekekkara Gram Panchayat

Pandalam Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat is situated in the Pathanamthitta taluk of the Adoor block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat comprises of a total of 14 wards which covers an area of 19.42 Sq. Km. Pandalam Thekekkara Gram Panchayat is at the forefront of creating local employment opportunities and empowering its residents through various innovative initiatives. With a focus on entrepreneurship and skill development, the Panchayat has successfully implemented projects in collaboration with Kudumbashree, aimed at fostering economic growth and self-sufficiency in the village.

One of the standout initiatives is Cafe Kudumbashree, a thriving establishment located near the Panchayat office and KSEB. This cafe not only serves as a gathering place for the general public but also provides an excellent platform for local officials to interact with the community. Similarly, the Janakiya Hotel, jointly organized by the Panchayat and Kudumbashree, has been successful in offering affordable mid-day meals to the public, priced at just Rs. 20.Pandalam Thekekkara Gram Panchayat is committed to supporting local entrepreneurs. Four small enterprises in the village focus

on the production and packaging of essential spices like turmeric powder, chili powder, and coriander powder, which are then supplied to the market. Additionally, there is a unit responsible for manufacturing and installing information boards (B) required under the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Another successful venture under the Kudumbashree initiative is the Egger Nursery, which specializes in marketing egg-laying chickens. This enterprise has provided livelihood opportunities to local residents and has contributed to the economic growth of the community.

The Gram Panchayat has been proactive in implementing various projects to create employment opportunities and secure livelihoods for its residents. These projects are designed to foster economic growth, enhance skills, and empower local entrepreneurs, ultimately leading to improved living standards and self-reliance.

Pandalam Thekekkara Gram Panchayat's dedication to creating employment opportunities at the local level is commendable. Through its collaboration with Kudumbashree and other initiatives, the Panchayat has successfully established thriving ventures such as Cafe Kudumbashree and Janakiya Hotel, as well as supporting small enterprises and production units. These efforts have not only boosted the economy of the village but have also empowered its residents, ensuring a prosperous and sustainable future for the community.

PACHATHURUTHU

Ayiroor Gram Panchayat

Ayiroor Gram Panchayat is in the western part of Ranni taluk of Koipuram block, in the Pathanamthitta district of Kerala state, India. It is bordered by hills and situated near the Western Ghats. Ayiroor was previously part of Thiruvalla taluk in Alleppey district and is considered part of the Edanadu region in Kerala. The Pamba River flows on the southern side of the village.

Human life on Earth can be truly wonderful if we have clean air, clean water, and fertile soil. Nature forms the foundation of human existence, and any modern approaches that neglect nature are bound to have adverse consequences. Unfortunately, at present, human beings are primarily focused on improving their living conditions without sufficient regard for the environment. This attitude can be likened to sitting on nature's lap while simultaneously undermining its very foundations.

To address these issues and raise awareness among the younger generation about the environment, World Environment Day is celebrated on June 5th. As part of this celebration, tree plantations are conducted in the wards, which are included in the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. The tree planting activities are carried out by registered

workers in each ward under the employment guarantee programa.

In Ayiroor Gram Panchayat, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme, 2000 saplings of Ramcha, herbs, and trees required for bank protection along the riverbanks were planted. This initiative helped prevent bank erosion and collapse with the participation of guaranteed workers. By planting these saplings, the panchayat was able to combat floods and restore biodiversity along the Pampa River. Conserving biodiversity is one of the most crucial environmental challenges we face today, as various factors threaten the world's zoological heritage. Balancing human needs with the conservation of biodiversity is a significant challenge, as natural resources are utilized.

The Pampa River's biodiversity encompasses the river itself and the organisms that inhabit it. Aquatic organisms play a critical role in maintaining essential processes that directly and indirectly support human and ocean health. Biodiversity includes not only trees but also smaller plants and microorganisms found in the area. In Pachathuruth Gram Panchayat, fruit tree saplings were planted in various locations, showcasing environmental restoration efforts. Tree planting contributes to cleaner air by increasing oxygen levels, protects the environment, and helps combat climate change. Hired workers are responsible for maintaining these green areas.

Additionally, in Pacha Thuruth Gram Panchayat, fruit tree saplings were planted in different locations as part of environmental restoration activities. The aim is to increase oxygen levels, create high-quality air, safeguard the environment, and mitigate climate change. Hired workers maintain these green spaces.

In terms of disaster management, the panchayat has taken measures to address the area's vulnerability to floods. Life jackets were distributed to volunteers who play a crucial role during such emergencies. Previously, the lack of life jackets posed significant challenges for volunteers, so the panchayat purchased and distributed life jackets to ensure their safety. The panchayat also assesses the flood situation on each occasion, promptly understands the prevailing conditions, and implements necessary measures to mitigate the impact. To enhance their preparedness, the panchayat procured its own fiber boat to navigate and respond effectively during floods.

AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat

Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat is situated in the Konni taluk of the Konni block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat comprises of a total of 15 wards. Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat is a land area spread over 278 square kilometers in Aruvappulam Iravan village, located in Konni taluk of Pathanamthitta district. Much of the land consists of forested areas, and agriculture is the primary source of income for most of the residents. The funds received from the state and central governments are utilized for social welfare programas.

In the fiscal year 2021-22, the Gram Panchayat submitted a summary of the programas implemented in the agriculture sector. A development fund of INR 60, 60,400 was allocated for various projects in the agriculture sector. These projects include interval farming, plantain cultivation, coconut cultivation development, vegetable cultivation, pepper cultivation, seedling distribution, cocoa cultivation promotion, comprehensive disease control of coconut, installation of protective fences in agriculture fields, and beekeeping. Out of the allocated funds, a total of INR 58, 10,400 was spent, accounting for 89.9% of the total amount.

Although there is suitable land for cultivation, only a few

people engage in agriculture due to factors such as increased farming expenses, animal attacks, and climate changes, which make agriculture challenging. However, the Gram Panchayat has prepared numerous projects to support the farmers and assist them in overcoming these challenges. The initiatives of Aruvappulam Gram Panchayat have been highly beneficial to the public, and they have implemented programas to promote and support all types of farming at the Gram Panchayat level.

There are several agricultural farms established by groups of individuals and by individual farmers. The agricultural crops in the Panchayat shops are mostly grown within the Panchayat itself. The Gram Panchayat has implemented a project to identify unused land and promote rice cultivation. They have also undertaken extensive beekeeping efforts with the goal of producing pure honey. Financial resources have been allocated and spent on dairy farming, fish farming, and animal husbandry. The Gram Panchayat has successfully devised and implemented projects to support dairy farmers, and fish farming initiatives have been carried out with the assistance of the Fisheries Department. Fish farming and marketing have been implemented at Patuthakulams within the Panchayat area. In the field of animal husbandry, the Gram Panchayat has implemented nine projects, focusing on areas such as animal husbandry, distribution of laying hens, distribution of milk cows, turkeys, and calves.

Through accurate and systematic annual planning, the benefits of these schemes have been made available to most farmers in the Gram Panchayat area. The Gram Panchayat has allocated and spent INR 1,03,62,600 in the production sector using the available financial resources. By utilizing the financial resources effectively and submitting well-prepared plans to the award determination committee, the Gram Panchayat has been able to successfully implement agricultural development projects for the benefit of the community.

FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE FARMING: CHERUKOL GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Cherukol Gram Panchayat

Cherukol Gram Panchayat is situated in the Ranni taluk of the Elanthoor block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat has a total of 13 wards which covers an area of 15.62 Sq. Km.

Cherukol Krishi Bhavan, located in Keekozhur, is actively engaged in promoting agriculture and supporting traditional farmers under the guidance of the Panchayat. The Panchayat has implemented various schemes in the 2021/22 annual plan to assist small farmers in their agricultural endeavors and foster sustainable farming practices.

As part of the annual plan, support was provided to small farmers for organic vegetable cultivation, banana cultivation, and other crops through the distribution of Growbags. Additionally, 147 individuals received assistance in the form of organic manure, coconut saplings, and tuber seedlings, aiming to promote homestead farming and boost agricultural production.

The Gram Panchayat is committed to assisting both small and large-scale farmers in the region. Successful farmers are being provided with necessary guidance and support to further enhance their agricultural practices.

Moreover, the Panchayat has achieved notable success in dairy farming, benefitting eight women dairy farmers in the fiscal year 2021/22. These women were supported in rearing dairy cows, and assistance was extended for the renovation of cattle sheds and the distribution of laying hens.

To enhance agricultural productivity and promote prosperity in the domestic agricultural sector, the Gram Panchayat has taken significant steps. Under the project of providing guaranteed employment for farmers, assistance is being offered to cultivate barren lands and convert them into fertile agricultural lands. By undertaking interventions in the agricultural sector, the Panchayat aims to create economic prosperity and self-sufficiency in domestic agricultural production.

Cherukol Gram Panchayat's dedication to supporting traditional farmers and implementing sustainable agricultural practices is commendable. Through their efforts, they strive to uplift the livelihoods of farmers, boost agricultural productivity, and contribute to the overall growth and development of the community. As they continue to focus on promoting agriculture, the Gram Panchayat plays a vital role in building a self-reliant and flourishing agricultural ecosystem in the region.

CULTIVATING PROSPERITY: KADAMPANAD GRAM PANCHAYAT'S REVIVAL OF AGRICULTURE AND HERITAGE

Kadampanad Gram Panchayat

Kadampanad Gram Panchayat, situated in the Parakode block panchayath of Adoor taluk, which is nestled in the picturesque Pathanamthitta district of Kerala, is a place where beauty meets history and where the residents take pride in living harmoniously and happily. The village is steeped in rich memories of the past, intertwined with legends and historical events, making it a truly unique and culturally significant location. Covering 17 wards over an area of 29.95 sq km, Kadampanad Panchayat boasts vast plains, making it an ideal location for cultivating rubber, cassava, vegetables, and tubers. The main crop in the lowlands of Kadampanad Panchayat is rice, which forms the backbone of the region's agricultural activities.

Recognizing the vital role of agriculture in human development, the Panchayat has taken steps to reclaim and rejuvenate the agricultural land, which had faced challenges due to neglect and environmental issues. With the collaboration of the public and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) project, the Panchayat has devised and implemented various plans to recover agriculture and agricultural land.

To address the silted springs and dried-up farmland, the Panchayat initiated the reclamation of springs, weed control in agricultural land, and the construction of chicken coops, goat sheds, and cattle sheds. Additionally, they provided support to farmers through the distribution of laying hens, subsidies to dairy farmers, and the supply of fodder to dairy cows. The promotion of fish farming, construction of flats for rubber cultivation, and soil erosion control measures were also undertaken to foster sustainable agricultural practices.

With the cooperation of Krishi Bhavan, various projects such as organic vegetable farming, Kerashree, betel nut cultivation, and paddy cultivation have been prepared and successfully implemented. These efforts have rejuvenated the agricultural landscape and revitalized the farming community in Kadampanad Gram Panchayat.

By cherishing the soil, embracing agriculture, and adopting sustainable practices, Kadampanad Gram Panchayat is steadily moving towards a path of prosperity and success, where the beauty of nature and the heritage of history continue to thrive hand in hand.

LIVELIHOOD ENHANCEMENT

Kallooppara Gram Panchayat

Kallooppara, a serene Gram Panchayat is situated in the Mallappally block of Mallappally taluk of Pathanamthitta district of Kerala, India. Originally known as "Perum Para Nadu" due to its abundance of rocks, the region was later renamed Perumbranadu. With its rich agricultural heritage and natural beauty, Kallooppara remains an essential part of the cultural and economic landscape of Kerala.

In the year 2020-2021, Kallooppara Gram Panchayat focused on various agricultural projects to enhance the livelihoods of its residents. Integrated rice cultivation, homestead farming, and the distribution of coconut saplings to women were some of the key initiatives undertaken. The Subhiksha Keralam scheme played a crucial role in promoting cultivation on previously barren lands, transforming them into productive agricultural areas.

During the 2021-2022 annual plan, the Gram Panchayat dedicated efforts to rice cultivation on 58 hectares of land in strategic locations such as Vennir Vala, Cheri Padam, Ampanad part, and Thuruthkkadu. To support these endeavors, an allocation of 10 lakh 20000 rupees was made, contributing to increased paddy cultivation,

and fostering agricultural growth in the region. Utilizing both the plan fund and department fund effectively, the Gram Panchayat was able to maximize the impact of its agricultural programas.

One of the pressing issues faced by farmers in the area was the destruction of coconut trees due to strong winds. To address this, the Gram Panchayat distributed hybrid variety coconut saplings to farmers, ensuring the sustainability and resilience of the coconut cultivation. Additionally, the conversion of barren lands into fertile areas was made possible through the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme (MGNREGS), generating employment opportunities, and transforming the landscape.

In terms of infrastructure development, Kallooppara Gram Panchayat achieved significant milestones, including the construction of a multi-storey building with a conference hall in Katamankulath. This building not only serves as a community center but also provides a platform for various events and gatherings, enriching the social fabric of the village. Furthermore, the construction of buildings for animal protection activities was another notable accomplishment, demonstrating the Gram Panchayat's commitment to the welfare of its livestock.

The success of Kallooppara Gram Panchayat can be attributed to its inclusive and participatory approach to governance. By taking public opinion into consideration, the Panchayat introduces new schemes and initiatives that directly benefit the community, ensuring sustainable development and progress for all its residents.

Overall, Kallooppara stands as a shining example of a village that values its agricultural heritage, promotes sustainable practices, and strives for the holistic development of its people. With its unwavering commitment to progress and community welfare, Kallooppara remains a beacon of hope and prosperity in the beautiful state of Kerala.

HUNGER FREE VILLAGE

Kottanad Gram Panchayat

Kottanad Gram Panchayat is situated in the Mallappally taluk of the Mallappally block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat has a total of 14 wards which covers an area of 16.28 Sq. Km. Kottanad Gram Panchayat is a captivating and vibrant rural community nestled in the heart of Pathanamthitta. This enchanting locale exemplifies the harmonious coexistence of tradition and modernity, where time-honored customs gracefully merge with the dynamic advancements of the present era. Here, tradition and modernity converge, creating a harmonious and close-knit haven. Embrace the warmth of its people, the richness of its culture, and the promise of a brighter future in this idyllic retreat.

The majority of the people in Kotanad Gram Panchayat are farmers and agricultural laborers. While rubber is the most common cash crop, many farmers have embraced agriculture as their means of livelihood. The main crops cultivated here include coconut, banana, tapioca, various tuber varieties, vegetables, and pepper. In addition to these, spices like castor, ginger, and turmeric, along with cash crops like cocoa, coffee, cashew, and areca palm, are also being cultivated. To ensure food production without toxins, the panchayat has implemented schemes

that emphasize organic farming of essential vegetables needed for home gardens, including tubers, ginger, and turmeric.

To address the deficiency of knowledge in agriculture, a Karma Sena was formed, comprising farmers who have adopted agriculture as their primary means of livelihood, as well as individuals who dedicate time to agricultural practices. The introduction of cultivation in currently uncultivated lands, alongside the utilization of the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme, has been undertaken to increase production and boost the agricultural sector.

However, there are challenges that farmers face, including the invasion of wild boars and monkeys, flooding during monsoons, and water scarcity during non-monsoon months. These challenges can impact agriculture significantly. In response, the 14th Five-Year Plan aims to foster the growth of farmers and implement terrain-friendly agricultural practices, making the agriculture sector more sustainable.

Kottanad Gram Panchayat envisions a future where farming thrives harmoniously with the environment, embracing traditional wisdom and modern innovations. Through sustainable agricultural practices and community-driven efforts, the panchayat seeks to strengthen the livelihoods of its farming community, ensuring a prosperous and sustainable future for generations to come.

PURSUIT OF AGRICULTURAL EXCELLENCE

Pandalam Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat

Pandalam Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat is situated in the Pathanamthitta taluk of the Adoor block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat has a total of 14 wards which covers an area of 19.42 Sq. Km.

Pandalam Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat has been making remarkable strides in the field of agriculture, focusing on initiatives that integrate the people's representatives and Kudumbashree members. By fostering community participation and innovation, the Panchayat has implemented projects that aim to boost agricultural production, ensure a market for non-toxic and clean agricultural products, and promote sustainable farming practices. One such project is Cheera Gramam, an ambitious endeavor to grow spinach on a vast expanse of land for marketing. Additionally, the Panchayat has taken steps to cultivate and market its own rice brand, Mavara Rice, establishing itself as an agricultural hub in the district.

In the lush agricultural village of Thatta, the Panchayat has embarked on the Cheera Gramam Project, which is focused on cultivating spinach on 3 hectares of land. This project is a collaborative effort that involves the active participation of both the people's representatives

and the Kudumbashree members of the Gram Panchayat. By pooling their resources and expertise, they aim to enhance spinach cultivation and prepare the produce for marketing. This project not only boosts agricultural productivity but also contributes to the overall economic development of the region.

Recognizing the importance of creating a market for non-toxic and clean agricultural products, Pandalam Thekkekkara Panchayat has taken the lead in establishing marketing units under the banner of Haritha Sangh. These units operate in Thatta, the agricultural hub of the district, and provide a platform for farmers to sell their produce directly to consumers. By eliminating intermediaries, farmers can get fair prices for their products while consumers can access fresh and high-quality agricultural goods.

As a testament to its commitment to agriculture, Pandalam Thekkekkara Panchayat has introduced its own rice brand, Mavara Rice. The Panchayat has undertaken rice cultivation in Thatta itself, ensuring that the entire process, from production to marketing, occurs under one roof. By branding its own rice, the Panchayat not only promotes local produce but also encourages sustainable farming practices that benefit both farmers and consumers.

Pandalam Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat's exemplary work in the field of agriculture is a testament to its dedication to the well-being of the community. By initiating collaborative projects like Cheera Gramam, establishing marketing units under Haritha Sangh, and introducing its own rice brand, Mavara Rice, the Panchayat has laid the foundation for sustainable agricultural practices and economic development. These initiatives have not only empowered local farmers but have also fostered a sense of pride and identity within the community. Through its progressive and innovative approach, Pandalam Thekkekkara Panchayat has set a shining example for other regions to follow in their pursuit of agricultural excellence.

FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE: THOTTAPPUZHASSERY'S PIONEERING INITIATIVES FOR PROSPERITY AND ECO-CONSCIOUSNESS

Thottappuzassery Gram Panchayat

Thottappuzassery Gram Panchayat is situated in the Pathanamthitta taluk of the Thiruvalla block of Pathanamthitta district. Gram Panchayat has a total of 13 wards which covers an area of 14.46 Sq. Km.

Thottappuzassery Gram Panchayat has garnered recognition at the state level for its commendable initiatives in the field of agriculture. These endeavors are aimed at promoting sustainable farming practices, providing fair prices to farmers, and ensuring consumers have access to a diverse range of foreign and local fruits at affordable rates. Additionally, the Panchayat has taken noteworthy steps towards promoting eco-friendly practices and establishing a permanent market for organic farmers through the Eco Shop. These progressive efforts not only benefit the farmers but also contribute to the overall development and prosperity of the Panchayat.

One of the prominent projects implemented by Thottappuzassery Gram Panchayat is the Fruit Festival, carried out in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture. This festival serves as a platform to market foreign fruits and local varieties, providing farmers with fair prices for their produce and consumers with access

to a wide range of fruits at affordable rates. The introduction of hybrid varieties like Rambutan, passion fruit, and durian has added diversity to the market, benefiting both farmers and consumers alike. Plans are underway to expand this operation to the district level, reflecting the success and impact of this initiative.

Thottappuzassery Gram Panchayat is committed to promoting agricultural practices that improve productivity and support farmers. One such initiative is the barren paddy cultivation project carried out in the financial year 2021-22. With a budget of Rs. 400,000, this project aimed to cultivate paddy in unutilized land, generating additional income for farmers and contributing to the overall agricultural development of the Panchayat.

To support and promote organic farming practices, Thottappuzassery Gram Panchayat established the Eco Shop. This permanent market is managed by a group of 11 farmers and offers agricultural produce to the public at reasonable prices while ensuring fair returns to the farmers. The Panchayat aims to further enhance this concept by implementing the concept of 4 Manichanta, providing crops at half price to the Panchayat, thus fostering a more sustainable and eco-conscious community.

Thottappuzassery Gram Panchayat has set exemplary standards in the field of agriculture through its innovative and inclusive initiatives. The Fruit Festival, barren paddy cultivation, and the Eco Shop reflect the Panchayat's commitment to supporting farmers, providing affordable and nutritious produce to the public, and fostering sustainable practices. As Thottappuzassery continues to implement these progressive projects, it serves as a shining example for other communities in the state to emulate, contributing to the overall development and well-being of its residents and the agricultural sector.

ALAPPUZHA DISTRICT

1. Community-Driven Development and Sustainable Practices in Aryad Gram Panchayat, Alappuzha, Kerala.
2. Mararikulam South Gram Panchayat's Efforts in Sustainable Agriculture and Organic Farming
3. The "Katiraniyum Paadam" Project: Promoting Rice Farming
4. Promoting Sustainability: Vallikkanum Panchayat's Agricultural Initiatives
5. Empowering Communities: Karuvata's Remarkable Milestones in the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
6. Transforming Livelihoods: Poverty Alleviation and Women Empowerment in Cheruthana Gram Panchayat
7. Cultivating Prosperity: Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat's Collaborative Agricultural Endeavours
8. Sustaining Livelihoods: Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat's Thriving Aquaculture and Coir Manufacturing Sectors
9. Reviving Traditional Farming in Thamarakulam
10. Building a Prosperous Agricultural Community in Chunakkara
11. Empowering Communities: Cheruthana Gram Panchayat's Holistic Development Initiatives

12. Fostering Sustainable Agriculture: Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat's Commitment to Farming Community
13. Addressing Poverty and Promoting Livelihoods: The Role of Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat
14. Ramankari Gram Panchayat: Empowering Lives through Rural Employment and Social Welfare
15. Agriculture and Vegetable Farming: Empowering Rural Communities in Veliyanad Gram Panchayat
16. Transforming Agriculture and Livelihoods: The Success of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in Kavalam Gram Panchayat
17. Nurturing Agri-Richness: Chingoli Panchayat's Agricultural Advancements
18. Krishnapuram Gram Panchayat's Agrarian Renaissance: Nurturing Sustainable Farming
19. Cheppad Panchayat's Remarkable Agricultural Achievements: Empowering Farmers for Prosperity
20. Promoting Livelihood and Infrastructure Development in Kanjikuzhi Gram Panchayat
21. Cherthala South Gram Panchayat: Embracing Agriculture and Organic Farming Initiatives
22. Sneha pothi initiative by Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat
23. Innovative Agricultural Practices in Thekkekara Gram Panchayat, Kerala: Empowering Farmers and Fostering Growth
24. Empowering Entrepreneurship and Economic Growth in Thazhakkara Gram Panchayat, Kerala

25. **Empowering Women through 'Chengannur Thanima': A Visionary Project for Economic Growth and Self-Employment**
26. **Muhamma Panchayat: A Model for Sustainable Agricultural Development and Community Empowerment in Alappuzha District, Kerala**
27. **Agricultural Success and Initiatives in Vayalar Grama Panchaya**

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES IN ARYAD GRAM PANCHAYAT, ALAPPUZHA, KERALA

Aryad Gram Panchayat

Aryad Gram Panchayat, though one of the smallest in Alappuzha District with an area of only 6.87 sq. km, holds great significance in the Kerala Model of development. Despite being bordered by backwaters and the sea, the panchayat faces the challenge of being densely populated. The traditional occupations of farming, fishing, and coir work have witnessed a significant decline, leading to changes in the livelihood patterns of the people.

Despite its low per capita income, Aryad Gram Panchayat has effectively embraced the Kerala Model of development and has been a part of various enlightened social movements in the state. As a result, there has been a considerable improvement in the overall quality of life for its residents.

The panchayat is actively involved in implementing the MGNREGA scheme, providing employment opportunities to the poor. Various infrastructure activities, road construction, maintenance, and canal cleaning are being undertaken by the people, with women playing a significant role in these initiatives. The panchayat has spent a substantial amount on MGNREGA schemes, providing employment to many

people.

Poverty alleviation is a top priority for the panchayat, with special emphasis on providing nutritious food to students in lower primary schools and Anganwadis. Nutritious food supplements are also being produced and supplied under the brand name "Amrutham Nutry Meal Mix" by Kudumbashree, empowering women through entrepreneurship ventures. Kudumbashree's systematic functioning and weekly meetings have significantly empowered women in the panchayat.

A Janakeeya hotel, operating under Kudumbashree, is successfully supplying tasty meals at an affordable cost to the community, providing employment to several women and catering to numerous visitors. Waste management is handled efficiently through the "Plastic Smart Aryad" initiative, using technology and QR code services to promote responsible waste disposal. Haritha Karmasena volunteers work tirelessly in different wards to manage the plastic shredding unit.

In conclusion, Aryad Gram Panchayat serves as a shining example of community-driven development and effective implementation of various initiatives to uplift the standard of living and promote sustainable practices in Alappuzha District, Kerala.

MARARIKULAM SOUTH GRAM PANCHAYAT'S EFFORTS IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND ORGANIC FARMING

Mararikulam South Gram Panchayat

Mararikulam South Gram Panchayat is situated in the Aryad Block of Alappuzha District. It covers an area of 19.07 square kilometres. This Gram Panchayat is in the coastal district of Alappuzha and derives its name from a fascinating legend associated with Lord Shiva. According to the tale, a woman sharpening her sickle on the bank of a pond (Kulam) witnessed blood flowing from the stone, revealing a concealed Shiva Linga (Marari). This mystical event led to the place being called Mararikulam. Historically, Mararikulam South played a crucial role in sea route trade, attracting large ships from foreign countries for trade purposes. The region was renowned for exporting prawns, coconut, oil, dry fish, and more, while importing clothes and ornaments. The panchayat was established in 1953, marking its significance in local governance.

Being a coastal area, the primary occupations in Mararikulam South are fishing and coir making, with rice cultivation also being significant. Women are actively involved in the Coir industry and fishery, either as self-employed workers or daily wage earners. In the private sector, women serve as salesgirls in retail shops. Housewives are often engaged in vegetable cultivation

and cattle rearing, contributing to the household's sustenance.

By 2023, the panchayat aims to achieve a sustainable food production system and adopt resilient agricultural practices that enhance productivity, maintain the ecosystem, and build resilience to climate change and natural disasters. The goal is to align with the UN sustainable development goals and promote socio-economic and environment-friendly farming practices.

To promote organic farming and attain self-sufficiency in vegetables, Mararikulam South Gram Panchayat has implemented various schemes during 2021-2022. As a result, organic farming practices have thrived, especially in Ward 23. Non-toxic vegetables, bell pepper, jaggery tubers, and paddy cultivation have been successful endeavours.

To support organic farming, the panchayat distributed seedlings for tuber cultivation, leading to improved agricultural outputs. Additionally, initiatives were taken to improve coconut tree health, combating issues like kombanchelli and Chembanchelli, which troubled coconut farmers.

The panchayat facilitated the improvement of water flow in canals, leading to enhanced irrigation and agricultural productivity. Farmers found a market centre near the Agricultural office to sell their produce, ensuring a steady income and access to non-toxic vegetables for consumers, thereby promoting food security in the region.

THE "KATIRANIYUM PAADAM" PROJECT: PROMOTING RICE FARMING

Bharanikavu Gram Panchayat

Bharanikavu Panchayat is a region situated on both sides of the Kayamkulam-Punalur road in Mavelikkara Taluk, Alappuzha district, under the Bharanikavu Block. This diverse Panchayat encompasses 21 wards and includes the villages of Katanam and Bharanikavu, where people from various castes and religions coexist in harmony and camaraderie. Given the crucial role the transport sector plays in agro-industrial development, there is a pressing need for comprehensive growth and improvement in the transport infrastructure of Bharanikavu Panchayat.

In Bharanikavu Gram Panchayat, poverty alleviation initiatives are given utmost importance, with a strong focus on the agricultural sector. Historically, agriculture was the backbone of the economic base in Bharanikavu Panchayat, with numerous paddy fields contributing to its significance. However, over time, due to the lack of profitability in agriculture and the emergence of alternative occupations, many lands became barren.

To address this issue and revitalize agriculture, the People's Planning Project prioritized the development of agriculture as its primary agenda. The initiative "Katiraniyumpadam" was launched to promote rice farming, providing a subsidy of 6,234,000/- to 180

beneficiaries for 30 hectares. This subsidy covered rice seeds and labour costs, benefiting farmers who were either continuing or returning to rice cultivation.

Another important scheme was the distribution of potted plants, wherein 16,80,000/- was invested to provide 1050 units of plant pots (10 pots per person) filled with potting mix and vegetable seedlings. This project aimed to encourage vegetable cultivation among those with limited land and soil for cultivation. To further boost vegetable production, the "Haritabham Bharanikavu" initiative distributed 53,680 vegetable seedlings to 2,684 farmers at a cost of 1,34,200/-. Additionally, for the development of banana cultivation, 1,73,250/- was spent, and 11,550 banana seedlings were distributed among 2,310 individuals. These initiatives empowered farmers to generate income during festivals like Onam, promoting agricultural engagement and productivity.

Moreover, to facilitate efficient irrigation, pump sets for agricultural purposes were provided to farmers at subsidized rates, further contributing to improved agricultural practices.

As a result of these comprehensive schemes, significant changes have been observed in the agricultural sector of Bharanikavu Panchayat. Increased productivity, enhanced income opportunities, and the attraction of more individuals to agriculture have been instrumental in uplifting the community and alleviating poverty. These initiatives showcase the Panchayat's commitment to the welfare of its residents and the sustainable development of the region's agricultural sector.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY: VALLIKUNNAM PANCHAYAT'S AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES

Vallikunnam Gram Panchayat

Vallikunnam Gram Panchayat, located in the southern part of Alappuzha district, Mavelikkara taluk, and under Bharanikavu Block Panchayat, spans an area of 21.37 sq km. Historically, it was an agricultural village belonging to Onattukara, with rice, coconut, cassava, sesame, ginger, turmeric, black pepper, and banana being the main crops cultivated. However, with changing times, the focus shifted away from agriculture due to declining profitability and universal education, leading to a decrease in the number of agricultural workers.

In recent years, one of the major challenges faced by Vallikunnam Panchayat, like many other regions, is the lack of food grain production. Consequently, the Panchayat has initiated a comprehensive rice cultivation project, targeted barren lands, and allocated a local fund of 15 lakh rupees to cultivate 130 acres of land, aiming to boost rice production.

Additionally, self-sufficiency in vegetable production has been a significant goal for the Panchayat in its 2021-2022 annual plan. They have invested around Rs. 12,89,000 to develop 41.69 hectares of land for vegetable cultivation, which marks a considerable achievement in this area.

Another prominent crop in Vallikunnam Panchayat is betel nut, which enjoys popularity among farmers. To support distressed farmers and enhance betel nut cultivation, an allocation of approximately 533,000 rupees has been included in the annual plan, leading to increased production in 17 hectares of land.

The initiatives taken by Vallikunnam Gram Panchayat demonstrate their determination to address the challenges of declining agricultural activities and insufficient food grain production. By promoting rice, vegetables, and betel nut cultivation, they aim to boost local agricultural productivity, ensure food security, and reduce dependence on food grains from other states, which may be contaminated. These efforts are crucial steps towards sustainable development and economic prosperity in the region. Empowering Women Through Sustainable Initiatives: Bharanikavu Block Panchayat's Holistic Approach.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: KARUVATA'S REMARKABLE MILESTONES IN THE NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

Karuvatta Gram Panchayat

Karuvatta Panchayat is in Harippad block in Karthikapally Tehsil of Alappuzha district in Kerala, India. The pin code of Karuvatta village is 690517. Total population of Karuvatta Panchayat is 21002 (Male population is 10128 and female population is 10874). The population density is 1188. Total area is 17.68sq.km. Ward divisions are 15. The literacy rate of gramapanchayath is 96.

Karuvatta, a trailblazing community within the Harippad block, has embarked on a transformative journey, charting a new course towards progress and prosperity. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) has been a driving force behind this remarkable transformation, as Karuvatta achieves unprecedented milestones and sets a shining example for others to follow. With unwavering dedication and active community participation, the Panchayat has proven itself as a leader in the successful implementation of diverse NREGS activities.

By surpassing the extraordinary milestone of 10 crore 57 lakhs for the first time, Karuvatta has demonstrated its steadfast commitment to the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. This financial accomplishment has been a testament to the effective utilization of funds and

the Panchayat's tireless efforts in expanding workdays, benefiting the community at large.

During the fiscal year 2021-2022, Karuvatta Panchayat achieved a commendable milestone of 206,706 labour days, benefiting 2,947 active labour cardholders. The average family's contribution to 83 jobs showcases the active participation and dedication of the community towards enhancing livelihood prospects.

The effective utilization of funds is evident in the allocation of Rs. 3.40 crore for materials and Rs. 4.90 crore for skill development. The Panchayat's strategic approach has not only ensured the successful completion of various projects but also supported the skill development of workers, empowering them for future opportunities.

The NREGS has proved transformative for 171 workers who completed 100 days of work and 1,842 workers who accomplished 75 days. Through these initiatives, the Panchayat has not only provided economic support but also fostered skill development and self-reliance among the workforces.

Under the Subhiksha Kerala Project, the construction of Cattle Stables on Personal Assets has been a significant success, generating about 1600 workdays and an expenditure of Rs. 62 lakhs. This endeavour has not only created livelihood opportunities for impoverished families but also prioritized environmental sustainability. Separate tanks for urine and dung storage mitigate pollution, promoting responsible agricultural practices.

The employment guarantee scheme has opened avenues for many disadvantaged families to engage in cow rearing, enhancing their livelihood prospects. Karuvata's commitment to uplifting the community through such initiatives exemplifies its dedication to sustainable development and social empowerment.

Karuvata's remarkable achievements in the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme stand as a testament to the community's dedication, innovative approach, and unwavering commitment to progress. The Panchayat's strategic allocation of funds, active community participation, and transformative initiatives has not only improved economic conditions but also fostered environmental sustainability and skill development. As a beacon of progress, Karuvatta continues to inspire others to chart a path towards a brighter and more inclusive future.

TRANSFORMING LIVELIHOODS: POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN CHERUTHANA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat

Cheruthana village is in Harippad block in Karthikapally Tehsil of Alappuzha district in Kerala, India. Pincode of Cheruthana village is 690517. The total population of Cheruthana Gram Panchayat is 12811 (The male population is 6200 and the female population is 6611). The population density is 899. The total area is 14.25 sq. km. Ward divisions are 13. Literacy rate Gram Panchayat is 93.

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat, nestled in a region primarily involved in agricultural activities, has taken significant strides towards poverty alleviation and women empowerment. With paddy cultivation as the primary crop and diverse livelihood options like animal husbandry, dairy development, and fish farming, the community has embraced innovation to uplift their economic conditions. The panchayat, in collaboration with Kudumbashree, has implemented a range of impactful projects, providing financial support, promoting self-employment ventures, and empowering women to lead sustainable initiatives.

In recognition of the importance of agriculture, the panchayat has supported farmers by granting subsidies of Rs. 17 lakhs for paddy cultivation during the financial

year 2021-22. Moreover, the community has diversified their livelihoods through ventures like duck farming, chicken farming, dairy development, and fish farming, creating opportunities for self-employment and boosting the local economy.

Under the leadership of Kudumbashree, Joint Livelihood groups have been formed to engage in innovative practices like vegetable inter-cropping with rice and promoting mushroom cultivation and quail rearing. These initiatives have not only improved agricultural productivity but also enhanced income sources for the community.

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat has proactively identified viable business units and offered CES loans at a low-interest rate of four percent, supporting the establishment of tailor shops, beauty parlours, and growbag catering units. This proactive approach has encouraged entrepreneurship and self-reliance among the residents.

Amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the panchayat has ensured food availability through the Kudumbashree Janakeya Hotel, offering affordable lunches at Rs. 20 under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. The scheme has also led to the establishment of a shed in Cheruthana Panchayat, providing employment opportunities during challenging times.

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat has placed a special emphasis on empowering women in the region. By organizing self-employment training, group farming, intercropping, and providing training for operating vehicles and tailoring, the panchayat has fostered a supportive environment for women-led initiatives. The establishment of a women's marketing centre has further empowered women by providing a platform for their economic ventures.

The panchayat's commitment to poverty alleviation is evident through various projects undertaken through the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Initiatives like constructing cow sheds for 21 families, sheep sheds for five families, and chicken coops and compost units have provided sustainable livelihood options to the community.

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat's journey towards poverty alleviation and women empowerment stands as a testament to their dedication, community engagement, and innovative approach. Through collaborations with Kudumbashree and strategic initiatives, the panchayat has created an environment that fosters self-employment, economic growth, and gender equality. As these initiatives continue to thrive, led by the women of the community, Cheruthana Gram Panchayat paves the way for a brighter and more inclusive future.

CULTIVATING PROSPERITY: KUMARAPURAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COLLABORATIVE AGRICULTURAL ENDEAVOURS

Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat

Kumarapuram Panchayat is in Harippad block of Karthikapally Taluk, Alappuzha District, with a total population of 27,850 residing across 15 wards in an area of 13.75 square kilometres. It has 937 Scheduled Caste members, 140 Scheduled Tribe members, 230 Kudumbashree units, and 3 continual education centres.

Nestled amidst the lush landscapes of Alappuzha district, Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat has embarked on a transformative journey towards building a healthy village through the power of collaboration. With a strong emphasis on promoting agriculture, the Panchayat, in partnership with Kudumbashree workers and local farmers, is cultivating a thriving ecosystem of abundant produce. This united effort aims to uplift the agricultural sector and achieve self-sufficiency, setting a remarkable example of community-driven development.

Kudumbashree workers and local farmers have joined hands in a united effort to cultivate vegetables on a large scale in the region. The collective commitment to promoting agriculture demonstrates the Panchayat's vision of fostering prosperity through sustainable agricultural practices.

At the heart of Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat's agricultural success lies the Agricultural Office, acting as a pivotal resource centre for farmers. The Panchayat extends crucial support to farmers by facilitating seed distributions, providing access to subsidies, and ensuring the availability of pesticides. This unwavering assistance empowers farmers to enhance productivity and thrive in their endeavours.

Recognizing the significance of farmer welfare, the Panchayat's agricultural department officials regularly visit and provide valuable guidance to farmers. These interactions foster knowledge exchange, enabling farmers to stay informed about the latest agricultural practices and techniques, and create an environment of continuous improvement.

The collective efforts of Kudumbashree workers, local farmers, and the Panchayat have resulted in the cultivation of a diverse range of flowers and vegetables, enriching the village with abundant produce. This diversity not only promotes food security but also contributes to the economic prosperity of the community.

With determination and dedication, Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat aims to achieve self-sufficiency in the agricultural sector by the upcoming year. The Panchayat's holistic approach and strong community engagement lay a robust foundation for achieving this goal, fostering prosperity and well-being within the village.

Through the bond between Kudumbashree workers, local farmers, and the Panchayat, Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat exemplifies the true essence of community-driven development. Their collaborative agricultural endeavours serve as a testament to the power of collective action and demonstrate how united efforts can create positive change within a community.

Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat's journey towards cultivating prosperity through collaborative agricultural efforts showcases the strength of unity and community engagement. With Kudumbashree workers and local farmers joining hands, and the unwavering support of the Panchayat, the village thrives with abundant produce and a vision of self-sufficiency. This transformative approach sets a remarkable example for others, illustrating the potential of collaborative efforts in building a healthy and prosperous village.

SUSTAINING LIVELIHOODS: KUMARAPURAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S THRIVING AQUACULTURE AND COIR MANUFACTURING SECTORS

Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat

Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat has harnessed the potential of aquaculture and coir manufacturing to foster sustainable livelihoods and drive economic growth. With a strategic focus on these two pivotal sectors, the panchayat has emerged as a beacon of prosperity, empowering local communities and contributing to the overall development of the region.

One of the cornerstones of Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat's activities lays in its engagement with approximately 250 fish farmers who are involved in aquaculture. These dedicated individuals cultivate fish across a diverse range of land sizes, catering to the varying needs and capacities of the farmers. This inclusive approach fosters a comprehensive and sustainable ecosystem for fish cultivation.

The panchayat works closely with the Fisheries Department to provide constant supervision and assistance to the fish farmers. This collaborative effort ensures that the farmers receive expert guidance and support throughout the cultivation process. The Fisheries Department's valuable expertise, technical knowledge, and resources enhance the productivity and efficiency of fish farming activities, ensuring optimal outcomes for

the community.

Karimeen, also known as Green chromide, stands out as the primary fish species cultivated in Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat. This choice is driven by the fish's high profitability, making it a lucrative option for the local fish farmers. Recognizing the economic potential of Karimeen, the panchayat actively promotes its cultivation as a means to improve the livelihoods of the farmers and boost the local economy.

Beyond aquaculture, coir manufacturing plays a crucial role in the economic growth of the panchayat. The rich abundance of coconut trees in the region allows for the sustainable production of coir products, which find extensive demand in various industries. The panchayat has created an enabling environment for coir manufacturing, providing opportunities for local entrepreneurs to thrive and generate employment opportunities.

Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat's strategic focus on aquaculture and coir manufacturing showcases its commitment to fostering balanced and sustainable development. By empowering fish farmers and promoting lucrative choices like Karimeen cultivation, the panchayat ensures that livelihoods are uplifted, and the local economy thrives through responsible practices.

Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat's embrace of aquaculture and coir manufacturing as key drivers of development and economic growth sets a commendable example of sustainable progress. Through collaboration with the Fisheries Department, the panchayat empowers fish farmers with expert guidance, while the thriving coir manufacturing sector contributes to employment generation and economic prosperity. With a focus on balanced development and community empowerment, Kumarapuram Gram Panchayat exemplifies the potential of aquaculture and coir manufacturing to transform livelihoods and build a thriving future for all.

REVIVING TRADITIONAL FARMING IN THAMARAKULAM

Mavelikkara Thamarakulam Gram Panchayat

Mavelikara-Tamarakulam Gram Panchayat is in the Mavelikara taluk of Bharanikav block in Alappuzha district, covering an area of 20.88 square kilometers. Thamarakulam has a rich agricultural heritage, with its hardworking people traditionally relying on farming for their livelihood. The region's agricultural culture has thrived on cultivating paddy crops like rice, sesame, and tubers, as well as crops like bananas, coconuts, and vegetables, which have been the main sources of wealth.

During the 2022-23 annual plan, the Gram Panchayat placed significant emphasis on the agriculture and dairy sectors. Several initiatives were introduced, such as milk subsidies, dairy cow distribution schemes, comprehensive goat village schemes, and poultry distribution schemes. Furthermore, various projects were implemented, including the backyard banana scheme, intercropping, vegetable cultivation, betel nut cultivation, integrated paddy cultivation, distribution of black pepper, and distribution of red lady papaya seedlings.

To make more land cultivable, over 25 hectares of barren land were included in the employment guarantee scheme. Additionally, the "Bandipoo" cultivation project was launched with the support of Krishi Bhavan employment

guarantee workers and Kudumbashree activists to ensure the availability of flowers during the Onam festival.

The Gram Panchayat efficiently executed government schemes such as "Onathinu Orumuram Pachakari," which involved the distribution of fruit tree saplings and comprehensive development plans. Apart from the Thamarakulam Public Market, the VFPCK's vegetable marketing center, Kannanakuzhi also contributed to the vegetable trade, and a vegetable warehouse was initiated at Kannankuzhi 1st Ward under the management of Krishi Bhavan.

An achievement worth celebrating is the transfer of control of the vegetable cluster from Krishi Bhavan to the new building. Furthermore, the Panchayat actively participated in environmental conservation efforts by producing and distributing 35,000 fruit tree saplings during Environment Day through the NREGS section.

The comprehensive fish farming initiative covering 110 acres in Vayangara Chira, Poovathur Chira, Koduvarachira, and Guru Nathan Kulangara Puduchira yielded remarkable results.

Recognizing the importance of open green spaces in combating climate change and global warming, the State Government initiated the "Pachathuruth" project to enhance green cover. The Gram Panchayat proactively participated in this scheme by choosing land of the Leprosy Sanatorium for its implementation. Fifteen inmates of the sanatorium, along with other volunteers, contributed tirelessly to making "Pachathuruth" a reality, making it a notable activity in the Panchayat.

Water conservation activities were also promoted through the NREGS scheme, showcasing the Panchayat's holistic approach to improving the well-being of its people.

BUILDING A PROSPEROUS AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY IN CHUNAKKARA

Chunakkara Gram Panchayat

Chunakkara Panchayat, located in Mavelikara Taluk of Alappuzha District, covers an area of 17.32 square kilometres. Surrounded by fields on all sides, the vast panchayat is bordered by Thazhakkara, Tamarakulam, Nooranadu, Bharanikav, and Thekekara panchayat.

Initially, Chunakkara was predominantly an agricultural village, with most people relying on farming. During that period, organic fertilizers were commonly used, and farmers cooperated with one another, leading to agriculture's success and respect in society. However, over time, the significance of education grew, and agriculture took a back seat.

In recent times, the Panchayat authorities and the community are working diligently to revive agriculture and bring back the glory of "Chunakkara Peruma." The village now excels in the cultivation of rice, banana, cassava, vegetables, and flowers. One notable project is the successful cultivation of two acres through the fertigation method, which the Panchayat aims to extend to the entire area.

To further enhance the beauty of the village and provide a new experience, the Chunakkara Gram Panchayat launched the "Poopadam" project in the 2021-2022 annual plan. As part of this initiative, 15,000 Chendumalli (Marigold) saplings

were planted across various wards of the Panchayat. Collaborating with NREGA workers and Kudumbashree workers, this project has become a source of pride, particularly as it provides relief to Malayalees who had previously relied on flowers from Tamil Nadu.

Looking ahead, the Panchayat Governing Body is determined to implement more schemes that will attract and support farmers, fostering a prosperous and thriving agricultural community in Chunakkara.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: CHERUTHANA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat

Cheruthana village is in Harippad block in Karthikapally Tehsil of Alappuzha district in Kerala, India. The pincode of Cheruthana village is 690517. The total population of Cheruthana Gram Panchayat is 12811 (The male population is 6200 and the female population is 6611). The population density is 899. The total area is 14.25 sq. km. Ward divisions are 13. Literacy rate Gram Panchayat is 93.

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat thrives with a vibrant agricultural community, where paddy cultivation takes centre stage. However, the panchayat has gone beyond traditional farming, fostering diversified livelihoods, and empowering its residents through innovative projects. With a focus on poverty alleviation and women empowerment, Cheruthana Gram Panchayat has implemented a range of transformative initiatives that uplift the community and contribute to the local economy.

Acknowledging the importance of diversifying livelihoods for economic resilience, Cheruthana Gram Panchayat encourages its residents to explore animal husbandry, dairy development, fish farming, duck farming, and chicken farming for self-employment. By

embracing various ventures, individuals in the region find success in diverse fields, enhancing their overall prosperity.

Poverty reduction is at the core of the panchayat's vision, reflected in substantial investments of 49 lakhs on housing initiatives. Additionally, to support and encourage paddy cultivation, farmers were granted a subsidy of Rs. 17 lakhs for the financial year 2021-22, ensuring the continuity of agricultural practices.

Under the able leadership of Kudumbashree, Cheruthana Gram Panchayat has formed Joint Livelihood groups engaging in vegetable inter-cropping with rice, promoting sustainable agricultural practices and bolstering the local economy. Moreover, initiatives like mushroom cultivation and quail rearing are proving effective contributors to the region's economic growth.

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat actively supports self-employment ventures by identifying viable business units and offering CES loans at a low-interest rate of four percent. As a result, tailor shops, beauty parlours, and growbag catering units have been successfully established, fostering entrepreneurship, and generating employment opportunities.

Amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Cheruthana Gram Panchayat rose to the occasion, providing affordable lunches at Rs. 20 through the Kudumbashree Janakeya Hotel under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. The establishment of a shed in the panchayat further offered a hundred jobs, alleviating hardships faced by the community during the pandemic.

Recognizing the pivotal role women play in community development, Cheruthana Gram Panchayat emphasizes women empowerment through various initiatives. Self-employment training, group farming, intercropping, and training for operating four and two-wheelers and tailoring have enabled women to become self-sufficient contributors to the local economy. The establishment of a women's marketing centre further empowers women by providing a platform for their skills and products.

In its pursuit of poverty alleviation, Cheruthana Gram Panchayat has constructed cow sheds for 21 families, sheep sheds for five families, and chicken coops and

compost units in 2021-22 through the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. These initiatives, driven by the dedication of women in the community, exemplify the panchayat's commitment to uplift the marginalized and empower the entire community.

Cheruthana Gram Panchayat's holistic development initiatives showcase the transformative power of proactive community engagement and visionary leadership. By promoting diversified livelihoods, encouraging agricultural ventures, and empowering women through skill development, the panchayat paves the way for a resilient and prosperous future. Cheruthana Gram Panchayat stands as an inspiring model of community-driven development, with its ongoing dedication to uplift the community and achieve its goals of poverty reduction and women empowerment.

FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE: VEEYAPURAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO FARMING COMMUNITY

Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat

Veeyapuram Panchayat is located under the Harippad block in Karthikapally Tehsil of Alappuzha district in Kerala, India. Pin code of Veeyapuram village is 688524. The total population of Gramapanchayath is 12445(The male population is 5991 and the female population is 6454). The population density is 888. The total area is 14.02 sq. km. Ward divisions are 13. The literacy rate of Gram Panchayat is 94.

Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat is a region renowned for its lush paddy fields and thriving plantations. With a total area of 14 square meters, this panchayat encompasses an expansive landscape of 970 hectares dedicated to paddy cultivation. The fertile land also hosts flourishing coconut trees, banana plantations, vegetable cultivation, capsicum, and garlic farms. The agricultural landscape of Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat plays a vital role in sustaining the local community and contributing to the district's agricultural prosperity.

The backbone of Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat's agricultural success lies in its 2238 farmer families, who actively engage in diverse agricultural practices. These dedicated farmers are the driving force behind the region's flourishing paddy fields and vibrant plantations.

The panchayat acknowledges their invaluable contributions and strives to support and empower them through various initiatives.

In line with the Sbikshakeralam Padathi initiative, Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat encourages and promotes vegetable cultivation among its farmers. Recognizing the importance of this venture, the panchayat provides essential support to farmers engaging in vegetable farming. One such measure includes the utilization of grow bags, which enable efficient and organized vegetable cultivation, maximizing productivity.

Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat goes the extra mile to bolster agricultural practices within its boundaries. The panchayat provides farmers with necessary machinery and equipment, facilitating their farming activities. Rain shelters are also implemented to safeguard crops during adverse weather conditions, ensuring the continuity of agricultural activities.

With a vision of sustainable farming, Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat proactively implements projects aimed at enhancing agricultural practices. These projects are designed to improve the efficiency and productivity of farming activities, benefiting the entire farming community. By investing in agricultural development, the panchayat exemplifies its commitment to fostering a sustainable and thriving farming environment.

Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat stands as a shining example of a region dedicated to nurturing its agricultural heritage and promoting sustainable farming practices. With a strong focus on supporting its farmer families, the panchayat's initiatives, such as the Sbikshakeralam Padathi, provision of essential resources, and investment in agricultural projects, contribute to the prosperity of the local farming community. Through their dedication to agriculture, Veeyapuram Gram Panchayat continues to foster a sustainable and thriving farming landscape, ensuring the well-being and prosperity of its residents, and contributing to the agricultural legacy of the Alappuzha district.

ADDRESSING POVERTY AND PROMOTING LIVELIHOODS: THE ROLE OF NEELAMPEROOR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat

Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat is situated in the Veliyanad Block of Alappuzha District in Kuttanad Taluk. There are 13 wards included in Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat

Despite global efforts to reduce poverty, progress has been uneven, with extreme poverty predominantly concentrated in rural areas. Rural development and agricultural productivity growth play crucial roles in poverty reduction. However, challenges such as deteriorating ecosystems, unsustainable natural resource management, and climate change disproportionately affect the poor, hindering efforts to eradicate poverty. To achieve meaningful progress, it is essential to address pervasive inequalities in incomes, economic opportunities, and access to resources between and within countries, rural and urban areas, and among different genders.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA) plays a significant role in providing guaranteed wage employment to rural households, aiming to uplift communities and alleviate poverty. Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat, recognizing the importance of supporting livelihoods and enhancing

opportunities, has taken proactive steps to promote goat rearing through the construction of sheep cages under the employment guarantee scheme.

Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat acknowledges that supporting sustainable livelihoods is crucial for poverty reduction in the region. In response to this, the panchayat has embarked on a project to construct sheep cages, providing a valuable resource for goat rearing in the village. This initiative aims to empower the community by creating accessible and reliable opportunities for income generation and economic growth.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (MGNREGA), is a pivotal tool in the panchayat's efforts to promote livelihoods. This scheme mandates providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to rural households whose adult members volunteer to undertake unskilled manual work. By leveraging this scheme, Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat enhances its ability to provide sustainable employment opportunities to the community.

Through the construction of sheep cages under the MGNREGA, Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat aims to make goat rearing more accessible and viable for the people in the village. This endeavour enables community members, especially those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, to engage in a productive and sustainable livelihood activity. By empowering individuals with the means to support themselves, the panchayat takes significant strides towards poverty alleviation and overall community well-being.

Neelamperoor Gram Panchayat's commitment to rural development and poverty reduction is commendable, as evidenced by its focus on enhancing livelihood opportunities through the construction of sheep cages under the MGNREGA. By leveraging this scheme, the panchayat strives to uplift its community by providing sustainable employment and income generation options. As the panchayat continues its efforts to address poverty and promote equality, it sets a positive example for others to follow, fostering a brighter and more prosperous future for all residents of Neelamperoor.

RAMANKARI GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Ramankari Gram Panchayat

Ramankari Gram Panchayat is situated in Veliyanad block of Alappuzha district. Panchayat covers an area of 16.77 Sq.Km. Kuttanad, a land deeply rooted in agriculture and organic consciousness, is home to Ramankari, a picturesque village situated along the banks of Pambayar. The National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) aims to provide 100 days of unskilled employment to rural households annually, bolstering the livelihood resources of the impoverished and creating valuable assets. Ramankari Gram Panchayat, encompassing 13 wards, has embraced the NREGS wholeheartedly, transforming barren lands into fertile fields and uplifting the lives of its residents.

In every ward of Ramankari, guaranteed labourers find opportunities for cultivating lands, resulting in thriving crops of tapioca, kachil, yam, and padavalam (vegetable). Employment associations play a crucial role in providing productive jobs, enabling the beneficiaries to receive a fair price for their harvests.

As a part of its commitment to uplifting the marginalized, Ramankari Gram Panchayat identified deserving beneficiaries from the community. In one case, a family from Ernakulum district, facing extreme hardship, was

brought into mainstream society. The head of the family had a debilitating hip fracture, and his wife suffered from kidney disease. With Panchayat's support, the necessary funds were raised for hip replacement surgery, giving him a new lease on life. After being advised against physically demanding work, the Panchayat set up a small shop near the Panchayat office to provide him with a sustainable means of livelihood. The Gram Panchayat also assisted in the education expenses and other needs of their children.

Ramankari Gram Panchayat's actions exemplify the spirit of compassion and inclusivity. Another individual with a plumbing background, lacking land or a home, was identified, and the Panchayat stepped in to purchase the necessary equipment for his trade. Efforts were made to include him in the LIFE (Livelihood Inclusion and Financial Empowerment) scheme, showcasing the Panchayat's unwavering commitment to uplift the marginalized sections of society.

Ramankari Gram Panchayat stands as a beacon of hope and progress, utilizing the NREGS to transform barren lands, enhance agricultural productivity, and provide dignified livelihoods to its residents. Through its proactive and compassionate initiatives, the Panchayat has uplifted the lives of those facing extreme hardship, proving that humanity and social welfare transcend divisions of caste, religion, and symbols. The success of Ramankari serves as an inspiration to other regions, highlighting the potential for rural development and social empowerment through grassroots efforts and progressive policies.

AGRICULTURE AND VEGETABLE FARMING: EMPOWERING RURAL COMMUNITIES IN VELIYANAD GRAM PANCHAYAT

Veliyanad Gram Panchayat

Veliyanad Gram Panchayat is situated in Veliyanad block of Alappuzha district. Panchayat covers an area of 19.41 Sq.Km. Agriculture, the art and science of cultivating the soil, growing crops, and raising livestock, remains a cornerstone of human civilization. It provides sustenance to the world's population and contributes to various industries, including food, textiles, and energy. Veliyanad Gram Panchayat, nestled in the state of Kerala, has recognized the significance of agriculture, particularly vegetable farming, in promoting sustainable livelihoods and local food security. Through initiatives led by groups like Kudumbashree, women in the Panchayat actively engage in vegetable cultivation, both in large farms and through innovative methods like grow bags at home. This concerted effort has not only increased vegetable yields but also fostered economic growth and the use of non-toxic produce in the region.

Agriculture has been a crucial aspect of human existence for thousands of years, leading to the rise of sedentary civilizations and creating food surpluses that enabled urbanization. Over time, cultivation practices have evolved, and mechanization has revolutionized farming techniques. In Veliyanad Gram Panchayat, agricultural

activities, particularly vegetable farming, have gained prominence as women, organized in groups like Kudumbashree; actively participate in this vital sector.

Veliyanad Gram Panchayat has taken proactive measures to promote vegetable cultivation, recognizing its importance in enhancing local food availability and economic prosperity. Women in the Panchayat are encouraged to engage in vegetable farming; both on large farms and through the innovative use of grow bags at home. This diversification of farming practices has yielded positive results, with good yields and increased income for those cultivating large farms.

Through initiatives like Kudumbashree, women in Veliyanad Gram Panchayat are empowered to actively participate in agriculture and take charge of their livelihoods. By focusing on vegetable cultivation, these women contribute not only to their families' well-being but also to the Panchayat's overall food security.

The success of vegetable farming in the Panchayat has resulted in increased availability of non-toxic and locally grown produce. With an emphasis on organic and sustainable practices, Veliyanad Gram Panchayat has reduced its dependence on neighbouring states for staple vegetables like onion, potato, and tomato, thereby enhancing local food security.

Veliyanad Gram Panchayat is committed to providing comprehensive support to agricultural activities. It offers various forms of assistance to those engaged in vegetable farming, ensuring their success and prosperity.

Agriculture, particularly vegetable farming, plays a vital role in the development and sustenance of Veliyanad Gram Panchayat. By empowering women through initiatives like Kudumbashree and promoting local vegetable cultivation, the Panchayat is not only strengthening its economic base but also enhancing food security and fostering sustainable practices. Veliyanad Gram Panchayat stands as an inspiring example of the potential of agriculture in transforming rural communities and contributing to a prosperous and self-reliant region.

TRANSFORMING AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS: THE SUCCESS OF MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME IN KAVALAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kavalam Gram Panchayat

Kavalam Gram Panchayat is situated in Veliyanad block of Alappuzha district. Panchayat covers an area of 17.25 Sq. Km

Kavalam Gram Panchayat, nestled in the agriculturally rich region of Kuttanad, Kerala, thrives on rice paddy cultivation. With 90% of its population relying on agriculture for their livelihoods, Kavalam stands as a testament to the tireless efforts of its people in converting backwaters into fertile paddy fields. The village panchayat, spread across 17.25 square kilometres, encompasses 1300 hectares of lush paddy fields, made possible by the network of tributaries of the Pampanadi and adjoining water bodies that enrich the area with abundant water resources. This success story owes much to the efforts of Joseph Murukan, popularly known as Murukummootil Autachan or Kayal Raja, who played a pivotal role in transforming the landscape into a vibrant agricultural hub.

Despite its agricultural richness, Kavalam faced significant setbacks due to constant floods that affected the agricultural sector and led to the loss of livelihood for many agricultural labourers. In response to these challenges, the implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi

National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme emerged as a crucial step in poverty alleviation and revitalizing the agricultural community.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has played a vital role in transforming the agricultural landscape of Kavalam. By carrying out cultivation and draining water from paddy fields below sea level, the scheme enhanced agricultural productivity and strengthened the bunds with mud and rope cloth to prevent soil erosion. Moreover, a stream cleaning project was undertaken to improve water flow and rope embankments were implemented on the sides. The year 2021-22 saw an allocation of 64 lakhs for rope cloth, a significant investment that yielded positive results.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme not only created working days for the people but also shifted the focus towards wealth creation. This transition led to remarkable achievements in improving livelihoods, including the construction of goat and cow sheds. In the year 2021-22, the scheme generated 117,132 working days for 2,173 families in Kavalam Gram Panchayat, a testament to its positive impact on the community. It is particularly commendable that 161 families completed 100 working days, showcasing the success of the scheme in promoting sustainable livelihoods.

Kavalam Gram Panchayat's success in agricultural transformation and poverty alleviation through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme stands as an inspiring example for other regions to follow. The tireless efforts of the people, combined with government support, have not only revitalized the agricultural sector but also improved the quality of life and livelihood opportunities for its residents. With the continued implementation of such transformative schemes, Kavalam paves the way towards a prosperous and sustainable future for its agrarian community.

NURTURING AGRI-RICHNESS: CHINGOLI PANCHAYAT'S AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENTS

Chingoli Gram Panchayat

Chingoli Gram Panchayat is situated in the Muthukulam Block of Alappuzha District .it covers an area of 6.60square kilometres. Chingoli, a quaint agricultural village, boasts a picturesque landscape surrounded by waterlogged paddy fields to the west and open fields to the east. The village's primary crops include coconut and paddy, while intercropping with cassava, yam, kachil yam, banana, pepper, and various vegetables further enriches its agricultural diversity. With a strong focus on promoting agriculture and supporting its farmers, Chingoli Panchayat has implemented a range of innovative schemes and initiatives that have significantly contributed to the growth and prosperity of the agricultural sector.

In the early days, paddy cultivation was the predominant agricultural activity, occupying approximately sixty percent of the total land. However, with the aim of expanding agricultural opportunities and maximizing yield, Chingoli Panchayat introduced various schemes such as inter-cropping, rice cultivation development, ginger cultivation, and the provision of fruit tree seedlings. These initiatives have allowed farmers to diversify their crops, enhancing both economic and

ecological sustainability.

Recognizing the importance of supporting farmers, the panchayat provided fodder, fodder grass seeds, and fertilizers at affordable rates. Moreover, a Marketing Centre was established, offering a platform for farmers to showcase and sell their produce, ensuring fair prices and better market access. Additionally, coconut climbing training and modern milking machines were made available, equipping farmers with the necessary tools to improve productivity and efficiency.

Chingoli Panchayat initiated the "Care Programame of Government," a remarkable endeavour aimed at greening every household. Through this initiative, tree saplings were planted in each home, promoting environmental consciousness, and contributing to the overall well-being of the village. This programa showcases the panchayat's commitment to sustainable practices and environmental conservation.

Chingoli Panchayat stands as a shining example of a community deeply invested in nurturing its agricultural heritage. With a wide range of innovative schemes and initiatives, the panchayat has successfully empowered farmers, diversified crops, and promoted sustainable agriculture. By greening every household through the "Care Programame of Government," Chingoli Panchayat has not only beautified the village but also instilled a sense of environmental responsibility among its residents. Through its unwavering dedication to agricultural advancements, Chingoli Panchayat continues to thrive as an agricultural gem in the region.

KRISHNAPURAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S AGRARIAN RENAISSANCE: NURTURING SUSTAINABLE FARMING

Krishnapuram Gram Panchayat

Krishnapuram is a panchayat under the Mutukulam block of Alappuzha district .it covers an area of 10.64 square kilometres .Krishnapuram Gram Panchayat, in collaboration with the Department of Agricultural Development and Farmers' Welfare, has embarked on a remarkable journey to ensure food security and foster sustainable farming practices within the region. Through the Keragrama project and various other initiatives, the panchayat has been proactive in transforming agricultural landscapes and uplifting the livelihoods of farmers. With a strong focus on organic farming and promoting inter-cropping, Krishnapuram Gram Panchayat has become a shining example of agrarian renaissance.

With a total investment of Rs 850,000, agriculture has been implemented in all households across 20 hectares of land. Through this ambitious project, the panchayat aims to create a FALLOW LAND FREE community. By encouraging every household to actively participate in agricultural activities, the panchayat is promoting self-sufficiency and food security.

The Keragrama project allocated Rs 5,017,000 in the first year, focusing on enhancing the productivity of 43,750 coconut trees spread over 250 hectares of land in the

panchayat. Farmers were provided with fertilizers, coconut tree climbing machines, and pump sets for efficient watering. This comprehensive approach has contributed to increased coconut yield and sustainable coconut cultivation practices.

The funds received in the subsequent years of the Keragrama project, amounting to Rs 2,000,850 and Rs 600,000, respectively, have been utilized effectively among the 43,750 coconut trees. The project emphasizes promoting inter-cropping, addressing labour shortages, and imparting basic knowledge of coconut cultivation to farmers. This holistic approach to agriculture is fostering diversified and resilient farming practices.

Krishnapuram Gram Panchayat also took initiatives to support mango and pepper cultivation. Spending Rs 91,300, grafted mango tree saplings and grafted pepper were provided to 2,000 farmers, further diversifying the crop portfolio, and promoting fruit cultivation.

The panchayat, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, has facilitated poly house farming and fish rearing by offering a subsidy of Rs 500,000. This initiative enables farmers to cultivate vegetables efficiently and rear fish, adding to their income and fostering sustainable farming practices.

Through the Bharatiya Prakriti Krishi Project, Krishnapuram Gram Panchayat has made significant strides in promoting 100 hectares of organic farming. By reviving traditional seeds and farming methods, the panchayat is preserving agricultural heritage and contributing to ecological balance.

Krishnapuram Gram Panchayat's unwavering commitment to sustainable and organic farming practices has revitalized the agricultural sector in the region. Through innovative projects like Keragrama and various other initiatives, the panchayat has empowered farmers, promoted inter-cropping, and revived traditional knowledge. With a focus on preserving the environment and ensuring food security, Krishnapuram Gram Panchayat stands as a beacon of hope and progress in the agricultural landscape.

CHEPPAD PANCHAYAT'S REMARKABLE AGRICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS: EMPOWERING FARMERS FOR PROSPERITY

Cheppad Gram Panchayat

Cheppad is a panchayat under the Mutukulam block of Alappuzha district, covering an area of 12.67 square kilometers. There are 14 wards under Cheppad Gram Panchayat.

During the period 2021-22, Cheppad Panchayat in Alappuzha district achieved a significant milestone in the field of agriculture. With the concerted efforts of the Gram Panchayat and Krishi Bhavan, the project "Onathinu oru muram pachakkari" was launched, showcasing their commitment to empowering farmers and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. Additionally, various initiatives, such as rice seed distribution, coconut fertilizer distribution, and ginger turmeric distribution, were undertaken to boost agricultural productivity. The panchayat's dedicated focus on agriculture has been evident through its substantial investment of over Rs.60 lakhs in the MGNREGA scheme to support agricultural activities. Under the Subhiksha Kerala scheme, barren land has been transformed into cultivable farmland, and Sesame farming has witnessed remarkable expansion. Moreover, the provision of pump sets for agricultural purposes has enabled farming even during summer, demonstrating Cheppad Panchayat's determination to

achieve agricultural self-sufficiency.

The project "Onathinu oru muram pachakkari" exemplifies Cheppad Panchayat's commitment to boosting agricultural production and promoting self-reliance among farmers. Through this project, the panchayat aims to provide farmers with the necessary resources and support to cultivate seasonal crops, thereby enhancing their livelihoods and ensuring food security in the region. Initiatives like rice seed distribution, coconut fertilizer distribution, and ginger turmeric distribution further indicate the panchayat's strategic approach to empowering farmers and optimizing crop yields.

Cheppad Panchayat's commitment to the agricultural sector is evident through its substantial investment of over Rs.60 lakhs in the MGNREGA scheme to promote agricultural activities. By utilizing MGNREGA funds for agricultural development, the panchayat ensures that local farmers receive financial support and employment opportunities, leading to overall rural development and prosperity.

The Subhiksha Kerala scheme has played a pivotal role in converting barren land into cultivable farmland. Through this initiative, the panchayat has revitalized unused land, providing farmers with additional areas for cultivation and augmenting agricultural output. The expansion of Sesame farming by 5 hectares further signifies Cheppad Panchayat's dedication to promoting diversified and sustainable agricultural practices.

To bolster agricultural activities, Cheppad Panchayat provides rice seed and labour cost subsidies for 125 hectares of agricultural land. This support not only encourages farmers to invest in their crops but also ensures equitable access to agricultural resources. Additionally, the provision of pump sets for agricultural purposes has been instrumental in enabling year-round farming, mitigating the challenges posed by seasonal variations.

Cheppad Panchayat's remarkable achievements in the field of agriculture showcase its unwavering commitment to empowering farmers and fostering sustainable agricultural practices. The successful implementation of the "Onathinu oru muram pachakkari" project, along with various other initiatives, exemplifies the

panchayat's vision for rural prosperity and food security. By investing in agricultural development through the MGNREGA scheme, transforming barren land into cultivable farmland, and providing vital subsidies and resources to farmers, Cheppad Panchayat stands as a beacon of progress and prosperity in the region's agricultural landscape.

PROMOTING LIVELIHOOD AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN KANJIKUZHI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kanjikuzhi Gram Panchayat

Kanjikuzhi Gram Panchayat, situated in Kanjikkuzhi block, Alappuzha district, Kerala, has prioritized both infrastructure development and productive activities to uplift its community. With a strong emphasis on public participation, the panchayat has successfully implemented various housing schemes in 2021-22, aimed at providing decent living conditions and empowering the economically challenged sections of society. Additionally, the panchayat is actively fostering economic activities and entrepreneurship to enhance the overall development of the region.

In pursuit of ensuring a better quality of life for its residents, Kanjikuzhi Gram Panchayat has implemented significant housing schemes, including LIFE (Livelihood Inclusion and Financial Empowerment), PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Aawas Yojna), and IAY (Indira Awaas Yojana). LIFE mission, initiated by the Kerala government, aims to provide employment opportunities and livelihood support to the homeless population in the state, promoting their active participation in social activities. PMAY and IAY further contribute to providing housing solutions for people in need. These schemes have particularly appealed to the economically

disadvantaged sections of the village.

Kanjikuzhi Gram Panchayat has successfully executed a total of 328 house construction agreements in both the general and SC categories, out of which 326 houses have been completed. This significant achievement, amounting to an expenditure of 13.01 crores, has greatly contributed to improving the livelihoods of the villagers.

In its quest for comprehensive development, the panchayat focuses on economic activities and skill development. The establishment of coir RAT (Remote Area Technology) Units aims to provide rural employment opportunities, particularly for women, and create alternative sources of income generation. Additionally, an event management unit has been set up to cater to the growing demand for decorative items and equipment for various events, further promoting entrepreneurship.

The panchayat's intervention in the establishment of a mega bakery unit has led to the economic independence of trained workers. Through strategic marketing activities, the products of the bakery have been successfully sold in nearby areas, contributing to the overall financial upliftment of the village.

Kanjikuzhi Gram Panchayat's proactive approach towards infrastructure development, housing schemes, and entrepreneurship promotion showcases its dedication to fostering sustainable livelihoods and empowering its community. With a focus on public participation, the panchayat continues to pave the way for a brighter and more prosperous future for its residents.

CHERTHALA SOUTH GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMBRACING AGRICULTURE AND ORGANIC FARMING INITIATIVES

Cherthala South Gram Panchayat

Cherthala South Gram Panchayat, a part of Kanjikuzhi block panchayat in Alappuzha district, Kerala, is a picturesque village bordered by the Arabian Sea on the west, boasting a captivating 6 km long beach. As a first-grade panchayat, Cherthala South covers an area of 18.34 sq km and is home to a vibrant population of 40,102, including 19,783 males and 20,319 females. Renowned for its abundant water bodies, streams, and fertile soil, the village presents a promising landscape for agricultural pursuits.

The Agriculture Department of the Government of Kerala has initiated the 'Njangalum Krishiyilekku' project, which translates to 'We also go to agriculture.' This visionary project aims to encourage the Kerala community to actively engage in farming, fostering self-sufficiency in vegetable cultivation and ensuring the production of safe, organic food. As part of the government's 100-day action plan, the Agriculture Department has committed to implementing organic farming in 10,000 hectares of land. Participants in the project are provided with the necessary land for cultivation, along with seeds, saplings, and guidance tailored to the specific area.

In line with the 'Njangalum Krishiyilekku' project, a

special programa called 'Haritha Theeram' was organized in Ward 1 of Cherthala South Gram Panchayat. The panchayat, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, embarked on the cultivation of karanel in previously barren coastal areas. Various farming groups enthusiastically participated in this endeavor, under the leadership of the People's Representative of Ward 1. Today, this initiative has borne fruit, yielded a bumper crop and exemplified the success of dry land paddy cultivation.

Cherthala South Gram Panchayat has embraced agriculture and organic farming wholeheartedly, realizing the potential of its water-rich and fertile terrain. By actively participating in the 'Njangalum Krishiyilekku' project and implementing innovative initiatives like 'Haritha Theeram,' the panchayat has achieved remarkable success in promoting agricultural practices and attaining self-sufficiency in food production.

With its beautiful coastal landscape, Cherthala South Gram Panchayat stands as a prime example of harnessing agricultural potential and embracing organic farming methods. Through the support of the Agriculture Department's visionary projects and the proactive engagement of farming communities, the panchayat has exemplified how dedication to agriculture can lead to a successful and prosperous community.

