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LOCALISATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# SOCIALLY SECURED VILLAGE

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## Localization Of Sustainable Development Goals: Socially Secured Village

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**September, 2023**

**ISBN: 978-81-966847-9-2**

**Published by**

KERALA INSTITUTE OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION (KILA)
Mulamgunnathkavu P.O. Thrissur - 680581
Kerala, INDIA
Email: info@kila.ac.in Website: www.kila.ac.in

**Printed in India at**
Mulamkunnathukavu Panchayat Pattikajathi Services Cooperative society Ltd.

LOCALISATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# SOCIALLY SECURED VILLAGE

# 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
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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

1. Inclusive Initiatives: Empowering Communities in Nedumangad Block Panchayat
2. Unarv Vayojana Koottayma
3. Transforming Lives; Health and Welfare Activities in Karakulam Gram Panchayath

# INCLUSIVE INITIATIVES: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES IN NEDUMANGAD BLOCK PANCHAYAT

## Nedumangad Block Panchayat

Nedumangad Block Panchayat is located in Nedumangad taluk of Thiruvananthapuram district. Nedumangad Block Panchayat was formed in 1954 and covers an area of 123.5 square kilometers. It includes five Gram Panchayats ; Karakulam Gram Panchayat, Aruvikkara Gram Panchayat, Vembayam Gram Panchayat, Anand Gram Panchayat, and Panavoor Gram Panchayat.

### 1. DIVERSE TALENT - CULTURAL MELODY FESTIVAL

In order to encourage and promote the artistic talents of differently-abled individuals in the five Gram Panchayats within the Block Panchayat's jurisdiction, the "Diverse Talent - Cultural Melody Festival" project was initiated. The primary objective of this cultural competition is to provide a platform for differently-abled individuals to showcase their artistic abilities and talents and to integrate them into mainstream society. Recognizing the potential and creativity that exists within the differently-abled community, this festival aims to celebrate and appreciate their unique skills in various art forms. By organizing the Cultural Melody Festival in a dedicated auditorium, these individuals will be given the opportunity to shine

and be recognized for their extraordinary abilities.

The Block Panchayat envisions this festival as a symbol of inclusivity and equal opportunities for all. It aims to break barriers and create an environment where everyone's talents are valued and appreciated, irrespective of their physical abilities. This project serves as an avenue for the differently-abled individuals to express themselves and contribute to the cultural heritage of the community. The Diverse Talent - Cultural Melody Festival is a significant initiative that embraces diversity and inclusivity, fostering an atmosphere of unity and understanding within the society. By encouraging and empowering differently-abled individuals through their artistic expressions, this project strives to create a more inclusive and compassionate community.

### 2. ELDERLY CARE BLOCK - ELDERLY MEET AND ELDERLY ASSOCIATION

In the face of ageing and the challenges posed by physical and mental vulnerabilities among the elderly, the project "Elderly Care Block - Elderly Meet and Elderly Association" was launched. The main goal of this initiative is to reach out to the elderly population, provide them with support, and integrate them into mainstream society. This project, which has been recognized as a significant initiative in elderly care, aims to bring together the elderly individuals from the five Gram Panchayats within the Block Panchayat's jurisdiction. Through various cultural and recreational activities, the elderly participants are engaged and provided with opportunities to showcase their talents and skills.

Recognizing the contributions and wisdom of the elderly, this initiative serves as a platform for them to connect with one another, share experiences, and enjoy their golden years. It also emphasizes the importance of social inclusion and highlights the need to provide care and support to the elderly members of the community. The Elderly Care Block - Elderly Meet and Elderly Association project is a testament to the commitment of the Block Panchayat to address the needs of the elderly population and promote their overall well-being. By uplifting and empowering the elderly through meaningful engagements and activities, this project aims to create a more compassionate and caring society.

### 3. B.R.C SKILL TRAINING

The B.R.C Skill Training project is an initiative implemented by Karakulam BUDS School Center to provide mental and physical development opportunities to children from five Gram Panchayats. The project aims to train and empower children through various activities such as file board making, paper pen crafting, bag creation, bookbinding, and art craft. By imparting these skills, the project targets children with special needs and seeks to integrate them into the mainstream society while fostering their self-employment prospects. The program focuses on the holistic development of these children, providing them with the necessary skills to lead independent and productive lives. By honing their talents and encouraging their creativity, the project aims to instill confidence and self-reliance in them. Moreover, it provides training on how to make file boards, paper pens, bags, bookbinding, and arts and crafts, creating opportunities for the children to earn their livelihood.

The B.R.C Skill Training project is designed to create a supportive and inclusive environment for these children, where they can showcase their abilities and talents. The training provided in various vocational skills not only prepares them for self-employment but also contributes to their social empowerment. The project envisions strengthening the children's families by empowering the children with marketable skills that can improve their quality of LIFE. Additionally, the project endeavors to enhance the children's social and economic status, ultimately leading to a more inclusive and empowered society. Through this initiative, the Karakulam BUDS School Center aims to make a positive impact on the lives of children with special needs and their families, fostering their social integration and promoting their economic independence.

### 4. ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR PROJECT

The Electric Wheelchair Project aims to enhance travel convenience and improve the quality of LIFE for individuals with disabilities. By providing electric wheelchairs, the project seeks to empower people with different abilities from five Gram Panchayats. The project's primary objective is to make mobility more accessible and comfortable for people with special needs, allowing them to move

around independently and with greater ease. Electric wheelchairs can significantly improve the quality of LIFE for individuals with mobility challenges, as they offer enhanced mobility and freedom.

Through this initiative, the project aims to address the specific needs of differently-abled individuals by providing them with electric wheelchairs that are suitable for their unique requirements. The project identifies beneficiaries from five Gram Panchayats and procures electric wheelchairs based on individual preferences and necessities. The Electric Wheelchair Project endeavors to promote inclusivity and empowerment for people with disabilities by ensuring they have access to modern assistive technologies. By providing electric wheelchairs, the project aims to create a more accessible environment, enabling individuals with different abilities to participate more actively in society and lead independent lives.

# UNARV VAYOJANA KOOTTAYMA

## Pullampara Gram Panchayat

Pullampara Gram Panchayat is a 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. Community-based initiatives that cater to the well-being of the elderly are gaining prominence in Pullampara Gram Panchayat, located in the Thiruvananthapuram district of Kerala. The concept of "Unarv Vayojana Koottayma" (Senior Citizen Collective) has been successfully implemented here, focusing on providing comprehensive health and social support to the elderly population. This initiative, which commenced during the 2021-2022 financial year, has been made possible through the collaborative efforts of the local community and the "Health Action by People" organization. Pullampara Gram Panchayat comprises 15 wards, and in each ward, there are four active senior citizen collectives functioning effectively. These collectives are instrumental in ensuring the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of their elderly members. A remarkable aspect of this initiative is that it targets the elderly who live alone, particularly

those aged above 65 years. By extending care and assistance, these collectives have created a supportive environment that enriches the lives of the elderly, fostering a sense of belonging and empowerment.

The primary goal of the Unarvu Vayojana Koottayma is to promote holistic health and social welfare for the senior citizens. To achieve this, weekly meetings and interactive sessions are organized, where various health-related topics, cultural activities, and recreational programs are conducted. Additionally, the collectives actively engage in periodic health check-ups and distribute essential medicines, ensuring that the healthcare needs of the elderly are met efficiently. The project also recognizes the significance of emotional and psychological well-being. Through art festivals, traditional performances, and various creative activities, the elderly members actively participate and showcase their talents, evoking a sense of joy and pride among the entire community. These cultural events have become a medium for the seniors to reminisce about their youthful days and contribute to the cultural heritage of the region.

Notably, the Unarv Vayojana Kootayma extends its services beyond the elderly members to include differently-abled individuals, thereby embracing inclusivity and empathy. Regular home visits and the provision of necessary assistive devices ensure that the differently-abled individuals receive adequate care and support, enhancing their overall quality of LIFE. In the digital era, the project has also embraced digital literacy initiatives to benefit its elderly members. By providing digital literacy training, the project aims to empower seniors with essential digital skills to access information, services, and social networks online. The success of the Unarvu Vayojana Koottayma in Pullampara Gram Panchayat serves as an inspiring example of community-driven efforts to uplift the lives of senior citizens and differently-abled individuals. The collective efforts, mutual support, and caring environment have contributed to the overall progress of the Gram Panchayat in ensuring the well-being of its elderly population. Through these initiatives, the Gram Panchayat has demonstrated a comprehensive approach to elderly care, embracing their wisdom, talents, and experiences, and promoting a more inclusive and compassionate society.

# TRANSFORMING LIVES; HEALTH AND WELFARE ACTIVITIES IN KARAKULAM GRAM PANCHAYATH

## Karakulam Gram Panchayat

Karakulam is a Panchayat in Nedumangad Taluk in Thiruvananthapuram District in the state of Kerala, India. In Karakulam Gram Panchayath, various welfare activities related to health, well-being, healthcare, and social services have been implemented with the aim of uplifting the marginalized sections of society. Among these initiatives, the "BUDS Rehabilitation Center" stands out for its dedicated efforts in the 2021-22 financial year. The Panchayath has incurred the following expenses for this project:

1. Salary and allowances for BRC (Buds Rehabilitation Center) staff - ₹ 15, 76,950/-
2. Expenses related to the BRC's vehicles - ₹ 2, 14,425/-
3. Food expenses for the inmates of BRC - ₹ 2, 20,633/-

Total expenditure for the Buds Rehabilitation Center - ₹ 20, 12,008/-

The BRC is functioning under the guidance of 6 qualified personnel to provide support and rehabilitation to 51 individuals with special needs. As part of the project, 230 beneficiaries from the economically weaker sections of society received scholarships amounting to ₹14, 25,000/- for the academic year 2021-22. Additionally,

100 beneficiaries were granted scholarships through the Block and District Panchayats, bringing the total scholarship amount disbursed to ₹28, 50,000/-. To support the educational needs of the inmates at BRC, a Smart Class Room was set up at an expense of ₹1, 15,820/- during the financial year 2021-22. The Panchayath has also provided a sum of ₹3, 57,120/- for the distribution of meals to elderly beneficiaries under the Paatheyaam project. Furthermore, a day trip was organized for the elderly beneficiaries at Vattappara BUDS, aiming to provide them with physical and mental rejuvenation. At the Tea Estate Home, meals were distributed to the elderly beneficiaries and a total expense of ₹1, 70,463/- was incurred during the financial year 2021-22.

The Panchayat's endeavors in the field of health and welfare have been commendable, and they have strived to bring about significant changes in the lives of the marginalized and vulnerable sections of society. By providing scholarships, rehabilitation services, and various welfare initiatives, Karakulam Gram Panchayath has showcased a true commitment to the well-being of its residents. These efforts contribute to building a stronger and more inclusive community, ensuring that no one is left behind.

### PALLIATIVE CARE -KARAKULAM INITIATIVE

During the year 2021-2022, the Palliative Care Project successfully organized building visits for around 1,000 bedridden patients. Additionally, various services like dressing, bathing, mouth care, and bladder care were provided to 430 beneficiaries. Apart from these mentioned services, essential medical equipments such as wheelchair, water bed, oxygen concentrator, and air beds were procured and distributed to meet the specific needs of the patients. For those in critical conditions, the project arranged physiotherapy and services of secondary nurses. Two monthly visits to the homes were carried out with the help of these medical personnel.

In total, the Palliative Care Project conducted 16 building visits each month, with support from dedicated nurses, doctors from the PHC, field staff, and volunteer ambulance drivers. They ensured that the necessary services and medicines were provided to the beneficiaries during their visits. Every effort has been made to

cater to the individual requirements of the patients, ensuring they receive the best possible care and attention. The project has been successful in delivering services to patients with utmost compassion and dedication.

The Palliative Care Project in our region has been a remarkable initiative during the year 2021-2022. With the support of dedicated medical professionals and volunteers, the project has been able to provide essential services to bedridden patients and improve their quality of LIFE. This initiative reflects the commitment of our community towards the well-being and care of its residents, particularly those who require special attention and support in their health journey.

# KOLLAM DISTRICT

1. Inclusive Progress: Pavithreswaram Panchayat's Journey in SC/ST Development
2. Empowerment through Employment: West Kallada Panchayat's Commitment to SC/ST Community
3. Bright Horizons: Anchal Panchayat's Endeavors in Educational Empowerment for SC/ST Community
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8. Empowering Lives: Kollam District Panchayat's Journey in Fostering SC/ST Community Empowerment

# INCLUSIVE PROGRESS: A PANCHAYAT'S JOURNEY IN SC/ST DEVELOPMENT

## Pavithreswaram Panchayath

Pavithreswaram Panchayath, situated in Kollam district, has made commendable efforts to promote the development and welfare of scheduled caste communities in the region. With 25% of its population belonging to scheduled castes, the Panchayat has taken a proactive approach to uplift and empower these marginalized communities. Through various impactful activities and projects, Pavithreswaram Panchayath has demonstrated its dedication to bridging gaps, fostering inclusivity, and creating a supportive environment for the holistic development of scheduled caste families.

In previous projects, the Panchayat included 100 families and provided funds for house maintenance, ensuring improved living conditions for the scheduled caste households. Additionally, through the LIFE project, 55 families were given houses, offering them secure and dignified places to call home. Moreover, 22 families were supported in purchasing land, encouraging ownership and stability for the marginalized communities.

Recognizing the significance of education in empowering individuals, Pavithreswaram Panchayath distributed laptops to scheduled caste students. This initiative aimed to provide modern tools and resources to aid their

educational journey, bridging the digital divide and enabling access to knowledge.

The Panchayat prioritized the well-being of elderly members of scheduled caste families by purchasing table and chairs for those over 60 years of age. This gesture ensured their comfort and care, recognizing the valuable contributions of the elderly to the community.

Pavithreswaram Panchayat's commitment to promoting the development and welfare of scheduled caste communities has had a transformative impact on the lives of many marginalized families in the region. By undertaking initiatives such as providing housing support, educational aid, and care for the elderly, the Panchayat has actively worked towards creating a more inclusive and supportive environment for scheduled caste families.

Through these impactful activities, Pavithreswaram Panchayath has taken significant steps to bridge the gaps and empower marginalized communities, fostering a sense of belonging and empowerment among them. As the Panchayat continues its dedication to social upliftment, it sets a positive example for other regions to follow, showcasing how proactive efforts can lead to meaningful changes in the lives of scheduled caste communities, ultimately contributing to the overall progress of society.

# EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EMPLOYMENT: A PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO SC/ST COMMUNITY

## West Kallada Panchayath

West Kallada Panchayath is a local governing body situated in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. With a rich cultural heritage and a vibrant community, West Kallada Panchayath actively engages in various developmental initiatives, social welfare programs, and infrastructure improvements to uplift the lives of its residents. Known for its lush green landscapes and agricultural practices, the Panchayat fosters sustainable growth and inclusive governance, aiming to create a harmonious and vibrant living environment for all its inhabitants. Emphasizing on preserving its cultural roots and promoting social cohesion, West Kallada Panchayath is dedicated to shaping a prosperous and promising future for its citizens.

West Kallada Panchayat has been actively committed to promoting the welfare and development of Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities within its jurisdiction. With SC members constituting 23% of the total population, the Panchayat recognizes the importance of uplifting these marginalized sections of society and ensuring their integration into the mainstream.

Through dedicated efforts and well-planned initiatives,

the Panchayat has undertaken various projects aimed at enhancing the living standards and overall well-being of SC/ST communities. These projects have been meticulously executed to address key areas, including housing, sanitation, education, financial assistance, employment, and nutrition, among others. Under the mass planning projects, the Panchayat has successfully completed the construction of houses for SC/ST families, making them habitable and providing a sense of security. Additionally, financial support has been extended for marriages, higher education, and skill development to empower the youth of these communities. Sanitation facilities, such as toilets and wells, have been installed to improve hygienic conditions in SC/ST colonies.

Furthermore, the Panchayat has actively engaged in income-generating activities, supporting SC/ST members in areas like animal husbandry, poultry farming, and other sustainable livelihood initiatives. The inclusion of SC/ST families in employment guarantee schemes has ensured stable incomes and increased job opportunities for them. Despite challenges and limited resources, the Panchayat remains steadfast in its commitment to identifying gaps and shortcomings in the development of SC/ST communities. Future plans are in place to further strengthen these initiatives and foster an inclusive environment, where every member of the society, irrespective of their background, can thrive and contribute to the overall progress of West Kallada Panchayat. Through their dedicated efforts in promoting SC/ST development activities, West Kallada Panchayat serves as an inspiring example of how a local governing body can play a crucial role in uplifting marginalized communities and creating a more equitable and prosperous society for all.

Scheduled Caste (SC) members constitute 23% of the total population in West Kallada Gram Panchayat. To ensure the welfare and development of the Scheduled Castes, various essential projects have been planned and successfully completed through mass planning initiatives. In the financial year 2021-22, the Panchayat undertook several development projects, including landless house construction, house maintenance, financial assistance for marriages, and provision of PVC water tanks, drinking water connections, and improvement of basic facilities in SC colonies, construction of toilets, wells, supplementary nutrition, and support

for the elderly with beds. Additionally, projects such as cow rearing, goat rearing, chicken rearing, calf rearing, and kidari rearing have been initiated and executed.

Significant funds have been allocated for these projects, with 2 crore 16 lakh rupees spent on building houses for 54 families under the LIFE project. Furthermore, 23 lakh rupees were used to make 23 families' homes habitable, and 446,600 rupees were utilized to construct 29 toilets for SC families. The Panchayat distributed 14 laptops, amounting to 6, 05,010 rupees, to students from SC families to promote higher education among them. Additionally, the Hunger Free Kerala project ensures food provision to needy families through the popular hotel initiative, with 10, 50,000 rupees spent on providing marriage assistance to 14 SC girls.

Inclusion in the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme in the financial year 2021-22 proved beneficial for 529 Scheduled Caste families, providing them with increased income stability through guaranteed 100 days of employment for 309 Avit workers. While the Panchayat has made commendable efforts with limited resources, it acknowledges the challenges in fully addressing the needs of Scheduled Caste families. The upcoming plans aim to identify deficiencies and gaps, and strive to integrate Scheduled Castes into the mainstream of society, fostering a more inclusive and empowered community.