SNEHA POTHI INITIATIVE BY THEKKEKKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat

Thekkekara Gram Panchayat is part of Mavelikkara block panchayat of Alappuzha district. The village is situated in Mavelikara south. According to Census 2011 information the location code or village code of Thekekara village is 628280. Thekekara village is in Mavelikkara taluk of Alappuzha district in Kerala, India. It is situated 6km away from sub-district headquarter Mavelikkara and 65km away from district headquarter Alappuzha.

"Snehapothi" is a commendable project initiated in Thekekkara Gram Panchayat, aimed at addressing extreme poverty and providing meals to the most vulnerable individuals who face difficulties in cooking and eating at home. The project's primary objective is to ensure that no one in the panchayat goes hungry, ultimately striving for a hunger-free community.

The initiative begins by identifying and reaching out to the extremely poor and marginalized members of the community who are in dire need of food assistance. Before the state government conducts its extreme poverty survey and micro-planning, Snehapothi steps in to provide immediate relief to those in need.

The project collaborates with two popular hotels located

in the east and west areas of the South Bank, utilizing their facilities to prepare and deliver the food packages. The meals are thoughtfully designed to provide wholesome nutrition to the recipients. In the afternoon, rice is served along with two spoonfuls of curry and fish, accompanied by pickles. In the evening, coffee is provided, and snacks like Ediyappam, chapatti, and appam are offered.

To ensure efficient delivery, two individuals have been assigned to distribute the food—one in the west and another in the east. They are remunerated with a monthly salary of Rs 9000 by the panchayat.

The quality of the food is of utmost importance, and the Panchayat office bearers, along with officials and the secretary, regularly visit the popular hotels to inspect and ensure the food's high standards.

The project has incurred an approximate cost of sixteen and a half lakh rupees to the panchayat. While there are charitable organizations that distribute food, Snehapothi distinguishes itself as the first initiative to provide doorstep delivery of food to beneficiaries, ensuring they receive the meals without the need to venture out of their homes.

To enhance the food delivery process, there is also a plan to use containers that can maintain the temperature of the food, preventing it from getting cold. This will further benefit those who may have mobility issues due to old age or physical conditions, ensuring they receive warm and fresh meals.

Overall, Snehapothi is a thoughtful and impactful project that showcases the panchayat's dedication to caring for its vulnerable citizens. By addressing the immediate needs of the community and providing food security, the initiative fosters a sense of support, compassion, and unity within the community.

INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES IN THEKKEKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT, KERALA: EMPOWERING FARMERS AND FOSTERING GROWTH

Mavelikkara Thekkekara Gram Panchayat

Thekkekara is a village situated in the Mavelikkara taluk, Mavelikkara Block of Alappuzha district in the state of Kerala. It is in the Mavelikara South region. As per the Census of India 2011, the village has been assigned the location code or village code of 628280.

Geographically, Thekkekara village is situated about 6 km away from the sub-district headquarters, Mavelikkara, and approximately 65 km away from the district headquarters, Alappuzha.

The village is a part of the Alappuzha district, which is known for its backwaters, lush greenery, and cultural heritage. The area is predominantly rural, with a significant focus on agriculture and traditional ways of life. Thekkekara, like many other villages in Kerala, holds a unique charm with its natural beauty and cultural richness.

Mavelikkara Thekekara village panchayat is implementing innovative methods in the field of agriculture. The diverse range of crops being grown, including coconut, paddy, vegetables, banana, tuberous crops, fruit trees, ginger, and turmeric, indicates a well-rounded and sustainable agricultural approach. The cultivation of paddy on

previously barren land is a commendable effort, and it shows the commitment to increasing the production and price area for various crops. Coconut cultivation on approximately 150 hectares and obtaining substantial group production of 36,75 tons is also impressive, as coconut is a valuable and versatile crop.

The focus on individual and group vegetable cultivation is essential for ensuring food security and promoting healthy eating habits in the community. Moreover, the availability of irrigation through two canal irrigation systems like PIP and KP is likely to help to enhance agricultural productivity.

It's also heartening to know that Thekkekkara Krishi Bhavan and the Agricultural Labour Force are actively involved in various agricultural activities, such as land clearing with tractors, vegetable cultivation in earthen pots, and maintaining an eco-shop that provides quality potting mix and seedlings for vegetables and other crops. The availability of fertilizers, organic pesticides, and other agricultural products from the Eco Shop further supports sustainable and eco-friendly farming practices.

Additionally, the presence of an agricultural market under the auspices of Thekekara Gram Panchayat and Krishi Bhavan, led by VFPCK (Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Council, Kerala), is vital in ensuring that farmers receive fair prices for their produce. This agricultural market can play a crucial role in connecting farmers with consumers, promoting local produce, and supporting the rural economy.

Overall, the initiatives taken by Mavelikkara Thekekara village panchayat are praiseworthy and are likely to contribute to the advancement of agriculture in the region while also empowering farmers and fostering economic growth.

EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THAZHAKKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT, KERALA

Thazhakkara Gram Panchayat

Thazhakkara is a village in Alappuzha district in the Indian state of Kerala. Thazhakkara is one among the five Villages in Mavelikkara Taluk in Alappuzha District. Thazhakkara Gram Panchayat is one of the villages in Mavelikkara Taluk in Alappuzha district, consisting of 21 wards. On the northern side is Achankovil River, in the west Mavelikkara Municipality, Thekkekara of Mavelikkara, Chunakkara Panchayat and Nooranadu Panchayat are on the eastern side. The local people have two opinions about the history of the name Thazhakkara. When all these places were under the majestic rule of Edappally Swaraoopam, this place was seen as 'Thalakkara' since this area was at the top level socially, economically, educationally, culturally and geographically and later it became 'Thazhakkara.'

Thazhakkara Gram Panchayat places special emphasis on empowering its residents by organizing entrepreneurship workshops aimed at fostering economic growth and generating employment opportunities. Despite challenges such as people ghosting (not attending or participating actively), the Panchayat continues to conduct loan fairs in collaboration with banks, with a particular focus on empowering women to take charge of their lives and

become active participants in society.To facilitate entrepreneurship, loans are made available at low interest rates, and additional incentives are provided to encourage individuals to start their own enterprises. Moreover, loan subsidy fairs are organized to assist self-employed individuals and groups who exhibit good repayment habits.

This concerted effort has proven successful, as more than 20 MSME (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises) loans were spot sanctioned during a loan subsidy fair organized in partnership with SABI, Indian Bank, Kerala Bank, and Federal Bank. These initiatives have significantly contributed to the achievement of Thazhakkara Panchayat's goal of 146 entrepreneurial ventures, with 158 initiatives launched during the designated entrepreneurial year.

The Panchayat's dedication to fostering entrepreneurship and economic growth has not only made a positive impact on the community but has also garnered recognition, as Thazhakkara Panchayat proudly became the first Panchayat to achieve a 100% target in Mavelikkara Taluk. This success highlights the effectiveness of the Panchayat's approach and serves as an inspiring example for other regions to follow in promoting self-sufficiency and prosperity.

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH 'CHENGANNUR THANIMA': A VISIONARY PROJECT FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Chengannur Block Panchayat

Chengannur block is a panchayat block which is one of the 12 blocks in Alappuzha district. Chengannur is a block with more Gram Panchayats in the district. Chengannur block is included in the limits of 8-Gram Panchayats.

In the pursuit of fostering economic growth and employment opportunities for women in Chengannur block limits, the visionary 2021-22 annual plan includes an impactful project named 'Chengannur Thanima.' This initiative aims to empower women through self-employment endeavours and create a thriving economic environment. As part of the 25th-anniversary celebrations of Janakeeyasuthrana, 'Chengannur Thanima' has been recognized and approved, highlighting its significance and contribution to the local community.

The main objective of 'Chengannur Thanima' is to manufacture value-added products, with a focus on producing capable Murukku chips using locally sourced cassava. The project's total cost is estimated to be rupees 4,42,000, and it falls under the category of the local economic system and small-scale industry.

The success of 'Chengannur Thanima' lies in its

commitment to empowering women through self-employment opportunities. A Kudumbashree group consisting of five individuals from different families has taken the lead in implementing this venture. The Kudumbashree movement in Kerala is known for its efforts in women's empowerment and poverty eradication through various income-generating activities.

The project's participants have expressed their confidence in the benefits of the machinery acquired for this venture. Their enthusiasm and determination have led them to believe that the profits generated from the sale of the products will not only uplift their lives but also become a sustainable means of livelihood. The project's positive start fills them with hope that their hard work and dedication will pave the way for continued success and further accomplishments.

'Chengannur Thanima' falls under the category of the local economic system and small-scale industry, which holds immense potential in uplifting the local community and enhancing the region's economic prospects. The project is eligible for subsidies, and up to 85% of the project's allocation can be subsidized, amounting to a maximum of rupees 3 lakhs. This financial support further encourages and facilitates the successful implementation of the project.

The involvement of five members from Friend's Kudumbashree of Venmani Panchayat reflects the collaborative nature of this venture. The cooperative spirit among the participants drives them to work together diligently and efficiently, wasting no time in realizing their shared aspirations. The belief that the project will yield substantial profits motivates them to remain dedicated and enthusiastic about the venture's prospects.

'Chengannur Thanima' is a project that not only generates value-added products but also creates economic opportunities for women, transforming their lives and contributing to the overall development of the community. The combination of local resources, the Kudumbashree group's collaborative effort, and the project's subsidies make it a promising and impactful initiative. As this venture continues to flourish, it sets a remarkable example for women's empowerment, self-sufficiency, and sustainable economic growth within the Chengannur block limits.

MUHAMMA PANCHAYAT: A MODEL FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IN ALAPPUZHA DISTRICT, KERALA

Muhamma Gram Panchayat

Muhamma is a Gram Panchayat under the Aryad block panchayat, with 16 wards, Muhamma known for its scenic beauty and tourist attractions like the small island of Pathiramanal.The village is surrounded by Kanjikuzhi (SL Puram), Mannachery, and Thanneermukom, with Vambanadu on its east side and Kumarakom on the other side of the backwater, making Muhamma a picturesque location.

Most of the the village's population is engaged in agricultural labour, coir work, and fishery. Muhamma is a diverse community with people from various denominations, including Hindus, Christians, and Muslims, living together in harmony. The village's customs and traditions are in sync with those of the state, further enhancing the communal harmony and cultural richness of the region.

Muhamma Gram Panchayat, belonging to Cherthala Taluk, Alappuzha district, is an 'A' grade panchayat in Thanneermukkom South village. The panchayat covers an area of 26.76 sq km and has achieved remarkable success in the field of agriculture.

A notable achievement by Muhamma Panchayat is the

successful cultivation of paddy in the 28-acre paddock of Peruthanth. Previously, this area had only partially cultivated paddy, but through the panchayat's agriculture promotion efforts, a record success was achieved by completely cultivating paddy. The panchayat's commitment to ensuring food security is evident through its active involvement in the government's "we too go to agriculture" initiative, where agriculture was introduced in 641 centers.

Collaborating with farmers, agriculture office, and people's representatives, the panchayat has focused on bringing non-toxic vegetables to society. The "Krishi" project was implemented to produce vegetables for the panchayat, and various farms were inaugurated in 641 centers, including Singham 1. The project provided seeds and seedlings required for cultivation, benefiting both government and other organizations within the panchayat. The produced vegetables were sold in local markets, further bolstering the village's sustainable agricultural practices.

Muhamma Gram Panchayat takes immense pride in these activities, as they reflect its commitment to the welfare of its residents and the overall development of the community. The success achieved in agriculture and the active involvement of the people and government officials showcase the panchayat's dedication to ensuring the prosperity and well-being of its constituents.

With its breathtaking landscapes, cultural diversity, and commendable initiatives in agriculture, Muhamma Panchayat stands as a shining example of progress and community empowerment in Alappuzha district, Kerala.

AGRICULTURAL SUCCESS AND INITIATIVES IN VAYALAR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Vayalar Gram Panchayat

Vayalar Gram Panchayat is a local self-government institution located in the state of Kerala, India. It falls under the administration of Cherthala taluk in the Alappuzha district. As a Gram Panchayat, it is responsible for governing and providing essential services to the residents of the village of Vayalar and its surrounding areas.

Suryakanthi, which is not very well known in our country, has been successfully cultivated and 100% harvested in 12th ward of Vayalar Gram Panchayat. The Sunflower Show was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture Shri P. Prasad. District panchayat member Shri NS Siva Prasad conducted the harvesting of vegetables which was done with the participation of Mr. Prasad Manikyam Chira as part of the project "We are going to agriculture". District panchayat member Shri NS Siva Prasad conducted the harvesting of vegetables which was done with the participation of Mr. Prasad Manikyam Chira as part of the project "We are going to agriculture". District panchayat member Shri NS Siva Prasad conducted the harvesting of vegetables which was done with the participation of Mr. Prasad Manikyam Chira as part of the project "We are going to

agriculture". Vayalar Gram Panchayat President Mrs. Kavitha Shaji conducted the harvesting of land paddy cultivated under the leadership of vasumathi Thuruthel in the third ward. Karanel cultivation, which has been cultivated very well using organic methods, has been very successful. Under the leadership of Krishi Bhavan of Vayalar Gram Panchayat, as part of the project 'We too go to agriculture', under the leadership of the children of Kalavamcodam Karappuram Mission UP School, Bandipoo was cultivated to welcome Onam and other wards cultivated vegetables and harvested them. Shri P Prasad, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, inaugurated the Plant Nursery, a new initiative of the Agriculture Karma Sena under Vayalar Krishi Bhavan, which has been playing an important role in the agricultural advancements of Vayalar Gram Panchayat for the past eight years. Vayalar Gram Panchayat is vigorously implementing the project 'We Are Going to Farm' to achieve the goal of marketing non-toxic vegetables to all.

KOTTAYAM DISTRICT

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EMPOWERING PROGRESS: KORUTHODE GRAM PANCHAYAT'S PURSUIT OF INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Koruthode Gram Panchayat

Koruthode Gram Panchayat is a rural local body situated within the larger administrative unit of the Kanjirappally Panchayat Samiti, which is part of the Kottayam Zila Parishad in Kerala, India. The panchayat covers a total of two villages and is further subdivided into thirteen wards, ensuring efficient governance and representation at the local level. It is worth noting that the formation of Koruthode Gram Panchayat occurred in 2005 when the southern region of Mundakayam Gram Panchayat was separated to create this new local body. With a population of 16,413, the panchayat accommodates various communities, including a Scheduled Caste (SC) population of 2,746 and a Scheduled Tribe (ST) population of 1,485. The primary livelihood activity in Koruthode is agriculture, highlighting the agrarian nature of the region.

Recognizing the need to uplift the living conditions of its residents, Koruthode Panchayat has been actively involved in undertaking projects and initiatives aimed at poverty alleviation. The focus of these efforts is on addressing the fundamental needs of the community, particularly in the areas of water, sanitation, and shelter.

One crucial aspect of poverty alleviation is providing

housing assistance to those in need. In the 2021-22 annual plan, the panchayat extended financial aid to 77 individuals for building houses and 31 individuals for purchasing land. This support is invaluable for the beneficiaries, as it helps them secure a stable living environment.

However, due to limited own-source revenue, funding for projects targeting the general category is constrained. Nonetheless, the panchayat has allocated funds for renovating houses for 44 people in the general category, as well as for individuals belonging to the SC and ST communities. This inclusivity reflects the commitment of the panchayat to cater to the needs of all its constituents, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Moreover, the panchayat has taken steps to enhance educational opportunities for children in marginalized communities. Study rooms have been constructed in the houses of 22 SC/ST individuals who did not have a dedicated space for studying. This initiative aims to improve educational outcomes for children in these households by providing them with an appropriate environment for learning.

To improve sanitation facilities, funding has been allocated for the construction of toilets and water tanks during this period. Access to proper sanitation is essential for ensuring public health and hygiene in the village.

Koruthode Panchayat is dedicated to ongoing development efforts to uplift the living standards of its residents and address the challenges faced by its communities. By prioritizing poverty alleviation, basic infrastructure, and education, the panchayat aims to make significant progress in enhancing the overall well-being of its residents in the years to come.

EXTREME POVERTY ERADICATION ACTIVITIES BY ETTUMANOOR MUNICIPALITY

Ettumanoor Municipality

Ettumanoor is a major town and municipality in the Kottayam district of Kerala, India, located 11 kilometers northeast of Kottayam city, 50 kilometers south of Cochin, and 70 kilometers south of Cochin International Airport. The town of Ettumanoor has a population of 26,993, with 13,273 males and 13,720 females, as per the report released by Census India 2011. The population of children aged 0-6 is 2,453, which is 9.09% of the total population of Ettumanoor. In Ettumanoor Town, the Female Sex Ratio is 1034, compared to the state average of 1084. Moreover, the Child Sex Ratio in Ettumanoor is around 983, higher than the Kerala state average of 964. The literacy rate of Ettumanoor city is 97.67%, higher than the state average of 94.00%. In Ettumanoor, male literacy is around 98.20%, while female literacy rate is 97.15%.

Extreme poverty is determined based on four factors: access to food, safe shelter, basic income, and health conditions. Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions is the greatest global challenge and it is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. Over the last 40 years, absolute poverty in Kerala has significantly reduced due to various factors such as the implementation of land reforms, provision of public

education and healthcare, and a strong public distribution system, decentralization of power to local self-governments, and social security and welfare schemes, including Kudumbashree programas. According to data from the Planning Commission of the Union government, the incidence of absolute poverty in Kerala was reduced to 21.92% in 2011-12. In order to ensure timely access to services for the beneficiaries and continue the process of determining extreme poverty, Kudumbashree has launched a special campaign on 16 December 2022 with a target of eradicating extreme poverty within five years. The main factors behind the aggravation of extreme poverty, including food, safe shelter, basic income, and health conditions, have been considered. Micro-level plans are prepared for each beneficiary family to uplift them out of extreme poverty. The micro plan includes various factors such as survival needs, infrastructure, healthcare, income, and development requirements to address extreme poverty. The Resource Mobilization Micro plan provides practical guidelines for implementing the project.

Ettumanoor municipality is actively working to eradicate extreme poverty by aligning with state policies and programas and implementing its own projects and initiatives based on the needs of the area under the municipality. Emergency meetings of committees were held to conduct surveys and identify areas affected by extreme poverty. Officers, ward members, and Kudumbashree members collaborated for this purpose. Nodal officers, NGOs, representatives of commercial and industrial establishments, members of residential associations, political parties, ward members, and various committees of the municipality actively participated in the meetings and formed a committee at the municipal level and subcommittees at the ward level. Training programas were organized by KILA on November 24 and 25, 2021, to provide training regarding the survey.

A focus group has been formed in each ward to identify people affected by extreme poverty. Fourteen individuals have been identified and acknowledged as being in extreme poverty as per the 2021 first council. Unfortunately, two individuals from this list have passed away, and the nomadic people in the area who were included in the list were not found. Micro plans have been developed to improve the living conditions of the remaining individuals on the list. The municipality has started providing them with medicines, medical check-ups, and other services, as well as initiating the process of issuing identification cards and rehabilitation.

PROGRESS OF MADAPPALLY GRAM PANCHAYAT TOWARDS GOAL OF ERADICATING POVERTY

Madappally Gram Panchayat

Madappally Panchayat is situated in Kottayam District, Changanassery Taluk, covering an area of 24.4 square kilometers. They have a population of 36,000 people in the Gram Panchayat.

Madappally Panchayat focused on many initiatives for the eradication of poverty. Among that the Kudumbasree Project initiated by panchayat provides meals to the public at a rate of Rupees 20 through the Janakiya Hotel, and it sells hormone-free, quality boiled chicken at an affordable price through the Kerala Chicken Projects. There is also collaboration with the Kudumbashree and Banks to initiate various business ventures.

In the previous year, they were able to provide a hundred days of employment to 284 families, aiming to improve their standard of living. Furthermore, as part of the Nutritional Childhood Scheme, panchayat supplied egg and milk products to children in various Anganwadis to address child malnutrition. In the financial year 2021-22, financial assistance was provided to 48 families for constructing houses under the PMAY scheme and the Life Mission Project.

Madappally Gram Panchayat received recognition

and an award from Honorable Minister Shri V N Vasavan at the district level for its outstanding performance in the Life Mission Project. In this financial year, Madappally Gram Panchayat has undertaken several activities for poverty alleviation. Under the guidance of Kudumbashree, the of Madappally Gram Panchayat have strengthened their food security and income by producing food items in their kitchen gardens and marketing vegetables through Krishi Bhavan. The farmers who have raised sheep and cow have provided support through the National Employment Guarantee Scheme of Madappally Gram Panchayat. Additionally, Anganwadi children are provided with eggs and milk under the Nutritional Childhood Scheme.

Madapally Gram Panchayat was honored under the leadership of Hon'ble Minister VN Vasavan for constructing the highest number of houses in Kottayam district in 2021-22. This was accomplished by including 48 families in the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Life Mission Project, fulfilling their dream of having their own homes in the financial year 2021. The Gram Panchayat is making significant progress towards its goal of eradicating poverty.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE IN MELUKAVU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Melukavu Gram Panchayat

Melukavu village is situated in the Meenachil Taluk of Kottayam district, Kerala. The region is characterized by expansive mountains and cliffs, adding to its picturesque charm. It has 13 wards and covers an area of 30.49 sq. km. Melukavu has emerged as a popular tourist destination in Kerala, attracting visitors with its natural beauty and abundant resources, including a variety of medicinal plants. Melukavu Gram Panchayat focuses on various aspects of village governance, including infrastructure development, social welfare programas, healthcare facilities, education initiatives, and environmental conservation efforts. The Panchayat works towards improving the overall quality of life for its residents and promoting sustainable and inclusive development in the village. Given the village's natural resources and agricultural potential, the Gram Panchayat supports and encourages agricultural activities among the local population. The Panchayat collaborates with government initiatives like Kudumbasree to promote agricultural productivity and enhance the livelihoods of the villagers.

The local economy of Melukavu primarily revolves around agriculture and livestock farming. The fertile

land is utilized for cultivating crops such as tapioca, banana, turmeric, and pepper, which serve as the main sources of agricultural livelihood in the area. In addition to agriculture, broom making is a significant activity for women in the region. With easy access to raw materials, the women of Melukavu engage in broom making, contributing to the local economy, and showcasing their traditional skills. To support the agricultural and livestock sectors, Kudumbasree, a government initiative, provides financial assistance to individuals involved in these activities. This assistance helps in boosting agricultural productivity and enhancing the livelihoods of the local community.

Melukavu village, with its scenic landscape, rich natural resources, and emphasis on agriculture and livestock farming, showcases the diverse and vibrant spirit of the region. Melukavu Gram Panchayat also plays a significant role in preserving the village's natural beauty and resources, including the conservation of medicinal plants and other valuable natural assets. The Panchayat may implement measures to protect the environment, encourage sustainable practices, and promote eco-tourism to leverage the village's appeal as a tourist destination. Through its various initiatives and efforts, Melukavu Gram Panchayat strives to ensure the well-being and development of the village, empowering its residents and fostering a sustainable and prosperous community.

MGNREGS ACTIVITIES OF MOONILAVU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Moonilavu Gram Panchayat

Moonilavu gramapanchayath is situated in the Erattupetta block of Kottayam district. It covers an area of 33.41 Sq. There are 13 wards in this panchayat. The Gramapanchayath initiates various activities and programas aimed at enhancing the livelihood and welfare of the residents.

In Moonilavu GP, several initiatives have been undertaken to promote the overall development of the region. These may include infrastructure projects, social welfare programas, healthcare facilities, education initiatives, and environmental conservation efforts. The Gramapanchayath works towards improving the quality of life for its residents and creating a sustainable and inclusive community. Additionally, Moonilavu GP has implemented specific schemes and programas to support the rural population. These could include the implementation of government schemes such as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), which provides employment opportunities and income support to rural households. The Moonilavu Gramapanchayath plays a vital role in the local governance and development of the

Moonilavu region, working towards the betterment of its residents and ensuring their well-being.

The Moonilavu Gramapanchayath has implemented the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in their region. The MGNREGS is a government scheme that aims to provide employment opportunities and improve the livelihood of rural households. It guarantees a minimum of 100 days of wage employment to eligible beneficiaries in various development projects.

Under the MGNREGS scheme in Moonilavu Gramapanchayath, several activities have been initiated to benefit the residents. These activities include infrastructure development, land and water conservation, construction of rural assets, and other community-based projects. The scheme not only provides employment but also focuses on creating sustainable assets and promoting inclusive growth in the rural areas. Residents of Moonilavu Gramapanchayath have been able to avail themselves of the benefits of the MGNREGS scheme for the past several years. Through this scheme, they have access to regular employment opportunities, receive wages for their work, and are able to improve their standard of living. The MGNREGS scheme plays a significant role in enhancing the livelihoods of the people in Moonilavu Gramapanchayath by generating income, reducing poverty, and promoting rural development.

For the past 12 years, the MGNREGS scheme has been providing significant benefits to the people. Many individuals have been able to acquire goat sheds and cow sheds through this scheme. It has helped them fulfill their dream of building high-quality sheds to improve their farming practices and increase their income sources. The beneficiaries not only receive regular employment opportunities but also receive labor assistance during house construction, which leads to reduced construction costs. The MGNREGS scheme has played a crucial role in providing financial assistance for the construction of excellent farm sheds.

The residents greatly benefit from the MGNREGS scheme, enabling them to improve their lives through the income it provides. Woman beneficiaries gained independence and no longer rely on financial support from their spouses. Many

of them now reside in their own houses. In case of old age people, the income generated from the MGNREGS scheme allows them to afford essential medicines and sustain their livelihoods. The Panchayat has successfully completed 100 man-days through the MGNREGS scheme. Some residents have also received financial support from the tribal life scheme for house construction. Additionally, a number of people have been granted 90 working man-days through the MGNREGS scheme.

POVERTY ERADICATION THROUGH MGNREGS BY POONJAR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Poonjar Gram Panchayat

Poonjar Gram Panchayat is a Rural Local Body in Erattupetta block of Kottayam district. There are a total of 2 Villages under Poonjar Gram Panchayat jurisdiction. Gram Panchayat is further divided into 13 Wards. This panchayat covers an area of 24.16 sq. km.

Poonjar Gram Panchayat is situated in a picturesque location, nestled at the base of the majestic Western Ghats. It is positioned towards the eastern part of Kottayam and to the west of Idukki district. The history of Poonjar is not limited to the Gram Panchayat alone but encompasses a significant portion of the land, particularly Poonjar South.

With a strong commitment to improving the livelihoods of its residents and alleviating poverty, Poonjar Gram Panchayat has undertaken various noteworthy projects. In the year 2021-22, a total of 38,601 labor days were provided to 591 families under the MGNREGS scheme. Impressively, 250 families were able to achieve a hundred labor days, effectively contributing to their financial well-being. These efforts have resulted in providing approximately 2 crore rupees in assistance to financially disadvantaged families.

In addition to financial support, the Gram Panchayat has also implemented initiatives aimed at enhancing livelihoods. Beneficiaries have received valuable resources such as cowsheds, goat sheds, poultry sheds, farm ponds, wells, and fodder farms. These provisions contribute significantly to improving their means of income and overall quality of life. Recognizing the importance of secure housing, Poonjar Gram Panchayat has made substantial strides in this area as well. 165 homeless families in the Panchayat have been provided with houses, ensuring their well-being and safety. This commendable initiative falls under the state government's scheme, LIFE.

Looking ahead, Poonjar Gram Panchayat is committed to planning and executing more projects in the coming years, focusing on livelihood improvement and poverty alleviation. The Panchayat remains dedicated to uplifting its residents and fostering sustainable development in the region.

EMPOWERING LIVES: POONJAR THEKKEKKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Poonjar Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat

Poonjar Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat is a vibrant local governing body located in the Poonjar Thekkekkara region, which lies in the eastern part of Kottayam district, Kerala. Poonjar Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat comes in the Erattupetta block with 14 Wards. This panchayat covers an area of 60.86 sq. km. This Gram Panchayat plays a pivotal role in the development and welfare of the local community.

The Gram Panchayat focuses on implementing various projects and initiatives that prioritize the improvement of livelihoods and the overall well-being of its residents. These efforts are aimed at uplifting the community and alleviating poverty.

The panchayat has successfully implemented poverty alleviation programas, which are meticulously planned every year in the annual plan. Beneficiaries for these programas are identified through Grama sabhas, ensuring a transparent selection process. The government has introduced various initiatives to provide financial assistance for housing and sanitation purposes as part of this. Under the LIFE mission, 16 houses have been constructed, while the PMAY programa has facilitated the construction of 5 houses. Financial aid has also

been extended for household renovations through different government schemes, benefiting a total of 75 households across various categories.

In the realm of sanitation, the panchayat has made significant progress. A commendable effort has resulted in the construction of 44 new toilets in households, while 38 existing toilets have been renovated to improve sanitation facilities. Additionally, as part of the LIFE mission project, land has been procured for the benefit of three individuals within the panchayat.

Overall, these initiatives reflect the panchayat's commitment to poverty alleviation and improving the living conditions of its residents. Through careful planning and the implementation of government programas, tangible improvements have been made in housing, sanitation, and overall quality of life within the community.

ACTIVITIES OF POONJAR THEKKEKARA GRAMA PANCHAYTH FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE COMMUNITY

Poonjar Thekkekara Grama Panchayth

Poonjar Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat is a vibrant local governing body located in the Poonjar Thekkekkara region, which lies in the eastern part of Kottayam district, Kerala. Poonjar Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat comes in the Erattupetta block with 14 Wards. This panchayat covers an area of 60.86 sq. km. This Gram Panchayat plays a pivotal role in the development and welfare of the local community. Situated amidst the captivating landscapes of the region, Poonjar Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat is blessed with picturesque surroundings, including hills, valleys, and quaint villages. The region is known for its fertile land and diverse agricultural resources.

The Gram Panchayat is actively engaged in implementing various projects and initiatives aimed at enhancing the livelihoods and overall welfare of its residents. Poverty alleviation programas are a key focus, and comprehensive plans are prepared annually in the annual plan to address the needs of the community effectively.

As part of the MGNREGS (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme), the Poonjar Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat has taken proactive measures to ensure 100 working days for every household

in the panchayat. The primary focus of the scheme is to eradicate absolute poverty by creating soil and water conservation works and developing public assets such as roads. In line with this objective, the Gram Panchayat has implemented various initiatives to increase income and build personal assets. A total of 17 cattle sheds, 24 goat sheds, 30 chicken coops, and 5 paddy ponds have been constructed as personal assets. Additionally, 7 compost pits and 27 soak pits have been built on 2 acres of land. The cultivation of Azola tank has also been undertaken.

In total, 49,713 labor days have been provided to 927 families, with each family completing 100 days of work. Notably, 34 families belonging to the Scheduled Tribe (ST) category have also achieved the 100-day milestone. The expenditure incurred for these initiatives is significant, with a total of Rs. 19,619,356 spent. This includes Rs. 15,033,622 for unskilled wages and Rs. 4,585,734 for material costs. By investing in these projects and providing employment opportunities, the Gram Panchayat aims to uplift the standard of living and empower the community.

Through the implementation of the MGNREGS scheme, the Poonjar Thekkekkara Gram Panchayat demonstrates its commitment to poverty eradication and sustainable development. By creating valuable assets and providing employment opportunities, the Gram Panchayat contributes to the overall well-being and socio-economic progress of the community.

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES OF THIDANADU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thidanadu Gram Panchayat

Thidanadu gramapanchayth is situated in the Erattupetta Block of Kottayam district. It has a population of 20752. Thidanadu Gram Panchayat lies in an area of 37.19 in 14 wards. Thidanadu Gram Panchayat is situated in the Kottayam district of Kerala. It is surrounded by lush greenery and picturesque landscapes, with rivers and backwaters adding to its natural beauty.

Thidanadu Gram Panchayat has undertaken several poverty alleviation activities to uplift the socio-economic conditions of its residents. These initiatives are aimed at providing support, opportunities, and resources to vulnerable sections of the population.

Thidanadu Gram Panchayat places utmost importance on poverty alleviation activities in its comprehensive annual plans. A substantial portion of the allocated funds, with the aim of ensuring habitable housing for all within the Panchayat boundaries, is specifically allocated to projects such as land acquisition for housing construction and financial aid for housing development and rehabilitation. During the 13th Five Year Plan, the Panchayat extended financial assistance to 261 individuals in the General category and 185 individuals from the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category

for housing construction. An impressive sum of Rs. 7,070,180 has been allocated for various housing construction and rehabilitation projects in the year 2021-22.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme serves as a crucial platform for carrying out numerous poverty alleviation initiatives in the Gram Panchayat. Notably, initiatives such as the establishment of sheep coops, chicken coops, and ponds have been implemented to enhance the livelihoods of priority groups, yielding remarkable results in poverty alleviation efforts. In the financial year 2021-22, 221 families were granted 100 working days under the employment guarantee scheme. The Gram Panchayat succeeded in generating an impressive 46,669 working days and disbursing a total of Rs. 13,800,000 as wages.

These relentless efforts serve as a testament to Thidanadu Gram Panchayat's unwavering dedication to poverty alleviation and the creation of sustainable livelihood opportunities for its residents.

INITIATIVES BY THALAPPALAM GRAM PANCHAYAT THROUGH MGNREGS

Thalappalam Gram Panchayat

Thalappalam Gram Panchayat is in the Meenachil taluk and is part of the Erattupetta block in Kottayam district. It has a total population of 13,361. The panchayat covers an area of 29.92 square kilometers and consists of a total of 13 wards. It is responsible for governing and overseeing the administrative and developmental activities within its jurisdiction.

In Thalappalam Gram Panchayat, various initiatives and programas have been implemented to promote the well-being and development of the community. One such initiative is the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), which has been actively supported by the Gram Panchayat.

Additionally, the Kudumbasree organization has been instrumental in empowering the residents of Thalappalam through various programas. These programas aim to uplift the community by providing skill development and employment opportunities. The Amrutham Nutritional programa has also been implemented in Thalappalam. This programa focuses on ensuring proper nutrition and well-being of the residents, particularly vulnerable sections of society. Moreover, the Kudumbasree organization has established Ambadi

stores in Thalappalam. These stores serve as outlets for the products made by local artisans and entrepreneurs, thereby promoting their livelihoods.

Under the MGNREGS scheme, several development projects have been undertaken in Thalappalam. These projects include the construction of roads, ponds, and wells, as well as the establishment of goat sheds, hen coops, and cow farms. These initiatives not only create employment opportunities but also contribute to the overall infrastructure development of the area. Lastly, the Life Mission project plays a crucial role in providing housing to the underprivileged sections of the community. This initiative focuses on constructing homes for those in need, ensuring a better quality of life for the residents of Thalappalam.

Overall, the collective efforts with convergence and integration of many schemes and projects helped the Thalappalam gramapanchayath for the holistic development and empowerment of the people.

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES BY KANGAZHA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kangazha Gram Panchayat

Kangazha Gram Panchayat is in the Chanaganssery taluk and is part of the Vazhoor block in Kottayam district. It has a total population of 20115. The panchayat covers an area of 31.19 square kilometers and consists of a total of 15 wards. Vazhoor and Kangazha are the two villages in Kangazha gramapanchayath.

Kangazha Gram Panchayat has implemented various poverty alleviation projects to uplift the underprivileged sections of society and improve their quality of life. These initiatives encompass a wide range of programas aimed at addressing poverty in a holistic manner. Here are some notable projects undertaken by the Gram Panchayat:

The Gram Panchayat has actively participated in the Life Mission project, which aims to provide housing for the homeless and those living in inadequate conditions. Through this initiative, efforts have been made to construct and allocate homes to families in need, ensuring a safe and dignified living environment. In addition to this, recognizing the importance of providing support and care to those with chronic illnesses and their families, the Panchayat has established palliative care services. These services encompass medical assistance,

emotional support, and other essential resources to enhance the quality of life for individuals facing serious health challenges. Then, to identify and address extreme poverty within the community, the Panchayat implemented an identification process. This initiative helps in identifying households and individuals living in dire economic conditions, allowing targeted interventions and assistance to uplift them from poverty. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREG) programa has been actively utilized by the Gram Panchayat to generate employment opportunities and improve the economic conditions of the rural population. Under this programa, various infrastructure development projects are undertaken, providing employment to individuals and promoting sustainable growth.

These poverty alleviation projects demonstrate the commitment of Kangazha Gram Panchayat to address the multifaceted aspects of poverty. By focusing on housing, healthcare, identification of extreme poverty, and employment generation, the Panchayat aims to create a more inclusive and prosperous community. Through these initiatives, the Gram Panchayat strives to uplift the disadvantaged sections of society, enhance their standard of living, and foster sustainable development.

POVERTY FREE AND ENHANCED LIVELIHOOD INITIATIVES BY MULAKULAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Mulakulam Gram Panchayat

Mulakulam Gram Panchayat is in the Chanaganssery taluk and is part of the Kaduthuruthy block in Kottayam district. It has a total population of 25798. The panchayat covers an area of 26.15 square kilometers and consists of a total of 17 wards. Throughout the years, Mulakulam panchayat has made dedicated efforts to eradicate poverty and enhance the livelihoods of the people in the panchayat.

During the period of 2019-2022, Mulakkulam Gram Panchayat actively participated in the Life Mission Project, successfully providing houses to 80 of the poorest individuals in the community. This noteworthy achievement was complemented by the efforts to extend financial assistance for house renovations and the construction of toilets, benefiting 300 poor families. Furthermore, panchayat facilitated initiatives such as the distribution of auto-rickshaws, milking cows, and goats, empowering women to become self-employed and generate their own income.

Panchayat recognized the importance of ensuring the well-being of their community members, especially vulnerable groups. To address this, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) conducted nutrition

programas for children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers. Additionally, they extended necessary support to senior citizens and disabled individuals, acknowledging their unique needs and challenges.

Through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), panchayat strived to provide employment opportunities. In the year 2021-2022 alone, they distributed 5,293 job cards and facilitated approximately 100 workdays for around 190 workers, contributing to their livelihoods and financial stability. To identify and assist the most impoverished individuals, they implemented the Extreme Poverty Identification scheme, targeting ten individuals suffering from extreme poverty and providing them with financial aid.

Recognizing the significance of education and empowerment, they extended financial assistance to the daughters of widows, ensuring that they have access to equal opportunities. Furthermore, panchayat prioritized the well-being of the beneficiaries, providing social security pensions to approximately 5,000 individuals. Through the Janaki Hotel, they also initiated a lunch programa, offering affordable meals to the community. Additionally, under the Ashraya scheme, panchayat distributed 20rs food grains to 130 eligible families.

In conclusion, the efforts of Mulakkulam Gram Panchayat in creating a Poverty Free Panchayat have yielded significant accomplishments. By addressing housing needs, supporting self-employment, ensuring nutritional programas, providing employment opportunities, extending financial aid, and prioritizing social security, they have taken comprehensive measures to uplift the community. These achievements exemplify the dedication to eradicating poverty, improving livelihoods, and fostering a prosperous future for all residents of Mulakkulam Gram Panchayat.

MILK ATM BY PAMPADY BLOCK PANCHAYATH

Pampady Block Panchayath

Pambady block panchayat is one of the block panchayats in Kottayam district. There are 8 gramapanchayaths come under the jurisdiction of pampady block panchayat. Pampady block has 14 wards. 166 Sq. is the total area of this block panchayat. In the Pampady Block Panchayat of Kottayam district, a significant step has been taken towards increasing local sales and ensuring the availability of pure cow's milk for consumers. The Pampady Block Panchayat became the first local self-government in Kerala to implement a milk ATM as part of its 2021-2022 Annual Plan. This initiative, carried out in collaboration with the Department of Dairy Development, aims to provide consumers with easy access to high-quality milk produced by local farmers. The project has gained considerable success since its inception, with plans to expand it to more locations soon.

Under the guidance of the Dairy Development Department, the Pampady Block Panchayat installed a milk ATM using modern technology to enhance local sales for the Areeparamp Ksheeravyavasaya Sahakarana Sangham. A budget allocation of Rs. 2 lakhs were made for this project from the funds earmarked for the Maalam Division, under the supervision of Member Thomas

from the Pampadi Block Panchayat. The total cost of the milk ATM installation amounted to Rs. 4, 36,000. The primary objective was to provide consumers with pure cow's milk produced by local farmers, without any additives, 24 hours a day.

Since its establishment, the milk ATM has witnessed a steady increase in sales. Initially, the daily sales volume was approximately 100 liters, but it has now risen to about 140 liters per day. One of the key advantages of the milk ATM is that customers can conveniently access milk whenever they need it, regardless of the working hours of the cooperative society. The machine is regularly inspected and cleaned to ensure the highest quality standards.

The project undertaken by the Pampady Block Panchayat in collaboration with the Dairy Development Department contributes to the state's goal of achieving milk self-sufficiency. As the demand for innovative milk storage and distribution methods increases, this initiative stands as a testament to the efforts being made to modernize the dairy sector. The Pampady Block Panchayat takes pride in its partnership with the Dairy Development Department in implementing this project, which aims to encourage the growth of milk societies and support dairy farmers.

The introduction of the milk ATM concept received wholehearted support from the Pampady Block Panchayat committees. In addition to ensuring the availability of pure milk every time, the project also promotes environmentally friendly practices. It marks a significant milestone as the first collaborative project between a regional self-governing body and a dairy cooperative in the state. People used to throw away the milk covers after use. A change from that, the project is being implemented with the goal of Green Kerala. The success of the initial installation has prompted plans to set up milk ATMs at three more locations in the coming year.

The milk ATM initiative introduced by the Pampady Block Panchayat in partnership with the Dairy Development Department has revolutionized the accessibility of pure cow's milk for consumers. With plans to expand this innovative concept to additional locations, the Pampady Block Panchayat continues to lead the way in promoting local sales and ensuring the availability of high-quality milk for its residents.

INCLUSIVE GROWTH: RAMAPURAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S JOURNEY

Ramapuram Gram Panchayat

Ramapuram Gram Panchayat, situated in the Uzhavoor block of Kottayam district of Kerala, perfectly embodies the state's reputation as the land of mountains. Spanning across a vast area of 54.54 square kilometers, this enchanting panchayat is home to a population of 29,395. Its breathtaking landscapes are adorned by the magnificent Kurunji Komban and Kottamala mountains, serving as protectors of nature's pristine beauty. This gramapanchayath has 18 wards in total.

The fertile land of Ramapuram is characterized by scattered hills, valleys, streams, and ravines, adding to its natural splendor. Moreover, this region boasts a rich cultural heritage, with notable personalities such as Ramapurathu Warrier, Paremakkal Thomas Kathanar, and Lalithambika Antharjanam leaving their mark on its literary and artistic traditions. These literary traditions have been passed down through generations and nurtured by renowned writers like N. Mohanan, Krishnan Parappally, Edacheri Ramachandran, Vaniyedath Kumaran, K. P. Marar, Ambadi Balakrishnan, and Thanuja S. Bhattathiri.

In line with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Ramapuram Gram Panchayat is committed to providing

a minimum of 100 days of wage employment to rural households willing to engage in unskilled manual work. In the financial year 2021-2022, a remarkable achievement was made as 370 families completed 100 days of employment, including 47 scheduled caste and 2 scheduled tribe families. By the end of the financial year, Ramapuram Gram Panchayat had generated a total of 51,043 man-days of employment, with an average of 47 days of employment per household.

Ramapuram Gram Panchayat stands as a shining example of community-driven development, where the welfare and livelihoods of its residents are prioritized. With its awe-inspiring landscapes, rich cultural heritage, and commitment to inclusive employment opportunities, Ramapuram is not only a testament to the natural beauty of Kerala but also a model for sustainable and equitable growth.

INTERVENTIONS BY LALAM BLOCK PANCHAYAT IN THE LIVELIHOODS SECTOR

Lalam Block Panchayat

Located in the scenic Meenachil taluk of Kottayam district, Lalam Block Panchayat is a vibrant community spread across approximately 173.46 square kilometers, nestled amidst the natural splendor of Central Kerala. Lalam block panchayat has 13 wards in its jurisdiction. Enveloped by the serene Kavanar River, Lalam Panchayat has been dedicated to uplifting the marginalized and vulnerable segments of society, striving to integrate them into the mainstream. With a strong commitment to social welfare, the block has allocated substantial funds for various initiatives, exemplifying its unwavering dedication to the well-being of its residents.

Lalam Block Panchayat is dedicated to ensuring economic security and social upliftment within its jurisdiction. Recognizing the importance of employment schemes in fostering prosperity, the panchayat has implemented various programas aimed at providing financial stability and empowerment to families residing within its limits.

With a particular focus on the well-being of women, the panchayat has taken significant steps to support their economic independence and enhance their social standing. By offering subsidies and loans from banks, the

panchayat encourages women's groups comprising a minimum of five individuals who are willing to engage in the industrial marketing sector which involves the production of value-added goods. An expenditure of three lakh twenty thousand rupees has been allocated for this purpose, with an impressive 85 percent subsidy provided. Furthermore, the Women's Industry Centre has undergone upgrades, with an investment 4, 90,000 rupees, solidifying the panchayat's commitment to creating a business-friendly environment for women.

The panchayat's endeavors extend beyond women empowerment, as it actively supports self-employment and production ventures in various panchayats within the Lalam block. Construction projects in Kozhuvanal, Mutholi, Bharananganam, and Kadanad panchayats are facilitating the establishment of enterprises dedicated to self-employment, production, and marketing. Additionally, the development of an industrial estate in Karoor panchayat further reinforces the block's commitment to fostering economic growth and job opportunities. Notably, a significant investment of 11 lakhs is being channeled into construction activities in Meenachil panchayat, further enhancing the local infrastructure for economic ventures.

The panchayat's support for self-employment extends to initiatives like the Akshaya Group, which received substantial financial assistance amounting to 365,000 rupees for women's self-employment schemes and they got 3 lakhs as subsidy. By providing subsidies and funds for the purchase of necessary resources, the panchayat enables individuals to establish their businesses and generate income. This emphasizes the utilization of online systems to streamline processes and enhance accessibility, ensuring efficient operations and maximum benefits for its residents.

As the world grapples with the post-Covid situation, Lalam Block Panchayat remains steadfast in its commitment to resolving job losses and promoting agriculture marketing industry sectors. The panchayat actively encourages and supports individuals willing to invest in this sector, offering assistance, subsidies, and a conducive environment for sustainable livelihoods.

In conclusion, Lalam Block Panchayat's initiatives and support systems exemplify its unwavering dedication to economic security and social upliftment. By empowering

women, promoting self-employment, and encouraging investments in key sectors, the panchayat strives to create an environment where individuals and families can thrive and overcome the challenges posed by the changing times. Through its proactive measures and commitment to sustainable development, Lalam Block Panchayat paves the way for a prosperous future for its residents.

HUNGER FREE
KAROOR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Karoor Gram Panchayat

Karoor Gram Panchayat, located in the Meenachil taluk of the Lalam block, is a vibrant rural community in the heart of the country. Encompassing the picturesque villages of Lalam and Vallichira, the panchayat covers an expansive area of 36.84 square kilometers. With its administrative structure, the panchayat is divided into 15 wards, each representing a unique segment of the population. According to the 2011 census, the population of Karoor Gram Panchayat is recorded at 22,746 individuals. Within the panchayat, there are a total of 5,506 households, each contributing to the social and cultural fabric of the community.

Karoor Gram Panchayat has been dedicated to poverty alleviation and the overall development of its community. Through various initiatives and projects, the panchayat has made significant investments in providing housing, promoting income-generating activities, and implementing employment guarantee schemes. These efforts have contributed to improving the quality of life and economic well-being of the residents.

Karoor Gram Panchayat, with its strong commitment to poverty alleviation, has made substantial investments in the Life Housing Project during the year 2021-22. With

a total expenditure of 7,854,104 rupees, the panchayat has worked diligently to provide safe and secure housing to its residents. The project has been implemented in multiple phases, with 4 houses in phase 1, 44 houses in phase 2, and 20 houses in phase 3. Additionally, 12 houses have been allotted from the SC Additional List, further addressing the housing needs of marginalized communities.

Karoor Gram Panchayat, under the guidance of 15 ADS of Kudumbashree, has taken proactive steps to support and promote income-generating activities within the community. With the active involvement of the panchayat, a total of 148 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) are currently functioning as dedicated income-generating units. These SHGs play a pivotal role in fostering entrepreneurship and facilitating financial independence among the residents. They have successfully established diversified units in various sectors, including one paper carry bag production unit, three candle making units, one hotel, one sewing unit, one press, and five poultry farming units. These initiatives not only contribute to the economic well-being of the individuals involved but also empower them to become self-reliant, thereby fostering sustainable economic growth within the panchayat.

The panchayat has also prioritized employment guarantee schemes, recognizing the importance of providing stable employment opportunities for its residents. In 2021-22, the Employment Guarantee Scheme implemented by Karoor Gram Panchayat received a budget of 16,156,000 rupees. Through this scheme, various projects such as the construction of goat cages, rainwater well recharging, well construction, pool development, and wall construction have been undertaken, providing employment, and promoting infrastructure development within the panchayat.

Furthermore, Karoor Gram Panchayat has established the Janakeeya Hotel in Ward 14, Valavoor, ensuring that basic facilities and infrastructure are in place to support its functioning. This initiative not only caters to the culinary needs of the residents but also creates employment opportunities and contributes to the local economy.

Karoor Gram Panchayat's relentless efforts in poverty alleviation and community development have yielded positive outcomes. Through the Life Housing Project, income-generating activities facilitated by Kudumbashree, and the implementation of the Employment Guarantee Scheme, the panchayat has improved the living

conditions and economic well-being of its residents. The establishment of Janakeeya Hotel further exemplifies the panchayat's commitment to creating sustainable livelihoods and promoting local entrepreneurship. By prioritizing poverty alleviation and community empowerment, Karoor Gram Panchayat continues to make a significant impact in improving the lives of its residents.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY VAIKOM BLOCK PANCHAYATH

Vaikom Block Panchayat

Vaikom Block Panchayat, situated in Kottayam district of Kerala, is an important administrative unit encompassing 6 Gram Panchayats within its jurisdiction. With a total area of 123 square kilometers, Vaikom Block Panchayat plays a crucial role in the governance and development of the region. This block panchayat consists of 13 wards, each representing a specific area within its jurisdiction.

Vaikom Block Panchayat, in the year 2021-22, has taken significant strides towards promoting skill development and entrepreneurship within its jurisdiction. With a vision to uplift the local community and boost economic growth, the panchayat has successfully implemented several noteworthy projects. These initiatives have not only helped individuals recover from the challenges posed by floods and epidemics but also improved their lives in meaningful ways.

In terms of regional economic development, Vaikom Block Panchayat has undertaken a total of three projects. All three projects have been successfully completed, with an allocated amount of 1,450,000 rupees. The entire allocated amount has been utilized, with 100% of the funds spent on the projects. These initiatives have

directly benefited 99 beneficiaries, contributing to the overall economic growth and prosperity of the region. The panchayat's commitment to regional economic development is evident through its effective implementation and utilization of resources, ensuring maximum impact and positive outcomes for the community.

One such notable project is the Documentation Centre, which has been established by Vaikom Block Panchayat. This initiative aims to provide one-month training in documentation to a group of five unemployed and educated women. With an investment of 3 lakh rupees, the panchayat has procured essential equipment such as computers, laptops, and cameras to facilitate the training process. By emphasizing self-employment and skill development, this initiative has transformed the concept into a practical reality. The services offered by the Documentation Centre have become a source of great relief for the people residing in the vicinity.

In addition, Vaikom Block Panchayat has introduced garment manufacturing units named Minnaram and Nila. These units have received financial support and funding from the panchayat, enabling two groups of five individuals each, possessing expertise in tailoring and fashion design, to establish their businesses. Through the production and sale of textiles manufactured in these units, numerous employment opportunities have been created in the garment sector. The collaboration with Kudumbashree has further facilitated the marketing and distribution of these products.

Recognizing the importance of traditional industries, Vaikom Block Panchayat has prioritized their growth and sustenance. Financial assistance of 50,000 rupees has been provided to 19 groups engaged in rope picking, a traditional occupation, to procure the necessary raw materials, specifically Coir. This support aims to protect and provide relief to distressed rope workers, ensuring their well-being and livelihood. The panchayat has also extended its assistance to Thazhapaya weaving workers, the main handicraft of Vaikom, further strengthening the traditional industry.

Overall, Vaikom Block Panchayat has achieved a significant milestone by creating employment opportunities for 99 individuals directly, along with numerous

indirect benefits to others through skill development and employment initiatives. These efforts have not only empowered individuals but have also contributed to the economic growth and overall welfare of the region. Vaikom Block Panchayat remains committed to fostering skill development, promoting entrepreneurship, and preserving the rich heritage of traditional industries, all of which play a pivotal role in the progress and prosperity of the community.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITIES BY KUMARAKAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kumarakam Gram Panchayat

Kumarakom Gram Panchayat, situated in the Kottayam taluk of the Ettumanoor block in Kerala, India, is a local self-government body responsible for governing this vibrant rural community. Nestled in the heart of the country, Kumarakom is renowned as a popular tourist destination, attracting visitors with its stunning backwaters, houseboats, and bird sanctuary. Spanning across an extensive area of 52.25 square kilometers, Kumarakom Gram Panchayat encompasses the picturesque village of Kumarakom. The panchayat is organized into 16 wards, each representing a distinct segment of the population and contributing to the overall administration and development of the region. As per the 2011 census, the population of Kumarakom Gram Panchayat is recorded at 22,358 individuals, comprising diverse communities. Within the panchayat, there exist 5,366 households, each playing a vital role in shaping the social and cultural fabric of the community. Kumarakom Gram Panchayat serves as a pivotal governing body, focusing on the welfare and progress of its residents. It endeavors to provide essential services, infrastructure development, and implementation of government schemes, thereby improving the quality of life within the

panchayat.

Kumarakom Gram Panchayat, in collaboration with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme, has undertaken several significant projects to promote environmental conservation and rural development. These initiatives have had a profound impact on the region, benefiting both the local community and the unique ecosystems present in Kumarakom. Noteworthy projects include the Kera Nursery, geo textiles for the soil, and Mangrove Seedling Management, which have contributed to the overall welfare and sustainability of the area.

Kera Nursery: In the financial year 2021-2022, Kumarakom Gram Panchayat, under the Keragramam scheme facilitated by the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme, took a significant step towards promoting agriculture and supporting local families. A total of 6,400 families were provided with banana saplings through the Kera Nursery project, with an expenditure of Rs. 10, 47,200/-. The project had 3,184 working days, providing employment opportunities, and fostering economic growth in the community.

Geo Textiles: Soil erosion and natural calamities like floods pose significant challenges to the Kuttanadan region. In response, Kumarakom Gram Panchayat initiated the geo textiles project in the financial year 2021-2022. Coir mulch, a natural fiber material, was utilized to enhance soil properties and mitigate soil erosion. This endeavor has been instrumental in protecting the outer banks of flooded paddocks such as Puthiyad Poonkassery Padasekaram, Parekkad Padasekaram, and Vadakke Moolepadam Padasekaram. The project utilized 12,390 m^2 of topsoil and generated 3,160 workdays, fostering environmental conservation and resilience against natural disasters.

Mangrove Seedling Management: Recognizing the significance of mangroves as unique biological ecosystems, Kumarakom Gram Panchayat undertook the Mangrove Seedling Management project. Mangroves serve as vital breeding grounds for fish, aid in pollution prevention, combat climate change, prevent soil erosion, purify water, and mitigate floods. In the previous financial year, 2,500 mangrove saplings were planted and maintained in various wards of Kumarakom Gram Panchayat's coastal areas and the renowned Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary in

the Kuttanad region. The project spanned 180 working days, with an expenditure of Rs. 2, 50,000/-, contributing to the preservation and conservation of these vital ecosystems.

Kumarakom Gram Panchayat's initiatives in collaboration with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme have yielded substantial benefits for both the community and the environment. Projects such as the Kera Nursery, geo textiles, and Mangrove Seedling Management have provided employment opportunities, supported agriculture, enhanced soil conservation efforts, and safeguarded unique ecosystems. These endeavors underline the panchayat's commitment to sustainable development, environmental conservation, and the overall welfare of Kumarakom and its residents.

POVERTY ALLEVIATION ACTIVITIES BY THIRUVARPPU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thiruvarppu Gram Panchayat

Thiruvarppu Panchayat, a local self-government body situated in the breathtaking Kottayam district of Kerala, India, stands as a testament to the region's natural beauty and vibrant cultural heritage. Nestled within the Kottayam taluk of the Ettumanoor block, this panchayat is dedicated to promoting social and economic development, with a strong emphasis on improving the well-being and living standards of its residents. With a deep-rooted commitment to providing essential amenities and services, such as healthcare facilities, educational institutions, transportation infrastructure, and sanitation provisions, Thiruvarppu Panchayat strives to ensure a high quality of life for its community members. The panchayat encompasses a diverse and enchanting landscape, spanning an area of 33.59 square kilometers. From scenic vistas to varied habitats, Thiruvarppu Panchayat offers a rich tapestry of natural wonders. Within its jurisdiction, a total of 18 wards houses a population of 29,435 individuals, forming a vibrant and interconnected community. The 7,059 households within the panchayat serve as the foundation of its social fabric, contributing to its resilience and growth.

The Thiruvarppu Panchayat has been instrumental in

implementing transformative projects aimed at improving the social conditions of the underprivileged community. Through initiatives that provide support to farmers, create employment opportunities, and address poverty, the panchayat has made significant strides in bringing about positive change in the region.

Thiruvarppu Panchayat, recognizing the aspirations of its residents, has undertaken a range of projects that have fundamentally transformed the social landscape of the impoverished community. By empowering small-scale farmers and Scheduled Caste farmers through the provision of seeds and seedlings, the panchayat has not only created awareness in their field of work but also brought about a progressive change in their social conditions, with an expenditure of Rs. 8,228,327. The Vegetable Village Project, which allocated 562,000 rupees for free seeds and fertilizers, has enabled the rural population to achieve employment opportunities and economic benefits.

Through the implementation of the Kera Nursery, initiated under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the panchayat has generated employment opportunities in rural areas while ensuring that every household has a coconut sapling in their backyard. A total of 8,000 coconut saplings have been produced, distributed, and preserved, contributing to the overall well-being of the community.

To combat hunger towards the goal of a hunger-free village, the Janakya Hotel was established under the leadership of Kudumbasree. Particularly during the pandemic, food was distributed to the sick from public hotels, offering support to those in need.

LIFE scheme implemented to ensure economic empowerment through life insurance, the panchayat has provided houses to 129 homeless individuals until 2021-22. It was possible to make the homes of two destitute individuals habitable. Through such initiatives, the panchayat has made previously uninhabitable houses habitable for 54 families, furthering its commitment to improving residential conditions, with an expenditure of Rs. 15,224,333 in this year alone.

Livestock, including cows, goats, and chickens, have been distributed to deserving beneficiaries, with an expenditure of Rs. 3,190,000. Recognizing the importance of

employment in alleviating poverty, the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme has provided wages amounting to Rs. 46,923,203 to 2,294 individuals during this period.

The Kudumbasree system has been a driving force in Thiruvarppu Panchayat, with 232 Kudumbasree enterprises and 82 joint liability groups actively working towards increasing the economic capacity of impoverished women. Additionally, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic and its aftermath, the panchayat has diligently distributed food items to migrant workers who lost their jobs and struggled to survive.

Under the visionary leadership of Thiruvarppu Panchayat, a multitude of interventions has been implemented during the 2021-2012 periods, sensitively addressing the plight of villagers affected by compounded poverty, bringing tears of joy and relief to their eyes.

Thiruvarppu Panchayat's unwavering commitment to uplifting its community is evident through the range of multi-level interventions and transformative projects it has undertaken. By empowering farmers, generating employment opportunities, and addressing poverty, the panchayat has positively impacted the lives of its residents. With a focus on improving social conditions and fostering economic growth, Thiruvarppu Panchayat serves as a beacon of hope and progress in the region.

INITIATIVES IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED SECTOR BY MANIMALA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Manimala Gram Panchayat

Manimala is a large village located in Kanjirappally Taluk of Kottayam district, Kerala, with a total of 5,124 families residing. According to the Population Census 2011, the population of Manimala village is 21,053, with 10,213 males and 10,840 females. The village has a population of 1,972 children aged 0-6, accounting for 9.37% of the total population.

Manimala is primarily a village of cultivators and planters. The rubber and other cash crops being prominent on the hills. Cocoa cultivation is also prominent in the area, along with crops such as tapioca, yam, coconut, various types of beans, turmeric, and ginger. Due to the decrease in the price of rubber latex, the panchayat and the agriculture department of Manimala are focused on encouraging the cultivation of other profitable cash crops and agricultural activities to support the farmers who primarily cultivate rubber.

The Krishibhavan and panchayat distribute quality seeds, saplings of vegetables and coconut trees, fertilizers, bio-weedicides, and agriculture subsidies to farmers to promote agriculture and allied activities. The panchayat also promotes dairy farming by providing quality breeds of cows to farmers, and buffalo calves are distributed

to the SC population. The usage of soil health cards for understanding soil quality and conservation is encouraged by the panchayat. Cocoa cultivators are supported in exporting their produce to the international market, and the Cocoa Producer's Cooperative Society is functioning well in the panchayat. Funds are allocated from the yearly budget of the panchayat to promote beekeeping, mushroom cultivation, and vegetable gardens in terraces and courtyards of houses.

Under the "Muttathu Oru Meen Thottam" project of the panchayat, aquaculture is being promoted, and poultry farming is promoted through Kudumbashree. Kudumbashree actively participates in all the projects of the panchayat, and loans and subsidies are allocated to Kudumbashree members for self-employment in farming and other allied activities. The panchayat is also planning to promote agriculture among differently abled children by making them ambassadors of farm culture. Every year, the panchayat dedicates efforts to identify beneficiaries for schemes and projects related to agriculture and allied activities through Kudumbashree and other institutions.

FOSTERING AGRICULTURAL PROSPERITY: VAIKOM MUNICIPALITY'S INITIATIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Vaikom Municipality

Vaikom Municipality is a local governing body located in Vaikom, a town in the Kottayam district of Kerala, India. It operates as an administrative unit responsible for providing essential services and ensuring the overall development of the area. Geographically, Vaikom is situated on the banks of Vembanad Lake, the largest lake in Kerala, and is known for its scenic beauty and cultural significance. The municipality covers an area that includes both urban and rural regions, catering to the needs of the local population.

Under the "Subhiksha" Kerala scheme, fallow lands suitable for cultivation have been identified in all 26 wards of Vaikom Municipality. In Naranathu, paddy fields have been cultivated and have yielded good harvests. Vaikom Municipal Corporation projects are implemented in collaboration with Krishi Bhavan, Dairy Development Department, Fisheries, and the Ayyankali Municipal Corporation Job Guarantee Scheme. In the agricultural sector, the Municipal Corporation has successfully implemented the One Riddle Vegetable project for Onam. Financial support has been provided for vegetable cultivation, tobacco cultivation, flower cultivation, coconut cultivation, nursery operations,

pisciculture, and dairy farming. Through Krishi Bhavan, coconut seedlings have been distributed to 7,000 households in the municipality, providing one coconut plant per house. Neeta grass cultivation has been carried out in conjunction with the Department of Dairy Development and the Employment Guarantee Scheme, along with projects for castor and coconut fertilizers. Cattle management, incentives for farmers and financial assistance to dairy farmers are included in the employment scheme. Chickens and ducks are provided to households within the municipal limits in collaboration with the Animal Husbandry Department. Fisheries-related activities like formation of paduthakulam bio block, public water bodies for rearing fish and the distribution of ice boxes, are provided under financial year 2021-22. Vegetable seedlings have also been distributed to households within the municipal limits.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR AND BACKYARD FARMING OF CHIRAKKADAVU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Chirakkadavu Gram Panchayat

Chirakkadavu Gram Panchayat is in the Vazhoor block of Kottayam district. Covering an area of 38.81 square kilometers, this panchayat plays a significant role in various sectors, including infrastructure development, rural sanitation, water supply, agriculture, education, healthcare, and welfare programas. Its primary objective is to enhance the residents' quality of life and meet their specific needs within the local community. This panchayat has 20 wards in its jurisdiction. Serving as a crucial institution for grassroots governance, Chirakkadavu Gram Panchayat, along with other Gram Panchayats, promotes decentralized and participatory development at the village level.

By the late 19th century, Chirakadavu had transformed into an agricultural village adopting modern farming systems. However, during the mid-20th century, widespread rubber cultivation led to the destruction of agricultural diversity. Although rubber cultivation initially offered better profits and attracted farmers, the latter part of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century witnessed a crisis due to declining rubber prices.

Recognizing the need for agricultural diversification and

production, the local government took various initiatives. Various schemes were devised to reintroduce crops such as coconuts, pepper, bananas, and vegetables to the farms. Despite these efforts, agricultural production remained stagnant, and prices continued to fall. Farmers faced the challenge of inadequate market systems hindering their ability to sell their products.

In response to this situation, the Chirakkadav Gram Panchayat turned its attention to systems that could transform agricultural products into value-added goods with the aid of modern science and technology. This led to the establishment of Kerala's first agricultural value-added product manufacturing center under the leadership of the Gram Panchayat. The center aimed to alleviate farmers from exploitation by private markets, unpredictable price fluctuations, and the uncertainty of fetching good prices for their produce.

Chipro, an agricultural self-help group, emerged as a beacon of hope for the future of Chirakkadavu. They utilized wasted crops such as toppiacco and jackfruit from the fields and transformed them into chips and value-added products like mixture, pakkavada, muruk, and madura seva. Most of the workforces involved in these activities are women.

Since the advent of self-governance in India, the local Gram Panchayat has played a crucial role in the overall development of the area. The 10th Governing Council, headed by Advocate CR Sreekumar, has been driving the continuous development through diversification. Chirakadavu Gram Panchayat has implemented numerous projects to expand banana and vegetable cultivation. These projects include the distribution of vegetable seedlings; grow bag seedling distribution, assistance to women and Kudumbashree members in vegetable cultivation, banana seed distribution, group farming, tissue culture banana seedling distribution, and vegetable seed distribution. These schemes, implemented over the past 25 years, have brought significant changes to the agricultural sector and backyard farming.

ENDEAVORS TO ENHANCE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY BY POONJAR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Poonjar Gram Panchayat

Poonjar Gram Panchayat is a Rural Local Body in Erattupetta block of Kottayam district. There is a total of 2 Villages under Poonjar Gram Panchayat jurisdiction. Gram Panchayat is further divided into 13 Wards. This panchayat covers an area of 24.16 sq. km. Poonjar Gram Panchayat (GP) is located on the eastern edge of Kottayam district, nestled at the foothills of the Western Ghats in the western part of Idukki district. Geographically, Poonjar GP is located in the middle land, experiencing a moderate climate and an average rainfall of approximately 3 cm. The temperate climate and fertile land make it suitable for cultivating various cash crops. The predominant soil type in this region is D2 laterite, which is known to be conducive to agriculture.

Rubber cultivation holds prominence in Poonjar GP, serving as the primary crop grown in the area. Additionally, coconut, black pepper, banana, pineapple, and cocoa are also cultivated, adding to the agricultural diversity of the region. Recognizing the importance of agriculture and its role in the local economy, Poonjar GP has allocated 4.5 lakhs under the annual plan to promote agricultural activities. This includes initiatives to distribute hybrid vegetable seeds and planting materials to farmers.

To further support agriculture, Poonjar GP provides a labor cost subsidy of Rs. 3.24 lakhs for permanent agriculture practices. This subsidy aims to alleviate the financial burden on farmers and encourage sustainable farming methods.

Through its dedicated efforts and strategic allocation of resources, Poonjar GP endeavors to enhance agricultural productivity, improve the livelihoods of farmers, and foster sustainable development in the region. The Gram Panchayat plays a crucial role in ensuring the well-being and progress of the local community in Poonjar.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR BY THIDANADU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thidanadu Gram Panchayat

Thidanadu gramapanchayth is situated in the Erattupetta Block of Kottayam district. It has a population of 20752. Thidanadu gramapanchayath lies in an area of 37.19 in 14 wards. Thidanadu Gram Panchayat is situated in the Kottayam district of Kerala. It is surrounded by lush greenery and picturesque landscapes, with rivers and backwaters adding to its natural beauty.

The economy of Thidanadu Gram Panchayat largely relies on agriculture and related activities. The fertile land and favorable climate support the cultivation of crops such as paddy, coconut, rubber, and various horticultural crops. The panchayat provides support and guidance to farmers, promoting sustainable agricultural practices and boosting the local economy.

More than half of the 37.19 square kilometers of Thidanadu Gram Panchayat's area is dedicated to agriculture and related activities. Around 70% of the population in the Gram Panchayat relies on agriculture as their primary livelihood. The main cultivation is rubber, along with coconut, cocoa, rambutan, and various vegetables. The Krishi Bhavan has implemented projects that provide farmers with tools, equipment, fertilizers, and agricultural subsidies. These initiatives

have encouraged farmers to adopt organic farming practices, reducing the reliance on chemical fertilizers. As a result of previous projects, approximately 30 hectares of land have been transformed into cultivable areas.

To ensure fair prices and markets for agricultural crops, Farmers' Open Markets have been established and are functioning effectively. In the fiscal year 2021-22, the Gram Panchayat allocated Rs. 13, 20,000 towards various agricultural sectors. The implemented projects included organic vegetable cultivation, distribution of tuber fruit trees, subsidized pump sets for labor costs in agriculture, distribution of organic fertilizers, and the removal of damaged coconut trees while planting new saplings. These efforts aim to support and enhance agricultural practices within Thidanadu Gram Panchayat.

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES IN AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTORS BY ELIKULAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Elikulam Gram Panchayat

Elikulam Gram Panchayat is in the Kanjirappally taluk of Vazhoor block of Kottayam district. It has a total population of 24499. The panchayat covers an area of 40.26 square kilometers and consists of a total of 16 wards. Total number of households in the panchayat is 5878. Elikulam, Elamgulam are the two villages in Elikulam gramapanchayath.

In the Pampady block of Kottayam district, the agricultural sector has faced significant financial challenges due to the decline in rubber prices, which was the main cash crop. However, Elikkulam Gram Panchayat stands out for its innovative approach of promoting mixed and integrated farming methods while still preserving rubber cultivation.

The Panchayat has developed various schemes to encourage participation in agriculture among children, women, youth, and the elderly and differently abled individuals. Notably, the Panchayat has provided support and assistance in cultivating 42 acres of previously barren kaapukayam paddy fields.

An important initiative that brought about a positive change was the establishment of the Students Green

Army, which involved students from different schools. This marked the beginning of a transformative journey. The Panchayat has also extended its support to the youth by enabling them to lease unproductive lands for collective farming. They have been encouraged to diversify agricultural crops and transform them into value-added products, which are then sold through local markets and agricultural marketing centers.

Another remarkable aspect of Elikkulam Panchayat is the involvement of elderly and differently abled individuals in agriculture. The Panchayat has coordinated their activities and successfully attracted many people to engage in farming.

In addition to rubber plantations, the Panchayat promotes various other agricultural activities such as broiler farming, laying hen farming, freshwater fish farming, bee farming, rabbit farming, medicinal plant cultivation, and tuber cultivation. As part of integrated farming practices, around 1000 baby buffaloes have been distributed to rubber farmers through different cooperative societies with the cooperation of the Panchayat.

To provide organic vegetables to the community, the Panchayat, in collaboration with cooperative societies and Kudumbashree, has organized Onam, Vishu, and Christmas Markets. Furthermore, the Panchayat has initiated farm tourism, combining the scenic areas within the Panchayat, to make farming a profitable and enjoyable experience.

Through these efforts, Elikkulam Gram Panchayat has shown dedication to revitalizing the agricultural sector through fostering innovation, and promoting sustainable farming practices, thus ensuring the prosperity of the community.

SUCCESS STORY OF MARANGATTUPILLY GRAM PANCHAYAT IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED SECTORS

Marangattupilly Gram Panchayat

Marangattupilly Gram Panchayat, located in the Uzhavoor block of Kottayam district, is an integral part of the local governance in the region. Encompassing an area of 37.58 square kilometers, Marangattupilly Gram Panchayat serves a population of approximately 17,758 residents. The panchayat is comprised of 14 wards, each representing a specific area within its jurisdiction. Marangattupilly falls under the Meenachil taluk, further contributing to the administrative and developmental landscape of the district.

In the pursuit of comprehensive development in the agricultural sector, the Gram Panchayat and Krishi Bhavan led various initiatives during the period of 2021-2022. These activities aimed to promote sustainable farming practices, enhance crop production, and support the livelihoods of farmers in the community.

One notable achievement was the shift from paddy cultivation to cultivating 43 acres of land for other crops. This diversification of crops allowed for increased agricultural productivity and utilization of additional land resources. Efforts were made to incentivize vegetable production by encouraging farmers to cultivate 95 acres of land for growing vegetables. These incentives

provided support and motivation for farmers to engage in vegetable farming, thereby contributing to improved agricultural practices and food security. The distribution of 7,500 saplings to households within the Gram Panchayat highlighted the emphasis on environmental conservation and tree plantation. This initiative aimed to enhance green cover and promote sustainable farming practices within the community.

The Marangattupilly Agriculture Karma Sena played a crucial role in driving agricultural activities, investing an impressive sum of Rs. 18 lakhs. Through their active involvement, various agricultural projects were undertaken, contributing to the overall growth of the agricultural sector. To promote vegetable cultivation, the eco-shop led by the "Predhisha" Farmers Association distributed over one lakh vegetable seedlings. By utilizing grow bags and distributing more than 2 lakhs seedlings, the eco-shop played a pivotal role in increasing vegetable production and supporting the local economy.