# BRIGHT HORIZONS: A PANCHAYAT'S ENDEAVORS IN EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT FOR SC/ST COMMUNITY

## 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.

In India, the Panchayati Raj system aims to decentralize power and decision-making by establishing elected local bodies at various levels, including village, block, and district. Anchal Block Panchayat is an important component of this system and plays a crucial role in the rural development . The Anchal Block Panchayat plays a critical role in grassroots governance and empowering rural communities. It acts as a link between the village-level Panchayats and higher levels of administration, facilitating the flow of resources, information, and coordination for effective rural development. This project was started in the financial year 2017-18 under the name of "Human Resource Development Program in Scheduled Caste Colonies." Its objective is to effectively provide education to children in Scheduled Caste Colonies of Anchal Block Panchayat, improve the quality of education, and prevent dropouts.

From the financial year 2018-19, this scheme is known as "Unnathi." All teachers appointed under this scheme

have obtained the teaching qualification prescribed by the state government to teach UP HAS category students.

The teachers visit the colonies to provide tuition to Scheduled Caste students. The classes are organized with one teacher for up to 15 children and two teachers for more than 15 children. Initially, the daily refreshment fee for attending the class was 18 rupees, which was later increased to 20 rupees. The scheme allows teachers to receive Rs 100 per hour and a maximum of Rs 200 per day.

In subsequent years, teachers have been paid only Rs 250 per hour and a maximum of Rs 500 per day. This scheme, which was initiated in each colony of the block division, is now successfully implemented in 28 centers.

# INCLUSIVE LEARNING: A PANCHAYAT'S PATH TO EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED

## Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat

Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat is a notable administrative unit located in the Eastern part of Kollam district, Kerala, India. Moreover, Kulathupuzha serves as the source of the Kallada River, and the Thenmala Dam is situated on this river, enhancing the natural beauty and importance of the region.

A significant achievement of Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat is being declared as the first Panchayat in India to achieve Constitution-literacy, a testament to their commitment to empowering and educating the local populace about their constitutional rights and duties.

The "Kanivu" project undertaken by Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat is a shining example of their vision for sustainable development. Going beyond just creating physical assets, the Panchayat has proactively focused on addressing the needs of the differently-abled and mentally challenged individuals in their community. Rather than treating their requirements as an afterthought, the Panchayat has ingrained inclusivity and sensitivity into their development approach.

The "Kanivu" project has brought positive change to the lives of 59 differently-abled individuals and

12 mentally challenged individuals identified through a screening camp. These deserving individuals were provided with necessary aids and support, amounting to an expenditure of Rs. 14, 23,953. By prioritizing their needs and dedicating resources to cater to this section of society, Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat has shown remarkable compassion and commitment to social welfare.

Furthermore, during the financial year 2021-22, the Panchayat has continued its support for these deserving sections, spending Rs. 35, 67,806 on various initiatives and projects aimed at their welfare and upliftment.

By combining social responsibility with sustainable development goals, Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat has set an inspiring example for other local governing bodies. Their approach demonstrates that true development encompasses the well-being of all individuals, irrespective of their abilities or challenges. Through their vision and commitment, Kulathupuzha Gram Panchayat continues to create a thriving and inclusive community where every resident can lead a dignified and fulfilling LIFE.

# A HOME FOR GOLDEN YEARS: A PANCHAYAT'S ENDEAVORS IN ESTABLISHING AN OLD AGE HOME

## Chittumala Block Panchayath

Chittumala Block Panchayath is a local governing body situated in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Comprising multiple Panchayats and villages, Chittumala Block 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, Chittumala Block Panchayath strives to create a thriving and harmonious living environment for all its inhabitants. Emphasizing on preserving its cultural heritage and promoting social cohesion, Chittumala Block Panchayath aspires to pave the way for a prosperous and promising future for its citizens. As part of the government's numerous schemes to ensure the welfare and protection of the elderly, 'Inchavila' Government Vriddhasadanam, which operates under the Chittumala Block Panchayat of Kollam district, has achieved significant milestones today. Initially rented in 1997, Inchavila Old Age Home served as a gathering place for isolated individuals. It commenced operations in its own building in 2007 and currently houses 84 residents. The institution primarily focuses on the physical and mental well-being of the elderly in the Chittumala Block Panchayat.

'Inchavila' Old Age Home is equipped with modern facilities such as a well-equipped kitchen, furniture, comfortable beds, a library, televisions, solar panels, an incinerator, biogas plants for waste treatment, and a building with a lift system. Ayurveda treatment is provided daily through the "Vayo Amrutam" scheme, and doctors from both allopathic and homeopathic disciplines offer their services on a monthly basis. Additionally, around 30 employees work at the facility.

Apart from these amenities, the institution also houses a Physiotherapy Center, Yoga Centre, and Nursing Rooms. Psychologist services are available to address the mental stress experienced by the residents. 'Inchavila' Government Old Age Home ensures a high quality of LIFE for its inmates, offering music lessons for relaxation, music played through speaker systems in all rooms, and CCTV systems for enhanced security.

One of the most notable activity organized by the Chittumala Block Panchayat is the Annual Scheme of Complementary Nutrition and Treatment for the elderly. In recognition of its exceptional work in the field of elderly services, Inchavila Vriddhasadanam received the award for the Best service from the Department of Social Justice in 2022. The Chittumala Block Panchayat also arranges air travel for the residents. Moreover, they are actively preparing for new projects in the upcoming years.

# INCLUSIVE FACILITIES: A PANCHAYAT'S JOURNEY IN PROVIDING TOILETS FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

## Chittumala Block Panchayath

Chittumala Block Panchayath is a local governing body situated in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Comprising multiple Panchayats and villages, Chittumala Block actively engages in various developmental projects, social welfare initiatives, and infrastructure improvements to enhance the lives of its residents. In order to ensure the quality of LIFE for differently-abled children, the innovative project of Chittumala Block Panchayat for the financial year 2021-2022 has achieved success. An adapted toilet has been constructed to fulfill the basic needs of children with special needs. The project cost a total of Rs. 20, 81,783/-, with Rs. 1, 52,000/- allocated for 21 persons. In the first phase, 15 children were eligible for the adapted toilet. The doors have been arranged in a way that allows the children to hold onto them.

The washroom is equipped with an adaptation system that includes necessary rail equipment for the construction of the closet. Out of the 21 children selected through BRC in 7 Panchayats for the year 2021-2022, 15 children were eligible in the first phase. The project aims to ensure social participation and provide assistance to parents and children, helping them become self-sufficient in

performing basic tasks. The implementation of this project is led by Chittumala Block Panchayat.

Differently-abled children are studying in various schools under Chittumala Block, including East Kallada, Perinad, Panayam, Kundara, and Muntrothuruth Panchayats. Among these children, there are 2 who face challenges in performing daily activities due to limited mobility and other serious conditions. Children with cerebral palsy, mobility challenges, severe mental problems, and dwarfism require ongoing assistance throughout their lives. These children even need help to fulfill their basic needs. By providing a toilet adapted to their physical conditions, parents can be assisted, and children can independently perform their basic needs without difficulty.

# CARING HEARTS: A PANCHAYAT'S EXEMPLARY PALLIATIVE, HEALTH, AND GERIATRIC CARE INITIATIVES

## Thazhava Gram Panchayath

Thazhava Gram Panchayath is a local governing body located in the Kollam district of Kerala, India. Committed to the holistic development of its community, Thazhava Gram 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, Thazhava Gram Panchayath strives to create a vibrant and harmonious living environment for all its inhabitants. Emphasizing on preserving its cultural heritage and promoting social cohesion, Thazhava Gram Panchayath aims to pave the way for a prosperous and promising future for its citizens.

In the second wave of covid, 24-hour desk Panchayat office was established. A 24 hour CFLTC shelter manned from 31.04.21 to 02.07.21 with 2 Doctors, 6 paramedical staff and volunteers. 435 patients were admitted in CFLTC and 150 patients were treated in DCC. 24 hours DCC worked at shelter from 07.15.21 to 02.10.22. 24 hour free ambulance service .Swab collection center started for the first time in the district. Door to door inspection through Arike

scheme started for the first time in the district. Home care treatment was initiated in the district for the first time by arranging positive patients at home. Post covid clinic was also started. 37685 people received the first dose, 37654 people received the second dose and 20349 people received third dose of covid vaccination. Expenditure of Rs.56, 64,879 was allotted for covid prevention work.

The Panchayat ensures the services of specialist doctors in the family health center through the advanced project Sukritam. Service of 3 specialists three days a week for each section, Skin, Children, Mental. 10, 00,000 has been allocated for this scheme.

**AWARDS**

Ardra Kerala, Kayakalpa National Quality for Family Health Center providing excellent services in the field of health Assurance (NQAS) received. Family Health Center is ISO accredited.

As part of shade palliative care, 1276 inpatients were registered. Ambulance, palliative nurse and medical officer services are also assured. Providing 16 home care services in a month. Palliative day celebration, family reunion, food grain kit distribution are conducted. 15, 00,000 has been spent in this sector.

Geriatric Clinic is conducted on all Tuesdays and from 2 to 4 in Family Welfare Sub-centers. Colony based medical camp for the elderly under the name Shraddha, Pariraksha is being conducted. Medicines and other services for LIFEstyle diseases are provided to the elderly through door step service through volunteers. They have also organized ageing medical camp. Medical camps are also organized for BUDS school children.

# EMPOWERING LIVES: A PANCHAYAT'S JOURNEY IN FOSTERING SC/ST COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

**Kollam District Panchayat**

Kollam District Panchayat has undertaken several development activities to empower and uplift the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities. These initiatives aim to address various socio-economic challenges faced by these marginalized sections of society and improve their overall well-being.

Kollam District Panchayat has implemented several remarkable projects in Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes areas, with a particular focus on providing employment opportunities, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Saphalyam is a housing project directly executed in the Scheduled Tribe area by Kollam District Panchayat. Instead of providing housing finance directly to the beneficiaries, the project completes the house construction, including plumbing, electrification, and attached toilets, before handing over the keys to the beneficiaries. In 2021-2022, six houses were built for families in Kulathupuzha, Peruvahikala Tribal colony, with implementation support from the State Summer Construction Board.

ITI Skill Tech is a project designed to provide a 2-year

apprenticeship appointment in government public sector institutions within the district to women and youth belonging to Scheduled Castes with polytechnic and B-Tech qualifications. A total of 269 beneficiaries were selected and appointed in various district offices, receiving stipends of Rs. 10,000/- per month for ITI passers, and Rs. 12,500/- and Rs. 15,000/- per month for polytechnic and B-Tech qualifications, respectively.

Prabitha Support is a scheme offering financial assistance to talented individuals from Scheduled Castes in the fields of art and sports, enabling them to pursue their passions with better resources and opportunities. Beneficiaries have utilized the support to excel in various activities, including publishing novels, short stories, poems, training in boxing and kabaddi, forming music groups, and more.

Nibodhita is a scheme that provides free training for competitive examinations for central and state services to young men and women from Scheduled Castes. Around 300 individuals received training under this project in the financial year 2021-2022, leading to appointments in various departments such as police and public education.

ENTRY is a scheme providing apprenticeship appointments in district government offices to women candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes with entry degrees and DOTA entry knowledge. A total of 145 people were appointed in various government offices in the selected district, receiving a monthly stipend of Rs. 12,500/-. During the COVID-19 pandemic, this project played a crucial role in ensuring income for around 500 ordinary families belonging to Scheduled Castes in the district.

These projects stand out for their success in achieving positive outcomes and supporting the socio-economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities in the region. By actively implementing these development activities, Kollam District Panchayat aims to create a more inclusive and equitable society, where the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities can thrive and lead a dignified LIFE. These initiatives underscore the Panchayat's commitment to ensuring the overall progress and well-being of all its residents, regardless of their social background.

# ALAPPUZHA DISTRICT

1. With them- For Them "Arike" by Cherthala South Gram Panchayat
2. Planet-Centered Palliative Care and Disability Assistance: A Humanitarian Mission by Pattanakkad Block Panchayat
3. Arike: Enhancing Palliative Care for Patients - An Initiative by Budhanur Gram Panchayat
4. Day homes, the new face of inclusion by Cheppadu Gram Panchayat
5. As a relief to the helpless by Kandalloor Gram Panchayat
6. Muttar Gram Panchayat Health and Consolation Treatment Elderly Disability Friendly Activities

# WITH THEM- FOR THEM
# "ARIKE"

## Cherthala South Gram Panchayat

Cherthala South is a village Panchayat under the Kanjikuzhi block of Alappuzha district. 'Arike' (Nearby) is a comprehensive palliative geriatric care scheme prepared by the Department of Health, aimed at bringing significant advancements in the field of palliative care. Cherthala South Gram Panchayat, situated in Alappuzha district, has taken a commendable step by initiating the 'Arike' project, wherein patients receive home-based Ayurveda palliative care therapy.

Apart from 'Arike,' several other beneficial schemes like 'Vayomitram' are being implemented by the Department of Social Justice and the Department of Health, specifically catering to the needs of the elderly population facing various difficulties. Furthermore, palliative aging projects are also being executed under the guidance of the Ayurveda and Homeopathy departments.

The successful implementation of these projects has yielded remarkable results in the field of health for Cherthala South Gram Panchayat. By providing comprehensive and specialized care to geriatric patients at their homes, the 'Arike' project has proven to be a significant step towards enhancing the quality of palliative care in the region. The efforts of the Department of

Health, along with the collaboration of other relevant departments, have contributed to the overall well-being and improved healthcare services for the community.

Through these initiatives, the elderly population in the region can access appropriate and personalized care, addressing their unique healthcare needs and ensuring a better quality of LIFE for them. The integration of Ayurveda and Homeopathic approaches in the palliative aging projects further enriches the healthcare options available, providing a holistic and patient-centered approach to geriatric care.

The commitment and dedication of Cherthala South Gram Panchayat in implementing these projects have set an inspiring example for other regions, emphasizing the importance of prioritizing comprehensive and compassionate care for the elderly. The success of 'Arike' and similar initiatives highlights the potential for further advancements in palliative care and geriatric services, fostering a healthier and more supportive environment for the aging population in the district

# PLANET-CENTERED PALLIATIVE CARE AND DISABILITY ASSISTANCE: A HUMANITARIAN MISSION BY PATTANAKKAD BLOCK PANCHAYAT

**Pattanakkad Block Panchayat**

Palliative care is a specialized form of medical care aimed at improving the quality of LIFE for individuals living with serious illnesses such as cancer or heart failure. It focuses on managing symptoms and providing support to patients, whether alongside curative treatments or as the primary approach. Pattanakkad Block Panchayat, in its 2021-22 plans, dedicated a significant amount of funds to planet-centered palliative care, a compassionate initiative that has received overwhelming support from the community. Additionally, the Block Panchayat has undertaken a separate project to assist people with disabilities, providing them with essential equipment and aids to lead more independent lives.

The humanitarian planet-centered palliative care project received 8, 02,550 rupees in funding for the year 2021-22. The project's focus is on delivering vital medical care, daily necessities, supplies, and medicines to indigent inpatients, especially during festive days. The scheme has been a LIFEline for numerous individuals who were suffering from serious illnesses, immobile, and in pain. Through dedicated efforts by the palliative care unit staff and the management committee, love and care have been consistently provided, making a meaningful impact

on the lives of the patients.

Recognizing the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities, the Block Panchayat initiated a project to support them. The scheme aims to improve the living conditions of those with more than 40% disability by providing them with necessary equipment to alleviate their impairments. Devices like side-wheel scooters, electronic wheelchairs, walkers, and walking sticks have been distributed to the beneficiaries. The project's profound impact is evident as some recipients have been empowered to pursue livelihood opportunities, enhancing their independence and dignity.

Pattanakkad Block Panchayat's dedication to these projects is commendable. While several schemes worth crores of rupees exist, the planet-centered palliative care and disability assistance projects have garnered immense public support due to their compassionate and humanitarian nature. The allocated funds have been efficiently utilized to benefit the intended beneficiaries, making a tangible difference in their lives.

The planet-centered palliative care and disability assistance projects undertaken by Pattanakkad Block Panchayat exemplify the true spirit of humanity and care for the most vulnerable members of society. Through their support, many individuals suffering from serious illnesses have found relief and comfort. Similarly, the provision of essential equipment and aids to people with disabilities has enabled them to lead more independent lives. Such initiatives set a positive example for other local governments to follow, reinforcing the collective effort to make a more inclusive and compassionate society.

# ARIKE: ENHANCING PALLIATIVE CARE FOR PATIENTS - AN INITIATIVE BY BUDHANUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

**Budhanur Gram Panchayat**

Arike is a commendable project implemented by the Ayurveda medical officer as part of the 2021-22 annual plan of Budhanur Gram Panchayat, in line with the state government's palliative policies. This initiative aims to extend various treatment systems to palliative patients, ensuring that they receive the necessary care and support during their difficult journey towards better health and well-being.

The primary focus of Arike is to provide comprehensive care to patients who require long-term treatment. Such patients are attended to through home visits, ensuring that they receive personalized attention and care in the comfort of their own homes. The project also entails the distribution of necessary medicines and medical assistance, further enhancing the patients' access to treatment.

The Budhanur Gram Panchayat has demonstrated its commitment to this crucial cause by allocating rupees 1 lakh for the implementation of the project during the 2021-22 annual period. Recognizing the significance and impact of the project, the allocation was increased to 1.7 lakhs during the subsequent period of 2022-23, indicating the Panchayat's dedication to improving the

healthcare services for palliative patients.

Currently, Arike has been successful in providing treatment to around 80 patients through the outpatient department (O.P) services. Additionally, approximately 30 patients receive specialized care through the home visit program, an initiative that ensures patients in need of more attention and assistance are well-taken care of in their own homes.

Despite its noble intentions and positive impact, one of the main challenges faced by the project is the inadequacy of the allocated budget. The demand for palliative care and support is substantial, and increasing the budget for the coming year can significantly extend the benefits of the project to even more patients in need.

By enhancing the financial support and allocating more resources, the Arike project can expand its reach and cater to a larger number of patients who require palliative care. With increased funding, the project can further enhance its services, provide more medical assistance, and offer support to a greater number of individuals and families grappling with palliative care needs.

Arike, the palliative care project implemented by Budhanur Gram Panchayat, is a laudable effort in providing comprehensive treatment and support to patients in need. The project's dedication to home visits, personalized care, and medication distribution ensures that patients receive the attention they deserve during their challenging times. With increased financial support, Arike can make a more significant impact on the lives of palliative patients and further the cause of compassionate healthcare within the community.

# DAY HOMES, THE NEW FACE OF INCLUSION

## Cheppadu 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.

Cheppad Gram Panchayat's response to the Covid-19 pandemic during the second phase of the CFLTC (Covid First Line Treatment Center) has been exemplary and commendable. Following the instructions of district authorities, the operation ran from 4th June 2021 to 31st October 2021, effectively sheltering 309 patients over 5 months. To facilitate this, the Panchayat utilized a separate fund of Rs. 1777995/-, which covered various expenses, including rent, current charges, and ambulance services.

To oversee the Covid-19 response efforts, the ICDS Supervisor took on the role of Nodal Officer, ensuring efficient management and coordination. Patients from various Panchayats in the district were received and cared for, and free food was provided to both patients and their attendants through a public kitchen. The Panchayat demonstrated its commitment to transparency and accountability by conducting weekly DCC (District Coordination Committee) meetings to evaluate the

progress and effectiveness of the initiative.

The dedication and success of Cheppad Gram Panchayat's Covid-19 response did not go unnoticed. When the Kerala State Audit Department released its audit report for 2020-21, an entire page was dedicated to lauding the Panchayat's efforts in dealing with the pandemic despite the financial constraints it faced. Cheppad Gram Panchayat emerged as a shining example for other localities in effectively managing the pandemic.

Another significant project run by the Panchayat is the day home (PAKALVEEDU) managed by the Swanthanam Charitable Trust in the 2nd ward. The building for the day home was constructed with the support of Zilla Panchayat, making it a model for the entire district. This facility provides a safe and happy environment for four elderly individuals who have been left alone by their children and relatives during their later years. The day home offers free travel and three daily meals for its residents, thanks to the generous contributions from well-wishers. The Panchayat has also allocated funds to improve the infrastructure and facilities of the day home, including the construction of a kitchen and the purchase of necessary equipment.

Additionally, Cheppadu Gram Panchayat has been proactive in supporting differently-abled individuals. Through collaboration with the Disabled Welfare Corporation, the Panchayat organized a camp to identify eligible beneficiaries among the differently-abled residents. Subsequently, funds allocated for the financial year 2021-22 were utilized to distribute equipment and resources to support the selected disabled individuals, enhancing their quality of LIFE and inclusivity within the community.

# AS A RELIEF TO THE HELPLESS...

## Kandalloor Gram Panchayat

Kandalloor Gram Panchayat is a local self-governing body under Mutukulam Block Panchayat in Alappuzha district. There are 15 wards under Kandallur Gram Panchayat

In 2023, the Kandallur Gram Panchayat received an allocation of 8 lakh rupees as part of the Palliative Care Scheme, which has been utilized to provide essential care and support to 250 patients, 92 of whom are inpatients. The Panchayat has taken a commendable approach by delivering services directly to the patients' homes, encompassing wound dressing care, urine catheter changing, and the distribution of necessary medicines, thereby ensuring comfort and convenience for the recipients. Moreover, the Palliative Care Program has been instrumental in supplying vital medical-related essentials, including water beds and diapers, to those in need, further enhancing the quality of LIFE for the patients.

In addition to the remarkable efforts in palliative care, Kandallur Gram Panchayat has also shown great dedication to the welfare of differently-abled individuals and those facing physical and mental challenges. Through the distribution of scholarships, valued at Rs. 14, 78,900,

the Panchayat has extended its support to these deserving individuals, recognizing the significance of empowering them through education and financial assistance.

A notable achievement for the Panchayat was the successful execution of "Oruma 2022," a Multi-Ability Arts Festival designed with the noble objective of integrating differently-abled individuals into the mainstream of society. The festival emphasized the importance of mental entertainment for such individuals, fostering an inclusive and celebratory atmosphere.

Looking forward, Kandallur Gram Panchayat has laid out comprehensive plans to cater to the needs of the physically challenged and elderly residents. A noteworthy step in this direction was the organization of a medical camp, featuring expert doctors, which resulted in the provision of essential medical equipment to 14 beneficiaries. The Panchayat has also been proactive in supplying various assistive devices, such as Accommodated Footwear, Wheelchairs, and Commode Chairs with Wheels, Hand Exercisers, Static Cycles, and Sensory Kits, demonstrating a commitment to fostering an accessible and supportive environment for those in the community who require these aids.

In summary, Kandallur Gram Panchayat has shown exemplary dedication and commitment to the welfare of its residents, especially in the areas of palliative care, support for differently-abled individuals, and initiatives aimed at the physical well-being and inclusivity of the elderly. These efforts underscore the Panchayat's vision of fostering an empowered and caring community that prioritizes the needs of all its members.

# MUTTAR GRAM PANCHAYAT HEALTH AND CONSOLATION TREATMENT ELDERLY DISABILITY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

## Muttar Gram Panchayat

Muttar Gram Panchayat is a local self-governing body under the Veliyanad block Panchayat of Alappuzha district. There are 13 wards under the Panchayat.

The Muttar Gram Panchayat's Social Welfare Scheme places a high priority on assisting the most deserving palliative and differently-abled individuals. To achieve this, the Management Committee has devised and implemented special schemes to cater to their specific needs and requirements. Within the Panchayat, there are two Vayojana clubs consisting of approximately 210 members, and to better address their concerns, the governing body established special Grama Sabhas known as "Vayojana Sangamam Santhvanath(?) Ormapookkal" based on the members' request.

For the elderly members of the Vayojana clubs, apart from regular medical examinations, the Management Committee organized art programs. These initiatives provided a novel and heartening experience for those who had previously felt confined to their homes, showing them that they could still participate in meaningful activities and enjoy LIFE to the fullest.

Regarding palliative care, the efforts in the Panchayat

area have been commendable. Among the total 128 palliative patients, 40 are bedridden, and the committee is dedicated to providing them with the necessary care and support. Additionally, during major festivals, the committee makes a special effort to visit the homes of these patients and offer gift packs, demonstrating their compassionate and considerate approach.

For the differently-abled and their family members, the Management Committee arranged a dedicated Gram Sabha. In addition to other welfare schemes, they organized a captivating art fair and family reunion for the differently-abled individuals. This event proved to be an enjoyable and novel experience for all the participating children, promoting a sense of inclusivity and happiness.

Overall, the Muttar Gram Panchayat Administrative Committee has demonstrated a sincere commitment to uplifting and caring for the common people in the community. By prioritizing the needs of the most deserving, such as the palliative and differently-abled individuals, and implementing thoughtful and engaging initiatives, they have succeeded in making a positive impact on the lives of these individuals and their families.

# KOTTAYAM DISTRICT

1. Empowering SC/ST Communities: Manimala Gram Panchayat's Initiatives for Social Development
2. Comprehensive Activities for SC/ST Community by Parathode Gram Panchayat
3. Empowering Marginalized Communities: Vaikom Block Panchayat's Commitment to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
4. Socially Secured Ettumanoor Block Panchayath
5. Holistic Developments by Ettumanoor Municipality
6. Elikulam Gram Panchayat's Commitment to Health and Well-Being
7. Caring for Community: Marangattupilly Gram Panchayat's Transformative Healthcare Initiatives
8. Endeavors of Thiruvarppu Gram Panchayat for The Social Security
9. Vayo Mithram by Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayath

# EMPOWERING SC/ST COMMUNITIES: MANIMALA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S INITIATIVES FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## 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. Manimala village has a higher literacy rate compared to Kerala. In 2011, the literacy rate of Manimala village was 96.48%, while the overall literacy rate in Kerala was 94.00%. The male literacy rate in Manimala stands at 96.78%, while the female literacy rate was 96.20%. Scheduled Castes (SC) constitute 22.31% of the total population, while Scheduled Tribes (ST) account for 1.14% of the population in Manimala village. Out of the total population, 7,778 individuals were engaged in work activities.

Kottayam district's largest Scheduled Caste (SC) colony, "Mukkada Old Colony," and "Mukkada Ideal SC Colony," are part of Manimala Gram Panchayat. Scheduled Castes (SC) constitute 22.31% of the total population in Manimala village, with 4,697 people belonging to the SC community. Additionally, there are 239 people belonging to Scheduled Tribes (ST) in Manimala Gram Panchayat. The major developmental works undertaken by the Panchayat in this area include

road development for better connectivity, renovation of houses, provision of water tanks to improve the standard of living and well-being using their own funds. The Panchayat also builds houses for SC and ST communities under the LIFE project and installs water pipelines as part of the Jal Jeevan Mission. Assistance is provided to vulnerable communities such as Vedan, Nayadi, Kalladi, and Chakliya/ Arunthathiyar for the purchase of land, construction of houses, and other amenities. Colony development programs and self-employment activities are also prioritized. The implementation of these schemes is based on an action plan prepared by District Development Officers.

In terms of education, the Panchayat recognizes that the sustainable growth of any society is only possible through educational development. Special scholarships under the CSS (Centrally Sponsored Scheme) are provided to SC students studying in 9th and 10th standards. Financial assistance is offered to students who secure admission based on merit or reservation in self-financing institutions and universities for professional courses. The amount of fees provided is based on government rates. Furthermore, the Panchayat offers free training for government exams. As part of SC women empowerment, self-employment training and other employability programs are conducted by the Panchayat through auxiliary groups, utilizing its budget allocation. Women are given loans and subsidies to start new ventures. Agricultural and allied activities are promoted through Kudumbashree and auxiliary groups. A Homeo Health Center operates in Mukkada to promote health and well-being in the community. To sum up, Panchayat has taken lots of initiatives for the social security of SC/ST people.

# COMPREHENSIVE ACTIVITIES FOR SC/ST COMMUNITY BY PARATHODE GRAM PANCHAYAT

## Parathode Gram Panchayat

Parathodu Gram Panchayat is situated in the Kanjirappally block of Kottayam district in the state of Kerala, India. It is located between Kanjirappally. Parathodu falls under the jurisdiction of Parathodu Panchayat and belongs to the South Kerala Division. It is situated 39 kilometers to the East of the district headquarters in Kottayam and 6 kilometers from Kanjirappally. The literacy rate in Parathodu is 95%. The village has a population of 32,864 and 7,841 households.

Parathodu village, in the Kanjirappally block, is divided into 19 wards. Ward 13 and 18 have SC and ST colonies, with one located in Edakunnam housing colony with 130 people and another in Pazhumala with 47 people. Additionally, there are segregated settlements in other wards as well. Oorukootams (small assemblies) have been formed within these groups, where major decisions regarding the development of SC and ST communities are discussed. Concerns and needs of the people are identified through these oorukootams, and funds are allocated based on government schemes and policies. In the year 2021-22, 45 lakh rupees were allocated for various development activities.

Parathodu Panchayat is actively engaged in various

activities and developmental programs to uplift the community. One of their primary initiatives is the distribution of water tanks to households, ensuring a reliable and sufficient water supply for daily needs. Additionally, the Panchayat focuses on supporting students pursuing higher studies by providing them with laptops, enabling access to essential tools for their academic advancement. Road maintenance and development projects are also prioritized to improve connectivity and enhance safety within the community. The Panchayat allocates funds for the construction of study rooms, creating conducive learning environments for students. Furthermore, they participate in the LIFE project, which aims to provide housing opportunities to marginalized sections of society, improving overall living conditions. Lastly, the Panchayat collaborates with the Jal Jeevan mission to install waterlines, ensuring access to clean drinking water and promoting better health and hygiene practices. Through these various initiatives, Parathodu Panchayat strives to promote the well-being and development of its residents.

# EMPOWERING MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES: VAIKOM BLOCK PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

## Vaikom Block Panchayath

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, as part of its 2021-22 annual plans, successfully implemented a diverse range of 16 projects, with a total expenditure of Rs. 11, 33,172 out of the allocated budget of Rs. 14, 49,000. In recognition of the completion of these projects, incentives were provided to the participants. The Panchayat achieved a commendable completion rate of 99%, with 15 out of the 16 projects successfully accomplished. Such efficient project management resulted in the absence of any spill-over projects when formulating the Vaikom Block Panchayat's 2022-23 Annual Plan, making it a block without any pending projects from the previous year. This notable accomplishment reflects the dedication and effectiveness of the Panchayat in executing its initiatives. As part of the completion of the projects, the Panchayat awarded appreciation to the beneficiaries involved in the

manufacturing activities.

In the financial year 2021-22, Vaikom Block Panchayat made significant strides in the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A total of nine projects were undertaken to uplift these communities. One notable initiative was the "Meritorious Scholarship for Scheduled Caste Students," which allocated Rs. 33, 17,458 to support 145 students pursuing professional degree courses, including MBBS.

Furthermore, the "Vayo Potion" scheme provided nutritional supplements worth Rs. 6 lakh to the old age people in the Scheduled Caste category, ensuring their well-being and health. Another scheme called "Chiraku" aimed at facilitating abroad employment for Scheduled Caste women and youth, with nine individuals benefitting from the allocated Rs. 5 lakhs.

As part of its commitment to education, the Block Panchayat allocated Rs. 24 lakhs to construct study rooms specifically for Scheduled Caste students, benefiting a total of 12 children. This initiative aims to provide a conducive learning environment and support their academic growth.

In addition to educational investments, the Block Panchayat also focused on various infrastructural developments. Rs. 8, 96,000 was allocated towards the PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana) housing project, ensuring accessible and quality housing for Scheduled Caste individuals. The renovation of the Scheduled Caste Development Office training building received Rs. 9 lakhs, improving the facilities and resources available for skill development and training programs. To promote sustainable energy practices, Rs. 2, 25,000 was invested in installing solar panels at the Scheduled Caste Development Office. This step towards renewable energy not only reduces carbon footprint but also helps in reducing electricity costs.

Recognizing the importance of employment opportunities, the Block Panchayat dedicated Rs. 3 lakhs for providing PSC (Public Service Commission) training specifically tailored for Scheduled Caste students. This training equips them with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in competitive exams and pursue careers in public service.

Through these investments in education, infrastructure, and skill development,

the Block Panchayat demonstrates its commitment to uplifting and empowering Scheduled Caste individuals. By addressing their specific needs and providing resources for their overall development, the Panchayat aims to create a more inclusive and equal society.

These initiatives collectively demonstrate the Block Panchayat's commitment to the social progress of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, with an expenditure of approximately one crore rupees across these nine projects. By providing educational support, housing, employment opportunities, and skill development, the Panchayat aims to empower and uplift these marginalized communities, fostering their socio-economic growth and overall well-being.

# SOCIALLY SECURED ETTUMANOOR BLOCK PANCHAYATH

## Ettumanoor Block Panchayath

Ettumanoor Block Panchayat, located in the Kottayam district of Kerala, encompasses a total area of 142 square kilometers. Established in the year 1996, it is composed of 15 wards that serve the local population. The Block Panchayat exercises administrative control over six Gram Panchayats, ensuring effective governance and development within its jurisdiction.

Etumanoor Block Panchayat has undertaken several commendable projects in the financial year 2021-22, with a focus on civil infrastructure and community welfare. Construction of Anganwadis, the establishment of Ootupura (community dining facility) for schools, and the distribution of water purifiers to schools and Anganwadis are among the notable projects that have been successfully executed.

The completion of Viojana Park, a dedicated space for the elderly, stands as a remarkable achievement for the Block Panchayat. While the construction phase has been completed, the materials required for the second phase of the project are awaited. Additionally, the Panchayat has taken initiatives for self-defense training of girls. Initially, girls from three schools were selected, and upon completion of the project, certificates were distributed to

them. This year, 113 girls have been selected for self-defense training, highlighting the Panchayat's commitment to empowering and safeguarding young girls.

Another noteworthy project undertaken by Ettumanoor Block Panchayat is the distribution of spectacles to the elderly. This approved project with special authorization recognizes the significance of vision in daily LIFE. Ensuring access to proper eyewear is a gratifying endeavor that positively impacts the aging population.

In order to protect drinking water wells and preserve wetlands, the Panchayat has successfully completed a project focused on sealing the wells. This initiative plays a crucial role in safeguarding the environment and maintaining the quality of water sources.

Furthermore, the Block Panchayat has launched a project to enhance Anganwadis, creating smart facilities for improved early childhood education and care. In the first phase, 13 Anganwadis have been selected, and implementation is underway, with an additional 12 Anganwadis planned for the second phase. This initiative aims to provide safe and enriching experiences for young children, ensuring their holistic development.

Notably, Ettumanoor Block Panchayat has undertaken a pioneering project for the well-being of autistic individuals. The establishment of the Miami Autism Park, operated in ICH of the Panchayat, serves as a dedicated space designed to foster sensory experiences and learning for children with autism. This initiative sets a significant precedent as the first project of its kind undertaken by a block Panchayat in the state.

Through these diverse projects, Etumanoor Block Panchayat has demonstrated its commitment to improving infrastructure, empowering communities, and creating inclusive spaces for individuals with specific needs. These initiatives not only address the immediate requirements of the community but also contribute to the overall development and well-being of the residents.

# HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENTS BY ETTUMANOOR MUNICIPALITY

## Ettumanoor Municipality

Ettumanoor is a major town and municipality in the Kottayam district of Kerala, India, located 11 kilometers North East of Kottayam city, 50 kilometers South of Cochin, and 70 kilometers South of Cochin International Airport. Ettumanoor is en route to the tourist destinations of Wagamon and Poonjar. The Industrial Estate, under the government of Kerala and the Government of India, is a major industrial center in Ettumanoor. It is the only industrial estate in Kerala under the Ministry of Labor, Government of India. Ettumanoor is the headquarters of Kerala Chuvar Chithra Kala Kendram (Government of Kerala). The Ettumanoor Municipal Office is located at the Shopping Complex, Private Bus Stand. There are 35 wards within an area of 27.8 square kilometers in the municipality. This municipality is located on the banks of the Meenachil River; it is a beautiful area comprising the villages of Perror, Ettumanoor, and Perumbayikad. 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 health sector of Ettumanoor comprises Kottayam Medical College's Primary Health Centre, situated in the middle of Ettumanoor town. Under this PHC, there are

7 sub-centers working in different areas of the municipality. In addition to the PHC and its sub-centers, there are government Ayurveda and homeopathic hospitals in the municipality. The health sector provides palliative care services and dialysis for those with kidney diseases as part of the Santhwanam scheme, funded by the municipality. Medicines and insulin are provided free of cost to the elderly people in the municipality. Home delivery of medicines is also available for those who are unable to obtain them on their own. Recreational and well-being activities, such as the "Vayo Sangamam" elderly people's meeting, are organized by the municipality. Festivals like Onam are celebrated with the involvement of the elderly. As part of this meeting, writings done by elderly people are published as souvenirs. The municipality strives to promote the holistic development of children, women, and differently-abled individuals by implementing various schemes and projects. It is also recognized as a child-friendly city.