Furthermore, the Gram Panchayat implemented a 150-acre organic farming project, distributing 834 kg of quality seeds for tuber species production. This initiative aimed to promote sustainable and chemical-free farming practices, ensuring the availability of high-quality seeds for farmers. Financial support of Rs. 3.83 lakhs were provided to three farmers to expand their processing capabilities which help in increasing their profitability. This investment in processing facilities contributed to the growth of the agricultural value chain and the economic well-being of the farming community.

To promote a balanced diet, 45 families were trained and equipped to start mushroom cultivation. Additionally, 6,500 packets of mushroom seeds were distributed to these households, ensuring consistent vegetable production throughout the year. Banana cultivation took place on 100 acres of land, reviving four acres that had previously been left fallow. Spices were grown on 130 acres, contributing to the cultivation of diverse crops within the Gram Panchayat.The Gram Panchayat also focused on empowering farmers through training and support. A total of 500 families were nurtured and trained in coconut cultivation, equipping them with the necessary skills to enhance their coconut farming practices. Moreover, vegetable gardens were established in 13 schools, promoting healthy eating habits among

children and fostering an understanding of agriculture from an early age.

To ensure the welfare of farmers, the Gram Panchayat provided support prices for farmers' produce and facilitated maximum insurance coverage. These measures aimed to protect farmers from market fluctuations and unforeseen events, promoting their financial stability. Collaborating with the State Poultry Development Corporation, the Panchayat implemented the "Asraya scheme", distributing 10 chickens to 95 families. This initiative not only addressed the issue of food scarcity but also provided financial security to these families.

Furthermore, bank loans were provided to women under the "Ksheerapatham scheme", enabling them to acquire cows. This initiative significantly increased milk production in the Gram Panchayat, improving the livelihoods of common people and enhancing the overall financial well-being of families.

The Gram Panchayat recognized and honored the achievements of farmers and individuals who made outstanding contributions to the agricultural sector. Awards were presented to the best farmers, students, clusters and teachers at various levels, acknowledging their dedication and hard work in the field. Shri Mathukutty Tom of the Panchayat received the Rajiv Gandhi Award for Best Young Farmer. In this way, the panchayat is progressing by giving way to all agricultural sectors.

REMARKABLE INITIATIVES IN THE KURAVILANGAD GRAM PANCHAYAT IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat

Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat is in the Meenachil taluk of Uzhavoor block of Kottayam district. It has a total population of 18033. The panchayat covers an area of 40.26 square kilometers and consists of a total of 14 wards. Total number of households in the panchyath is 4381.

The Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat has made significant strides in the fields of agriculture and animal husbandry, resulting in numerous accomplishments. One notable achievement is the implementation of comprehensive crop management practices. This entails providing farmers with fertilizers, subsidies, and support for kitchen gardens. Moreover, 25 grow bags containing seeds and fertilizers were distributed to Anganwadis and schools. In the animal husbandry sector, time subsidies were granted, and dairy farmers received incentives for milk production. The panchayat also facilitated egg distribution and established two goat units to enhance livestock rearing.

A remarkable initiative in the Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat is the establishment of Navajyothi, a collective farming project operated by Anugarha Kudumbashree, which operates in the eleventh ward. The main crops

cultivated in this project include tapioca, banana, yam, and turmeric. These crops are complemented by the cultivation of vegetables, ensuring a diverse and nutritious food supply for the local community. Notably, the cultivation of tapioca is carried out without the use of chemical fertilizers, ensuring the production of non-toxic products for the residents. Furthermore, a collective farm named Haritha is managed by four individuals, contributing to sustainable agricultural practices and fostering economic growth within the community.

These endeavors highlight the Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat's commitment to promoting agricultural development, empowering farmers, and prioritizing the well-being of its residents. Through comprehensive crop management, collective farming initiatives, and support for animal husbandry, the panchayat has created a conducive environment for agricultural growth while ensuring the availability of safe and nutritious produce for its inhabitants. These achievements not only contribute to the local economy but also reinforce the panchayat's dedication to sustainable practices and the overall welfare of its community.

NURTURING AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE: MANJOOR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S FLOURISHING FARMING COMMUNITY

Manjoor Gram Panchayat

Manjoor Gram Panchayat, located in the Uzhavoor block of Kottayam district, is an integral part of the local governance in the region. Encompassing an area of 28.98 square kilometers, Manjoor Gram Panchayat serves a population of approximately 27888 residents. The panchayat is comprised of 18 wards, each representing a specific area within its jurisdiction. Manjoor falls under the Vaikom taluk, further contributing to the administrative and developmental landscape of the district.

Manjoor Gram Panchayat, situated in the upper Kuttanad region, has established itself as a flourishing agricultural village. With a focus on rice cultivation, cash crops like tapioca and bananas, and the adoption of organic farming practices, the Panchayat has successfully sustained its agricultural heritage. In the previous year, the efforts dedicated to rice cultivation garnered significant attention, and the Gram Panchayat played a pivotal role in supporting farmers through subsidies and additional resources.

Agriculture forms the backbone of Manjoor Gram Panchayat, as evidenced by the extensive rice cultivation

carried out across approximately 32 fields. These fields serve as the primary source of rice production in the region, contributing to the Panchayat's agricultural landscape. Additionally, the cultivation of other cash crops such as tapioca and bananas further diversify the agricultural offerings of the Panchayat, ensuring a sustainable and robust agricultural sector.

One notable achievement of the Panchayat is its unwavering commitment to promoting organic farming practices. In line with this commitment, farmers in the Panchayat have successfully cultivated coconuts, bananas, and sugarcane without relying on chemical fertilizers. This eco-friendly approach not only ensures the production of high-quality crops but also prioritizes the health and well-being of both farmers and consumers.

The Gram Panchayat's active involvement in the agricultural sector is reflected in the substantial support provided to farmers. Last year, a significant milestone was reached as the Panchayat allocated a generous subsidiary of 12,500 rupees per hectare for rice cultivation, along with covering the labor costs. This financial assistance, coupled with the contribution from the Block Panchayat, has alleviated the burden on farmers and bolstered their confidence in pursuing agricultural activities. Such interventions serve as a testament to the Panchayat's strong commitment to the welfare and prosperity of its farming community.

The success and recognition achieved in rice cultivation stand as a testament to the Panchayat's dedication to fostering agricultural development. The Gram Panchayat's initiatives, combined with the hard work and resilience of the farmers, have created a thriving agricultural sector that continues to flourish. The Panchayat's support and encouragement have not only contributed to the economic growth of the region but have also preserved its agricultural heritage and ensured food security for the community.

Manjoor Gram Panchayat's identity as a farmer's village remains unwavering as it continues to prioritize and excel in the field of agriculture. The Panchayat's focus on rice cultivation, in addition to other cash crops, has played a vital role in sustaining the agricultural landscape of the region. The adoption of organic farming practices and the provision of subsidies and resources for farmers

highlight the Gram Panchayat's commitment to the well-being and progress of the farming community. As Manjoor Gram Panchayat thrives in the agricultural sector, it serves as an inspiring example for other regions, demonstrating the positive impact of dedicated support and sustainable farming practices.

EMPOWERING AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY WELL-BEING: UZHAVOOR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S INITIATIVES

Uzhavoor Gram Panchayat

Uzhavoor Gram Panchayat, situated in the heart of the country, encompasses the villages of Monipally and Uzhavoor. Spanning an area of 26.67 square kilometers, the panchayat consists of 13 wards, including one reserved for Scheduled Castes. According to the 2011 census, the population of Uzhavoor village panchayat stands at 14,339.

In the agriculture sector, one of the major challenges faced by the panchayat has been the lack of productivity in paddy cultivation and vegetable farming. To address these issues, the panchayat has implemented additional projects, providing subsidies for seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides, resulting in a partial resolution of these problems.

Under the Special Cattle Management Scheme, a total of Rs. 13 lakhs were disbursed, out of which Rs. 3, 25,000 was allocated from the general budget. This initiative has been instrumental in ensuring fodder supply to 26 farmers. Additionally, the Milk Rate Incentives project, with a budget of 10 lakhs, including a contribution of 4 lakhs from the general budget, Rs. 1,50,802 from the block panchayat, and 3 lakhs from the district panchayat, has provided incentives totaling Rs. 85,082 for the

procurement of 2,83,600 liters of milk.

To prioritize the community's health and well-being, the panchayat has implemented various initiatives. One such initiative is the Household Kitchen Garden Scheme, with an allocation of Rs. 1, 58,256, including Rs. 1, 18,692 from the general budget. This scheme has not only helped to regulate vegetable prices in the public market but has also enhanced financial security for families while promoting women's involvement in agriculture.

Another significant project undertaken by the panchayat is the Integrated Crop Management and Fertilizer Supply Farming Promotion. With a total expenditure of Rs. 4, 70,000, including Rs. 1, 70,000 from the general fund, this endeavor aims to convert non-cultivable areas into suitable farmland. Through this project, approximately ten acres of land across different wards have been transformed into cultivable land, providing incentives specifically targeted towards empowering women engaged in agriculture.

The panchayat has also introduced the Integrated Crop Management Fertilizer Distribution Scheme, with a budget of Rs. 4, 97,688, including Rs. 2, 48,844 from the general fund. This scheme has greatly benefitted 746 farmers in Uzhavoor Gram Panchayat. By offering fertilizers at half the market price, directly available from the cooperative banks' Uzhavoor and Monippally depots, this project encourages increased cultivation and enhances financial profitability for farmers. The fertilizers were distributed during rainy seasons. This helps to boost productivity in the rainy seasons.

Additionally, the Sampurna Chaka Village Project, with an allocation of Rs. 1, 91,360 and a general share contribution of Rs. 1, 43,520, has played a crucial role in promoting food security and community health. Through this project, 116 farmers from the beneficiary list of Uzhavoor Panchayat have received 2,392 high-quality bud jackfruit saplings. This endeavor ensures that each family has access to chemical-free food, contributing to their overall well-being. The active involvement of the Panchayat President and other members in evaluating and distributing the quality saplings directly from nurseries highlights the commitment to the success of the project.

In conclusion, Uzhavoor Gram Panchayat has undertaken various initiatives to promote agriculture, improve health and sanitation, and enhance the overall well-being of the community. Through these projects and schemes, the panchayat aims to empower farmers, protect the environment, and ensure sustainable development at the grassroots level.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES BY MEENACHIL GRAM PANCHAYAT IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Meenachil Gram Panchayat

Meenachil Gram Panchayat holds a significant role in the local governance of Kottayam district. Situated in the Lalam block, this panchayat covers an area of 15.49 square kilometers, catering to the needs of a population of around 16,863 residents. To ensure effective administration, the panchayat is divided into 14 wards, each representing a specific area within its jurisdiction. Meenachil Gram Panchayat operates under the Meenachil taluk, further contributing to the overall administrative and developmental landscape of the district. With a total of 4,046 households, the panchayat strives to address the diverse needs and aspirations of its residents, fostering growth and progress in the region.

Meenachil Gram Panchayat is dedicated to achieving sustainable development in the agricultural sector through the implementation of mechanization and modern farming methods. To ensure maximum productivity and integration of various schemes, initiatives like Subhiksha Kerala, MGNREGS, Kudumbashree, and Department of Agriculture schemes have been combined. The panchayat has invested in providing suitable infrastructure for agriculture, empowering farmers with access to modern agricultural techniques.

In Meenachil Gram Panchayat, the cultivation of long-term crops takes precedence in the agricultural sector. Rubber, castor, black pepper, coconut, and other crops have been cultivated using modern techniques, benefiting even the common farmers. The panchayat has also focused on expanding cultivation in fallow fields and promoting integrated farming practices.

Through the implementation of the Subhiksha Kerala scheme, the government of Kerala has facilitated the adoption of measures to enhance farmers' yields and ensure food security. These initiatives aim to improve the agricultural landscape, promote sustainable practices, and contribute to the overall development of Meenachil Gram Panchayat.

In conclusion, Meenachil Gram Panchayat is actively working towards sustainable development in the agricultural sector by integrating various schemes and adopting modern farming methods. The panchayat's focus on providing suitable infrastructure, promoting long-term crops, and implementing initiatives like Subhiksha Kerala has resulted in improved agricultural practices and increased productivity. By empowering farmers and ensuring food security, Meenachil Gram Panchayat is contributing to the overall development and prosperity of the region. The efforts undertaken in the agricultural sector are crucial for the panchayat's long-term growth and sustainability, setting a positive trajectory for the future.

BARREN FREE
VAIKOM BLOCK PANCHAYATH

Vaikom Block Panchayat

Vaikom Block Panchayat, situated in Kottayam district of Kerala, is an important administrative unit encompassing 6 Gram Panchayats within its jurisdiction. With a total area of 123 square kilometers, Vaikom Block Panchayat plays a crucial role in the governance and development of the region. This block panchayat consists of 13 wards, each representing a specific area within its jurisdiction.

In the field of agriculture-related sectors, several notable initiatives have been undertaken by Vaikom Block Panchayat. These include projects such as Ponkathir, Niravu, Oru Kutta Poovu and Kera Nursery, the panchayat has placed emphasis on promoting non-toxic vegetables through the Niravu project, which aims to provide a healthier and sustainable agricultural practice. Additionally, Kera Nursery has been established to support the growth and cultivation of coconut trees, a vital crop in the region. These initiatives collectively contribute to the development and progress of agriculture-related sectors, ensuring the welfare and prosperity of the farming community in Vaikom Block Panchayat. Vaikom Block Panchayat has successfully executed a total of 11 projects, all of which have been completed within the designated timeframe. The

panchayat allocated a substantial amount of 54, 12,270 towards these projects, and the entire allocated sum has been utilized for their implementation. With a utilization rate of 100 percent, the panchayat has effectively utilized the allocated funds to complete the projects as planned. This accomplishment showcases the efficient management and execution of development initiatives by Vaikom Block Panchayat, ensuring the optimal utilization of resources for the benefit of the local community and fostering overall progress in the region.

Vaikom Block Panchayat is dedicated to achieving its goal of a barren-free region, and it has implemented various projects to foster agricultural development in the financial year 2021-22. One such initiative is the Pon Kathir project, where 55 acres of land were utilized for paddy cultivation. To ensure the success of this project, the block panchayat took measures to clean the adjacent streams and conserve water, creating an ideal environment for paddy cultivation.

In conjunction with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, 300 acres of land were allocated to different Gram Panchayats for the cultivation of non-toxic vegetables under the Nirav project. Additionally, 15 acres of land were dedicated to flower cultivation for the Onam as part of Oru Kuttapoovu project. Furthermore, the Kera Nursery project focused on the production and distribution of 5,000 coconut saplings.

Vaikom Block Panchayat has witnessed remarkable progress in the field of agriculture during the 2021-22 financial years. The Hon'ble MP of Kottayam, Shri Thomas Chazhikkadan, inaugurated the Niravu project on November 1st, coinciding with Kerala Piravi Day. The aim of the Niravu project is to cultivate non-toxic vegetables within the six Gram Panchayats of Vaikom block, covering a total of 100 acres. However, due to the overwhelming response and participation of 250 groups and around 100 individuals, the cultivation expanded to 300 acres of land at the starting stage of the project itself. Various employment groups, families, men's self-help groups, and agricultural organizations enthusiastically embraced the project and were ready to contribute their efforts. Nirav project has brought about a transformative agricultural culture in Vaikom, marking a significant milestone in the region's history.

Through the revolutionary approach to vegetable farming, Vaikom witnessed unprecedented participation and success. In the financial year 2021-22, as part of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, a staggering more than 10939 families were provided with 10,54,121 working days, while 6,606 individuals were granted 100 days of employment, amounting to a total of Rs 37.82 crore in the employment guarantee scheme. This achievement showcases the remarkable impact of Niravu Project in instilling a new agricultural ethos in Vaikom. The project, spearheaded by Vaikom Block Panchayat, effectively utilized existing resources, and fostered coordination among various departments, without requiring additional funds. The successful implementation of the Niravu project led to the introduction of the Oru Kotta Poovu project during the festive season of Onam. Under this initiative, the Block Panchayat cultivated flowers in 15 acres of land, adding vibrancy to the celebrations. Building on this accomplishment, the second phase of the Niravu project is set to commence on a larger scale, covering 500 acres of land. To facilitate agricultural cultivation, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) plays a crucial role in making agricultural land cultivable. Seeds, saplings, fertilizers, and bio-pesticides are supplied through agricultural offices. In a commendable move, 4000 rupees will be given to 250 farming groups as an encouragement to support their efforts.

The second phase of Niravu project has expanded its reach to educational institutions, with the introduction of Niravu Vidhyalagalilekku in 25 government-aided schools. These schools will engage in vegetable farming activities, fostering agricultural knowledge among students. Furthermore, to promote coconut cultivation, 5000 coconut saplings will be distributed to the public free of charge. The Niravu project has become an integral part of the agricultural culture in Vaikom Block Panchayat, bringing about sustainable development and empowering the local community.

Ponkathir, another noteworthy initiative, was initiated by Vaikom Block Panchayat to eradicate fallow lands and promote paddy cultivation. Udayanapuram Gram Panchayat played a pivotal role in kick starting this project by cultivating Uma paddy in 30 acres of the long-abandoned Chalakam Padasekharam. The collaborative effort between Vaikom Block Panchayat, the Department of Agriculture, and

the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme proved fruitful as the crop yielded an impressive 100 maunds. The Hon'ble Minister of Co-operative Registration Department, Shri VN Vasavan, inaugurated the harvest festival, commemorating the project's success. This achievement not only resulted in the production of 20 tons of paddy but also provided employment opportunities for one thousand days. The Block Panchayat allocated Rs 4 lakhs for this project, and Scheduled Caste farmers contributed Rs 3,48,000 towards cultivating fallow lands and became part of the Subhiksha Keralam initiative. Additionally, substantial funds amounting to 26 lakhs were allocated for boxes and motors for various paddy fields, while four lakhs were designated for rice cultivation. The successful completion of these eight projects, totaling 66 lakhs, in the financial year 2021-22 demonstrates a commendable achievement in meeting 100% project allocation by Vaikom block panchayat.

DEVELOPMENTS OF NEENDOOR GRAM PANCHAYAT IN FOSTERING A THRIVING AGRICULTURAL SECTOR AND ENSURING THE LIVELIHOODS OF PEOPLE

Neendoor Gram Panchayat

Neendoor Gram Panchayat, located in the Kottayam taluk of the Kaduthuruthy block panchayat in Kerala's Kottayam district, is a vibrant local self-government body. Encompassing an area of 17.26 square kilometers, Neendoor Gram Panchayat serves as a significant administrative unit within its jurisdiction. The panchayat is home to a diverse population, with a total of 19,903 residents recorded. Within Neendoor Gram Panchayat, there are a total of 5,072 households, each contributing to the social fabric and development of the region. The panchayat is divided into 15 wards, with each ward representing a specific area and catering to the needs of its respective residents. Neendoor Gram Panchayat plays a crucial role in governing the local community and ensuring the well-being of its residents. It is responsible for providing essential services, implementing development projects, and addressing the needs and concerns of its constituents.

Neendoor gramapanchayth exhibits a diverse landscape with hilly slopes in the eastern region and expansive plains encompassing valleys, paddy fields, and meadows in the west. The village relies heavily on agriculture, which holds not only economic significance but also

plays a vital role in social and environmental aspects. The implementation of various agricultural initiatives and programas has been instrumental in promoting self-sufficiency, supporting farmers, and fostering sustainable agricultural practices in Neendoor.

In the 13th Five Year Plan, the Subhiksha Kerala initiative was introduced as part of the Harita Keralam plan. This encompassed initiatives such as wasteland cultivation, fish farming, and more. In the previous year, under the 13th Five Year Plan, rice subsidies were provided to encourage paddy cultivation and vegetable farming. Additionally, the introduction of vegetable seeds through Krishi Bhavan aimed to promote independent vegetable production and enhance self-sufficiency in agricultural output. The VFPCK market, established during the 12th Five Year Plan, has facilitated farmers in marketing their produce effectively.

The ongoing project in the year 2022-2023 focuses on the distribution of rice seeds for cultivation and the implementation of Samagra Purayida krishy, an inclusive farming approach. In Neendoor, where an agriculture-oriented culture thrives, a significant portion of the population is engaged in agricultural activities and allied sectors such as animal husbandry and fishing. The village has established various institutions, including markets, milk collection centers, VFPCK collection centers, Krishi Bhavan, veterinary clinics, and MatsyaFed, to support and uplift the agricultural sector. These initiatives provide farmers with improved livelihood opportunities and contribute to the overall development of the agricultural community.

Neendoor, with its unique geographical features and agricultural heritage, places immense importance on farming and allied sectors. Through the implementation of agricultural programas and initiatives, the village aims to achieve self-sufficiency, promote sustainable farming practices, and enhance the economic well-being of farmers. The establishment of various agricultural institutions and facilities further supports the growth and prosperity of the agricultural community in Neendoor. The village stands as a testament to the significance of agriculture as a pillar of rural wealth and development, fostering a thriving agricultural sector and ensuring the livelihoods of its farmers.

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED SECTORS BY THIRUVARPPU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thiruvarppu Gram Panchayat

Thiruvarppu Panchayat is a local self-government body located in the scenic Kottayam district of Kerala, India. It is situated in the Kottayam taluk of the Ettumanoor block, encompassing an area renowned for its natural splendor and rich cultural heritage. The panchayat places great importance on fostering social and economic development, with a focus on enhancing the living standards and well-being of its residents. It is committed to providing essential amenities and services, including healthcare facilities, educational institutions, transportation infrastructure, and sanitation provisions. These efforts are aimed at ensuring a high quality of life for the community members. Thiruvarppu Panchayat has a population of 29,435 individuals distributed across its 18 wards. The panchayat covers a total area of 33.59 square kilometers, accommodating a diverse range of landscapes and habitats. Within its jurisdiction, there are 7,059 households, forming the backbone of the local community. Through its dedicated governance and developmental initiatives, Thiruvarppu Panchayat strives to create a sustainable and progressive environment for its residents. By addressing the needs and aspirations of the population, the panchayat aims to foster inclusive

growth and ensure the overall prosperity of the region.

Thiruvarppu Gram Panchayat, nestled in the picturesque Upper Kuttanadan village, holds a rich agricultural heritage that captivates visitors with its expansive rice paddies and lush kalpa trees. As the villagers' main livelihood revolves around agriculture, the panchayat has embarked on various initiatives to develop and enhance this vital sector.

In the 2021-2022 financial years, the Comprehensive Rice Cultivation Development Plan allocated Rs. 8,195,287/- to distribute paddy seeds among farmers, covering 4,884.6 acres of land across 24 paddy fields. Additionally, the panchayat implemented a scheme to promote backyard vegetable cultivation, providing 4,500 grow bags and vegetable seedlings to achieve self-sufficiency in vegetable production, with a budget of Rs. 562,000/-. Through the distribution of vegetable seedlings worth Rs. 52,000/- to women groups, group farming and production have been encouraged.

To facilitate direct transactions and eliminate intermediaries, the Eco Shop has been established, enabling farmers to conveniently receive seeds and fertilizers and sell their products. Moreover, a crop insurance scheme has been implemented to make agricultural growth more secure and attractive for farmers.

Innovative agricultural practices have also taken root in Thiruvarppu Panchayat. Villagers now adorn their fields with locally grown flowers during Onam celebrations, replacing imported flowers from other states.

The panchayat's commitment to comprehensive development extends to the dairy and fisheries sectors as well. Cows and goats have been distributed to deserving beneficiaries, with an expenditure of Rs. 96,000/- and Rs. 36,000/- respectively. Additional funds have been allocated for strengthening activities in these areas. The 'Mutta Kozhi Vitharanam' project aims to boost egg production and enhance the income of women, with a budget of Rs. 300,000/-. Furthermore, the 'Biofloc Paduthakulam' project has been implemented to develop the fisheries sector, investing Rs. 94,754/-.

Through these initiatives, Thiruvarppu Gram Panchayat aims to generate employment opportunities, enhance production and productivity in the agricultural

sector, and ultimately drive local economic development.

In conclusion, Thiruvarppu Gram Panchayat's dedication to agricultural development stands as a beacon of progress, ensuring the prosperity and growth of the village and its residents. By prioritizing sustainable farming practices, empowering farmers, and fostering economic opportunities, the panchayat paves the way for a prosperous future rooted in its agricultural heritage.

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT OF PALLOM BLOCK PANCHAYAT

Pallom Block Panchayat

The Pallom block panchayat is situated in the Kottayam district of Kerala, India. It was established in the year 1995 and consists of five Gram Panchayats. The panchayat is responsible for the governance, administration, and development of the region. In total, there are 13 wards under the Pallom block panchayat, covering an expansive area of 217 square kilometers.

The block panchayat has demonstrated significant commitment towards the agricultural sector by incorporating crucial interventions in its annual plan for 2021-2022. With a clear focus on agricultural development, the block panchayat aims to achieve self-sufficiency in food production.

Recognizing the importance of irrigation for rice farmers in the paddy fields, the block panchayat allocated a budget of seventeen lakh and fifty thousand rupees. Through this initiative, motors and related machinery were installed in five paddy fields within the block panchayat, enabling irrigation facilities for ten hectares of land. This intervention has significantly contributed to agricultural cultivation and productivity.

The block panchayat addressed the severe water shortage

in the paddy fields near Chirapuram stream in Ayarkunnam panchayat. To prevent the wastage of water flowing down the stream, the panchayat allocated twenty-five lakh rupees through the Centralized scheme for the construction of a check dam. This check dam has effectively conserved water, benefiting more than forty-six hectares of agricultural land. Furthermore, the panchayat has undertaken the construction of canals and strengthening of outcrops to enhance the irrigation channels, ensuring a more robust irrigation system.

The block panchayat recognizes the importance of supporting farmers financially and has made positive interventions in this regard. By providing financial assistance in the form of wage cost subsidies, the panchayat has allocated ten lakh rupees to actively participate in agriculture-related sectors. Additionally, the panchayat has provided a subsidy of thirteen lakh rupees for fodder to spinach farmers, serving as a relief for dairy farmers. These initiatives reflect the panchayat's commitment to addressing the basic problems faced by farmers and fostering agricultural prosperity.

The block panchayat's interventions in the agricultural sector are crucial steps towards achieving self-sufficiency in food production. Through the provision of irrigation facilities, the construction of check dams, and financial assistance to farmers, the panchayat is actively promoting agricultural development and prosperity. These initiatives not only address the immediate challenges faced by farmers but also contribute to the long-term growth of the agricultural sector. By framing the development process around agricultural prosperity, the block panchayat is creating a strong foundation for sustainable agricultural practices and self-sufficiency in the block panchayat.

COIR GEOTEXTILES OF THALAYOLAPARAMBA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thalayolaparamba Gram Panchayat

Thalayolaparambu gramapanchayath is situated in Kaduthuruthy block of Kottayam district in Kerala. Thalayolaparambu Gram Panchayat is a local governing body responsible for the administration and development of an area spanning approximately 19.30 square kilometres. With a population of around 22,571 people, the panchayat consists of 15 wards under its jurisdiction. In the pursuit of promoting sustainable practices and protecting natural resources, the panchayat implemented the "Kolakam Thodu Kayar Bhoovastram " project during the financial year 2021-22, with an expenditure of 4,87,076/- for the protection of slopes of bunds.

The project specifically focused on the Kolakam area which belongs to Vettikattumukku, which falls under Ward 3 of the panchayat. The total expenditure for the project amounted to 4, 87,067/-, with 2, 73,240/- allocated for unskilled labour and 2, 08,175/- for materials.

The primary objective of the project was to protect slopes from rainwater splash and prevent erosion. To achieve this, coir geotextiles were utilized. The project involved the use of coir geotextiles to protect the side walls of water resources, such as ponds, streams, and other water

bodies. Additionally, geotextiles were employed to reinforce areas where they were laid by planting grass, contributing to soil and water conservation efforts. Coir geotextiles are known for their applicability in conserving soil and moisture, and their biodegradable nature ensures no unwanted residues are left in the ecosystem.

The implementation process began with a requirement raised in the Grama Sabha, followed by a thorough site inspection. A detailed estimate was then prepared, and after obtaining administrative and technical sanctions, the work commenced. The Thalayolaparambu Gram Panchayat served as the implementing agency for the project.

The project's benefits are evident in its contribution to sustainable and eco-friendly riverbank management. Coir geotextiles provide a cost-effective and efficient solution for strengthening riverbanks and protecting them from erosion compared to conventional technologies. The geotextiles offer long-lasting protection to the soil until the planted grass takes root, ensuring permanent vegetation. As the netting decomposes, it provides nourishment to the growing grass, further enhancing the stability of the soil.

In conclusion, the "Kolakam Thodu Kayar Bhoovastram" project implemented by the Thalayolaparambu Gram Panchayat exemplifies their commitment to sustainable practices and the preservation of natural resources. By utilizing coir geotextiles, the project not only protected slopes from erosion but also contributed to soil and water conservation efforts. The use of eco-friendly materials demonstrates the panchayat's dedication to promoting environmentally friendly initiatives for the benefit of the community and the ecosystem.

EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS: KURAVILANGAD GRAM PANCHAYAT'S SUCCESS IN BUSINESS VENTURES

Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat

Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat is in the Meenachil taluk of Uzhavoor block of Kottayam district. It has a total population of 18033. The panchayat covers an area of 40.26 square kilometres and consists of a total of 14 wards. The total number of households in the panchayat is 4381.

Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat has emerged as a hub for successful business ventures, showcasing their entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to economic growth. The initiatives of panchayat have not only garnered recognition within the region but have also contributed to the overall development and prosperity of the panchayat. Furthermore, Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat was honoured with the prestigious Swaraj Trophies in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, further validating their accomplishments.

The remarkable success story of Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat's business ventures is exemplified by Grannys Food Products. Located in Padath Naruveli, in the 6th Ward of Kuravilangad Panchayat, this venture was established in 2019. Initially focusing on value-added products such as tapioca, jackfruit and banana. Granys Food Products has steadily gained popularity and has

become synonymous with high-quality food items. Their dedication to preserving local flavours and promoting traditional cuisine has been instrumental in their success.

Another noteworthy venture in the panchayat is Nora Designing and Stitch, which commenced operations in 2018 under the guidance of Kudumbashree. With modest financial support from the initiative and through the utilization of Mudra loans, this enterprise has thrived. It has become a go-to destination for fashionable clothing and is known for its innovative designs and skilled craftsmanship. Moreover, Tanima Chips and Food Products, a Kudumbashree initiative, has established its presence in Kuravilangad Panchayat. This venture offers a range of Kudumbashree products, including their signature chips, while also providing affordable hanging lights and gate lights.

The achievements of Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat in the realm of business ventures are a testament to their enterprising spirit and commitment to economic growth. The success of Granys Food Products, Nora Designing and Stitch, and Tanima Chips and Food Products highlight the panchayat's ability to foster entrepreneurship and provide opportunities for local businesses to thrive. These ventures not only contribute to the economic development of the region but also preserve traditional practices, empower local artisans, and enhance the overall livelihoods of the community. Kuravilangad Gram Panchayat's accolade of receiving the Swaraj Trophy further affirms their dedication to progress and prosperity.

TRANSFORMING LIVES: MEENADOM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL WELFARE AND EMPOWERMENT

Meenadom Gram Panchayat

Meenadom Gram Panchayat, located in the Pampady block of Kottayam District, is a rural local body that encompasses two villages under its jurisdiction. The panchayat is part of the Pampady Panchayat Samiti and falls under the administration of the Kottayam district panchayat. It is comprised of 13 wards with a total area of 11.44 Square Kilometer.

Despite being a small panchayat with limited own-revenue, Meenadom has been successfully implementing projects that greatly benefit the public. By effectively utilizing government grants, the panchayat has made significant progress in various areas.

One of the key areas of focus for Meenadom Panchayat has been providing housing for the underprivileged. Through initiatives like the Life Mission and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), the panchayat has constructed houses for the poor, 11 houses through life mission and 3 through PMAY. Additionally, the panchayat has started Janakeeya hotels, where affordable meals are offered, and free food is provided to those in extreme poverty. The Anganwadi nutrition programa ensures the supply of nutritious food to children attending Anganwadi centers, while a free breakfast

programa is in place for students in local schools. Furthermore, the panchayat has distributed free laptops to students from poor backgrounds and provided cattle feed to support poor farmers.

To empower women, initiatives such as goat and poultry farming have been encouraged through distribution and support. Water tanks have also been provided to backward communities, and training programas have been organized to promote self-employment opportunities for poor families. Moreover, flower farming initiatives have been undertaken by Kudumbasree women, contributing to their economic upliftment. The panchayat has also shown its commitment to providing palliative care by distributing palliative beds to impoverished bedridden patients. Lastly, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has been implemented to generate employment opportunities for the poor.

Through these initiatives, Meenadom Gram Panchayat has demonstrated its dedication to the welfare and development of its residents. Despite financial constraints, the panchayat has effectively utilized government grants and resources to implement projects that address the needs of the underprivileged and promote economic empowerment. Meenadom Panchayat sets an example for other local bodies in the region by striving to uplift the community and improve the quality of life for its residents.

IDUKKI DISTRICT

1. To Provide Sustainable Livelihoods: Peerumedu Grama Pachayat
2. Focus on Personal Wealth Building Activities: Chakkupallam Grama Pachayat
3. Unemployment and job-seeking challenges: Chakkupallam Grama Pachayat
4. The Revival of Rice Cultivation: Pallivasal Grama Pachayat
5. Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods and Local Economic Development Through Various Collaborative Projects: Velliyamattam Gramapachayat

TO PROVIDE SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

Peerumedu Gram Panchayat

Peerumedu Gram Panchayat is diligently working towards poverty alleviation programas in its area by adopting sustainable developmental approaches and promoting economic growth. The primary objective is to provide essential facilities and services to the public, with a key focus on the Life Mission housing project. Within a span of five years, the panchayat aims to ensure safe and dignified housing for various categories of individuals, including the landless homeless, those with incomplete houses, and those living in uninhabitable conditions. To achieve this goal, a substantial amount of Rs. 4 crore 75 lakhs has been allocated in the 2021-22 annual plan, benefiting 132 beneficiaries for housing purposes.

The Life Mission housing project extends beyond just providing shelter; it serves as a comprehensive welfare initiative aimed at improving the quality of life and ensuring the survival and well-being of the beneficiaries. Considering that the Peerumedu Gram Panchayat's economy relies heavily on the plantation sector, nurturing and strengthening this sector becomes a crucial aspect of their development plans.

To support the production sector, the panchayat has

devised various projects, particularly focusing on cow rearing, goat rearing, and chicken rearing. They encourage the construction of stables and henhouses required for these projects and provide necessary subsidies to facilitate their success. The panchayat also recognizes and honors those who excel in taking care of these livestock, encouraging responsible and successful farming practices.

Another remarkable project that has garnered attention in Peerumedu Gram Panchayat is the Janakiya Hotel, founded on the principle of "Hunger Free Village," which is one of the 12 programas initiated by the Chief Minister. This hotel offers clean and delicious food items and has become a popular destination for both locals and visitors in the area. The hotel places great importance on providing free food to the needy, making it a successful venture that contributes to the welfare of the community.

Moreover, the panchayat is constantly working on various poverty alleviation projects to improve the standard of living and enhance economic growth in the Peerumedu Thottam area. The focus on infrastructure development and the promotion of sustainable livelihoods are central to these efforts.

Peerumedu Gram Panchayat's dedication to poverty alleviation and sustainable development has resulted in the implementation of several transformative projects. Through the Life Mission housing project, livestock farming initiatives, and the Hunger Free Village concept, the panchayat is making significant strides in improving the lives of its residents and fostering economic growth. By focusing on comprehensive welfare measures and fostering a thriving local economy, the panchayat is setting a shining example for other regions to follow in their pursuit of prosperity and social well-being.

FOCUS ON PERSONAL WEALTH BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat

Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat has been actively involved in the implementation of various development schemes and projects to improve the lives of its residents. Under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), the panchayat has provided employment cards to 5738 people belonging to 3165 families across 15 wards. Among them, 2028 individuals are permanent workers, and special attention has been given to 93 Scheduled Tribe (ST) families in the 13th Ward, Paliakoo.

One of the primary objectives of the employment guarantee scheme is to ensure maximum employment for those willing to do unskilled work and protect their rights. The Grama Sabha plays a vital role in identifying and providing beneficial activities for the community, thus effectively and efficiently implementing the scheme to achieve socio-economic and environmental benefits.

The panchayat has focused on personal wealth-building activities to enhance financial security and livelihood opportunities for beneficiaries. This includes the construction of sheep sheds, cattle sheds, hen sheds, ponds, wells, compost pits, and padutaakulams (fishponds). The promotion of padutaakulams

encourages farmers to venture into fish cultivation, further contributing to their income.

Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat has achieved significant milestones in converting fallow lands into productive agricultural areas, thereby benefiting small and marginal farmers. The restoration of canals and the implementation of rope land dressing systems have made the land suitable for rice cultivation while ensuring smooth drainage by clearing garbage from the canals.

The panchayat has also invested in the development of educational infrastructure, constructing playgrounds for schools, and providing resources to tribal schools. Through MGNREGS, approximately 13 acres of barren school land has been transformed into productive land by cultivating fruit trees, bananas, and vegetables after clearing the forest.

In addition to these initiatives, Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat has undertaken housing construction projects through integrated schemes, promoted fodder cultivation and fish farming through pond construction, and utilized project funds to tar roads in the area.

The proactive approach of Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat in implementing various development projects through the employment guarantee scheme and other initiatives has contributed significantly to the well-being and prosperity of its residents. By addressing socio-economic challenges and focusing on sustainable development, the panchayat sets an example for other regions to follow and ensures the overall progress and prosperity of the community.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND JOB-SEEKING CHALLENGES

Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat

Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat is taking an innovative approach to address unemployment and job-seeking challenges through the establishment of Prabhas Sabhas. The main objective of these Sabhas is to identify job seekers and match them with suitable job opportunities both within and outside Kerala, as well as internationally. The Sabhas serve as public spaces where individuals between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine can explore career options, receive guidance, and connect with various government systems. This initiative is organized by the local self-government to effectively address the needs of job seekers within the community.

This unique concept of enterprise-led employment is a pioneering initiative, setting an example for the rest of the world. Career councils are formed to plan activities that enhance the skills of job seekers, making them more employable by identifying local enterprises and job prospects and providing them with the necessary skills development opportunities. The establishment of job entrepreneurship clubs within these councils aims to create new associations and networks for job seekers to seek employment and income.

In alignment with the Fourteenth Plan, Chakkupallam

Gram Panchayat envisions becoming a center for sustainable regional economic growth and employment generation. To achieve this goal, extensive systems and initiatives are being implemented to foster local economic development and create job opportunities within the community. The government has set a target to provide employment to twenty lakh people in five years, and Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat is actively contributing to this mission.Through collaboration with K-Disk and Kudumbashree under the "My Job My Pride" project, a survey has been conducted to identify job seekers in the region. Those between the ages of 23 and 40 from this list will be registered in the Digital Workforce Management System (EWMS) prepared by K-Disk, facilitating their access to job opportunities, and guiding them towards suitable employment options.

Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat's proactive and innovative approach towards job creation and economic development showcases its commitment to the well-being of its residents. By empowering job seekers and supporting local enterprises, the panchayat is playing a pivotal role in building a thriving and sustainable community.

THE REVIVAL OF RICE CULTIVATION

Pallivasal Gram Panchayat

Pallivasal Gram Panchayat is a local self-government institution located in the Idukki district of the state of Kerala, India. It serves as the administrative body responsible for governing the various villages and settlements within its jurisdiction. Pallivasal is a picturesque region known for its lush green hills, stunning landscapes, and popular tourist destinations, including the famous hill station of Munnar.

Plavanakurishupara Padasekaram, after a decade of lying fallow, is now set to witness the revival of rice cultivation. Under the dynamic leadership of Pallivasal Panchayat, in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, 'Pada Sekhara Samiti,' and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, efforts have begun to restore rice cultivation in the paddy fields of Plavina Nellithanam.

The inauguration of this ambitious project was graced by MLA A. Raja, who formally initiated the activities to kickstart rice cultivation. As a first step towards the transformation, Pallivasal Gram Panchayat has set a target to reclaim and cultivate 100 hectares of fallow paddy fields in the Plavana area. The mission is to convert the once-neglected lands into productive croplands, promoting agricultural sustainability and empowering

local farmers.

The 'Subhiksha Kerala' scheme, initiated by the government, played a vital role in this endeavor, aiming to convert all abandoned lands into arable land. This initiative, along with the dedicated efforts of the previous government and the Department of Agriculture, has already seen success in converting many barren lands into fertile crop fields.

Out of the 100 hectares of fallow land in the region, 17 farmers took up the challenge and commenced paddy cultivation in the very first year. The Pallivasal Gram Panchayat extended wholehearted support to these farmers, including them in various projects and providing financial subsidies, fertilizers, and necessary agricultural guidance through the Agriculture Department officials.

With the vision of bringing back rice cultivation, which had gradually disappeared from the area, around 23 farmers stepped forward to join this noble cause, overcoming significant challenges. Some of these lands, previously under forest cover for over two decades, were included in the employment guarantee scheme, and with the tireless efforts of the farmers, they were successfully cleared and transformed into fertile fields.

The collective determination and dedication of the farmers, supported by the proactive role of the Pallivasal Gram Panchayat and the Agriculture Department, have proven instrumental in rejuvenating the once-abandoned paddy fields of Plavanakurishupara Padasekaram. This transformation not only ensures food security for the community but also paves the way for sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

With the successful revival of rice cultivation, Plavanakurishupara Padasekaram becomes a beacon of hope and inspiration for other regions facing similar challenges in restoring agriculture and conserving land resources. The collaboration between local authorities, government schemes, and the indomitable spirit of the farmers showcases the power of community-driven initiatives in shaping a prosperous and self-sufficient agricultural landscape. As the paddy fields bloom with promise once again, it symbolizes the resilience and determination of the people in safeguarding their agricultural heritage for generations to come.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS AND LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH VARIOUS COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

Velliyamattam Grama Ganchayat

Velliamatam Gram Panchayat is taking significant strides in promoting sustainable livelihoods and local economic development through various collaborative projects. One notable initiative involves the construction of fishponds in partnership with the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and the Fisheries Department. The primary goal of this project is to support fish farming, providing additional and stable income opportunities for beneficiaries.

Through the joint efforts of NREGS and the Panchayat, a total of 56 fishponds have been constructed, ensuring the cultivation of non-toxic fish and promoting fish farming within the community. Additionally, more than 70 Patata ponds have been built, along with ongoing irrigation pond construction. The Panchayat envisions transforming the region into a non-toxic fish village, fostering a sustainable environment and income source for the local population.

Another vital aspect of Velliamatam Gram Panchayat's development efforts is the empowerment of its members through the Kudumbashree initiative. Kudumbashree aims to promote self-sufficiency among its members, providing local employment opportunities for young

entrepreneurs. The initiative focuses on projects such as plastic elimination, manufacturing of paper bags, and cotton waste manufacturing units, which target the local market, thereby contributing to local economic growth and improving livelihoods through job creation and skill development.

One successful outcome of Kudumbashree's efforts is the establishment of a paper bag unit, which has been operational for six months. The unit has been performing well, generating steady work and income, particularly during the festive season. Starting with an initial investment of Rs. 1500, the unit has since expanded its capabilities by purchasing a machine worth Rs. 2000, funded through a gold loan.

To further boost the project's growth, the Panchayat collaborated with the Industries Department and secured a bank loan of Rs. 2 lakhs. With this funding and an additional subsidy of Rs. 2 lakhs from the industry department and a Rs. 1 lakh investment from their own funds, the project now stands at a total value of Rs. 5 lakhs. This financial support has enabled the successful operation and expansion of the paper bag unit, providing sustainable employment opportunities for the community members.

Velliamatam Gram Panchayat's collaborative efforts with various departments and initiatives, such as NREGS and Kudumbashree, are making a significant impact on the local economy and livelihoods. Through the construction of fishponds and support for local entrepreneurship, the Panchayat is creating a path towards self-sufficiency and sustainable development for its residents. With these visionary projects and endeavors, Velliamatam Gram Panchayat is leading the way in building a prosperous and empowered community.

ERNAKULAM DISTRICT

1. Agricultural Activities of Angamaly Muncipality
2. Ayavana Gram Panchayat: Empowering Lives, Eradicating Poverty
3. Empowering Street Vendors: Kochi's Successful Street Vending Plan
4. Empowering Communities Through Sustainable Agriculture: Ezhikkara's Path to Poverty Alleviation
5. NUrturing Livelihoods: Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat's Commitment to Sustainable Agriculture and Fishing
6. Empowering Agriculture and Coastal Livelihoods: Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat's Sustainable Initiatives
7. Kalady Gram Panchayat Crop Health Clinic
8. Sustainable Agriculture Initiative by Kanjoor Gram Panchayat
9. Kunnukara Gram Panchayat: Empowering Livelihoods and Achieving Excellence In Good Governance
10. Empowering Rural Dairy Farmers: The Manjalloor Gram Panchayat's Innovative Shelters Project
11. Harvesting Prosperity: Paingotur Gram Panchayat's Comprehensive Rural Development Initiatives
12. Nurturing Growth: Paingotur Gram Panchayat's Endeavors in Agriculture and Education

13. Cultivating Prosperity: Paingotur Gram Panchayat's Successful Journey in Agricultural Development and Poverty Alleviation
14. Ayyampuzha Gram Panchayat: Empowering Lives Through Poverty Alleviation and Employment Generation
15. Empowering Livelihoods and Community Welfare: Rayamangalam Gram Panchayat's Life Scheme Success
16. Empowering Livelihoods and Community Welfare: Rayamangalam Gram Panchayat's Life Scheme Success
17. Empowering Women and Transforming Lives with Affordable Meals and Skills Training, Cochin Corporation
18. Thuravoor Village Panchayath: Empowering Lives Through Poverty Alleviation and Employment Generation
19. Empowering Communities and Promoting Sustainability: Vypin Block Panchayat's Economic Development Initiatives
20. Transforming Lives: Vypin Block Panchayat's Inspiring Journey in Poverty Eradication
21. Empowering Scheduled Caste Youth through Self-Employment: The Electric Auto Project
22. Revitalizing the Handloom Industry: Ernakulam District Panchayat's Khadi Weaving Center

AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF ANGAMALY MUNCIPALITY

Angamaly Municipality

Angamaly, located 33 km north of Ernakulam District, serves as the northern gateway to Kochi. It obtained municipality status in 1978 and is a legislative assembly constituency within Ernakulam District. The central business district (CBD) of Angamaly is situated around the intersection of National Highway 544 (formerly NH 47) and the Main Central Road (MC Road), connecting the town to the state capital, Thiruvananthapuram. The municipal area covers 20.40 sq. km, with a population of 32,476 according to the 2011 SECC. The municipality is divided into 30 wards for administrative purposes. Angamaly is experiencing rapid growth due to its proximity to the international airport, presence of a railway station, and strategic location at the convergence of major roads.

In the agriculture sector, Champannur Padasekara, which had been an uncultivated rice cultivation development project under the Angamaly municipality for years, has now been included in the rice cultivation development plan for the 2021-2022 annual plan and made suitable for cultivation. The municipality has allocated Rs. 16,45,000/- for this cultivation development project.

Additionally, Rs. 14,94,510/- was spent on banana stem and castor cultivation and development projects, and Rs. 1,68,759/- on vegetable cultivation development (growbags). In the animal welfare sector, 13 women beneficiaries were provided with one cow each, and 10 women beneficiaries were given 2 goats each. The Ayyangali Urban Employment Scheme facilitated the construction and provision of goat sheds and cowsheds.

AYAVANA GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING LIVES, ERADICATING POVERTY

Ayavana Gram Panchayat

Ayavana is a Panchayat in Ernakulam district, located in the Indian state of Kerala. It is situated 8 km away from Muvattupuzha, on the banks of the river Kaliyar. The Ayavana Panchayat includes Anchelpetty, Kakkattoor, Kalampoor, Enanalloor, Kavakkad, Karimattom, and other areas.

In the 2021-2022 annual plan of Ayavana Gram Panchayat, priority was given to poverty eradication, and various projects were implemented across all subject areas to achieve this goal. Through the Life Mission project, which is a significant initiative in Kerala, 16 houses were constructed for homeless individuals in the financial year 2021-2022. In the coming years, under the campaign "Manasodithiri Mannu," one acre of land provided by the Federal Bank was handed over to the panchayat for free, to continue the programa of providing houses and land to the homeless.

The Gram Panchayat efficiently implemented various poverty eradication projects, utilizing the workforce under the employment guarantee scheme. A total of 29,89,9505/- rupees were spent on different poverty alleviation activities through Kudumbashree units

in the same year. Additionally, 27,34,775/- rupees were invested in various poverty alleviation projects in the agricultural sector through farmers. To ensure proper nutrition for all children in the Panchayat, a nutrition programa has been implemented through Anganwadis.

During the Covid era, the Community kitchen, community kitchen, and public hotel have been functioning well as part of the hunger-free Kerala campaign.

The Ayavana Gram Panchayat aims to be declared as a complete poverty alleviation Panchayat by the end of the fourteenth five-year plan.

EMPOWERING STREET VENDORS: KOCHI'S SUCCESSFUL STREET VENDING PLAN

Cochin Municipal Corporation

In 2014, the state implemented the Street Vending Policy, laying the foundation for the formulation of the Street Vending Plan. This plan aimed to regulate and formalize street vending activities while ensuring the protection of the rights of street vendors. It provided a legal framework for street vending operations, enabling vendors to conduct their businesses without facing undue harassment or exploitation.

The Street Vending Plan sought to create designated vending zones and established clear guidelines for vendors to operate within these zones. To bolster the credibility of the plan, the municipal corporation conducted awareness campaigns, promoting the new vending rules and regulations through advertisements and public notices.

To facilitate the smooth functioning of the plan, three important elements were introduced. Firstly, the concept of "Caravan Vending Lines" was established, demarcating specific areas where vendors could set up their stalls. These lines helped maintain order and prevent overcrowding on the streets.

Secondly, the issuance of "Identity Cards" to street

vendors became a crucial aspect of the plan. These cards not only served as proof of the vendor's legitimacy but also offered protection from potential harassment or eviction by authorities. With these identity cards, vendors gained recognition and a sense of security in their businesses.

Thirdly, to ensure the successful implementation of the plan, the municipal corporation took responsibility for the protection and welfare of street vendors. Measures were put in place to safeguard vendors' interests and prevent arbitrary actions that could lead to their displacement. The city authorities also took steps to eliminate illegal vending and unauthorized encroachments, thereby enhancing the aesthetics and charm of Kochi city.

Additionally, the Street Vending Plan aligned with the PM Swanidhi Scheme, a central government initiative aimed at providing affordable loans to street vendors. Through this scheme, 1068 vendors in Kochi were granted loans, enabling them to expand and improve their businesses. The PM Swanidhi Scheme complemented the state's efforts to uplift street vendors and create a conducive environment for their economic growth.

In conclusion, the Street Vending Plan implemented in Kochi in line with the Street Vending Policy of 2014 has proven to be a powerful tool in empowering street vendors and bringing order and aesthetics to the city's streets. By providing legal recognition, designated vending zones, identity cards, and access to financial assistance, the plan has fostered a positive environment for street vendors to thrive. As a result, the vibrant and unique street vending culture of Kochi has been preserved while ensuring the welfare of these vendors and enhancing the overall appeal of the city.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE: EZHIKKARA'S PATH TO POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat

In addition to the reliance on fishing and Pokkali rice cultivation, Ezhikkara village has found innovative ways to tackle the issue of poverty. Recognizing the importance of community involvement, the Gram Panchayat has fostered collaboration with Kudumbashree units and various groups to address the challenge head-on.

These community-driven initiatives, in partnership with Ezhikkara Krishi Bhavan, have been instrumental in identifying fallow areas within different wards of the panchayat. By harnessing these previously unused lands, the local community has embarked on cultivating a diverse range of crops, including ginger, tomato, ladies' finger, tapioca, green chilies, and pulses. This approach not only effectively utilizes available land resources but also diversifies the agricultural output, leading to increased productivity and enhanced economic opportunities for the farmers.

Through the collective efforts of Kudumbashree units, community groups, and the guidance of Ezhikkara Krishi Bhavan, these farming initiatives have taken on a sustainable and inclusive approach. By focusing on cultivating a variety of crops, the community can reduce their vulnerability to market fluctuations and ensure a

steady income stream throughout the year. Moreover, the cultivation of essential crops such as pulses contributes to food security in the region, benefiting both the farmers and the broader community.

Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat's proactive steps towards poverty alleviation demonstrate a forward-thinking approach to rural development. By fostering collaboration, empowering local communities, and tapping into the potential of fallow lands, the panchayat has embraced a holistic strategy to uplift the economic conditions of its residents. These efforts not only contribute to poverty reduction but also strengthen the overall resilience of the village against environmental and economic uncertainties.

As Ezhikkara continues to embrace its traditional coastal charm while embracing progressive solutions, the village serves as an inspiration to other communities facing similar challenges. The collective determination of the Gram Panchayat and its residents showcases the power of community-driven development, where collaboration, innovation, and sustainable agricultural practices come together to create a promising future for all who call Ezhikkara their home.

NURTURING LIVELIHOODS: EZHIKKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FISHING

Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat

Ezhikkara village, with its idyllic coastal setting surrounded by lagoons and abundant vegetation, has long relied on fishing and rice farming as its primary sources of income. The region's reputation for its prized Pokkali rice cultivation and flourishing freshwater prawn farms has made it a focal point of traditional livelihoods. However, the challenges posed by its coastal location have resulted in more than half of the population living below the poverty line. In response to this pressing issue, Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat has taken proactive measures to address poverty alleviation and uplift the lives of its residents through a series of strategic projects and beneficial activities.

Recognizing the importance of agriculture and fishing in the local economy, the Gram Panchayat has initiated efforts to revitalize these sectors and create sustainable livelihood opportunities for the community. Cage farming has emerged as a promising technique to enhance fish stocks and promote the growth of the fishing industry. By engaging the younger generation in agriculture and fisheries, the panchayat aims to secure the future of these traditional occupations and ensure their continued prosperity. This approach not only contributes to the

economic well-being of the fishing community but also strengthens the overall resilience of the village.

Furthermore, Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat has taken significant steps towards empowering the local community through diverse projects. The promotion of raising dairy cows and ducks offers an additional avenue for income generation and food security. By encouraging livestock rearing, the panchayat enables families to supplement their income while enhancing their access to nutritious food sources.

Additionally, recognizing the critical role of fishing nets in the livelihoods of fishermen, the panchayat has taken initiatives to provide necessary equipment to workers in the fishing industry. These support measures not only improve the productivity and efficiency of fishing practices but also elevate the socio-economic status of those involved in the sector.

Through these concerted endeavors, Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat demonstrates its commitment to improving the economic condition of its residents and creating sustainable livelihoods. By empowering the local community and investing in traditional occupations, the panchayat aims to alleviate poverty and foster a prosperous future for all in the coastal village.

As Ezhikkara continues to embrace its rich coastal heritage while embracing progressive approaches to development, the village serves as a shining example of how strategic initiatives and community engagement can transform the lives of its residents. The collective efforts of Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat, aimed at uplifting its community, showcase the power of local leadership and collaboration in fostering positive change and a brighter future for the entire village.

EMPOWERING AGRICULTURE AND COASTAL LIVELIHOODS: EZHIKKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S SUSTAINABLE INITIATIVES

Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat

Ezhikkara, a picturesque coastal village adorned with lush lagoons and abundant vegetation, has long relied on fishing and rice farming as its mainstay sources of income. The region's fame is attributed to its renowned Pokkali rice cultivation and thriving freshwater prawn farms. Despite its natural bounty, Ezhikkara faces the pressing challenge of poverty, with over half of its population falling below the poverty line. In response to this socio-economic disparity, Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat has taken proactive and determined steps to alleviate poverty and bring about positive change through various strategic projects and beneficial activities.

Recognizing the significance of agriculture in the livelihoods of the local community, the panchayat has embarked on several key initiatives to enhance agricultural productivity and uplift the economic conditions of its residents. One of the most noteworthy endeavors is the extensive Pokkali rice cultivation, which covers an impressive area of 120 hectares within the Ezhikkara village panchayat. The successful yield of this traditional and valuable rice variety not only secures food security for the local population but also serves as a source of income generation for the farmers. The panchayat's unwavering

support for this indigenous farming practice has contributed significantly to preserving local agricultural traditions and fostering sustainable rural development.

Moreover, Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat has recognized the potential of freshwater prawn farming as a lucrative economic activity in the region. By promoting and supporting prawn farms, the panchayat has opened up new avenues for income generation and employment opportunities for the local fishing community. This has not only bolstered the financial stability of the fishing households but also contributed to the overall economic growth of the village.

Through its commitment to poverty alleviation, Ezhikkara Gram Panchayat has shown a deep understanding of the socio-economic challenges faced by its residents. By implementing projects aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity and exploring innovative avenues for income generation, the panchayat has taken meaningful steps towards improving the quality of life for its citizens. Additionally, these initiatives play a crucial role in preserving the village's unique cultural heritage and ecological balance.

As Ezhikkara continues to harness its natural resources and traditional practices for sustainable development, the Gram Panchayat's efforts serve as an inspiring model for other communities facing similar challenges. Through proactive measures and a collective spirit, Ezhikkara aims to build a prosperous and resilient future, where the bountiful blessings of the land and sea are harnessed for the collective well-being of its vibrant coastal community.

KALADY GRAM PANCHAYAT CROP HEALTH CLINIC

Kalady Gram Panchayat

Kalady is a popular panchayat in the Angamaly block of Ernakulam District. It is known for being the birthplace of Sri Shankaracharya and has gained international recognition as a pilgrimage center. The main livelihood in Kalady is agriculture, with extensive paddy fields spread across the area. Okkal, a locality within Kalady, is known for its numerous paddy mills. Both traditional and modern methods of paddy rice production are followed in this region.

The Kalady Crop Management Centre functions as a Primary Crop Health Clinic every Wednesday. Farmers who face crop-related issues can approach the clinic for field tests and necessary guidance. Additionally, on Wednesdays, farmers in need of medicines for their crops can obtain them for free from the clinic. This approach ensures that the required medicines are provided in the appropriate quantities, preventing the careless disposal of excess medicine, which could pollute the soil and water. The clinic, situated near the Kalady Krishi Bhavan, also conducts farm visits, offers advice, and conducts follow-up investigations to resolve agricultural problems. In Kerala, there are plans to establish a clinic and a farmhouse dedicated to plant-related matters, with one

day per week solely dedicated to plants. Farmers have provided positive feedback regarding this initiative. The Primary Crop Health Clinic has been operational since June and continues to operate every Wednesday.

In the panchayat, there are 75 hectares of paddy cultivation for two crops, over 30 hectares of banana cultivation, 15 hectares of vegetable cultivation, and 80 hectares of castor cultivation, all of which receive benefits and support.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE BY KANJOOR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kanjoor Gram Panchayat

Kanjoor Gram Panchayat is known for its proactive initiatives in environmental conservation and agricultural development. Two noteworthy projects are the Pazhurpadam Planting Festival and Mangatodu Restoration.

Pazhurpadam Planting Festival is an event organized by the Gram Panchayat to promote sustainable agriculture and ensure the supply of non-toxic organic rice. Around 70 children from the Social Work Department of Rajagiri College in Kanjoor actively participate in the planting activities. They implement the work with the support of SDR funds, rice cultivation wage cost subsidy from the panchayat level scheme, and interest-free loans from the Service Cooperative Bank. This collaborative effort aims to promote eco-friendly rice cultivation practices and contribute to the overall environmental well-being of the region.

The Mangatodu Restoration project is another crucial initiative taken up by the panchayat. It involves clearing the forest and removing mud from Mangathodu Periyar to Nagle School in Ward 5. By facilitating the flow of water in the area, this project not only restores

the natural environment but also supports agricultural activities to address water shortage issues. This restoration work is undertaken through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), enabling the local community to actively participate in the conservation efforts while simultaneously addressing their agricultural needs.

With these commendable efforts in environmental preservation and agricultural development, Kanjoor Gram Panchayat sets an example for other regions to follow. By actively involving the community and fostering sustainable practices, the panchayat strives to create a greener and more prosperous future for its residents.

KUNNUKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING LIVELIHOODS AND ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN GOOD GOVERNANCE

Kunnukara Gram Panchayat

Kunnukara Gram Panchayat, located in the Parakkadavu block of Ernakulam district, was initially part of Ayoor village union in Alangad taluk. Later, in 1953, Kunnukara became an independent panchayat with an area of 21.25 square kilometers and a population of approximately 20,048 according to the 2011 census.

Renowned as one of the best panchayats in Ernakulam district, Kunnukara Gram Panchayat ho lds the distinction of being an ISO-certified Local Self-Governing Institution. The panchayat has been proactive in its mission to create a poverty-free and sustainable livelihood for its residents, undertaking several model projects to achieve this goal.

Notably, Kunnukara panchayat has excelled in the field of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), making significant advancements in agriculture and improving the livelihoods of the local populace. The panchayat has been instrumental in promoting soil and water conservation, along with the preservation of natural resources.

Through the LIFE (Livelihood Inclusion and Financial Empowerment) home projects, the living conditions

of financially disadvantaged individuals have been uplifted, with 136 households constructed so far, and house plots distributed for 65 house projects.

In the realm of agriculture, Kunnukara panchayat has made significant progress with various projects supported by both state and central governments. Entrepreneurial activities have been fostered at the local level, in collaboration with various departments, to enhance self-employment opportunities and improve the income and living standards of the community.

Addressing the issue of hunger, the panchayat maintains a community kitchen in line with the vision of the state government's "Hungerless Kerala." Additionally, Janakeeya Hotels run by the panchayat cater to around 600 people daily, providing quality-assured food at reasonable prices.

Education has also been a focal point of improvement in Kunnukara panchayat, with creative and innovative interventions leading to the enhancement of Anganwadies and Schools. Skill development classes are regularly conducted, benefiting all departments.

Kudumbashree, a women-oriented community development project, has played a crucial role in empowering women and bringing them into the mainstream of society. The panchayat has a substantial number of NREGS (National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme) job card holders, and it generates income through various means like property tax, license issuance, and professional tax, which is then used to undertake welfare activities.

With a strong focus on good governance, child education, women's welfare, and social security, Kunnukara Panchayat has been recognized and awarded the Swaraj Trophy for being the best panchayat in the Ernakulam district.

EMPOWERING RURAL DAIRY FARMERS: THE MANJALLOOR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S INNOVATIVE SHELTERS PROJECT

Manjalloor Gram Panchayat

As part of its commitment to rural development and supporting local dairy farmers, Manjalloor Gram Panchayat in the Muvattupuzha taluka of Ernakulam district, Kerala, India, has taken an innovative step by implementing the Rural Dairy Farmers' Shelters project under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for the year 2021-2022.

Recognizing the significant role that dairy farmers play in the rural economy; the government has decided to provide shelters for cows and goats to enhance the well-being of these valuable livestock. The shelters aim to offer a safe and conducive environment for the animals, ensuring their health and productivity. This initiative not only supports the dairy farmers in their livelihood but also promotes animal welfare and sustainable agricultural practices in the region.

The funding for establishing these shelters will be entirely borne by the central government, demonstrating the government's commitment to empowering rural communities and improving the livelihoods of farmers. The implementation of the project will be carried out through the Village Panchayats, ensuring that the

benefits reach the grassroots level and are tailored to the specific needs of the local dairy farming community in Manjalloor.

By leveraging the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme for the execution of this initiative, the government ensures that the project generates employment opportunities for the local population. This not only supports the livelihoods of the farmers directly involved in dairy farming but also provides additional employment for those engaged in the construction and maintenance of the shelters.

The provision of shelters for cows and goats holds multiple benefits. First and foremost, it improves the living conditions of the livestock, leading to increased milk production and better-quality dairy products. The shelters protect the animals from adverse weather conditions, predators, and diseases, thereby contributing to their overall health and well-being.

Additionally, the project aligns with sustainable agricultural practices, as the shelters aid in better manure management and reduce the environmental impact of livestock farming. Properly managed manure can be utilized as organic fertilizer, contributing to soil health and crop productivity.

Furthermore, the Rural Dairy Farmers' Shelters project reinforces the government's commitment to promoting animal husbandry and dairy farming as viable and sustainable livelihood options for the rural community. By investing in the well-being of dairy animals and the farmers who care for them, the project encourages economic growth in the agricultural sector and strengthens the social fabric of the village.

In conclusion, the implementation of the Rural Dairy Farmers' Shelters project in Manjalloor Gram Panchayat exemplifies a holistic approach to rural development. By supporting local dairy farmers and ensuring the welfare of their livestock, the project contributes to sustainable agriculture, economic empowerment, and improved living standards in the region. Through its commitment to innovative initiatives and leveraging the MGNREGS, Manjalloor sets an inspiring example for other communities in their pursuit of inclusive and prosperous rural development.

HARVESTING PROSPERITY: PAINGOTUR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMPREHENSIVE RURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Paingotur Gram Panchayat

Paingotur Gram Panchayat, located in the eastern part of Ernakulam district, Kerala, India, with a neighboring border to Idukki district, has undertaken a range of impactful poverty alleviation programas as part of its 2021-2022 Annual Plan.

With a keen focus on agricultural development, the Panchayat has taken significant steps to make fallow land suitable for paddy cultivation. Through strategic planning and collaboration with 197 farmers, Paingotur has successfully cultivated approximately 47 hectares of land. The rejuvenation of such land not only enhances agricultural productivity but also creates valuable livelihood opportunities for local farmers, contributing to poverty reduction and economic growth in the region.

Mechanization has played a crucial role in optimizing agricultural processes within the Panchayat. The implementation of straw harvesting machines and other modern technologies has resulted in increased efficiency, reduced manual labor, and improved productivity in paddy fields. Such forward-thinking initiatives highlight the Panchayat's commitment to embracing innovation and sustainable practices to ensure the prosperity of its agricultural sector.

To promote a dairy revolution in the area, Paingotur Panchayat has taken proactive measures to boost the dairy sector. With the purchase of Good Kannu cows from outside the state, the Panchayat has distributed these cows to 104 women, offering them a 50 percent subsidy. This strategic move empowers local women to participate in dairy farming and create an additional income source for their households. By supporting women in this sector, the Panchayat not only encourages women's economic empowerment but also strengthens the overall dairy industry in the region.

Furthermore, to ensure the well-being of dairy cows and enhance productivity, the Panchayat has supplied fodder at a subsidized rate. This intervention addresses the crucial aspect of livestock welfare and promotes sustainable and responsible dairy farming practices.

In its endeavor towards food security and self-sufficiency, Paingotur Panchayat has taken targeted steps to support scheduled caste women and women from the general category. By distributing female lambs and laying hens at subsidized rates to these women, the Panchayat not only encourages livestock rearing but also fosters a sense of self-reliance and empowerment among the beneficiaries.

Through these diverse initiatives, Paingotur Gram Panchayat showcases a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach to poverty alleviation and rural development. The emphasis on agricultural enhancement, dairy promotion, and livestock support highlights the Panchayat's commitment to creating a sustainable and economically prosperous community.

In conclusion, Paingotur Gram Panchayat in the eastern part of Ernakulam district, Kerala, serves as a model for rural development with its 2021-2022 Annual Plan. The successful implementation of various poverty alleviation programas, agricultural advancements, and support for dairy and livestock sectors demonstrate the Panchayat's dedication to uplifting its residents and fostering self-sufficiency. By empowering women in dairy farming and promoting sustainable agricultural practices, Paingotur Panchayat sets an inspiring example for other regions to follow in their pursuit of holistic and inclusive rural development.

NURTURING GROWTH: PAINGOTUR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S ENDEAVORS IN AGRICULTURE AND EDUCATION

Paingotur Gram Panchayat

Paingotur Gram Panchayat, a charming village nestled in the eastern part of Ernakulam district, Kerala, India, with its picturesque surroundings bordering Idukki district, has taken significant strides in improving the lives of its residents through a range of poverty alleviation programas as part of its ambitious 2021-2022 Annual Plan.

With a vision to empower its community and uplift local farmers, Paingotur Gram Panchayat has prioritized the development of agriculture. To this end, the Panchayat has embarked on a mission to convert fallow and underutilized lands into thriving paddy fields. Through collaborative efforts with 197 dedicated farmers, approximately 47 hectares of land have been successfully cultivated, transforming barren areas into productive fields that not only boost agricultural output but also augment the livelihoods of the farming community. Embracing modernization, the Panchayat has introduced mechanization, incorporating the use of state-of-the-art straw harvesting machines, to enhance agricultural processes and further drive prosperity in the region.

Beyond its agrarian endeavors, Paingotur Gram Panchayat has demonstrated an unwavering

commitment to enhancing the educational landscape. The Kadavur Government LP School, situated within the heart of the Panchayat, has undergone a remarkable transformation. Three smart classrooms have been thoughtfully integrated into the school infrastructure, ushering in a new era of interactive and tech-enabled learning for students. Additionally, to nurture the holistic development of children, a children's park has been established, providing them with a safe and enjoyable space to explore and engage with nature.

The Panchayat's dedication to education has extended even further with the creation of a science park, designed to ignite curiosity and passion for scientific exploration among young minds. To cultivate an appreciation for nature and the cosmos, Paingotur Gram Panchayat has taken the initiative to develop Nakshatra Vanam, a celestial garden where children can learn about constellations and celestial phenomena, fostering a sense of wonder and intellectual growth.

Notably, the Kadavur Government LP School has garnered well-deserved recognition as the only green school among 80 selected schools in Kerala from the public education sector. This prestigious accolade reflects the Panchayat's commitment to sustainability and environmental consciousness, setting a commendable example for other educational institutions. As a testament to its outstanding efforts in promoting quality education and holistic development, the school has been honored with esteemed awards such as the Mathrubhumi Seeds Award, MLA's Rainbow Award, and Malayala Manorama's Awards, further solidifying its status as an educational beacon in the region.

Paingotur Gram Panchayat's transformative initiatives in both poverty alleviation and education showcase a community that is forward-thinking, compassionate, and dedicated to the well-being of its residents. Through these collective efforts, the Panchayat has carved a path towards progress and prosperity, setting a shining example for other regions to emulate in their pursuit of sustainable development and inclusive growth.

CULTIVATING PROSPERITY: PAINGOTUR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY IN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Paingotur Gram Panchayat

Paingotur Gram Panchayat, situated in the eastern part of Ernakulam district, Kerala, India, with a bordering proximity to Idukki district, exemplifies an inspiring initiative in poverty alleviation and agricultural development as part of its 2021-2022 Annual Plan.

Recognizing the significance of agriculture in the local economy, Paingotur Panchayat has undertaken various poverty alleviation programas to make fallow land suitable for paddy cultivation. Through strategic planning and collaboration with 197 farmers, the Panchayat has successfully cultivated approximately 47 hectares of land. This concerted effort not only boosts agricultural productivity but also provides sustainable livelihood opportunities for local farmers.Mechanization has played a pivotal role in enhancing agricultural processes in the region. The adoption of modern technologies, including the use of straw harvesting machines, has resulted in increased efficiency and productivity in the paddy fields. Such mechanization endeavors are vital in optimizing agricultural output and reducing labor-intensive tasks, which, in turn, contribute to poverty reduction and economic growth.In the vegetable sector, Paingotur Panchayat has achieved commendable success

in producing a substantial quantity of local vegetables. This accomplishment has been further amplified by excelling in the Onam market, an essential festive season in Kerala. The Panchayat's ability to meet market demands and establish a strong presence in the local vegetable market showcases their commitment to rural development and economic prosperity.

Under the Keragramam scheme, the Panchayat has allocated funds for various projects aimed at enhancing agricultural practices. Cleaning and maintenance of coconut groves, implementation of bio-fertilizers, and the support for climbers are among the critical initiatives undertaken. By investing in sustainable agricultural practices, the Panchayat not only ensures the preservation of its natural resources but also empowers farmers to adopt eco-friendly methods, contributing to the overall environmental well-being.The Panchayat's support to farmers extends to providing scientific soil testing, which aids in optimizing fertilizer usage and ensures the best possible conditions for crop growth. Additionally, the distribution of free seedlings encourages afforestation and improves biodiversity in the region.

To bolster the marketing of agricultural produce, Paingotur Panchayat has taken innovative steps by establishing eco-shops and a vegetable market. These initiatives not only promote the consumption of locally produced vegetables but also create additional income sources for farmers.

In conclusion, Paingotur Gram Panchayat in Ernakulam district, Kerala, serves as a shining example of successful poverty alleviation and agricultural development. By reclaiming fallow land for paddy cultivation, embracing mechanization, and excelling in vegetable production, the Panchayat has created sustainable livelihood opportunities for its residents. The commitment to eco-friendly practices, scientific approaches, and market-driven initiatives further reinforces their dedication to rural development and economic prosperity. The remarkable achievements of Paingotur Panchayat in their 2021-2022 Annual Plan set a positive precedent for other regions in their pursuit of sustainable growth and community empowerment.

AYYAMPUZHA GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

Ayyampuzha Gram Panchayat

Ayyampuzha Gram Panchayat, situated in Angamaly, Ernakulam district, is a village with a rich cultural heritage. The panchayath includes Kalady plantations and shares the renowned Athirappilly Falls with Athirappilly in Thrissur.