There are 45 Anganwadis in the 35 wards of Ettumanoor municipality. Among them, 21 Anganwadis operate on their own property, while the rest operate in rented buildings. The activities of the Anganwadis primarily focus on four categories of people: adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children under the age of 6. There is a supplementary nutritious food supply scheme by municipality successfully running, providing health check-ups and nutritional camps every month. The municipality also involved in projects jointly run by KILA and UNICEF as part of a child-friendly municipality. Municipality provides various community-based programs and facilities, such as Kudumbashree initiatives, community-based programs, and gender-friendly initiatives. Implementing a child parliament, vocational training courses for degree students, swimming lessons for all children, study tours led by Bala Sabha, renovation and construction work for safety measures in Anganwadis, providing toys and additional facilities, and ensuring electricity supply to Anganwadis without electricity are the upcoming projects of Ettumanoor Municipality.

# ELIKULAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

## Elikulam Gram Panchayat

Elikulam Gram Panchayat is located 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 Gram Panchayat.

The Panchayat promotes inclusivity by organizing events for the marginalized segments of the society. Elikulam Gram Panchayat strives to create a compassionate and supportive community through their various activities.

In the rural areas , Elikulam Gram Panchayat is actively involved in various philanthropic activities related to healthcare. Currently, there are 182 patients in the Panchayat who require Palliative care. To address their needs, the Gram Panchayat has appointed a palliative nurse and an Asha worker who visit their homes once a week to provide essential personal care. Additionally, the Panchayat has launched its own ambulance service to support this initiative. As part of this scheme, dialysis kits for kidney patients and medicines for

cancer patients are provided free of cost. This scheme was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister, Shri. V.N Vasavan. Blood Pressure apparatuses have also been procured under the Panchayat scheme, enabling Asha workers to conduct free BP tests during their home visits. A workshop on palliative care was conducted at the Panchayat level to educate caregivers of bedridden patients.

In line with the concept of people friendly Panchayat, the Panchayat has initiated a project to offer free coffee and snacks to the public visiting for various purposes. Additionally, a health desk has been established, providing free blood sugar and BP checks. Non-communicable disease clinics are conducted every Wednesday in collaboration with the Paika Community Health Center.

A special Gramasabha dedicated to differently-abled individuals was held in the Panchayat to better understand their challenges and formulate appropriate plans. To foster inclusivity, a boat trip along the Vembanad backwater at Kumarakom was organized, allowing the differently-abled individuals and their attendants from the Panchayat to enjoy the experience. This was followed by a visit to Alappuzha beach, inaugurated by Alappuzha Municipal Chairperson Smt. Indu Vinod. The Panchayat has also formed a singing troupe comprising differently-abled individuals with artistic talent.

In a significant milestone, the first ration shop for differently-abled persons was opened in the Panchayat as per the Targeted Public Distribution System Control Order 2021. The Civil Supplies Department has allocated this shop at Karakulam Junction in Elikulam Panchayat.

The construction of BUDS School building is in its final stages. In addition, the Panchayat has established day care homes in different wards based on the instructions of the Gram Sabha. These day homes, named Snehaveed, were inaugurated by Jose K Mani MP.

To cater to the elderly population, an art fair called "Nirav@60+" was organized, providing a new and enriching experience. Medical camps offering Ayurvedic, Allopathic, and Homeopathic treatments were organized for the elderly in various wards, held at day homes and Anganwadis. Yoga classes were also conducted at

the day homes for the elderly, promoting their well-being.

Through these initiatives, Elikulam Gram Panchayat demonstrates its commitment to the health and well-being of its residents, with a particular focus on the elderly, differently-abled individuals, and palliative care patients.

# CARING FOR COMMUNITY: MARANGATTUPILLY GRAM PANCHAYAT'S TRANSFORMATIVE HEALTHCARE INITIATIVES

## 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.

The year 2021-2022 proved to be a pivotal period in the realm of healthcare, as the Marangattupilly Gram Panchayat diligently planned and executed a series of initiatives to enhance the overall well-being of the community. With the primary goal of ensuring equitable access to high-quality healthcare services, the Gram Panchayat embarked on a transformative journey that yielded remarkable developments and improvements.

During this period, one significant achievement was the transformation of the primary health center into a family health center. By augmenting the basic facilities and establishing provisions for 20 additional beds, the Gram Panchayat successfully expanded the capacity of

the center to cater to the healthcare needs of the community. Notably, the Medimix Group's CSR fund played a vital role by providing the essential beds, greatly improving healthcare accessibility for the local population.

In parallel, the Gram Panchayat recognized the importance of holistic wellness and elevated the status of the Kurichithanam sub-center to a wellness center. This strategic move broadened the range of healthcare services available within the Gram Panchayat, ensuring comprehensive care for the residents. To further enhance patient convenience, the introduction of the Universal Health ID (UDH) system streamlined healthcare processes, simplifying the experience for individuals seeking medical assistance. The Gram Panchayat's commitment to healthcare encompassed not only modern medicine but also traditional practices. Alongside the wellness center, the Gram Panchayat collaborated with an Ayurveda Hospital to establish a dedicated center for holistic healthcare. Moreover, the presence of three homeopathic dispensaries within the Gram Panchayat facilitated preventive medicine initiatives under the banner of "Sarva."

The year 2021-2022 was undoubtedly shaped by the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the Gram Panchayat displayed remarkable proactivity by implementing unique and specialized programs aimed at preventing the spread of the virus. Notably, the Covid Dash Board, developed and maintained by the Gram Panchayat, gained statewide recognition for its online uploading of COVID-19 statistics. This platform proved instrumental in engaging the community and facilitating the formulation of effective preventive measures by the government and the Gram Panchayat.

Acknowledging the need for remote healthcare services, the Gram Panchayat introduced telemedicine and tele counseling facilities. Additionally, the establishment of the army, a volunteer group as part of Covid-19 preventive measures played a crucial role in providing support and assistance to physically challenged patients in hospitals. This initiative aimed to address the unique challenges faced by these individuals, ensuring they received the necessary care and attention.

Actively participating in the Government's organ donation program, "Mrita Sanjeevini", the Gram Panchayat spearheaded a massive campaign. Through

special Gramasabhas conducted in each ward, the Panchayat collected consent forms for organ donation, which were then handed over to Dr. Jayakumar, the District coordinator of "Mrita Sanjeevini". This commendable initiative aimed to raise awareness about organ donation and encourage community involvement in this noble cause.

The dedication of the Gram Panchayat to providing exemplary services was further evident through the establishment of a relief fund. Willing donations from satisfied customers contributed to this fund, enabling the provision of medical assistance to deserving individuals. Additionally, the implementation of doorstep service ensured that bedridden patients received necessary home-based treatment. Furthermore, a palliative care project was initiated to provide compassionate and independent care for those in need.

Affirming their solidarity with differently-abled individuals, the Gram Panchayat declared itself a "Differently-abled friendly" entity. This commitment translated into the organization of a medical camp specifically tailored to the needs of differently-abled individuals, along with the provision of aids to enhance their quality of LIFE.

The Gram Panchayat actively prioritized creating an elderly-friendly environment within the community during the period of 2021-2022. They implemented various initiatives aimed at promoting the well-being of the elderly population. Gram Panchayat initiated programs and activities that focused on raising awareness and providing support for individuals affected by kidney-related issues. Additionally, they celebrated Elderly People's Day, known as Santhwanam, which was a special occasion dedicated to honoring and appreciating the elderly members of the community. As part of their efforts, an art fair was organized as a part of a comprehensive camp aimed at the elderly. This fair served as a platform for showcasing the artistic talents of the elderly and provided them with an opportunity to engage in creative pursuits. In line with their commitment to healthcare, the Gram Panchayat organized a medical camp specifically designed for the elderly. During this camp, medical professionals conducted check-ups, distributed necessary medicines, and also delivered informative sessions on physical and mental diseases to increase awareness and promote proactive health management. Furthermore, in the year 2021-2022, a model Anganwadi located in the 8th ward was selected

to implement the Swayam Prabha scheme for the elderly. This scheme aimed to cater to the unique needs of the elderly population, providing them with specialized services and support.

These initiatives collectively demonstrated the Gram Panchayat's dedication to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for the elderly members of the community, ensuring their well-being and enhancing their quality of LIFE.

# ENDEAVORS OF THIRUVARPPU GRAM PANCHAYAT FOR THE SOCIAL SECURITY

## 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 has made a profound impact on the lives of its residents through its dedicated efforts in healthcare and well-being. The Panchayat has become a source of solace and hope for 215 individuals who are bedridden, permanently ill, or facing mental health challenges. In the year 2021-22 alone, the Panchayat spent a significant amount of Rs. 699,947 on healthcare initiatives, providing permanent care to 150 patients.

Under the leadership of the Gram Panchayat, comprehensive activities have been undertaken to ensure prevention, treatment, and recovery from epidemics. The Panchayat has implemented awareness campaigns, established a 24-hour help desk, and set up care centers for Covid-19 patients. Additionally, Kudumbashree-led disinfection teams and rapid response teams have played crucial roles in curbing the spread of the virus. Team for crematorium management to facilitate the respectful funeral rites for deceased individuals. The Panchayat has spent Rs. 679,803 for Covid-19 prevention and Rs. 773,391 for various healthcare activities.

In the realm of palliative welfare, the Panchayat has included mobility aids such as wheelchairs and walkers for deserving patients in the financial year 2021-22. Collaborating with allopathic, homeopathy, and Indian medicine departments, the Panchayat has organized comprehensive healthcare initiatives, expending Rs. 1,599,944 on essential medicines.

During the Covid-19 and post-Covid era, the Panchayat has provided telemedicine and tele-counseling services, standing alongside the people in their healthcare needs. Yoga classes for women have also been initiated, with an expenditure of Rs. 35,600. The Panchayat has taken steps to provide oxygen concentrators to economically disadvantaged villagers affected by Covid-19 and has established a lab facility attached to the primary health center.

Thiruvarppu Gram Panchayat is also notable for its efforts to integrate differently-abled individuals into mainstream society through the Pramadam art festival, with an expenditure of Rs. 57,837. Moreover, scholarships amounting to Rs. 1,729,300 have been provided to disabled persons.

In terms of social security, the Panchayat has allocated Rs. 782,820 for the distribution of beds to elderly individuals, Rs. 19,175 for Bio Club activities, and Rs. 2,540,792 for the Anupuraka Nutrition program implemented through Anganwadi centers.

As a village in Upper Kuttanad, Thiruvarppu faces the challenges brought by monsoons, which often leads to an increase in diseases. Pre-monsoon sanitation activities have been carried out in all 18 wards of the Gram Panchayat, with an expenditure of Rs. 180,000, under the guidance of the Ward Head Vigilance Committee.

The Panchayat has also allocated Rs. 199,507 for treatment financing schemes for kidney, cancer, dialysis, and organ donations. By ensuring access to diagnosis and treatment for LIFEstyle diseases, the Panchayat addresses one of the biggest challenges of the 21st century. An amount of Rs. 91,912 has been dedicated to this cause.

Thiruvarppu Gram Panchayat continues to strive for the health and well-being of its villagers through exemplary activities, demonstrating its commitment to providing quality healthcare services to the community.

# VAYO MITHRAM
# BY KADUTHURUTHY BLOCK PANCHAYATH

**Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayat**

The Kaduthuruthy block Panchayat, located in the scenic Kottayam district of Kerala, India, is a significant administrative unit overseeing the development and governance of the region. Comprising six Gram Panchayats, it plays a pivotal role in driving progress and welfare within its jurisdiction. With a total of 13 wards under its purview, the Kaduthuruthy block Panchayat encompasses a vast area spanning 188 square kilometers. Being situated in the culturally rich and environmentally diverse Kottayam district, the Kaduthuruthy block Panchayat holds immense potential for growth and prosperity. With its unique blend of rural landscapes and urban centers, the Panchayat is dedicated to fostering sustainable development while preserving the natural beauty and cultural heritage of the region.

The Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayat is dedicated to implementing innovative projects that cater to the well-being and healthcare needs of its residents, especially senior citizens. With initiatives like Vayomitram, the Panchayat aims to provide comprehensive healthcare services and ensure a fulfilling LIFEstyle for its elderly population. This commitment extends beyond medical assistance, encompassing mental well-being, social

engagement, and cultural celebrations.

Vayo mitram is an exemplary project implemented by the Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayat, focusing on the well-being of individuals aged 60 years and above, as well as expectant members. Through this initiative, blood pressure monitoring, medication distribution, and other necessary medical support are provided in the centers which is nearer to them by doctors and nurses. The project covers all six Panchayats within the Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayat, greatly benefiting individuals who face mobility challenges.

Vayomithram is a commendable project implemented by the Kerala Social Security Mission to address the needs of senior citizens. Since its inception in 2020, the Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayat has been actively involved in the implementation of this initiative. The unit established in Kaduthuruthy block caters to the patients of Kaduthuruthy and Kallara Gram Panchayats. With a network of 20 camp centers spread across different wards, Vayomithram ensures accessible healthcare services for the elderly.

Each Vayomithram unit comprises a dedicated team consisting of a doctor, nurse, Junior Public Health Nurse (JPHN), and driver. This well-equipped team provides comprehensive healthcare assistance to senior citizens aged 65 and above, guaranteeing their social security and addressing prevalent LIFEstyle diseases. Regular medical camps are conducted in every Panchayat, where doctors and nurses conduct thorough health check-ups, administer medications, and monitor vital parameters such as blood pressure and blood sugar levels. The Block Panchayat places great emphasis on the treatment and management of LIFEstyle diseases, ensuring that seniors receive the necessary interventions and support. To cater to the diverse healthcare needs, the mission provides an extensive range of approximately 110 medicines. The impact of Vayomithram can be seen through the substantial number of registered patients. Currently, there are around 2,640 registered patients benefiting from the project, with 2,000 of them being regular visitors for treatments and medicines. This showcases the effectiveness and significance of the project in catering to the healthcare needs of the elderly population within the Kaduthuruthy region.

In addition to medical care, the Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayat recognizes the importance of mental well-being and recreational activities for senior citizens. Clubs and organizations have been established to cater to their entertainment and social needs. Officials are elected to oversee these clubs, organizing events and celebrations such as Christmas and Onam. Festivities like Onam Sadhya and Christmas cake cutting bring joy and create a sense of community, while recreational trips provide opportunities for leisure and enjoyment.

The Kaduthuruthy Block Panchayat's commitment to the health and happiness of its senior citizens is evident through the implementation of projects like Vayo mitram. By providing medical support, addressing LIFEstyle diseases, fostering social engagement, and organizing cultural celebrations, the Panchayat strives to create a vibrant and fulfilling environment for its elderly population. The efforts of the Block Panchayat contribute to the overall well-being and quality of LIFE of senior citizens in the Kaduthuruthy region.

# IDUKKI DISTRICT

1. Support to alleviate suffering : Peerumade Gram Panchayat
2. Care of senior citizens : Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat
3. Medical attention and care for palliatives :Udumbanchola Gram Panchayat
4. Emergency Response Team (ERT) Formation by Munnar Gram Panchayat

# SUPPORT TO ALLEVIATE SUFFERING BY PEERUMADE GRAM PANCHAYAT

## Peerumade Gram Panchayat

Peerumade, a village Panchayat located in Kerala, has emerged as a shining example of effective interventions in the field of health. The Panchayat has implemented various initiatives to combat Covid-19 and has also established a commendable palliative care programs for terminally ill patients. These efforts have garnered appreciation and respect from the community and have set an example for other regions to follow.

The Palliative care program initiated by Peerumade Panchayat has proven to be a valuable approach in providing compassionate care to individuals with terminal illnesses. A primary focus of this program is to compile a comprehensive database of sick individuals, enabling healthcare professionals to identify their needs and provide appropriate medication and support to alleviate suffering. As most of the services offered in this program cater to the elderly, who are more susceptible to terminal diseases, the peer-to-peer interactions within the palliative care community have proven to be immensely beneficial. Patients find solace in sharing their difficulties with others who are experiencing similar challenges while accessing palliative care.

Notably, the SC Model Residential School at Kuttikanam,

which served as the only CFLT center in the Peerumade constituency, played a vital role during the Covid-19 pandemic. While the world was grappling with preventive measures to control the spread of the virus, Kerala faced the country's first confirmed case of Covid-19. In this critical situation, the Panchayat rose to the occasion and set up various facilities on a war-time basis, including emergency vehicle services, to cater to the needs of those under observation. The Panchayat's proactive approach in handling the pandemic garnered appreciation, as the staff went above and beyond their regular office duties to provide excellent services without causing any complaints.

The efforts and dedication displayed by the Peerumade Panchayat have not only elevated the prestige of the Health Department but also earned the respect and admiration of the people, including the esteemed Panchayat Deputy Director. By taking the forefront in fighting against Covid-19 and ensuring effective palliative care for the terminally ill, the Panchayat has become a role model for other centers and has exemplified the importance of proactive and compassionate governance.

Peerumade Panchayat's commitment to implementing innovative health initiatives, such as the palliative care program and effective Covid-19 response, showcases its dedication to the well-being of its residents. The community-driven approach, along with the involvement of dedicated healthcare professionals, has enabled the Panchayat to provide exemplary services and care. The efforts of the Peerumade Panchayat serve as a testament to the power of local governance in creating a supportive and resilient healthcare system that addresses the diverse needs of the community.

# CARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS BY CHAKKUPALLAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

## Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat

Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat is committed to protecting and caring for the elderly in their community. By offering assistance and support to the elderly, the Panchayat aims to fulfil the last wishes of these individuals and provide them with a sense of comfort and belonging. The concept of elderly care is akin to elderly education and should be embraced by everyone as a shared responsibility. Additionally, there should be a spirit of goodwill and willingness to help those in need, particularly the elderly, who deserve our care and respect in their golden years. By prioritizing elderly care, Chakkupallam Gram Panchayat sets an example for other communities to follow and ensures that their elderly members feel valued and cared for in their aging years.

The primary function of primary health centers is to provide essential healthcare services to the people. The concept of primary health was first introduced in India by the Bhor Committee in 1946, with the goal of establishing health centers in close proximity to the population, emphasizing disease treatment and prevention.

The activities of primary health centers include Health care services for the community, family planning and

reproductive health services, provision of clean and safe drinking water, assessment of factors affecting public health, health awareness and education programs, training and development of health workers, basic laboratory facilities for diagnostic purposes.

As people age, it is natural for them to face various health concerns and worries. Many elderly individuals who were once the pillars of their families find themselves living with illnesses and health issues in their old age after a LIFEtime of hard work. While the protection and care of family members, especially women, are integral to our family LIFE, the busy and fast-paced modern LIFE sometimes makes it challenging for people to properly care for their elderly relatives. Consequently, some elderly individuals may feel neglected and lonely, leading to a sense of isolation and unhappiness.

Parents work tirelessly to protect and support their children throughout their lives, ensuring their well-being and providing for their needs. However, as children grow up and become independent, it is not uncommon for family dynamics to change, and elderly parents may face difficulties in maintaining strong relationships with their children. The idea of reciprocity is essential in family relationships, meaning that just as parents care for their children, it is equally important for children to care for their aging parents.

In the present scenario, the number of elderly individuals in our country is increasing, and a significant portion of them faces disabilities and health issues. Many elderly people do not have their own source of income and rely on the support and care of their family members.

The desire of the elderly is to spend their twilight years with their loved ones and cherish their time with family. However, due to various reasons, not all elderly individuals get to fulfil this wish. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that the elderly are cared for and protected in their old age. If everyone takes care of their elderly family members, it can significantly alleviate the problems faced by the elderly population.

# MEDICAL ATTENTION AND CARE FOR PALLIATIVES BY UDUMBANCHOLA GRAM PANCHAYAT

**Udumbanchola Gram Panchayat**

Udumbanchola Gram Panchayat has taken commendable strides in providing palliative care services to its residents. In the year 2021-22, the Panchayat registered 145 in-patients for palliative care, demonstrating their commitment to supporting those in need of specialized medical attention and care.

For these 145 inpatients, a dedicated team of palliative care nurses conduct 16 home care visits per month, ensuring that the patients receive necessary medical check-ups and medications right in the comfort of their homes. These visits are crucial in maintaining the patients' well-being and improving their quality of LIFE during their palliative care journey.

The palliative care services extend beyond home visits. The Panchayat organizes daily palliative OP (Out-Patient) works to cater to the broader community's needs. During these OP sessions, patients and their caregivers can collect the necessary medicines from the Panchayat facility. The Panchayat has also taken proactive measures to ensure medical emergencies during home visits are promptly addressed, with medical officer services readily available when required.

To strengthen and support the palliative care nurses working under the Panchayat, a well-rounded team is in place. Health staff, supervisors, and dedicated volunteers receive training to assist the nurses and provide additional support in delivering compassionate care to the patients. The commitment to training and professional development enhances the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the palliative care services.

All these palliative care activities are implemented at the Primary Health Center (PHC) level and the Family Health Center. The Panchayat allocates funds from the Panchayat Plan to sustain and expand these essential services, ensuring that the palliative care program remains accessible and beneficial to the residents of Udumbanchola Gram Panchayat.

By prioritizing palliative care, the Panchayat is making a significant difference in the lives of those facing challenging health conditions, providing them with much-needed comfort, support, and medical attention. This compassionate and comprehensive approach to healthcare sets an excellent example for other communities, showcasing the importance of holistic care and community support for those in need.

# EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (ERT) FORMATION BY MUNNAR GRAM PANCHAYAT

**Munnar Gram Panchayat**

Munnar, a picturesque hill station in Kerala, faced a devastating tragedy during the monsoon of 2018, which left the entire nation in shock. Among the incidents that occurred during this calamity, the Pettimudi disaster was particularly heart-wrenching. A massive landslide claimed the lives of 70 workers, leaving the community in grief and distress. The rugged terrain of the location posed significant challenges for rescue operations, further complicating the already difficult situation.

In response to this catastrophic event and the difficulties faced during rescue efforts, the Munnar Gram Panchayat took a proactive approach to address such emergencies effectively in the future. Realizing the importance of a specialized team capable of swift and efficient rescue operations, they decided to form the Emergency Response Team (ERT). The primary objective of this team was to be prepared for any disastrous incident and act promptly to minimize loss of LIFE and provide timely assistance to those in need.

Comprising 60 dedicated individuals from 21 wards, the ERT is well-trained to handle emergency situations. Among these members, 20 individuals have undergone special training, assuming leadership roles during rescue

missions. The team is equipped with state-of-the-art gear, including climbing ropes, body harnesses, , jumars, descenders, pulleys, LIFE jackets, carabiners, helmets, hazar jackets, and other essential equipment to ensure their safety and effectiveness during operations.

The ERT of Munnar operates round-the-clock, always on standby for any incident that may occur in the region. Their dedication to serve the community, even in the face of adverse weather conditions and natural calamities, reflects their commitment to protecting the people of Munnar Gram Panchayat.

Following the Pettimudi disaster, the ERT showcased its efficiency and dedication by rapidly responding to the accident sites and collaborating with the police and fire force during rescue operations. Being locals, the team members possess an intimate understanding and knowledge of the terrain, which allows them to provide swift services, even during nighttime emergencies.

The establishment of the ERT and its continuous readiness to respond to emergencies demonstrate the profound care and concern the Munnar Gram Panchayat has for its residents. Knowing that an efficient and well-trained team is available to assist during times of crisis provides the people with a sense of security and reassurance. The commitment of the ERT to serve despite heavy rains exemplifies the Panchayat's dedication to the welfare and safety of its community members.

In conclusion, the formation of the Emergency Response Team (ERT) in Munnar has proven to be a crucial step in ensuring the safety and well-being of the residents, especially during emergencies like the Pettimudi disaster. Equipped with modern facilities and specialized training, the ERT remains ever vigilant and responsive to any unfortunate incident that may occur within the region. Their dedication and efficiency in rescue operations demonstrate the deep-rooted care and concern the Munnar Gram Panchayat has for its people, solidifying their commitment to serving the community in times of need.

# ERNAKULAM DISTRICT

1. Worthwhile Activities Of Angamaly Municipality For Differently Abled
2. Shining a Beacon of Hope: Asamannoor's Compassionate Care for Bedridden Elderly
3. Empowering Scheduled Caste Communities: Initiatives By Maradu Municipal Corporation
4. Worthwhile Activities Of Nellikuzhi Gram Panchayat For Differently Abled

# WORTHWHILE ACTIVITIES OF ANGAMALY MUNICIPALITY FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED

## 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.

Furthermore, the Angamaly Municipal BUDS Rehabilitation Centre commenced operations in 2021-2022. The center hired a teacher and a nanny for Budd's School and arranged a vehicle for transportation purposes. An expenditure of Rs. 9,38,028/- was made for the basic facilities required at the BUDS Rehabilitation Center, located in the municipal building in Ward 13. Additionally, the center received Rs. 12, 50,000/- from

the Kudumbashree Mission for study equipment and furniture. Currently, the center caters to 16 children facing physical and mental challenges, providing them with meals and other necessary support as part of the plan.

# SHINING A BEACON OF HOPE: ASAMANNOOR'S COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR BEDRIDDEN ELDERLY

## Asamannoor Gram Panchayat

Asamannoor is a village in the Ernakulam district of Kerala, which came into existence in 1953 with six wards and seven ward members. It is located in the Kunnathunad Taluk. According to the 2011 census of India, Asamannoor has 4714 households, and the literacy rate of the village is 84.57%.

The Asamannoor Gram Panchayat's efforts to address the physical and mental difficulties faced by elderly bedridden patients are truly commendable and heartwarming. Being bedridden, these inpatients often feel isolated from the outside world, leading to feelings of loneliness and despair. However, with the establishment of a palliative care unit, Asamannoor has taken a significant step towards providing much-needed support and comfort to approximately 250 elderly inpatients.

At the forefront of this compassionate initiative are the 18 dedicated Asha workers. Their presence and diligent care have had a profound impact on the well-being of the elderly patients, instilling in them a sense of hope and empowerment for a better tomorrow.

The annual 'Rogi Bandhu Sangamam,' a patient-relative union, organized by the Panchayat, is a testament to their

commitment to creating meaningful and memorable moments for the participants. This event not only brings joy and happiness but also helps strengthen the bond between patients and their loved ones, making them feel connected and cherished.

In a society where the elderly are sometimes overlooked, Asamannoor Panchayat has taken on the responsibility to stand up for those who are often forgotten. By providing palliative care and support to bedridden patients, they are not only addressing their physical needs but also recognizing the importance of their emotional and mental well-being.

The impact of this noble initiative is evident in the sparkle and joy that shines in the eyes of those who participate in the 'Rogi Bandhu Sangamam.' Witnessing these heartwarming moments, one cannot help but be touched by the profound difference made by the care and attention given to these elderly individuals.

Asamannoor has become a beacon of hope for the elderly, thanks to the dedication and compassion of the Asha workers and the progressive approach taken by the Gram Panchayat. Their collective efforts have brought light into the lives of the bedridden patients, giving them a reason to look forward to a better and more hopeful future. The care provided by the Asha workers and the love and support received through the 'Rogi Bandhu Sangamam' have undoubtedly made a positive impact on the lives of these elderly individuals, proving that with empathy and solidarity, we can make a significant difference in the lives of those in need.

# EMPOWERING SCHEDULED CASTE COMMUNITIES: INITIATIVES BY MARADU MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

## Maradu Municipality

As part of the development initiatives for Scheduled Castes/Tribes, the municipal corporation has allocated 40, 00,000 rupees in the fiscal year 2021-22 for the construction of flats to accommodate eight families. These flats will serve as a residential facility for economically deserving families belonging to the Scheduled Caste category. The second phase of this project is expected to be completed under the 2022-23 schemes.

Furthermore, the municipal corporation has allotted 6, 50,000 rupees for the education advancement of eligible students from Scheduled Caste communities. The scholarship aims to support their academic progress and encourage them to pursue higher education. Additionally, the corporation is providing a residential facility for 800 square feet houses under the 'T' category beneficiaries, who are the rightful heirs of Scheduled Caste protective occupancy. The corporation has spent 1, 12,500 rupees for the construction of water tanks in houses with no direct water connection.

Moreover, elderly citizens above the age of 60 are also receiving assistance, with an expenditure of 62,440 rupees in the fiscal year 2021-22. The corporation is taking care of their expenses, including medical costs.

Additionally, students from the cultural academy of the Scheduled Caste category are being provided with laptops and other study aids to support their educational endeavors. For this purpose, an amount of 8, 77,878 rupees has been spent.

In support of Scheduled Caste girls' marriage, an amount of 3,75,000 rupees has been spent in the fiscal year 2021-22 to provide financial aid to 18 eligible brides. These initiatives highlight the municipal corporation's commitment to the upliftment and welfare of Scheduled Caste communities in the city. In total, 1, 34, 51,000 rupees have been allocated for the development of Scheduled Caste communities in the Maradu municipality, as approved by the government.

# WORTHWHILE ACTIVITIES OF NELLIKUZHI GRAM PANCHAYAT FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED

**Nellikuzhi Gram Panchayat**

Nellikuzhi GP, situated in Kothamangalam Taluk, Ernakulam district, Kerala, is a bustling suburban area renowned for its thriving furniture business. Covering an area of 27.62 square kilometers and located on the Aluva-Munnar State Highway, Nellikuzhi serves as a significant hub for hardwood furniture in South India. The Panchayat is an integral part of Kothamangalam town, which is located 3.5 km away, while the towns of Muvattupuzha and Perumbavoor are situated 15 km away from Nellikuzhi.

The education sector in Nellikuzhi flourishes with the presence of the Daya BUDS Special School. Established in 2002 and managed by the unrecognized authority, this co-educational institution caters to students from Grades 1 to 4. The medium of instruction used in the school is Malayalam. With well-maintained classrooms, the school provides a conducive learning environment for its students. Essential amenities such as electricity, tap water, functional toilets, and a playground are available, contributing to a comfortable and safe learning environment for the young learners. While the school currently lacks a library, it does offer computer facilities for teaching and learning purposes, which can be

instrumental in enhancing students' digital literacy skills. The presence of computer facilities opens up avenues for accessing educational resources and online learning materials, enriching the academic experience of the students. As a Special School, Daya BUDS caters to students with specific learning needs or disabilities, ensuring inclusive education for all. Such institutions play a vital role in nurturing the potential of every student and providing them with opportunities to develop and flourish academically and personally. In conclusion, Nellikuzhi GP in Kothamangalam Taluk, Ernakulam district, showcases a vibrant suburban area known for its thriving furniture business. The presence of the Daya BUDS Special School adds to the richness of the education sector in the locality, offering inclusive and nurturing learning opportunities for students in Grades 1 to 4. As the area continues to grow and develop, the presence of such educational institutions becomes even more critical in fostering a knowledgeable and empowered community.

# THRISSUR DISTRICT

1. Empowering Scheduled Castes: Development Initiatives by Wadakkanchery Municipality
2. Sparsham: Empowering Children with Special Needs – Nadathara Gram Panchayat
3. Empowering Community Through LED Bulb Manufacturing: A Sustainable Initiative by Karalam Gram Panchayat
4. Promoting Elderly Well-being: Mullurkara Gram Panchayat's Pakalveedu and Old Age Park
5. Empowering Communities: Kodakara Block Panchayat's Journey Towards Social Development and Gender Justice

# EMPOWERING SCHEDULED CASTES: DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

## Wadakkanchery Municipality

Wadakkanchery Municipality was formed in 2015 by merging Mundadhikode and Wadakkanchery Panchayats. It encompasses an area of 52 square kilometers and is home to over 67,000 people residing in 41 wards.

Within the municipality, there is a significant population of Scheduled Castes (SC), with approximately 5,300 individuals living in 1,182 families. To promote the development and upliftment of the Scheduled Castes, several initiatives and projects have been implemented.

One notable project undertaken in the Annual Plan 2021-2022 was the modernization of the Kumaranellur Scheduled Caste Nursery. The municipality allocated Rs. 10 lakhs for the development of this nursery. The nursery building, situated on a high hill in Kumaranellur, Wadakkanchery, features colorful pictures, letters, and numbers on the walls, comfortable seating, attractive toys, and cheerful play areas. In order to ensure a comfortable environment for the children, the municipality also arranged for cooling facilities in the nursery building. It is hoped that these efforts will contribute to the happiness and growth of the children attending the nursery.

Furthermore, a residential complex consisting of eleven

flats in Pudurutthi 3rd Division, which was initiated by the Municipality when it was a Gram Panchayat, has been completed and inaugurated on February 26, 2022. Mr. Radhakrishnan, representing the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Devaswam Department, Government of Kerala, inaugurated the SC Flat. This project has fulfilled the dreams of eleven Scheduled Caste families, providing them with secure shelter.

Wadakkanchery Municipality acknowledges the importance of inclusive participation in a democratic society. By promoting the upliftment of backward classes, the municipality aims to facilitate their active participation in the social fabric of the community.

# SPARSHAM: EMPOWERING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

## Nadathara Gram Panchayat

Nadathara Gram Panchayat is situated in Ollukkara Block Panchayat in Thrissur district. It occupies over an area of 20.19 sq.km, with a population of 31351. Kozhukkully, Mulayam and Nadathara are the important villages in the Panchayat.

BUDS Centre is an organization that provides vocational as well as intellectual development training for mentally and intellectually challenged children. Institutions for children facing such mental challenges are very few in Kerala functioning as part of the local self-government bodies. Such institutes conduct training programs that favor the intellectual growth of mentally challenged children under 18 years of age and also provide activities that enhance their academic excellence.

BUDS rehabilitation center is an initiative of Nadathara Gram Panchayat under Kudumbashree CDS. Motivation behind the starting of BUDS school was the request of mothers of physically and mentally challenged children and also the suggestions from the Grama Sabha. In a primary study it was found that more than 50 children of the Panchayat are having special needs and there were no such institutions owned by the government in the locality.

The BUDS Centre which has started in the Nadathara Gram Panchayat is named 'Sparsham'. Rehabilitation is the main focus . The institute gives priority to mainstreaming of such children through the intervention of others in the society. Training programs are provided for such children to achieve their mental and intellectual development. It is mainly intended to support children's mental and educational activities. Main vocational training given in the center is in LED star making and candle making. Training on LED star making was started first and the children are cooperating well with it. Children respond very well to such creative activities and some children are very interested in doing this.

Engaging differently abled children in these types of activities help making them feel worthy. They can be productive and get some earnings with such skills. Thus Nadathara Panchayat is a model to others in the field of child friendly initiatives.

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITY THROUGH LED BULB MANUFACTURING

## Karalam Gram panchayat

Karalam Gram Panchayat is included in Irinjalakkuda block Panchayat in Thrissur district. The Panchayat has a population of 21315 and an area of 17.74 sq.km. Karalam and Manavalassery are the revenue villages in the Panchayat.

The Karalam Gram Panchayat has initiated a project to establish an LED bulb manufacturing unit for the self-employment of Scheduled Caste Kudumbashree members. This project was part of the 2021-22 annual plans and approved by the District Planning Committee. A budget of 3 lakh rupees from the SEP category was allocated for the implementation of this project. The project is currently continuing as a spill-over project for the year 2022-23.

As a first step, a six-day training program was conducted from 23-03-2022. The training was facilitated by the Entrepreneurship Development Society, a government-recognized training agency. Practical training in collaboration with the Physics Department of Thrissur St. Thomas College was also provided for one day. The LED bulb manufacturing unit is located in building number 14/198A, which is part of the Women's Industrial Centre owned by the Panchayat at Vellayani.

The necessary facilities such as electricity and toilets have been arranged in the building.

The required furniture for the unit, including working tables, chairs, and office tables, was procured from the cooperative organization ADCO using the project funds. The electrical components and tools necessary for production were purchased from St. George Industries in Perumbavoor. Technical training was provided by their technical department before the bulb manufacturing process commenced. Initially, 15W and 20W bulbs required for street lights were produced in the first phase.

To ensure the quality of the product, the Government Engineering College in Thrissur was involved in checking and ensuring the quality of the bulbs on 15-9-2022. All the members of this project are registered and working together as an entrepreneurial group under the name "Suryaprabha LED Unit" at Karalam Kudumbashree. The bulbs produced are intended to be marketed under the brand name "Ray-Z". The project has obtained a license from the Local Self-Government Department (LSGD) to carry out its activities.

Currently, bulbs required for street lights are purchased from various firms, resulting in a significant expenditure each year. This project aims to utilize the funds previously spent on purchasing bulbs to promote the initiatives of Kudumbashree and create employment opportunities. It also aims to utilize the entrepreneurial loan facility provided by Kudumbashree for further activities of the project, thereby expanding employment opportunities for women.

The LED bulb manufacturing project initiated by Karalam Gram Panchayat empowers Scheduled Caste Kudumbashree women through self-employment. With proper training and technical support, they are able to reduce expenditure on street lights while creating employment opportunities and promoting entrepreneurship for women. This innovative initiative aligns with the Panchayat's commitment to sustainable development and economic empowerment.

# PROMOTING ELDERLY WELL-BEING - PAKALVEEDU AND OLD AGE PARK

## Mullurkkara Gram Panchayat

Mullurkkara Gram Panchayat is located in Wadakkanchery Block Panchayat. The Panchayat has an area of 44.28 sq.km and a population of 20100. The revenue villages coming under the Panchayat are Mullurkkara and Attoor.