As part of its commitment to poverty alleviation, Ayyampuzha Gram Panchayat has implemented various programas to uplift the marginalized and provide essential resources. The "Life Housing Scheme" has been instrumental in providing houses to 17 homeless beneficiaries in the year 2021-22. Additionally, the panchayath has focused on assisting scheduled caste beneficiaries, completing 8 houses with 6 more in progress. Moreover, efforts have been made to construct houses for 11 landless homeless beneficiaries, out of which 6 houses have been successfully completed.

To address unemployment and create opportunities for the local community, the panchayath actively participates in the "National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme." In the year 2021-22, several projects have been accomplished under this scheme, including manual construction, compost pit creation, setting up sheep

nests, constructing hen coops, and implementing rope ground cloth initiatives.

Through these poverty alleviation programas and employment generation efforts, Ayyampuzha Gram Panchayat is dedicated to improving the lives of its residents and fostering sustainable development in the region.

EMPOWERING LIVELIHOODS AND COMMUNITY WELFARE: RAYAMANGALAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S LIFE SCHEME SUCCESS

Rayamangalam Gram Panchayat

Rayamangalam Gram Panchayat, located in the picturesque Ernakulam district, specifically within the Koovapady block, has taken a proactive and compassionate approach to alleviate poverty within its community. During the financial year 2021-2022, the panchayath joined hands with Kudumbashree and MNREGA to implement a range of poverty alleviation activities, making a tangible impact on the lives of its residents.

One of the significant achievements of Rayamangalam Gram Panchayat under the LIFE (Livelihood Inclusion and Financial Empowerment) scheme has been the construction of houses. A total of 29 houses were built for the general category beneficiaries, while 35 houses were provided for the scheduled tribe category, addressing the pressing need for adequate housing within the village. Moreover, the panchayath extended its support to the beneficiaries listed in the 2017 LIFE list by providing 79 houses for the general category and 73 houses for the scheduled tribe category, ensuring that the benefits of the scheme reach all those in need.

Recognizing the importance of empowering women and creating self-sustaining income sources, Rayamangalam

Gram Panchayat initiated the buffalo rearing project. Through this initiative, 20 individuals were given 'calves,' offering them the opportunity to generate self-income, thereby enhancing their financial independence. The panchayath also distributed goats to BPL families, offering them a means of poverty alleviation, and constructed goat cages under the employment guarantee scheme, further promoting sustainable livelihoods.

In a bid to boost income generation and support poultry farming, the panchayath facilitated the construction of cages and provided chickens for quail chicken rearing. This initiative has not only contributed to enhancing the economic conditions of beneficiaries but also fostered entrepreneurship and skill development within the community.

Rayamangalam Gram Panchayat has also been steadfast in providing employment opportunities to its residents. Under the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme, the panchayath ensured that 421 workers secured 100 days of employment during the financial year 2021-2022, thus creating a social safety net for the vulnerable sections of society.

Amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 crisis, Rayamangalam Gram Panchayat demonstrated a commendable sense of responsibility and care for its residents. Compiling a list of households facing hardship, the panchayath extended timely support by delivering essential medicines and food items to their doorsteps. Additionally, welfare fund and relief fund applications were promptly collected and addressed, offering much-needed assistance during these trying times.

The multifaceted efforts of Rayamangalam Gram Panchayat in poverty alleviation, employment generation, and community welfare exemplify the panchayath's commitment to inclusive development and the well-being of its residents. By engaging in collaborative initiatives and ensuring efficient implementation of schemes, the panchayath has made significant strides in uplifting the lives of its community members, setting a positive example for other regions to follow in their pursuit of social and economic progress.

EMPOWERING LIVELIHOODS AND COMMUNITY WELFARE: RAYAMANGALAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S LIFE SCHEME SUCCESS

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EMPOWERING WOMEN AND TRANSFORMING LIVES WITH AFFORDABLE MEALS AND SKILLS TRAINING, COCHIN CORPORATION

Cochin Corporation

"Samridhi Kochi" is an initiative that has gained worldwide recognition for its remarkable efforts in providing a meal for just 10 rupees to the underprivileged section of the city. The concept was brought to life by the municipal corporation, with the aim of uplifting poor women by providing them with financial, social, and emotional empowerment.

With a focus on empowering women from the impoverished sections of the city, "Samridhi Kochi" has successfully enabled 45 women to earn a livelihood directly and indirectly. Through innovative and state-of-the-art technological interventions, the programa has paved a path for these women to lead a dignified and self-reliant life.

The city of Kochi, situated in the southern state of Kerala, India, is renowned for its vibrant culture, picturesque backwaters, and thriving trade. However, like any other urban center, it faces the challenges of poverty and social inequality. The municipal corporation, recognizing the need to uplift the marginalized sections, particularly women, launched the groundbreaking "Samridhi Kochi" initiative.

The primary focus of this initiative is to empower women by providing them with access to sustainable livelihoods. For a mere 10 rupees, anyone can avail themselves of a meal through this scheme. The revenue generated from the meals is utilized to empower underprivileged women by imparting various skills and training. The programa facilitates training in new-age technologies, equipping these women to take on diverse job opportunities in the digital era.

One of the unique features of "Samridhi Kochi" is its ability to create indirect employment opportunities for tenfold the number of women directly involved. By empowering 45 women through skill development, the programa enables them to become self-sufficient and contribute to their families' well-being. Additionally, these empowered women, in turn, uplift other women from their communities, creating a ripple effect of progress.

The initiative also leverages cutting-edge technological advancements to enhance its reach and impact. By incorporating modern-day digital practices and solutions, "Samridhi Kochi" efficiently connects the marginalized women with potential employers, leading to a significant increase in their employability.

In conclusion, "Samridhi Kochi" stands as a beacon of hope and transformation, empowering women from the economically weaker sections of the society to break free from the shackles of poverty and achieve financial independence. This remarkable initiative not only provides affordable meals but also empowers women with the skills and tools necessary to thrive in a technologically advancing world. As these women rise above their circumstances and become agents of change, they inspire a brighter and more inclusive future for the entire city of Kochi.

THURAVOOR VILLAGE PANCHAYATH: EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

Thuravoor Village Panchayath

Thuravoor Village Panchayath, nestled within the picturesque landscape of Aluva Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala, is a thriving community that covers an area of 12.13 km2. Strategically located around 5 km from Angamaly Town, the panchayat enjoys a favorable location with convenient access to neighboring areas. Its geographical boundaries are shared with Mookkannoor and Manjapra Panchayat in the north, Manjapra and Malayattoor-Neeleeswaram Panchayat in the East, Kalady Panchayat and Angamaly Municipality in the south, and Karukutty and Mookkannoor Panchayat in the west, fostering a sense of harmonious coexistence with the neighboring regions.

In its steadfast commitment to poverty alleviation and social welfare, Thuravoor Village Panchayath has undertaken several significant initiatives to uplift the marginalized and underprivileged sections of its community. The implementation of the Life housing scheme has been a cornerstone of these efforts, providing shelter to those in need. Through this scheme, the panchayath has been able to offer houses to homeless beneficiaries, including scheduled caste beneficiaries and landless homeless individuals. By addressing the pressing

issue of homelessness, the panchayath not only provides a roof over their heads but also grants them a sense of security and stability, enabling them to embark on a journey towards a better life.

As part of its commitment to generating employment opportunities and improving the economic conditions of its residents, Thuravoor Village Panchayath actively participates in the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS). Various projects under NREGS, including manual construction, compost pit creation, sheep's nest establishment, and the construction of rope ground cloth, have been successfully completed during the financial year 2021-22. These projects not only create temporary employment for the beneficiaries but also contribute to the development and enhancement of the village's infrastructure and resources.

Through its concerted efforts in poverty alleviation and socio-economic development, Thuravoor Village Panchayath showcases a profound dedication to the welfare of its community. By providing homes to the homeless and implementing employment-generating projects, the panchayath empowers its residents to lead dignified and fulfilling lives. As Thuravoor continues to forge ahead with its vision of inclusive growth and prosperity, it sets an inspiring example for other regions, demonstrating the power of community-driven initiatives in creating positive change and fostering an environment of compassion and opportunity.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY: VYPIN BLOCK PANCHAYAT'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Vypin Block Panchayat

Vypin Block Panchayat, situated amidst the captivating group of islands that constitute a vibrant part of the bustling city of Kochi in Kerala, India, has been at the forefront of fostering regional economic development. As a barrier island gracefully nestled between the majestic Arabian Sea on the west and the tranquil Cochin backwaters, nourished by the meandering distributaries of the Periyar River on the east, Vypin Island boasts breathtaking natural beauty and a rich cultural heritage. Spanning approximately 27 kilometers (17 miles) in length, this unique island is seamlessly connected to mainland Kochi through a series of Goshree bridges, promoting accessibility and facilitating the exchange of commerce and ideas. Despite its scenic charm, Vypin ranks as the 58th most densely populated island globally, with Njarakkal being one of the most densely inhabited locations within its expanse.

Committed to the sustainable development and empowerment of its residents, Vypin Block Panchayat has taken several strategic initiatives to promote economic growth and progress in the region. Recognizing the significance of economic support and self-reliance for local groups, the panchayat has provided loans

to groups like Tanal or Activity Group, enabling them to embark on economic ventures and entrepreneurial activities. Such financial assistance empowers these groups to explore new opportunities, enhance their livelihoods, and contribute to the economic prosperity of the region.

In its efforts to promote sustainable agricultural practices and organic farming, Vypin Block Panchayat has supported the Eco Shop, a registered organization of organic farmers. This visionary project has received financial backing from the Block Gram Panchayat and other agencies, bolstering its efforts to promote organic farming practices. By encouraging eco-friendly agricultural methods and supporting organic farmers, the panchayat not only promotes environmentally responsible practices but also creates a market for organic produce, benefiting both farmers and consumers.

Through its various economic development initiatives, Vypin Block Panchayat exemplifies its dedication to fostering self-reliance, sustainable growth, and prosperity within the region. By empowering local groups and promoting eco-friendly practices, the panchayat sets a commendable example for other regions, showcasing the transformative power of community-driven initiatives and responsible governance. As it continues to lay the foundation for a vibrant and economically robust community, Vypin endeavors to build a thriving and resilient future for all its residents, driven by the spirit of progress and innovation.

TRANSFORMING LIVES: VYPIN BLOCK PANCHAYAT'S INSPIRING JOURNEY IN POVERTY ERADICATION

Vypin Block Panchayat

Vypin Block Panchayat, situated amidst the scenic islands that form a vital part of the city of Kochi in Kerala, India, has taken significant strides in fostering the development and well-being of its residents. This barrier island is surrounded by the Arabian Sea on the west and the serene Cochin backwaters, formed by the meandering distributaries of the Periyar River, on the east. Spanning an impressive length of approximately 27 kilometers (17 miles), Vypin Island is connected to mainland Kochi through a network of Goshree bridges, facilitating seamless connectivity and accessibility. Despite its natural beauty and charm, Vypin ranks as the 58th most densely populated island globally, with Njarakkal being one of the most densely inhabited locations within its expanse.

In its commitment to comprehensive development and progress, Vypin Block Panchayat has initiated various transformative projects and initiatives, with poverty eradication emerging as a top priority in the 2021-2022 annual plan. The panchayat's concerted efforts to address poverty have yielded tangible results through diverse projects spanning all subject areas.

One of the remarkable endeavors undertaken by the

panchayat is the Life Mission project, a crucial step in the fight against homelessness and destitution. Through this initiative, 16 houses were thoughtfully constructed for individuals who were previously without shelter, providing them with secure and dignified living spaces. The impact of such housing projects extends far beyond the tangible benefits of roofs overheads, as stable housing plays a vital role in uplifting the overall well-being and confidence of individuals and families.

The "Manasodithiri Mannu" campaign has also been an integral part of the panchayat's approach to poverty alleviation. By acquiring one acre of land free of cost, the panchayat aims to create more opportunities for housing and land ownership for the homeless. This initiative not only addresses immediate housing needs but also contributes to long-term community development by fostering a sense of ownership and stability among its residents.

In alignment with its multifaceted approach to poverty eradication, Vypin Block Panchayat has also engaged Kudumbashree units and the agricultural sector in various activities aimed at uplifting the socio-economic conditions of its residents. These initiatives serve to empower local communities, enhance income-generating opportunities, and foster economic resilience.

Through its comprehensive efforts in poverty alleviation, Vypin Block Panchayat demonstrates a profound commitment to the welfare and prosperity of its community. As it continues to implement transformative projects and initiatives, the panchayat sets a commendable example for other regions, showcasing the power of local leadership and collective efforts in building thriving and inclusive communities.

EMPOWERING SCHEDULED CASTE YOUTH THROUGH SELF-EMPLOYMENT: THE ELECTRIC AUTO PROJECT

Ernakulam District Panchayat

In the year 2021-2022, the Ernakulam District Panchayat implemented a distinctive project targeted at empowering Scheduled Caste youth. This self-employment scheme aimed to provide financial assistance for the purchase of electric autos, offering an opportunity for unemployed Scheduled Caste individuals to establish a fixed income employment source. Beyond economic benefits, the project was also conceived as a nature conservation initiative to promote energy conservation and reduce air pollution. The Zilla Panchayat played a pivotal role in facilitating easy access to the scheme, ensuring that the beneficiaries received timely financial support.

To promote self-employment among Scheduled Caste youth, the Ernakulam District Panchayat offered financial assistance for the purchase of electric autos. This initiative not only facilitated sustainable employment but also contributed to nature conservation by promoting the use of energy-efficient vehicles. The Panchayat's special intervention made the scheme easily accessible to the beneficiaries, streamlining the process and expediting financial support.

The project received overwhelming support from the Zilla Panchayat, which ensured that as soon as the banks

sanctioned the loans, a subsidy amount of Rs 1 lakh each was promptly transferred to the beneficiaries' loan accounts. This efficient subsidy disbursement not only eased the financial burden on the recipients but also motivated them to embark on their self-employment journey with confidence.

By promoting the use of electric autos, the project contributed significantly to environmental preservation. Electric autos are known for their lower carbon footprint and reduced air pollution compared to conventional vehicles. By adopting electric autos for their self-employment ventures, the beneficiaries actively participated in nature conservation work, making a positive impact on the environment.

The implementation of this project has resulted in tangible material benefits for the 6 beneficiaries who received financial assistance to purchase electric autos. These individuals have now established a fixed income employment source, improving their economic status and empowering their families.

The Electric Auto Project by the Ernakulam District Panchayat exemplifies the power of targeted initiatives to empower marginalized communities and promote sustainable practices. By providing financial support for self-employment and encouraging the use of electric autos, the project has not only created new employment opportunities but also contributed to nature conservation. The beneficiaries, who are Scheduled Caste youth, have gained financial independence and become active contributors to environmental preservation. Through projects like these, local governments can drive positive change, uplifting communities and fostering a greener, more sustainable future for all.

REVITALIZING THE HANDLOOM INDUSTRY: ERNAKULAM DISTRICT PANCHAYAT'S KHADI WEAVING CENTER

Ernakulam District Panchayat

The handloom industry has been an integral part of India's cultural heritage, providing employment to numerous artisans and weavers. Khadi, which played a significant role in India's freedom struggle, continues to hold a special place in the country's heart. However, in recent times, the handloom sector has faced challenges due to various factors, such as the rising cost of cotton and competition from powerlooms. To revive this struggling industry, Ernakulam District Panchayat has taken proactive steps to support and promote khadi and handloom weaving. One of their most notable initiatives is the expansion of the Airapuram Khadi Weaving Center, which has brought positive changes to the lives of artisans and weavers.

With a focus on revitalizing the handloom industry, the Ernakulam District Panchayat invested Rs. 25 lakhs in the expansion of the Airapuram Khadi Weaving Center. Under the leadership of the District Khadi Industry Project Officer, the project aimed to enhance production capacity and provide employment opportunities to artisans from marginalized communities.

As part of the expansion project, 20 looms and 1 wrapping machine were installed at the Airapuram Khadi Weaving

Center, located near the Airapuram Rubber Park. This strategic investment has significantly increased the center's daily production capacity, allowing for the creation of 250 square meters of cloth per day. This boost in production has not only breathed new life into the handloom industry but also generated direct employment opportunities for 14 women and 5 men from Scheduled Castes. These individuals and their families now enjoy a stable income, lifting them out of poverty and bringing economic empowerment to their lives.

The expansion of the Khadi Weaving Center has brought about positive impacts on the local economy. As more cloth is produced, the demand for khadi textiles increases, benefiting the entire region's economy. By supporting the handloom industry and promoting khadi, Ernakulam District Panchayat has contributed to sustainable economic growth and the preservation of cultural heritage.

Ernakulam District Panchayat's endeavor to revitalize the handloom industry through the expansion of the Airapuram Khadi Weaving Center is a testament to their commitment to cultural preservation and inclusive economic development. By providing employment opportunities and increasing khadi production, the project has positively impacted the lives of artisans and weavers from marginalized communities. This revitalization effort not only sustains traditional craftsmanship but also fosters local economic growth. With the continued support of such initiatives, the handloom industry can flourish once again, ensuring its continued contribution to India's rich cultural fabric and providing sustainable livelihoods for countless artisans and weavers.

THRISSUR DISTRICT

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EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES, ALLEVIATING POVERTY: INITIATIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Irinjalakuda Municipality

Irinjalakuda Municipality is in the Thrissur district of Kerala. Covering 25 wards, it is home to a population of 62532. Known for its cultural heritage and thriving economy, Irinjalakuda is an important urban centre in the region.

In Irinjalakuda Municipality, several projects are being implemented with the aim of poverty alleviation. Initiatives such as Kudumbashree, Ayyankali UEGS and NULM are being carried out to achieve the goal of poverty alleviation. Under the Kudumbashree project, the focus is on empowering women and providing them with nutritional support, promoting self-employment schemes, facilitating basic amenities, and empowering underprivileged women. Various activities such as small-scale enterprises, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), income-generation programas, and Animal Husbandry Loans are being conducted through the Kudumbashree initiative.

The Agathirahitha Nagarasabha is a government initiative aimed at supporting and assisting financially vulnerable and destitute families. Through this programa, nutritious food kits are distributed to 91 beneficiaries. Financial assistance is also provided for the renovation

of their houses. The programa ensures that the beneficiaries' living conditions are improved, and they receive support for their upliftment. Additionally, graded Kudumbasree units are provided with bank linkage loans for completing their housing projects. The NULM (National Urban Livelihood Mission) department offers subsidies and revolving funds to support various activities.

During the calamities like floods and COVID that have affected our state, the government implemented various schemes and initiatives to provide relief to the distressed population. Through these programas, interest-free loans, financial assistance from the Chief Minister's relief fund (amounting to two crores), and subsidies for various loans under the NULM project were provided to the people facing hardships during these challenging times. The main objective of the initiative is to ensure that extreme poverty is eradicated within five years. To achieve this goal, the municipality identified 197 beneficiaries and provided them with essential services such as shelter, medical aid, food, and support for rehabilitation. Plans were prepared to make these services available to the beneficiaries, and medical camps were organized as part of the effort. Additionally, a plan was created to identify those who lacked primary records and assist them in obtaining Aadhar cards and ration cards.

Through the Ayyankali UEGS, the municipality generated employment by creating 51,155 workdays during the financial year 2021-22, at an expenditure of 12,47,0740 rupees for various initiatives. 247 workers completed 100 workdays, and they were provided a special benefit of 1000 rupees for their work during the festival season, which was a supportive measure. By consistently providing more workdays each financial year and implementing initiatives that benefit more families, the municipality is effectively working towards reducing poverty in households.

The municipality of Irinjalakuda has undertaken various initiatives to promote water conservation, soil conservation, Subhikshakeralam, waste management, employment generation for the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), providing employment to economically weak dairy farmers and the construction of public assets. To collect non-biodegradable waste, four mini–Material Collection Facilities (MCFs) have been set up, along with initiatives like

the maintenance of ponds and canals for water conservation. A Pachathuruth (Green Park) has been created in Hillpark.

For their efforts in promoting sustainable housing and development, the municipality received the Best Green Building Award from the central government during the 2021-22 periods. Furthermore, a beneficiary named Babitha Sherif in Division 4A was honoured with the Best Harijan Green Building Award in the fourth phase of the PMAY. To support the beneficiaries of PMAY, the municipality has also provided various amenities such as bio-bins and Ujjwala gas connections to three individuals. These initiatives collectively contribute to the sustainable development and betterment of the municipality and its residents.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION

Wadakkanchery Municipality

Wadakkanchery Municipality was formed in 2015 by merging Mundathikode and Wadakkanchery Panchayats. Over 67,000 people live in 41 wards in this municipality with an area of 52 Sq.KM.

The municipality is on the fast track of urbanization. In the field of poverty alleviation, along with regular projects, the municipality implements projects that lift every family out of poverty. Many programas undertaken by the Municipality for the realization of sustainable development goals are being implemented through Kudumbashree. In two CDSs, 618 neighbourhood groups are active. In the year 2021-22, Kudumbashree had transactions of eleven crore rupees.

Janakiya hotel is an important agenda in the twelve-point programa of the government. In the year 2022, two Janakiya hotels opened at Ottupara and Minalur. Work is underway to start two more hotels each in Wadakkanchery town and Aryampadam. With this, the municipality will complete the government's proposal of one Janakiya hotel for each 10 wards in the municipality with a total of 41 wards. Under Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme, through 117670 working days, the Municipality has been able to boost its

poverty alleviation activities by spending Rs.3 Crore 47 Lakhs.

Wadakkanchery municipality acted as a pilot for municipalities when the government launched a scheme to provide livelihoods to the most vulnerable through the process of extreme poverty determination. The Municipality has demonstrated a way to identify the extremely poor and prepare a survival plan for them in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals. By organizing a people's committee, through various focus group discussions including CDS and through a pilot survey, the municipality was able to prepare a list of 91 extremely poor people for the first time in Kerala. Then on August 16, 2022, the Wadakkanchery Municipality set a precedent by preparing an action plan for the extreme poor for the first time in the state.

In the field of poverty alleviation, auxiliary groups were formed to bring the youth who did not come to Kudumbashree's public meetings. The first auxiliary group in the state was started by Wadakkanchery Municipality. Homelessness is a major symptom of poverty. Owning a house is every poor person's dream. Wadakkanchery Municipality is proud to fulfil the dreams of 1680 people through PMAY and Life project.Though it's various approaches to tackle poverty, Wadakkanchery Municipality goes hand in hand with the global aim of eradicating extreme poverty.

FOSTERING PROSPERITY: HOUSING AND AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES

Poomangalam Gram Panchayat

Poomangalam Gram Panchayat is in Vellangallur block in Thrissur district. It spreads over an area of 10.94 sq.km and supports a population of about 12541. Poomangalam and Manavalssery are the two revenue villages in the Panchayat.

Poomangalam Gram Panchayat, dedicated to the overall development and prosperity of its people, focuses on various sectors. One of the key areas of concentration is housing programas and agricultural activities. To fulfil one of the fundamental aspirations of every human being, the Poomangalam Gram Panchayat has successfully implemented the Life Mission project, providing housing opportunities. During the 2021-2022 financial year, a total of 15 houses were completed as part of this initiative.

Furthermore, the Gram Panchayat actively supports the agricultural sector and farmers. In the previous financial year, an amount of Rs. 26,22,000 was allocated for cattle sheds, goat sheds, and poultry sheds, thereby aiding the agricultural community. Overall, the Poomangalam Gram Panchayat is committed to improving the living conditions of its residents through housing programas and supporting the agricultural sector, ultimately

contributing to the welfare and prosperity of the community.

Through its unwavering dedication to overall development and prosperity, Poomangalam Gram Panchayat has made significant strides in housing programas and agricultural support. By successfully implementing the Life Mission project the Panchayat has fulfilled the fundamental aspiration of providing housing opportunities. Additionally, its active backing of the agricultural sector with financial allocations has further uplifted the community, fostering a brighter future for its residents, and contributing to the overall welfare of the region.

CULTIVATING PROSPERITY: AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENTS AND SOCIAL INITIATIVES

Venkitangu Gram Panchayat

Venkitangu Gram Panchayat is in Mullassery block of Thrissur district. It is surrounded by Mullassery Gram Panchayat to the North, expansive paddy fields to the East, Canoli canal to the West, and the Enamavu River to the South. The Panchayat has a population of 25118.Covering an area of 20.47 square kilometres, this agricultural village comprises 17 wards in revenue villages of Kundazhiyur, Venkitangu and Irimbranellur.

Venkitangu Gram Panchayat is blessed with fertile land and is primarily focused on cultivating paddy and coconut. The paddy fields of Kolnilam, located in Thrissur taluk, span a total of 703 hectares, including the six Padas of North Konchira, Elamuda, East Karimpadam, Ponnamuta, West Karimpadam, and Thekekonchira. The rice paddies in the north-western part of the Panchayat, known as Tanneer Kayal, hold a rich historical significance. The Panchayat actively promotes an agrarian culture and undertakes various socially responsible initiatives.

Venkitangu Panchayat has emerged as a leading Panchayat in Kerala, earning unparalleled achievements in the field of agriculture, and receiving frequent awards and accolades. The Venkitangu Krishi Bhavan serves as

a valuable resource centre, providing guidance and assistance to farmers. Significant funds are allocated each year for the welfare and development of paddy farmers and sorghum cultivation. In the financial year 2021-2022, a subsidy of INR 932,677/- was granted to paddy farmers. Additionally, schemes aimed at empowering women farmers in the Panchayat were implemented, such as the distribution of flower and vegetable baskets, fruit tree seedlings, and the promotion of organic vegetable cultivation in terrace, with a total expenditure of INR 416,785/-. These initiatives have proven highly beneficial, especially for housewives.

In the past financial year, the Panchayat also implemented the distribution of production materials for vegetable cultivation in barren land. Furthermore, under the State Horticulture project, 2,200 pepper seedlings were distributed. Through various projects and initiatives supported by the Panchayat's allocation, the residents of Venkitangu Gram Panchayat have experienced increased self-employment opportunities and witnessed the productive utilization of previously unused agricultural land. It is worth mentioning that the cultivation of non-toxic vegetables has positively impacted the community's overall health.

Gram Panchayat's unwavering focus on agriculture and social welfare has resulted in remarkable progress and recognition. By empowering farmers, promoting sustainable practices, and supporting women's initiatives, the Panchayat has fostered prosperity and improved the overall well-being of its residents, setting an inspiring example for rural development.

NURTURING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE: INITIATIVES FOR FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Thekkumkara Gram Panchayat

Thekkumkara Gram Panchayat comes under Wadakkanchery Block Panchayat in Thrissur district. It covers an area of 55.2 sq.km with five revenue villages of Thekkumkara, Manalithra, Enkakkad, Viruppakka and Karumathra and a population of 29511.

To achieve self-sufficiency in vegetable production and promote safe vegetable cultivation, the distribution of vegetable seedlings to all households was successfully carried out. A sum of Rs. 360,000/- was allocated to promote household vegetable cultivation. Seedlings were distributed accordingly. To foster the growth of medicinal plants, an amount of Rs. 90,000/- was spent on distributing medicinal plant saplings. This initiative has led to an expansion in the cultivation of medicinal plants.

The importance of food security and self-sufficiency in food production became evident during the lockdown imposed after the Covid-19 pandemic. Consequently, projects aimed at achieving self-sufficiency in rice production were implemented in 2021-22. An expenditure of Rs. 2,678,030/- was incurred under the Public Planning Scheme for the development of paddy cultivation. The paddy yield has increased from 2.2

tonnes per acre in 2018-19 to 2.6 tonnes per acre in 2021-22.

By adopting double cropping techniques, the area under rice cultivation has been expanded, resulting in increased production. As part of the government scheme to provide 5 jobs per 1000 people, the Panchayat has initiated a project to establish a paddy cultivation production storage and distribution unit for groups of 5 people under the brand name "Machad Matta."Under the employment guarantee scheme, the Panchayat successfully completed the construction of 94 sheep sheds at a cost of Rs. 80,000/- and 72 stables at a cost of Rs. 200,000/- in the previous financial year (2021-22). Additionally, approximately 4 hectares of land have been prepared for cultivation through the efforts of 4 Self-Help Groups and Joint Liability Groups (SHGJLGs) involved in the Land Adaptation for Lease Farming project. These initiatives showcase a holistic approach towards agricultural development and livelihood improvement in the Panchayat.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: STRIDES IN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROMOTION

Parappukkara Gram Panchayat

Parappukkara Gram Panchayat is a part of Irinjalakuda block in Mukundapuram taluk of Thrissur district. It has a population of 29659 and an area of 22.015 sq.km. Nellayi, Parappukkara and Thottipal are the revenue villages in the Panchayat.

Parappukkara Gram Panchayat has achieved remarkable progress in poverty alleviation during the year 2021-22. Various initiatives such as the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Life Mission, Kudumbashree, Anganwadi nutrition distribution, COVID management, entrepreneurship promotion, Janakiya hotel and agriculture allied sectors have significantly contributed to these achievements.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROMOTION

A total of 50 new enterprises were established during the period of 2021-22.

LIFE MISSION

Five houses were allotted to the general category and seven houses to the SC category. Additionally, 36 houses for the SC category and 18 houses for the general category **underwent repair and renovation**.

MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

Activities included the plantation of 550 coconut saplings at KLDC bund, completion of construction for two mini MCFs, construction of compost pits and soak pits in four Anganwadis as part of the Nutri Garden Project, restoration of Mulangu-Kurumali river bund using 320 meters of coir geotextile, preparation of 8 acres of barren land for cultivation, and construction of cattle sheds (7), goat sheds (18), chicken coops (21), compost pits (29), soak pits (64), Azola tanks (2), and fodder grass cultivation (4 acres) for personal asset creation.

KUDUMBASHREE

Agri Nutri Gardens were established in every ward. A Yuva Keralam Mobilization Camp was organized under the DDUGKY programa. Fifty-six neighbourhood groups received loans from the Backward Development Cooperation. The Ashraya project is progressing well and Ayurvedic medicines were distributed to COVID patients.

ANGANWADI NUTRITION DISTRIBUTION

Nutrition distribution was provided to 510 preschool children and 807 children in the age group of 0-3 years. Daily meals consisting of breakfast, lunch, and general feeding were provided, along with the distribution of eggs twice a week and milk three times a week. Free medicines were distributed under the supervision of the Primary Health Centre.

The establishment of new enterprises, allocation and renovation of houses, and the effective execution of programas under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme have contributed significantly to uplifting the socio-economic status of the region. Furthermore, the fruitful endeavours undertaken by Kudumbashree, Anganwadi nutrition distribution, and other allied sectors have further reinforced the Panchayat's commitment to promoting self-reliance and well-being among its residents, setting a positive example for continued progress and development.

TRANSFORMATIVE PROGRESS: MODERNIZATION AND EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVES

Madakkathara Gram Panchayat

Madakkathara is a lush green village in Ollukkara Block Panchayat with a population around 27181. It covers an area of 21.59 sq.km and the revenue villages in the Panchayat are Madakkathara, Kurichikkara, Vellanikkara, and Killannur. The Panchayat decided to equip children to become the leaders in various areas throughout the world.

Madakkathara Gram Panchayat has undergone significant improvements in living standards and economic development due to modernization efforts. Access to necessities such as food, clothing, and healthcare has been ensured, resulting in improved health conditions for the residents. Special attention has been given to marginalized groups, including the provision of shelter and toilets for those in need. The Panchayat has successfully utilized 100% of its funds, with 40% allocated to the service sector. Sixteen individuals, including five Scheduled Caste families, have been provided with land and houses, allowing them to rebuild their homes. Additionally, central plan allocations have been utilized for the construction and renovations of toilets.

Women and differently abled individuals, who may face challenges in mainstream society, have been empowered

through the Women's Component Scheme. Livestock such as milk cows, goats, buffaloes, and egg-laying hens have been provided to their families, enabling them to achieve self-sufficiency. Training programas offered by Kudumbashree, such as Cake Making, Paper Bag Making, Umbrella Making, and Inorganic Fertilizer Unit, have resulted in successful income enhancement. Approximately fifty women Joint Liability Group (JLG) groups are earning their own income through rice and vegetable cultivation. Kudumbashree groups in Madakkathara are also engaged in nursery activities, producing a wide variety of plants.

Mitra Garments, a solar-powered tailoring unit in Madakkathara, serves as a model for Kerala. This organization employs around ten people and manufactures cloth bags for kits provided by the state government during the Covid-19 period. They also produce national flags for households when Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Janakiya Hotel, located in a building owned by the Panchayat, distributes lunch to over 150 people daily, contributing to the economic development of four families.

In the financial year 2021-22, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme provided 102,669 days of employment, ensuring poverty alleviation and regional economic development. Social justice was prioritized by including 83% women workers, 8 differently abled workers, and numerous elderly individuals. A total of 579 families were employed for 100 days, with 520 skilled workers earning Rs. 750 per day through the employment guarantee scheme. Skilled agricultural groups in Madakkathara, known as Sky Art New Tech, have received training and are involved in house construction and toilet building. These groups have also contributed to DCC sanitation efforts, constructed 21 sheds, 25 goat shelters, 15 chicken coops, 10 ponds, and two Azola tanks. The project has provided employment opportunities to skilled and unskilled workers, ensuring local economic development, food security, and income generation for 25 families. Furthermore, fodder cultivation and the construction of 89 rural roads have further enhanced the project's benefits. Madakkathara Gram Panchayat is committed to improving development indices and is exploring the incorporation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund.

Madakkathara Gram Panchayat has achieved significant economic development and improved living standards through modernization efforts. It has ensured

access to necessities, provided housing and toilets for marginalized groups, and empowered women and differently abled individuals through various schemes. The successful utilization of funds, employment generation, and innovative projects have contributed to the Panchayat's commitment to sustainable growth and social welfare.

EMPOWERING GROWTH: SUCCESS IN GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Kadappuram Gram Panchayat

Kadappuram Gram Panchayat is situated in Thrissur district, which is known for its cultural heritage and scenic beauty. The Panchayat covers an area of 9.63 sq.km with a population of 25305 comprising of 2 revenue districts Kadappuram and Orumanayoor. The local economy of Kadappuram Gram Panchayat is supported by various sectors. As mentioned earlier, the Panchayat has achieved self-sufficiency in the fisheries sector. Additionally, efforts have been made to promote activities related to milk, egg, and meat production.

Village development at the grassroots level holds significant importance for the well-being of its residents. Kadappuram Gram Panchayat has achieved self-sufficiency in the fisheries sector, contributing to the local economy. Various initiatives have been undertaken by the Panchayat to promote self-sufficiency in the production of milk, eggs, and meat, leading to regional economic development.

Under the National Guarantee Scheme, cooperative societies have been established to support local economic development. The distribution of chicks as part of project activities has proven successful. To provide a low-cost source of income for women, a scheme was

implemented whereby buffalo calves were distributed at a subsidized rate (a practice carried out during Bakrid, generating income for buffalo farmers). Through the MGNREGS project, cow sheds were constructed, and farmers were encouraged to purchase cows and provide fodder using the project funds. The Panchayat provides a subsidy of Rs. 600 per month for dairy farmers, enabling them to access two bags of fodder.

The Panchayat has also facilitated the establishment of micro-enterprises using Kudumbashree's Community Fund (CF). Initiatives such as hotels, tailoring shops, grocery stores, agarbathi (incense stick) units, food item production, hair oil manufacturing, and schemes for the production of food grains and value-added products have been implemented to increase income and contribute to regional economic development.

Kadappuram Gram Panchayat's emphasis on grassroots-level development has led to significant progress, particularly in fisheries and agriculture. The promotion of self-sufficiency in milk, eggs, and meat production, along with support for local cooperatives, has contributed to economic growth and the well-being of the residents. Additionally, micro-enterprises and income-generating schemes under Kudumbashree's Community Fund have further bolstered regional economic development, enhancing the overall prosperity of the community.

EMPOWERING LIVELIHOODS THROUGH MARATHAMPILLI CANAL REHABILITATION

Kodakara Gram Panchayat

Kodakara Gram Panchayat comes under Kodakara block Panchayat in Thrissur district. Having a population of 32298, the Panchayat spreads over an area of 21.29 sq.km. Kodakara and Kodassery are the revenue villages in the Panchayat.

The Marathampilli canal is an important waterway that transports water from the Blachira branch canal to Kodakara *Marathampilli Padasekharam* in the Gram Panchayat. The primary objective of the project is to clean and reinforce approximately 420 meters of soil along the main canal with the use of rope covering.

The cultivation of paddy in a 17-hectare area heavily relies on the canal for irrigation. The proposed estimate aims to clean the canal, remove the soil, and reinforce its sides with rope earth covering. Additionally, the canal originating from the Peringam pond will be cleaned, and measures will be taken to facilitate the flow of water from the pond to the canal. The required rope earth covering has been procured from the Alappuzha Rope Corporation. The total cost of this project is estimated at 293,165/-, which will greatly improve the accessibility of canal water, prevent waterlogging during the monsoon season, and protect the paddy fields. Furthermore, this

initiative has generated 532 working days under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Overall, this endeavor stands as a testament to the Panchayat's commitment to sustainable water resource management and agricultural prosperity.

The rehabilitation project of the Marathampilli canal holds significant importance in generating employment opportunities for the local community. Through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), this initiative has provided income and livelihood support to the rural workforce involved in the cleaning, soil removal, and reinforcement of the canal with rope covering. This employment generation is especially crucial for the residents of the Gram Panchayat, as it enhances their economic well-being and contributes to the overall prosperity of the region. By combining sustainable water resource management with employment generation, the project serves as a model for promoting rural development and agricultural livelihoods in the community.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION INITIATIVES

Elavally Gram Panchayat

Elavally Gram Panchayat is situated in Mullassery block Panchayat in Thrissur district. The Panchayat has an area of 16.28 sq.km and a population of 27209. Brahmakulam and Elavally are the revenue villages here.

In order to fulfil the dream of owning a house for the numerous landless and homeless families in the Gram Panchayat, where the common workers of the unorganized agricultural sector reside, the Gram Panchayat took the initiative to acquire 226 cents of land in the Parakkaad area of the fifth ward in the year 2021-22. Furthermore, efforts are being made to construct the housing complex in an environmentally friendly manner while preserving the local habitat. The objective is to provide homes for 120 families while also implementing a modern solid and liquid waste management system using funds from the Suchitwa Mission. A building has been constructed at a cost of Rs. 25 lakhs in collaboration with Mullassery Block Panchayat to establish a manufacturing unit for women entrepreneurs in the mini-industrial estate of the Gram Panchayat. This project aims to generate employment opportunities for 60 young women who have received training in rope making. The activities are progressing with the goal of producing ropes from

coconut husks, utilizing the activities of kera clusters in the Gram Panchayat, and utilizing the husks to produce inoculum under the leadership of Haritakarmasena, which will be provided to domestic consumers for waste treatment. This project can serve as a model for empowering women in the workforce.

During the year 2021-22, efforts were focused on preparing the physical facilities for starting a Neethi Tea stall in the Chittatukara area of the Gram Panchayat. The Panchayat aims to offer tea and snacks at reasonable prices by involving Kudumbashree women. This project aims to attract women to the workforce and contribute to family income. As part of the Gram Panchayat's efforts to make the Scheduled Caste youth economically self-sufficient, training has been provided in the production of digital thermometers. The Panchayat plans to establish a digital thermometer unit and provide a source of income for a few individuals by utilizing trained individuals. Additionally, as part of the annual plan, breakfast including bananas, chicken eggs, and milk has been provided to 66 students from the GLP School, which is under the control of the Gram Panchayat and serves mostly underprivileged children. The delivery of breakfast to students' homes during the COVID-19 period has set a positive example. The Gram Panchayat remains committed to undertaking similar initiatives to safeguard the public education sector.

The Gram Panchayat's poverty alleviation activities have demonstrated a proactive approach in addressing the needs of marginalized communities and promoting economic empowerment. The acquisition of land for housing construction, the establishment of a manufacturing unit for women entrepreneurs, and initiatives to provide employment opportunities for Scheduled Caste youth through training showcase the Panchayat's commitment to improving the living standards of its residents. Additionally, the efforts to provide nutritious breakfast to underprivileged students during the COVID-19 pandemic underscore the Panchayat's dedication to safeguarding public education and overall welfare of the community. These initiatives set an encouraging precedent for sustainable development and upliftment in the region.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: POVERTY ALLEVIATION INITIATIVES

Chelakkara Gram Panchayat

Chelakkara Gram Panchayat is situated in Pazhayannur block Panchayat in Thrissur district. The Panchayat has an area of 33.74 sq.km and a population of 40450 in 6 revenue villages; Chelakkara, Kurumala, Venganellur, Pangarappilly, Pulakkode and Thonnurkkara.The Panchayat strives to uplift the marginalized sections of society, reduce poverty, and enhance livelihood opportunities.

As part of the Kerala Government's Hunger-Free City project, Chelakkara Gram Panchayat allocated Rs. 8 lakhs in the year 2021-22 to establish *Janakiya Hotel*. This funding has been utilized to develop basic facilities through *Janakiya Hotel*, benefiting numerous people in the Panchayat. A total of Rs. 4, 33,000 has been subsidized for small enterprises through women Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) operating under Kudumbashree CDS, resulting in economic development for 25 families. In the financial year 2021-22, activities were carried out with an expenditure of Rs. 42,44,5795, creating 1,43,592 working days and benefiting 2,908 families.

Under the LIFEMISSION scheme of state government, Rs. 1,12,67,021 has been included in the annual plan of the Panchayat for the construction of houses for

133 families. Additionally, 4 families have been able to purchase land under the landless and homeless scheme. An allocation of Rs. 80,03,306 has been made for supplementary nutrition and infrastructure development of Anganwadis. This includes providing nutrition to children attending 43 Anganwadis, with 5 selected Anganwadis being transformed into hi-tech facilities. The amount of Rs. 50,000 has been included in the annual plan to provide aid through a medical camp in *Kalappara* Colony, the only Scheduled Tribe Colony in Chelakkara Gram Panchayat, and the project has been successfully implemented.

To make Chelakkara Gram Panchayat a differently abled friendly Panchayat, an allocation of Rs. 25 lakhs have been made in the annual plan. This initiative has facilitated scholarship allowances for differently abled students and provided assistive devices to differently abled individuals. A sum of Rs. 3 lakhs have been allocated for seed and labor costs in the vegetable cultivation clusters within the Panchayat. Seeds and labor costs have been provided to farmers in the existing 7 clusters, resulting in increased vegetable production.

For the animal husbandry sector, Rs. 3 lakhs have been allocated for the distribution of laying hens, and Rs. 12 lakhs for the distribution of goats in the annual plan. As a result, hens have been distributed to women in 600 families, goats to 133 general category women and 133 scheduled caste families. Through this project, 866 families have been able to improve their financial income. An allocation of Rs. 85,56,298 has been made for various agricultural projects, aimed at developing the agricultural sector and increasing farmers' income.

The Panchayat actively implements its own strategies and participates in state government initiatives to tackle social issues such as hunger, homelessness, and providing homes for the homeless for the economic empowerment of the local population.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION: PANCHAYAT'S JOURNEY

Parappukkara Gram Panchayat

Parappukkara Gram Panchayat is a part of Irinjalakuda block in Mukundapuram taluk of Thrissur district. It has a population of 29659 and an area of 22.015 sq.km. Nellayi, Parappukkara and Thottipal are the revenue villages in the Panchayat.

Parappukkara Gram Panchayat is renowned for its tile factories and brick fields in the past. However, as these industries declined, the focus shifted towards agriculture. The Panchayat spans over 2201 hectares of land, out of which 1995 hectares, including unused brick fields, are suitable for agriculture. Currently, 1950 hectares of land are under good cultivation. There are approximately 1600 farmers in the Gram Panchayat, with 1200 of them owning their agricultural land. The primary crops cultivated in this Panchayat include rice, coconut, areca palm, banana, and green vegetables.

Major *Padasekharams* (irrigation systems) in the area include:

- Thotipal Mulangu padasekharam
- Panthallur Padasekharam
- Kolathur padasekharam

- Alathur padasekharam
- Tamarachal Kol Padasekharam
- Konthipulam Padasekharam
- Parappukkara Nedumbal Padasekharam
- Dhanukulam West padasekharam

The cultivation includes 1172 hectares of coconut, 5 hectares of areca palm, 200 hectares of banana, 15 hectares of vegetables, 15 hectares of tubers, 20 hectares of spices, and 2 hectares of rubber. The marketing of these agricultural products relies on the VFPCK market, private markets, and the Panchayat's eco shop.

For irrigation, the Panchayat relies on government canals, 15 public ponds, 34 public wells, 4893 private wells, and 35 streams, including Pongotra LI, Nedumpal Thekkumuri L.I., Ulumpadukun L.I., Mutrathikkara LI, and Alathur LI. Agricultural loans are provided by two nationalized banks, three scheduled banks, and four cooperative societies.

In the financial year 2021-22, several projects were undertaken by the Gram Panchayat. These included paddy cultivation on 50 acres of fallow land, tuber cultivation on 10 acres, vegetable cultivation on 1.25 acres, and banana cultivation on 5.3 acres of fallow land under the Subhiksha Kerala scheme. Additionally, 8100 fruit tree saplings were distributed, and the Pudukkad constituency Biodiversity Garden Project was introduced in 18 wards for cultivating the same type of vegetables.

Other projects implemented by the Gram Panchayat in the financial year 2021-22 were as follows:

- Labor cost subsidy for paddy farmers - Rs. 18,12,560/-
- Banana cultivation - Rs. 19,73,680/-
- Cultivation of Medicinal Plants - Rs. 2,00,000/-
- Special Calf Maintenance - Rs. 7,00,000/-
- Subsidy of Rs. 8,00,000/- for milk producers in dairy societies

- Construction of Paduthakulam - Rs. 32,800/-
- Biofloc Fish Farming - Rs. 1,84,000/- (4 Nos.)

In the animal husbandry sector, the Gram Panchayat has made significant progress towards achieving self-sufficiency in milk, egg, and meat production. There are currently 34 private dairy farms, 4 goat farms, and 4 poultry farms operating in the Panchayat. Furthermore, the Panchayat acquired an acre of barren land and commenced vegetable cultivation in February 2022.

Parappukkara Gram Panchayat has transitioned from tile factories and brick fields to focusing on agriculture. With a vast expanse of land suitable for cultivation, the Panchayat emphasizes the growth of crops like rice, coconut, areca palm, banana, and vegetables. Various irrigation systems and agricultural projects have been implemented to support farmers, resulting in self-sufficiency in milk, egg, and meat production. The Panchayat's commitment to sustainable agriculture and animal husbandry stands as a testament to their dedication to rural development.

CULTIVATING SUSTAINABILITY: AGRICULTURE INITIATIVES

Pananchery Gram Panchayat

Pananchery is the largest Gram Panchayat in Thrissur district. It comes under Ollukkara Block Panchayat. With an area of 141.71 sq.km, it has a population of 45963. Peechi and Pananchery are the revenue villages in the Panchayat.

Pananchery Gram Panchayat, nestled in the scenic Peachy Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary, relies heavily on agriculture as the primary source of income for its residents. The cultivation practices encompass a diverse range of crops, including coconut, gourd, nutmeg, vegetables, banana, and rubber, spread over an area of 5500 hectares. Efforts have been made to bring fallow paddy fields back into cultivation, resulting in an increase in rice cultivation from 25 to 35 hectares and subsequently boosting rice production.

To promote vegetable cultivation, the Panchayat has initiated 20 clusters of vegetable farmers. Financial support has been extended to farmers to initiate vegetable cultivation, leading to the cultivation of vegetables on 200 hectares of land. The introduction of high-yielding seeds, quality fertilizers, and other agricultural inputs has significantly enhanced the production of vegetables and bananas.

To ensure safe food production, an Agro clinic has been established at Krishi Bhavan. Additionally, organic pest control agents like *Trichoderma* and *Pseudomonas* are freely distributed to farmers after assessing pest infestation in their farms. This initiative aids in the production of safe and high-quality food.

To facilitate the marketing of agricultural produce, the VFPCK (Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Council, Kerala) weekly market has established reservations through A-grade cluster markets. This ensures a fair and stable price for the vegetables stored, thereby promoting safe food production practices. The Pananchery Gram Panchayat's proactive efforts in promoting sustainable agriculture and safe food production have resulted in significant progress and development within the region.

NURTURING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS: AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED

Madakkathara Gram Panchayat

Madakkathara is a lush green village in Ollukkara Block Panchayat with a population around 27181. It covers an area of 21.59 sq.km and the revenue villages in the Panchayat are Madakkathara, Kurichikkara, Vellanikkara, and Killannur. The Panchayat decided to equip children to become the leaders in various areas throughout the world.

Agriculture and animal husbandry hold a special place in the hearts of those who have a deep love for the land and humanity. Even during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic, these sectors have played a crucial role in lifting people from the brink of starvation by providing various livelihood opportunities. In the realm of rice cultivation, efforts have been made to transform over two hectares of previously barren land into cultivable land, resulting in an increase to 82 hectares under cultivation.

To promote multi-cropping and sustainable farming practices, initiatives such as *Haritha Samriddhi, Subhiksha Kerala*, and Nutri Smart Village have been instrumental. These programas have focused on distributing fruit seedlings, vegetable seedlings, and diverse tuber varieties

for intercropping with coconut trees. Water protection schemes have also been implemented to ensure water sustainability, including cleaning ponds and wells, as well as recharging wells with an expenditure of Rs. 20 lakhs.

The implementation of *Bharatiya Prakriti Krishi* on 100 hectares has guided farmers towards organic farming, emphasizing the avoidance of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Farmer groups have been formed and trained to produce enriched dung, green decoction, panchagavya, fish amino acid, among other natural inputs, which are then encouraged for use in their farms. Conservation of traditional seeds has been actively promoted, and collaboration with the Kerala Agricultural University has facilitated training sessions for Scheduled Caste farmers on advanced fertilizers and small agricultural machinery, specifically in banana cultivation. Financial assistance from the State Horticulture Mission has further supported the cultivation of dragon fruit, banana, pepper, hybrid vegetables, and nutmeg. Vegetable cultivation has been promoted in school premises, aiming to generate interest in agriculture among school students.

In a state like Kerala, known for its high literacy rates, there is still progressed to be made in terms of food security. Cow rearing, egg production, and other related sectors play a significant role in meeting the demand for animal protein during this time of crisis. The Paduthukalam plan, a part of the Subhiksha Kerala project, has been implemented by the fisheries department and the Panchayat to support inland fish farming. Training and provision of fish fry, such as Catla, Rohu, Mrigal and Carp have been offered to individuals utilizing identified private ponds. Eco-friendly fish farming practices, designed to maximize limited water availability, are preferred. The Gram Panchayat actively supports self-employment and individual group enterprises in the field of animal husbandry, aiming to provide sustainable livelihoods for the entire population of the Gram Panchayat. Additionally, three government veterinary hospitals and the services of their veterinarians contribute to the welfare of animals in the region.

Agriculture and allied activities have not only played a vital role in sustaining livelihoods during challenging times like the COVID-19 pandemic but have also

been instrumental in promoting sustainable farming practices and food security. The initiatives undertaken by Madakkathara Gram Panchayat, such as organic farming, multi-cropping, and supporting animal husbandry, reflect their commitment to the welfare of the community and the preservation of traditional agricultural practices. These efforts are crucial in ensuring a prosperous and self-sufficient future for the region's farmers and residents.

NURTURING AGRICULTURAL RESILIENCE

Chowannur Block Panchayat

Chowannur Block Panchayat falls under the Thrissur district and covers an area of 170.73 square kilometers, comprising eight panchayats: Chowannur, Porkkulum, Kadangod, Veloor, Chundal, Kandanasserry, Kattakampal, and Kadavallur. It also includes parts of the Alathur and Thrissur Lok Sabha constituencies, as well as the Mannalur and Kunnamkulam assembly constituencies. The block panchayat is surrounded by Guruvayur Municipality in south, Kunnamkulam Municipality in west, Chalissery Panchayat, and Nagalasserry Panchayat in the north. In the eastern region, there are Erimayur Panchayat and Mundathikode Panchayat. In total, the block panchayat has a population of 196,895 and is divided into 14 divisions.

Agriculture and the agricultural sector, which used to be the main source of income for people, face significant challenges. Most paddy fields have reduced in size due to adverse weather conditions, increased agricultural expenses, and the shortage of laborers. Productivity of coconut has decreased, and the invasion of diseases and pests poses a threat to agriculture. The increasing demand for houses has resulted in agricultural lands

transforming into housing plots. The fragmentation of large fields affects water drainage routes, leading to environmental problems. The rising cost of production and reduced market opportunities for products create difficulties for farmers in agriculture.

The agricultural development programa aims to promote organic farming in agricultural lands which are damaged due to the excess use of chemical fertilizers. The distribution of 50 lakh rupees to the paddy farmers in eight panchayats of Chovannoor Block is being carried out through the 'wage & expense subsidy' initiative. The funds are utilized to purchase and distribute power tillers, pumps, and motor pumps to increase operational efficiency and reduce the dependency on manual labor in the agricultural sector. The project also provides subsidies to dairy farmers for the purchase of milch animals to enhance milk production and support dairy farmers. Additionally, the Panchayat has distributed subsidized cattle to protect and promote the dairy industry. Forty selected beneficiaries from the eight panchayats are given a 50% subsidy for purchasing cattle.

To promote fish farming, the project for constructing Tarpoline ponds has been implemented in 8 panchayats. This initiative involves providing financial assistance for the construction of Tarpoline ponds to support fish cultivation.

The following projects have been also implemented in the block:

1. Subsidy for purchasing milk-measuring machines for dairy cooperatives.
2. Subsidy for purchasing cattle (for Scheduled Castes).
3. Subsidy for purchasing cattle for women (general category).
4. Construction of Tharamelthazham bund to prevent soil erosion.
5. Wages and expenses subsidy for paddy cultivation.
6. Distribution of funds for the construction of Tarpoline ponds to Gram Panchayats.
7. Purchase of motor pump sets for the Padashekhara Samithi in Chowannur Block Panchayat.

The various agricultural development programas and initiatives are being implemented in Chowannoor Block Panchayat to promote organic farming, support dairy farmers, and encourage fish farming through the construction of Tarpoline ponds. These efforts aim to boost agricultural productivity, reduce dependency on manual labor, and provide financial assistance to farmers, ensuring sustainable growth in the agricultural sector.

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Kodakara Block Panchayat

Kodakara Block Panchayat is composed of 7 Gram Panchayats that vary in terms of area and population. In 2021-22, Kodakara Block Panchayat implemented various projects with the aim of uplifting the socio-economic development of the underprivileged population within its jurisdiction. These initiatives focused on improving basic amenities, enhancing employment opportunities, promoting traditional production practices, ensuring social security, and implementing significant projects related to agriculture and wildlife conservation. The projects, such as Life, Ardram, and Haritha Kerala Mission, provided support and welfare measures for the agricultural and wildlife conservation sectors. Additionally, successful implementation of the Peoples Plan Campaign projects further contributed to the overall well-being and development of the marginalized communities in the region.

MGNREGS (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme) has been instrumental in bringing about positive changes and improvements in the socio-economic conditions of the rural communities within the jurisdiction of Kodakara Block Panchayat. By providing employment opportunities and supporting

various welfare initiatives, the Panchayat has taken significant steps towards uplifting the underprivileged sections of society.

During the fiscal year 2021-22, a total of 3,693 families were provided with 100 days of employment under the scheme, securing the Panchayat the second position in the district for generating 5,52,526 workdays. This resulted in a total expenditure of 21,45,60,000 rupees from the Block Panchayat's budget to fund various projects aimed at improving livelihoods and ensuring social security. Under the Category B projects, numerous assets were created during the period which include the construction of farm ponds, cattle sheds, goat sheds, poultry sheds, compost pits, soak pits, well recharge facilities, azolla tanks, and mini MCF (Micro-Composting Facilities). Additionally, the MGNREGS project played a crucial role in preventing waterlogging in the vicinity of the Karikkadav Scheduled Tribe colony by constructing barriers along the Mupli pond, benefiting 13 families, and addressing their water scarcity issues. Overall, the efforts made by Kodakara Block Panchayat through the MGNREGS have had a positive impact on the lives of the marginalized and vulnerable communities, fostering social development and enhancing their overall well-being.

Kodakara Block Panchayat holds a significant position in the agricultural landscape of Thrissur district, particularly in the highland region. It is blessed with fertile soil and diverse crop varieties, making it ideal for agricultural activities and ensuring abundant water resources. Various irrigation schemes have been implemented to prevent incessant flooding and enhance agricultural productivity. With the help of these initiatives, approximately 400 hectares of land have been brought under irrigation, benefiting around 700 farmers. The increased availability of suitable agricultural land has encouraged the cultivation of paddy, turmeric, and ginger, resulting in a boost in farmers' income.The formation of a consortium of dairy farmers, named "Haritha Fresh Milk," has gained national recognition. This group distributes pure and high-quality milk, supporting the social welfare of the members. In addition, financial aid has been provided to dairy farmers by Shasthampoovvam ST Colony Panchayat for bio-farming purposes.

In the Kodakara Block, which could be called the Hub of banana farming, there has been a constant struggle to increase production and ensure market stability. To

find a solution to this issue, a group of nine young farmers from another Panchayat in Mattathur initiated a value-added production unit called "Agro Paddi." They received a startup fund of 500,000 rupees through the Revolving Fund to support the new venture and uplift the farming community. With an additional grant of 1.2 million rupees through RKVY Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana Scheme, a significant section of farmers' dreams came closer to realization. The group received the Best Farmers Producer Organization (FPO) award from the agriculture minister during the Krishidarshan programame. The group exported their produce, including bananas and other commodities, to Britain, gaining international recognition and appreciation.

Furthermore, 39,120 farmers in the Kodakara Block benefited from the PM Kisan scheme, receiving an annual subsidy of 6,000 rupees per year and with an expenditure of 234,720,000 rupees, the Panchayat secured the first position among others.

The Kodakara Block Panchayat has also extended financial assistance to fish farmers through the distribution of tarpaulin sheets for fishponds in Palappilly Karukulam. Additionally, financial support has been given to overseas expatriates facing hardships during challenging times. Various central and state government initiatives and funds, including the Plan Fund and Corpus Fund categories, have been strategically utilized to maximize coordinated opportunities for the welfare of the people. During times of calamity, the panchayat has actively supported farmers in distress, ensuring their livelihoods are protected.The initiatives taken by the Kodakara Block Panchayat have played a significant role in uplifting farmers' lives and leading them towards a prosperous future, even during times of hardship such as floods and other calamities.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES AND UPLIFTING AGRICULTURE: A JOURNEY TOWARDS POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Alagappa Nagar Gram Panchayat

Alagappa Nagar Gram Panchayat is situated in Kodakara block in Thrissur district. The Panchayat covers an area of 18.38 sq.km with a population of 29341 comprising of a revenue village, Amballur.

In Alagappa Nagar Gram Panchayat, the activities carried out under the Kutumbashree have been instrumental in alleviating poverty. An amount of 2,870,000 rupees has been granted for 72 initiatives. These initiatives include a Papad unit, bakery, statue production, Janakeeya hotel, grocery, vegetable, and stationery shops, and more. Through the operation of a Janakeeya hotel, five women are provided with stable employment, and meals are offered at the cost of 20 rupees each. Various food items are ground and provided by setting up various machinery at the flour mill, including the production of copra and coconut oil. As part of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, activities such as vegetable farming, poultry, and banana cultivation are being conducted, contributing to a barren-free Kerala (Tharishu Rahitha Keralam) scheme.

Cow shed, goat shed, and poultry shed were provided to alleviate poverty. As part of the Subhiksha Kerala project, progress has been made in promoting fish

farming. Activities aimed at poverty alleviation in the agricultural sector have been implemented, providing support and resources to most of the population dependent on agriculture in the Gram Panchayat. During the year 2021-22, 35% funds were allocated to the agricultural sector as part of the annual plan of AlagappaNagar Gram Panchayat. The entire allocated amount has been utilized during this period. Additionally, schemes like "Barren-Free Kerala" (Tharishurahitha Keralam) and fodder cultivation are being implemented through MGNREGS.

Farmers themselves market their fresh vegetables through Neelim Vegetable Cluster and Eco Shop, providing convenience. In Kerala, for the first time in a panchayat, the turmeric seeds named "Prathibha" were distributed, leading to their collection by cooperatives and the distribution of toxic-free turmeric powder. Through the distribution of Growbags, large-scale vegetable cultivation has become feasible. Subhiksha Kerala project has facilitated large-scale tapioca cultivation.

Alagappa Nagar Gram Panchayat's Kutumbashree initiatives have been vital in alleviating poverty, empowering women through stable employment in Janakeeya hotels, and supporting various ventures. The Subhiksha Kerala project's focus on fish farming and distribution of turmeric seeds and toxic-free powder has been groundbreaking. These efforts, alongside MGNREGS, have led to a thriving agricultural sector, and uplifted local communities.

EMPOWERING LIVELIHOODS: STRIDE TOWARDS POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Kadukutty Gram Panchayat

The Kadukutty Gram Panchayat, located in Chalakkudy Block in Thrissur, consists of 16 wards with a population of 25128. To increase the livelihood opportunities of the residents, the Panchayat encourages self-employment initiatives and income-generating activities. Additionally, it provides nutritional food through Anganwadis and actively engages in significant agricultural activities. The Panchayat's employment generation programas significantly contribute to poverty alleviation efforts.

As part of the Kerala Government's Extreme Poverty Identification Programame, the Gram Panchayat conducted surveys and used a mobile application to identify 25 extremely poor individuals. Understanding their specific needs, the Panchayat prepared Microplan, aimed at addressing the urgent requirements of these severe poverty-stricken individuals. These projects, categorized as short-term, medium-term, and long-term, are designed to cater to the necessities and uplift the lives of the extreme poor. Through the availability of services that enable self-employment, the Panchayat fosters skill development and self-reliance. Distribution of sewing machines and sponsorships aids in supporting self-employment ventures. There are projects that provide

suitable housing for the extremely poor living in unsuitable dwellings, and that help those without homes by providing shelters under Life Mission. Additionally, essential necessities like medicines and food are also provided on a consistent basis through Panchayat interventions. For this purpose, the Panchayat has employed personnel to efficiently execute these projects.

The Kadukutty Gram Panchayat's proactive approach to poverty alleviation has yielded significant results in uplifting the lives of its residents. By promoting self-employment opportunities and engaging in agricultural activities, the Panchayat has effectively contributed to increasing livelihood options. Through targeted efforts under the Extreme Poverty Identification Programame, the Panchayat has addressed the specific needs of the extremely poor, implementing various short, medium, and long-term projects. By fostering skill development and providing support through sponsorships and essential provisions, the Panchayat is actively working towards building a self-reliant and prosperous community.

PALAKKAD DISTRICT

1. Breaking Barriers: Overcoming Challenges on the Path to a Poverty-Free Village.
2. Community Spirit: The Power of Collaboration in Tackling Poverty.
3. Sustainable Solutions: Creating Lasting Poverty-Free Environments.
4. Empowering the Marginalized: Key Poverty Alleviation Programas.
5. Lifting Lives, Transforming Communities: Effective Poverty Alleviation Initiatives.

BREAKING BARRIERS: OVERCOMING CHALLENGES ON THE PATH TO A POVERTY-FREE VILLAGE

Vellinezhi Gram Panchayat

Vellinezhi Gram Panchayat is a local self-government institution in India, which looks after the administration of rural areas and small towns. The Panchayats are responsible for providing essential services to the local population, such as sanitation, water supply, primary education, and basic healthcare.

Vellinezhi Gram Panchayat is a completely rural area. Most people depend on agriculture and allied sectors for their livelihood. A large majority of the workforce available in the Gram Panchayat is engaged in agriculture, construction, and other unorganized sectors. As part of women empowerment, 222 Kudumbashree units are functioning in the Gram Panchayat. 22 JLG groups were identified and assisted in paddy cultivation, vegetable cultivation, chips, rice papaya unit, oil mill and bag manufacturing unit. Also, linkage loan was made available to Kudumbashree units.

Goats, chickens, and cows were distributed in the annual plan of the Gram Panchayat. 21 cowsheds, 26 goat sheds, 9 poultry farms and fishponds were included in the employment guarantee scheme. The second phase of the Ashraya project was undertaken

and housing rehabilitation and distribution of food kits to the beneficiaries was implemented. 329 people registered under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme were given employment for 100 days. A total of 54955 working days have been provided.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT: THE POWER OF COLLABORATION IN TACKLING POVERTY

Thrithala Block Panchayat

Thrithala is a Block Panchayat in the Palakkad district of the state of Kerala. Block Panchayats are local self-government institutions that oversee the administration of rural areas and small towns in India. Thrithala Block Panchayat is responsible for the governance and provision of various services to the local population within its jurisdiction. During the period 2021-22, Trithala Block Panchayat implemented the Small Business Self-Employment Group Enterprises Scheme, a total of 6 groups have been able to start enterprises with subsidy funding. Through this scheme, women belonging to general category and women belonging to scheduled castes have been able to earn income through self-employment ventures.

Trithala Block Panchayat has been able to spearhead many activities during the period 2021-22 by making regional economic development the main agenda. It should be mentioned that by upholding the slogan of women's empowerment through entrepreneurship, we were able to use all types of Block Panchayat's funds in the interventions made to start women's enterprises, including MGNREGs, and we were able to create work

sheds for them to start enterprises as a convergence.

In the same way, we were able to organize some fairs by accepting other financial assistance in addition to various funds of the Panchayat to sell their products. In addition to utilizing various funds of the Block Panchayat, the Block Panchayat has been able to create employment, start employment initiatives and make a better intervention including local economic development during this period by accepting other financial assistance.

SMALL INDUSTRIES GROUP ENTERPRISES- GENERAL

- Meera Food Products, Nagalassery
- Sana Tailoring and Maxi Center Thirumittakode
- Ammoos Achar Unit Trithala
  - Total Intake: 848500
  - Subsidy: 600000

SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES GROUP ENTERPRISES - SCHEDULED CASTE WOMEN SECTION

- Daya Food Products Nagassery
- Vanita Hotel Nagalassery
- Oruma Palahara Unit Anakkara
  - Total Intake: 660000
  - Subsidy: 550000

Total: 1508500

Total Project Cost: 1150000

CONVERGENCE WITH NREGS

Oruma Palahara Unit of Anakkara Gram Panchayat is a small business project started by Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee. It is a food production enterprise started by 5 women belonging to the SC section of Akshaya

Kudumbashree. Necessary building construction for this project has been done by NREGS. Plan Amount: Rs. 5 Lakhs

Under the Block Panchayat's Small Enterprises (SC) scheme, necessary machinery and capital assistance has been provided for the enterprise. Through this, 5 women have been able to find self-employment income. Amount: 3 Lakhs, Total: 8 Lakhs.

SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS: CREATING LASTING POVERTY-FREE ENVIRONMENTS

Thachampara Gram Panchayat

Thachambara is a village or locality within the Mannarkkad Block in the Palakkad district of the state of Kerala, India. Mannarkkad Block is an administrative division that comes under the Panchayat Raj system in Kerala. In the Panchayat Raj system of India, a Block Panchayat is a local self-government institution that oversees the administration of a block, which is a group of villages or localities. The Block Panchayat is responsible for providing various services and facilities to the residents within its jurisdiction, including rural development, infrastructure projects and welfare schemes.

Thachambara Gramapanchayath falls under the Mannarkkad Block Panchayat and would be responsible for the governance and provision of services in that particular village or locality. Many scientific activities are being carried out in different areas of the panchayat with the help of guaranteed workers. At each site across the slope, plants are planted in rows like a hedge. Bio fences were also planted to help hold back sediment from upstream.

In sloping areas to prevent surface runoff, earthen bunds constructed across the slope are very helpful in intercepting rainwater and allowing it to sink into the

ground. When it rains, it slows down runoff and percolates into the soil, helping to increase groundwater levels. And by being able to grow vegetables in this bundle, there is also an economic benefit.

Well Construction, Well Rehabilitation, Contour Trench, Public Pond Construction, Land Reclamation, Tree Planting, Pond Rehabilitation, Land Development Works, Rain Pit, Fodder Cultivation, Brush Wood Check Dam, Sidewall Protection with Rope Earth Cover, Compost Pit, Soak Pit, Verme Compost , stable construction, chicken coop, goat shed, well recharge, nursery construction, farm pond, PMAY housing construction, Alzola tank, SHG work shed, side wall protection with Ramcham, stone dams or loose ball check dam are going on well in the Gram Panchayat.

EMPOWERING THE MARGINALIZED: KEY POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMAS

Perumatty Gram Panchayat

Perumatty is a village or locality within the Chittur Block Panchayat in the Palakkad district of the state of Kerala, India. Chittur Block Panchayat is a local self-government institution responsible for governing and administering a group of villages and localities in the region.

Poverty Alleviation programames is actively done by Perumatty Gram Panchayat. Kudumbasree plays a vital role in it. During the pandemic period of 2021-22, the activities include, Rs.10670000 worth loan was provided to 18 Ayalkuttam groups at a lower interest rate of 4%. Financial assistance of Rs.50000 was given to tailoring cluster. As part of schedule caste sustainable development programames, 60K was provided to start own job units for STs, 15K given to carpentry work people, 60K given to 5 ward members to start their own job units, Rs.215000 allocated to 7 STs for goat farming.

Apart from these activities, from Covid Reclamation fund, financial assistance of Rs.127631 was given to that Wamasi canteen, tailoring, Photostat, beauty parlour,

Thattukada, coir units and Jeevandhara drinking water unit. For quill farming subsidy of 10K was issued by the panchayat. Along with it, "Ente Thozhil Ente Abhimanam" programame' activities have also been initiated. A sports kit worth Rs.126840 was distributed among 3 youth clubs including 73 members as part of Perumatty Gram Panchayat poverty alleviation plan.

LIFTING LIVES, TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES: EFFECTIVE POVERTY ALLEVIATION INITIATIVES

Alathur Block Panchayat

Alathur Block Panchayat is situated in the southwestern part of Palakkad district adjoining Thrissur district. Alathur Block came into existence in 1952. Initially, the block included 10 village panchayats namely Alathur, Erimayur, Melarkode, Vandazhi, Kavassery, Tharoor, Puthukode, Kannambra, Vadakancherry and Kizhakkencherry. Later, as part of the reorganization of blocks, Melarkode and Vandazhi Gram Panchayats were added under Nenmara block.

GENERAL INFORMATION

District : Palakkad

Taluk : Alathur

Parliament Constituency : Alathur

Assembly Constituency : Alathur, Tarur

Area population : 314.43

Men : 236169

Women: 121383

Scheduled Castes : 32406

Scheduled Tribes : 894

Population density : 751

Literacy rate : 27.88

East : Nenmara, Kuzhalmannam Blocks

West	:	Pazhayannur, Ollukkara Blocks
South	:	Kodakara, Chalakudy Blocks
North	:	Kuzhalmannam Blocks

SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY

Alathur Block Panchayat has implemented 2 activities for women in the local economic development for the financial year 2021-22 by the Industrial Development Officer.

1. Providing subsidy to women groups for starting self-employment ventures - Contribution amount - 2685300. Out of which 266250 was spent. This amount was allocated to 13 women enterprises. Cost Percentage – 77%
2. Purchase of equipment's for Kannambra Mangalam Khadi Units - Contribution amount - 909000 out of which 732180 has been spent. Kannambra provided 10 handlooms and accessories to the Khadi Unit. Cost Percentage – 81%

Alathur Block Panchayat has been leading initiatives in the employment sector for the financial year 2021-22. By using the prepayment scheme, around 11 groups in various sectors were given financial assistance of Rs. 3 lakh and subsidy to start enterprises. About 55 women were able to get employment out of it. Out of which 11 groups like Pala plate, Catering Unit, Tailoring, Flower Making etc. have been led in the Block Panchayat.

As part of the 2021-22 initiative years, units involving Kudumbashree members have started the initiative. "We provide baby dress manufacturing. We design it ourselves; we stitch it ourselves; we pack it ourselves; we do the marketing ourselves. Everyone involved can earn an income. We thank the block panchayat for allowing this." "We have got Rs 3 lakh as subsidy. Everyone is getting income from the rice mill."

"From Alathur block we have sanctioned Rs.3 lakh from the block for setting up a tailor unit for Aditya Kudumbashree of 7th Ward in Pudukode Panchayat and from that we have a group of 5 people working. In the year 2021-22, a loan of Rs. 3 lakhs have been granted to us and from that, all the items required for the tailoring unit,

including the machine, are being unloaded and the work is going on." "In 2021-22, ten looms and its equipment have been given."

A customer named Radhika Mani from Erimayur Gram Panchayat of Alathur Block Panchayat was allotted housing benefit and funds were allocated in three to four instalments. Housing construction work is going on. From Alathur Block Panchayat, through Yeh Meri Awaas project, a customer named Sarita was sanctioned Rs. 4 lakhs in 1st, 2nd and 3rd instalments and completed the house construction work. Alathur Block Panchayat has spent Rs.14000000 under the PMAYG Housing Scheme (SCP) in the financial year 2021-22. 7127600 rupees have also been spent for LIFE project. Rs.6608000 has been spent under PMAYG general category and Rs.400000 under land purchase scheme for PMAYG beneficiaries. Under the PMAYG scheme, 178 houses have been agreed and 100 houses have been completed.

Beneficiaries identified through life survey should be able to provide housing benefits. Within the next two years, housing will be provided to the homeless in the block panchayat and interventions will be made to find a place for the landless and build a housing complex to provide housing benefit to them.