Under the theme of health - palliative treatment and elderly-friendly activities, Mullurkara Gram Panchayat takes pride in being the first to establish a Pakalveedu (Day Home) and Elderly Park. For the year 2019-20, District Panchayat share of Rs. 5 lakh was allocated. The work commenced in 2021-22. Loneliness during old age not only leads to LIFEstyle diseases but also induces significant psychological stress in the elderly. This project aims to provide a designated space for the elderly to gather, socialize, and share. The Elderly Park offers a small library and a beautiful park, providing an avenue for them to come together in the morning and share their thoughts and concerns. Moreover, there is an exclusive women's gymnasium attached, catering to their fitness needs. The park also includes play equipment for children, promoting intergenerational interactions.

This project has proven to be highly beneficial, as it revitalizes the elderly, reminding them that they still have many resources to share and contribute, thereby alleviating the anxiety of loneliness and keeping them actively engaged in mainstream activities.

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: JOURNEY TOWARDS SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER JUSTICE

## Kodakara Block Panchayat

Kodakara Block Panchayat is composed of 7 Gram Panchayats that vary in terms of area and population. Kodakara Block Panchayat's primary goal is to ensure that necessary services are provided to the general public promptly and efficiently. All the required facilities and conveniences are available in the office. They provide receipt acknowledgment for all the applications received. The component institutions of the system have been ISO certified. In the fiscal year, an amount of Rs. 14 lakhs was allocated to the Block and various component institutions that have earned the ISO certification.

In the Kodakara Block Panchayat's jurisdiction, 70 Scheduled Caste colonies and 11 Scheduled Tribe colonies were identified and various projects were implemented in the fiscal year 2021-22 to cater to the needs of these communities. These projects included the establishment of study rooms for 20 Scheduled Caste students studying in various gram Panchayats, providing scholarships, conducting outreach programs for the Scheduled Caste Department, facilitating rehabilitation for the needy, building renovations, skill development initiatives, financial aid for marriages, inter-caste marriages, medical assistance, income support, overseas

employment support, and educational assistance programs.

In the Kodakara Block Panchayat, road construction work worth 5 lakhs rupees was undertaken for the development of three Scheduled Caste colonies. The digitalization of these colonies was also carried out. The Block Panchayat allocated 5 lakhs rupees from the Plan Fund for these initiatives. Additionally, 11 projects related to the development of 11 Scheduled Tribe colonies under Kodakara Block were executed. In the ST area of Mattathur Panchayat, medical camps were organized to address the issue of anemia, benefiting 20 women who were identified to be suffering from it. These women were provided with nutritional supplements during the camp.

The proactive and inclusive approach of Kodakara Block Panchayat in executing these projects has had a positive impact on the lives of individuals within these communities, fostering empowerment, development, and progress for a more equitable and prosperous society.

With a focus on health and well-being, Kodakara Block Panchayat implemented various initiatives during the fiscal year 2021-22 to address the healthcare needs of the people in the rural area. A Dialysis Unit was established at the Puthukadu Taluk Hospital. The provision of essential services such as OP, laboratory, and pharmacy helped enhance healthcare accessibility. Amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Panchayat actively engaged in mobile testing units to conduct COVID-19 testing, ensuring the safety and well-being of the community. The Block Panchayat played a significant role in combating the pandemic by establishing a mobile testing unit, which bolstered confidence and assurance among the people.

Similarly, the palliative care activities of the geriatric sector involve providing long-term care and treatment for patients suffering from diseases such as cancer, severe diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases, respiratory ailments, and kidney-related illnesses. The aim is to identify and reach out to patients experiencing hardship, offering them improved care and treatment, thus ensuring a better quality of LIFE. With this goal in mind, Arogyakeralam project of Kerala government was initiated in Kodakara Block Panchayat in 2012. Under the leadership of block

Panchayat representatives, health workers and volunteers organized home visits on a weekly basis. They visit the homes of patients to offer assistance, medicine, financial aid, and counseling to address their challenges and provide necessary support, especially for those who are bedridden or facing difficulties in managing their health conditions. The primary focus in this field is to ensure that aid, medicines, and financial assistance reach the beneficiaries in need in a timely manner.

During the fiscal year 2021-22, the Kodakara Block Panchayat sponsored an ambulance service to the Integrated Social Health Center in Mattathur, a gram Panchayat with a mixed population of ordinary people and tribal communities. This ambulance service proved to be of utmost significance, especially for the people of the tribal area, where the terrain and the presence of venomous creatures and wildLIFE made transportation challenging. The ambulance service provided much-needed assurance and support to the residents of this region. In addition to this, the Panchayat took significant steps to enhance healthcare services in other areas as well. In places like Mattathur CHC (Community Health Center) and Puthukadu Taluk Hospital, more doctors were appointed, enabling 24/7 in-patient care and further improving healthcare accessibility for the general public.

To cater to the needs of the people, the Block Panchayat also installed water ATMs in hospitals. These water ATMs ensured clean and safe drinking water for both patients and bystanders visiting the healthcare facilities. The initiatives taken by the Kodakara Block Panchayat in the healthcare sector during this period have significantly improved the accessibility and quality of healthcare services in the region, benefitting a diverse group of people, including the tribal communities.

The Vallappadi region in Kodakara occupies an Elderly Care Center for several years, catering to the needs of senior citizens. They have appointed a home nurse to take care of the elderly residents. The facility is well-equipped with amenities such as newspapers, television, and even a treadmill for the elders' convenience and well-being.

In addition to this, the Kodakara Block Panchayat has undertaken the initiative to become child friendly Block Panchayat. This includes providing assistance and support to the differently abled children between the ages of three and eighteen.

These children receive various aids and tools that make their lives easier and more comfortable. The Panchayat's focus is on providing support to their parents in taking care of them effectively. Through these initiatives, the Kodakara Block Panchayat has demonstrated their commitment to promoting the welfare and well-being of different sections of society, including the elderly and underprivileged children.

An investment of 250 crores has been made in Kodakara Block Panchayat through 1374 micro and small-scale initiatives. Through this, the Block Panchayat has successfully generated over 6000 employment opportunities in the past years. Women-led economic initiatives, poverty alleviation programs, and initiatives for differently-abled, elderly, and transgender individuals in various social sectors were coordinated and implemented by the Block Panchayat. The most significant of these initiatives was the implementation of Gender Budgeting. Gender budget is not a separate budget, but a process that integrates women's needs and priorities, taking into account the attitudes of individuals towards social change and promoting gender equality. It aims to address the concerns of women and create a balanced approach towards social development.

By considering the needs of vulnerable groups, including women, and providing support and control in financial sectors to eliminate inequalities, gender justice can be achieved. This goal is at the forefront of initiatives like She Workspace, also known as Women's Workplace, initiated by Kodakara Block Panchayat.

Kodakara Block Panchayat is committed to efficient public service with well-equipped facilities and ISO-certified institutions. Through substantial investments, they have generated numerous job opportunities, prioritized gender budgeting, and provided improved palliative care, making a positive impact on the local community's social development and well-being.

# PALAKKAD DISTRICT

1. Empowering Diversity: The Cultural Upliftment Initiative for Scheduled Castes in Trithala Block Panchayat.
2. Empowering Education: Scheduled Caste Development Project Provides Study Room to Nandu Krishna.
3. Breaking Barriers: Karimpuzha Gram Panchayat's Remarkable Progress in 2021-22 for SC/ST Empowerment and Inclusive Development.
4. Breaking Barriers: Karimpuzha Gram Panchayat's Remarkable Progress in 2021-22 for SC/ST Empowerment and Inclusive Development.
5. Education Empowerment: Alathur Block Panchayat's Visionary Initiatives for Scheduled Caste Development in 2021-22.

# EMPOWERING DIVERSITY: THE CULTURAL UPLIFTMENT INITIATIVE FOR SCHEDULED CASTES IN TRITHALA BLOCK PANCHAYAT

**Trithala Block Panchayat**

The cultural center established in Myladikunnu SC Colony area of Kappur Panchayat is a significant initiative aimed at uplifting the Scheduled Castes in the Trithala Block Panchayat. The center's primary focus is to encourage and promote the artistic talents of the Scheduled Caste communities while providing them with the necessary cultural support and recognition. The presence of 16 Scheduled Caste families in the colony highlights the importance of such initiatives to address their specific needs and empower them within society.

During the financial year 2021-22, Trithala Block Panchayat took proactive steps to organize various activities across different sectors to empower and uplift the most disadvantaged Scheduled Caste individuals. A substantial amount of 17 and a half lakh rupees was allocated and utilized to construct the cultural center. The center's establishment is not only meant to benefit the local community but also serves as a model for other regions to follow and promote inclusive development across the area.

The efforts of Trithala Block Panchayat in supporting the cultural association of the poor Scheduled Castes and promoting their unique art forms have been

commendable. The construction of the cultural center in the Mayiladumkunnu area of the Kappur division further reinforces the commitment to enhancing artistic skills and reading habits in the region. This new cultural center provides essential facilities such as a resting room, toilet, washing area, and reading room, which are conducive to creating a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone to come together, learn, and exchange ideas.

In addition to the cultural center, the Block Panchayat has also allocated a budget of Rs. 750,000 for the construction of an auditorium, catering to the needs and aspirations of the local community. Such initiatives demonstrate the Block Panchayat's dedication to fostering holistic development and empowering the people by providing them with a platform to showcase their talents and engage in cultural activities.

Overall, the cultural centers established by Trithala Block Panchayat are exemplary projects that address the specific needs of the Scheduled Caste communities. By encouraging artistic talents, promoting cultural heritage, and providing spaces for learning and gathering, these centers play a crucial role in creating a more inclusive and progressive society. The developments made by the Block Panchayat are a testament to their commitment to the welfare and upliftment of the entire community in the region, fostering an environment of equality and growth for all.

# EMPOWERING EDUCATION: SCHEDULED CASTE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT PROVIDES STUDY ROOM TO NANDU KRISHNA

**Malampuzha Block Panchayat**

In the financial year 2021-22, the Scheduled Caste Development Office undertook a project to support individuals and families, as well as promote economic, social, and infrastructural development among Scheduled Castes. As a part of this initiative, Narayanan's son, Nandu Krishna, was granted a study room at his residence in Madathothodi house, located in the Alampalli Kallepulli area under Malampuzha Block Panchayat.

The study room was generously funded with Rs 2 lakh, enabling Nandu Krishna and his family to complete the project effectively and utilize the space to its full potential. The outcome was the successful construction of a maximum 120 sq. ft. study room, thoughtfully attached to their existing house, which did not exceed 800 sq. ft.

The project also included providing essential amenities to ensure a conducive learning environment. Nandu Krishna received adequate lighting, a fan for ventilation, plug points for electronic devices, and a fresh coat of paint to enhance the aesthetics and functionality of the room.

Nandu Krishnan, who is currently a plus two student,

expressed his sincere gratitude to everyone involved in the process, particularly the Malampuzha Block Panchayat. He acknowledged that the study room provided through this initiative has proven to be extremely beneficial for his academic pursuits and personal growth.

This remarkable project exemplifies the commitment of the Scheduled Caste Development Office to empower individuals from marginalized communities, enabling them to access better educational facilities and improve their overall quality of LIFE. By investing in such projects, the department strives to create a more inclusive and equitable society, fostering progress and development for all.

# EMPOWERING EDUCATION: KUZHALMANNAM BLOCK PANCHAYAT TRANSFORMS LIVES WITH STUDY ROOMS AND MERITORIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SC CHILDREN

**Kuzhalmannam Block Panchayat**

Before getting this study room, student study space was limited to just one room in the house. The lack of dedicated space made it challenging for him to concentrate on his studies effectively. However, with the implementation of the study room project by Kuzhalmannam Block Panchayat in the financial year 2021-22, Nandu Krishna's situation changed significantly. He was provided with a well-equipped study room that has proven to be a boon for his learning and online training activities. Having a separate study room has created a conducive environment for focused studying and academic growth.

Moreover, in the same year, Kuzhalmannam Block Panchayat also took the initiative to implement the Meritorious Scholarship. This scholarship program granted a financial benefit of Rs. 20,000 to deserving children from economically backward Scheduled Caste backgrounds.

As a result of this scholarship, Nandu Krishna, along with other students belonging to economically disadvantaged SC families, found the necessary support to continue their education without imposing a burden on their families. The financial assistance provided by the Meritorious Scholarship has eased their academic

journey and enabled them to pursue their studies with dedication and enthusiasm.

The combined efforts of the study room project and the Meritorious Scholarship exemplify the commitment of Kuzhalmannam Block Panchayat to uplift and empower SC children, fostering a supportive environment for education and personal development. Through these initiatives, the Panchayat aims to create opportunities for a brighter future for all its residents, ensuring equal access to education and a pathway to success.

# BREAKING BARRIERS: KARIMPUZHA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S REMARKABLE PROGRESS IN 2021-22 FOR SC/ST EMPOWERMENT AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

**Karimpuzha Gram Panchayat**

During the financial year 2021-22, significant progress was made in the development of Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in the Karimpuzha Gram Panchayat. One of the key initiatives taken was the distribution of laptops to all SC students, enabling them to access modern technology and resources to aid in their education. Recognizing the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it became even more crucial to equip students with the necessary tools for online learning.

Amidst the pandemic, access to smart phones was limited, making it difficult for children to continue their studies without laptops. However, by providing laptops, the Gram Panchayat ensured that education remained accessible to all, regardless of their socio-economic background. This effort played a vital role in mitigating the educational disruptions caused by the pandemic, especially in areas where containment zones and movement restrictions were in place.

Moreover, during this challenging period, when many families faced financial hardships and loss of employment opportunities, the Gram Panchayat stepped up to support the community. They distributed free

books to the children of families residing in the 10th ward of the Gram Panchayat, facilitating their education and easing the burden on parents who were struggling to afford educational materials during the crisis.

Beyond education, the Gram Panchayat also focused on improving the basic amenities for all residents. Access to clean and safe drinking water is a fundamental necessity, and the Panchayat took proactive measures to ensure that every household within the Gram Panchayat had access to potable water. This not only contributed to the overall well-being of the community but also addressed the health concerns associated with inadequate water sources.

The holistic development approach taken by the Gram Panchayat during the financial year 2021-22 demonstrated their commitment to uplifting the marginalized communities and ensuring that no one was left behind. By providing laptops to SC students and facilitating free education materials, they ensured that education continued to be a transformative force for the youth, regardless of the challenges posed by the pandemic.

Additionally, the provision of drinking water to all households underscored the Panchayat's dedication to improving the living conditions and quality of LIFE for all its residents. These initiatives not only tackled immediate challenges but also laid the foundation for long-term progress and inclusivity within the Gram Panchayat.

Overall, the efforts made during the financial year 2021-22 reflect a proactive and compassionate approach by the Karimpuzha Gram Panchayat towards the development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, fostering equal opportunities, and addressing the needs of the community in times of crisis. By focusing on education, access to technology, and essential amenities, the Panchayat set a positive example for promoting social equity and sustainable growth.

## ELEVATING LIVES: KARIMPUZHA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have historically been marginalized groups in society. However, Karimpuzha Gram Panchayat recognized the importance of empowering these communities and worked diligently to improve

their quality of LIFE through various initiatives.

Within the Panchayat, there are 62 colonies where Scheduled Castes reside. To uplift these communities, the Panchayat efficiently utilized funds for the benefit of 590 families. Infrastructure development became a priority, and under the LIFE Mission scheme, the Panchayat undertook projects such as providing houses and granting assistance for electrification, thus ensuring that the residents had access to basic amenities and comfortable living conditions. Additionally, roads were built and renovated, enhancing connectivity and accessibility within these colonies.

Addressing the issue of water scarcity, the Panchayat established beneficiary committees to find a permanent solution. By actively involving the community, the Panchayat successfully tackled the shortage of drinking water and provided a sustainable solution to this critical need.

Education was another area of focus for the Panchayat. Realizing the significance of education in breaking the cycle of poverty, the Panchayat made commendable efforts to improve educational standards for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These initiatives aimed to ensure that the youth from these communities had access to quality education, thus equipping them with the tools to pursue a better future.

The Panchayat's commitment to the welfare of Scheduled Tribes extended to the Palamala colony, the only Scheduled Tribe settlement in the area. Here, the Panchayat took proactive steps to bring essential amenities such as water and electricity to the community. Building houses and developing roads further improved the living conditions of the residents.

In addition to the efforts in infrastructure and welfare, the Panchayat also demonstrated financial prudence. Despite the lack of funds from external sources like TSP (Tribal Sub-Plan) in the last two years, the upliftment of Scheduled Tribes remained a priority. The Panchayat allocated funds from its own resources to carry out welfare activities and upliftment programs for the Scheduled Tribes, showcasing their dedication to inclusive development.

The commitment and initiatives taken by Karimpuzha Gram Panchayat have made a significant difference in the lives of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled

Tribes residing in the region. By providing essential infrastructure, access to basic amenities, and emphasizing education, the Panchayat has paved the way for a brighter and more equitable future for these marginalized communities. Their proactive approach and utilization of available resources exemplify the essence of inclusive governance and community development.

# EDUCATION EMPOWERMENT: ALATHUR BLOCK PANCHAYAT'S VISIONARY INITIATIVES FOR SCHEDULED CASTE DEVELOPMENT IN 2021-22

**Alathur Block Panchayat**

Alathur Block Panchayat is situated in the South Western 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.

In addition to the impactful initiatives mentioned earlier, the Alathur Block Panchayat's Scheduled Caste Development Department also took several other commendable steps to further empower Scheduled Caste students and promote inclusive education in the region during the financial year 2021-22.

As part of the Meritorious Scholarship Scheme, the Panchayat not only provided financial assistance to students with outstanding academic performance but also focused on nurturing their overall development. Through mentorship programs and career guidance, the Panchayat aimed to equip these bright young

minds with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in their chosen fields. By recognizing and supporting academic excellence, the Panchayat encouraged students to set ambitious goals and pursue higher education, breaking barriers that had hindered their progress in the past.

Furthermore, the establishment of study rooms played a pivotal role in creating an educational ecosystem conducive to learning and growth. These study rooms served as safe and comfortable spaces where students could concentrate on their studies without distractions. The Panchayat's investment in 21 study rooms demonstrated its commitment to providing equal opportunities for all students, irrespective of their socio-economic background, thus bridging the educational divide.

The Solar Lantern Project also proved to be a game-changer for students studying in areas with limited access to electricity. By providing sustainable and reliable light sources, the Panchayat ensured that students could continue their studies even during power outages or in remote areas. This innovative initiative not only supported education but also contributed to the overall well-being and safety of the students and their families.

The successful implementation of these transformative initiatives earned praise and appreciation from the community, as evident from the testimonial of Abhijit, a beneficiary of the study room scheme. Such positive feedback further motivated the Panchayat to continue its efforts in empowering education and promoting a brighter future for Scheduled Caste students.

Alathur Block Panchayat's commitment to inclusive development and empowering the marginalized communities was reflected in its strategic utilization of resources, be it through scholarships, study rooms, or solar lanterns. The Panchayat's dedication to ensuring equal access to quality education and educational infrastructure exemplified its vision for a more equitable and prosperous society.

In conclusion, the comprehensive approach of Alathur Block Panchayat's Scheduled Caste Development Department in 2021-22 not only focused on academic support but also emphasized holistic development and upliftment of

Scheduled Caste students. By investing in education and providing the necessary tools, the Panchayat played a crucial role in breaking barriers and opening doors of opportunity for the future leaders of the community. Their transformative initiatives showcased the power of inclusive education in driving positive change and creating a more empowered society.

**PROJECTS**

| Name of the project | Amount included | Amount spent | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|
| Meritorious Scholarship for Scheduled Caste Students | 1835000 | 1835000 | 100 |
| Preparation of classrooms for Scheduled Caste students | 3200000 | 3125000 | 98 |
| Meritorious Scholarship for Scheduled Caste Students | 1050000 | 975000 | 93 |
| Provision of Solar lantern to Scheduled Castes | 872500 | 872500 | 100 |

**SCHEME INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR 2021-22**

| Fund type | Amount included | amount spent | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|
| Development Fund | 32335000 | 32335000 | 100 |
| Scheduled Caste Development | 27562000 | 27562000 | 100 |
| Scheduled Tribe Development | 923000 | 923000 | 100 |
| CFC untied | 6521000 | 6300998 | 97 |
| CFC tied | 9308016 | 6105805 | 66 |

# MALAPPURAM DISTRICT

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# NILAMBUR MUNICIPALITY'S COMMITMENT TO SENIOR CITIZEN WELL-BEING

## Nilambur Municipality

Nilambur is a town located in the Malappuram district of the Indian state of Kerala. The Nilambur Municipality is the local governing body responsible for providing basic amenities and public services to the residents of the town. The Municipality has an area of 48 sq. km and a population of 33960. Nilambur Municipality plays an important role in ensuring the overall development and well-being of the town and its residents. The Municipality is responsible for planning and implementing infrastructure projects, providing basic services, and promoting local economic development.

Nilambur Municipality has various programs and services for senior citizens to ensure their well-being and promote social inclusion. The Vayomithram project is one of the major initiatives of Nilambur municipality. It provides health care and support to elderly above the age of 65 years residing in their Municipal Areas.

Vayomithram provides medicines free of cost by conducting mobile clinics on a ward basis in the area. There are no economic criteria for availing the service. Each mobile unit comprises of Medical Officer, Staff Nurse, and JPHN. They provide palliative care for the bedridden patients in the project area. Specially trained

nurses and JPHNs are available for this service. Vayomithram coordinators provide help desk service to the needy old age in the area. The old age can avail the help from the vayomithram office. Special Medical Camps are conducted in the project area for the aged (eye camp etc.). Conducted special day programs (Related to health and welfare) in the area. Counseling service has been provided by Vayomithram coordinators with reference to doctors from mobile clinics. Active involvement of Vayomithram in Social issues related to old age in the area. (Rehabilitation etc.).

Nilambur municipality set up a Pakalveedu and Library (Sadgamaya) for senior citizens in Nilambur. The project aims to provide a safe and comfortable environment for senior citizens during the daytime while also providing social engagement opportunities and healthcare services. The Centre is open during the daytime for senior citizens of the locality to come and spend their time productively and enjoyably. Nilambur Municipality has constructed a day house with modern facilities at a cost of 33 lakhs besides the day house in Nilambur town.

On August 3rd, 2022 Nilambur Municipality organized a theatre visit for senior citizens. Watching a movie in a group setting can help senior citizens feel more socially connected and engaged. It provides an opportunity to interact with others and may help reduce feelings of isolation and loneliness. Going to the movies can be an enjoyable experience for senior citizens, providing them with an opportunity to enjoy a new and engaging form of entertainment. Watching a movie can be a relaxing and calming experience for senior citizens, providing an opportunity to de-stress and unwinds. It is customary for them to celebrate festivals like Onam,festivals, Vishu together. This project conveys the message to the people that Nilambur Municipality and the people are with them in their old age for the sake of the old people who have lived for their country, home, and children throughout their youth.

Overall, the Nilambur Municipality plays a vital role in ensuring that the residents especially senior citizens of the town have access to basic amenities and services, and in promoting sustainable development and growth in the local community.

# DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE ACTIVITIES FOR SCHEDULED CASTES (SC) AND SCHEDULED TRIBES (ST) COMMUNITIES

## Moothedam Gram Panchayat

Moothedam Gram Panchayat is situated in the Nilambur Block of Malappuram District. Moothedam Gram Panchayat has taken several steps to promote the development and welfare of Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) communities in the region. Uchakulam Colony is a residential area located in Moothedam Panchayat in the Nilambur taluk of the Malappuram district in the Indian state of Kerala. It is primarily inhabited by people from the Adivasi community, who are the indigenous people of India. The area is surrounded by lush greenery and is known for its natural beauty. Here are some of the key initiatives undertaken by the Panchayat in this regard: An Anganwadi center is present in the area to provide early childhood care and education services to the children of the colony. The Uchakulam Colony Anganwadi center is staffed by trained childcare workers who provide a range of services to the children, including preschool education, health check-ups, immunizations, and supplementary nutrition. The center also serves as a focal point for the community to access information and services related to child care and development.

Overall, the Uchakulam Colony Anganwadi Center is

an important institution that helps to support the physical, cognitive, and social development of children in the community and contributes to the overall well-being of the community. Despite its small size, Uchakulam Colony has a strong sense of community and is home to several community facilities, including a community hall. The community hall serves as a gathering place for the residents of the colony, where they can come together for social events, meetings, and other community activities. It is also used as a venue for celebrations during festivals and special occasions.

The community hall in Uchakulam Colony is well-maintained and equipped with basic facilities such as seating arrangements, sound systems, and lighting. It is a valuable asset to the community, providing a space for residents to come together, share ideas, and build stronger bonds.

In addition to the community hall, Uchakulam Colony also has a small library that is accessible to all residents. The library provides a range of books on various subjects, including literature, history, and science. It also has a collection of newspapers and magazines that keep residents informed about current events and developments in the region and beyond.

The library in Uchakulam Colony is run by volunteers from the community who are passionate about promoting literacy and education among the residents. The library is open to all, and residents can borrow books for a specified period free of charge.

Uchakulam Pond is a pond located in Uchakulam Colony. Over time, the pond had become polluted and was in need of renovation to restore its beauty and functionality. In response to this need, the local government and community members came together to undertake a renovation project for the Uchakulam Colony pond under the Mission Amrut Sarovar. The project involved a series of steps to clean the pond and improve its water quality, including the removal of debris and waste, and the implementation of measures to prevent future pollution.

Overall, the Uchakulam Colony pond renovation project is an excellent example of how community members and local government can work together to improve the environment and enhance the quality of LIFE in a village. The project has not only

revitalized a natural resource but also created a space for community members to gather and enjoy their surroundings.

Another major initiative of the Panchayat was to build an Agricultural Farm for the marginalized groups in the Uchakulam ST Colony. The farm is situated on 1 acre of land. Moreover, the Panchayat distributed Pattayam for 103 SC/ST and General Category families with the support from Malappuram District Panchayat

Overall, these initiatives undertaken by Moothedam Gram Panchayat demonstrate their commitment to promoting the development and welfare of SC/ST communities in the region. By providing access to education, livelihood opportunities, housing, health, and sanitation, the Panchayat is helping to uplift these communities and create a more equitable and inclusive society.

# EMPOWERING DIFFERENTLY-ABLED: ANGADIPPURAM'S COMPREHENSIVE INITIATIVES

## Angadippuram Gram Panchayat

Angadippuram Gram Panchayat is located in the Perinthalmanna block of Malappuram district, covering an area of 38.5 square kilometres. With a population exceeding 60,000, as recorded in the 2011 census, this village is experiencing rapid urbanization. Historically, Angadippuram holds the prestigious headquarters area of the historic Valluvanad, embracing the vibrant message of "Matha mythri ( Religious Harmony)."

Traditionally an agricultural area, Angadippuram is actively working towards comprehensive agricultural development by instilling confidence in farmers to overcome the challenges faced by the sector over time. This proactive approach has led to a significant expansion of paddy cultivation, increasing the cultivated area from 100 to 205 hectares. The successful implementation of innovative programs, both by the Gram Panchayat and the state government, has provided a much-needed boost to the agricultural sector.

The welfare and protection of differently-abled individuals hold paramount importance in society. Angadippuram Gram Panchayat is addressing this issue through a comprehensive plan, providing care for this category of children through "prathyasa" and day care

services. Additionally, the construction of a "BUDS School" with state-of-the-art facilities has commenced, generously supported by philanthropist Babu Varghese, shedding a new ray of hope and compassion in the region.

The Gram Panchayat is also extending its benevolence to bedridden patients by establishing a comprehensive home care plan, catering to 365 in-patients. A home care unit conducts bi-monthly check-ups for all patients and ensures access to various medicines and treatments through a comprehensive health and safety plan. Special attention is given to intensive care patients, such as those suffering from kidney and cancer-related ailments.

Furthermore, Angadippuram Gram Panchayat is following a holistic and sustainable development approach, encompassing various sectors such as poverty alleviation, women empowerment, garbage disposal, Haritha Karma Sena activities, background development, complete drinking water schemes, scientific care of children in anganwadis, and comprehensive development initiatives for the Scheduled Caste community.

Through these efforts, Angadippuram Gram Panchayat is actively shaping a progressive and inclusive community, striving to create a brighter and more promising future for all its residents.

# SOCIAL WELFARE INITIATIVES: URANGATTIRI GRAM PANCHAYAT

## Urangattiri Gram Panchayat

Urangattiri Gram Panchayat, nestled in the picturesque valley of Chaliyar, is located in the Ernad taluk of Malappuram district. With a total of 21 wards, this vibrant village falls under the administrative jurisdiction of the Areekode block, situated on the North and East side of Areekode town. According to the 2011 census, Urangattiri had a population of 26,546, with 13,138 males and 13,408 females.

Under the visionary leadership of the Panchayat, several initiatives have been undertaken to promote waste management and uplift the agriculture sector. Bottle booths have been thoughtfully set up in markets, and mini Material Collection Facilities (MCFs) have been established for Anganwadis to ensure proper waste disposal.

In the financial year 2021-22, various schemes were implemented to support dairy farmers. A plan was devised to provide relief to them through cattle feed, milk subsidies, and other forms of assistance. Additionally, in the 2022-23 annual plans, funds have been allocated for milk subsidies, fodder provision, and the procurement of milch cows for starting new ventures. A return Goat Satellite Unit 2022-23 Project has also been initiated, and

the Panchayat president, Jisha C, distributed goats to Jasita Rani as part of this endeavor.

Another noteworthy initiative led by the Panchayat is the distribution of organic fertilizer to coconut farmers. Moreover, the Panchayat actively engages in various social welfare activities, such as visiting differently-abled children at their homes and distributing necessary equipment to them under the plan of "Kootnai." An anti-drug campaign named "Vimochanam" was also launched by the Panchayat to combat substance abuse effectively.

Furthermore, the Panchayat aims to address nutritional deficiencies in children through the "Nutritious Childhood" project, showcasing its dedication to the overall welfare and development of its residents. With such thoughtful and progressive initiatives, Urangattiri Gram Panchayat is making significant strides towards building a prosperous and socially conscious community.

# AREEKODE GRAM PANCHAYAT: DIFFERENTLY-ABLED FRIENDLY INITIATIVES

## Areekode Gram Panchayat

Areekode Gram Panchayat, situated in Areekode Block, Ernad Taluk of Malappuram District, is a town blessed by the scenic beauty of the Chaliyar River flowing by its side. Renowned for its high literacy rate, Areekode stands as 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 home to a population of 31,563 people as per the 2011 census. Surrounded by lush hills and verdant hillocks, the region is an epitome of natural beauty.

Areekode Gram Panchayat takes immense pride in being a fully differently-abled friendly Gram Panchayat, extending its responsibility and protection to all differently-abled individuals within its jurisdiction. In the plans for the year 2022-23, the Panchayat has carefully prepared and included beneficiary lists for the purchase of essential equipment catering to the needs of the elderly and differently-abled people. The BUDS School, an institution with 21 children under the Panchayat's care, and the employment institute for the differently-abled, run with the support of the public, stand as shining examples of the Panchayat's commitment to inclusivity and empowerment.

The Panchayat further ensures that differently-abled individuals receive proper job training tailored to their unique skills, with the ultimate goal of facilitating self-employment and generating income for them, thus improving their overall quality of LIFE. Initiatives are taken to integrate them into various social programs and events, aiming to bring them to the forefront of society, breaking down barriers and promoting inclusivity.

With its proactive and compassionate approach, Areekode Gram Panchayat serves as an inspiration and role model for other regions, setting an example of a community that values the dignity and rights of all its members, regardless of their abilities.

# EMPOWERING DIFFERENTLY-ABLED INDIVIDUALS: CHELEMBRA'S ELECTRONIC WHEELCHAIR PROJECT

## Chelembra Gram Panchayat

Chelembra Gram Panchayat, situated in Kondotty Block, Tirurangadi Taluk of Malappuram District, covers an area of 15.81 sq. km. This remarkable Panchayat holds the prestigious distinction of being declared as the first-First Aid Literacy Panchayat in the entire country, a testament to its commitment to promoting health and well-being within the community.

One of the significant projects undertaken by Chelembra Gram Panchayat during the 2021-22 financial years is the "Electronic Wheelchair for Differently Abled" initiative. This project aims to address the challenges faced by the economically backward differently-abled individuals in the Panchayat. Many of them encounter significant difficulties in accessing travel, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities, requiring considerable practical sacrifices.

The primary objective of this project is to provide electronic wheelchairs, which are advanced technological devices, to empower differently-abled individuals to overcome their disabilities. By ensuring their rights and social security, this initiative seeks to enable them to become active contributors to nation-building.

In the year 2021-22, the project successfully distributed electronic wheelchairs to eight deserving individuals, significantly improving their mobility and accessibility. For the upcoming 2022-23 plan, the contribution amount of Rs. 6, 92,750 has been allocated to provide electronic wheelchairs to more beneficiaries.

Through the "Electronic Wheelchair for Differently Abled" project, Chelembra Gram Panchayat has taken a compassionate and proactive step towards creating a more inclusive and supportive environment for its differently-abled residents. By providing them with essential assistive technology, the Panchayat is helping to enhance their quality of LIFE, independence, and overall well-being. This project embodies the spirit of inclusivity and social responsibility, setting an inspiring example for other communities to follow in fostering a more accessible and equitable society for all.

# WELFARE ACTIVITIES OF EDAPPAL GRAM PANCHAYAT

## Edappal Gram Panchayat

Edappal Gram Panchayat is situated in Ponnani Block of Malappuuram District. In the field of health, Edappal Gram Panchayat has undertaken numerous projects during the year 2021-2022 to ensure the well-being of its residents. With the Edapal PHC being elevated to CHC, infrastructure development works have been efficiently carried out by the Block Panchayat, with a budget of Rs. 2 lakhs allocated for the comprehensive health program. LIFEstyle disease control programs and health awareness initiatives have been effectively implemented through sub-centers.

One of Edappal's remarkable achievements is becoming one of the few Panchayats in Malappuram district to achieve 100% vaccination coverage. To further protect the health of the community, Rs. 10 lakhs has been set aside for the health protection scheme, "Arike," where funds are collected from the people to assist bedridden patients and providing financial aid to kidney transplant recipients. Dialysis patients receive medicines and dialyzers, while other patients are provided with necessary medical kits and care by the designated nurse, with valuable assistance from people's representatives and Asha workers.

On Palliative Day, patients are visited and offered necessary help, including blankets and food kits for the poor. To augment the funds, a public committee has been formed, and joint accounts are managed by the President and Medical Officer to allocate funds to those in need. Prevention campaigns and health awareness drives have successfully raised awareness about health-related matters within the community. Blood pressure and sugar testing are conducted both at and outside the health center to identify and promptly treat diabetics and hypertensive patients.

In the field of Ayurveda treatment, Edappal Gram Panchayat has invested about 20 lakh rupees, demonstrating significant interventions in four projects. Schemes like Ayurveda medicine distribution, Ayur Raksha for the elderly, "Madhuram Matrutvam" for postnatal care, and "Bhalamerum Balyam" for children's health have proven to be exemplary. Additionally, innovative projects such as an anti-anemia scheme for women and yoga training have been introduced to promote well-being.

Homeopathy dispensaries have been instrumental in dispensing medicines for various ailments, including preventive care. Elderly Gram Sabhas were organized effectively, providing services like cot E day care for the elderly. Aid and blankets were distributed to those in need on Elderly Day, reflecting the collective efforts of the public. The Panchayat has also allocated more funds for scholarships for the differently-abled, showing a commitment to supporting this section of the population.

The introduction of BUDS School is another significant milestone, with the school purchasing a vehicle through crowdfunding. This initiative allows the Panchayat to identify and encourage different interests among children. Moreover, the CHCs and Ayurveda homeo dispensaries have played a crucial role in implementing health and palliative treatments, geriatric-friendly activities, and disability support with utmost efficiency.

Overall, Edappal Gram Panchayat has demonstrated commendable efforts in the healthcare sector, enhancing the quality of LIFE for its residents and setting a positive example for other regions to follow.

# ELAMKULAM GRAM PANCHAYAT'S TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES FOR SCHEDULED CASTE DEVELOPMENT

## Elamkulam Gram Panchayat

Elamkulam Gram Panchayat, which was established in the year 1961, holds a significant position as it serves as an administrative unit within the larger Perinthalmanna block. Nestled within the block, the Panchayat occupies an extensive area, stretching across 21.31 square kilometers of picturesque landscapes and diverse terrain.

As documented in the 2011 census, the Panchayat proudly accommodates a thriving community of 26,456 individuals, all contributing to its vibrant social fabric. Among the inhabitants, there are 12,414 males and 14,042 females, reflecting the harmonious balance of genders within the region.