It is essential to provide self-employment training for poverty alleviation. The Block Panchayat will endeavour to establish a permanent vocational training centre in the Block Panchayat. Also, Block Panchayat should intervene to provide necessary financial assistance for employment enterprises.

MALAPPURAM DISTRICT

1. Empowering Women: Paper Bag Initiative by Nilambur Block Panchayat
2. Impactful Initiatives for Economic Upliftment in Malappuram Block Panchayat
3. Fostering Agricultural Development in Malappuram Block Panchayat
4. Agricultural Advancements and Farmer Empowerment in Morayur
5. Thriving Agriculture Sector in Pookkottur
6. Initiatives For Ensuring Food Security and Profitable Agriculture
7. Krishidarshan – KuzhimannaGram Panchayat
8. Women's Economic Empowerment: A Key Priority for Areekode Gram Panchayat
9. Ensuring Prosperity in Abdul Rahman Nagar Gram Panchayat
10. Affordable And Nutritious Meals: An Initiative by Chelmbra Panchayat
11. Empowering Farmers and Sustainable Development: Edapal's Remarkable Journey
12. Panchayat's Commitment to Rural Development and Agricultural Growth
13. Karshika Gramam: Keezhattur Gram Panchayat

14. Local Economic Development: Initiatives and Achievements
15. Agricultural Development Initiatives: Marakkara Panchayat
16. Sustainable Prosperity Through Agricultural Growth
17. Peruvalloor Panchayat as An Exemplary Model in Agriculture
18. Boosting Livelihoods: Peruvalloor's Success in Local Economic Development
19. Successful Projects for Poverty Reduction in Peruvalloor Panchayat
20. Pulamanthole Panchayat's Commitment to Agricultural Development
21. Pulikal Panchayat's Progress and Prosperity
22. Thennala Panchayat's Progress and Community Development
23. Priority On Agriculture Advancement in The Annual Plan: Tirurangadi Municipality
24. Collaborative Efforts for Community Upliftment
25. Ksheeradhara Project

EMPOWERING WOMEN: PAPER BAG INITIATIVE BY NILAMBUR BLOCK PANCHAYAT

Nilambur Block Panchayat

Nilambur is a major town, a municipality, and a Taluk in the Malappuram district of the Indian state of Kerala. It is located close to the Nilgiris range of the Western Ghats on the banks of the Chaliyar River. This place is also known as 'Teak Town' because of the abundance of Nilambur teaks in this area, which is a variety of large, deciduous trees that occur in mixed hardwood forests. Nilambur is a region known for its natural beauty and rich cultural heritage, and the block panchayat plays an important role in preserving and promoting these aspects of the region.

Now the total area of the block is 621.2 sq. km, which is covered by 13 block divisions and 3 district divisions. Nilambur Block Panchayat has received the Swaraj Trophy for the year 2005-06 and 2012-13 in recognition of the activities of the Block Panchayat and the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat ShaktikaranAbhiyan Award of the Central Government for the year 2013-14 for Best Block Panchayat as well as the Best Block Panchayat Award for 2021-22 for the best performance in the field of differently abled.

Nilambur Block Panchayat has made every effort to lend a helping hand to the people of Nilambur who are

struggling to carry on their daily lives amid the 2019 floods and the covid pandemic. The Nilambur Block Panchayat has been able to provide paper bag training to women who have lost their jobs due to covid and floods and the Kavalapara calamity and then financial assistance to start the initiative. The block panchayat considers it a moral achievement that the paper bag/carry bag initiatives which started with a loan of 600,000 lakh rupees to the self-employment support groups consisting of 10 women in 2 groups and also a bank loan of 600,000 lakh rupees have now become an initiative to employ 100 more women in other Gram Panchayats of Nilambur block. and with Haritakarmasena of Pothkal Gram Panchayat. These groups have also been ordered to provide large sacks of hand-held plastic waste regularly.

Overall, the Nilambur Block Panchayat has undertaken various activities to promote the social, economic, and environmental well-being of its residents. These activities have helped improve the quality of life of the community and promote sustainable development in the region.

IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES FOR ECONOMIC UPLIFTMENT IN MALAPPURAM BLOCK PANCHAYAT

Malappuram Block Panchayat

Malappuram, the land of patriots who left their footprints in the pages of history of our nation. This land has a unique and eventful history enriched with various political, socio-cultural reform movements. Malappuram is surrounded by hills on all sides and is remarkable for its unique natural beauty. Malappuram has a geographical area of 156.20 sq Km across 6 Gram Panchayat vizPookkottur, Kodur, Ponmala, Othukkungal, Anakkayam and Morayur with 15 divisions.

Block Panchayat Samiti elected at the year-end of 2020, in its initial Financial Year 2021-22, had achieved incredible progress in the plan expenditure The Block Panchayat was able to spend 98 percent of the allocated amount as project allocation and achieved excellent results within the district and in the state. The Block Panchayat has been able to undertake and implement many useful projects for the public in various subject areas.

Local Economic Development is a measure of the development of any region. Malappuram Block Panchayat gives priority to the upliftment of women and differently abled persons. The Block Panchayat has introduced various new schemes for the upliftment of them.

Malappuram Block Panchayat has implemented the '*Unarv*' Scheme for women and the '*Kaithang*' Scheme for the upliftment of differently abled persons under local economic development in the Financial Year 2021-22. Rupees Six Lakhs have been expended as financial assistance for various self-employment enterprises started by women under the '*Unarv*' Scheme and Rupees Nine Lakhs under '*Kaithang*' Scheme as financial assistance for various self-employment enterprises started by differently abled persons. Through the three women initiatives founded under *Unarv* Scheme, around 15 women from different families have been able to achieve economic upliftment and empowered women by providing them with a steady income.

The establishment of various institutes under the '*Unarv*' Scheme like Rayan Food Catering, Kodur, Janakeeya Hotel, Othukkungal, Tejas Diary Unit, Arimbra, etc is helpful in local economic development. Block Panchayat has also provided support for mothers of differently abled children for setting up their enterprises.Sneehitha pillow unit is set up by block panchayat under KaithangProject for supporting mothers of differently abled children. These schemes have helped in the upliftment of the economically backward sections of society.

FOSTERING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN MALAPPURAM BLOCK PANCHAYAT

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AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENTS AND FARMER EMPOWERMENT IN MORAYUR

Morayur Grama Pancahayat

Morayur GramaPancahayat is one of the Panchayat under the Malappuram Block. Panchayat has a geographical area of 24.57 sq.Km comprising 18 wards. The total population of Morayur Panchayat is 33960. During the planning year 2021- 22 Morayur governing body is passing through the years enriched by different programas in various fields.

In the agricultural sector, Panchayat initiated various developmental programames which accommodate all the farmers in the panchayat. Farmers were provided with varieties of seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides for cultivation. Our panchayat is undertaking the strategy of utilizing the NREGS Scheme along with agricultural projects. Panchayat provides subsidies to the farmers for purchasing fertilizers. Under the initiative of Panchayat, irrigation facilities were also provided by the Water Supply Department. One of the three remarkable contributions made by the panchayat is in the health sector.

It was possible to distribute fruit tree saplings in the Gram Panchayat in the financial year 2021-22 through the Janakiyasutra project. The panchayat has devised

schemes like fertilizer for Arecanutfarming and cultivation of short-term crops in coconut plantations.

The Kudumbashree association launched flower cultivation under the leadership of the Gram Panchayat targeting the Onammarket. Marigold cultivation by Morayur Gram Panchayat was a huge success as part of the Janakiyasutra project. Panchayat President Smt. PottammalSuneera herself took leadership in supporting flower cultivation. Self-help groups started Flower cultivation on 1 Acre of land.

THRIVING AGRICULTURE SECTOR IN POOKKOTTUR

Pookkottur Gram Panchayat

Pookkottur GramaPanchayat is one of the Panchayat under Malappuram Block, situated near Pookkottur Gate, which has historical importance. Panchayat has a geographical area of 20.63 sq.Km comprising19 wards.

During the planning year 2021- 22, PookkotturGram Panchayat's governing body is passing through the years enriched by different programames in various fields. One of the three remarkablecontributions given by the panchayat is in the agricultural sector.

Pookkotturpanchayat is having best and quality farmers, especially in Vellur&Aravankaraareas. Farmers in Pokkottur Panchayathave been successful in getting good yields from the lands they took for lease. They preserve indigenous seed varieties and are involved in both paddy and vegetable cultivation on a rotational basis.Pookotoor Gram Panchayat has made great progress in rice cultivation and vegetable cultivation. In this financial year, it was possible to find more places to expand rice cultivation and to find fallow areas for vegetable cultivation. Panchayat has succeeded in increasing the Paddy cultivation up to 5 Hectares of land. Along with this, it could increase the cultivation of

wasteland. Panchayat could extend vegetable cultivation to 3 Hectares during the last year. Farmers in our Panchayat also used to cultivate exotic and imported fruits and trees. Some of the young farmers in Panchayat focuson cultivating fruits like Dragon Fruit, Ramuttan, Chikku, Avacado, etc,

PookkotturPanchayat also implemented a new programa called 'Njngalum Krishiyilekku' with the aim of bringing out more young people to the agriculture sector. Panchayat made remarkable progressin the agricultural sector.

INITIATIVES FOR ENSURING FOOD SECURITY AND PROFITABLE AGRICULTURE

Perumpadappu Block Panchayat

Perumpadappu is a Block in Malappuram District of Kerala State, India. Perumpadappu block has 5 panchayats, namely Alamcode, Nannamukku, Maranchery, Perumpadappu, and Veliancode.In the 2021-22 plan of Perumpadappu Block Panchayat, more importance was given to agriculture and its allied sectors. 30% of the scheme allocation was earmarked for this sector, and it was fully utilized.

The block panchayat aimed to ensure food security, make Perumpadappu fallow-free, make agriculture profitable by providing all necessary infrastructure and support to farmers, expand the cultivation of kohlrabi, promote dairy, animal husbandry, and fisheries, conserve biodiversity through crop diversity, and create a sustainable and eco-friendly agricultural environment.

Perumpadappu has 3000 acres of paddy cultivation, including the Kol area. The approach was to effectively utilize the combined potential of the Agriculture Department, PadaSekharaSamiti, MGNREGS, Coal Land Development Committee, Samagra Coal Region Project, Rebuild Kerala, and RKVY.All the farmers are encouraged to grow low maturity seeds suitable for cole fields, and pada collection committees are given

awareness classes by agricultural university experts. A joint meeting of K.L.D.C revenue, irrigation department, and agriculture department officials is held every month to review the activities in the agriculture sector.

10 acres of barren land were converted into agricultural land, and Navara cultivation was started on 3 acres of land, which provides more income to the farmers and has medicinal value. Additionally, 10 acres of cultivation land was allocated for the preparation of local rice seeds. Different crops like medicinal gardens, flower cultivation, and small grain cultivation have been started. Spice Seed Kit distributed seeds of indigenous tuber crops with the aim to conserve biodiversity and enable farmers to exchange seeds among themselves.

Instead of depending on private nurseries for organic vegetable seedlings, nurseries were established in five panchayats under the Kudumbashree system. This initiative ensured regular income for women by purchasing and distributing seedlings from them at block prices.

A total of Rs 1.26 crore was invested in the agriculture sector, which included funding for cow and stable facilities for 11 SC women groups, a goat breeding unit for 2 SC women groups, a *Paduthakulam* fishing unit for unemployed youth during the Covid-19 pandemic, milk subsidies, labor cost subsidies for paddy cultivation, and fruit tree seedlings. Additionally, two ponds were revitalized this year.

Perumpadappu is renowned for its coastal region's Ramacha cultivation. This unique product is financed and supplied to prominent pharmaceutical manufacturers like Kottakal Arya Vaidyashala.A milk product brand named "NilaNadan" was launched this year. Successfully organizing state-level seminars and exhibitions under the name "MannorukkamVithulsavam" in collaboration with the State Biodiversity Board to raise awareness about climate change, agriculture, and nature conservation activities is considered a significant achievement.

KRISHIDARSHAN
KUZHIMANNAGRAM PANCHAYAT

Kuzhimanna Gram Panchayat

Kuzhimanna Gram Panchayat, situated in Areecode Block Panchayat in Kondotty Taluk, Malappuram District, covers an area of 20.05 square kilometers and comprises 18 wards. Established in 1961, this panchayat has been actively implementing various schemes in the financial year 2021-22, all aimed at uplifting the agriculture sector in the region.

The projects focused on boosting the production of essential crops such as rice, vegetables, bananas, coconuts, betel pepper, tubers, medicinal plants, and ornamental plants. Emphasis was placed on cultivating barren land, promoting sustainable agriculture. Additionally, schools and Anganwadis participated in planting vegetables through different schemes, instilling the importance of agriculture in the younger generation. Vegetable seedlings, coconut seedlings, banana plants, black pepper, fava tree seedlings, and paddy seeds were distributed to farmers, along with agricultural equipment like sprayers, catwetting machines, and pump sets, benefiting a larger number of farmers.

Furthermore, the Gram Panchayat introduced various schemes to empower women in agriculture, providing organic fertilizers for betel nut, banana, coconut, and

tuber cultivation.

The Panchayat took an active approach to involve children in agriculture by distributing vegetable seedlings to them, aiming to educate them about the significance of farming.

The Onam market scheme organized by the Gram Panchayat facilitated the direct procurement of organic vegetables from local farmers at fair prices. This initiative not only benefited the farmers by providing them better market access but also ensured the availability of clean and fresh vegetables to consumers.

In recognition of the hard work and dedication of the farmers, the Gram Panchayat organized a special ceremony on Farmers Day to honor and appreciate their contributions to the agricultural sector.

Moreover, the Krishidarshan announcement march was conducted by the Panchayat to create awareness among the public about the importance of agriculture and its impact on their lives.

Through these initiatives and schemes, KuzhimannaGram Panchayat is actively promoting sustainable agriculture, empowering local farmers, and instilling agricultural awareness in the community, fostering overall agricultural growth and development in the region.

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT: A KEY PRIORITY FOR AREEKODE GRAM PANCHAYAT

Areekode Gram Panchayat

Areekode Gram Panchayat, located in Areekode Block, Ernad Taluk of Malappuram District, is a picturesque town situated on the banks of the Chaliyar River. Known for its high literacy rate, Areekode is considered one of the most educated areas in the state of Kerala. Nestled in the Northern part of Malappuram district, the Gram Panchayat covers an area of 12.21 sq km and is surrounded by lush green hills and hillocks.

AreekodeGram Panchayat has taken various initiatives to empower and uplift the women in the community, ensuring regular income and improving their standard of living. One such initiative is providing training to the women of Harita Karma Sena to obtain driving licenses for operating waste removal vehicles. This not only creates opportunities for women in waste management but also contributes to keeping the panchayat clean and environmentally friendly.

Another project that is making a positive impact on women's lives is the Shri Souhrata tailoring unit, run in Kariparamba Ward with the support of Kudumbashree Unit. The objective of this unit is to empower and uplift women by providing them with skills and opportunities in the tailoring industry.Furthermore, Member

VelleriRamla runs a catering unit with the assistance of the Kudumbashree unit, providing employment and entrepreneurial opportunities to women in the panchayat. Additionally, the Star Kudumbashree unit, led by Salmabhi, is another example of a successful initiative empowering women and promoting small enterprises.

Moreover, Kudumbashree units have been instrumental in promoting handicrafts and supporting small-scale businesses in the panchayat. These units have not only created economic opportunities but also encouraged creativity and entrepreneurship among women.

The efforts and initiatives taken by AreekodeGram Panchayat are not only improving the economic condition of women but also fostering a sense of empowerment and self-reliance among them. By providing skill development and training, the panchayat is fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for women to thrive and contribute to the overall development of the community.

ENSURING PROSPERITY IN ABDUL RAHMAN NAGAR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Abdul Rahman Nagar Gram Panchayat

Abdul Rahman Nagar Gram Panchayat is strategically located in the Vengara block, within the Tirurangadi taluk of the culturally rich Malappuram district in Kerala, India. According to the 2011 India census, the population of Abdul Rahman Nagar was recorded at 41993. The Panchayat covers an area of 14.83 square kilometers, providing a diverse landscape for its residents.

Over the years, the Panchayat observed a decline in families dependent on cultivation, leading to a reduction in agricultural activities. Many heirs of farming families chose to leave the traditional occupation, seeking alternative opportunities. However, in response to this trend, the Governing body of Abdul Rahman Nagar, in collaboration with officials, took proactive measures to rekindle interest in the agriculture sector, particularly among the youth.

By recognizing the significance of agriculture in sustaining rural livelihoods and fostering economic growth, the Panchayat implemented initiatives to attract the younger generation back to farming. These efforts included the introduction of modern agricultural practices, the adoption of sustainable farming techniques, and the establishment of support systems for aspiring farmers.

Through targeted awareness programas, skill development workshops, and financial incentives, the Panchayat aimed to promote agriculture as a viable and lucrative career option.

The vision of Abdul Rahman Nagar's Governing body, combined with the dedication of officials, has the potential to revitalize the agriculture sector within the Panchayat. By empowering the youth and instilling a renewed interest in farming, the community can once again benefit from the abundance and potential of agriculture. This transformational approach showcases the Panchayat's commitment to nurturing its agricultural heritage and securing a prosperous and sustainable future for its residents.

There are five fields in the region, namely Pukayur, Mampuram, Koduvayur, Pattisseeri, and Kolappuram, all situated within the Pukayur and Mampuram watersheds. These fields collectively utilize nearly 100% of their arable land for cultivation, primarily focusing on crops like paddy, vegetables, plantain, and tapioca.In the paddy fields, specific varieties such as Mundaka, Puncha, and Virippu are prominently cultivated, reflecting the region's emphasis on rice production. Additionally, the region's agricultural diversity extends beyond paddy, with households cultivating several other major crops such as elephantiasis, arecanut, nutmeg, coconut, colocasia, ginger, paprika, cashew, plantain, and sweet potato.

This diverse range of crops highlights the agricultural richness of the region. The utilization of the Pukayur and Mampuram watersheds for agriculture underscores the strategic use of water resources to support sustainable farming practices and promote agricultural growth in the area. With such a diverse range of crops being cultivated, the region not only ensures food security but also contributes to the overall economic prosperity and agricultural sustainability of the community.Years ago, paddy cultivation in the region heavily relied on rainwater, but with the advent of the Kolappuram Lift Irrigation project, modern methods have transformed the process. Through the channeling of water from this irrigation project, farmers now cultivate their main fields efficiently, ensuring reliable water supply and increased productivity.

The progress of agriculture in the Panchayat owes much to the dedicated efforts

of the PadasekharaSamithi and KeraKarshakaSamithi. Their proactive initiatives and activities have played a crucial role in fostering agricultural development and empowering farmers in the region.Both the Department of Agriculture and the Panchayat people's plan have also been instrumental in supporting farmers amidst various challenges. Through the implementation of well-thought-out projects, they have provided essential resources and assistance, upholding the agricultural community.In the 2021-22-year plan, a significant allocation of 70 lakh rupees was earmarked to further enhance agricultural benefits and establish modern facilities for farmers. The subsequent year's plan, 2022-23, also prioritized meeting the diverse needs of the agriculture sector.

Notably, AR Nagar Gram Panchayat achieved the top position in the project for converting fallow land into arable during the 2014-15 period. With careful preservation efforts, these lands continue to thrive, thanks to the collective concern and efforts of the farmers and the Panchayat governing body.Deliberations and planning sessions are currently underway to devise strategies to make agriculture more profitable for those whose livelihoods depend on farming. By continuously striving to improve agricultural practices and making the sector more financially rewarding, the Panchayat aims to ensure the prosperity and well-being of its farming community.

AFFORDABLE AND NUTRITIOUS MEALS: AN INITIATIVE BY CHELMBRA PANCHAYAT

Chelembra Gram Panchayat

Chelembra Gram Panchayat, located in Kondotty Block, Tirurangadi Taluk of Malappuram District, covers an area of 15.81 square kilometers and holds the distinction of being declared as the first First Aid Literacy Panchayat in the entire country, reflecting its commitment to promoting health awareness and safety within the community.

During the 2021-22 financial year, the Panchayat took up an impactful project called "Starting Janakiya Hotels" under the state government's hunger-free Kerala initiative (Project No.- 121/2021). This project was implemented with the aim of fostering regional economic development and uplifting the local community. The construction of Janakiya Hotel was carried out through the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme, with a budget of Rs. 2,22,599 allocated for this purpose.

Through this visionary initiative, six Kudumbashree members were provided stable employment opportunities, enabling them to serve affordable and nutritious meals to the people. The project also ensured the provision of free meals to the underprivileged, reflecting the Panchayat's commitment to social welfare. Additionally, the introduction of Janakiya Hotel has

given rise to a new popular culture in the area, becoming a hub of community interaction and culinary experiences.To support this initiative, the Panchayat received financial assistance from the Block Panchayat, with an allocation of Rs. 50,000, and an additional development fund of Rs. 1,99,525. The hardworking and dedicated Kudumbashree workers of Chelembra played a pivotal role in making the government's vision of a hunger-free Kerala a reality, by offering midday meals at an affordable cost of just 20 rupees.

This project holds great significance as it was designed to empower and uplift women in the community, fostering their economic well-being. Moreover, the establishment of JanakiyaHotels has positively contributed to the local economic landscape, promoting employment, and fostering community development.

Through initiatives like "Starting Janakiya Hotels," Chelembra Gram Panchayat continues to lead by example, exemplifying its commitment to social welfare, economic development, and the overall well-being of its residents. The project not only satisfies hunger but also nourishes the spirit of unity and cooperation within the community, making it a beacon of progress and empowerment.

EMPOWERING FARMERS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: EDAPAL'S REMARKABLE JOURNEY

Edapal Gram Panchayat

Edapal Gram Panchayat, situated in Ponnani taluk of Malappuram district, thrives primarily on agriculture as its main income sector. Among the various crops cultivated, Edapal is known for having the largest number of Puncha crops in the district. An impressive 1230 acres of Puncha cultivation, along with 50 acres of Mundakan cultivation and 22 acres of Virip cultivation, contribute to the region's agricultural diversity. Coconut cultivation follows rice as the most prominent crop, and the area also sees the cultivation of vegetables, bananas, tapioca, arecanuts, and pepper.

With a vision for a fallowless panchayat, EdapalGram Panchayat lays emphasis on the agricultural sector and prepares a plan annually to support and promote agriculture. To achieve this goal, the panchayat allocates substantial funds for various agricultural development schemes. For instance, Rs. 49.5 lakhs have been earmarked for the development of paddy cultivation, Rs. 9,80,000 for providing organic fertilizer and lime for coconut cultivation, Rs. 1,80,000 for plantain distribution scheme, Rs. 1 lakh for vegetable cultivation, Rs. 25,000 for arecanut cultivation, Rs. 2 lakhs for tuber cultivation, and Rs. 1.5 lakhs for the distribution of pump sets.

Additionally, the distribution of sprayers is given priority to support the agriculture sector.

The efforts of EdapalGram Panchayat have led to increased confidence among farmers, resulting in higher production and a decrease in fallow land. Coconut and vegetable production has seen significant growth, and the panchayat has actively collaborated with other departments and state governments to mobilize funds for infrastructural improvements in the agricultural sector. Projects such as fish farming, cow shed provision, and distribution of chicks have contributed to the advancement of agriculture and animal husbandry in the region.

The panchayat's focus on utilizing the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme effectively has paved the way for successful projects in the agricultural sector, setting an example for the state as a whole. Notable interventions in the dairy, animal husbandry, and fisheries sectors have further enriched the livelihoods of the local community. With initiatives like milking goat distribution, milk cow distribution, fodder distribution, and chicken rearing, EdapalGram Panchayat has fostered growth and development in the agricultural and animal husbandry domains.

In conclusion, EdapalGram Panchayat's exemplary activities in the field of agriculture and animal husbandry have not only elevated the income sector but have also empowered the farmers and transformed the landscape into a thriving and sustainable agricultural hub.

PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURAL GROWTH

Kannamangalam Gram Panchayat

The Kannamangalam Gram Panchayat is strategically located in the Vengara block, which falls within the Tirurangadi taluk of the culturally rich Malappuram district in Kerala, India. Covering an area of approximately 29.34 square kilometers, this vibrant Panchayat serves as a home to a diverse and thriving community.

As per the latest records, the Panchayat has a total population of 53,349 residents, with 25,744 being male individuals and 27,605 female individuals. Kannamangalam's strategic location within the district provides its residents with access to various amenities, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, and transportation networks, making it a conducive environment for personal and professional growth.

The Panchayat administration in Kannamangalam is dedicated to fostering development and progress within the region. Through its strategic planning and community-focused initiatives, the Panchayat endeavors to improve the overall quality of life for its residents, ensuring that every individual's needs and aspirations are met.

The Kannamangalam Gram Panchayat undertook

numerous projects and initiatives in the field of agriculture during the period of 2021-22. Remarkably, all these programas and projects were successfully completed within the same year, and their implementation greatly benefited the community in need. One particularly significant project was the "Plantain Cultivation Development" initiative, which proved to be highly advantageous due to its suitability with the local geography.Given the land's geographical characteristics, plantain cultivation was identified as the most appropriate and viable agricultural endeavor. The project's success lay in its ability to provide valuable services and support to the farmers, further motivating and encouraging them to engage in plantain cultivation.

Through careful planning and efficient execution, the Panchayat successfully introduced modern agricultural techniques and provided essential resources to farmers, ensuring the growth and development of the plantain cultivation sector. This intervention not only boosted agricultural productivity but also contributed to the overall economic well-being of the farmers and the entire community.

The "Plantain Cultivation Development" project exemplified the Panchayat's commitment to promoting sustainable and profitable agricultural practices. By prioritizing the needs of the farmers and aligning the project with the natural characteristics of the land, the Panchayat achieved remarkable success in its endeavors.The comprehensive and timely completion of all these agricultural projects in 2021-22 showcased the Panchayat's effective management and dedication to rural development. By focusing on projects like "Plantain Cultivation Development," the Panchayat demonstrated its commitment to uplifting the agricultural sector and empowering local farmers, ultimately contributing to the socio-economic growth of the entire Kannamangalam Gram Panchayat community.

The project served as a comprehensive umbrella plan, encompassing various forms of assistance to support and enhance plantain cultivation in the region. One of the key components was providing subsidies for fertilizers, which amounted to a total of 28 lakhs. The funding for this initiative came from a combination of consumer contributions and governmental support. Additionally, the project facilitated a convenient collecting facility for the farmers, ensuring that they could sell their bananas at reasonable prices through the Vegetable and Fruit Promotion Council

Keralam (VFPCK).

As part of the subsidy scheme, a total of 266 farmers received financial support at a rate of 30 rupees per one plantain. This beneficial programa reached 95% of the plantain farmers in the area, enabling them to expand their cultivation to cover approximately 150 acres of land. As a result of these comprehensive efforts, the overall production of plantains experienced a significant increase.

The successful implementation of this project not only bolstered the economic prospects of the farmers but also contributed to the growth and development of the agricultural sector in the region. By offering essential support and incentives, the Panchayat facilitated the expansion of plantain cultivation, promoting self-sufficiency and prosperity for the farming community. This strategic endeavor stands as a testament to the Panchayat's commitment to fostering sustainable agriculture and uplifting the livelihoods of those involved in plantain cultivation.

KARSHIKA GRAMAM: KEEZHATTUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Keezhattur Gram Panchayat

Keezhattur Gram Panchayat is situated in Perinthalmanna Block of Malappuram District. On January 1, 1962, Keezhatoor acquired its name due to its connection with six areas: Oravampuram, Kizhatur, Poonthavanam, Pathalkad, MulliaKurissi, and Tachinganadam, all of which were predominantly dedicated to agriculture, particularly paddy cultivation. The backbone of our agricultural sector in the past was composed of poor agricultural laborers and impoverished tenant farmers.

However, a significant shift occurred after the 1970s when a considerable number of our young people left their hometowns to seek employment opportunities abroad. This mass emigration resulted in the neglect of the unprofitable agricultural sector, leading to its downfall. Declining prices and rising labor costs further exacerbated the situation, causing an economic crisis in our agricultural activities during that year.department, was spent. As a result of these efforts, rice cultivation successfully took place on 65 hectares of land, marking a significant achievement compared to the 50 hectares cultivated in 2015-16.

The Subhiksha Kerala project included tapioca

cultivation on 3 hectares of land and plantain cultivation on 5 hectares of land. Additionally, 376 beneficiaries were provided with vegetable seeds and fertilizers to encourage and promote vegetable cultivation. To support this initiative, Rs. 1 lakh was allocated as labor cost for 5 hectares of vegetable cultivation, and Rs. 2 lakh was spent on distributing 80,000 vegetable seedlings and pump sets to farmers in the Panchayat. Moreover, Rs. 1,42,500 was expended on providing interval kits, and an additional Rs. 1,76,625 was allocated for organic fertilizers and lime to support coconut cultivation.

These strategic allocations and initiatives taken by KrishiBhavan have not only boosted agricultural activities but also contributed significantly to the economic growth and sustainability of the region. The proactive efforts in promoting diversified agriculture and providing support to farmers have yielded positive results, transforming the agricultural landscape of the Panchayat.

In the financial year 2021-22, the KrishiBhavan actively contributed to the development and support of the agricultural sector within the panchayat limits. Notably, 1165 coconut saplings were distributed to local farmers, with a subsidy of Rs. 71,000 provided to encourage coconut cultivation. Additionally, a comprehensive effort was made to distribute one crore fruit tree saplings, investing Rs. 1,22,250 in enhancing the diversity of crops.

Several other agricultural development projects were undertaken during this period. These initiatives included the promotion of vegetable cultivation, introducing rain covers for improved yield, supporting the growth of flower cultivation, implementing biograham for sustainable farming practices, and extending the farmer welfare pension scheme to 319 beneficiaries.Furthermore, the Pradhan MantriKisanSamman Nidhi (PM Kisan) scheme proved to be highly beneficial for more than 3400 people within the panchayat, providing them with essential financial support.A remarkable achievement was the procurement of approximately 200 tonnes of paddy from the farmers in the panchayat by Supplyco. These grains were then distributed to approximately 56 lakh farmers, demonstrating a substantial contribution to the agricultural economy.

Overall, the collective efforts of various agricultural development projects, in

addition to the main initiatives mentioned earlier, have significantly boosted the agricultural sector of the panchayat during the year 2021-22. This progress not only improves the livelihoods of local farmers but also contributes to the sustainable and inclusive growth of the entire community.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: INITIATIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Mampad Gram Panchayat

Mampad GramaPanchayath falls under Wandoor Block Panchayath of Malappuram district. The panchayat has an area of 84.67 sq km and a population of 37221. The GramaPanchayath has 19 wards. The Gram Panchayat has been able to provide very good services around local economic development, employment generation, skill development enhancement, and livelihoods in the financial year 2021-22. MampadGram Panchayat does not have any industrial establishments either in the government sector or in the cooperative sector, but there are several small industrial establishments under the ownership of private individuals. Kudumbashree units working for women's empowerment are awakening small-scale enterprises and cottage industries. Such industries are functioning efficiently within the panchayat limits. It is a good intervention to advance local economic development which has been observed this year as the Year of Entrepreneurship.

As a part of that, Mampad Gram Panchayat is taking necessary interventions to empower the existing industries of the countrylike furniture industries or other industries. By providing all the necessary legal facilities to the new entrepreneurs and providing the necessary

assistance and advice by modifying the existing ones, a total income-supporting environment is created for the people of the country. A good effort is being made for the development of the country by increasing purchasing power.More than 100 furniture factories are operating in this panchayat. The governing body has decided to take action to help all those furniture units.

Women's initiatives aimed at poverty alleviation to increase the income of women are being implemented by utilizing the potential including the employment sector. All the measures have been started to encourage entrepreneurs by providing subsidies for those who come as entrepreneurs by providing free work sheds and necessary missionaries in the panchayat project. Similarly, the panchayat itself has taken the initiative to form tourism clubs. The panchayat itself has decided to prepare a tourism map. Projects are being undertaken to generate revenue by incorporating the natural beauty of the panchayat and the local and nearest places. In a situation where more people are returning to the country and searching for self-enterprises due to the low possibility of foreign jobs, efforts are being made to encourage industrial entrepreneurs with great support under the leadership of Mampad Gram Panchayat.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES: MARAKKARA PANCHAYAT

Marakkara Gram Panchayat

Marakkara Gram Panchayat, situated in Kuttippuram Block Panchayat, Tirur Taluk of Malappuram district, covers an area of 27.00 km2 (10.42 sq mi) and is home to a population of 20,369 inhabitants as of 2022.

Over the course of a quarter of a century of dedicated people's planning, Marakkara Panchayat has made significant strides in the field of agriculture. The panchayat has taken various initiatives to support and promote comprehensive rice cultivation development. To aid the farmers, the panchayat has provided assistance in terms of seed and labor costs, ensuring the necessary resources for successful rice cultivation.Special attention has been given to paddy cultivation, with financial aid extended to those engaged in this agricultural activity. Coconut farmers have also received support through the availability of fertilizers, enhancing the productivity of their plantations.

For the promotion of banana cultivation and vegetable farming, the panchayat has supplied the necessary seedlings and seeds. Additionally, betel nut cultivators have been provided with organic manure to facilitate their agricultural endeavors. To boost overall agricultural productivity, households have been distributed high-

yielding Plavinsaplings.Recognizing the significance of a well-equipped agriculture office, the panchayat has furnished it with essential furniture and computer accessories, ensuring the delivery of quality services to the farming community.

Incorporating agriculture into the employment guarantee scheme, the panchayat has taken steps to prepare land for cultivation, providing additional support to farmers. Seeds and saplings have been made available as part of the Kerala Agriculture Department's scheme, further aiding agricultural growth in the region.

Emphasizing the beautification of rural areas, Marakkara Panchayat has adorned padavarambas (traditional resting places) and installed roped clothes, enhancing the aesthetic appeal of these spaces.A significant sum of 44,80,693 rupees has been allocated for agricultural development, with 39,53,025 rupees already expended in this sector alone, reflecting the panchayat's commitment to fostering agricultural prosperity and ensuring the well-being of its farming community.

SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY THROUGH AGRICULTURAL GROWTH

Nannmbra Gram Panchayat

Nannmbra Gram Panchayat, a prominent Gram Panchayat situated in the Thirurangadi block of Malappuram district, Kerala, stands as a significant census town with a population of 40,543, as per the report released by the census in 2011. The panchayath was established in the year 1962 and comprises 21 wards, encompassing an area of 18.35 sq. km. The administrative center of Nannmbra Gram Panchayat is situated in Kundoor.

Renowned as one of the most thriving paddies cultivating villages in the district, Nannmbra owes its agricultural development to the dedicated efforts of the KrishiBhavan, which plays a vital role in promoting and sustaining agriculture in the region. In the 2021-22 annual plan, the current governing body has allocated an impressive sum of 50 lakhs for the further development of agriculture. Emphasizing its commitment to progress, the panchayath has successfully cultivated approximately 1000 acres across 7 fields, fostering the growth of paddy crops, and actively participating in the mission of transforming the panchayath into a fallow land-free zone.

In addition to paddy cultivation, the panchayath has

initiated seed production under the Rural Seed Enterprise Project (RSEP), which further contributes to the agricultural advancement of the area. Furthermore, Nannambrapanchayath promotes and encourages the cultivation of other crops such as coconut, banana, and betel leaf. A specialized project has also been dedicated to the cultivation of betel leaves, showcasing the panchayath's commitment to diversifying agricultural practices.

To enhance self-sufficiency and improve the nutritional intake of the community, the panchayath actively promotes kitchen vegetable gardens through the KrishiBhavan. Moreover, when farmers face water scarcity during the summer season, the panchayath proactively intervenes to address the issue and find viable solutions.

Nannambra takes pride in its heritage of traditional farmers, and the governing body has developed numerous upcoming plans to foster the widespread development of the agriculture sector. As the panchayath continues to prioritize and invest in agricultural growth, it remains a shining example of how dedicated efforts can transform a community and lead to sustainable prosperity in the field of agriculture.

PERUVALLOOR PANCHAYAT AS AN EXEMPLARY MODEL IN AGRICULTURE

Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat

Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat, situated in the Thirurangadi block of Malappuram district, Kerala, is a vibrant village with a population of 34,941, as reported by the 2011 census. The village's formation as a panchayat date back to the year 2000, and it is divided into 19 wards, encompassing an area of 18.91 square kilometers.

Peruvalloor is a picturesque and rapidly developing community that boasts a rich cultural heritage and a diverse population. Over the years, the panchayat has worked diligently to improve the living standards and well-being of its residents, undertaking various development projects and initiatives.With its tranquil landscapes and warm community spirit, Peruvalloor continues to attract residents and visitors alike. The panchayat's commitment to sustainable growth and inclusive development has earned it a place of significance within the region.

The panchayat of Peruvalloor boasts numerous agricultural fields and around 35 pure water ponds, making it a land of traditional farmers. The panchayat extends strong support to farmers, particularly women, through Joint Liability Groups (JLGs). These JLGs have been making significant strides in the agriculture sector of Peruvalloor, efficiently cultivating fallow lands for

tapioca, banana, vegetables, and even rice.

Kudumbashree members and workers from the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) play a commendable role in advancing the goal of a fallow land-free village. More than two hundred women are actively involved in group farming, cultivating a hundred acres of land where rice, banana, kappa, other tuber varieties, and vegetables are grown organically, without the use of chemical pesticides, and with maximum organic manure.The panchayat's initiatives have significantly impacted women's involvement in agriculture. A distribution project for tissue culture banana seedlings has benefited 1774 women, further encouraging their participation in farming.

Supporting farmers remains a top priority for the panchayat, as evident from the distribution of fruit tree seedlings to 667 individuals, and subsidies provided to sixty-four people for vegetable cultivation. Additionally, 464 beneficiaries received pepper seedlings, while 418 women benefitted from the intercropping kit distribution scheme.

Focusing on specific crops, 147 farmers received support for paddy cultivation and 400 farmers for coconut cultivation. Furthermore, the panchayat offers funding to women under various schemes to raise goats, chickens, and cows.In the pursuit of agricultural innovation, the Subhiksha Kerala project implemented homestead fish farming on an experimental basis.The panchayat's commitment to agricultural development is evident in the substantial investment of over 36 lakh rupees in various agricultural projects during the 2021-2022 year.

Peruvalloor panchayat serves as an exemplary model in the agricultural sector, with its dedication to empowering farmers, particularly women, and fostering sustainable and organic farming practices.

BOOSTING LIVELIHOODS: PERUVALLOOR'S SUCCESS IN LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat

Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat, situated in the Thirurangadi block of Malappuram district, Kerala, has a population of 34,941, as reported by the census in 2011. The panchayat was formed in the year 2000 and comprises 19 wards, covering an area of 18.91 square kilometers.

Kudumbashree plays a crucial and unique role in the local economic development of Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat, especially in empowering women in the economic and social sectors. With 4170 members in 260 neighborhood groups, Kudumbashree provides its services to the community. Notably, group farming is carried out by 110 acres of land in 36 groups, showcasing the significant contribution of women in agriculture. The panchayat has created the highest number of labor days for workers under the Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, various projects have been undertaken, such as constructing goat coops, chicken coops, work sheds, rainwater harvesting tanks, wells, cowsheds, ponds, houses, sock pits, and asola tanks. The implementation of Azolla tanks and Napier grass cultivation projects has ensured sustainable livelihoods for rural families. A work shed was constructed at a cost of three and a half

lakh rupees in 2021-22 under the employment guarantee scheme for the Shahma Tailoring Unit at KoomannaValiyaparam. Additionally, Janakeeya Hotel, which started its operations in 2021-22 at ParampilpeedikaAngadi, guarantees permanent livelihood to five women. Furthermore, 16 women are actively engaged in Harita Karma Sena of the Panchayat, generating good income through user fees and the marketing of recyclable plastic.

In 2021-22, Peruvalloor panchayat has facilitated the disbursement of Rs. 5 crore 70 lakh in linkage loans to 68 neighborhood groups, while also providing a subsidy of Rs. 16 lakhs to collective farming groups. Moreover, five lakh rupees were disbursed as CEF to six enterprises, and 12 initiatives have helped in the field of animal husbandry. These various economic development activities have contributed to the progress of Peruvalloor panchayat, showcasing the collaborative efforts of the governing body and the people in uplifting the community.

SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS FOR POVERTY REDUCTION IN PERUVALLOOR PANCHAYAT

Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat

Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat is in Thirurangadi block, Malappuram district, Kerala, and has a population of 34,941, as reported by the census in 2011. The panchayat was formed in the year 2000 and comprises 19 wards, covering an area of 18.91 sq. km.

Peruvallor panchayat is commendably utilizing the full potential of the Employment Guarantee scheme to alleviate poverty in the region. Notably, the panchayat has created the highest number of labor days for workers under the employment guarantee scheme, amounting to an impressive 40,000 working days. This has enabled the panchayat to invest 1 crore seventy-three lakh rupees in various projects, including the construction of goat coops, chicken coops, work sheds, rainwater harvesting tanks, wells, cowsheds, ponds, houses, sock pits, and asola tanks, contributing to the overall development of the area.

To tackle poverty effectively, Peruvalloor panchayat implemented several successful projects in the year 2021-22. Notable initiatives include the Life Housing project, Ashraya project, and the Janakeyahotel, all aimed at reducing poverty rates in the region. As part of the poverty reduction campaign, the panchayat conducted

a thorough survey and identified 64 very poor families, for whom a unique care service plan was prepared to cater to their specific needs.

One of the primary objectives of the panchayat was to provide shelter to the most vulnerable families. To achieve this goal, the panchayat secured a loan of one crore twenty-three lakh rupees from HUDCO (Housing and Urban Development Corporation) and utilized it to construct houses for those in dire need. This initiative resulted in the construction of 52 houses for the general category and 60 houses for the scheduled caste category, with an overall investment of four crores and 52 lakhs, including the HUDCO debt.

The efforts of Peruvalloor panchayat in implementing these poverty alleviation programas showcase its dedication to the welfare of the community and its commitment to uplifting the lives of the underprivileged residents. By utilizing the Employment Guarantee scheme effectively and undertaking various targeted initiatives, the panchayat is making significant strides in reducing poverty and improving the living standards of its residents.

PULAMANTHOLE PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Pulamanthole Gram Panchayat

Pulamanthole Gram Panchayat, located in the Perinthalmanna block and nestled along the banks of Kunthippuzha, covers an area of 32.1 square kilometers and has a population of 27,029, according to the 2011 census.

To boost the agricultural sector and achieve significant progress in production, the panchayat has remarkably increased paddy cultivation from 35 hectares to 185 hectares. This expansion is considered a significant breakthrough in the panchayat's agricultural development. Moreover, through the adoption of the state government's SubhikshaKeralam scheme, the panchayat has attained self-sufficiency in other agricultural crops such as coconut, pepper, and various tuber varieties.

Aiming to prioritize agriculture, the panchayat allocated a substantial amount of Rs. 22,97,707 for comprehensive rice cultivation development in the financial year 2021-2022. This scheme covers not only seed and fertilizer distribution but also includes labor costs, benefiting a total of 268 farmers in the panchayat. A vast expanse of 169.39 hectares of land has been cultivated through this project, signifying the panchayat's commitment to

bolstering paddy production comprehensively.

Furthermore, recognizing the importance of coconut farming, the panchayat distributed coconut saplings along with fertilizers under an agricultural scheme. A total of 206 farmers were beneficiaries of this initiative, and an allocation of Rs. 4,09,185 was made for this purpose. Additionally, the panchayat earmarked Rs. 1,50,000 for comprehensive vegetable development, bringing about a positive impact on 91 farmers. For the enhancement of pepper cultivation, the distribution of pepper seedlings received an allocation of Rs. 56,700, benefiting 61 farmers in the panchayat.

Through these progressive initiatives, Pulamanthole Gram Panchayat has exemplified its dedication to agricultural development, empowering local farmers and bolstering the overall agricultural landscape of the region.

PULIKAL PANCHAYAT'S PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

Pulikal Gram Panchayat

Pulikal Gram Panchayat, situated in Ernad taluk of Malappuram district, specifically in Kondotti block, boasts an extensive area covering 27.95 square kilometers and is divided into 21 wards. The administrative offices of the Gram Panchayat and Village Office can be found in Alungal, while KrishiBhavan and Family Health Center are in Valiyaparam.

In the twelfth ward of Pulikal Gram Panchayat, we find the remarkable story of Mrs. Sumaiya, an enthusiastic cultivator who has embraced organic farming practices within her own home farm. Utilizing the Agriculture Department's initiatives, Mrs. Sumaiya successfully grows various types of vegetables organically in grow bags on her terrace. Her dedication to expanding vegetable farming has been recognized, and she received a Growbag under the People's Planning Scheme for the year 2021-22, facilitating the cultivation of vegetables such as chilies, eggplants, tomatoes, and ladyfingers.

Moving to the scenic paddy fields of the eleventh ward in Pulikal Gram Panchayat, the farmers engage in cultivating a variety of summer vegetables after the paddy harvest. Lentils, ladyfingers, cucumbers, and melons thrive in this lush and fertile land, spanning over an acre. The farmers

in this region have benefitted significantly from additional cost subsidies provided through public planning schemes, which have notably reduced the overall cost of production.

Both the stories of Mrs. Sumaiya's home farm and the vibrant vegetable cultivation in the paddy fields exemplify the Panchayat's commitment to sustainable and diverse agricultural practices. By encouraging organic farming methods and providing cost-effective solutions, Pulikal Gram Panchayat showcases its dedication to supporting the local agricultural community and promoting food security in the region. These initiatives also contribute to the overall economic growth and well-being of the Panchayat, further solidifying its reputation as a progressive and thriving community.

THENNALA PANCHAYAT'S PROGRESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Thennala Gram Panchayat

Thennala Gram Panchayat holds a strategic location within the Vengara block, situated in the Tirurangadi Taluk of the culturally diverse Malappuram district in Kerala, India. Encompassing 17 wards and spreading over an area of 10.00 square kilometers, Thennala Gram Panchayat serves as a vibrant and thriving community.

As per the latest demographic data, Thennala Gram Panchayat is home to a total population of 49,214 residents, consisting of 23,753 males and 25,461 females. The region is characterized by its diverse and dynamic population, contributing to the social, economic, and cultural fabric of the area.

Within the Panchayat's boundaries, approximately 5130 families reside, reflecting a close-knit and closely connected community. This inclusive and cohesive atmosphere fosters a sense of belonging and mutual support among the residents.Thennala Gram Panchayat's strategic location and diverse population make it a vibrant and sought-after destination within the picturesque Malappuram district of Kerala. With its dedicated governing body and proactive community, Thennala continues to progress and evolve, ensuring a harmonious and prosperous environment for its

residents.

In the realm of agriculture, the Panchayat has undertaken several commendable programas and schemes to bolster the cultivation of key crops such as coconut, betel, and plantain, as well as to support the farming community. During the year 2021-22, the Panchayat devised and executed numerous projects, aimed at incentivizing, and facilitating agricultural activities.

As part of these initiatives, the Panchayat extended subsidies for biofertilizers and provided ladders specifically for betel farming, demonstrating a targeted approach to support this crop. Similarly, to foster coconut cultivation, farmers received fertilizers at subsidized rates, ensuring that they had the necessary resources to yield healthy and bountiful coconut crops. Such strategic interventions are vital in empowering farmers and bolstering their agricultural endeavors.Moreover, the Panchayat emphasized the promotion of household farming by distributing pots and vegetable saplings to households. By encouraging households to cultivate their own vegetables, the Panchayat aimed to enhance food security and self-sufficiency within the community.

PRIORITY ON AGRICULTURE ADVANCEMENT IN THE ANNUAL PLAN: TIRURANGADI MUNICIPALITY

Tirurangadi Municipality

Tirurangadi Municipality is in Tirurangadi Block, Tirurangadi Taluk of Malappuram District. The municipality has an area of 17.73 sq km and has a population of 56632 as per the 2011 census. About 40% of the total land is used for paddy cultivation. Coconut is the main crop in the municipality, and rice, banana, kappa, pulses, and vegetables are also cultivated. The north, east, and west parts of the municipality are bordered by Kadalundipuzha and the south by Nannambra and Thennala Gram Panchayats.

Farmers have taken up the target of Tirurangadi Municipality to make Tirurangadi fallow land free. Most of the fields in the municipality limits were cultivated. Farmers planted Paddy on 400 hectares out of 500 hectares in the city limits as an achievement of the association. This is a record of the history of Tirurangadi Municipal. As part of Barren Thirurangadi, a three-day long field trip was conducted in February last under the leadership of the Municipal Generalbody.The field trip, helped toidentified the problems of the farmers and leads to solving those problems. Then 11970 kg of seeds Distributionwere included in the annual plan and given to the farmers. All the seeds distributed were cultivated

by the farmers. A subsidy of 2000 kg of seeds was also provided. Also, Seeds were distributed to those whose crops were destroyed during monsoon. Last May, the municipality bore the additional cost of using chain tractors for the farmers whose crops were damaged due to unexpected rainfall.

The paddy areas of the municipality are Cherapurrathazham, VenchaliKanadithadam. It was a relief that temporary check dams were constructed under the AyyankaliEmploymrentGurantee scheme off the municipality for irrigation of agriculture.Chairman KP Muhammad Kutty said that agriculture advancement has been given priority in the annual plan. Apart from paddy cultivation, the municipality also provides financial support to vegetable cultivation and banana cultivation. Distribution of grow bag vegetable cultivation, distribution of saplings, distribution of fruit trees, etc. is also going on in the municipality. On Environment Day, more than 10,000 saplings were planted in the municipality with the help of various voluntary organizations. Vegetable seeds and saplings were distributed to households as part of the implementation of the kitchen garden project in the municipality.

Farmers grow crops in the fields to overcome the climate change crisis. The municipality was able to find a solution to the various needs of the farmers. Canal renovation works were completed. The Amrita project to upgrade the public pools and canals has been approved. A watershed master plan worth Rs 17 crore has also been approved by the municipal council.Tirurangadi Municipal Corporation is progressing by carrying out various activities with the participation of the governing body and the people for a fallow land-freeTirurangadi Municipality.

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS FOR COMMUNITY UPLIFTMENT

Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat

Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat, situated in the Thirurangadi block of Malappuram district, Kerala, has a population of 34,941, as reported by the census in 2011. The panchayat was formed in the year 2000 and comprises 19 wards, covering an area of 18.91 square kilometers.

Kudumbashree plays a crucial and unique role in the local economic development of Peruvalloor Gram Panchayat, especially in empowering women in the economic and social sectors. With 4170 members in 260 neighborhood groups, Kudumbashree provides its services to the community. Notably, group farming is carried out by 110 acres of land in 36 groups, showcasing the significant contribution of women in agriculture. The panchayat has created the highest number of labor days for workers under the Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, various projects have been undertaken, such as constructing goat coops, chicken coops, work sheds, rainwater harvesting tanks, wells, cowsheds, ponds, houses, sock pits, and asola tanks. The implementation of Azolla tanks and Napier grass cultivation projects has ensured sustainable livelihoods for rural families. A work shed was constructed at a cost of three and a half

lakh rupees in 2021-22 under the employment guarantee scheme for the Shahma Tailoring Unit at KoomannaValiyaparam. Additionally, Janakeeya Hotel, which started its operations in 2021-22 at ParampilpeedikaAngadi, guarantees permanent livelihood to five women. Furthermore, 16 women are actively engaged in Harita Karma Sena of the Panchayat, generating good income through user fees and the marketing of recyclable plastic.

In 2021-22, Peruvalloor panchayat has facilitated the disbursement of Rs. 5 crore 70 lakh in linkage loans to 68 neighborhood groups, while also providing a subsidy of Rs. 16 lakhs to collective farming groups. Moreover, five lakh rupees were disbursed as CEF to six enterprises, and 12 initiatives have helped in the field of animal husbandry. These various economic development activities have contributed to the progress of Peruvalloor panchayat, showcasing the collaborative efforts of the governing body and the people in uplifting the community.

KSHEERADHARA PROJECT

Nilambur Block Panchayat

Nilambur is a major town, a municipality, and a Taluk in the Malappuram district of the Indian state of Kerala. It is located close to the Nilgiris range of the Western Ghats on the banks of the Chaliyar River. This place is also known as 'Teak Town' because of the abundance of Nilambur teaks in this area, which is a variety of large, deciduous trees that occur in mixed hardwood forests. Nilambur is a region known for its natural beauty and rich cultural heritage, and the block panchayat plays an important role in preserving and promoting these aspects of the region.

Now the total area of the block is 621.2 sq. km, which is covered by 13 block divisions and 3 district divisions. Nilambur Block Panchayat has received the Swaraj Trophy for the year 2005-06 and 2012-13 in recognition of the activities of the Block Panchayat and the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat ShaktikaranAbhiyan Award of the Central Government for the year 2013-14 for Best Block Panchayat as well as the Best Block Panchayat Award for 2021-22 for the best performance in the field of differently abled.

Nilambur block panchayat has set a commendable example for development in the year 2021-22 through

the milk cow distribution scheme for women dairy farmer groups. The block panchayat has implemented a scheme to provide financial assistance of Rs.1.5 lakh (one hundred and fifty thousand rupees only) to 32 groups of 5 women each in the block. Ksheera farmers play a crucial role in meeting the growing demand for milk and other dairy products in the country, and many of them have adopted modern techniques and technologies to improve their productivity and profitability.

Through his project, women dairy farmers in the area have been able to find self-employment and alleviate poverty. It was possible to increase the milk production in the block and ensure the food security and health protection of the community by being able to supply good quality milk.

KOZHIKODE DISTRICT

1. Construction Of Kera Nursery (Growing and Distributing Coconut Saplings Under Employment Guarantee Scheme) By Arikulam Gram Panchayat
2. Income Generation Through Kudumbashree System by Azhiyur Gram Panchayat
3. Poverty Free Block Panchayat Initiative by Balussery Block Panchayat
4. Group Imitative in Poverty Eradication by Koduvally Block Panchayat
5. Milestone In Poverty Alleviation Initiative by Chorod Gram Panchayat
6. Collaborations Of Departments to Attain the Goal of Poverty Eradication by Thuneri Gram Panchayat
7. Local Economic Development and Employment Generation by Kayakodi Gram Panchayat
8. Women Self-Employment Initiative by Perambra Block Panchayat
9. Poverty Eradication Initiative by Kunnumal Block Panchayat
10. Poverty Alleviation Initiative by Koodaranji Gram Panchayat
11. Avakasam Adhivegam By Kozhikode Corporation
12. We Lift Scheme by Kozhikode Corporation

13. Initiatives In Improving the Livelihood and Wellbeing of Residents by Perumanna Gram Panchayat
14. Agricultural Revival, Infrastructure Improvement and Social Welfare Initiatives by Peruvayal Gram Panchayat
15. Poverty Alleviation Activities and Initiatives of Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat
16. Regional Economic Assessment and Job Creation by Panangad Gram Panchayat
17. Tharish, Agricultural Initiative by Arikulam Gram Panchayat
18. Milestone Activities in The Field of Agriculture by Balussery Block Panchayat
19. Positive Change Through Agriculture Initiative by Koodaranji Gram Panchayat
20. Nelkrishi Coolie Chilavu and Kadalivanam by Koothali Gram Panchayat
21. The Year of Creation by Thikkodi Gram Panchayat
22. Agricultural Schemes and Initiatives of Thalakulathur Gram Panchayat
23. Transformative Change in The Field of Agriculture by Purameri Gram Panchayat
24. Milestone In the Field of Agriculture and Allied Activities by Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat
25. Overall Enhancement of Agricultural Landscape by Peruvayal Gram Panchayat
26. Social Development Activities to Improve Local Condition by Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat
27. Poverty Alleviation Initiatives by Villiapilly Gram Panchayat

28. **Kuruvattoor Gram Panchayat –Fostering Entrepreneurship for Economic Growth and Community Empowerment**

29. **Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat –Innovating for Agricultural Sustainability and Community Health**

30. **Fostering Self-Employment and Empowerment by Panangad Gram Panchayat**

CONSTRUCTION OF KERA NURSERY (GROWING AND DISTRIBUTING COCONUT SAPLINGS UNDER EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME) BY ARIKULAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Arikulam Gram Panchayat

Arikulam Gram Panchayat under Panthalayini Block Panchayat in Kozhikode district in the state of Kerala, India. Gram Panchayat is a basic governing institution in Indian villages. It is a political institution acting as cabinet of the village. The Grama Sabha works as the general body of the Gram Panchayat. Arikulam is a panchayat situated in Panthalayani block, Kozhikode district. Arikulam is a panchayat situated in Panthalayani block, Kozhikode district. Arikulam covers an area of 16.25 sq. km. Poverty alleviation is one of the main objectives of panchayat. Therefore, Panchayat is carrying out extensive activities for this purpose.

Construction of Kera Nursery is a project that is being implemented from the financial year 2022 under the employment guarantee scheme in Arikulam Gram Panchayat. Most of the land area of the panchayat is suitable for agriculture. The life of the people in the panchayat is mainly dependent on agriculture. Initiated with the aim of development of coconut palm sector, the project is being implemented in appropriate 35 cents area of 5th ward of panchayat by procuring 1000 WCT seed coconuts of good quality required for this work. 15

workers were given the responsibility of maintaining the nursery.

In 212 working days the project has created 1000 quality coconut saplings. ripe coconut saplings were distributed to farmers belonging to BPL and Scheduled Castes in the panchayat through Krishi Bhavan. The project also aims to nurture the coconut sector along with ensuring employment.

INCOME GENERATION THROUGH KUDUMBASHREE SYSTEM BY AZHIYUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Azhiyur Gram Panchayat

Azhiyur is a village in Vatakara taluk of Kozhikode district in the state of Kerala. Azhiyur is part of the greater Mahe region.

The Kudumbashree system is working very effectively in Azhiyur Gram Panchayat. With the increasing prevalence of adulterated products in the public market, the marketing potential of Kudumbashree products has significantly grown. Janakeeya Hotel, an initiative started as part of the Hunger-Free Kerala campaign, has been well-received by the public. Meals priced at Rs. 20/- have gained wide acceptance, and about 250 people are served daily through Janakeeya Hotel. The initiative has received a subsidy of Rs. 5,65,460/-.

Under the Agati rahitha scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 5,80,850/- and medical camps are being conducted for the benefit of the people. Additionally, a linkage loan of Rs. 47,50,200/- has been provided to support the livelihoods of 870 individuals across 58 neighbourhood groups. To address the needs of lonely women in the panchayat, a scheme called "Snehita Calling Bell" is being implemented, with an expenditure of Rs. 28,400/-.

Three Ksheerasagaram groups are functioning under

Kudumbashree, each comprising 15 members. These groups have been provided with stables under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, and a subsidy of Rs. 2,18,750/- has been given by Kudumbashree Mission under the Sunandini Ksheerasagaram scheme. As a result, 15 women and their families have found a source of income. Kudumbashree Mission has also supported poultry farming by providing chicks under the Kozhi Graham scheme with a subsidy of Rs. 9,000/-.

The Pothukutty village scheme has extended financial assistance of Rs. 50,000/- to groups of five people to purchase ten baby buffaloes. Additionally, 60 farming groups and organic vegetable farming groups are actively operating under Kudumbashree, supported by a subsidy of Rs. 14,66,700/-. Various types of cultivation are being undertaken as part of these initiatives. In the year 2021-2022, a CEF (Community Investment Fund) loan of Rs. 17,50,000/- has been provided to women for starting their own businesses. Financial assistance has also been granted to support fish farming.

Azhiyur village panchayat has made significant contributions to the construction of houses under the LIFE housing project. Financial assistance of Rs. 2,00,000/- has been provided to five individuals for purchasing land under the Life Housing Scheme. Housing rehabilitation and habitation work have also been sanctioned.

Azhiyur Gram Panchayat has demonstrated excellent work in poverty alleviation activities with the support of the government. Numerous schemes have been implemented to empower women and create income-generating opportunities for the community.

POVERTY FREE BLOCK PANCHAYAT INITIATIVE BY BALUSSERY BLOCK PANCHAYAT

Balussery Block Panchayat

Balussery is a town located about 25 km northeast of Kozhikode city and lies on the side of State Highway 34. It is one of the 12 block panchayats in Kozhikode district. Balussery block has an area of 278.54 km2. There are seven Gram Panchayats in the block. There are many government offices situated in the heart of the town. PT Usha School of Athletics is at Vattoli Bazar. Balussery is a well-known tourist place in Kerala. Vayalada Hill Station, Thonikadavu, Pokkunnu, Balussery Kotta, Manjappuzha, Kinaloor Estate and Kakkayam Dam site are a few among them.

The work of Balussery block panchayat in poverty alleviation projects is commendable. Poverty has multiple dimensions. Addressing poverty is one of the toughest challenges in this world. As poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon, there are several economic, social, gender and other deprivations contributing to poverty. The problems of poverty and unemployment are interlinked. To achieve a poverty free block panchayat, they took major steps in the field of Education, Health, Housing, Sanitation, Social Protection and Opportunities for Employment.

In the financial year 2021-2022 from block panchayat

under PMAY (G) Awas plus Scheme financial assistance has been allotted to 97 beneficiaries. Out of which 55 Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, 16 Minorities and 22 other categories have been given rupees70,32,000/- as Central Scheme and 2,02,34,000/- as scheme share. Balussery block panchayat has spent rupees 45, 81,490/- in the General category, rupees 10, 41,631/- in the Scheduled Caste category and rupees 5, 67,000/- in the Scheduled Tribe category in the annual plan.

Through the PMAY, LIFE Mission Scheme, it has been possible to provide houses to the rural people of all the seven Gram Panchayats under Balussery block. In the financial year 2021-2022, rupees 43, 46,371/- for the General category, rupees 83, 19,487/- for the Scheduled Caste category and rupees 3, 00,000 for the Scheduled Tribe category have been transferred as block panchayat allocation for the houses included in the LIFE Housing Scheme of Gram Panchayats.

Block panchayat has spent rupees 12, 00,000/- in General category and rupees 3, 00,000/- in part to start group enterprise for women for self-employment projects necessary to increase in the employability of the poor. Through this the block panchayat has been able to start 5 enterprises namely tailoring unit, Janakeeya Hotel, flowerpot manufacturing, and food processing unit. Also, rupees 3, 30,000 has been given as subsidy to buy electric autos for 6 women.

The block panchayat is not ready to take rest as they achieved the above said progress. They continue their effort to make the block panchayat number one in all fields and their main aim are to provide the best to the people.

GROUP INITIATIVE IN POVERTY ERADICATION BY KODUVALLY BLOCK PANCHAYAT

Koduvally Gram Panchayat

Koduvally block panchayat is the largest block panchayat in the district with 9-Gram Panchayats in the north-east of Kozhikode city, which shares the border with Malappuram and Wayanad districts.

Poverty alleviation programas play a crucial role in reducing the poverty rate by providing necessary support to households and families below the poverty line. These programas aim to ensure access to food, monetary assistance, and basic essentials for those in need. The agricultural area in Koduvally Block is abundant with rivers originating from the Eastern region, particularly the Western Ghats, and flowing towards the west. The block also boasts tourist attractions such as Tusharagiri Aripara Falls and Kakkatampoil.

The block panchayat has been able to increase its income significantly through individual assets provided under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). This scheme has been particularly beneficial for the majority of the population and middle-income earners who rely on agriculture and wage labor as their primary sources of livelihood.

Since its launch in Koduvally Block in April 2008, the

MGNREGS has made a significant impact. The implementation of watershed-based activities has been prioritized after preparing a watershed master plan. Around 40,000 job cards have been registered in the block, with half of them being regular participants in the employment guarantee scheme. In the financial year, 8-15 lakh workdays were created, benefiting families in various panchayats.

A substantial amount of expenditure has been allocated to the workers' wages, with over 25 cores spent in this area alone. Koduvally has received recognition for providing the highest amount of personal assets in the district through the Subhiksha Kerala scheme. Under the amended law, the MGNREGS in Koduvally Block Panchayat is being utilized for activities such as ground water conservation, rural road development, stable construction for livestock rearing, increasing fodder availability, stream erosion prevention, culvert-side weeding, and construction of Anganwadis. The MGNREGS has not only increased the income of rural individuals in the block but also contributed to the conservation of natural resources, biological wealth, and local development.

Additionally, the initiative by Bhavya Ladies Tailoring and Ready-Made, a group initiative for women under Koduvally Block Panchayat, has provided a good source of income for five families.In the financial year 2021-2022, 61 houses were allotted under the PMAY-IAY housing scheme, benefiting individuals from various categories, including the general category, scheduled caste category, and scheduled tribe category.

These poverty alleviation programas, particularly the MGNREGS, have had a positive impact on the livelihoods and well-being of the rural population in Koduvally Block Panchayat. They provide employment opportunities, income support, and infrastructure development, contributing to the overall socio-economic development of the community.

MILESTONE IN POVERTY ALLEVIATION INITIATIVE BY CHOROD GRAM PANCHAYAT

Chorod Gram Panchayat

Chorod Gram Panchayat, located in the Vadakara block of Kozhikode district, is a coastal panchayat with approximately 3 km of seaside area belonging to the old Kadathanad region. The panchayat is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, Onchyiam Panchayat to the north, and Vadakara Municipality to the south. Most of the population in Chorod Gram Panchayat belongs to the lower middle class.

Poverty alleviation activities have been given the highest priority in the panchayat, and significant funds, amounting to more than one core rupees, have been allocated for activities in this area. Poverty alleviation refers to a range of economic and humanitarian measures aimed at permanently uplifting people out of poverty.

The panchayat has invested a substantial amount of money in housing construction, which has been prioritized as part of the LIFE project. In the financial year 2021-22, nine fishermen families and five Scheduled Caste families were provided houses under the LIFE housing scheme. Additionally, financial assistance was provided to six individuals for land purchase. Furthermore, with the financial assistance of Rs. 5 lakhs, five uninhabitable houses were made habitable during the year 2021-22,

including a house belonging to a Scheduled Caste family.

In support of traditional employment promotion, two groups were sanctioned Rs. 2 lakhs to start pottery making units. As a part of women empowerment, one person was provided an auto rickshaw with a subsidy of Rs. 70,000.

During the year 2021-22, the panchayat was successful in providing 100 days of employment to 727 families, which included 100% registered differently abled persons and nine Scheduled Caste families. Additionally, under the Employment Guarantee scheme, 23 sock pits, nine stables, eight chicken coops, two sheep cages, and two compost pits were provided.

These efforts highlight the panchayat's commitment to poverty alleviation, housing construction, traditional employment promotion, women empowerment, and employment opportunities for various sections of the population.

COLLABORATIONS OF DEPARTMENTS TO ATTAIN THE GOAL OF POVERTY ERADICATION BY THUNERI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thuneri Gram Panchayat

Thuneri Gram Panchayat under Thuneri block panchayat in Kozhikode district of Kerala has been making significant efforts towards poverty eradication and enhancing livelihoods in the village. The support of various departmental functionaries is crucial for the success of such initiatives.

To address the needs of the community, departments like rural development, drinking water and sanitation, agriculture and farmers welfare, diary, animal husbandry and fisheries, handloom and handicrafts, women and child development, health, education, social justice and empowerment, skill development, and panchayat raj, among others, need to work together.

The Thuneri Block Panchayat Life Mission has played a vital role in providing housing for the poor through the Life Mission initiative. As part of this mission, 200 houses have already been completed in Thuneri block. The involvement of various departments such as Social Justice, Rural Development, Information and Public Relations, Civil Supplies, Revenue, Kudumbasree, Akshaya, Fisheries, Dairy Development, Health, Employment, Industry, and Sanitation Mission Gram Panchayat in the Adalam (meeting and adalat) signifies

the collective effort in achieving the objectives.

The Gram Panchayat has also achieved remarkable performance in poverty eradication through activities like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Kudumbasree, a poverty eradication and women empowerment programa, has played a significant role in improving the livelihoods of people not only in Thuneri Gram Panchayat but also across Kerala. Initiatives like setting up festival markets during Onam and Vishu seasons help the public access good quality products at reasonable rates. Additionally, Kudumbasree has distributed food kits and conducted tailoring skill training programas for women, promoting self-employment opportunities.

In the agricultural sector, Thuneri Gram Panchayat has encouraged paddy cultivation and intercropping, further enhancing the opportunities for income generation and sustainable farming practices. Overall, these efforts in various sectors and the collaboration between different departments contribute to the goal of poverty eradication and enhanced livelihoods in Thuneri Gram Panchayat.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION BY KAYAKODI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kayakodi Gram Panchayat

Kayakodi' is a village and a Gram Panchayat in the eastern part of Kozhikode district, Kerala, India. Kayakodi Gram Panchayat located in Kunnumal Block in Vadakara Taluk of Kozhikode. The area of panchayat is 28.14 sq. Kim.

Local economic development is not just about the development of basic needs of individuals but about people working together to achieve sustainable economic growth and improved lives. Employment and income are needed to prosper. This implies the creation of more employment in the Gram Panchayats, promotion of entrepreneurship and addition of further opportunities for economic growth.

It seems that the panchayat is focused on promoting local economic development and improving the lives of its residents. The implementation of the 'Marketing Kiosk Help Desk' project, in collaboration with Kudumbasree C.D.S., has provided regular income for two members who have set up marketing kiosks. These kiosks offer various food and beverage options during panchayat-related events, ensuring income generation for the initiative.

Additionally, the panchayat has adopted the Integrated Local Governance Management System (ILGMS), developed by the Information Kerala Mission in collaboration with the panchayat department. The ILGMS Help-Desk, established with the assistance of Kudumbasree, aims to make the governance process and services of the Gram Panchayats transparent and accessible to the public. This initiative has not only provided regular income for a Kudumbasree member but has also significantly reduced the crowd at the front office by more than 80%. It allows for easy and transparent online provision of panchayat services to the public.

The success of the ILGMS Help-Desk scheme has made it a model for other panchayats, leading to its planned implementation across the state. Furthermore, its functions can be extended to establish the 'Oppamundu Urppanu' - Citizen Facilitation Centre, a new government scheme aimed at enhancing citizen services and convenience.

These initiatives reflect the commitment of Kayakodi Gram Panchayat towards sustainable economic growth, employment generation, and improved governance for the betterment of its residents.

WOMEN SELF-EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE BY PERAMBRA BLOCK PANCHAYAT

Perambra Block Panchayat

Perambra, situated in the Koyilandy taluk of Kozhikode district in the North Malabar region of Kerala, India, holds significance as a major town. It falls under one of the 140 assembly constituencies in Kerala and is also one of the 12 block panchayats in Kozhikode district. Geographically, Perambra is located near the center of the district.

Perambra Block Panchayat has been actively involved in poverty alleviation activities. In the financial year 2021-22, their target was to provide houses to 107 beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Gramain) Scheme. Out of these, 104 people have entered a contract for the housing project, and 46 of them have completed the construction of their houses. The remaining beneficiaries are in the process of completing the construction. These efforts aim to fulfil the basic need of shelter for individuals and families, thus contributing to poverty reduction.

Recognizing the importance of self-employment in poverty alleviation, Perambra Block Panchayat has implemented various initiatives to promote self-employment opportunities. As part of the 2021-22 annual scheme, two e-auto rickshaws have been sanctioned

specifically for women's self-employment. This provides women with the means to earn a livelihood and improve their economic condition.

To promote women's self-employment, the annual plan for the financial year 2021-22 has allocated a flourmill to the Vanita Kudumbashree Group in Nochad Gram Panchayat. This initiative not only empowers women but also enhances their quality of life by providing them with a sustainable source of income.

To ensure the overall wellness of women, a wellness center has been allocated to a women's group at Chakkittapara Gram Panchayat through the Kudumbashree Unit. This wellness center aims to address the health and well-being needs of women in the community, thereby contributing to their overall empowerment and upliftment.

Through these poverty alleviation activities, Perambra Block Panchayat is working towards improving the socio-economic conditions of the local community, empowering individuals, and families, and creating opportunities for self-sufficiency and sustainable livelihoods.

POVERTY ERADICATION INITIATIVE BY KUNNUMAL BLOCK PANCHAYAT

Kunnumal Block Panchayat

Kunnumal Block is a block in the Kozhikode district of Kerala state, with its headquarters in Kunnumal town. It falls under the Vadakara parliamentary constituency and belongs to the North Kerala division. The block covers an area of 265 square kilometers. As of the 2001 India census, Kunnumal had a population of 174,652, with 88,298 males and 88,354 females. The local language spoken here is Malayalam, and people also speak English, Hindi, and Tamil.

The inclusion of Theertha Kudumbashree, a unit in Naripatta Gram Panchayat, as part of the 2021-22 annual plans of Kunnumal Block Panchayat has proven to be a significant step towards economic empowerment and entrepreneurship for women in the region. With the support of a subsidy of Rs. 25,000 provided by the panchayat, five women who previously had no fixed income have now embarked on a journey to establish their value-added products manufacturing venture.

This initiative has not only provided the women with an opportunity to venture into entrepreneurship but has also served to enhance their economic prospects and financial stability. The project's focus on utilizing locally available resources, such as sugarcane and Mettupalayam

bananas, demonstrates a commitment to sustainable practices and bolstering the local economy.

With the support of the subsidy, the unit was able to acquire the best machinery, which has enabled them to produce high-quality chips using the Mettupalayam banana. This step has not only ensured the delivery of superior products to the market but has also increased the unit's competitiveness, thereby potentially expanding its customer base.

By venturing into this enterprise, the five women have not only improved their own lives but have also set an inspiring example for other members of the community. Economic empowerment of women is crucial for overall societal development, and this initiative showcases the potential of grassroots-level projects to drive positive change.

As the unit continues to grow and succeed, the women involved are determined to increase their income further by including more members in the venture. This expansion of the unit will not only create more employment opportunities but also foster a spirit of collaboration and community support.

The success of Theertha Kudumbashree exemplifies the power of inclusive development and showcases how local initiatives can have a far-reaching impact. The project's focus on sustainability, utilization of local resources, and capacity building highlights the forward-thinking approach of Kunnumal Block Panchayat in fostering economic growth and empowerment at the grassroots level.

Overall, Theertha Kudumbashree's journey is a testament to the transformative power of initiatives that prioritize women's economic empowerment, local development, and sustainable practices. As this unit continues to flourish, it has the potential to become a model for similar projects in the region and beyond, uplifting communities and fostering economic prosperity for all.

POVERTY ALLEVIATION INITIATIVE BY KOODARANJI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Koodaranji Gram Panchayat

Koodaranji Gram Panchayat is a village panchayat located under the Koduvally Block in Kozhikode district of Kerala. It covers an area of 98.12 square kilometres and consists of 14 wards. The village is situated approximately 35 kilometres away from Kozhikode city. Koodaranhi Gram Panchayat is known for its commendable achievements in various fields.

One notable achievement of the panchayat is its focus on literacy, with a remarkable literacy rate of 93.48%. The panchayat has made significant efforts to promote education and ensure high literacy levels among its residents. In addition to education, the panchayat also boasts major tourist attractions such as waterfalls, a hydroelectric project, and a theme park, which contribute to the overall development of the village.

One of the primaries focuses of Koodaranji Gram Panchayat is poverty alleviation. Poverty is a complex issue with multiple dimensions, and the panchayat has implemented concrete action plans to address this challenge. They have taken significant steps in areas such as education, health, housing, sanitation, social protection, and employment opportunities to combat

poverty and improve the living conditions of the residents.

Water conservation projects are also effectively implemented in the panchayat, benefiting both farmers and the public. These projects involve the restoration and renovation of traditional water bodies and the promotion of awareness about traditional water conservation techniques and rainwater harvesting.

The panchayat has played a vital role in generating employment opportunities through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). They have issued 1,259 job cards, and around 1,500 active workers are currently employed under the scheme.

In addition to individual empowerment, Koodaranji Gram Panchayat has also focused on community benefits. Initiatives such as cattle farms, goat farms, and the construction of assola tanks have been undertaken for the benefit of the community. The panchayat is committed to creating community assets, including the construction of ponds using geotextiles, concrete roads, playgrounds, nurseries, and work sheds for entrepreneurs in various wards.

The panchayat has also taken initiatives to improve infrastructure in local schools. For instance, a well-furnished kitchen and dining hall were constructed at Poovaranthode Govt. LP School with a budget of 4.9 lakhs rupees, setting an example for other schools in the district. Additionally, a soak pit adjacent to the dining hall is currently under construction.

Despite the progress achieved, Koodaranji Gram Panchayat continues to strive for excellence. Their ongoing efforts aim to make the panchayat a leader in all fields and provide the best possible services to its residents. Each year, a significant amount of 5 crore rupees is allocated for various developmental and welfare activities. Ongoing projects such as the construction of a playground with a gallery and compound wall worth 32 lakhs rupees demonstrate the panchayat's unwavering commitment to realizing their goals and aspirations.

AVAKASAM ADHIVEGAM BY KOZHIKODE CORPORATION

Kozhikode Corporation

The Kozhikode City Council has implemented a programa called "Avakasam Adhivegam" to provide necessary documents and urgent assistance to the very poor. This initiative aims to address various aspects of support, including healthcare, housing, identification documents, social security, and more. By collaborating with different departments and organizations, the city council is working towards ensuring the well-being and upliftment of the vulnerable population.

A medical camp was organized in collaboration with Kozhikode Medical College to address the medical needs of the beneficiaries. Among the beneficiaries, 525 people need medicine, 337 require treatment, and 129 require palliative care. Neethi Medical Store will provide ongoing medicines based on prescriptions, and the expenses will be covered from the plan fund allocated for the very poor beneficiaries.

The 4 beneficiaries identified in the ultra-poor survey will be included in the eligibility list for the homeless with land under the Life Housing Scheme. The city council will assist in providing financial aid for housing construction through the PMAY housing scheme. Additionally, there are 82 landless and homeless individuals in the eligible

list, and 188 individuals will be included in the list under the Life Bhawan Scheme.

Out of the 814 families identified in the ultra-poor survey, 512 families have been included in the Antyodaya Annayojana ration cards. Additionally, 52 individuals who did not have ration cards have been allocated ration cards through the District Civil Supplies Office. Some individuals who lacked ration cards have also been provided with them.

Among the 814 families in the ultra-poor survey, 37 individuals did not have Aadhaar cards. Efforts were made to provide Aadhaar cards to 6 individuals, and further action was taken through Akshaya Kendra for 19 more individuals. The Deputy Collector has initiated steps to issue Voter IDs to 67 individuals who were not included in the ultra-poor survey. Among the surveyed beneficiaries, 253 people do not have a bank account. The city council has collaborated with Kerala Bank to assist these individuals in opening bank accounts.

Non-members of Kudumbashree neighbourhood identified in the survey have been granted membership, totalling 68 individuals. The Regional Director of Kerala Social Security Mission has been contacted to take further action on providing Transgender and Disability Cards to 5 transgender individuals and 22 individuals in need of disability cards.

Out of the 92 people who require social security pension, 33 individuals are already receiving it. Steps have been taken to grant pension to an additional 23 people. Among those in need, 11 individuals are mentally challenged, and 24 individuals are under 60 years of age.

The city council has initiated the process of granting employment cards to 69 individuals who require them under the Ayyangali City Employment Guarantee Scheme. However, it is mentioned that most of them find physical labor challenging and prefer manual labor. Thirteen individuals have been shifted to a permanent shelter home, while three individuals have been transferred to a temporary shelter home through the Udayam scheme and day house.

The "Avakasam Adhivegam" programa undertaken by the Kozhikode City Council demonstrates a comprehensive effort to address the needs of the very poor. Through initiatives such as providing medicines, housing assistance, identification

documents, ration cards, and social security pensions, the council is working to improve the lives of those in need. Additionally, efforts to grant employment cards and membership in Kudumbashree neighbourhood further contribute to empowering individuals and creating opportunities for self-sustainability. By implementing these measures, the city council is making strides in alleviating poverty and promoting a better quality of life for the underprivileged.

WE LIFT SCHEME BY KOZHIKODE CORPORATION

Kozhikode Corporation

The Kozhikode Corporation is the municipal corporation that administers the city of Kozhikode (Calicut), Kerala. Established in 1962, it is in the Kozhikode parliamentary constituency. The Corporation is headed by a mayor and council, and manages 118.58 km2 of the city of Kozhikode, with a population of about 609,224 within that area. Kozhikode Municipal Corporation has been formed with functions to improve the infrastructure of town.

The We.Lift scheme is a comprehensive employment programa implemented by the Kozhikode Municipal Corporation with the goal of providing employment opportunities to 5,000 people over a period of 5 years. Inspired by the government's initiative to generate employment through local bodies, the Kozhikode Corporation has developed this scheme in collaboration with various government departments such as Kudumbashree, National Urban Livelihood Mission, Department of Industries, Department of Agriculture, Department of Fisheries, and Department of Animal Welfare.

The formation of the We.Lift mandate was discussed

during a seminar held on November 12, 2021, at the Kozhikode Regional Science Center. The seminar included experts from different departments who explained the job sectors and facilitated group discussions on seven sectors, including IT, agriculture, industry, service, value-added products, fisheries, and handicrafts. The seminar helped identify the opportunities, challenges, and priorities for the implementation of We.Lift.

To raise awareness about the We.Lift process, Kudumbashree organized ADS and CDS meetings, ward-level cluster meetings, and M.E. convener meetings. The Department of Industry and Commerce announced the dates for the Entrepreneurial Year, which led to the expansion of the project by including interns who joined the City Council. Ward-level entrepreneurship awareness workshops were conducted between May and June 2022. Following these workshops, a Loan-License-Subsidy Fair was organized on August 26th at Tagore Hall, where 616 participants interacted with financial institutions and government departments regarding their ventures. During the fair, loans amounting to 11 crore rupees, subsidies worth 10 lakh rupees, and various licenses were distributed to 21 entrepreneurs. Various government departments, including Fisheries, Employment Exchange, Women's Development Corporation, Minority Development Corporation, Kudumbashree, NULM, and leading banks such as SBI, Canara Bank, Punjab National Bank, Kerala Bank, Union Bank of India, Kerala Gramaeen Bank, and Urban Bank participated in the fair. Additionally, 98 loan applications received during the fair were further processed in collaboration with the banks.

A help desk is available in the municipality to provide guidance and assistance to entrepreneurs. Furthermore, the Kozhikode Municipal Corporation has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Kozhikode to receive guidance on entrepreneurial skills and marketing strategies. IIM Kozhikode will offer recommendations to the Municipal Corporation to enhance the We.Lift project. Along with providing licenses, loans, and subsidies for starting businesses, the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) also offers placements through skill training courses in areas such as warehouse packing, panchakarma technician,

accounting, and electrician. In the current financial year until December, 1,630 enterprises have been established under the We.Lift project, resulting in an investment of 131 crore rupees and creating 4,279 employment opportunities.

With the objective of creating more employment opportunities through initiatives for local economic development, the Kozhikode Corporation has allocated 4 lakhs towards the project. The Municipal Council is also planning to organize a job fair for candidates under the Kozhikode Corporation.

INITIATIVES IN IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOOD AND WELLBEING OF RESIDENTS BY PERUMANNA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Perumanna Gram Panchayat

Perumanna Gram Panchayat, located in the Kunnamangalam block of Kozhikode district, covers an area of 13.45 square kilometers and has a population of 50,000. The panchayat has been actively involved in various initiatives and programas to uplift the community and alleviate poverty.

One of the key initiatives undertaken by Perumanna Gram Panchayat is through the Kudumbashree Mission, which is the largest poverty alleviation project in Kerala. In the financial year 2021-2022, the Community Enterprises Fund disbursed Rs. 450,000 at a 4% interest rate to support seven units. The funds provided have been utilized effectively, contributing to the success of these enterprises.

Additionally, a revolving fund of Rs. 1 lakh has been allocated for aquaponics and fish farming, further promoting sustainable livelihood options in the panchayat. Janakeeya Hotel, as part of the Hunger Free Kerala Project, receives a subsidy of Rs. 10 per meal in the financial year 2021-22, enabling affordable and nutritious meals for the community.

Under the Goat Village scheme, 5 groups of 5 people

have received a loan of Rs. 750,000 and a subsidy of Rs. 250,000. Two individuals involved in goat rearing have been sanctioned personal loans of Rs. 60,000 each at a 40% interest rate. Through the Cattle Grama Scheme, a loan of Rs. 300,000 and a subsidy of Rs. 100,000 has been provided to two groups of 5 people.

For laying hens, loans of Rs. 750,000 each, Rs. 150,000 for two units, and a subsidy of Rs. 50,000 have been sanctioned. Individual loans for laying hens, amounting to Rs. 15,000 each at a 4% interest rate, have been provided through the Community Enterprises Fund (CEF).

Perumanna Gram Panchayat has also focused on making barren land arable through innovative concepts like flower cultivation. Through projects implemented under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), a group of 17 people involved in flower cultivation has successfully transformed barren land into productive farmland for vegetable cultivation.

In the financial year 2021-2022, the MGNREGS scheme has provided 67,610 days of work, with 520 individuals receiving 100 days of work each. The panchayat has allocated approximately Rs. 1,980,000 for this purpose, promoting employment and improving the living conditions of the community.

Furthermore, Perumanna Gram Panchayat has actively supported housing restoration through initiatives such as the Agati Ashra project. Directly through the panchayat, an amount of Rs. 50,000 each has been allocated to two individuals for housing restoration. Additionally, through the Life Bhavana scheme, Rs. 3,686,800 has been disbursed in the general category for housing restoration.

The panchayat has also allocated funds for various categories, including Rs. 1,079,560 for the Scheduled Caste (SC) category, Rs. 1,400,000 through the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) scheme, and Rs. 805,709 for the habitation of non-habitable persons belonging to the Above Poverty Line (APL) category, and Rs. 554,400 for the construction of individual toilets.

Through these poverty alleviation activities and initiatives, Perumanna Gram Panchayat has made significant progress in improving the livelihoods and well-being of its residents. The panchayat remains committed.

AGRICULTURAL REVIVAL, INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE INITIATIVES BY PERUVAYAL GRAM PANCHAYAT

Peruvayal Gram Panchayat

Peruvayal, the largest village in Kozhikode district under Kunnamangalam Block panchayat, Kerala, is characterized by its scenic landscapes and diverse features. Surrounded by the panchayats of Mavoor, Kunnamangalam, Olavanna, and Kozhikode corporation, Peruvayal boasts a unique geographical position. The Chaliyar River serves as one of the borders of Peruvayal, adding to the village's natural beauty. Situated approximately 15 kilometers away from Kozhikode, the village enjoys a proximity to urban amenities while maintaining its rural charm.

Paddy fields are a prominent feature throughout Peruvayal, showcasing the village's strong agricultural heritage. The lush green fields contribute to the rural ambiance and serve as a vital source of livelihood for many residents. Additionally, small hills, such as Ponpara, add to the scenic allure of the village. Notably, Ponpara Hill is known for its iron ore content and serves as a water storage area, contributing to the agricultural needs of the village.

Water bodies in the form of ponds play a crucial role in irrigation, ensuring an adequate water supply for the paddy fields. These ponds serve as reservoirs, preserving water for agricultural purposes and supporting the

village's agricultural productivity. However, the paddy fields in Peruvayal face threats from land and real estate mafias, which can pose challenges to the preservation of agricultural land and practices.

Within the Gram Panchayat of Peruvayal, there are distinct areas that require focused attention and development. One such area is Lakshamveed Colony in Puvvattuparam Kalaripura, which is considered the lowest-class area in the Panchayat. Initially established in 1973, the colony was in a dilapidated state, filled with mud and water. Under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, a facelift scheme was implemented by Mahatma Gandhi to transform the colony. Measures were taken to address silt and waterlogging issues through the implementation of a drainage system. Furthermore, public buildings within the colony were interlocked and beautified, leading to the renaming of the colony as Rose Villa. Efforts have also been made to uplift the socio-economic condition of the residents through the identification and support of ultra-poor households.

Velliparam is home to a popular hotel that caters to those facing food insecurity. This hotel provides lunch for a nominal price of Rs 20, offering affordable meals to individuals in need. The hotel is operated by a family and has gained popularity within the community. The construction of a shed for the hotel was undertaken as part of the employment guarantee scheme, further contributing to local employment and infrastructure development.

Housing initiatives have also been undertaken in Peruvayal, particularly through the LIFE housing project. Fourteen families in the general category and 24 families in the Scheduled Caste category have successfully completed the construction of houses under this project. An additional 35 families have begun construction work with new agreements, while 55 families have had their houses repaired. Officers in charge are available for contact, ensuring effective implementation and oversight of these housing projects.

The expansion and development of Peruvayal Gram Panchayat encompasses various aspects, including agricultural revival, infrastructure improvement, and social welfare initiatives. Through concerted efforts and community involvement, Peruvayal aims to overcome challenges, uplift the living conditions of its residents, and preserve its natural beauty and agricultural heritage.

POVERTY ALLEVIATION ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES OF MARUTHONKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat

Maruthonkara is a village and Gram Panchayat under Kunnumal Block Panchayat in Kozhikode district. The famous Janakikkad tourist centre of Kozhikode district is in this panchayat. Major tourist attractions such as the Peruvannamuzhi Dam and Kuttiyadi Dam are situated near this panchayat. Surrounded by greenery and water, this village is also known as Mullankunnu.

The panchayat primarily focuses on poverty alleviation. Poverty is a complex issue with multiple dimensions, and addressing it is one of the toughest challenges in the world. Given that poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon, there are various economic, social, gender, and other deprivations that contribute to it. The problems of poverty and unemployment are interconnected. Maruthonkara panchayat has developed a concrete action plan to achieve a poverty-free panchayat, taking major steps in the fields of education, health, housing, sanitation, social protection, and employment opportunities.

The lack of habitable housing and related facilities is a significant problem for the poor in the Gram Panchayat. The panchayat's main challenge was to implement programas to improve the living conditions of the poor people in the panchayat. In previous years, houses have

been constructed for many beneficiaries through various housing construction projects as part of poverty alleviation activities in Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat. However, it was found that 98 families had become homeless, and there was a need to implement necessary plans for constructing houses for these families.

In the financial year 2021-22, financial assistance was provided to 74 homeless beneficiaries for house construction. Additionally, one beneficiary from the weaker section has received benefits through the Asraya Scheme. Financial assistance has been provided to 24 beneficiaries through the house habitation scheme. One beneficiary was financed through the Scheduled Caste Girls' Marriage Financing Scheme, and sanitary units were constructed for 12 out of 13 eligible beneficiaries.

Dairy farmers have received subsidies for milk, and fodder distribution has been conducted to improve their livelihoods. Financial assistance has been provided to 10 individuals, including two public ponds, for the fish farming project. The goat rearing project has been successfully implemented, providing financial support to 48 individuals, and cow rearing has been supported for 12 individuals. A total of Rs. 1,28,65,602/- has been spent on these projects.

A sum of Rs. 4,80,02,000/- has been allocated to 66 neighbourhood groups through various projects implemented by Kudumbasree. This allocation has benefited 8 individuals through personal initiatives and 22 individuals through initiatives in the agricultural sector, providing regular income and creating numerous job opportunities.

Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat has been the most successful in implementing the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. In the financial year 2021-2022, 4,865 workers have been employed, generating 2,42,778 workdays and an income of Rs. 7,18,62,288/-. Construction projects for three chicken coops, three goat sheds, and 92 cow sheds were successfully implemented in that financial year.

The collective efforts and dedicated work of the entire team in the panchayat for the implementation and completion of these projects are admirable.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT AND JOB CREATION BY PANANGAD GRAM PANCHAYAT

Panangad Gram Panchayat

Panangad Gram Panchayat is situated under Baluserry block panchayat of Kozhikode district. They have taken significant strides in promoting regional economic development and job creation. Recognizing the importance of empowering women and ensuring their participation in the workforce, the Gram Panchayat has dedicated substantial resources to support women's employment initiatives. The goal is to not only boost household incomes but also elevate social standing and dignity among women in the community. By focusing on diverse sectors like agriculture, animal husbandry, and fisheries, the Gram Panchayat has opened doors for various livelihood opportunities, fostering sustainable economic growth in the region. As a result, families have been able to access job opportunities and improve their standard of living, making a positive impact on the overall well-being of the Gram Panchayat's residents.

Regional Economic Assessment and Job Creation in Panangad Gram Panchayat have been marked by new initiatives aimed at expanding the employment sector and enhancing livelihood opportunities for its residents. Particularly, there has been a focus on empowering women, who make up more than half of the Gram

Panchayat's population, by providing them with opportunities for self-esteem, increased income, social prestige, and dignity.

To promote women's employment, a significant amount of Rs. 4,09,554 has been exclusively allocated to the scheme. This investment has been utilized to provide labor support and empower 358 women through 62 women-led households participating in various development activities in the Gram Panchayat during the fiscal year 2021-22. Moreover, 101 LG Pus (local groups) and 13 smaller groups have been instrumental in these initiatives.

In the agricultural sector, the Gram Panchayat has embraced various employment schemes to create livelihood opportunities. These include distribution vegetable growbag, waste bin, Hash Medium, and others, with an investment of Rs. 22,60,000 through the Pashugramam and Adugramam schemes. The animal husbandry sector has also seen support, with the provision of raising lambs and lambs to provide livelihood opportunities.

The fisheries sector has not been left behind, as the Gram Panchayat invested Rs. 10,000 in the bio-floc fish farming scheme, which has the potential to create jobs and support the local economy.

Overall, in the financial year 2021-22, the Gram Panchayat has undertaken various projects and initiatives to make employment opportunities available for families in the region, contributing to the economic growth and well-being of the community.

THARISH, AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVE BY ARIKULAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Arikulam Gram Panchayat

Gram Panchayat is a fundamental governing institution in Indian villages, functioning as the political body and cabinet of the village. The Grama Sabha serves as the general body of the Gram Panchayat. Arikulam, situated in Panthalayani block of Kozhikode district, is known for its significant contributions in the field of agriculture. Agriculture is the primary occupation of this village, with approximately 75% of its land suitable for agricultural activities, making it the main livelihood for the residents.

Agricultural development in Arikulam Gram Panchayat is a top priority, and various initiatives are undertaken to improve agricultural practices and promote food security. One such project aims to enhance agricultural activities by providing tissue culture-developed banana seedlings in the twelfth ward of the panchayat. This project focuses on eradicating barren land and expanding the cultivation of fruit trees, leading to increased agricultural productivity and improved living standards for the farmers.

Extensive agricultural activities are carried out in the panchayat through collaborative efforts of various agricultural associations and cooperatives. The Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme also helps

support agricultural endeavors in the region. Apart from traditional crops like paddy and coconuts, there is a cultivation of diverse crops, including vegetables. The panchayat has also established a kera nursery to enhance the cultivation of coconut trees.

By promoting modern agricultural practices, encouraging crop diversification, and investing in essential agricultural infrastructure, Arikulam Gram Panchayat is driving progress in the agricultural sector. The focus on sustainable agriculture not only improves the livelihoods of the local farming community but also contributes to the overall economic growth and prosperity of the region.

MILESTONE ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE BY BALUSSERY BLOCK PANCHAYAT

Balussery Block Panchayat

Balussery is a town located about 25 km northeast of Kozhikode city and lies on the side of State Highway 34. It is one of the 12 block panchayats in Kozhikode district. Balussery block has an area of 278.54 km2. There are seven Gram Panchayats in the block. There are many government offices situated in the heart of the town. P T Usha School of Athletics is at Vattoli Bazar. Balussery is a well-known tourist place in Kerala. Vayalada Hill Station, Thonikadavu, Pokkunnu, Balussery Kotta, Manjappuzha, Kinaloor Estate and Kakkayam Dam site are a few among them.

Agriculture is the main profession of this village. It is an art and science of cultivating the soil, growing crops and livestock production, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry for food and non-food products. Agriculture was the key development in the rise of sedentary human civilization, whereby farming of domesticated species created food surpluses that enabled people to live in cities.

Balussery block panchayat has been able to implement commendable projects in the Agricultural Sector during the financial year 2021-2022. This financial year, block panchayat has spent rupees 40, 43,792/- in the agricultural sector and the intervention of the block panchayat has

helped in the overall growth of the agricultural sector. Under the Agricultural Workshop Agri Park scheme, technicians of six agricultural workstations in the block panchayat and an Agro Service Centre were trained in the operation and repairing of various agricultural machinery.

Under the Subhiksha Keralam scheme, 20 acres of fallow land in Naduvannur Gram Panchayat was brought under paddy cultivation and 7.5 acres of fallow land has also brought vegetables under new cultivation. A total of rupees 3, 91, 200/- has been spent on this and financial assistance has been provided to permanent farming groups. Seeing the better growth in the agricultural sector, the paddies were provided with tractors and accessories. In this way, it was possible to solve the labour shortage faced in paddy cultivation and to bring 30 acres of land under new cultivation. Kotoor agricultural work force has spent rupees 1 lakh on providing rotavator for attachment of existing tractors. Through this, the farmers could get better services. In order to maintain rice cultivation, 195 hectares of land has been sanctioned for rice cultivation in collaboration with various Gram Panchayats. Rupees 19, 49, 920/- was spent towards sanctioning the labour cost for paddy cultivation.

As part of Prime Minister Krishi Singhai Yojana, 86,00,000/- have been spent for sidewall protection of streams and renovation of irrigation ponds during the period of 2021-2022 in 7 watershed areas of various village panchayats of Balussery block panchayat. Also, 30 lakh rupees have been distributed to turmeric, ginger, pepper and banana farmers as production incentive and 61 JLGs as revolving fund. Through the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme, the block panchayat has been able to intervene in the agricultural and allied sectors through activities such as cowsheds, goat sheds, chicken coops, and making barren lands for cultivation, construction of ponds, irrigation wells and azola tanks. An incentive of rupees 25, 80, 000/- has been sanctioned to dairy farmers for measured milk and rupees 1, 73,430/- for fodder grass development through Diary development office.

The block panchayat as a whole team worked hard with full dedication for the implementation and completion of the projects is admirable.

POSITIVE CHANGE THROUGH AGRICULTURE INITIATIVE BY KOODARANJI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Koodaranji Gram Panchayat

Koodaranji is a hilly farming village on the eastern edge of Kozhikode in Koduvally Block Panchayat, adjacent to Malappuram District. Koodaranji Panchayat has been able to perform different activities in the field of Agriculture. The main agricultural products in Koodaranji Gram Panchayat are coffee, pepper, coco, and rubber etc. The Panchayat has had an agricultural background since ancient times.

In Koodaranji Gram Panchayat agriculture is considered as primary livelihood for most of the population, which can never be underestimated. As we all know that food is the most important thing for the survival, nothing comes before food when it comes to sustaining life, and food is a very important part for everyone's livelihood, so we can say that agriculture is particularly important because it is the main source of food supply and also the backbone of our economic system.

Agriculture not only provides food and raw materials but also employment opportunities to a large proportion of our village population. Panchayat has achieved good results in terms of Agriculture. The Panchayat has been able to provide the people with vegetables and saplings free from pesticides.

Koodaranji Panchayat is ready to create a positive change through Agriculture. Along with providing good food, it also brings many job opportunities. Agricultural activities have played a key role in guaranteeing food and nutritional security, sustainable development, and alleviation of poverty in the panchayat. Through this Panchayat is in a process of moulding a society without poverty.

NELKRISHI COOLIE CHILAVU AND KADALIVANAM BY KOOTHALI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Koothali Gram Panchayat

Koothali Gram Panchayat is a village panchayat under Perambra Block of Kozhikode district with an area of 14.13 square kilometres and including 13 wards. It is situated 44 kilometres away from Kozhikode city. The name Koothali has been evolved from two terms 'Kooth+Ali' in which "Kooth" means performing arts like "Kathakali", "Koodiyattam" etc. and "Ali" means the venue where such art forms are performed. Koothali has around six hundred years of long history and it goes back to the time of Tippu Sultan and beyond.

Agriculture is the main profession of this village. It is an art and science of cultivating the soil, growing crops and livestock production, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry for food and non-food products. Agriculture was the key development in the rise of sedentary human civilization, whereby farming of domesticated species created food surpluses that enabled people to live in cities.

Koothali Gram Panchayat has been able to implement commendable projects in the Agricultural Sector during the financial year 2021-2022. By finding a barren paddy field in the panchayat and spending rupees 180000/-, it was possibly making great gains in rice production by implementing the scheme called "Nelkrishi Coolie

Chilavu" (Rice Cultivation Cost). Declined Paddy farming gets a new rise through such projects undertaken by the panchayat. It is highly appreciable that about 4 tons of paddy have been produced this year. 'Kadalivanam' another project implemented in the same year, distributed banana seeding to 238 Kudumbasree units and the panchayat was able to spend rupees 211490/- on this project. The panchayat is undertaking and implementing such projects with the intention of producing and eating non-toxic products. In the financial year 2021-2022, another project undertaken by the panchayat has been the implementation of 'Inter-crop Distribution Scheme for Women' and has successfully implemented the project by spending 475600/- .

Panchayat takes such initiative to implement projects in the agricultural sector which lead to a good agricultural culture and a healthy diet. In the same year, the panchayat management committee implemented fertilizer application scheme for coconut cultivation at a cost of rupees 693600/-. A major challenge faced by the farmers is that the agricultural products are not getting the expected price in markets. The recent incentives to the agriculture sector from the ruling governments are promising.

The major projects implemented by Koothali Panchayat were in the sectors of Agriculture, Welfare and Scheduled Caste Development. The projects for distribution of seeds and fertilisation of coconut trees besides distribution of milch cows were completed much ahead of schedule. The panchayat as a whole team worked hard with full dedication for the implementation and completion of the projects is admirable.

THE YEAR OF CREATION BY THIKKODI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thikkodi Gram Panchayat

Thikkodi Gram Panchayat is a local self-government institution located inMelady block panchayat of Kozhikode District. It serves as the governing body responsible for the administration and development of Thikkodi and its surrounding areas. With a focus on community welfare and sustainable progress, the Gram Panchayat undertakes various initiatives and projects to uplift the lives of its residents and promote overall socio-economic development.

2022 proved to be a momentous year in the history of the Panchayat as the New Padashekara Samiti, achieved great prosperity through the renewal of the existing Padashekara Samiti. In Thipakadintala Nadayam Padashekaram, 36 units of rice were cultivated in Padashekaram, commemorating the previous year as the "Year of Creation" in the grand rice market, marking a memorable milestone in history. Building upon this success, the Panchayat aims to cultivate 100 monoculture crops this year, kick-starting an expansion of agriculture inspired by the renowned Kuttanadan region, coordinated by the project.

In Thikkodi Gram Panchayat, which had lain fallow for 30 years, a significant achievement was made as

rice was successfully threshed and brought to the market. This marked a major turning point and sparked a mass movement in the agricultural sector within the Panchayat. Nadayakam Padasekaranam, situated in the 8th ward near Akalapuzha in the eastern part of the Panchayat, was a breakthrough in this humble foray into agriculture. The endeavor involved approximately 2,250 bonded workers and skilled labourers, supported by modern machinery. The yield resulted in 6 tons of paddy, of which 3 tons were processed into wormwood without any loss. This natural product, branded as Nadayakam, garnered significant acceptance in the market.

The management committee of Thikkodi Panchayat is actively promoting the agricultural sector. All fallow land has been cultivated, and in collaboration with Kudumbasree workers in all wards, plans have been made to further progress in vegetable cultivation. With these initiatives, the Panchayat aims to enhance agricultural productivity and uplift the economic prospects of the community.

AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES AND INITIATIVES OF THALAKULATHUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thalakulathur Gram Panchayat

Thalakulathur Gram Panchayat, located in the Chelannoor Block of Kozhikode District, has a strong agricultural culture. The village's residents live in a peaceful manner and take pride in their rich history. Agriculture is the primary occupation of the people, and they rely heavily on coconut cultivation for income. However, the village is still in need of industrial development, improved education, and access to drinking water, better roads, and reliable electricity.

The state government's "Kera Grama Scheme" has been a significant relief for farmers in increasing coconut productivity. Coconut cultivation is prevalent across the entire panchayat, which encompasses coastal areas, plains, hills, mountains, springs, waterways, streams, rivers, and canals. The "Janakiyasutra Scheme" ensures the distribution of organic fertilizers for coconut cultivation, and seed fees are provided annually to encourage paddy cultivation in various areas of the panchayat.

Vegetable cultivation and intercropping are also practiced, especially in paddy fields with irrigation facilities. Monsoon vegetables and bananas are grown in the eastern areas of the panchayat. Despite the decreasing land area, production efficiency has increased

in the region. The block panchayat is working collaboratively to reduce fallow land in padasekharas (rice fields). The "Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme" is utilized to prepare barren lands for cultivation and implement erosion prevention measures such as stone raking, soil raking, and rope mulching.

During the 2021-22 period, an allocation of INR 4,82,910 was made for rope land cloth-related work. Around 800 meters of rope were laid, and grass was planted to prevent soil erosion along the riverbank using bamboo nails.

Agriculture plays a crucial role in the local economy and serves as the backbone of the economic system in developing countries. It provides employment opportunities for a significant percentage of the population and helps alleviate rural poverty. Thalakulathur Gram Panchayat has taken numerous measures and is implementing various plans to advance and strengthen the agricultural sector.

TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE BY PURAMERI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Purameri Gram Panchayat

Purameri is a village panchayat located under Thuneri block panchayat in the Kozhikode district of the North Malabar region in Kerala, India. Situated in the north-western part of the district, it lies on the route from Vatakara to Nadapuram. The village is known for its preservation of the Kadathanadan culture.

Agriculture serves as the primary occupation in Purameri. It encompasses the cultivation of soil, growing crops, livestock production, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry for both food and non-food products. The development of agriculture played a pivotal role in the establishment of sedentary human civilization, as farming domesticated species led to food surpluses that facilitated urban living.

The heritage of Kadathanadu, particularly within the Purameri Gram Panchayat, holds significant importance for agriculture. By dedicating 30% of the project funds to the agricultural sector, the panchayat has been able to bring about a transformative change. Additionally, the panchayat has introduced "The Keragramam Scheme" to support coconut farmers. In the initial phase of the three-year plan, 50 lakh rupees were allocated, and these funds were fully utilized during the 2021-22 fiscal year.

To facilitate the sale of crops produced by farmers within the Gram Panchayat, the Kalavara Eco Shop was established in Arur. Over time, this initiative has expanded to include the sale of bio-pesticides, agricultural implements (under the name of Bio-Pharmacy), and even a pickle manufacturing unit. In the financial year 2021-2022, farmers cultivated around 100 acres of land in each ward, leading to increased production of vegetables, bananas, and other intercrops. In order to attract more young people to farming, schemes have been implemented to encourage fish farming. Furthermore, the panchayat has introduced initiatives related to animal husbandry, including cow villages, goat villages, and calf care, along with subsidies for fodder.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, a scheme called "Njangalum Krishiyidathilekku" was implemented to reinvigorate the agricultural sector and create a renewed interest in farming. The panchayat has taken necessary steps to obtain Geo-Index status for Arur's unique heritage mango variety known as "Oloru."

To ensure the well-being of farmers, the panchayat has been implementing various projects along with subsequent activities. The collective efforts and dedication of the entire panchayat team in implementing and completing these projects have been commendable, with a focus on promoting the welfare of farmers.

MILESTONE IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED ACTIVITIES BY MARUTHONKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat

Maruthonkara is a village and Gram Panchayat under Kunnumal Block panchayat in Kozhikode district. The famous Janakikkad tourist centre of Kozhikode district is in this panchayat. Major tourist attractions such as Peruvannamuzhi Dam and Kuttiyadi Dam are situated near this panchayat. Surrounded by greenery and water, this village is also known as Mullankunnu.

Agriculture serves as the primary occupation in this village, encompassing the art and science of cultivating soil, growing crops, and engaging in livestock production, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry to produce food and non-food products. The development of agriculture played a crucial role in the establishment of sedentary human civilizations, enabling the cultivation of domesticated species and the generation of food surpluses that facilitated urban living.

Approximately 60% of the panchayat's population relies on agriculture for their livelihood. In recognition of this, 40% of the allocated funds are directed towards agricultural development. A noteworthy initiative undertaken in the recent year was the establishment of an agricultural nursery to promote the cultivation of Kuttyadi coconut saplings. This programa successfully

saved 7,000 coconuts directly from farmers, utilizing the efforts of Haritha Karma Sena and financial support from the panchayat and the Employment Guarantee Scheme, amounting to 7 lakhs rupees. To encourage intercropping, the "Kachilum Kanthariyum" project was implemented, benefiting approximately 2,400 farmers at a cost of 5,98,750 rupees. Another project, costing 8,98,900 rupees, aimed to support vegetable and coconut cultivation and enhance production.

The Gram Panchayat has also taken steps to augment the livestock and poultry resources required by local farmers. Dairy farmers received a financial boost of 14,08,086 rupees to promote cow rearing, while 48 individuals engaged in goat rearing were provided 86,000 rupees. Additionally, 3,25,170 rupees were allocated for a fish farming project, and improvements were made to the infrastructure of veterinary hospitals and the agriculture office, amounting to 7,93,371 rupees.

Under the guidance of the cluster unit, organic fertilizers were distributed to farmers involved in bio-fertilizer manufacturing units. Rice cultivation has been carried out on 13.2 hectares of land for three crop cycles, with an expenditure of 1,19,000 rupees. A total of 212 Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) engaged in farming under the leadership of Kudumbasree. The panchayat also implemented the "Njanglum Krishiyilekku" project, worth 17,50,045 rupees, under the Employment Guarantee Scheme. This initiative facilitated the construction of 92 cow sheds, 3 goat sheds, and 3 chicken coops. Additionally, the panchayat utilized the Biosphere award funds for organic farming and undertook various projects.

The activities and progress made by the panchayat in the field of agriculture are commendable.

OVERALL ENHANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE BY PERUVAYAL GRAM PANCHAYAT

Peruvayal Gram Panchayat

Peruvayal Gram Panchayat under Kunnamangalam block panchayat is the largest village in Kozhikode district, Kerala, holds immense potential for agricultural development. Historically, agriculture played a vital role in the livelihoods of the villagers. However, due to various factors, many people had to abandon farming, resulting in a decline in agricultural productivity. In recent times, the Gram Panchayat has recognized the importance of reviving the agricultural sector and has taken proactive measures to support and promote agricultural activities.

In the year 2021-22, the Gram Panchayat implemented several initiatives to strengthen and boost agricultural practices in Peruvayal. One significant undertaking was the construction of an agricultural marketing center at Mundakkal. This center, jointly established by the Gram Panchayat and the district Panchayat, serves as a permanent marketplace for the sale of agricultural crops. Situated in the heart of a fertile agricultural area, the center provides extensive facilities to support farmers and facilitate efficient trade.

To encourage paddy cultivation, a special intervention was undertaken, covering 20 hectares of land. The Gram Panchayat provided the necessary support by supplying

seeds and fertilizers to farmers. Additionally, efforts were made to promote vegetable cultivation among landless individuals. Growbags, suitable for growing vegetables in terraces and yards, were distributed to 240 beneficiaries, enabling them to engage in productive agricultural activities. This project incurred an expenditure of Rs 480,000.

Recognizing the significance of coconut cultivation, the Gram Panchayat produced and distributed 5,000 coconut saplings free of cost to farmers. Moreover, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, dwarf saplings of the Ganga Bondum variety, which bear fruit within three years, were distributed to further support coconut cultivation.

To address water-related challenges faced by farmers during the rainy season, a canal called Kannanchoth Ampalamuk ditch was constructed. This canal, implemented as part of the watershed management plan, aims to provide water to the farms while preventing waterlogging. With an investment of Rs 13 lakh, this canal serves as a significant asset for the agricultural sector in Peruvayal.

The initiatives undertaken by the Gram Panchayat of Peruvayal demonstrate their commitment to revitalizing the agricultural sector and promoting sustainable farming practices. By providing essential resources, infrastructure, and support, the Panchayat strives to reignite agricultural activities and restore the village's agricultural heritage. These endeavors not only contribute to the economic well-being of the community but also foster food security and enhance the overall agricultural landscape of Peruvayal.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE LOCAL CONDITION BY MARUTHONKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat

Maruthonkara is a village and Gram Panchayat under Kunnumal block panchayat in Kozhikode district. The famous Janakikkad tourist centre of Kozhikode district is in this panchayat. Major tourist attractions such as the Peruvannamuzhi Dam and Kuttiyadi Dam are situated near this panchayat. Surrounded by greenery and water, this village is also known as Mullankunnu.

Local Economic Development (LED) combines economic development activities, urban planning, infrastructure development, and social development activities to improve local conditions. LED encompasses a range of disciplines, including physical planning, economics, and marketing, with the goal of building up the economic capacity of a local area to improve its economic future and the quality of life for all.

The Gram Panchayat and Kudumbasree have implemented various schemes to address labor issues in the panchayat. The amount of Rs. 2 lakhs have been spent to set up infrastructure for Haritha Karma Sena members to run a catering unit. A coconut oil manufacturing unit named 'Grihastha' was established in Mullankunnu town with an expenditure of Rs. 2 lakhs. These initiatives have directly and indirectly employed

38 people. The panchayat, with the assistance of the Block panchayat, has also implemented the 'Yuvasri' cloth bag manufacturing unit and the 'Jwala' jackfruit processing unit. These initiatives have provided regular income to 20 individuals. Furthermore, the panchayat currently has functioning Nutrimix, weaving, and roasted rice manufacturing units. A work shed has been constructed, and a flour mill has been started by including it in the Employment Guarantee Scheme. Several private enterprises, including Milky bakery manufacturing unit, Nellikkunnu pickle manufacturing unit, Chocolate manufacturing unit, and LED manufacturing unit, have been established, employing 20 individuals. Eight group enterprises have been facilitated through Kudumbasree, and 22 agricultural enterprises have also been initiated in the panchayat.

The activities and achievements of the panchayat aimed at improving the quality of life for the people of the panchayat are commendable.

POVERTY ALLEVIATION INITIATIVES BY VILLIAPILLY GRAM PANCHAYAT

Villiapilly Gram Panchayat

Villiapilly is a panchayat under Thodanur Block Panchayat in Kozhikode district. The panchayat comprises the areas of Villiapally, Memunda, and Chemmarathur. The first governing body, consisting of five members, was formed with K. Kunjiramakurup as the president. Some presidents during this period were elected through a show of hands voting tradition. The first elected panchayat Bharana Samiti was formed on January 1, 1964, following the reorganization of the panchayat and the implementation of adult suffrage.

Unfortunately, there are many inadequate housing conditions within the panchayat. Several households face issues such as lack of clean water, absence of latrines, and an unhealthy environment. In addition to the lack of satisfactory housing facilities, there is also wastage in construction. The construction industry has witnessed significant changes influenced by external factors. Many people in the panchayat are employed in the manufacturing sector, and a significant portion of Gulf revenue is spent in this sector.

Moreover, the panchayat includes a considerable number of people residing in four-cent colonies, Lakhshamveed Colony, and huts. For these residents, securing housing

in a healthy environment poses a significant financial burden. The rising costs of building materials are also affecting the middle-class population. Lakhshamveedu colonies and 4 cent colonies, situated in different wards of the panchayat, face numerous challenges such as lack of bathroom facilities, inadequate transportation, insufficient drinking water, and electricity. It is imperative to provide basic amenities in such colonies where poor individuals typically reside.

The governing body of the Panchayat is actively working towards the goal of uplifting the poor class by implementing projects that align with the aspirations of the people. The Panchayat has achieved remarkable success in poverty alleviation and holds a prominent position in the district.

To support this objective, there are several Kudumbashree units operating effectively within the Panchayat. These units engage in small-scale food processing, nurseries, agricultural product distribution centres, and Janakeeya hotel enterprises. The Panchayat has also successfully constructed safe houses and prioritized housing construction for beneficiaries under the LIFE housing scheme.

Villiapally Gram Panchayat has been recognized for its exceptional initiative in providing houses to homeless families even before the implementation of the EMS housing scheme. Significant progress has been made in poverty alleviation, including housing, access to drinking water, and addressing other essential needs and waste disposal issues.

The Panchayat has tackled the challenge of inadequate drinking water supply in high-altitude areas of Villiapally Panchayat by implementing irrigation drinking water projects, the Jalanidhi project, and the Jaljeevan mission with government assistance. These endeavors have successfully addressed the long-standing issue of water scarcity in the area.

The Kudumbashree hotel located in Keezhalmukku, with its four employees, plays a vital role in providing affordable mid-day meals to approximately 250 people, including college students. The state government has invested significant funds in this project, which serves as a notable example of women empowerment. The Kudumbashree hotel was launched in November 2020 as part of the state

government's hunger-free Kerala initiative and has further improved its facilities with a comfortable building included in the 2021-22 plans. Discussions are underway to establish another hotel under the leadership of Kudumbashree, and a proposal has been submitted to the government.

The Gram Panchayat is also aiming to implement a scheme that supports those working in the agricultural sector. Its overarching objective is to provide essential facilities to needy individuals and contribute to poverty alleviation efforts.

KURUVATTOOR GRAM PANCHAYAT FOSTERING ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Kuruvattoor Gram Panchayat

Entrepreneurship has emerged as a crucial strategy to enhance employment opportunities for young people, especially in a time when traditional career paths are becoming scarce. It offers an alternative way to integrate youth into the labor market effectively. The rise of small enterprises, particularly as self-employment options, supports this shift in paradigm. Recognizing the social and economic contributions of young entrepreneurs is essential, considering global demographic trends.

Kuruvattoor Gram Panchayat, formed in 1961 under the Kunnamangalam Block in Kozhikode District, Kerala, provides a prime example of the activities undertaken to foster and encourage entrepreneurship in the region. The city of Kuruvattur itself showcases the progress and development of the people residing in Kuruvattur Gram Panchayat. With a literacy rate of 96.91%, which is higher than the state average of 94.00%, the Gram Panchayat emphasizes the importance of education and empowerment.

The Gram Panchayat has established a Help Desk for Entrepreneurs, aimed at cultivating an entrepreneurial spirit among the people and creating self-employment opportunities to alleviate poverty. Several successful

ventures have been initiated as a result. For instance, young entrepreneurs have set up a stick ice manufacturing and distribution unit, highlighting their capabilities beyond traditional professions. Additionally, two paper bag units run by women's associations have thrived, providing livelihoods to numerous families through self-employment. The Thanal paper bag unit, staffed by 11 women from 11 families, serves as a role model for the women's association. The production of paper bags, which are beautiful, eco-friendly alternatives to plastic carry bags, offers customization options to meet customer requirements.

Furthermore, the Gram Panchayat boasts a total of 154 new units, including a pickle manufacturing unit, tailoring unit, and Janakiya Hotel. The Kirti paper bag manufacturing unit alone employs 10 women. By promoting rural entrepreneurship, the Gram Panchayat recognizes it as a solution to reduce poverty, migration, and unemployment while fostering the development of rural areas. Rural entrepreneurs have the potential to enhance the standard of living and purchasing power of people in villages, providing employment opportunities and improving the lives of those at the bottom of the pyramid.

The efforts of Kuruvattoor Gram Panchayat in promoting entrepreneurship are commendable, as they contribute to the economic growth, social well-being, and empowerment of the community.

MARUTHONKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT INNOVATING FOR AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat

Maruthonkara is a village and Gram Panchayat in Kunnumal block of Kozhikode district. The famous Janakikkad tourist centre of Kozhikode district is located in this panchayat. Major tourist attractions such as Peruvannamuzhi Dam and Kuttiyadi Dam are situated near this panchayat. Surrounded by greenery and water, this village is also known as Mullankunnu.

Maruthonkara is renowned as the birthplace of the famous Kuttiyadi coconut tree. To address the issue of the high cost of Kuttiyadi coconut saplings, an agricultural nursery project was implemented. The agricultural nursery is an innovative initiative designed to increase the income of coconut farmers by preserving the Kuttiyadi coconut variety and generating regular income for Haritha Karma Sena.

In this project, 7,000 coconuts were procured from farmers in the panchayat, and under the leadership of Haritha Karma Sena, the coconut saplings were germinated and grown on land owned by the panchayat. This was made possible through the Employment Guarantee Scheme. The seed coconuts were collected scientifically and planted in high-quality growing mediums. The saplings were nurtured in grow bags filled

with soil, compost, cow dung, and manure, ensuring vigorous growth. A committee headed by the panchayat and an Agriculture officer evaluated the entire process. The project allocation included the necessary materials, and wages were provided under the Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Another notable initiative was the 'Arike' project. This intervention involved providing Asha workers with BP apparatus, glucometers, and medicines to conduct health check-ups for elderly bedridden individuals at their homes, providing them with much-needed relief and care.

Furthermore, responding to the requests of farmers, the panchayat and agriculture office distributed salt and sulfur to combat the threat posed by the African Snail, which affects agricultural crops. This support eased the burden on farmers, with the beneficiaries sharing part of the cost.Maruthonkara Panchayat's achievements in implementing innovative interventions in various fields are commendable and worthy of emulation. These initiatives not only address the specific needs of the community but also contribute to the overall development and well-being of the village.

FOSTERING SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND EMPOWERMENT BY PANANGAD GRAM PANCHAYAT

Panangad Gram Panchayat

Panangad Gram Panchayat is situated in Balussery block of Kozhikode district. The panchayat has been at the forefront of promoting self-employment and entrepreneurship among its residents. Through various initiatives and collaborations with Kudumbashree LG groups, the panchayat has facilitated the establishment of ventures in diverse sectors, including shoe manufacturing, catering, public hotels, and foodstuff manufacturing. The success of enterprises like the Kerala Chicken Farm, Rubberband Manufacturing Factory, and other small and big enterprises has not only created employment opportunities but also become a source of pride for the local community.

Panangad Panchayat has been proactive in supporting self-employment ventures and livelihood activities. Kudumbashree LG groups have played a crucial role in initiating ventures such as shoe manufacturing, catering, and public hotels. The panchayat's support has been instrumental in nurturing these enterprises, transforming them into successful establishments, and providing shelter and sustenance to many individuals.

In addition to promoting businesses, Panangad Gram Panchayat has also focused on the agricultural sector.

Support has been extended to fish farming, rice farming, and intermittent farming, empowering farmers and ensuring food security in the region. Funds allocated through the employment guarantee scheme have been utilized for constructing stables, sheep coops, and chicken coops, contributing to poverty alleviation and fostering a healthy and prosperous community.

The panchayat places significant emphasis on safe housing for its residents. An investment of Rs. 9,03,121 has been made towards ensuring safe and adequate housing for individuals and families in need. Additionally, the panchayat has allocated Rs. 1,69,968 to support 21 beneficiaries in their pursuit of self-employment ventures. Furthermore, a substantial amount of Rs. 41,91,564 has been dedicated to women self-employment initiatives under the Employment Guarantee Scheme, empowering women to be financially independent and contribute actively to the local economy.

Panangad Gram Panchayat's commitment to fostering self-employment and empowering its residents has yielded commendable results. By providing opportunities for entrepreneurship, supporting agricultural activities, and investing in women's empowerment, the panchayat has created a vibrant and self-reliant community. With its progressive initiatives and collaborative approach, Panangad Panchayat serves as a role model for other communities aiming to achieve social and economic development through grassroots efforts.

WAYANAD DISTRICT

1. Kottathara Gram Panchayat's Strive Towards Poverty-Free Prosperity
2. Poverty-Free Village: Mananthavady Block's Mobile Veterinary Clinic
3. Institutional Vegetable Cultivation: Empowering Thondernad Towards Poverty-Free Prosperity
4. Breaking the Chains of Poverty: Thondernad's Transformative Poverty Eradication Programa
5. Empowering Progress: Thavinjal's Journey to a Poverty-Free Village
6. Thriving Towards Prosperity: Vythiri's Poverty-Free Village Initiatives

KOTTATHARA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S STRIVE TOWARDS POVERTY-FREE PROSPERITY

Kottathara Grama Panchyat

Kottathara Gram Panchayat, one of Wayanad district's low-lying localities, experiences frequent floods during every rainy season. Additionally, it has the second-lowest own income among all the panchayats in the state. Despite these challenges, the panchayat is determined to enhance the welfare of its citizens by persistently addressing such situations. In the previous plan year, the panchayat initiated several programas aimed at reducing poverty in the agricultural district of Wayanad Polda, with a focus on agriculture.

A comprehensive homestead agriculture development project was implemented at a cost of $929,000. As part of this project, 400 people received planting supplies for group and individual cultivation, including yam, banana, kappa, and green vegetable seeds. Labour costs amounted to 120,000 lakh last year. To facilitate the marketing of crops, the panchayat established its own marketing outlet. This weekly market, held every Monday and overseen by Kudumbashree, allows farmers to sell their produce without intermediaries, earning them higher prices. In addition to benefiting farmers, customers can purchase high-quality, non-toxic vegetables at the market. The sales of organic veggies at the weekly and

festival markets totaled Rs. 1633440 and Rs. 1900067, respectively, in the last year.

An exceptional intervention called "Hunger Free Kottathara" was a key part of the poverty alleviation plan. Through the well-known guesthouse Kudumbashree, 5600 people are provided with meals each month. Additionally, approximately 40 people receive free meals from various sources every month.

To further eradicate poverty, Kottathara Gram Panchayat runs several income-generating programas, including cow, goat, and poultry husbandry. During the previous project year, the panchayat provided support for the construction of 18 chicken coops, 22 stables, 24 goat huts, and 7 fishponds, benefiting 21 families.

A resident shared their success story, mentioning how they borrowed money to buy a cow but lacked the necessary equipment. With the support of Kottathara Gram Panchayat, they were able to apply for assistance through NREGA and build a cowshed. As a result, they bought two more cows, and other project participants also received assistance for sheepfolds and cowsheds. Currently, the panchayat has 92 small businesses and actively ensures the income security of the elderly and people with disabilities. Programas like the old papada unit and box stores for people with disabilities have been put in place to generate income and support their financial well-being.

The Panchayat's dedication to implementing these initiatives ensures financial security for many families, and it remains committed to pursuing further progress in the fight against poverty.

Kotathara Gram Panchayat is the Gram Panchayat with the lost net fund. There are very few industrial enterprises here. The biggest challenge we are facing is that there is no township or the area where the national highway or state highway passes in the Gram Panchayat. Sneha hallow bricks myladi is an in-initiative venture started in kotathara Gram Panchayat with the help of kudumbashree. Five women are leading this initiative. In collaboration with the panchayat, agricultural implements were distributed to trained farmer groups for local labor skill development enhancement. for lively hood panchayat distributed cattle, chicken, goat, cow etc. trained in various fields are doing various ventures individually and collectively which become a livelihood for their life. Kotahara Gram Panchayat has a well-functioning

soap manufacturing unit and soap related products are also manufactured here. About 60 women are working here as regular employees. The products are now in high demand some areas like tamilnadu, Wayanad, Kannur, Kozhikode. Another industrial venture in kotathara Gram Panchayat is a value-added product unit of marthas passion fruit. Passion fruit is also marketed as squash, jam, and ice cream. Marthas is in the final stages of building an excellent factory with great support from the panchayat. Marthas will become a large enterprise employing around 60 workers next year.

DIALOGUE

Work on the factory is going on and more staff will be added as soon as it is completed. Good quality production will also follow. Now our production is very little, and we can make 40to 50 liters a day. Coming straight back their, 1000 of liters can be made and there is a lot of scope for workers as 10,60 persons or 65, but when it comes perfection, there will be employment inside. What was the inspiration for starting the industry here? There is no industry in our kotathara Gram Panchayat. When the industry disappeared, the land value here was very low. Kotathara Gram Panchayat is currently known as the second economically backward panchayat in kerala due to the efforts of people including young people who have comes to start new business in this panchayat by incorporating the ideas put forward by us as well as the new work venture that have been started. The current hope of the governing body is that we can change the one rumor and become the best panchayat for the Gram Panchayat and grow this panchayat in a better way to earn its own income.

POVERTY-FREE VILLAGE: MANANTHAVADY BLOCK'S MOBILE VETERINARY CLINIC

Mananthavady Block Panchayat

The livelihood of the farmers in Wayanad district revolves around agriculture and the dairy sector. Given the significance of agriculture and animal husbandry in this region, the Mobile Veterinary Clinic has been implemented to cater to the needs of the farmers and their animals.

"Among the 152 Block Panchayaths, Mananthavady Block Panchayath ranks 2nd in terms of milk production. Within the block limits, there are 22 dairy societies, and several activities are undertaken to support the farmers in these dairy communities. The Mobile Veterinary Clinic is one such initiative, offering doorstep services through a veterinary surgeon and necessary medicines. The clinic travels across 5 panchayaths, providing services to 22 dairy societies in the block" - Mr. Justin Baby [President, Mananthavady Block Panchayath]. This project serves as a model for the entire state, leading the way in animal welfare practices. Farmers from Tavinjal, Vellamunda, Thondarnad, Edavaka, and Tirunelly panchayaths in the block benefit from this valuable service.

"As part of the annual plan of Mananthvady block, 40 lakhs are allocated for animal welfare. The Mobile Veterinary Clinic is planned and implemented in 13

divisions in the block, operating for 2 days consecutively" - Mr. Vijol [Chairman-Financial Standing Committee]. This clinic fulfills a long-standing wish of the villages that lack a veterinary hospital. It is implemented through coordination with 21 dairy groups and 6 veterinary hospitals. The project has been running successfully for over a year, enabling farmers to conveniently purchase medicines and save time, money, and effort - Dr. Javahar [Veterinary Surgeon - Mobile Veterinary Clinic]. The clinic's journey involves a specially equipped vehicle, a doctor, driver, attender, and medicines, providing comprehensive care for the farmers and their animals.

"The convenience of having the mobile clinic means we don't have to travel to hospitals in Mananthavadi or Kallodi; we get the medicine right here" - farmer. Under this scheme, medicines for animal diseases are provided free of charge, amounting to veterinary medicine worth Rs. 20 lakhs are being distributed to farmers through this animal hospital. Additionally, the block also implements preventive measures against various diseases faced by dairy farmers, ensuring the overall well-being of the animals and promoting increased milk production.

The primary aim of this project is to support the dairy sector by providing preventive medicines, safeguarding the animals from various diseases. The door-to-door service provided through the Mobile Veterinary Clinic has earned appreciation from the farmers, who express their heartfelt prayers for its continued existence - farmers. In Wayanad's agricultural sector, animal husbandry plays an integral role, and the Mobile Veterinary Clinic, as implemented by the block, plays a vital role in ensuring the overall progress and welfare of the farmers and their livestock.

INSTITUTIONAL VEGETABLE CULTIVATION: EMPOWERING THONDERNAD TOWARDS POVERTY-FREE PROSPERITY

Thondernad Gram Panchayat

Most of the population were farmers and agricultural labourers. Currently, there is also significant progress in the construction sector. Rice, coffee, ground nuts, and pepper are the main crops cultivated in the area. Rice cultivation is minimal, and pepper production has been affected by blight. Additionally, bananas are grown in paddy fields, contributing to water scarcity issues. Some of the tribal communities also depend on the dairy sector for their livelihood. However, challenges have arisen due to the discontinuation of paddy cultivation, insufficient summer rains, and the rising cost of agricultural products.

Under the leadership of Thondernad Krishi Bhavan, Gram Panchayat President, Mr. Sankaran Master, inaugurated institutional vegetable cultivation. This model farming initiative, spearheaded by Development Standing Committee Member, Mrs. Kusumam Teacher, required an investment of 57,000 rupees. The farming method proves beneficial for individuals without land for cultivation and lacking necessary facilities. Moreover, the cultivation can be done on terraces, making efficient use of available space. However, water scarcity remains a challenge in this endeavour.

During the event, several dignitaries addressed the

audience. Agriculture Officer, Mr. Shefiq, Ward Member, Shri. Babu, and Standing Committee Chairperson, Smt. Maimona, shared their thoughts and insights. Assistant Director of Agriculture, Mr. Anil Kumar, explained the details of the plan, highlighting its potential impact on the agriculture sector.

BREAKING THE CHAINS OF POVERTY: THONDERNAD'S TRANSFORMATIVE POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMA

Thondernad Gram Panchayat

Thondernad Gram Panchayat has taken significant strides in its efforts towards poverty eradication, implementing a comprehensive programa that encompasses various initiatives targeting different aspects of the community's well-being. This multifaceted approach reflects the panchayath's commitment to improving the livelihoods of its residents and uplifting them from poverty.

One of the pivotal components of the poverty eradication programa is the "Life Mission," which aims to provide housing to the underprivileged and homeless. Through this initiative, the panchayath endeavors to ensure that every family has a decent and secure place to call home. By addressing the housing needs of its residents, Thondernad Gram Panchayat seeks to create a stronger foundation for families to thrive and break free from the shackles of poverty.

In the agricultural sector, Thondernad Gram Panchayat is actively engaged in promoting agriculture and related activities. Agriculture holds immense significance for the majority of the population, comprising farmers and agricultural labourers. The panchayath supports agricultural development and provides various resources and assistance to enhance productivity and sustainability in the sector. By empowering farmers and promoting

agricultural practices, the panchayath aims to strengthen the backbone of its economy and ensure food security for its people.

The panchayath's Agriculture Office plays a vital role in these efforts. With a dedicated team of officials, they collaborate with farmers and communities, providing guidance, training, and technical know-how to maximize agricultural output. Recently, the agriculture officials actively participated in the 'njaru nadil' festival alongside the residents of Nedumbilassey colony, demonstrating the panchayath's commitment to fostering a close bond with its citizens and understanding their needs.

Another significant aspect of the poverty eradication programa is the "Community Kitchen." This initiative addresses the crucial issue of providing meals to those in need, especially during challenging times. By establishing community kitchens, the panchayath ensures that no one goes hungry, and everyone has access to nutritious meals. These kitchens act as a lifeline for vulnerable individuals and families, offering them sustenance and support in times of adversity.

Moreover, the panchayath places a strong emphasis on the "Anganwadi Activities," working in collaboration with Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to empower women and promote skill development. SHGs like "FRIENDS - Apparel Park" and "Curry Powders" provide employment opportunities and empower women with income-generating activities. Through these initiatives, women are encouraged to become self-reliant, fostering a sense of empowerment and independence within the community.

Finally, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) plays a crucial role in providing employment opportunities and addressing poverty at the grassroots level. By providing rural households with guaranteed wage employment for a specified number of days, MGNREGS not only enhances livelihoods but also promotes inclusive growth and equitable distribution of resources. In conclusion, Thondernad Gram Panchayat's Poverty Eradication Programa is a comprehensive and dynamic effort aimed at transforming the lives of its residents and creating a poverty-free community. Through various initiatives and collaborations, the panchayath strives to uplift its citizens, promote sustainable development, and create a brighter future for all.

EMPOWERING PROGRESS: THAVINJAL'S JOURNEY TO A POVERTY-FREE VILLAGE

Thavinjal Gram Panchayat

Thavinjal Gram Panchayat bears witness to the historical battles of the heroic Kerala Pazhassi Tampuran and his warriors, immortalized in golden scripts throughout history. It stands as a beautiful landscape adorned with mist-covered hills, wild trees, lush fields, and captivating tea plantations. Spanning an area of 142.3 km with a population of 39,813, Thavinjal Gram Panchayat lies in the Mananthavady taluk of Wayanad district, encompassing the villages of Thavinjal, Valad, and Periya. It shares its boundaries with Mananthavady Municipality to the east, Thondarnad Gram Panchayat to the west, Thirunelly Gram Panchayat to the north, and Kannur district and Edavaka to the south. Most of its inhabitants are migrant farmers, farm workers, and plantation laborers, with around 8,800 Scheduled Tribes and 1,800 Scheduled Castes depending on agriculture and natural forest resources.

Initially established as a Gram Panchayat in 1937, Thavinjal has been a shining example of development and progress, a testament to the endeavours of former leaders, Panchayat Raj, and active public participation, resulting in significant achievements in 2010. The panchayat proudly boasts an office equipped with top-

notch facilities, adhering to the ISO9001-2015 international standard office system since 2017, maintaining its certification until 2025. This reflects the dedication of its management and employees to providing the best basic facilities and services to the public.

Focused on sustainable development and uplifting the livelihoods of its people, Thavinjal Gram Panchayat takes proactive steps through the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme. Emphasis is placed on protecting the environment, preventing soil erosion, and enhancing soil tillage through various material work activities, including concrete road construction in rugged areas and barriers. The Agriculture Officer and other employees play pivotal roles in the Five-Year Plans as they spearhead agricultural initiatives, transforming it into a flourishing employment sector in the panchayat, with its diverse agricultural crops and 859 hectares of agricultural land.

The panchayat prioritizes welfare schemes for children, lactating mothers, differently abled individuals, and the elderly, endeavouring to achieve these goals through a comprehensive five-year plan, with the ICDS supervisor overseeing its implementation. Inclusive services are provided to protect the rights of children and women, support senior citizens, and coordinate ward-level vigilance committees through dedicated women facilitators.

To combat poverty, Thavinjal Gram Panchayat actively participates in the Kudumbashree project launched by the State Local Government Department in 1998, aimed at poverty alleviation. This initiative has successfully increased the income of Kudumbashree workers, implemented various projects, and facilitated bank loans and other initiatives.

In line with the state government's entrepreneurship promotion scheme of 'one lakh jobs per year,' the panchayat offers an industrial development intern to coordinate activities. Alongside other poverty alleviation schemes, the Village Extension Officer has effectively implemented LIFE, PMAY, and more, further uplifting the livelihoods of the community. Thavinjal Gram Panchayat strives to create a prosperous and poverty-free environment, fostering a self-sufficient and thriving community for a better future.

THRIVING TOWARDS PROSPERITY: VYTHIRI'S POVERTY-FREE VILLAGE INITIATIVES

Vythiri Gram Panchayat

"In the financial year 2021-22, as part of the Subhiksha Keralam project, the Vythiri Gram Panchayat implemented two projects. These projects included Bio Floc Fish Farming in Home Farm and Fish Farming in Patutakulam. The Bio Floc fish farming project incurred an expenditure of 398,447 rupees, while the homestead pond fish farming project spent 92,800 rupees. In the same fiscal year, six units of Bio Floc and one unit of fish farming were implemented.

The fish farms in Vythiri are designed to yield a harvest of fish twice a year. This enables farmers to produce approximately 440 kilogramas of fish annually, which can then be sold in the Vythiri area. The notable advantage of these projects is that farmers are now able to produce and market non-toxic fish on their own, which is beneficial for both the environment and consumer health. Furthermore, as part of the 2021-22 annual plan, 1,338,724 rupees were allocated to a fodder distribution scheme. Under this scheme, 97 farmers from the general category, 3 farmers from the SC category, and 15 farmers from the ST category have benefited. This initiative has helped farmers by providing relief from the administrative cost of buying

fodder and has contributed to an increase in milk production.

In a conversation, a farmer expressed gratitude for receiving fodder for dairy cows during the 2021-22 period through the popular plan. The availability of subsidized feed was particularly beneficial during that time, as it allowed the farmer to make financial adjustments and manage the expenses effectively. The reduced cost of feed was a significant advantage, considering the high expenses associated with it. In another dialogue, a farmer shared the positive impact of the 21-22 population planning initiative, which provided two sacks of feed every month for the past six months. As a result of this support, the farmer noticed an improvement in both the milk output and overall health of their cow. The regular supply of quality feed has contributed to better productivity and well-being of the livestock."

KANNUR DISTRICT

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CHEMBILODE GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND POVERTY ERADICATION

Chembilode Gram Panchayat

Chembilode Gram Panchayat, situated in edakkad block panchayath, kannur, is an agricultural village located 15 km southeast of the district headquarters. Renowned as the land of "thari and thira," the area spans 99 square kilometers, consisting of two revenue villages with 20 tithes. Adorned with vast paddy fields yielding golden grains of rice, the region's culturally rich population thrives with progress while cherishing their heritage and valuing greenery.

The panchayat sets an inspiring example of excellent local governance, striving to foster self-sufficient villages and achieve complete grama swaraj. In the year 2021-22, chembilode Gram Panchayat undertook numerous activities to fulfill its objectives. It successfully implemented remarkable initiatives to enhance the standard of living and address essential human needs, such as food, clothing, and shelter. As part of a housing rehabilitation project, the panchayat provided financial assistance of up to fifty thousand rupees to 50 underprivileged families, creating safe residential environments. Additionally, 98 dairy farms and sheds, along with goat sheds in kozhikode, were constructed under the nregs scheme, generating employment

opportunities for educated unemployed individuals and increasing their income.

Agriculture is the primary livelihood for most of the the panchayat's population. Chembilode Gram Panchayat encouraged unemployed and marginalized workers to cultivate the land, including black rice in various parts of the region. Through incentives and support from the panchayat, agricultural production and productivity witnessed significant growth, enabling families to break free from the shackles of absolute poverty.

To realize the vision of a hunger-free panchayat through the kudumbasree system, several self-employment initiatives were launched. These initiatives include janakiya hotel, a catering unit operating in the chakkarakal bus stand area, another catering unit at koyode post office area, led by harita swayam sangh, and friendly haritam catering units. The panchayat also established an apparel park, a bag manufacturing unit in chembilode area, and five farms with over 10 cows, directly employing 50 people and indirectly employing 20 others. Among other ventures, chembilode Gram Panchayat is home to the kamadhenu organic fertilizer manufacturing unit located in kannada chunda.

Under the pmay scheme, a financially disadvantaged family received four lakhs of rupees to construct a house. In the fiscal year 2021-22, a total of nine houses were built in alignment with the state government's life plan. Driven by the noble objective of transforming chembilode gramaa panchayat into a completely poverty-free panchayat, the "my job is my pride" project was initiated. The survey has been completed, and efforts are underway to provide employment opportunities to all uneducated unemployed individuals. Through the nregs project, the panchayat generated 33,932 working days in rural areas during the 2021-22 fiscal year, with a total expenditure of rs.1,00,43,872.

Chembilode Gram Panchayat's commendable initiatives and unwavering commitment towards self-sufficiency and poverty eradication serve as an inspiration to other communities, paving the way for a brighter and more prosperous future.

KADAMBUR GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND INCLUSIVITY

Kadambur Gram Panchayat

Kadambur Gram Panchayat, located in edakkad block, annur district, has undertaken a series of well-planned and implemented projects aimed at poverty alleviation. These initiatives have been successfully accomplished within the allocated funds for the year 2021-22. The panchayat's dedication to improving the lives of its residents is evident through the various assistance programas implemented.

As part of their efforts, kadambur Gram Panchayat provided financial assistance to 39 individuals from the general category to make their houses habitable, with a total expenditure of rs. 19,36,771. Ensuring inclusivity and equal opportunities, one member from the scheduled caste community was also included in this scheme, extending the benefits to all segments of society. The panchayat's commitment to equitable development is further exemplified by making these initiatives accessible to residents across all 13 wards.

Furthermore, the panchayat allocated rs. 4 lakhs under the life bhawan construction project to support an individual belonging to the scheduled castes. This financial assistance facilitated the construction of a house, significantly improving the beneficiary's living

conditions.

Kadambur Gram Panchayat takes great pride in achieving these endeavors within the allocated funds, showcasing their dedication to uplifting marginalized sections of society and enhancing the overall well-being of all residents. Their commitment to poverty alleviation and inclusivity serves as a positive example for other communities to follow.

EMPOWERING POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN KADANNAPALLY PANAPUZHA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kadannapallypanapuzha Gram Panchayat

Kadannapallypanapuzha Gram Panchayat, located in thaliparamba block, kannur, is a picturesque area spanning 53.75 square kilometers. Poverty, a multifaceted issue, is identified by various definitions that encompass the lack of necessities, essential infrastructure, and fundamental rights crucial for human well-being. Kadannapallypanapuzha gramaa panchayath is dedicated to addressing poverty through a range of initiatives that focus on economic empowerment, livelihood opportunities, and secure housing.

One of the primary initiatives in poverty alleviation is the mahatma gandhi national rural employment guarantee scheme (mgnregs), which aims to provide 100 days of employment to rural families each year, offering additional income and improving economic conditions. In the financial year 2021-22, the panchayath spent 291.98 lakh rupees on 69,652 working days through mgnregs, creating assets, safeguarding the environment, and uplifting the standard of living.

Kudumbasree, a programa designed to eradicate poverty, plays a significant role in the panchayath's development. Various poverty alleviation initiatives, such as the tailoring unit, grocery shop, kudumbasree hotel, and

confectionery manufacturing unit, operate under different kudumbasree units, providing employment opportunities and fostering economic growth. Additionally, the panchayath implemented employment ventures and established an apparel park in the year 2021-22.

Recognizing housing as a fundamental necessity and a crucial indicator of poverty, kadannapallypanapuzha Gram Panchayat effectively implemented the life housing scheme initiated by the kerala government. The panchayath constructed houses for 32 homeless families as part of the life mission project in the financial year 2021-22. Furthermore, it undertook unique housing projects like ashraya, providing habitable houses for scheduled castes, and making houses accessible for the general category.

Through these combined efforts in poverty alleviation, employment generation, and housing initiatives, kadannapallypanapuzha Gram Panchayat strives to uplift its residents, improve their socio-economic conditions, and ensure a better quality of life for all its inhabitants.

KADIRUR GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING POVERTY ERADICATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kadirur Gram Panchayat

Kadirur Gram Panchayat, located in panoor block panchayath, kannur, is a picturesque village renowned for its handloom and agriculture. With a focus on tackling poverty, injustice, and inequality, the panchayat is dedicated to ensuring decent living standards for its residents. While the complete eradication of poverty remains the primary objective, the panchayat faces the challenge of addressing poverty in certain areas. Efforts are underway to achieve full recovery by 2025 and ensure access to sufficient food for all villagers.

In alignment with the government's goal of eradicating extreme poverty, the panchayat conducted a survey identifying 38 extremely poor individuals. A comprehensive micro plan, encompassing immediate, intermediate, and long-term strategies, has been implemented to address their needs. Various schemes, such as the payargramam scheme, subsidies for labor costs in vegetable and paddy cultivation, and distribution of vegetable seeds, have been put in place. In the financial year 2021-22, a total of Rs. 19,87,908/- was disbursed among 1,209 farmers, along with rs. 24,20,807 distributed in veterinary, dairy, and fisheries sectors.

Kadirur Gram Panchayat comprises 18 wards with 219 ayalkoottom groups and 3,146 kudumbasree members. In the 2021-22 financial year, financial aid in the form of loans amounting to Rs. 15,90,15,000 and interest subsidies totaling Rs. 21,85,510 were provided to kudumbasree members. The panchayat houses 19 micro-entrepreneurial kudumbasree units, with 10 of them initiated in 2021-22. Notably, the ponnyam chips unit gained recognition as one of the district's four branded kudumbasree products. Additionally, a kudumbasree unit consisting of seven members runs a community kitchen, providing 300 subsidized mid-day meals per day, with 10% of the food supplied free of cost to the needy, serving as a means of livelihood for the women involved.

The panchayat implements an effective waste management system involving 23 haritha karmasena volunteers who collect cleaned plastic waste from households and shops. They earn at least rs. 10,000 per month, and in the financial year 2021-22, they collected a user fee of Rs. 27,33,972.

Under the mahatma gandhi national employment scheme, 689 people in the panchayat registered and engaged in various employment opportunities. In the year 2021-22, 46,870 employment days were created, and developmental activities amounting to 2 crores 9 lakhs 79 thousand were implemented by the panchayat.

Through the government's entrepreneurship scheme, 22 msme units and 68 new business establishments were initiated in kadirur Gram Panchayat, involving an investment of 1 crore 72 lakhs, creating employment opportunities for 120 individuals. The women's handloom unit, supported by the khadi board, serves as a helping hand for 10 families.

Housing initiatives include the construction of houses for 17 individuals under the life housing scheme. Additionally, financial support of rs. 75,000 each was provided for house maintenance to 48 persons, Rs. 1,50,000 each for 3 persons under the ashraya scheme, rs. 5000 each for 18 persons for well maintenance, rs. 5000 each for 137 persons for toilet retrofitting, and Rs. 15,400 each for 6 people for individual toilets. As part of the life 2020 scheme, 129 families were

identified, and steps are being taken to provide housing benefits.

The panchayat provides a monthly welfare pension of Rs. 1600 to 5006 eligible beneficiaries, amounting to a total expenditure of Rs. 80.09 lakhs for the year 2021-22. Additionally, home-based palliative care is provided to 203 patients, with the provision of an ambulance, driver, and palliative nurse. An amount of Rs. 11.5 lakhs were allocated for palliative care activities in the year 2021-22.

KURUMATHUR GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND LIVELIHOOD ENHANCEMENT

Kurumathur Gram Panchayat

Kurumathur Gram Panchayat, located in taliparamba block panchayath, kannur, has undertaken a range of activities in the financial year 2021-22 to implement their poverty alleviation plan. The panchayat has placed a key focus on agricultural activities, aiming to increase farmers' income through direct marketing of their produce. The mahatma gandhi national rural employment guarantee scheme has also played a significant role in the panchayat's poverty alleviation efforts.

The successful execution of the "subhiksha kerala project" has enhanced livelihoods, encompassing initiatives such as cow shed and goat shed construction, fodder cultivation, chicken coop construction, and azola tank establishment.

In line with the goal of eradicating poverty, kudumbasree has been actively involved in poverty alleviation activities, including flower farming and the establishment of kudumbasree marketing centres. Financial assistance for housing has also been a priority, with the 2021-22 life housing scheme providing aid to 8 individuals from the general category and 12 individuals from the scheduled caste category to complete their house construction. A total of rs. 80 lakhs was allocated for the construction

of life houses, and Rs. 985,700 for house renovations, making significant progress towards poverty alleviation. Additionally, 10 houses were included in the house renovation scheme, and necessary renovations were carried out.

Under the leadership of kudumbasree, various initiatives, including janakeeya hotels, have been launched to combat poverty. The revenue generated from kudumbasree fairs has become a valuable income source for women in the villages. Special attention has also been given to individuals with disabilities, with fixed income allocations provided to two deserving individuals. Non-residents are eligible for subsidy benefits to purchase auto-rickshaws as self-employment ventures.

Livestock rearing, alongside agriculture, has traditionally been an occupation for the poor in kurumathur Gram Panchayat. In the 2021-22 annual plan, a project worth Rs. 35,26,340 has been implemented, focusing on calf management, goat rearing, school poultry clubs, cow deworming, mineral fertilizers, interest for samriddhi farmers, and a revolving fund for poultry farming. These initiatives have significantly alleviated poverty and transform kurumathur into a panchayat area with improved livelihood opportunities.

KUTTIATTUR GRAM PANCHAYAT: FOSTERING INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Kuttiattur Gram Panchayat

Kuttiattur Gram Panchayat is in irikkur block panchayath, kannur. The panchayat has implemented various initiatives under its annual plan to support differently abled individuals, including the provision of pettikkada. Additionally, the establishment of goat sheds and poultry sheds under the mahatma gandhi national employment guarantee scheme has created employment opportunities and improved living standards in the area. Furthermore, the panchayat is financially supporting 60 joint liability groups (jlg) to alleviate poverty and enhance vegetable production in the agriculture sector.

The kudumbasree system has been instrumental in promoting economic activities in kuttiattur. Flour mills, copra manufacturing units, confectionery units, curry powder units, and a nutria-mix unit in the 6th ward are operating, contributing to the elimination of diseases like anaemia and providing income to households. The kuttiattur mango processing unit, recognized as a geo index asset, offers delicious and nutritious mangoes, a cultural heritage of the region, benefiting local households. Additionally, the apparel park, janakeeya hotel, paper bag unit, and bud-attached schools are successfully functioning, providing employment opportunities, and

promoting eco-friendly practices.

The panchayat is committed to uplifting the social and economic status of women through neighbourhood-level meetings and necessary stages of ads cds. Government poverty alleviation programas like indira awas yojana (iay) and housing schemes have played a significant role in meeting basic housing requirements. The promotion of non-toxic vegetables through earthen pots and terrace cultivation is being practiced, and the products of cds are marketed within the panchayat area. Special markets are organized during festivals such as onam and vishu, enhancing economic activities.

Furthermore, the pradhan mantri grama sadak yojana (pmgsy) has improved connectivity with the enhancement of two routes in the Gram Panchayat. The anganwadi feeding project ensures that children, pregnant women, and adolescent girls receive nutritious grains for their well-being. These comprehensive initiatives collectively contribute to poverty alleviation, improved livelihoods, and the fulfillment of basic human needs in kuttiattur Gram Panchayat.

MOKERI GRAM PANCHAYAT: ADVANCING SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Mokeri Gram Panchayat

Mokeri Gram Panchayat is in panoor block panchayath, kannur. It spans an area of 10.53 square kilometers in the panoor block of thalassery taluk, kannur district. Comprising 14 wards and a population of 19,684, mokeri panchayat shares its boundaries with pathippalampuzha and pattiyam panchayat in the north, kunnothuparamba panchayat in the east, punchathod, panoor, and panniyannur panchayat in the south, and chadalapuzha and kadirur panchayat in the west.

Mokeri Gram Panchayat has undertaken commendable efforts in the 2021-22 annual project to uplift the socioeconomic conditions of financially disadvantaged families and enhance their standard of living. These initiatives included the renovation of inadequate houses, construction of new houses to ensure safe and secure housing, and the promotion of small-scale enterprises to boost the economic sector. Additionally, diverse activities were initiated in the agricultural and animal husbandry sectors to drive progress, complemented by the implementation of the mahatma gandhi national rural employment guarantee scheme to address unemployment issues. During this period, 951 workers were registered and provided employment, resulting in

68,958 workdays, with 527 individuals successfully completing 100 workdays.

Under the life scheme, launched by the kerala government as part of the nava kerala mission, two families in mokeri Gram Panchayat received financial assistance of two lakh rupees each for the completion of their houses during this fiscal year. Additionally, three families were supported with three lakh rupees each under the agathirahithakeralam scheme to complete their housing. The renovation of houses for six families in the general category was undertaken at an expenditure of 319,978 rupees. Moreover, two families from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes successfully renovated their houses at a cost of two lakhs.

The panchayat takes great pride in achieving significant milestones in employment initiatives this year, moving closer to the goal of poverty alleviation by addressing unemployment. In collaboration with kudumbasree, a renowned organization recognized for its exemplary activities, the kudumbasree members of our panchayat have initiated 17 ventures, benefiting around 50 families, and fostering financial stability. The launch of two model initiatives in the valliyayi area, namely the "kulirma plastic waste product manufacturing unit" and the "biotech" ring compost manufacturing unit operated by five members of the varnamneighbourhood group, along with the "chembakam" ring compost manufacturing unit run by five women from the eleventh ward, not only generated a sustainable income for numerous families but also showcased our commitment to achieving a waste-free panchayat.

Significant support has been extended to the agricultural sector by the panchayat, with various projects implemented in collaboration with the agricultural office to foster farming growth and provide stable income opportunities for rural women. These initiatives have garnered appreciation for their contribution to poverty reduction. Through the employment guarantee scheme, 951 workers were employed, and a total of 20,471,217 rupees were disbursed as wages, marking substantial progress in our poverty alleviation endeavors.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND ALLEVIATING POVERTY IN NADUVIL GRAM PANCHAYAT

Naduvil Gram Panchayat

Naduvil Gram Panchayat is in taliparamba block panchayath, kannur district. In naduvil panchayat, the empowerment of socially and economically disadvantaged women is being prioritized, aiming to provide them with entrepreneurial opportunities that lead to a high quality of life, a healthy environment, and infrastructure development.

To achieve this goal, the panchayat has implemented a flour mill and a kudumbasree hotel for two women groups. Additionally, a second women's hotel has been inaugurated in karuvanjali, and they have received a subsidy of Rs. 2,85,000. Moreover, during the 2021-22 fiscal year, a subsidy of Rs. 2.5 lakhs have been granted to the evergreen swashraya sangam and evergreen paramanandappara unit in the twelfth ward, which received special attention from the district mission kudumbasree.

These initiatives are expected to contribute to poverty alleviation and enhance the security of more families in the future. It is worth mentioning that the governing body has made a significant commitment to support

group initiatives for women in the upcoming financial year. A substantial amount of not less than thirty lakhs' rupees has been allocated for this purpose, ensuring continued support for empowering women and fostering their economic independence.

PROGRESS AND INITIATIVES IN NARATH GRAM PANCHAYAT

Narath Gram Panchayat

Narath Gram Panchayat is a part of the kalliasseri block panchayat in kannur district. It covers an area of 17.24 square kilometers and consists of villages like kannadiparamb and narath. The economy of narath panchayath is primarily dependent on agriculture.

Housing initiatives and welfare support during the year 2021-22, narath panchayath has made remarkable progress in providing housing under the life bhavan scheme. A total of 52 houses have been constructed, specifically catering to the general and scheduled caste categories. Additionally, construction is underway for 22 more houses, and land has been acquired for 17 individuals.

Significant investments have been made in the welfare of the scheduled caste and general categories. An expenditure of 37.16 lakh rupees has been allocated for the scheduled caste category, while 38 lakh rupees have been allocated for the general category. Through the employment guarantee scheme, narath panchayath has also accomplished the construction of 11 cattle sheds, 18 soak pits, and 1.4 kilometers of rope earth cover. Moreover, 15 canals have been upgraded to facilitate water consumption.

Empowering women and kudumbasree initiatives narath panchayath have successfully established various self-employment enterprises for women, such as individual group catering units, curry powder and confectionery manufacturing units, as well as shoe and garment units. Kudumbasree initiatives are present in all wards of the panchayat. Currently, 182 neighbourhood groups are actively functioning as neighbourhood help groups, and there are 32 functional kudumbasree initiatives. These initiatives have organized vegetable markets throughout the panchayat during the vishu season, contributing to self-sufficiency in the vegetable sector.

Effective waste management in terms of waste management, narath Gram Panchayat has implemented successful projects in every household, ensuring an efficient waste management system. A team of 18 haritha karma sena members visits houses to collect plastic items, which are then stored in mini mcfs (material collection facility) in respective wards. Subsequently, the waste is handed over to clean kerala company. The Gram Panchayat has constructed a modern building and installed a baling machine for packaging plastic bundles. As part of the doorstep service scheme, doorstep services have been provided to 252 beneficiaries.

Adhidaridrya scheme narath Gram Panchayat has been selected as one of the pilot projects for a micro-plan under the adhidaridrya scheme, targeting 48 families. Special plans have been developed to address housing, food availability, medicine, and employment for these families.

Towards a poverty-free and green panchayath the narath Gram Panchayat management committee, along with the people, is dedicated to taking necessary steps to achieve the vision of a poverty-free, green, and hygienic narath Gram Panchayat.

ADVANCING WELFARE AND EMPOWERMENT IN PERALASSERY GRAM PANCHAYAT

Peralassery Gram Panchayat

Peralassery Gram Panchayat is in edakkad block panchayath, kannur district. The panchayat has undertaken a coordinated effort to achieve the goal of becoming a poverty- and hunger-free community. Various welfare activities, services, and development schemes have been initiated to uplift the socio-economic conditions of its residents.

ESTABLISHMENT OF JANAKEEYASAMITHI AND PEOPLE'S COMMITTEES

The first step taken towards poverty alleviation was the establishment of janakeeyasamithi to identify deserving candidates for assistance. People's committees were formed at both the panchayat and ward levels, which played a crucial role in the identification process. Training programas were conducted to enhance their capabilities in carrying out this task effectively.

MICRO-PLAN FOR EXTREMELY POOR INDIVIDUALS

The ward-level committees developed a preliminary list of the poor, identifying nine individuals as extremely poor within the panchayat. To address their specific needs, a micro-plan was developed through a workshop,

aiming to uplift these vulnerable individuals and transform their lives.

KUDUMBASREE'S IMPACT ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Kudumbasree, an organization dedicated to poverty alleviation and women empowerment, has made significant progress in providing income-generating opportunities for women. The mahatma gandhi national employment guarantee scheme has further contributed to women's visibility and increased income in the workforce. Ashraya and agati-free kerala project have been successful in providing nutritional support to those suffering from extreme poverty.

PROMOTION OF EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME GENERATION

Various schemes have been implemented to promote employment and income generation within the agricultural sector. The life bhawan scheme has successfully constructed houses for 60 families. Entrepreneurship development programa (edp) skills training is offered to individuals interested in starting businesses in the animal husbandry sector. Kudumbasree organizes markets to facilitate the sale of products produced by these enterprises.

A PATH TOWARDS PROGRESS

Through these initiatives, peralassery Gram Panchayat is actively working towards creating employment opportunities, increasing income, and uplifting the living standards of its residents. The vision is to become a poverty-free community within the next three years, paving the way for a prosperous and inclusive future.

ADVANCING PROGRESS IN KARIVELLUR PERALAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Karivellurperalam Gram Panchayat

Karivellurperalam Gram Panchayat is situated in payyannur block, kannur district, and encompasses the villages of karivellur and peralam. Covering an area of 22.24 square kilometers, the panchayath shares its boundaries with neighboring Gram Panchayats, creating a thriving community in the northern end of kannur district.

UPLIFTING TRIBAL COMMUNITIES AND ALLEVIATING POVERTY

Karivellurperalam Gram Panchayat has emerged as a shining beacon of progress along the historical road bordering kasargod district. The panchayath has made significant strides in uplifting tribal communities and implementing poverty alleviation activities. The focus on agriculture has been fruitful, with the production of 1100 tons of rice across 275 hectares of rice cultivation in the year 2021-2022.

EMPOWERING FARMERS AND PROMOTING AGRICULTURE

To support farmers, the panchayath has provided substantial financial assistance. This includes subsidies for cultivation costs, support for intermittent cultivation

of pulses and non-toxic turmeric, as well as financial aid for women in farming activities. Vegetable cultivation has also been promoted with the production and distribution of high-yielding vegetable seedlings. Initiatives like "subhiksha kerala" have encouraged fish farming and revitalized the dairy sector among dairy farmers.

HOUSING, SELF-EMPLOYMENT, AND SOCIAL SECURITY

The panchayath has not only focused on agriculture but also addressed housing needs and self-employment opportunities. Financial assistance has been provided for house construction and renovation, and self-employment training for women groups has been supported. The "janakiya hotel" project ensures affordable meals to combat hunger, and various self-help groups and startups are actively contributing to the panchayath's development.

PROMOTING SOCIAL SECURITY AND EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE

Karivellurperalam Gram Panchayat is committed to providing social security to its residents. Farmer labor pensions, old age pensions, disability pensions, and support for vulnerable individuals like widows and unmarried individuals have been extended. The panchayath has also effectively utilized the employment guarantee scheme, generating employment opportunities through various initiatives like fodder cultivation, livestock management, and soil and water conservation.

With a strong focus on empowerment, livelihood development, and social welfare, karivellurperalam Gram Panchayat is steadily advancing toward a brighter future for its residents.

FOSTERING FOOD SECURITY AND PROSPERITY IN THILANKERY GRAM PANCHAYAT

Thilankery Gram Panchayat

Thilankery Gram Panchayat is in iritty block, kannur district. With a primary objective of creating a society free from hardships, thilankery is an agricultural village situated near the western ghat hills. The panchayat covers an area of 25.06 sq km and actively engages in various activities to achieve self-sufficiency in agriculture and ensure food security.

EMPHASIZING AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

Thilankery Gram Panchayat places great emphasis on cultivating paddy, vegetables, cereals, spices, coconut, cash crops, and animal husbandry. The national rural employment guarantee scheme and kudumbasree cooperative sectors play instrumental roles in carrying out food security and poverty alleviation initiatives. Through the kudumbasree employment guarantee scheme, 286 farmers are directly employed in the agricultural sector across 10 padasekara samitis in various locations. The panchayat actively promotes dairy farming, with 184 dairy farmers, of which 63.56% are women. Passion fruit cultivation has also been implemented in all households in the panchayat.

ACHIEVING SUCCESS THROUGH SUBHIKSHA KERALA PROJECT

Thilankery Gram Panchayat has implemented various activities under the subhiksha kerala project, including the construction of chicken coops, goat coops, barns, and azolafanks. These initiatives have significantly contributed to the overall development of the region, providing employment opportunities, and ensuring food security.

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH KUDUMBASREE

A total of 2,513 kudumbasree members from 156 neighbourhood groups in 13 wards of the Gram Panchayat have played a significant role in interventions related to food production. Janakiya hotels, run by kudumbasree women, have become a hallmark of thilankery. Additionally, all families in the panchayat receive food items, including rice, through ration shops, ensuring access to food for various categories of individuals.

COMMITTED TO HEALTH AND FOOD SECURITY.

Thilankery Gram Panchayat actively participates in the health and food security of its residents through collaborations with village development workers. During the covid-19 period, kudumbasree ensured the delivery of food grains and ration to the homes of individuals, exemplifying its commitment to the welfare of the community.

Thilankery Gram Panchayat stands as an inspiring example, where a focus on agriculture, livestock, and empowering women through kudumbasree has led to significant progress in ensuring food security and prosperity for its residents.

ENABLING PROGRESS AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN KALLIASSERI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kalliasseri block panchayat

Kalliasseri block panchayath, situated in kannur district, kerala, comprises eight panchayaths, namely cheruthazham, ezhom, cherukunnu, madayi, mattool, kannapuram, kalliasseri, and narath. The region's historical significance has paved the way for unique development plans, aiming to create a poverty-free and prosperous community. Under the joint efforts of the panchayath and various missions, significant strides have been made towards improving living conditions and providing essential services to the residents.

EMPOWERING FAMILIES AND ENSURING ESSENTIAL FACILITIES

The panchayath's vision of eradicating poverty has yielded promising results, with the number of dependent families being reduced from 35 to 27 in the first phase. Access to vital facilities, including housing, clean drinking water, nutritious food, and healthcare services, is being provided to those in need, ensuring their security and well-being.

ADDRESSING DRINKING WATER SCARCITY

Through the collaborative efforts of the jaljeevan mission and the panchayath, drinking water connections have

been provided to all families in the region, effectively resolving the issue of water scarcity. This project has successfully tackled the problem of saltwater intrusion in coastal areas, safeguarding the quality of drinking water for the community.

ENHANCING SHELTER AND SECURITY

Efforts are underway to improve housing conditions, with 16 houses constructed under the life scheme in 2021-22. Additionally, 54 uninhabitable houses have been renovated to create habitable living spaces, ensuring the safety and stability of families.

FOSTERING NUTRITION AND HEALTH

The panchayath currently operates 23 anganwadis, implementing nutrition schemes for children, lactating mothers, and pregnant women. These programas include the provision of milk, eggs, and honey to enhance the nutritional intake of beneficiaries. Adequate funds, amounting to 37,50,000 rupees, have been allocated for these initiatives in the financial year 2021-22.

The health sector is not overlooked, with awareness programas, medical camps, and preventive activities conducted to address lifestyle diseases. A comprehensive cancer control plan has been put in place for early detection and follow-up of cancer cases, with the aim of achieving a cancer-free community. Measures have also been taken to combat communicable diseases and provide healthcare services for the elderly.

A COMMITMENT TO A POVERTY-FREE FUTURE

Kalliasseri Gram Panchayat is steadfast in its commitment to prevent poverty from becoming a curse in the region. With a resolute goal of eradicating poverty entirely within the next three years, the panchayath continues to work towards a better and prosperous future for its residents.

CHERUKUNNU GRAM PANCHAYAT: POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Cherukunnu Gram Panchayat

Cherukunnu Gram Panchayat covers an area of 15.37 square kilometers and is situated in the kalyasheri block of kannur taluk in kannur district. The panchayat is bounded by the pazhyangadi river to the north, kannapuram panchayat, and kuttikol river to the east, kannapuram panchayat to the south, and mattul river to the west. According to the 2021-22 socio economic survey report, the panchayat has a population of 16,273, spread across 13 wards, with a population density of 1,059.

The primary objective of cherukunnu Gram Panchayat is to become a poverty-free village with an elevated standard of living. The predominant livelihoods of the people here are agriculture and fishing. The panchayat has actively collaborated with various agencies to support farmers by providing 50 hectares of fields and 40 liters of kaipad for cultivation. The "rice and fish" project, implemented across approximately 50 locations in four units, has been remarkably successful. In recognition of its exemplary activities in this field, the panchayat was honored with a state-level award from the department of agriculture development and farmers welfare in 2016.

Following the first paddy crop, the fields are plowed,

and vegetable cultivation is encouraged. The panchayat's initiatives include plowing wages, distribution of pulses and vegetable seeds to farmers. There are 15 small and large shrimp farms in the panchayat, and biofloc cage fish farming and kallummakaya farming are also being implemented.

Under the life housing scheme, the panchayat has constructed houses for 10 individuals in the first phase, 22 in the second phase, and 10 from the sc additional list. Efforts are underway to achieve the ambitious goal of providing housing for all residents by 2025. As part of its project activities in collaboration with the panchayat, block panchayat, and kudumbasree, the panchayat has initiated 28 individual enterprises and 23 group enterprises, providing employment opportunities to 130 people. The janakiya hotel, operational since october 28, 2020, serves lunch to 200 people daily at an affordable price of rs. 20. Moreover, through the employment guarantee scheme, the panchayat provided employment to an impressive 34,836 individuals in the year 2021-22. To combat saltwater intrusion, protective measures such as fining and rope land protection have been implemented, owing to the panchayat's three-sided river boundary.

In its pursuit of poverty alleviation and women empowerment, 378 families comprising 1,890 individuals have improved their living conditions by initiating 175 enterprises, including bakery units, catering services, fish processing units, garment units, and more. The panchayat has contributed significantly to creating 34,836 workdays through its participation in the employment guarantee scheme. As part of the ashraya scheme, 64 families receive monthly provisions of food grains and vegetables through kudumbasree. Cherukunnu Gram Panchayat is dedicated to its vision of becoming a poverty-free village with an elevated standard of living, and its proactive efforts in various sectors underscore its commitment to this goal.

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN CHITTARIPARAMBA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Chittariparamba Gram Panchayat

Chittariparamba Gram Panchayat, a part of koothuparamp block panchayath in thalassery taluk, kannur district, is dedicated to uplifting its residents from poverty and improving their quality of life. This vibrant panchayath is situated in an area of 31.82 km2 and is surrounded by north malur, peravoor, mangattidam, patyam, kolayad, and koothuparamp municipality.

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH HOUSING INITIATIVES

During the financial year 2021-22, chittariparamba Gram Panchayat successfully implemented poverty alleviation projects, with a particular focus on housing. Under the life housing scheme, 26 houses were constructed for beneficiaries from the scheduled castes/scheduled tribes category, elevating their living standards and promoting social upliftment.

CREATING LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

Empowering women and promoting self-employment is a top priority for the panchayath. Around 1,000 beneficiaries received approximately 6,600 laying hens, while young women from the scheduled tribe areas were

provided with chicken coops to generate income and support their basic needs and medical expenses. Additionally, the panchayath subsidized paper bags for five women, contributing to the government's vision of a plastic-free kerala and providing a lucrative alternative to plastic bags.

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO INCOME GENERATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

To reduce plastic waste and create income opportunities, harita karma senas were provided with 1,000 classes and plates to collect plastic during panchayath celebrations. This initiative has not only helped in generating income but also played a vital role in discouraging the use of plastic products, aligning with environmental sustainability goals.

IMPRESSIVE EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

Chittariparamba Gram Panchayat has emerged as a leader in employment generation within kannur district, creating 1.5 lakh employment days. A total of 93 individuals were employed for 100 days, and an additional 15 individuals contributed 82 employment days in the district, making a significant impact on poverty reduction.

TRANSFORMING LIVES, BUILDING A BRIGHT FUTURE

The panchayath's dedication to poverty alleviation is evident through its dynamic projects and initiatives. By providing housing, promoting income-generating activities, and emphasizing environmental sustainability, chittariparamba Gram Panchayat is transforming lives and working towards a brighter and prosperous future for its residents. The panchayath's commitment to improving the well-being of its community remains steadfast and inspiring.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND COMBATING POVERTY IN PAYYANNUR MUNICIPALITY

Payyannur municipality

Payyannur is a municipal town and a taluk, a sub-district administrative unit in the kannur district of kerala. Payyannurkudumbashree community development society (cds) has played a pivotal role in implementing projects focused on women's empowerment and poverty alleviation within payyannur municipality. With 655 neighborhood groups and 44 area development societies (ads), the cds has been driving impactful initiatives to uplift the community.

DIVERSE VENTURES AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

During the year 2021-2022, payyannur municipality witnessed the launch of 29 individual ventures and 9 group ventures under the guidance of the kudumbashree cds. Notably, employment opportunities were created through the establishment of coffee bunks in five higher secondary schools. These coffee bunks, managed by ten kudumbashree women, not only provided income but also aimed to combat drug use among school students, promoting a safe and healthy environment.

KUDUMBASHREE INITIATIVES FOR COMMUNITY WELFARE

Within the municipal compound, the kudumbashreejanakeeya hotel and kiosk are effectively managed by two dedicated kudumbashree women. The kudumbashree market center and city vegetable kiosk is thriving and contributing to the local economy. A commendable effort by the "sheethalam" drinking water unit, a kudumbashree group enterprise, has made a significant contribution to the supply of drinking water within the municipal area.

WOMEN'S SECURITY TEAM AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In a proactive step towards community safety, the kudumbashree women's security team comprising 25 dedicated members is actively involved in ensuring the well-being and security of the community. This initiative showcases the commitment of kudumbashree in contributing to the welfare of society.

PROMOTING AGRICULTURE AND NURTURING YOUNG MINDS

Kudumbashree's dedication extends to group farming, flower cultivation, and organizing children's balasabha activities. By creating organic gardens in schools, kudumbashree is fostering environmental awareness and sustainable practices among the younger generation.

Kudumbashree's remarkable initiatives in payyannur municipality exemplify the organization's dedication to women's empowerment, poverty alleviation, and holistic community development. The transformative efforts of kudumbashree continue to create positive change and a brighter future for the residents of payyannur.

DEVELOPMENT AND INITIATIVES IN PAAYAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Paayam Gram Panchayat

Paayam is a Gram Panchayat in iritty block of kannur district. Paayam Gram Panchayat has made significant strides in providing housing to the community under the life scheme, with 668 houses sanctioned, and 100 houses already completed. The national rural employment guarantee scheme has provided employment opportunities to 4,208 people in the panchayat. Moreover, the hunger-free kerala project has enabled ten families to generate income through the establishment of two public hotels.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND MICRO ENTERPRISES

The panchayat has taken proactive measures to empower women, sanctioning rs. 21,947 under the chief minister's helping hand scheme to integrate women into mainstream society. Additionally, the muttathe mulla loan scheme has provided financial support of eight lakhs to three neighboring groups. Paayam Gram Panchayat boasts 25 kudumbashree micro-enterprises, benefiting from a four percent interest rate.

FOCUS ON ANIMAL PROTECTION AND INDUSTRIAL VENTURES.

The panchayat has shown concern for animal welfare,

granting financial assistance and a loan of 32 lakhs to 140 kudumbashree members engaged in animal protection activities. The year 2021-22 witnessed the initiation of several industrial units and commercial establishments, contributing to economic growth.

NUTRITION AND SOCIAL WELFARE INITIATIVES

Paayam Gram Panchayat focuses on providing nutrition to children through sneha nutrimix in anganwadis. My job my pride event, attended by more than 100 people and bank officials, underscores the commitment of the state government towards employment initiatives. In line with social welfare, foodgrain kits were distributed to the poor and dependent people, addressing the needs of the vulnerable sections.

WEAVING AND LIVESTOCK INITIATIVES

The oruveetiloruthi project has successfully installed handweave looms in 200 houses, leading to better income opportunities. The kozhiyumkoodum scheme has also been instrumental in helping women generate income through the sale of chicken eggs. Livestock initiatives, such as the cattle village project and the goat village scheme, have positively impacted the livelihoods of the community.

AGRICULTURAL ENDEAVORS

Paayam Gram Panchayat is actively engaged in rice cultivation and has promoted payam golden matta rice, marketing three-quarters of a quintal of paddy rice under this brand.

The dedication and successful implementation of various projects in paayam Gram Panchayat exemplify their commitment to the welfare and progress of the community.

POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN KOODALI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Koodali Gram Panchayat

Koodaliis a Gram Panchayat in iritty block of kannur district.koodali Gram Panchayat has been consistently working towards poverty alleviation and uplifting the villages in its jurisdiction. As part of the state government's efforts, the "life bhawan" project has been implemented in the Gram Panchayat during the years 2001-2022. Through this initiative, 147 landless and 17 landless homeless families were identified, and a forest restoration scheme was allocated to 54 families, with priority given to bpl families. Under the life bhawan yojana, 8 periods were allotted to sc families and 1 period to st families, and 2 families were allowed to purchase land. Financial assistance of rs. 10 lakh was provided to 10 sc families and rs. 1 lakh per family to st families to make their houses habitable. Additionally, one house was provided under the pmay scheme, and rs. 1 lakh was spent on purchasing furniture for the kolappa women's industrial centre.

Kudumbashree, as a leading movement for poverty alleviation, has played a crucial role in koodali Gram Panchayat. The kudumbashree cds in the panchayat has formed 16 new neighborhood groups within a period of one and a half years, bringing the total to 296 working

groups. Furthermore, 10 joint liability groups (jlgs) and 11 enterprises were newly formed, complementing the existing 54 lgs and 152 enterprises that are currently functioning. Kudumbashree has also focused on providing job training and income-generating opportunities. Notably, 136 kudumbashree members received paper bag-making training, and 8 ventures in the animal husbandry sector were initiated to enhance income streams.

The mahatma gandhi national rural employment guarantee scheme (mgnregs) has also been effectively utilized to create employment opportunities and promote poverty alleviation in the area. During the period of 2021-22, significant progress was made in providing job cards and employment to those in need. These collective efforts have contributed to the ongoing efforts of poverty eradication and community development in Koodali Gram Panchayat.

KANNUR DISTRICT PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS AND COMMUNITY THROUGH INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES

Kannur District Panchayat

Kerala is on the cusp of the Entrepreneurial Year project. Along with Entrepreneur Friendly Kerala, Kannur District Panchayat has also mobilized through various projects. Kannur District Panchayat is implementing different projects to support every entrepreneur and their strengths. The Kannur district Panchayat has set up an Investors Help Desk to listen to entrepreneurs, nurture their dreams, and guide their innovative ideas. Combining technology and innovative ideas, this help desk has become a hub for investors to realize their dream projects. 150 ventures have been launched through the Investors Help Desk alone by coordinating the entrepreneurial schemes implemented by various departments.

In 2021-22, 1278 enterprises were started by the Industries Department in the district. It was to the credit of the Investors Desk that they were able to provide the direction they needed. The influx of new enterprises will open more employment and marketing opportunities. Kannur district Panchayat's aim is to make progress in the field of industry by protecting traditional industries and providing good support to new enterprises.

Kudumbashree enterprises are revolutionary in this field.

Several initiatives have already been initiated to empower the women community through Kudumbashree. Kudumbashree district Mission Vipanana Van was set up at a cost of Rs.6 lakhs to strengthen the marketing of 100 curry powder units started with the help of the district Panchayat.

70 Kudumbashree JLG groups in the district have been able to create income-generating ventures through passion fruit cultivation, a project of Kannur District Panchayat. Value-added products from passion fruit are ready to be launched in the market.

Thousands of people have been able to secure income through different initiatives, such as coffee kiosks, umbrella manufacturing units, coconut oil units, coconut chips units, and fish booths. The district Panchayat has given financial support to the "Papuan" at Pattuvam, which produces syrup from sugarcane. The said product has gained dominance in the global market today. A system for producing and marketing value-added products in the agricultural sector is in place. The district Panchayat is proud to have started more than 150 enterprises in a single year. Kannur District Panchayat has undertaken the task of developing the district as an industry-friendly hub for new entrepreneurs with innovative ideas.

EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND LIVELIHOODS: PANOOR BLOCK PANCHAYAT'S SUCCESS STORIES AMIDST COVID-19 RECOVERY

Panoor Block panchayat

Panoor Block Panchayath is in Kannur Dist., Kerala. In 2021-22, the world economy slowly began to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the Panoor Block Panchayat implemented a policy to encourage entrepreneurship. As part of the annual plan, the panchayat subsidized groups and individuals to start self-employment ventures, including garment units, flowerpot making units, and auto-rickshaws. Additionally, skill development training in cake making and mushroom cultivation was provided. To further support the productive sectors, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme included cattle sheds, goat sheds, chicken coops, and self-help group work sheds. As a result of these initiatives, many self-employment enterprises were launched within the block limits, with subsidies provided by the Industries Department. The department has extended support to the establishment of several ventures, including K&L Flour Mill, Digi Seva Kendra, Fragola Bakery, Picmatic Digital Printing, Aruwatil Flour Mill, Radiant Automobiles, Velve Coconut Oil, and Bella Bakes. These initiatives have created new opportunities for individuals and groups to generate income and support their livelihoods."

CHIRAKKAL PANCHAYATH: A HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL GEM IN KANNUR, KERALA

Chirakkal Panchayat

Chirakkal Panchayath is in Kannur block panchayath, Kannur, Kerala. Chirakkal is home to the Kolathirikings, who were descendants of the Mushika dynasty that ruled northern Kerala in the 1st century AD. The place is also known for housing the Kolathri King Shrine. Legend has it that the name "Chirakkal" is derived from the location of Chirakkalchira, Asia's largest man-made lake, which dates to the golden age.

The historical pages of Chirakkal boast around 40 temples and 20 mosques, preserving the heritage of Malabar, including 'KAWS AND THEYYAMS.' It is said that MahakaviCherusseri composed the "Krishna Gatha" at the KzhakkeMadilakom Temple, one of the major temples in Malabar. The establishment of Ramapuram School, Rajas School, in 1964 marked a milestone in Chirakkal's educational history. With a population of 50 thousand, Chirakkal is comfortably located near Kannur town and holds significant importance in the history of North Malabar.

Traditionally, industries such as kaithari and beedi played a major role in the local economic development of Chirakkal Panchayat, but today, they have shrunk to handloom. The People's Planning Movement, as part of

the fourteenth five-year plan, aimed at sustainable development with an emphasis on regional economic growth, providing funding for individual and group initiatives. Sabhagarments, started by the members of NiharaKudumbashree in the 7th ward, has become a source of self-income for about five workers.

Under the annual plan for 2021-2022, a financial assistance of 30,000 has been sanctioned to Nandhini, a disabled beneficiary, to start a self-employment scheme implemented nearby Kunnumkai and Kaikandichira field road. This initiative has proved to be of great help to the differently abled family.

EMPOWERING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS: THE SUCCESS OF CHOKLI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Chokli Gram Panchayat

Chokli Gram Panchayat belongs to Panoor Block Panchayath, Kannur, Kerala. The 2021-22 Annual Plan has offered subsidies to 17 women in ChokliGram Panchayat and a group of 5 women to promote women's self-employment enterprises. The primary objective is to encourage women to venture into entrepreneurship, thereby ensuring financial security and raising the overall standard of living for their families. A total of 17 women received a subsidy of Rs. 50,000 each, summing up to Rs. 850,000. Additionally, a group of 5 women received a subsidy of Rs. 2 lakhs, resulting in a total expenditure of Rs. 1,050,000 from the development fund for the year 2021-22. This initiative has led to the creation of employment opportunities for 25 women.

Various enterprises, including a grain mill, Photostat unit, dung powder manufacturing unit, tailoring, ready-made shop, hotel, catering, Pushpa Phala nursery, yoga, and dance center, were established through loan-linked support and subsidies.

EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS FOR GROWTH: THE SUCCESS STORIES OF KALLIASSERI BLOCK PANCHAYATH

KalliasseryBlock Panchayath

Kalliasseri Block Panchayath is in Kannur district, in the Indian state of Kerala. It consists of 8 panchayaths: Cheruthazham, Ezhom, Cherukunnu, Madayi, Mattool, Kannapuram, Kalliasseri, and Narath. The Block Panchayath includes assembly constituencies Kalliasseri and Azhikkode. With its unique development plans, historic Kalliasseri plays a significant role in contributing to the state's growth.

The Block Panchayath is focused on planning and implementing ideas in various sectors such as raw material, manufacturing, and creating new employment opportunities to accelerate growth and development. Empowering the weaker sections of society, which include women, differently abled individuals, the elderly, and socially and economically backward people, is a top priority for the Block Panchayath.

Kalliasseri Block Panchayath entrepreneurs' groups received international training from the Kerala Institute for Entrepreneurship Development in Kalamassery, which incurred an expenditure of Rs. 50,000. One such group is Oruma, a 5-member Kudumbasree entrepreneur group from EzhomGram Panchayat Chengalthadam. Oruma primarily engages in making concrete boards for

MNREGA, with a total cost of Rs. 5 lakhs, where Rs. 3 lakh is provided as a subsidy, and Rs. 2 lakh is obtained as a bank loan. The project was included in the 2021-2022 annual programa of Kalliasseri Block Panchayath. Additionally, Oruma creates beautiful flowerpots from waste materials, generating a monthly income of Rs. 3000 by selling citizen information boards for Gram Panchayat. They also earn extra revenue by selling flowerpots through Kudumbasree fairs.

In Madayi, the Thanal activity group was awarded a Rs. 2 lakh subsidies to start a fish processing unit. The project is part of the 2021-2022 annual programa of Kalliasseri Block Panchayath, and they have taken a loan of Rs. 5 lakhs from Madayi Rural Bank. The unit targets local markets within the state and the country to sell quality dried fish and related products.

Another project included in the 2021-2022 annual programa of Kalliasseri Block Panchayath is Thanima, a food processing unit run by a 5-member women's group in CherukunnuAmbalappuram. The total cost of the project is Rs. 5 lakhs, with a bank loan of Rs. 2 lakhs and a subsidy of Rs. 3 lakhs. Thanima produces and sells chutney powder, pickles, virgin coconut oil, and safe pregnancy medicines. The Kalliasseri Block Panchayath is proud of its entrepreneurial groups and their contributions, which align with the state government's "One Year One Lakh Entrepreneur" initiative."

REVIVING THE TRADITIONAL KHADI SECTOR: PAYYANNUR BLOCK PANCHAYATH'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Payyannur Block Panchayat

Payyannur Block Panchayath belongs to Kannur District, Kerala. In the traditional Khadi sector, a comprehensive plan was implemented by Payyannur Block Panchayat during 2021-2011. Initially, the Khadi sector provided employment opportunities, especially for women. However, the new economic policies severely weakened the Khadi sector, and the lack of supporting financial assistance created a major crisis in the traditional Khadi industry. Workers had to endure hardships due to the outdated Charka age, insufficient sanitary facilities, and lack of drinking water and proper work sheds.

In response to these circumstances, Payyannur Block Panchayat initiated a comprehensive plan worth 17 lakh rupees to support the traditional Khadi sector. As part of the plan, 9 muslin charkas were distributed among 2 units, with an expenditure of Rs. 2.29 lakhs. Another project costing Rs. 11.35 lakhs were implemented to ensure drinking water and sanitation facilities. The Block Panchayat prioritized providing proper sanitation facilities in women's workplaces. Additionally, an all-weather shed was constructed for dyeing and drying

yarn in a production unit, and maintenance work and electrification of units were also undertaken as part of the plan.

During the project's inauguration, Shri. P Jayarajan, Vice Chairperson of Kerala Khadi Village Industries Board, requested all Local Self-Government Institutions (LSGIs) to include support for Khadi in their plans

EMPOWERING EMPLOYMENT: CHERUPUZHA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S INITIATIVES FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Cherupuzha Gram Panchayat

Cherupuzha Gram Panchayat belongs to Payyannur Block Panchayath, Kannur Dist., Kerala. The panchayat has undertaken initiatives to provide employment opportunities to the community. The establishment of a coffee kiosk can offer employment to five people, while two shopper bag manufacturing units can create job opportunities for ten individuals. Additionally, the establishment of a hotel, box store, and beauty parlor can also provide employment prospects for the local people, promoting small businesses and generating job opportunities. Initiatives for the welfare of expatriates, such as a chicken farm and goods vehicle, can create employment opportunities for two people each. The introduction of a help desk at the Cherupuzha Panchayat front office can provide employment for five people, making it a great initiative.

In total, these initiatives will provide employment opportunities for 33 people through the establishment of nine enterprises. Moreover, six people will be employed in the sweeper position. These efforts to offer employment opportunities can have a significant impact on the community's well-being and contribute to local economic growth.

Additionally, jobs in cow rearing and calf rearing have been provided with a goat training subsidy, aimed at improving the quality of livestock and increasing their yield. Furthermore, providing Joint Liability Group (JLG) labor to around 300 people can have a considerable impact on the community's livelihood and overall economic growth.

PAPPINISSERI GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS AND FOSTERING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Pappinisseri Gram Panchayat

PappinisseriGram Panchayat belongs to Kannur Block Panchayath, Kannur Dist., Kerala. Every human being desires a change from today's living environment to better facilities, and this development is what the country strives for. PappinisseriGram Panchayat has been actively providing encouragement and assistance to all initiatives taken by individuals and groups for economic development in the region.

One notable success is the women's enterprise called 'SOUBHAGYA VIRGIN GOLD,' comprising nine members, which is running profitably. The product they offer is pure medicated coconut oil extracted from green coconuts, also known as Venthavelichenna or urukkuvelichenna, recommended by homeopaths. The Panchayat provided three-fourths of the loan from the Kudumbashree mission as a subsidy to support this venture. Since the institution operates from a building owned by PappinisseriGram Panchayat, no rent is charged, making it a collective victory. The income generated from this enterprise supports nine families and also fulfills the coconut oil needs of the community.

Another successful venture is 'JANAKEEYA HOTEL,' which started as a community kitchen during the COVID

pandemic. Six women run this hotel, serving around 300 people daily during the mid-day rush. The fact that the food is available here at an affordable price and meets government quality standards is evident from the high demand. The hotel operates rent-free in the Panchayat building, serving as a source of income for the six women running it. The Panchayat spent Rs. 8,66,596 for the construction of the building to support this enterprise.

'AV FLOUR MILL' in Keecheri is yet another initiative started by five women, grinding grains, chilies, turmeric, and other curry powders, and selling them in packs to those in need. The Panchayat has provided support and shade to accompany the birth and growth of this institution.

'SANGAMAM FOOD PRODUCTS PARAKKAL' is a successful enterprise born out of the triumph of the women's association. The firm plans to expand its business into curry powders and grains under its own brand name, 'JPS FLOUR MILL.' The organization started with the enthusiasm of five women from Dharmakinar, who were previously unfamiliar with machines. Today, they have become experts and have established a strong bond with numerous customers. PappinisseriGram Panchayat has spent Rs. 14,21,446 in support of entrepreneurs like these.

These success stories showcase the Panchayat's commitment to promoting entrepreneurship and economic development, empowering women, and fostering sustainable livelihoods within the community.

CHERUKUNNU GRAM PANCHAYAT: A COMPREHENSIVE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

Cherukunnu Gram Panchayat

Cherukunnu Gram Panchayat is in the Kalyasheri block of Kannur taluk in Kannur district, Kerala, covering an area of 15.37 square kilometers. Bounded by the Pazhyangadi River to the north, Kannapuram Panchayat and Kuttikol River to the east, Kannapuram Panchayat to the south, and Mattul River to the west, the Panchayath consists of 13 wards with a population of 16,273 and a population density of 1,059, as per the 2021-22 Socio Economic Survey Report.

To facilitate the practical implementation of the 14th Five Year Plan, the CherukunnuGram Panchayat Management Committee conducted a comprehensive socio-economic survey in collaboration with Harita Kerala Mission, Economic Statistics Department, and Kudumbashree. This pioneering survey aimed to understand development possibilities and formulate new projects, collecting comprehensive data in 206 subject areas. Cherukunnu became the first Panchayath in the state to complete state-level data collection, enabling better planning and addressing development gaps.

The survey was conducted by Kudumbashree members divided into three teams, with a total of 78 members covering all 13 wards. After diligent efforts from

November 2, 2021, to November 30, 2021, the data collection was efficiently entered in December by a group of 17-member women. The survey report was subsequently released on March 22, 2022, by HonorableKallyassery Constituency MLA Sreevijan. The successful completion of data collection in 206 subject areas was supported by a budget of 325,963 rupees. The survey report has been instrumental in guiding the Panchayat's planning and project implementation to address identified gaps.

Following the survey's positive outcomes, the Jillapanchayat proposed the allocation of funds for a scheme named 'VivaraSanchaika' in all Gram Panchayats for the year 2022-23, recognizing the significance of the survey.

TheSocio-EconomicSurveyReporthighlightedvariousaspectsofCherukunnuGram Panchayat's population, including population growth, demographic distribution, employment rates, educational facilities, agricultural practices, and infrastructure. The collected data provides valuable insights for achieving development goals by 2025, and Panchayath is committed to addressing development hindrances based on these survey outcomes.

PERINGOME-VAYAKKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING RURAL EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Peringome-Vayakkara Gram Panchayat

Peringome-VayakkaraGram Panchayat, located in the Payyannur block of Kannur district, encompasses the villages of Perintitta, Peringome, Vayakkara, Pulingome, and Thirumeni within its 76.98 square kilometer area. Bordered by Cherupuzha, Alakode, Kannur-Kanhangad-Alappatamboor, Eram-Kuttoor, and South Eram-Kuttoor Panchayats, and to the south by Kasaragod district, the Panchayat has undertaken various projects to create more employment opportunities in the rural sector during the 2021-2022 period.

Promoting entrepreneurship, one notable initiative was the establishment of a community-owned hotel under the leadership of Kudumbashree. This venture has successfully provided livelihoods to local individuals, with two such hotels operating in the Peringome town's central bus stand complex. PeringomeVayakkara is one of the unique Gram Panchayats functioning under the "VishappuRahitha Kerala" project. These hotels have directly created employment opportunities for 10 individuals. Additionally, a boutique named "Look Me," a snack shop near the Comfort Station, and a Fancy Shop adjacent to the Panchayat Office were personal initiatives launched in the same year.

In the thriving fisheries market sector, ventures in livestock farming, goat rearing, poultry farming, and duck farming have also successfully provided self-employment opportunities to numerous individuals in Peringome Panchayat.

The Panchayat has 32 individuals employed in the Haritha Karma Sena, contributing significantly to maintaining cleanliness within the Panchayat. Their diligent efforts involve collecting and segregating both biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste from households, ensuring proper disposal at the waste management center.

Under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, various achievements were made in the financial year 2021-2022, including the construction of soak pits, concrete roads, measures to prevent waterlogging, culverts, rainwater harvesting, bio-toilets, restoration of water sources, well digging for water conservation, and house construction. A total of 1,138 workers gained employment, working for 100 days each, resulting in a total of 151,463 generated workdays. Workers also received training under the skill development programa called "Mikavu" to specialize in specific sectors.

The Kudumbashree project involved 74 Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) creating employment opportunities. They excelled in producing agricultural products and cash crops, achieving substantial income through sales during festive seasons such as Onam, Vishu, and Christmas. These JLGs also contributed significantly to the production and marketing sectors and small-scale industries.

Overall, the current situation in Peringome-VayakkaraGram Panchayat provides excellent opportunities for employment ventures in production, marketing sectors, and small-scale industries, showcasing the Panchayat's commitment to empowering rural employment and entrepreneurship.

DHARMADAM GRAM PANCHAYAT: EMPOWERING LIVELIHOODS THROUGH THE AADUGRAMAMPADHATHI PROJECT

Dharmadam Gram Panchayat

Dharmadam Gram Panchayat, located in thalassery block, kannur district, is a small village spanning 10.98 square kilometers. Positioned between the villages of dharmadam, andalur, palayad, and melur, it is situated 19 km from kannur city and 5 km from thalassery, with the ancharakandi river dividing into two branches before flowing into the arabian sea.

The panchayat has taken significant steps towards ensuring food security through the "aadugramampadhathi" project, executed by the department of animal husbandry. Focused on livelihood development, the project has enabled many individuals to construct sheep sheds through the thozhilurappu programa.

Incorporating the project into its 21-22 annual plan, dharmadamGram Panchayat appointed a veterinary surgeon as the executive officer for the goat village project. As part of this initiative, beneficiary shiju was provided with a farm equipped with goats and cattle by the panchayat, amounting to a total of Rs. 320,000, to support his livelihood. The primary objective of the project is to create cohesive units, providing 10 goats to several individuals.

The implementation of the "aadugramampadhathi" involved procuring 10-month-old baby goats from farmers and distributing them through veterinary hospitals. One such beneficiary, shiju, has received 18 baby goats from the animal welfare department as part of this distribution.

Through the proactive approach of the dharmadam Gram Panchayat and the aadugramampadhathi project, the community is empowered, ensuring sustainable livelihoods, and contributing to food security within the region.

EDAKKAD BLOCK PANCHAYATH: NURTURING AGRICULTURE AND WOMEN'S ENTERPRISES

Edakkad block panchayat

Edakkad block panchayath, situated in kannur district, has implemented two significant projects in the agriculture sector as part of its 2021-22 public planning initiatives under the agricultural development and farmers welfare department.

The first project, "krishipadam," focuses on educating children about the importance of agriculture and making it an integral part of their lives. Five schools in each panchayat were selected to participate in the scheme, cultivating vegetables using innovative farming methods. The project aims to promote healthy food in the midday meal programa by producing non-toxic vegetables. Children actively participate in each stage of plant growth, from planting seedlings to harvesting, thereby learning about vegetable farming and efficient water usage through the malching agriculture method. This project not only improves the school lunch programa but also educates children about sustainable and innovative farming practices.

In the second project, "orukayyilpalummarukayyilpachakkariyum," dairy activity groups consisting of five women are the beneficiaries. The scheme involves buying and rearing

cows, cultivating vegetables on a ten-cent plot (50 cents for the group), and raising chickens. Each group of kudumbashree members receives a subsidy of Rs. 44,000 per person, amounting to a total of Rs. 2,20,000 for each group. The women purchase cows and laying hens and set up chicken coops ("kozhikoodu"). Additionally, they cultivate ginger, turmeric, and other vegetables.

The project encourages women's enterprises and aims to establish dairy farms as multi-tier marketing centers. The products produced by the farmers are stored and sold by the dairy team, even in small quantities. Through this comprehensive agricultural development scheme, women have achieved success in creating sustainable livelihoods and contributing to the growth of the agricultural sector in Edakkad block panchayath.

ERUVESSY GRAM PANCHAYAT: FOSTERING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Eruvessy Gram Panchayat

Eruvessy Gram Panchayat, a hilly village in the eastern part of irikkur block, kannur district, relies significantly on agriculture for the livelihood of its population. Under the people's plan scheme 2021-22, krishibhavan has implemented two important schemes aimed at boosting agricultural development.

The first scheme is the comprehensive coconut development scheme, which focused on revitalizing coconut cultivation in the panchayat. As part of this initiative, 456 unproductive coconut trees were cut down, and compensation of rs. 1000 per tree was provided. Additionally, a project to plant 456 new coconut trees was successfully completed, contributing to the overall prosperity of coconut cultivation within the panchayat.

The second scheme is the comprehensive vegetable seed development scheme, which aimed at promoting vegetable cultivation among the households in the panchayat. Vegetable seed kits worth Rs. 50 were distributed to 1400 households, encouraging them to grow their vegetables. For households without land for agriculture, bags with potting mixture and seedlings were distributed. A total of 250 units of grow bags, with each unit consisting of 20 grow bags, were distributed,

totaling 5000 grow bags. This project benefitted almost all households and led to significant progress in vegetable cultivation within the panchayat.

Furthermore, the panchayat conducted the "aathma agricultural workshop" within krishibhavan, which proved to be beneficial for the farmers in the panchayat. Overall, these comprehensive agricultural development programas have made a positive impact on the agricultural sector of eruvessy Gram Panchayat, empowering the community and fostering agricultural prosperity.

KURUMATHUR GRAM PANCHAYAT: FOSTERING AGRICULTURAL PROSPERITY

Kurumathur Gram Panchayat

Kurumathur Gram Panchayat, located in the taliparamba block of kannur district, kerala, places great importance on the agricultural sector for the well-being of its residents. The panchayath has administrative control over both the urban town of kurumathur and the rural village of panniyoor, with a total population of 31,023 as per the 2011 census.

In kurumathur panchayat, paddy cultivation is given high priority, with 140 hectares of land dedicated to paddy fields, cultivated in the first and second crops. After the first crop is harvested, 40 hectares of land are used for vegetable cultivation, and 50 hectares are devoted to pulses. Proper planning and effective land use management are emphasized to maximize agricultural productivity.

The panchayath has successfully promoted vegetable cultivation through the organization of clusters and farmer associations. KurumathurGram Panchayat stands out with the highest number of vegetable crops in kannur district. Various clusters and associations focus on cultivating monsoon vegetables and summer vegetables, with non-toxic vegetables being exported to other places during festive seasons like onam. The establishment of

roadside selling centers has facilitated direct sales by farmers, gaining significant attention from consumers.

To support farmers and boost the agricultural sector, the panchayat has established the farmer production company and honey innovators and producers' company, which engage in various agricultural activities. The cultivation of coconut has received special attention through the "keragramam" project, covering an area of 149 hectares. The project aims to increase coconut yield per tree from 40 to 80-100, and various measures like the use of organic chemical fertilizers, coconut traps, pump sets, and irrigation facilities have been implemented. Unproductive coconut trees were removed, and new saplings were planted, leading to a revival in coconut farming.

Promoting organic farming, distributing turmeric seeds for inter-cropping, and supporting terrace vegetable cultivation are some of the other initiatives undertaken by the panchayat. The use of solar energy for farming and the provision of irrigation facilities in areas without electricity have further enhanced agricultural practices.

The karshika karma sena, a dedicated group of farmers, plays a crucial role in various agricultural activities, including production, distribution of planting materials, and timely execution of farming tasks.

Overall, kurumathur Gram Panchayat's focus on agricultural development and innovative initiatives have led to prosperity in the agricultural sector, empowering farmers and contributing to the well-being of the community.

MUNDERI GRAM PANCHAYAT: ADVANCING AGRICULTURE THROUGH INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

Munderi Gram Panchayat

Munderi Gram Panchayat, located in the edakkad block panchayath, kannur district, has made significant strides in the field of agriculture during the year 2021-22. Various projects like "orupidivithumoru para nellum," "sakudumbamsamyojithakrishi," "haritamsulabham," and "haritabham" have been instrumental in driving agricultural progress within the region. The active involvement and support from the krishi bhavan and panchayat, along with guidance from higher authorities, have played a pivotal role in the success of these initiatives.

A notable project undertaken during the challenging times of the covid-19 pandemic is the establishment of an organic vegetable garden in the kudukimotta 6th ward. This endeavor operates as a joint venture involving five families known as neighbors. Utilizing 20 cents of land, all family members actively participate in malching agriculture activities, following a completely organic approach. The foundation fertilizer was prepared by incorporating 10 kg of organic manure per meter and adding lime and other necessary materials. Thanks to the effectiveness of this method, subsequent fertilization is not required.

The dedication of the families involved in the organic vegetable garden project showcases their commitment to sustainable and eco-friendly farming practices. By adopting malching agriculture and shunning synthetic fertilizers, they have not only achieved agricultural prosperity but have also contributed to environmental conservation.

Munderi Gram Panchayat's proactive approach to agricultural development through innovative ideas and initiatives, particularly during challenging times, demonstrates its commitment to the well-being of the community and the promotion of sustainable agriculture. These efforts are likely to yield further success and progress in the field of agriculture within the region.

NARATH GRAM PANCHAYAT: THRIVING IN AGRICULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Narath Gram Panchayat

Narath Gram Panchayat, situated under kalliasseri block panchayat in kannur district, is a small but thriving panchayat covering an area of 17.24 square kilometers. The economy of narath is primarily dependent on agriculture, with its villages kannadiparamb and narath being at the forefront of this sector.

One of the key factors contributing to narath's agricultural success is the presence of the valapatnam river and its tributaries, providing ample water resources to support agricultural activities. During the previous year, particularly in the 2021-22 period, narath Gram Panchayat implemented eight agricultural development projects. With an allocation of 28 lakhs rupees, the panchayat effectively utilized 23.91 lakhs rupees from the development funds.

Narath panchayat has recognized the crucial role of women in agriculture and has incorporated the women's component into various schemes. This has facilitated the implementation of inter-cropping kits, distribution of sorghum and chickpea seeds, and the promotion of vegetable cultivation through women's groups. Furthermore, comprehensive projects focusing on coconut and paddy cultivation have been successfully

executed, with a significant expenditure of 4.31 lakhs rupees dedicated to the comprehensive paddy cultivation scheme.

The progress in animal welfare in narath is equally commendable under the leadership of dr.rinsi teresa, the district's best veterinary surgeon. The panchayat has provided dairy cows, goats, and laying hens to eligible applicants. The home farm fish farming project has also been successful. Additionally, the distribution of four to six-month-old calves through the special cattle management scheme has been carried out effectively.

The dedicated efforts of the present president of narath Gram Panchayat, mr. K. Ramesan, vice president mrs. K. Shyamala, standing committee chairmen mr. Kani chandran and mustafa, along with all ward members, deserve recognition for their exemplary work in driving development and progress within the panchayat.

Despite limited resources, the narath Gram Panchayat governing committee and its staff remain optimistic about achieving even better results in the future. The commitment to agriculture, development projects, and animal welfare bodes well for the continued prosperity of narath and its vibrant community.

NEW MAHI GRAM PANCHAYAT: THRIVING IN AGRICULTURE

New mahi

New mahi, a Gram Panchayat situated in thalasseri block, kannur district, kerala, india, has witnessed commendable progress in its agricultural sector through the successful implementation of various projects under the 2021-22 annual plan.

The panchayath has taken significant steps to address the issue of damaged coconut trees by executing projects that involve their removal and providing organic fertilizers and coconut saplings to coconut farmers. Vegetable cultivation holds paramount importance in new mahi, and to support this endeavor, the panchayat has taken the initiative to supply seedlings for such cultivation.

Terrace farming is prevalent in new mahi Gram Panchayat due to space limitations, and to facilitate this farming method, the panchayat provides earthen pots and grow bags necessary for terrace farming. Inter-cropping of ginger and turmeric is a primary agricultural practice here, contributing to the diversity of crops grown. Additionally, flower cultivation has gained prominence with the cooperation of the block panchayat. Under the previous annual scheme, the distribution of banana cane and fruit tree saplings

further boosted agricultural activities.

Several schemes have played a pivotal role in developing the agricultural sector in the new mahi Gram Panchayat. These include the supply of native banana cane, distribution of organic fertilizer for coconut farming, provision of organic vegetable seedlings, promotion of vegetable cultivation, distribution of clay pots to women's groups, vegetable development projects, subhiksha kerala inter-crop cultivation, and the distribution of fruit tree seedlings, among others.

With these proactive measures and the collective efforts of farmers and the panchayat, new mahi Gram Panchayat is making significant strides in its agricultural sector, fostering sustainable development and prosperity for the community.

PADIYOOR KALLIAD GRAM PANCHAYAT: NURTURING AGRICULTURE AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Padiyoorkalliad Gram Panchayat

Padiyoorkalliad Gram Panchayat, situated in irikkur block panchayath, kannur district, has demonstrated a strong commitment to achieving self-sufficiency in the agricultural sector through various activities undertaken in the financial year 2021-22.

The implementation of the "kera grama" scheme has been instrumental in promoting coconut farming within the panchayath. This scheme, along with other initiatives, has encouraged farmers and supported them in their agricultural endeavors. Notably, the distribution of coconut tree climbing machines has provided practical assistance to coconut farmers, enhancing their efficiency and productivity.

To reduce dependence on other states for fruits and vegetables, especially during festive seasons like onam, padiyoorkalliad Gram Panchayat initiated marigold cultivation and the "orumurampachacurry" project to promote local produce. These initiatives not only contribute to agricultural self-sufficiency but also help in conserving resources and promoting sustainability.

Recognizing the significance of farmers, agricultural day programas were organized to highlight the vital role of

agriculture in the community. Additionally, the establishment of a farmers market called "onasamridhi" provided a platform for farmers to showcase and sell their produce directly to consumers.

The panchayath has also focused on animal husbandry by distributing hens to promote poultry farming. Other activities to promote agriculture include subsidies for milk production, distribution of ginger and turmeric seeds, provision of harvesting machinery for paddy farmers, distribution of organic vegetable seeds, and the provision of agricultural machinery.

In a bid to transform the Gram Panchayat into a "pepper village," the distribution of pepper seedlings was undertaken, promoting the cultivation of this valuable crop. Furthermore, the "njangalumkrishshiyidangalilek" project conducted several agricultural promotional activities. One hundred kudumbashree members received banana seedlings, contributing to the growth of banana cultivation in the region. "njaattu vela" markets organized by padiyoorkrishibhavan have created additional opportunities for farmers to market and sell their agricultural produce.

Through these diverse and proactive measures, padiyoorkalliad Gram Panchayat is making significant strides in nurturing agriculture and striving towards self-sufficiency, ensuring the prosperity of its farmers and the overall development of the community.

PANIYANNOOR GRAM PANCHAYAT: AGRICULTURAL DIVERSIFICATION AND SUCCESS

Paniyannoor Gram Panchayat

Paniyannoor Gram Panchayat, situated in panoor block panchayat, kannur district, is making significant strides in the agricultural sector through the unique project called 'tarishrahithapaniyannoor.' the project aims to increase diversified production by engaging in various agricultural activities, ranging from vegetable and paddy cultivation to sorghum, yam, banana, and tuber crop cultivation, flower cultivation, poultry farming, and fish farming.

In the year 2021-22, paniyannoor Gram Panchayat successfully executed several agricultural projects that garnered widespread support. The 'tarishrahitha panchayath' project led by different patashekara samitis and the paniyannoor krishi bhavan, which had been unused for two decades, is particularly noteworthy. Under their guidance, paddy cultivation on 6 hectares of land was achieved, a remarkable accomplishment that has invigorated agricultural activity in the region.

The enthusiasm for agriculture is evident among the residents of the 15 wards of paniyannoor panchayath. Various types of organic vegetable cultivation were undertaken by identifying and supporting enthusiastic farmers within these wards. Kitchen gardens were

established in 176 households, utilizing earthen pots and grow bags to cultivate a variety of vegetables. The distribution of 1200 nentra banana plants, along with necessary irrigation facilities, fertilizers, and other agricultural support, has been a successful endeavor, providing profitable harvests for farmers.

Innovation in agricultural practices is evident with the implementation of terraced farming, enabling agriculture within limited spaces. Additionally, freshwater fish farming has been promoted through the creation of temporary ponds using sheets in approximately twenty-two houses. Successful cultivation and harvesting of different fish species have yielded profitable outcomes for the farmers involved.

The collective efforts of the patashekara samitis, krishi bhavan, schools, kudumbashree units, and other stakeholders have contributed to the success and progress of agricultural diversification in paniyannoor Gram Panchayat. The dedication and commitment of the residents have played a vital role in the development and prosperity of the region's agricultural sector, setting a positive example for other communities to follow.

MAYYIL GRAM PANCHAYAT: A MODEL OF AGRICULTURAL EXCELLENCE

Mayyil Gram Panchayat

Mayyil Gram Panchayat, situated in irikkur block panchayath, kannur district, has demonstrated exemplary progress in the agricultural sector through its strategic and innovative initiatives. Integrated with the schemes of the district and block panchayats, the panchayath successfully implemented a project costing rs 92.65 lakh for paddy cultivation on 527 hectares during the year 2021-22. The remarkable production of 3,163,200 kg of paddy with an average yield of 6,002 kg per hectare, surpassing the state average of 2,600 kg, showcases the panchayat's commitment to agricultural excellence.

A key factor contributing to this success is the meticulous approach to agricultural practices. Each year, soil testing of the fields was conducted, and the recommended operation protocols were diligently followed. Micronutrients and fertilizers were applied in appropriate quantities, at the right time and place for each plant, ensuring optimal growth and yield. The paddy produced by the farmers was collected and processed into value-added products, addressing the challenge of agricultural products not being priced in proportion to production costs. The panchayath established a warehouse with a storage capacity of 800,000 kg and

installed a heavy boiler capable of processing 700 kg per day, enabling efficient processing and higher prices for farmers' produce.

Mayyil Gram Panchayat has been instrumental in supporting farmers through the formation of farmers' associations and providing effective leadership. The establishment of 76 mini rice mills within the panchayat has further strengthened the agricultural sector. The paddy collected was segregated into three different types and marketed under the brand name "mayyilsamridhi," effectively conveying the quality of the product to consumers and creating awareness, thus avoiding marketing difficulties. Additionally, value-added products like aval and puttu powder were introduced to the market, expanding the range of offerings to consumers.

The remarkable achievements of mayyil Gram Panchayat in the agricultural sector have not gone unnoticed. Their excellent performance earned them the prestigious farmer's producer's organization impact award for the year 2022, and they had the unique opportunity to interact with prime minister narendra modi during the award function. Mayyil Gram Panchayat stands as a shining example of agricultural excellence, setting a positive precedent for other regions to follow in their pursuit of agricultural prosperity and self-sufficiency.

KANNUR DISTRICT PANCHAYAT: PIONEERING AGRICULTURAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Kannur District Panchayat

The agricultural projects undertaken by the kannur district panchayath are paving the way for a future of agricultural self-sufficiency. With dedicated efforts, the district is turning the concept of an agricultural self-sufficient district into a reality, fostering self-sufficient villages.

Kannur district panchayath has been producing high-quality traditional crops and cash crop seeds in farms such as karimbam, kangol, vengad, and palayad. Notably, the district panchayath's karimbamkrishi farm hosts a tissue culture lab that annually produces and distributes 2 lakh banana seedlings to farmers, supporting their cultivation efforts. Vengadkrishi farm serves as a model for organic farming, gaining recognition from the state government, while the district panchayath also makes strides in the tourism sector.

To combat the menace of pigs destroying crops in farmlands, palayad farm has produced chetikoduveli seedlings, which were distributed to farmers, offering much-needed relief.

In the agricultural sector, the district panchayath has achieved 100% expenditure on all announced schemes.

It takes the lead in providing special financial assistance to local bodies, converting waste lands into cultivable lands.

Special schemes have been designed to promote vegetable and paddy cultivation in barren lands, resulting in a significant increase in vegetable and paddy production in the district.

A specific scheme targets the promotion of kaipad paddy cultivation, which has been included in the geo-index. An allocation of 13 lakhs has been made to enhance the production of kaipad paddy rice.

Fish farming is another area of focus for the district panchayath, with investments of 51 lakhs for fish farming in rivers and tanks. Additionally, rs. 18 lakhs has been sanctioned for biofloc fish farming in homesteads. Fish marketing centers have also been established to facilitate marketing facilities for fish farmers.

The district panchayath extends support to dairy farmers with a subsidy of rs. 1.58 crore on milk to dairy societies. Furthermore, 7 lakhs of rupees have been invested in flower cultivation over 20 hectares using chendumalli seedlings produced free of charge by the district panchayath.

The endeavors of kannur district panchayath are laying a strong foundation for agricultural development and self-sufficiency. Through their innovative projects and dedicated initiatives, they are setting an inspiring example for other regions, driving progress in the agricultural sector, and uplifting the lives of farmers in the district.

ARALAM GRAM PANCHAYAT: PRESERVING TRADITION AND PROGRESSING IN AGRICULTURE

Aralam Gram Panchayat

Aralam Gram Panchayat, home to aralam farm, the largest scheduled tribe resettlement zone in asia, is a vibrant community with a significant tribal population whose livelihoods depend on agriculture. The panchayat has developed its annual plan for 2021-22, with a particular focus on supporting the tribal community and preserving their traditional farming practices.

One of the exemplary initiatives taken by the tribal people of aralam farm rehabilitation area is the promotion of their own style of paddy cultivation, rooted in their traditional farming methods. Fallow lands that were unused in the farm were prepared and utilized for cultivation, particularly for black rice and small grains. The panchayat allocated approximately 120 acres of land for paddy cultivation using the scheduled tribe sub-plan fund. Additionally, about 15 hectares of barren land in the farm were cultivated for small grain crops like chama and millet. Despite challenges posed by wildlife encroachment from wild deer and wild boars, the efforts have largely overcome these obstacles.

Various agricultural support measures have been embraced by the tribal community with enthusiasm. The distribution of ginger and turmeric seeds to scheduled

tribe women, providing banana saplings to scheduled tribe farmers, distributing tuber seeds, and offering group grobag vegetable seedlings to scheduled tribe women are some of the initiatives that have been well received.

Farmers in the region have raised grievances concerning issues like the distribution of kamukin saplings, the replacement of damaged coconut trees with coconut saplings, and the supply of organic fertilizer and lime for coconut and banana cultivation. The promotion of black paddy cultivation and paddy cultivation has been particularly successful. Furthermore, the high production of various tuber crops such as kappa, sorghum, kachil, and cassava has created profitable opportunities for farmers, allowing them to earn profits through krishivan and marketing fairs. Many farmers in the panchayat have benefited from these schemes.

Kudumbashree, a women's self-help group, has contributed to the distribution of turmeric and banana seeds to various groups. Additionally, institutions and schools have become beneficiaries of vegetable cultivation and bio-pesticides through grobag. Terrace farming in schools and institutions has also been encouraged.

Aralam Gram Panchayat has made significant strides in agriculture through the promotion of organic farming and the adoption of modern mechanized agricultural methods. By allocating resources and supporting various agricultural initiatives, the panchayat has shown its commitment to preserving traditional practices while also embracing progress and innovation in the field of agriculture.

PAYYANNUR MUNICIPALITY: PROMOTING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

Payyannur Municipality

Payyannur municipality in kerala stands out as a crucial hub for the agricultural sector, setting it apart from other municipalities in the region. With 44 wards and extensive land dedicated to coconut and rice cultivation, the municipality places special emphasis on public planning projects and initiatives by the agriculture department.

To maximize the utilization of farmland during periods when rice cultivation is not taking place, the municipality has adopted a strategic approach of cultivating pulses or vegetables. This ensures the optimal use of agricultural resources and enhances overall productivity during non-rice cultivation seasons. While vegetable cultivation was previously limited to a few farmers, the implementation of mass planning projects has now expanded this practice to include all households within the municipality. To support this expansion, the municipality has set up its own nursery capable of producing over 3 lakh saplings annually, which are then distributed to all households as part of the public planning projects. As a result, vegetable cultivation has become a widespread practice among all households.

Several successful projects have encouraged more people to engage in vegetable cultivation and have expanded

cultivation to new areas. Initiatives such as "orumuram vegetable for onam," "subhiksha keralam" project, "tharish nila vegetable cultivation," "distribution of vegetable seedling to farmers," and "seed distribution cluster" have played a significant role in promoting vegetable cultivation and fostering the adoption of organic farming practices. These projects have also ensured the production of safe and healthy food for the community.

The payyannur municipality corporation and krishi bhavan have been instrumental in providing technical and financial support to farmers through the department of agriculture scheme and public planning initiatives. The "subiksha keralam" project, led by the fisheries department of the government of kerala, has been successful in promoting fish farming within the municipality, contributing to the growth of the fisheries sector.

In the dairy sector, production bonuses and calf management programas have been effectively implemented to improve the welfare and progress of farmers engaged in dairy activities. The ongoing construction of a new building for the payyannur veterinary center further enhances veterinary services in the area, benefiting livestock farmers.

Overall, payyannur municipality's proactive approach towards agricultural development and sustainability has yielded positive results, ensuring food security and economic prosperity for its residents while preserving the rich agricultural heritage of the region.

PERINGOME VAYAKKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT: DRIVING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVES

Peringomevayakkara Gram Panchayat

Peringome Vayakkara Gram Panchayat, situated in the payyannur block of kannur district, has undertaken several successful projects aimed at promoting sanitation, women empowerment, livelihood improvement, income generation, and cleanliness in both rural and urban areas. These initiatives have had a significant impact on the socio-economic development and upliftment of the rural population in the region during the year 2021-2022.

In line with the objective of enhancing productivity and improving the quality of agricultural output, the annual project for 2021-22 focused on agriculture and related sectors. The panchayat introduced cultivation on a newly acquired 8-hectare fertile land in agriculturally suitable areas. This initiative aimed to increase production by supporting paddy cultivation, as well as the cultivation of vegetables, fruits, and other crops. The allocated funds for these purposes were fully utilized, contributing to the success of the agricultural endeavors.

Investments in the construction of new dams, reservoirs, and pump houses have significantly enhanced water availability for agricultural purposes. These infrastructure developments have expanded irrigation facilities, thereby boosting the agricultural sector. The formation of the

agriculture action force, inclusive of young farmers and women, has been a positive step in promoting agricultural productivity. The success achieved in vegetable and agriculture production in the year 2021-2022 stands as evidence of the positive outcomes of these collective efforts. The efforts of the agriculture karma sena in growing seedlings of crops and vegetables, such as coconut, pumpkin, and banana, and distributing them to farmers have further facilitated access to high-productivity crops.

In the wildlife conservation sector, around 30 lakhs were allocated for fruitful expenditure during the year 2021-22. Suitable beneficiaries capable of raising animals such as cattle, goats, poultry, and fish were identified to create new employment opportunities. The promotion of animal husbandry, an increase in poultry numbers, establishment of agricultural ponds, implementation of biogas plants, and introduction of sewage pits were among the measures taken to boost the sector. Financial assistance was provided for fish cultivation and suitable agricultural practices, contributing to the growth of personal assets for beneficiaries. The mahatma gandhi national rural employment guarantee scheme has also played a role in supporting such initiatives.

The subhiksha kerala project, initiated by the state government and implemented by the Gram Panchayat since 2021-2022, has been instrumental in empowering the agricultural sector and achieving self-sufficiency in food production. This comprehensive approach to agriculture has further strengthened the position of Peringome Vayakkara Gram Panchayat as a hub for agricultural development and economic prosperity in the region.

RURAL TRANSFORMATION: PERINGOME-VAYAKKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S PATH TO EMPOWERMENT

Peringom vayakkara Gram Panchayat

Peringome-vayakkara Gram Panchayat, situated in the payyannur block of kannur district, covers an area of 76.98 square kilometers and includes several villages such as perintitta, peringome, vayakkara, pulingome, and thirumeni. The panchayat is bounded by cherupuzha, alakode, and kannur-kanhangad-alappatamboor to the east, eram-kuttoor and south eram-kuttoor to the west, cherupuzha to the north, and kasaragod district to the south.

During the financial year 2021-2022, the peringome-vayakkaraGram Panchayat initiated various projects to create employment opportunities in the rural sector. One significant project under the leadership of kudumbashree was the establishment of a community-owned hotel, promoting entrepreneurship and providing livelihoods to locals. This initiative has resulted in the operation of two community-owned hotels near the central bus stand complex in peringome town. Additionally, other personal initiatives such as the boutique "look me" and snack shops have been successful in providing employment opportunities in the area.

In the fisheries market sector, livestock farming, goat rearing, poultry farming, and duck farming have also

played a vital role in providing self-employment opportunities to many individuals in the panchayat.

The haritha karma sena, consisting of 32 individuals, has been actively involved in maintaining cleanliness within the panchayat. They diligently collect and segregate waste from households and deliver it to the waste management center for proper disposal.

Under the mahatma gandhi national rural employment guarantee scheme (mgnregs), various projects such as construction of soak pits, concrete roads, waterlogging prevention measures, culverts, rainwater harvesting, bio-toilets, water source restoration, well digging for water conservation, and house construction have provided employment opportunities to 1,138 workers, with a total of 151,463 workdays in the year.

Kudumbashree project has also contributed significantly to generating employment through 74 joint liability groups (jlgs) involved in agricultural production and cash crops, achieving substantial income through sales in festive markets.

Overall, the current situation in the peringome-vayakkara Gram Panchayat provides excellent opportunities for employment ventures in production, marketing, and small-scale industries, contributing to the socio-economic progress of the community.

AGRICULTURE AND ORGANIC FARMING INITIATIVES IN CHERUTHAZHAM

Cheruthazham Gram Panchayat

Cheruthazham is a small village located in kalliassery block panchayath, kannur district. It spans an area of 32 decimals and 18 square kilometers, adorned with lush greenery and abundant water. The village serves as a repository of agricultural culture.

COMPLETE ORGANIC FARMING SECTOR

The picturesque charm of this panchayat lies in the extensive paddy fields flanking the roads, the flowing stone banks, and the coconut groves along vailoram. Agriculture is considered the backbone of cheruthazham Gram Panchayat. The sight of approximately 450 hectares of paddy fields is a spectacle for anyone passing through the village. Cherutazham Gram Panchayat is aligning with the state government's objective of making kerala a fully organic agricultural state. They are implementing projects through the people's planning scheme. By the year 2021-22, the panchayat achieved the status of being a fully organic agricultural self-sufficient panchayat, thanks to the efforts of 22 women's groups formed within the panchayat. These groups cultivated organic vegetables and received various forms of financial assistance.

BANANA VILLAGE PROJECT

To expand banana farming in the panchayat, 40 banana farming groups were established in the year 2021-22. These groups were included in the janakiyasutrana project and provided with essential technical and financial support. As part of this initiative, the panchayat introduced organic banana cultivation in a 10-hectare area, ensuring a steady supply of bananas.

FALLOW-FREE PANCHAYAT

In the pursuit of transforming cheruthazham Gram Panchayat into a complete fallow-free panchayat, around 10 hectares of fallow rice were cultivated in the year 2021-22. Moreover, the panchayat creatively utilized systems such as the rice mill under its control to parboil, dry, and market the rice produced on the 450 hectares of panchayat land. The rice thus produced is distributed both within and outside the panchayat under the name of cheruthazham ponmani.

LAND RICE CULTIVATION

In the previous year, land rice cultivation was undertaken on a 10-hectare area by incorporating it into the public planning scheme of cheruthazham Gram Panchayat. After the harvest, people utilize the unharvested land for vegetable cultivation.

AGRICULTURAL LABOR FORCE

To address the shortage of labor in the agricultural sector, cheruthazham Gram Panchayat's agriculture karma sena has played a vital role. The panchayat owns five tractors, two forest cutters, a harvester, a planter, and power killers. The efforts of our own karma sena have consistently contributed to the agricultural progress of the panchayat. Additionally, an eco-shop operates under the leadership of cheruthazham Gram Panchayat, distributing and marketing vegetable seedlings and other necessary items to most of the Gram Panchayats in kalyassery block. The marketing of organic production equipment is also underway.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IN MALUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Malur Gram Panchayat

Malur Gram Panchayat, located in peravoor block panchayath, kannur, kerala, is an emerging area with immense possibilities for agricultural development, thanks to its favourable geological characteristics. The Gram Panchayat benefits from abundant water resources, fertile farmland, numerous forests, canals, and vulnerable ponds, all of which contribute to its potential for agricultural growth.

The governing body of malur Gram Panchayat has undertaken several projects as part of its 2021-22 programa aimed at promoting agricultural sector development. These initiatives include the promotion of industrialization, distribution of high-yielding seeds to farmers, special programas for organic farming, encouragement of terrace farming, financial assistance for coconut farmers, special packages for banana cultivation, support for family welfare groups and kudumbasree groups, financial aid for agriculture and fish farming, provision of organic fertilizer for coconut trees, subsidies for vegetable farming in schools, and other similar schemes. The key to achieving growth in this sector lies in attracting the new generation to agriculture.

AGRICULTURAL AND ANIMAL WELFARE INITIATIVES IN ERAMAMKUTTUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Eramam kuttur Gram Panchayat

Eramamkuttur Gram Panchayat is situated in the payyannur block of kannur district. It comprises the villages of eramam, kuttur, and vellora. Covering an area of 75.14 square kilometers, eramamkuttur Gram Panchayat shares its borders with neighboring panchayats: peringomevayakkara Gram Panchayat to the north, kattanapalli-panampuzha panchayat and payyannur municipality to the south, alakkode and chapparappadavu panchayat to the east, and kankol-alappadamba panchayat and payyannur municipality to the west.

In eramamkuttur Gram Panchayat, there is a total of 5640 hectares of agricultural land, with an area of 75.14 hectares, and it is divided into 17 wards. The panchayat is currently implementing a project called "njangalum krishiyilekk," which requires the support and innovation of the state government. This project primarily focuses on comprehensive vegetable cultivation, with over one lakh vegetable seedlings at various stages of production across all 17 wards of the panchayat. It is worth noting that 8 hectares of land are dedicated to vegetable cultivation, which is a significant amount.

Additionally, the panchayat has implemented fallow

paddy cultivation on 4 hectares of land, which has the potential to increase land productivity and provide additional income for the farmers in the area. The panchayat demonstrates a strong emphasis on agriculture, particularly with 90 hectares of land being used for two crops. The dedicated agriculture workforce deserves special recognition for their innovative farming practices, including wasp farming and the production of cash crops such as coconut seedlings, gourd seedlings, and vegetable seedlings. These efforts are carried out by the haritha karma sena, an organization dedicated to environmental and agricultural initiatives.

The panchayat's efforts in the field of animal welfare are also noteworthy, particularly with the development of the "kidari" park and the introduction of the "cow lift machine" at the olayambadi veterinary hospital. These initiatives benefit dairy farmers in the area, highlighting the panchayat's commitment to supporting this important industry, which produces 12 lakh liters of milk.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND WATER CONSERVATION INITIATIVES IN KELAKAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kelakam Gram Panchayat

Kelakam Gram Panchayat, peravoor block panchayath, kannur dist. The land is located on the western ghats mountain range of kerala state. People mainly rely on agriculture for their livelihoods. In the year 2021-22, numerous agricultural projects initiated by the central and state governments, as well as the three-tier panchayats, were implemented in kelakam Gram Panchayat.

The agricultural projects were implemented to help and create new opportunities and increase the income of farmers in the agricultural sector. Rubber, black pepper, paddy, cashew, gooseberry, various types of fruits, spices, banana trees, vegetables, and tubers are cultivated in the agriculture carried out in the panchayat.

In 5-hectare plot vegetables are cultivated, in 15-hectare plot paddy is cultivated, in another 15-hectare plot coconut trees are grown, and in a 25-hectare plot, various types of vegetables are grown, including gourds. Farmers cultivate these crops to ensure sufficient food production for themselves. In the year 2021-22, the nmsa project was implemented, costing 27 lakhs rupees. The programa included distributing different types of saplings to farmers, including 12 lakh rupees worth of fruit tree saplings, 6 lakh rupees worth of pepper saplings,

and 9.5 lakh rupees worth of coconut tree saplings for free of cost.

As part of achieving self-sufficiency in vegetable farming, 5 lakh rupees worth of seedlings are distributed for free. Recently, new vegetable farming has begun in 347 families. Paddy farming is also being conducted. Through organic farming, they have achieved high profits and increased production. Projects implemented in the agricultural sector have helped increase farmers' income and interest in cultivating the land. In addition, a weekly market is run with the help of krishi bhavan to sell the product. As a result, farmers receive the best price for their products. Over the past few years, the number of people engaged in farming, as well as the land used for farming, has increased.

Water conservation is another significant focus of the panchayat, with the project "thelineer ozhukum navakeralam" being implemented. Various activities are carried out under this project, including coir mulching in eramam, kuttur, and koyipra fields, which serves as an innovative approach to bio-prevention.

The panchayat is also making progress in fish farming, both on a small and large scale, in different parts of the area. Vegetable production and harvesting are incorporated into various schools, providing an educational platform to teach young children about agriculture. The panchayat supports local farmers and agriculture workers through prasad's experiences and financial assistance.

Overall, the commitment and support provided by the panchayat demonstrate their dedication to ensuring the continued success of the agriculture sector in the area.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY INITIATIVES IN KUNNAMANGALAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kunhimangalam Gram Panchayat

Kunnamangalam Gram Panchayat is in the payyannur block of kannur district. It spans an area of 15.44 square kilometers, encompassing the village of kunnamangalam. The neighboring panchayats are chirayikkal to the east, perumpadappuza to the north, and ramantali to the south. Previously, it was one of the 76 divisions in the former malabar district. Kunnamangalam Gram Panchayat relies primarily on agriculture and animal husbandry as the main sources of livelihood for its residents. The agricultural sector plays a crucial role in the local economy, with farmers engaged in cultivating various crops and participating in related activities.

To achieve self-sufficiency in agriculture, kunhimangalam Gram Panchayat has implemented several interventions aimed at enhancing productivity, promoting sustainable practices, and improving the lives of the local farming community. In the year 2021-2022, the panchayat successfully achieved 100% of the scheme allocation in areas such as agriculture, animal husbandry, dairy development, and fisheries.

An amount of 35,35,300 lakhs was spent over the course of the 2021-2022 year to subsidize the cost of rice cultivation and make paddy land cultivable in

kunhimangalam Gram Panchayat. Additionally, 14,73,932 rupees were invested in the development of coconut cultivation, highlighting the panchayat's focus on promoting and enhancing this particular agricultural sector. The funds allocated for coconut cultivation were utilized for various purposes.

Furthermore, 3,26,000 rupees were spent to expand vegetable cultivation, increase production, and promote the cultivation of yam and sorghum in kunhimangalam panchayat. Additionally, 2,43,000 rupees were allocated for the distribution of fruit tree seedlings, grama pea seeds, and banana seedlings.

Financial assistance was also provided to support animal husbandry. The allocation of 15,37,500 rupees for special calf management projects in the year 2021-2022 aims to promote animal husbandry and support farmers in the dairy industry. Incentives such as milk price subsidies, amounting to 2,84,500 rupees, were given to dairy farmers to encourage increased milk production.

The panchayat's commitment to expanding freshwater fish farming is evident in the allocation of 2,37,356 rupees for the biofloc and paduthakulam projects. These initiatives contribute to increasing fish production, promoting sustainable aquaculture practices, and supporting the livelihoods of fish farmers.

The state government's implementation of the 100-day "karma paripadiyum, subhuksham surakshitham" scheme demonstrates their focus on agriculture and the welfare of farmers. In the year 2021-2022, financial assistance and training were provided to farmers on the use of agricultural machinery, further supporting their agricultural endeavors.

AGRICULTURAL REVIVAL AND CULTURAL INITIATIVES IN EZHOM PANCHAYAT

Ezhom Gram Panchayat

Ezhom, also known as nellara, is an area located in kalliassery block, kannur district. Previously known as 'acyab' in chirakkal taluk, it spans 4671 acres from pazhyangadi to kuppam. Bounded by hilly terrain in the north and the pazhyangadi river in the south, most of the village had an agricultural focus in the past. Crops such as rice, squash, coconut, banana, pepper, pulses, tubers, and various vegetables were cultivated.

Most of the residents in ezhom own less than one acre of land. According to the state ment register of 1930, approximately 85 small and large landowners, as well as devaswam, held the majority of the land in ezhom panchayat. However, with the implementation of the land reforms act, land ownership was transferred to 5260 people. This change allowed tenants to become owners of land, which revitalized agricultural progress in the panchayat.

Over time, the younger generation has shifted away from agriculture due to changing times and career opportunities. However, during the covid-19 era, people turned back to agriculture through the kerala government's initiative to cultivate fallow lands. As part of the "we too go to agriculture" project, kallyassery mla

shri m vijin inaugurated the cultivation of two acres of land. Senior farmers were honored on farmers' day, and the youngest farmer was recognized, infusing energy and promoting agricultural awareness among the youth.

With the aim of reintroducing agricultural culture to all families, the panchayat organized an agriculture-friendly chain with thousands of participants, bringing life back to the fields with harvest songs. Another project called "haritammohanam" was implemented to attract children to agriculture, emphasizing that they are the wealth of tomorrow. This project involved actively developing vegetable gardens in all schools within the panchayat, promoting organic farming culture as a pathway towards a healthy and self-sufficient community.

Padasekara committees and panchayats are working together to nurture and cultivate the agricultural culture in ezhom, ensuring its continuity and growth.

KRISHIJALAKAM: AN AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION IN KALLIASSERI BLOCK PANCHAYATH

Kalliasseri block panchayat

Kalliasseri block panchayath is in kannur district, in the indian state of kerala. It consists of eight panchayaths: cheruthazham, ezhom, cherukunnu, madayi, mattool, kannapuram, kalliasseri, and narath. The assembly constituencies of kalliasseri and azhikkode are also part of kalliasseri block panchayath. The historically significant kalliasseri has contributed to the growth and development of the state through its unique development plans.

The block panchayath is focused on planning initiatives in the raw material sector, manufacturing sector, and creating new employment opportunities to accelerate growth and development. One of the top priorities is empowering the weaker sections of society, including women, differently abled individuals, senior citizens, and those who are socially and economically disadvantaged.

One notable project of kalliasseri block panchayath is krishijalakam. Krishijalakam is a joint initiative of the block panchayaths and krishibhavan to provide agricultural services and materials under one roof. At the block level, the best varieties of planting material and organic farming materials are produced and distributed through krishijalakam. It serves as a platform for farmers

to display and market their products and facilitates various agricultural activities in collaboration with karshika karma sena and agro service center. Krishijalakam also enables the selling of products through weekly markets and eco shops.

The main objective of krishijalakam is to provide year-round employment opportunities to selected individuals from karshika karma sena, agro service center representatives, and interested individuals. It aims to provide quality seeds and seedlings to those in need, including local seeds and hybrid seeds collected through krishibhavan, at affordable rates. Dairy farmers can also sell dung, cow urine, vermicompost, and organic fertilizers through krishijalakam. The services of krishijalakam, which has received an expenditure of 5 lakh rupees, are also available online. The management of krishijalakam is entrusted to a 15-member committee headed by the block panchayath president.

Kalliasseri block panchayath firmly believes that the formulation of excellent projects like krishijalakam in the field of agriculture can create a new agricultural culture.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IN MUZHAKKUNNU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Muzhakkunnu Gram Panchayat

Muzhakkunnu Gram Panchayat, located in peravoor block panchayath, kannur district, possesses great potential for agricultural development due to its favorable geological characteristics. The presence of abundant water resources, fertile farmland, numerous forests, canals, and vulnerable ponds contributes to the agricultural growth prospects in the Gram Panchayat.

To promote the development of the agricultural sector, muzhakkunnu Gram Panchayat's governing body has implemented several projects as part of its 2021-22 programa. These initiatives encompass various aspects, including the promotion of industrialization, distribution of high-yielding seeds to farmers, special programas for organic farming, encouragement of terrace farming, financial assistance for coconut farmers, dedicated packages for banana cultivation, support for family welfare groups and kudumbasree groups, financial aid for agriculture, assistance for fish farming, provision of organic fertilizer for coconut trees, subsidies for vegetable farming in schools, and similar schemes.

It is crucial to attract the new generation to engage in agriculture to achieve growth in this sector. Once the interest and participation of the younger generation in agriculture are fostered, the potential for growth and development can be realized.

AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION IN KALLIASSERI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kalliasseri Gram Panchayat

Kalliasseri Gram Panchayat is in kalliasseri block panchayat, kannur district. Which has formed in the year 1954 with an area of 15.37 sq km. Kalliasseri was the first Gram Panchayat in kerala to establish a panchayath vikasana samiti based on neighborhood groups and a panchayath level school complex. Kolatfields and irinavu areas, which were previously paddy fields in kalyasseri, have been transformed into coconut groves. Over the past 25 years, efforts have been made to develop coconut cultivation. Since 1991, coconut production has increased from an average of 25 coconuts to 80 coconuts per tree. Scientific coconut farming techniques have been initiated since last year with the goal of doubling the current production within three years. Currently, only 175 hectares of paddy fields remain in kalyasseri, and scientific rice cultivation methods are being adopted to increase productivity.

In addition to the existing six padasekarasamitis, a new organization called "kalyasseri agricultural producer company" has been established to organize farmers and implement innovative farming methods towards achieving a barren-free panchayat. By adopting high-yielding seeds and scientific farming practices, rice

production has increased to 6000 kg. The panchayat's aim is to attain self-sufficiency in vegetable cultivation, and currently, 80 percent of households in the panchayat are engaged in vegetable farming. There are 21 groups and three individual vegetable gardens that cultivate vegetables on a group and commercial basis, respectively.

Furthermore, 15.62 acres of land have been newly dedicated to the cultivation of banana, kappa, yam, and sorghum on a group basis. A nursery has been established under the panchayat's guidance to produce required planting materials, providing employment to five women. Vegetable seedlings required by the panchayat are also being produced and distributed.

Efforts are underway to increase milk production in the animal husbandry sector, and three cooperative societies, including a dairy cooperative society, have been established as part of the people's planning scheme. The panchayat currently produces 4.5 lakh liters of milk.

Soil and water conservation activities are prominently featured in the employment guarantee scheme. Measures have been taken to enhance the water conservation capacity of the 19.3 km streams in the panchayat, allowing for the proper discharge of excess water during the year 2021-22. These initiatives have helped mitigate waterlogging to some extent. Effective management of dams constructed in various streams, such as biranthod, aruwaditavathod, chenangithod, pudhuvakkalthod, adanthod, and parakkadavthdt, has ensured water conservation during the summer. Additionally, 1490 m of ditches have been protected through rope earth dressing, and three large ponds have been constructed under the employment guarantee scheme for water conservation in mangalasserythavayil.

Kalyasseri, which has been a pioneer in planning and implementation studies even before the popular planning movement, is now actively working towards sustainable development. The primary objective of the panchayat is to establish a new model in the agricultural sector within the next three years.

AGRICULTURAL SCHEMES IN ANCHARAKANDI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Ancharakkandy Gram Panchayat

The ancharakandi Gram Panchayat is in thalasseri block, kannur district, kerala state has introduced various schemes in the agricultural sector for the year 2021-22. As part of the sustainable rice development scheme, an allocation of rs 1500 per hectare for paddy cultivation and a financial assistance of rs 1000 per hectare for enhancing the infrastructure of padasekara samiti have been approved.

Additionally, paddy cultivation has been initiated on 3 hectares of previously barren land, while 2 hectares of land have been allocated specifically for paddy cultivation. Under the vegetable development scheme, 10,000 vegetable seedlings and 2,500 seed packets have been distributed. Rain covers have been provided for 4 hectares of land, and the cultivation of 'pantal non-pantal' varieties of vegetables has been promoted.

Furthermore, subsidies have been granted to cover the labor costs involved in vegetable cultivation, particularly in the narikodeparampukary vegetable clusters. The aim is to encourage the cultivation of vegetables on previously barren land and to provide financial support for labor expenses.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IN AZHIKODE GRAM PANCHAYAT

Azhikode Gram Panchayat

Azhikode Gram Panchayat was established as the third panchayat in kannur block, kannur district in 1937. It encompasses 23 wards in kannur taluk, covering an area of 16.04 km. The boundaries of azhikode Gram Panchayat are defined by the valapattanam river to the north, kannur corporation to the south, chirakkal Gram Panchayat to the east, and the arabian sea to the west. Azhikode Gram Panchayat has a rich history of revival activities. Prominent figures like ponmadathil krishnaswami, vagbhadanandhagurudevan, and n.p. kumaran played instrumental roles in breaking caste distinctions, eliminating superstitions, and challenging customs, thereby paving the way for the creation of a new society. Previously, azhikode was under the territory of the chirakkalkovilakam and landlords. It is a village known for its agrarian culture, which was once characteristic of a feudal society. The village is home to numerous temples, kavus, and a unique form of theyyam called thira.

For the financial year 2021-2022, the azhikode Gram Panchayat has developed plans with a focus on the agricultural sector. A total of 22 projects, including those carried over from the previous financial year, were

implemented. The main projects include the distribution of mud pots for vegetable cultivation, agricultural mechanization, distribution of banana seeds to women's groups, development of vegetable cultivation, kitchen gardens, waste land rice cultivation, planting pepper plants in households, and coconut cultivation.

A budget of Rs. 1,26,22,494 has been allocated for these projects in the financial year 2021-2022. Out of this, Rs. 75,30,642 has already been spent.

SUSTAINABLE FARMING INITIATIVES IN CHAPPARAPADAVU GRAM PANCHAYAT

Chapparappadavu Gram Panchayat

Chapparapadavu Gram Panchayatis located in thaliparamaba block, kannur district of the indian state of kerala. Chapparapadavu panchayat has administrative control over the villages of kooveri, thimiri, and vellad. According to the 2011 census, chapparapadavu Gram Panchayat had a population of 31,622. Chapparapadavu is located 14 km northeast of taliparamba town, and the national highway passes through taliparamba. Chapparapadavu Gram Panchayat in kerala is known for its several green islands that have been nurtured by the community.

In chapparappadav Gram Panchayat, the bharatiya prakriti krishi yojana 2021-22 is a scheme aimed at promoting sustainable farming practices. The project has been implemented on a micro-plus site covering fifty hectares within the panchayath.

In addition to this, the krishi bhavan has carried out projects such as demonstration and show gardens, conservation of traditional seeds, and promotion of native crops as part of the scheme. A total of 156 farmers have registered for organic farming under this initiative. Furthermore, the department of agriculture has implemented a system to provide organic pgs certificates to these farmers.

CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL REGENERATION IN CHENGALAI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Chengalai Gram Panchayat

Chengalai Gram Panchayat, located in the eastern part of thaliparamb block in kannur district, is known for its exemplary administrative services. The panchayath is led by the panchayath administrative committee, headed by shri vp mohanan. The agriculture office operates under the guidance of the agriculture officer, and various officers are involved in official duties. Through the collaboration of krishi bhavan, kannur krishi vigyan kendra, employment guaranteed agricultural labor force, and the three-tier panchayat system, the agricultural sector in the village has experienced a rejuvenation.

In an effort to combat climate change, chengalai Gram Panchayat is implementing an innovative "agricultural regeneration project" at the local level. This project addresses the adverse effects of climate change on the agricultural sector. Farmers in chengalai Gram Panchayat are actively adopting scientific approaches and advanced technologies to overcome the challenges posed by climate change. The panchayath itself produces highly productive planting materials. Additionally, barren land has been made cultivable, with 50 acres dedicated to cultivation, including 10 hectares for vegetables and 20 hectares for tubers. The Gram Panchayat also promotes

agricultural mechanization wherever possible, with the goal of achieving complete self-sufficiency in the agricultural sector. The agricultural sector in chengalai Gram Panchayat is progressing with cost reduction measures and effective planning.

AGRICULTURAL SUCCESS IN CHITARIPARAMBA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Chittariparamp Gram Panchayat

Chitariparamba Gram Panchayat belongs to koothuparamba block panchayat in thalassery taluk of kannur district. It is bordered by malur, peravoor, and mangattidam panchayats to the north, patyam panchayat to the south, kolayad panchayat to the east, and mangattidam panchayat and koothuparamba municipality to the west. The population of this Gram Panchayat is 27,305, covering an area of 31.82 km2.

Many projects were successfully implemented in chitariparamba Gram Panchayat in the year 2021-22, with a strong focus on the agricultural sector. As our panchayat is primarily an agricultural area, it always prioritizes initiatives and schemes related to farming. The vaazhagraamam project stands out among these projects, where we were able to distribute 25,000 banana trees to promote banana cultivation.

Accurate monitoring and continuous support from krishi bhavan have played crucial roles in ensuring the successful implementation of agricultural programas. Another notable project is the pepper village initiative, where we have implemented a one-seedling-per-tree approach to encourage pepper cultivation. Additionally, our Gram Panchayat has taken the initiative to distribute

hybrid coconut seedlings and subsidize rice cultivation, aiming to expand rice farming in the region.

Over the years, significant progress has been made in the field of agriculture, with the provision of vegetable seedlings and seeds. This has led to achieving self-sufficiency in vegetable cultivation. Furthermore, numerous groups and individuals are engaged in farming vegetables on a larger scale, and we have been able to export vegetables to foreign countries as well. The collective efforts and initiatives have contributed to the overall growth and development of the agricultural sector in chitariparamba Gram Panchayat.

ENHANCING COCONUT PRODUCTION THROUGH KERAGRAMAM SCHEME IN CHOKLI GRAM PANCHAYAT

Chokli Gram Panchayat

Chokli Gram Panchayat is in the panoor block panchayat of kannur district. It covers a total population of 34,247, distributed across its 17 wards, with 17,723 females and 16,524 males. The panchayat spans an area of 11.98 square kilometers and is bordered by panyannoor panchayath to the north, mayyazhipuzha to the south, panoor municipality to the east, and mahi municipality to the west.

The kera gramam scheme, implemented by the kerala agricultural development and farmers welfare department, aims to significantly enhance coconut production in a targeted area. The scheme is implemented in areas encompassing a minimum of 250 hectares of coconut cultivation. Its objectives include implementing integrated nutrient management, integrated pest control, and improved irrigation systems to boost productivity of existing coconut trees. Additionally, the scheme aims to remove unproductive coconut trees, promote intercropping, and generate supplementary income for farmers.

In response to these objectives, the chokli Gram Panchayat has taken the initiative to implement the keragramam project. Given that coconut cultivation

plays a significant role in the agricultural sector of chokli, encompassing around 500 hectares of cultivated land, this project aims to revitalize and optimize coconut production. The project involves the removal of unproductive coconut trees and their replacement with high-quality saplings. Furthermore, farmers are provided with seeds and assistance for intercropping to maximize the land's productivity. By enhancing the production efficiency of existing coconut trees and implementing sound management practices, the project aims to promote widespread coconut cultivation and drive growth in the agricultural sector of chokli.

To support the implementation of the project, free training sessions on coconut harvesting techniques have been conducted, and coconut harvesting machines are being distributed at subsidized rates to aid farmers in their harvesting activities. These measures aim to enhance the overall efficiency and profitability of coconut farming in the chokli Gram Panchayat.

KASARAGOD DISTRICT

1. A Journey to Prosperity by Kanhangad Block Panchayath.
2. Nurturing Dreams, Eradicating Poverty by Bedadukka Gram Panchayat
3. Sustainable Thrive by Karadka Gram Panchayat
4. Paving the Way to Abundance by Manjeswaram Gram Panchayat.
5. Liberating Lives from Poverty by Kallar Gram Panchayat,
6. Empowering Lives, Eliminating Poverty by Kinanoor Karindhalam Gram Panchayat.
7. Empowering Change, Defeating Poverty by Kanhangad Municipality.
8. Prosper Together by Madikkai Gram Panchayat.
9. Empowering Rural Prosperity: The Transformative Impact of Madikkai Village Panchayat's Employment Guarantee Scheme
10. Ignite Change by Nileswaram Municipality
11. Connecting Lives, Erasing Poverty by Pilicode Gram Panchayat.
12. Revolutionizing Animal Welfare: Kanhangad Block Panchayat's Mobile Visionary Clinic
13. Elevating the Farming Industry by Madikkai Grama Panchyat
14. Shaping the Future of Farming by Pullur Periya Grama Panchayt

15. Comprehensive Solutions for Agriculture by Cheruvathur Grama Panchyat
16. Cultivating Sustainable Growth by Bellur Grama Panchyat
17. Nurturing Resilient Agriculture by Muliyar Gram Panchayat
18. Greenovation by Ajanur Gram Panchayat by Ajanur Grama Panchyat
19. Pioneering Sustainable Agriculture by Ajanur Gram Panchayat

A JOURNEY TO PROSPERITY

Kanhangad Block Panchayath

JOB FAIR FOR YOUNG WOMEN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Kanhangad Block Panchayath is a prominent and vital local self-government body situated in the picturesque district of Kasaragod in the southern Indian state of Kerala. As a block-level panchayath, it governs and oversees multiple Gram Panchayats and villages within its administrative jurisdiction, playing a crucial role in the development and welfare of the region.The block panchayath comprises several Gram Panchayats, each with its unique cultural heritage, traditions, and community dynamics.

Unemployment is the biggest social problem facing our country. In this era of increasing number of educated young men and women, there is an important need to get jobs according to their qualifications. As an opportunity for the un employed to get jobs in companies of various sectors according to their qualifications, the schemes was formed for the first time in kerala with the concept of a block panjayath job fair.It provide an opportunity to the unskilled unemployed to get qualified jobs in various companies,Solve unemployment,Interview at a venue for various companies in many remote locations,Participation of well-known companies in

various fields in the job fair,Conducting job fair, registration of candidates and participation of company representatives,An agency with prior experience in the field was selected to ensure online registration of candidates and participation of various reputed companies and thus 32 reputed firms were able to participate in the job fest. More than 3000 people pre-registered online and more than 1500 people participated in the job fest directely and through this project, the block panjayath has been able to carry forward the vision of the kerala government in the right way.

NURTURING DREAMS, ERADICATING POVERTY

Bedadukka Gram Panchayat

POVERTY ALLEVIATION ACTIVITIES

Bedadka is a village in Kasaragod district in the state of Kerala, India. As of 2011 Census, Bedadka village had a population of 13,476 with 6,460 males and 7,016 females. Bedadka village has an area of 36.24 km2 (13.99 sq mi) with 2,985 families residing in it. The average female sex ratio was 1086 higher than the state average of 1084. 10.93% of the population in the village was under 6 years of age. Bedadka had an average literacy of 86.7% lower than the state average of 94%; male literacy was 90.56% and female literacy was 83.22%.Bedadka Gram Panchayat had total population of 27,868 which constitute 13,281 males and 14,587 females with 6,305 families residing in it. Bedadka Panchayat has administration over the villages of Kolathur, Munnad and Bedadka

Over the past decade, Bedadaka Gram Panchayat has achieved remarkable success in the field of poverty alleviation, making a unique mark through its initiatives. One of the key driving factors behind this success is the employment of both men and women under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREG) scheme. This inclusive approach has empowered the local community and contributed to

reducing poverty significantly.

KUDUMBASHREE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Bedadaka Gram Panchayat's success story extends beyond MGNREG, as it has also established about 80 enterprises through Kudumbashree, a women-oriented community-based poverty eradication programa in Kerala, India. The implementation of Kudumbashree has been a game-changer, fostering economic independence and empowerment for women in the region.Among the notable enterprises, there are Apparel Park, Safalam, Nutrimis, Agriculture Karma Sena, and Haritakarma Sena, with a total of 105 women gainfully employed. These initiatives have opened new avenues for women's economic participation and have significantly contributed to the local economy's growth.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Bedadaka Gram Panchayat has also focused on providing skill development opportunities for women. It has facilitated tailoring training for 29 women and sewing training for 30 women, which has led to 12 women finding self-employment. These skill development programas have enhanced women's capabilities and empowered them to pursue entrepreneurial endeavors.

KUDUMBASHREE AGRO FARMERS PRODUCING COMPANY

An exemplary initiative is the "Team Bedakam Kudumbashree Agro Farmers Producing Company," a farmers' producing company formed under the Bedaduka Community Development Society (CDS) in collaboration with Kudumbashree District Mission and Kasaragod District Panchayat. The company aims to explore new model enterprises in agricultural production and marketing, tapping into the various possibilities in the agriculture sector.A noteworthy aspect of this initiative is that it started with only women shareholders, furthering the cause of women's empowerment in the region. Initially providing jobs for 15 individuals, the company has since advanced its operations and expanded possibilities, showcasing a promising path of growth.Bedadaka Gram Panchayat's journey in poverty alleviation stands as an inspiring example of what can be achieved through inclusive development strategies and women's empowerment initiatives. By leveraging programas like MGNREG and Kudumbashree, the panchayat has successfully created sustainable

employment opportunities and fostered entrepreneurship among both men and women. The establishment of the Kudumbashree Agro Farmers Producing Company further demonstrates their commitment to innovative approaches in agriculture and economic development. As the panchayat continues its efforts, it sets a shining example for others to follow in the pursuit of sustainable and inclusive development.

SUSTAINABLE THRIVE

Karadka Gram Panchayat

POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Karadka is a village, block panchayat and Gram Panchayat in Kasaragod district in the state of Kerala, India.As of the 2011 census, Karadka village had a population of 9,613 with 4,693 males and 4,920 females. Karadka village has an area of 18.59 km2 (7.18 sq mi) with 2,158 families residing in it. The average female sex was 1,048 lower than state average of 1,084. The population of children under 6 years was 9.67%. Karadka had an average literacy of 89.65% higher than the national average of 74% and lower than state average of 94.00%: male literacy was 94.3% and female literacy at 85.2%. Karadka Gram Panchayat had a total population of 21,211 among which 10,535 are males and 10,676 are females. The total number of households in the panchayat limits was 4,265. Karadka Gram Panchayat has administration over the villages of Karadka and Adhur.

Karadka Gramama Panchayat of Kasargod district, Kerala state and the head of Poverty elevation under the scheme of MGNREGA Panchayat implemented various projects. By this we hope our project absolutely helped to eradicate poverty in our village. We selected beneficiaries of poor family belongs to below poverty line and also

given more importance to widow headed family in which following are the keynoted projects compound construction work which is constructed to a BPL family.For Krishnaia Balal, what 2nd of this gramapanchay estimated cost for this work is 1,80,000. Using this corn water is now cultivating crops and vegetables in more than one acres of land.This is a double benefit project. This financial status improved and soil water conservation achieved land development for agriculture. We converted more than 20 acres of uncultivated land to cultivate land for agriculture. This is one of the examples of Saraswati who is woman headed family of Ward 7 Kunta of this grama panchal estimated cost for this project implementation is 3,48,000 cattle shelter and fodder cultivation for Jayaram. He is also from a BPL family.Ward three of this Gram Panchayat. This main source of income is animal husbandry. He has 10 cows and panchayat assisted him by providing cattle shed and developed around $0.50 of uncultivated land for fodder cultivation for these cows. Estimated cost for these cattle shed is 2,00,000 and fodder cultivation is 60,000. Hence he completely achieved his financial improvement and he closed loans borrowed from Financial Institute.Our next project is goat shelter for Shilpa Karmantodi ward 13 of this Gram Panchayat. She is rearing 25 numbers of goats. She sells approximately 15 litres of milk and five to 10 kg of cotton manure per day. This is her main family income estimated cost.For this project is rupees 110,000 and she is now getting average ₹1000 per day. This is one of the interesting and successful projects implemented by our Gramapanchayat. The name is Brahmaggiri Chicken Project.Mr. Chitrangadan, what 14 of this Gram Panchayat earns an average of 1.5 lakh per annum. We assisted by providing infrastructure facility for rearing 1000 chicken. For this we expense rupees 5,00,000 under this project, Mr. Chitrangadan leaves Good financial status.

PAVING THE WAY TO ABUNDANCE

Manjeswaram Gram Panchayat

POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Manjeswaram Gram Panchayat is a local self-government body located in the Kasaragod district of the southern Indian state of Kerala. Its administrative headquarters are situated in the town of Manjeswaram. The Panchayat falls under the jurisdiction of the Manjeswaram assembly constituency and is part of the Kasaragod parliamentary constituency. It consisit of 21 wards and 41515 polpulation ,7762 households Geographically, Manjeswaram Gram Panchayat is bordered by the Arabian Sea on the west, Karnataka state on the north, Hosdurg Gram Panchayat on the east, and Udma Gram Panchayat on the south. The region is known for its picturesque landscapes, lush greenery, and vibrant culture.The Panchayat comprises a number of villages and hamlets, each with its unique charm and character. The local population is diverse, representing various communities and religions, which contribute to the rich cultural tapestry of the region.

The advancement of the fishing community is a vital aspect of coastal regions, and recognizing this, a thoughtful initiative was undertaken to uplift the livelihoods of fishmongers. In a bid to enhance their living standards and provide them with the necessary

tools to thrive, a programa was introduced to grant two-wheelers and ice boxes to fishmongers involved in selling fish.This transformative scheme seeks to empower fishmongers by easing their transportation and storage challenges. A total of 26 fish workers have been selected as beneficiaries, each receiving a substantial subsidy of Rs 30,000 towards acquiring the two-wheeler and ice box. The remaining amount required for the purchase will be contributed by the fish workers themselves, further reinforcing their commitment to the programa and their desire to improve their lives.The provision of motor vehicles and ice boxes is a game-changing endeavor, as it addresses two critical aspects of fish sales - transportation and preservation. The two-wheeler empowers fishmongers with efficient mobility, enabling them to navigate through the intricacies of coastal terrains and reach their markets promptly. This translates to increased opportunities for selling their catch, expanding their customer base, and augmenting their income.The ice box, on the other hand, serves as an invaluable asset in preserving the freshness and quality of the fish during transit. By keeping the catch chilled and well-maintained, the ice box not only extends the shelf life of the fish but also ensures that customers receive the highest quality products. This, in turn, enhances the reputation and reliability of the fishmongers, fostering long-term customer trust and loyalty.As a beneficiary-share initiative, the programa not only strengthens the fishmongers' sense of ownership and responsibility but also reinforces the community's support for one another. The government's role in offering the subsidy showcases their commitment to uplifting the lives of the fishing community, while the willingness of the fish workers to contribute their share demonstrates their determination to improve their standard of living.In essence, the provision of motor vehicles and ice boxes for fish sales stands as a testament to the thoughtful and transformative approach taken to improve the lives of fishermen. By addressing their unique challenges and providing the necessary resources, this scheme ignites a positive ripple effect, uplifting entire families and communities. As the fishmongers embrace the opportunities offered by this programa, they pave the way for a brighter and more prosperous future, not only for themselves but for the entire coastal region they call home.

LIBERATING LIVES FROM POVERTY

Kallar Gram Panchayat

POVERTY ALLEVIATION ACTIVITY

kallar is a village in kasaragod district in the indian state of kerala.kallar is located on kanhangad-panathur road (sh 56) of 40 km southeast of kasaragod town and 27 km northeast of kanhangad.as of 2011 census, kallar village had population of 19,414 which constitutes 9,493 males and 9,921 females. kallar village spreads over an area of 52.67 km2 (20.34 sq mi) with 4,691 families residing in it. the sex ratio of kallar was 1045 lower than state average of 1084. population in the age group 0-6 was 2,137 (11% of total population) where 1,070 are males and 1,067 are females. kallar had overall literacy of 87% lower than state average of 94%. the male literacy stands at 91.5% and female literacy was 82.8%. kallar Gram Panchayat is part of kanhangad (state assembly constituency) under kasaragod loksabha.

The kudumbashree system is at the helm of poverty alleviation activities in kallar Gram Panchayat. 14 adss and panchayat level cds coordinate the activities. 205 kudumbashree neighborhood groups have got affiliation in cds 63 enterprises and 148 sanghkrishis.helpful for mitigation.a variety of activitiesannual scheme and employment initiatives for women, distribution of

goats life housing project is noted in kallar Gram Panchayat in poverty alleviation activities.290 people have been selected for phase 2 beneficiaries in kallar village panchayat related to life housing scheme and 117 beneficiaries (general - 37, sc-2, st-78) who are eligible under life criteria have signed agreement and all the house construction works have been completed. in phase 3, 18 eligible beneficiaries (gen-5, st-13) have signed agreements and construction of houses has been completed. also 198 persons (sc- 2 and st-196) from the sc and st additional list and beneficiary list received from the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes' departments and most of them have completed the construction of houses. as per life 2020 housing is being provided from the selected list, the process of placing the agreement is now underway.

EMPOWERING LIVES, ELIMINATING POVERTY

Kinanoor Karindhalam Gram Panchayat

POVERTY ALLEVIATION

Kinanur Karinthalam is a village panchayat spread over an area of 77.49 sq km in Parappa block panchayat in Vellarikund taluk of Kasaragod district.The southern part is the coastal area of the Karyankot river called Tejaswini Puzha. Nileswaram shares its boundary with Madikai, Kotom-Belur, West Eleri and Balal panchayats. Total number of wards is 17.Kinanur-Karinthalam Gram Panchayat is a village in Vellarikkundu taluk of Kasargod district consisting of the villages of Karinthalam and Kinanur Parappa in the Parappa Group.77 Decimal Four Nine square kilometers Of the panchayat lying west within a nine-square-kilometer wall, the panchayat shares its boundaries with West Eleri Balal Kodom-Belur ,Madikkai, Kayyur-Cheemeni Panchayats and Neeleswaram Municipality.

Local wealth and effectively address unemployment, units and enterprises with coconut climbing training for women. Advances for women K.K honey, KK rice has been in this sector and significant activities with the cooperation of Kudumbashree. He took a loan from Bangalore and started growing vegetables through which the necessary vegetables in the panchayat as well as the

possibilities of description have been opened up.Sheep's nest, shed, etc. have been made a reality built through the Employment Guarantee Scheme.Trained the unemployed educated Kudumbashree Kudumbashree Hotels Tailoring Units Distributed Through Anganwadis, Nutrimix Units Producing Amritam Powder Haritha Karma Sena Members Kerala Chicken And Fish Farming Etc. The Panchayat has been indifferently involved in uplifting women to socio-economic prosperity by nurturing entrepreneurs and organizing collectives and women's movement.

EMPOWERING CHANGE, DEFEATING POVERTY

Kanhangad Municipality

Kanhangad Municipality As of the 2011 Census, Kanhangad Municipality and Outgrowths had a total population of 125,564. Males constitute 46.6% of the population and females 53.4%. Kanhangad Municipality+Outgrowth spreads over an area of 70.47 km2 (27.21 sq mi) with 27,579 families residing in it. Kanhangad had an average literacy rate of 92.6%, higher than the national average of 74.04% and lower than state average of 94.00%; male literacy was 96.17%, and female literacy was 89.56%. In Kanhangad, 11.5% of the population was under 6 years of age. There are 7,425 male children and 7,063 female children between the age 0–6 years. Thus, the child sex ratio of Kanhangad is 951 which is less than the state average sex ratio (1,144).

Home is the wall of security,the centre of comfort,the roof of the shelter.The pradanamantri Awas Yojana is a scheme implemented by the central and state governments through the respective municipal bodies to provide housing to all the homeless in the urben area. kanhangad municipality has gone much forward in this project in the state to provide housing to all deserving homeless.Beneficiaries get Rs 2 lakh as the municipalities share to meet this demand.a loan of Rs 1340 lakh has

been made available to 670 beneficiaries in the plan year 2021-22 from HUDCOat a rate of Rs 2 lakh per beneficiary.Rs 1395.2 lakh have been made available through the nodel agency .306 in the 2nd DPR and 126 in the 3rd DPR.1078 beneficiaries have been included in the fourth DPR of the municipality.out of this 110 customers are already applicants for the Life mission scheme.Ones own home is is a place of ultimate comfort,safety and warmth.The kanhangad municipality is always threr to stand with the needy for its realization.the kanhangad muncipalty has deviced several schemes for women kudumbasree members to achive financial independence.one of them is in ward 32 of the kanhangad municipality under the kuruntur kudumbasree ADS thalir papper and cloth bag unit. Ten workers in this unit. This oraganisation started by availing a loan of two lakh rupees from the kerala statebackward classes Development corporation through CDS and today it is running profitably. Another popular project is the weekly market implemented by the municipality. The weekly market is a place where vegitables produced by local farmers are sold. The world of percussion music with chenda is handled mostely by the menfolk. Today women come forward to this world of percussions in search of rytham for survival through shingari mela. Kanhangad municipality implemented shinkari melam training and distribution of percussion instruments to approved women groups in the plan year 2021-22. Rs.10 lakhs were spent on the 20-member vadya sangh (percussion team) for the training and the supply of musical instruments. Today people hustle at the hotels started in various parts of the city under the leadership of the kanhangad municipality kudumbashree. Cleanliness is ensured here, and good and tasty food is served.

EMPOWERING RURAL PROSPERITY: THE TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT OF MADIKKAI VILLAGE PANCHAYAT'S EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

Madikkai Gram Panchayat

Madikkai village panchayat is in Hosdurg taluk of Kasaragod district in Kanhangad block with an area of 51.83 sq km. The total population of the panchayat with 15 wards is 19,352 (2001). Matikai is also known as the Moscow of Communists. The name Madikkai is derived from the Kannada word 'Matka' which means earthen pot.

The employment guarantee scheme has proven to be a comforting and transformative initiative for the people of rural areas. this scheme, in conjunction with soil and water conservation efforts, has brought about significant development in the panjayath (panchayat). various projects were undertaken to uplift the overall infrastructure and living standards of the community. one of the major achievements of this initiative is the construction of essential infrastructure such as rural roads, drainage systems, village huts, school grounds, food stalls, and playgrounds. these developments have not only improved accessibility but also enhanced the overall aesthetics and functionality of the rural landscape.

The construction of anganwadi centers has been instrumental in supporting early childhood education and health. these centers serve as vital community resources,

catering to the needs of young children and mothers, thereby promoting child development and maternal health.for livelihood enhancement, various projects were implemented, including the establishment of farms, sheep coops, chicken coops, and fodder cultivation. these initiatives have contributed to creating sustainable livelihood opportunities for rural residents, enhancing their income and economic stability.in terms of agricultural development, the promotion of paddy ponds and biofloc systems has positively impacted local farming practices. paddy ponds have improved water management in agriculture, contributing to higher crop yields and increased productivity. the introduction of biofloc technology has enhanced fish farming and aquaculture practices, ensuring a steady source of income for farmers.

An outstanding aspect of this initiative is the active participation of women. with 99% of women engaging in this project, the concept of equal pay for equal work has been effectively implemented, promoting gender equality and empowering women in the community.the ultimate goal of the employment guarantee scheme is to eradicate rural poverty by ensuring financial security and job stability for the residents. in the financial year 2021-22, the scheme has positively impacted 2923 families, including 57 scheduled caste families and 354 scheduled tribe families. providing 100 days of employment to 1630 individuals has significantly contributed to their economic well-being.the financial investment of 92,53,800 rupees in 334 works reflects the panchayat's commitment to rural development and poverty alleviation. the substantial resources allocated to various projects have made a tangible difference in the lives of the rural population, leading to improved infrastructure, livelihoods, and overall community development.to sustain the success of these initiatives, continuous monitoring, evaluation, and community engagement are essential. regular feedback from beneficiaries will aid in refining the projects, maximizing their impact, and ensuring that the benefits are enjoyed by all members of the community. the employment guarantee scheme has undoubtedly played a vital role in the progress and prosperity of the panjayath and its residents.

IGNITE CHANGE

Nileswaram Municipality

ENTERPRISE FRIENDLY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Nileshwar Municipality and surrounding Panchayats are administered by Nileshwar Block Panchayat. Nileshwaram is politically a part of Thrikaripur Assembly constituency under Kasaragod Loksabha constituency. Nileshwar Municipality is composed of the following 32 wards.

Along with projects to meet the basic needs of people, Nileswaram Municipal Corporation is giving equal importance to livelihood (changes). The Municipal Corporation is targeting 20 initiatives in each ward in the next 5 years. With proper planning and coordination with various departments, the livelihood activities are moving forward very efficiently. , NULM, Department of Industry etc. Karma programa is being implemented through various means. A loan of Rs. 7,75,000 has been disbursed through Community Enterprises Fund through Kudumbari in connection with local economic development in Nileswaram Municipal Corporation. Through this, 30 people have been provided employment from 14 enterprises. Back A loan of Rs.3 crores has been provided through Development Corporation through which 32 people have been employed.Also linkage loan of

Rs.6,25,40,000, revolving fund of Rs.60,000 and non-resident loan of Rs.45,38,564 for expansion of existing enterprise and establishment of new enterprise - 3 from Chief Minister's Sahay Hastam Scheme ,41,40,000 has also been given.

Through the National Urban Livelihood Mission, 48 individual enterprises have been given loans and 48 people have been employed. 45 people have been provided employment from 15 group enterprises. 135 enterprises have been started and 145 people have got employment through the Industries Department of the Government of Kerala. Under the aegis of Nileswaram Municipal Corporation, free skill training was provided to 72 young men and women aged between 18 and 35 years. Through this, 35 people got jobs. 18 people have been given skill training through Kudumbashi CDS.1313 unemployed job seekers have registered on DWSMS portal and 15 job councils have been set up in Nileswaram Municipality to help the job seekers. A notebook-carry bag manufacturing unit has been started as a livelihood initiative for the children and their mothers of Pratyasha Buds School, which is run by the Municipal Corporation. 2 public hotels are being operated in the municipality with the aim of hunger-free Nilesharam. The Rs. 20 meals provided through these hotels help to satisfy the hunger of many people. This also provided employment for 7 Kudumbararee workers. The National Urban Livelihood Mission and Kudumbararee jointly set up F2 for gymnasium and Zumba dance for women only in Kanichira area of Nileswaram municipality. A wellness center called F has been started and has helped many people in health care. Due to this initiative, 3 people have got employment. 68 group farms have been started under the leadership of Kudumbarari to promote organic farming in the municipality. A loan of Rs 98,25,000 has been distributed to them.

CONNECTING LIVES, ERASING POVERTY

Pilicode Gram Panchayat

Pilicode is a village in Kasaragod district in the state of Kerala, India, under Nileshwaram Block Panchayath. On 2018-04-12 chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan declared Pilicode as first filament bulb free Panchayat in India as part of Oorjayaanam (ഊർജയാനം) project. As of 2001 India census, Pilicode had a population of 9156 with 4330 males and 4826 females.

The Panchayat recognizes the importance of identifying and supporting the most vulnerable members of the community. To effectively address this issue, the Panchayat has implemented a Panchayat level training programa aimed at identifying the very poor individuals and families in the area. This training equips local authorities and volunteers with the necessary skills to conduct surveys and assessments to identify those who are in dire need of assistance. Upon completion of the identification process, the Panchayat publishes a comprehensive list of the very poor individuals and families in the community. This list is made publicly available, ensuring transparency and accountability in the selection process. By making this information accessible to the community, the Panchayat encourages public participation and feedback, fostering a sense of collective

responsibility in uplifting the marginalized. The Life Bhavana Project for the year 2021-22 is a significant initiative undertaken by the Panchayat to improve the quality of life for the identified very poor individuals. As a part of this project, keys to new homes or other essential resources are handed over to the beneficiaries, signifying a fresh start and renewed hope for a better future. The implementation process of the Life Bhavana Project is conducted with meticulous planning and care. The Panchayat ensures that each beneficiary receives the appropriate assistance tailored to their specific needs. The Panchayat collaborates with various government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and community-based organizations to provide a holistic approach to poverty alleviation. As part of the project, the Panchayat also ensures that the beneficiaries are provided with insurance coverage. This step is crucial in safeguarding the beneficiaries against unforeseen events and offering them a safety net in times of crisis. The insurance coverage helps in mitigating financial risks and reducing the burden on the beneficiaries during challenging circumstances.

The Panchayat does not limit its efforts to those included in the list of the very poor. The commitment to helping those in need extends to the broader community. The Panchayat actively engages in various welfare and social support programas to uplift all vulnerable individuals, irrespective of their inclusion in the very poor list. Through these initiatives, the Panchayat demonstrates its dedication to social justice and equitable development. The efforts to identify and support the very poor, the implementation of the Life Bhavana Project, the provision of insurance coverage, and the commitment to helping all in need contribute to creating a more inclusive and compassionate community.By leveraging local resources and involving the community in the decision-making process, the Panchayat fosters a sense of ownership and empowerment among its residents. The Panchayat's approach to poverty alleviation is not just about providing financial assistance but also about nurturing self-reliance and resilience within the community. Continued monitoring, evaluation, and regular updates to the list of the very poor ensure that assistance is targeted and reaches those who need it the most. Through collective efforts and a strong commitment to social welfare, the Panchayat strives to create a thriving and inclusive community where everyone can lead a dignified and fulfilling life.

REVOLUTIONIZING ANIMAL WELFARE: KANHANGAD BLOCK PANCHAYAT'S MOBILE VISIONARY CLINIC

Kanhangad Block Panchayat

Kanhangad Block Panchayat is a prominent and vital local self-government body situated in the picturesque district of Kasaragod in the southern Indian state of Kerala. As a block-level Panchayath, it governs and oversees multiple Gram Panchayats and villages within its administrative jurisdiction, playing a crucial role in the development and welfare of the region. The block Panchayat comprises several Gram Panchayats, each with its unique cultural heritage, traditions, and community dynamics. It serves as a cohesive unit, working collaboratively with the individual Gram Panchayats to address the diverse needs and aspirations of the local populace. Encompassing the beautiful town of Kanhangad and its surrounding areas, the block Panchayath boasts a rich natural landscape, characterized by verdant greenery, rolling hills, and serene backwaters. This captivating environment provides a picturesque backdrop to the numerous developmental initiatives and welfare projects undertaken by the Panchayat.

Mobile visionary clinic is the first project implemented by kanhangad block panchayat in Kasaragod district to make the lifelong dream of providing door-step centenary doctor Service a reality in the field of animal welfare.

Bringing the services of an expert doctor at home from 3pm to 9pm of animal welfare especially dairy farmers, Provide 24-hour emergency services including surgery and medicine, Avoid the difficult situation of bringing four-legged animals to the hospital in emergency situations and the loss to the farmers due to the death of the animals when the service is not available on time by through this project Get expert treatment delivered to your doorstep with a phone call, A concept not reflected in the subsidy guidelines, Availability of a full time specialist doctor, Arrangement of drug related facilities and vehicles, The project was implemented after taking special permission from the government, A specialist doctor who is interested in full-time work has been selected and a small vehicle has been hired on a monthly rented basis and the benefit of the scheme has been extended to maximum farmers. An expert visionary surgeon at the farmers doorstep at a phone call in case of emergencies, the death of animals due to lack of timely treatment and loss to farmers due to this has been avoided as much as possible,470 farmers benefited from the scheme in 2021-22and Project implementation veterinarians were able to coordinate the departmental project and the mobile centenary clinic.

ELEVATING THE FARMING INDUSTRY

Madikkai Gram Panchayat

Madikkai Gram Panchayat is in Hosdurg taluk of Kasaragod district in Kanhangad block with an area of 51.83 sq km. The total population of the Panchayat with 15 wards is 19,352 (2001). Meticais is also known as the Moscow of Communists. The name Matikai is derived from the Kannada word 'Matka' which means earthen pot.

The lives of different communities are rich in values and ideals of human goodness. The life of madikai also marks the relationship between soil and man. Madikai Gram Panchayat, which gives priority to the comprehensive development of the agricultural sector, has implemented extensive projects in the agricultural sector in the financial year 2021-22.

- Veettumuttathe kerevriksgam padhati: On June 15, 2021, quality coconut saplings were planted in the backyards of all the houses in the panchayat through the kera tree project. In the employment scheme, coconut saplings were planted in every house. For this Rs.700000/- was spent.

- Fallow farming: To cultivate vegetables and tuber crops in fallow areas within panjayath limits by spending 7, 88,008/-.
- Comprehensive rice cultivation development
- Recharging the well
- Comprehensive coconut cultivation development
- Sentra banana cultivation
- Vegetable cultivation

Schemes implemented by the department of agriculture.

Madikai Gram Panchayat and other neighbouring panchayat have made good progress in the distribution of fruit tree seedlings. Exotic fruit like rambuttan, dragon fruit, and early plums have been spread over 20 hectares. Units producing value added products from coconut and jackfruit, and handicrafts are functioning in the Panchayat.

The man who loves the soil is the man who loves soil and the smell of the soil. After working the important areas of food production, milk production and egg production as part of food security. According to ythe cattle census, 1747 indigenous crossbreed cattle have been raised in madikai. It has been possible to increase the number of cows from 132 to 1891. Along with this, daily milk production has been increased from 40% to 80%. Also, necessary steps have been to convert cow dung into bio-fertilizer along with milk as income for dairy farmers.

Our country is blessed with abundant water. We have been able to implement many projects to protect the traditional water resources. As part of the navakerala mission we have been able to undertake and implement many activities.

We undertake many activities to liberate those trapped in poverty and enable progressive changes, thereby ensuring social security. Poverty was reduced through kudumbashree, ashtray, agathi rahitha keralam and thozhilurappu padhati. Innovative projects envisaged by the govt such as extreme poverty, doorstep

services and revitalization of the poorest of the poor and poor with the help of willing volunteers.

After realising the dream of achieving the basic needs of the people like houses, drinking water, electricity, and employment for all. 51 people including scheduled caste/ scheduled tribes/ general have been able to get housing through the LIFE, IAY, PMAY Project.

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FARMING

Pullur Periya Gram Panchayat

Pullur is a small town located in Hosdurg of Kasaragod district, Kerala. It is situated 10 km away from sub-district headquarter Kanhangad and 30 km away from district headquarter Kasaragod. As per 2009 stats, Pullurperiya is the Gram Panchayat of Pullur village. The total geographical area of the village is 2859 hectares. Pullur has a total population of 15,565 people. There are about 3,667 houses in Pullur village. As per 2019 stats, Pullur villages come under Uduma assembly & Kasaragod parliamentary constituency. Kanhangad is the nearest town to Pullur which is approximately 10 km away.

Pullur Periya Panchayath stands out as an exemplary functioning Panchayath in Kasaragod district, showcasing remarkable initiatives to serve its residents, especially farmers and livestock owners. The Veterinary Hospital established by the Panchayath plays a vital role in ensuring the health and well-being of both domestic animals and the farming community. One of the notable features of the Veterinary Hospital is the provision of a cage and examination table to control aggressive dogs. This thoughtful addition addresses the safety concerns of both patients and medical staff, making the hospital a safer environment for all. By prioritizing safety measures,

Panchayath demonstrates its commitment to delivering quality healthcare services to the community. Moreover, the annual purchase of medicines worth 5 lakh rupees for farmers underscores the Panchayat's dedication to supporting agricultural livelihoods. By subsidizing medicines for livestock, the Panchayath helps farmers maintain the health and productivity of their animals.

This assistance significantly contributes to the farmers' well-being and promotes sustainable agriculture practices in the region. The presence of a cow lifter at the Veterinary Hospital is yet another praiseworthy initiative. This equipment is invaluable in aiding the lifting and handling of lying cows, ensuring prompt medical attention, and reducing the risk of injury to both animals and caretakers. Such thoughtful provisions demonstrate the Panchayat's keen understanding of the specific needs and challenges faced by farmers and livestock owners. The Panchayat's dedication to supporting farmers extends beyond medical assistance. It diligently carries out all necessary activities to facilitate agriculture, ensuring that farmers receive comprehensive support. These initiatives may include organizing workshops, providing agricultural inputs, promoting sustainable farming techniques, and offering guidance on best practices.

The high number of dairy farmers in the Panchayath, with more than 1800 cows, goats, and chickens seeking treatment at the hospital, speaks volumes about the success of these efforts. The thriving dairy farming community reflects the Panchayat's commitment to promoting livestock rearing and supporting rural livelihoods. Pullur Periya Panchayat's Veterinary Hospital is a shining example of how local governance can effectively cater to the specific needs of its residents. By providing essential healthcare services, subsidizing medicines, and offering specialized equipment, the Panchayath has become an indispensable resource for farmers and livestock owners in the area. The continued success of these initiatives will depend on regular monitoring, evaluation, and community engagement. Seeking feedback from farmers and livestock owners will help identify areas for improvement and ensure that the Veterinary Hospital remains responsive to the changing needs of the community. Through its exemplary functioning and thoughtful initiatives, Pullur Periya Panchayath sets a benchmark for other Panchayats in Kasaragod district, inspiring them to follow suit in fostering the welfare and prosperity of their own communities.

COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTIONS FOR AGRICULTURE

Cheruvathur Gram Panchayat

Cheruvathur is a town and Gram Panchayat in the Kasaragod district, state of Kerala, under Nileshwaram Block, consist of 17 Wards. It is located 45 km (28 mi) from the district headquarters Kasaragod. Local roads have access to NH-66 which connects to Mangalore in the north and Kannur in the south. The nearest railway station is Cheruvathur on Mangalore-Palakkad line. There are airports at Mangalore and Kannur.

Located on the banks of Karyankot River and Kavvai Kayal in an area of 18.37 sq km, 65% of the total population of Cheruvathur Panchayat is dependent on agriculture. The main crops are tubers and vegetables. We are following the mixed farming method of intercropping. The total area of agricultural crops is 1662 hectares. 110 hectares of paddy cultivation and 1552 hectares of coconut cultivation are being done in 8 fields. In addition, banana, pepper, squash, rubber, cashew and lentil crops are cultivated. P, vegetables are also cultivated.

Due to the special interventions of the Panchayat to make barren land suitable for cultivation, farmers, men's self-help groups, JLG and kudumbashree came in and by using the Panchayat fund to provide the required seeds

and additional labour costs, 5 hectares of agricultural land were made barren. It was also able to be handed over to Stake holders and more than 250 permanent farmers benefited from this project.

Gram Panchayat has distributed 10,000 growbags of 25 growbags each to around 400 farmers for those who are interested in farming but are unable to do so due to land limitations. By selling the saved vegetables through the weekly market of Krishi Bhavan, the farmers get a fair price, and the public gets good, non-toxic vegetables. This project has become an effort to restore agricultural prosperity and to restore the old week market of Cheruvatur. As part of the comprehensive vegetable development, the crops obtained by implementing vegetables were concentrated in the institutions and schools that were left to be used for food in that institution and the new generation who grew up could understand the greatness of agriculture. 98 were built as part of the development package and through these 5 hectares of paddy field were cultivated. As part of the "Spread the Soil" project, the nature and structure of the soil was identified and the soil test card was issued to the farmers accordingly, and the production and productivity increased by distributing fertilizer suitable for the soil.

By planting about 6,000 Njali Puvan banana plants under the Panchayat scheme, the area of banana cultivation was increased, as well as the area of coconut. It was possible to increase through the employment guarantee scheme. As part of nurturing the animal welfare sector, Subhiksha Kerala joined hands with the project and provided 110 dairy farmers with fodder for calf maintenance. About 50 cowsheds were provided through the employment guarantee scheme to achieve self-sufficiency in milk production.

Through these activities, milk production was increased by 13.6%. With the aim of achieving self-sufficiency in egg farming. As part of the Mutta Gram project, women were able to provide free eggs and chickens in the Panchayat scheme and the cage employment guarantee scheme. Along with that, eggs and cages were distributed to about 25 families through Kudumbashree. To ensure the financial security of poor families and improve their living standards, about 10 sheep cages have been built and provided in the employment guarantee scheme. The Panchayat aims to achieve self-sufficiency in food production by conveying the message "My pride" to everyone and distributing rice under the Cheruvatur brand name.

CULTIVATING SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Bellur Gram Panchayat

Bellur, a Village and a Gram Panchayat in Kasaragod district of Kerala, India covers an area of 8.9 km2 (3.4 sq m). As of 2011 Census, Bellur village had a population of 3,936 with 1,929 males and 2,007 females. Bellur village has an area of 8.9 km2 (3.4 sq mi) with 773 families residing in it. In Bellur, 12.27% of the population was under 6 years of age. Bellur had an average literacy of 84.74% higher than the national average of 74% and lower than the state average of 94%: male literacy was 89.76% and female literacy was 79.93%. Bellur Gram Panchayat had total population of 10,241 with 5,112 males and 5,129 females. Bellur Panchayat has administration over the villages of Bellur and Nettanige. 10.68% of the population in Bellur Panchayat was under 6 years of age.

Nestled amidst lush green fields and fertile landscapes, Bellur Gram Panchayat thrives on its agricultural heritage, where most of its inhabitants find their livelihoods deeply rooted in farming. For generations, the rhythm of life has been dictated by the seasonal cycles, with farmers toiling on the land to bring forth bountiful harvests. However, in recent years, the region has experienced the growing

impact of climate change, disrupted the once predictable patterns of nature, and left the farming community grappling with unprecedented challenges.

The effects of climate change have not spared the farmers of Bellur Gram Panchayat. Erratic rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, and unpredictable weather events have become the new norm, causing distress and uncertainty among the agriculturally dependent populace. Crops that once thrived now face heightened vulnerability, threatening food security and economic stability. In recognition of the struggles faced by the farmers, the village Panchayat and the agricultural department have come forward with proactive measures to alleviate their hardships. Paddy growers, who form a significant portion of the farming community, receive essential subsidies to cushion the impact of fluctuating agricultural conditions. Every eight years, a meticulous process of allocation and distribution of subsidies is undertaken, ensuring equitable distribution and adequate support to farmers during challenging times.

Understanding the crucial role of fertilizers in maintaining soil health and crop productivity, the Panchayat takes it upon itself to provide fertilizers at subsidized rates each year. This enables farmers to access vital agricultural inputs without burdening their already strained finances. The availability of affordable fertilizers becomes a lifeline for farmers, fostering resilience and sustainability in agriculture. In the pursuit of agricultural diversification and climate-resilient practices, Bellur Gram Panchayat has embraced intercropping initiatives with remarkable success.

In addition to traditional crops, the cultivation of cowpea in combination with other crops has proven to be a viable approach in adapting to changing environmental conditions. This innovative practice not only mitigates the impact of climate change but also enhances overall agricultural productivity. On this occasion, as we reflect on the strides taken in preserving and nurturing the agricultural culture of Bellur Gram Panchayat, we cannot overlook the immense contributions of various stakeholders. The village Panchayat, along with the dedicated staff of the agriculture department, has played a pivotal role in strategizing and implementing sustainable initiatives. However, it is the unwavering support and collaboration of the public that has truly brought agricultural culture into the mainstream of society. The collective effort

of the community has helped safeguard the time-honoured traditions of farming, ensuring that they remain a beacon of resilience in the face of climate uncertainties.

As Bellur Gram Panchayat continues its journey towards a more sustainable future, it stands as a shining example of how unity and proactive measures can fortify the foundations of agriculture, providing hope and inspiration to farming communities far and wide.

NURTURING RESILIENT AGRICULTURE

Muliyar Gram Panchayat

Muliyar is a village and Gram Panchayat of Kasaragod district, Kerala. Muliyar is located about 12 kilometres (7.5 mi) east of Kasaragod. It is situated along State Highway 55, to the north of the Chandragiri River. The village covers 34.27 square kilometres (13.23 sq mi) of land in Kasaragod taluk.As of 2011 Census, Muliyar village had a population of 25,095 with 12,248 males and 12,847 females. Muliyar village has an area of 34.27 km2 (13.23 sq mi) with 4,980 families residing in it. The average female sex ratio was 1049 lower than the state average of 1084. In Muliyar, 12.4% of the population was under 6 years of age. Muliyar had an average literacy of 88.7% lower than the state average of 94%; male literacy was 92.9% and female literacy was 84.8%

Agricultural Pond: Empowering Women Through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

In the realm of rural development, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has emerged as a catalyst for transformative change, particularly in bringing women into the mainstream of society. The scheme has played a pivotal role in empowering women, providing them

with opportunities to conquer skilled jobs that were once considered out of their reach. Today, they stand as shining examples of resilience and competence, proving their mettle in various tasks, from descending into wells to digging ponds and tying stones. One such remarkable example is the construction of an agricultural pond in the Kalipallam area of the 8th Ward Kanathur, Muliyar. The beneficiary, Bhavani, became a symbol of progress and empowerment, as female labourers led the charge in constructing this essential water resource. Overcoming challenges and stereotypes, these women fearlessly climbed up and down the 7.50-meter deep well, using ropes to facilitate the construction process. Their determination and dedication have shattered traditional norms, as they demonstrated their proficiency in tasks that were once considered male-dominated. The agricultural pond stands as a testament to their capabilities and determination, enriching the region's agricultural potential and ensuring water availability for farming communities.

GREENOVATION BY AJANUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Ajanur Gram Panchayat

Ajanur Gram Panchayat is a vibrant and diverse local self-government body situated in the enchanting Kasaragod district of the southern Indian state of Kerala. This Gram Panchayat encompasses the picturesque villages of Ajanur and Chithari, nestled within the verdant landscapes of Hosdurg taluk and forming an integral part of the Kanhangad block. Spanning across an area of 27.83 square kilometers, Ajanur Gram Panchayat boasts a network of 23 wards, each representing a unique facet of its rich cultural heritage and community dynamics. The Panchayat plays a pivotal role in the administration and governance of these villages, dedicated to the welfare and progress of its inhabitants. The Panchayat is home to a vibrant and diverse population, with a total count of 42,467 residents as per the 2001 census. These residents come from various walks of life, representing different communities and religions, contributing to the region's cultural diversity and social harmony.

In Ajanur Gram Panchayat there are more people who depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Apart from paddy cultivation, coconut, pumpkin, cashew, pepper, banana, vegetables and potato verities are mainly cultivated. Organic pesticides are used. Jyothi, uma,

athira, thonnuran, punjakayama, jeerakasala, chendumalli, corn, watermelon, lettuce and other vegetables are cultivated. Organically 14 padashekara samithi and karma sena are working together with krishi bhavan.farming with less stress and pleasure comes with agricultural mechanization .various schemes are being implemented to promote organic farming.seeing the importence of producing organic manure. schemes were devised to give more encouragement to diary sector. Awarded for organic agriculture Panjayath for evaluating the work in organic farming sector. Schemes were implemented to eliminate plastic covers and fills earthen pans in Mattuppavu cultivation. For this purpose more than 6500 activities were carried out to grow vegetables by filling earthen pots organically. Maximum barren land has been made suitable for cultivation. Projects aimed at the comprehensive development of the agricultural development of the agricultural sector have been implemented. Through this, the panchayat has been able to provide income to maximum families. Ajanur has become the Panchayat that produces the most rice and vegetable crops in Kasaragod district.

PIONEERING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Ajanur Gram Panchayat

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athira, thonnuran, punjakayama, jeerakasala, chendumalli, corn, watermelon, lettuce and other vegetables are cultivated. Organically 14 padashekara samithi and karma sena are working together with Krishi bhavan. Farming with less stress and pleasure comes with agricultural mechanization. Various schemes are being implemented to promote organic farming. Seeing the importance of producing organic manure many schemes were devised to give more encouragement to the diary sector. The panchayat was awarded the title "organic agriculture panchayat" for the work done in the organic farming sector. Schemes were implemented to eliminate plastic covers and fills earthen pans in mattuppavu cultivation. For this purpose, more than 6500 activities were carried out to grow vegetables by filling earthen pots organically. Attempts are being done to transform the maximum areas of barren lands suitable for cultivation. Projects aimed at the comprehensive development of the development of the agricultural sector have been implemented. Through this, the panchayat has been able to provide income to maximum families. Ajanur stands in the prime position among the Panchayats of Kasaragod district in the production of rice and vegetable crops.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

25th Year

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