Over the years, Elamkulam Gram Panchayat has played a crucial role in fostering community development and welfare, offering essential services, infrastructure, and resources to meet the needs of its residents. The Panchayat's efforts have culminated in the creation of a close-knit community, where residents cherish their shared values and work together to promote progress and prosperity for all.

In the fiscal year 2021-22, Elamkulam Gram Panchayat took significant strides towards the comprehensive

development of 22 colonies inhabited by Scheduled Castes within its jurisdiction. The main focus was on enhancing the infrastructure and amenities for the convenience of the residents, with a special emphasis on providing improved roadways and suitable housing for 83 Scheduled Caste families.

As the driving force behind these ambitious projects, Elamkulam Gram Panchayat assumed a leading role in ensuring the holistic development of the Scheduled Castes community within its purview. One of the primary steps taken was to assess the housing needs of applicants in the Panchayat and seamlessly integrate them into the LIFE Mission initiative of the Panchayat, along with support from the district Panchayat. The ultimate aim was to fulfill the housing requirements of all applicants within the Panchayat's bounds.

To achieve this goal, a comprehensive housing scheme was launched in 2021-22, with the Panchayat utilizing funds from the Scheduled Caste Development Fund, as well as block, district, and state government funds. The project commenced by constructing homes for 83 deserving families, ensuring their accommodation needs was met. Simultaneously, the Panchayat embarked on an all-encompassing development plan for around 22 colonies, aiming to enhance the living conditions and overall well-being of the Scheduled Caste communities residing there.

In the pursuit of achieving the targets set for 2021, the Panchayat's priorities included the completion of perimeter walls, ensuring housing security, and providing basic amenities such as water and electricity in the Panchayat colonies. These initiatives were all geared towards uplifting the Scheduled Caste population, promoting social equity, and fostering an environment of prosperity and inclusivity.

Elamkulam Gram Panchayat's relentless efforts in implementing the Scheduled Caste Development Activities not only showcased its commitment to the welfare of its constituents but also served as a beacon of progress for other regions aspiring to empower marginalized communities.

# A HOLISTIC APPROACH BY KANNAMANGALAM GRAM PANCHAYAT FOR RESIDENTS' WELL-BEING

## 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.

In the year 2021-22, the Panchayat undertook various programs and projects in the field of health with a primary focus on improving the health status of its residents and creating awareness about health-related issues. Additionally, the Panchayat extended its support to the Palliative and Pariraksha activities in the region to ensure comprehensive healthcare services for the community. For these initiatives, the Panchayat

allocated a budget of 950,000 rupees, of which 796,006 rupees were utilized to implement the programs effectively.

To ensure the efficient distribution of aid, monthly review meetings were conducted, where elected members, volunteers, and health workers actively participated. During these meetings, a list of beneficiaries under the palliative care program was prepared, and necessary assistance, such as medicines, medical equipment, and other essentials, was provided to those in need. Regular monitoring and evaluation of the activities were carried out by a dedicated committee, conducted every three months to assess the effectiveness of the programs and address any challenges that arose.

As part of its commitment to capacity building, the Panchayat arranged special training programs for volunteers every year on January 14th. These capacity-building sessions equipped the volunteers with valuable knowledge and skills, enabling them to provide better support and care to the beneficiaries.

The impact of these initiatives was substantial, with around 300 individuals benefiting from the palliative care scheme annually. The Panchayat's comprehensive approach towards healthcare, along with its proactive involvement of elected representatives, volunteers, and health workers, has contributed significantly to enhancing the overall health and well-being of the community. By prioritizing health awareness and facilitating access to vital healthcare services, the Panchayat continues to play a crucial role in promoting a healthier and more resilient community.

Another major activity undertaken by the Panchayat was the implementation of comprehensive COVID-19 prevention activities. Through the selfless dedication of the Panchayat governing bodies, health workers, and volunteers, the spread of COVID-19 was effectively restricted within the community. Their tireless efforts and proactive measures played a vital role in safeguarding the health and well-being of the residents during the challenging times of the pandemic.

In addition to COVID-19 prevention, the Panchayat organized and conducted numerous awareness programs to educate the community about major deadly diseases and other health-related problems. These programs were designed to

raise awareness about various health issues, promote preventive measures, and encourage early detection and treatment. By equipping the community with knowledge and awareness, the Panchayat aimed to empower individuals to take proactive steps towards maintaining their health and well-being. Through these collective efforts, the Panchayat demonstrated its commitment to the health and safety of its residents.

# KEEZHATTUR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES FOR SCHEDULED CASTE DEVELOPMENT

## Keezhattur Gram Panchayat

Keezhattur Gram Panchayat is situated in the Perinthalmanna block of Malappuram district, covering a vast area of 40.93 square kilometers. With a total population of 39,620, the Panchayat is home to around 8,852 houses.

The Panchayat has demonstrated its commitment to the development of the socially, economically, and educationally backward Scheduled Castes through the implementation of various well-targeted projects. Recognizing the importance of uplifting this marginalized community, the Gram Panchayat has carefully planned and executed different schemes under the special program for Scheduled Castes. One of the significant accomplishments is the resolution of housing, drinking water, and sanitation issues faced by the Scheduled Castes within the Panchayat. The housing problem has been entirely addressed, ensuring that those in need have been included in the LIFE plan and action has been taken to accommodate them in the housing scheme.

The majority of the Scheduled Caste individuals in the Panchayat are involved in traditional occupations, and in response, the Gram Panchayat has continuously devised and implemented schemes tailored to meet their specific

needs and aspirations. The relentless efforts of Keezhattur Gram Panchayat have resulted in substantial progress and upliftment for the Scheduled Castes residing within its jurisdiction, fostering an inclusive and equitable community where everyone can thrive and prosper.

The Scheduled Castes have made significant achievements in the fields of education and social development, but there remains a notable lack of progress in the economic sphere. Nonetheless, the disadvantages they once faced have been eliminated, showcasing positive advancements. However, to bring about radical change, further efforts are required in the areas of education, employment, and housing.

The 2021-22 annual plan of the Gram Panchayat prioritized addressing the main issues faced by the Scheduled Castes. Across 58 Scheduled Caste Colonies within 19 Wards of the Panchayat, approximately 624 families are residing, totaling a Scheduled Caste population of 3,780. Collaboratively, the District Panchayat, Block Panchayat, Scheduled Caste Development Department, and the Gram Panchayat have devised and executed various development activities to promote the welfare of this section.

An allocation of Rs.1 Crore 2 Lakhs was allotted to the Panchayat for the year 2021-22, and it has been entirely utilized with the State Government acknowledging and appreciating their efforts. Several completed projects have contributed to the comprehensive development of Scheduled Castes in the region. For instance, the Nettikunnu Colony witnessed joint implementation with the District Panchayat to address housing security and footpath construction, with a cost of Rs.4 lakhs. Additionally, Rs.17 lakhs were spent, in collaboration with the District Panchayat, for the development of Illathu Colony. Various other projects, such as the Verkottuparamp Colony Walkway Walk Bridge, Wariat Colony Comprehensive Development, Kunummal Drinking Water Project, Techikunn Drinking Water Project, Nenmini Nirav Drinking Water Project, and Parambur Colony Drinking Water Project, were completed, involving an expenditure of Rs.25 lakhs, resulting in improved physical facilities for the Scheduled Caste community.

In the year 2021-22, numerous benefits were provided, including study materials

for 118 Scheduled Caste students, laptops for 25 SC students, house construction for 58 beneficiaries under the Home Habitability Scheme LIFE scheme, water tanks for 125 SC families, Rs 19 lakh as marriage finance for 25 SC families, and the construction of study rooms. All of these projects were diligently undertaken, and 100% of the funds were utilized. These activities have significantly contributed to uplifting the socially and economically backward Scheduled Caste section of the Panchayat, enhancing their quality of LIFE.

# CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY: PULAMANTHOLE GRAM PANCHAYAT'S EXEMPLARY INITIATIVES IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE

## Pulamanthole Gram Panchayat

Pulamanthole Gram Panchayat, situated in the Perinthalmanna block and located along the banks of Kunthippuzha, covers an area of 32.1 square kilometres with a population of 27,029 as per the 2011 census.

Among the Panchayat's remarkable projects, the Community Health Centre stands as a source of pride. The establishment of BUDS Special School for the care of marginalized differently-abled children in the society, along with related activities, is commendable and sets an example for others to follow. The Panchayat has designed a package that includes income-generating activities for the parents of children attending BUDS Special School. The Family Health Centre's excellence has been recognized with prestigious awards, such as the Ardram Award and the Kayakalpa Award at the state level. Notable activities like cot distributions, medical camps, and post-covid continuity for the care and welfare of the elderly reflect the active involvement of the Panchayat in societal well-being.

In the current year, the Panchayat has allocated Rs. 11, 60,000 to provide scholarships to 103 children. The BUDS School has been established not only to advance the studies of differently-abled students but also to create

suitable job opportunities for their parents. The BUDS School serves as a model institution. An allocation of Rs. 2, 54,200 has been made to provide an honorarium to BUDS School teachers and helpers, while Rs. 5, 60,000 has been earmarked for the purchase of instruments for the children, and an additional Rs. 2, 00,000 for hearing aids for those who have undergone cochlear implantation, benefiting four children.

To enhance the physical conditions of the institution, Rs. 24,000 was spent on the construction of a perimeter wall, and an additional Rs. 24,652 was utilized for other purposes. The Panchayat is actively implementing various schemes for the elderly, including those within the Family Health Centre. Notably, Rs. 7, 00,000 has been spent solely on buying medicines. Furthermore, Rs. 38,710 has been utilized to complete the lab renovation, and an appointed lab technician receives an honorarium. With an expenditure of Rs. 11, 56,016, the palliative care work has been rendered excellent, while Rs. 1, 04,000 has been allocated to provide assistance to dialysis patients.

The initiatives undertaken by Pulamanthole Gram Panchayat in various sectors showcase its commitment to the welfare of its citizens, especially for the differently-abled, elderly, and health care needs of the community.

# PUZHAKATTIRI GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO DIFFERENTLY-ABLED CHILDREN THROUGH BUDS REHABILITATION CENTER

**Puzhakattiri Gram Panchayat**

Puzhakattiri gram Panchayat, located in the serene Mankada block, is nestled in the heart of Perinthalmanna taluk within the picturesque Malappuram district. Encompassing a vast expanse of 22.69 square kilometers, this beautiful region is divided into 17 wards, each contributing to the vibrant and diverse community of the Panchayat. With its lush landscapes and harmonious blend of rural and urban areas, Puzhakattiri is a testament to the rich cultural heritage and natural beauty of Kerala's countryside. The Panchayat serves as a melting pot of traditions, values, and aspirations, fostering a strong sense of community among its. The dedicated members of the gram Panchayat work tirelessly to ensure the overall development and well-being of the people, striving to provide efficient public services, proper infrastructure, and sustainable initiatives. As the Panchayat continues to grow and evolve, it remains committed to preserving its cultural roots while embracing progress and innovation. Puzhakattiri gram Panchayat stands as a shining example of unity, progress, and prosperity, making it a cherished home for its residents and an inviting destination for visitors from near and far.

The Puzhakattiri Gram Panchayat BUDS Rehabilitation

Center, which was established on 3rd December 2017 to coincide with World Disability Day, initially began its noble journey with just six children accommodated in a room at Paravakkal Homeo Dispensary. Over time, the center witnessed a remarkable increase in the number of children seeking care and support, but due to the lack of adequate facilities, a decision was made to relocate to a more suitable art center on Tuesday, January 10, 2019. Now, as the institution proudly completes its 5th year of operation, it continues to be a beacon of hope and compassion, catering to the needs of 32 children with the invaluable dedication of special educators, ayams, and drivers.

To further enhance the services provided by the BUDS Rehabilitation Center, the Panchayat has embarked on an ambitious project to construct a new building. The construction work is already underway, adjacent to the existing facility, and is expected to be completed by March 2023. This new building project has been made possible through the generous sanctioning of funds by the Kudumbashree District Mission.

The upcoming relocation to the new building presents an opportunity for the center to embrace modern technology and innovations in education. As part of this development, a SMART CLASS ROOM system will be installed, revolutionizing the learning experience for the children. Additionally, the new building will be equipped with state-of-the-art equipment for physiotherapy, ensuring comprehensive care and development for the children under its care.

With this expansion and improvement of facilities, the Puzhakattiri Gram Panchayat BUDS Rehabilitation Center is poised to continue its valuable mission of providing exceptional care, education, and support to differently-abled children, empowering them to lead fulfilling lives and realize their true potential in a nurturing and inclusive environment.

# EMPOWERING GOD'S GIFTED CHILDREN: SADGAMAYA PROJECT BY VELIANCODE GRAM PANCHAYAT

## Veliancode Gram Panchayat

Veliancode Gram Panchayat is located in perumpadappu block, Ponnani taluk of Malappuram district. The total geographical area of the village is 1521 hectares. Veliancode has a total population of 32,554 people, out of which the male population is 15,054 while the female population is 17,500. The literacy rate of Veliancode village is 79.33% out of which 80.12% of males and 78.65% of females are literate. There are about 6,211 houses in Veliancode village.

Sadgamaya is a project run by Veliancode Gram Panchayat in collaboration with Ayush Homeo Dispensary to guide God's gifted children on the right path mentally and physically. Sadgamaya is a scheme that is conducted only in District hospitals. But in Veliancode Gram Panchayat, this project is being implemented in Ayush Primary Health Center using Panchayat funds only.

Sadgamaya is the child-centric project of the Department of Homeopathy. It focuses mainly on managing health problems, behavioral and learning disorders of children. The first implementation of the sadgamaya scheme in an NHM dispensary in Kerala is at Ayush Primary Health Center under Veliancode Gram Panchayat. Children with learning and behavioral disorders often lose the peaceful

environment in their homes because they do not know how to overcome them. The Department of Homeopathy implements Sadgamaya, a comprehensive health program for children, in collaboration with self-governing institutions, educational institutions, hospitals, and dispensaries.

In addition to the psychologist and special education teacher, the gram Panchayat interviewed the speech therapist and hired them on a daily wage basis. In order to identify children for Sadgamaya, awareness classes have been conducted in all the schools of Veliancode gram Panchayat on different days. Along with this, training programs were conducted for Anganwadi teachers, Panchayat members, and other volunteers in collaboration with the district Sadgamaya team.

The program started with once a week sessions in the initial phase and later the number of children started to increase. Therefore, the services of the psychologist and special education teacher were increased to 5 days a week and the services of the speech therapist to 4 days a week.

On Wednesdays, the Homeo Medical Officer examines the new case as per booking and gives necessary prescriptions and medicines. On other days, therapies are given to the children as per their needs. Through the joint works of the psychologist, special education teacher, speech therapist, and homeopathic treatment, betterments are seen in the children.

Psychologist diagnoses mental disorders in children and prescribes remedial measures. Special education teachers provide training to improve the learning standards of children with learning disabilities. Children with speech and language impairment receive the services of a speech therapist.

A caretaker post was also allotted by the Gram Panchayat to take care of the children. Sadgamaya is attended by children suffering from learning disabilities, behavioral disorders, ADHD, autism, CP, speech disorders, etc. The services of a psychologist and medical officer have been utilized for counseling the common people of Veliancode gram Panchayat during the period of covid. Sadgamaya has provided treatment to 680 new children. This project started with 93 children in 2018-19 and by 2020-21, it has been able to serve 2410 children. Sadgamaya continues to conduct camps in various schools of the Gram Panchayat. The

Sadgamaya team is trying to make the children active in the venues by organizing all the celebrations like Onam, Christmas, and Perunnal. By organizing awareness classes for the parents, it is possible to reduce the psychological tension for them, and also the parents understand how to take care of these types of children. As it is a follow-up treatment, it is very costly for common people to get such services. But in this case, this project is implemented completely free of cost. To date, the Panchayat has allocated Rs.50 lakhs for the Sadgamaya project. This includes the amount for staff wages, purchase of therapy materials, printing, distribution, awareness class, etc., and the amount required for upgrading the land condition of the dispensary. In this way, Veliyamkot Gram Panchayat is always with the people to overcome disabilities and bring the children to the forefront.

# PERUMPADAPPU GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO SCHEDULED CASTE WELFARE

## Perumpadappu Gram Panchayat

Perumpadappu Gram Panchayat is situated in Perumpadappu Block, within the Malappuram District, covering an area of 14.92 square kilometers. It was established in 1968 and is comprised of 18 wards. The total population of Perumpadappu stands at 27,204 people, with 13,066 males and 14,138 females.

Notably, there are no Scheduled Tribe (ST) families residing within the Perumpadappu Gram Panchayat. However, it is noteworthy that Perumpdappu Gram Panchayat receives one of the loWest S.C.P. (Scheduled Caste Plan) funds in the state of Kerala. In the fiscal year 2020-21, the allocation was Rs 875,652, whereas, in 2021-22, it increased slightly to Rs 1,084,000. Despite the limited funding, the Panchayat is committed to utilizing these resources effectively through meticulous planning. Remarkably, in the last two years, Perumpadappu has managed to spend 100% of the allocated funds in this sector.

To address the deficiency of development funds, Perumpadappu Gram Panchayat is collaborating with various institutions such as the SC department, block Panchayat, and district Panchayat. Their collective effort aims to make the most of available resources and

implement development initiatives that benefit the community effectively.

Perumpadappu Gram Panchayat worked to realize the dream of a house in 2021-22 for all landless SC families who are included in the LIFE Mission 2018 SC List and LIFE Mission 2020 SC Additional List. Including the general fund, more than half a crore was spent on the construction of houses. And 100% of the amount allocated for housing rehabilitation was spent.

Perumpadappu Gram Panchayat has given cots to all eligible senior citizens of the SC category above 60 years of age. In 2021-22, 15 persons were selected. Marriage assistance for poor SC families was provided to 4 persons from Perumpadappu Gram Panchayat and 12 persons from SC Development Department. Considering the health of SC women who have to work daily in the kitchen, special stoves with low carbon dioxide emissions were distributed to 7 needy families.

Tables and chairs are provided for 15 students to study. 690, 000 rupees was allocated from the Scheduled Caste Department for study rooms, primary education aid, and financial aid for about 130 students. 790000 beneficiaries received financial assistance from the Scheduled Caste Development Department in various schemes like house renovation 1.5 lakhs, single-income financial assistance for widows 4 lakhs, and medical financial assistance 240000 for 10 persons.

Pangam SC Colony has implemented comprehensive development by allocating Rs.15 lakhs with the cooperation of District Panchayat.

11030 working days have been provided for SC families under the MGNREGS scheme. Perumpdappu Gram Panchayat hopes to receive more financial assistance from the government in the coming years for the upliftment of the socially backward sections of society.

# VETTATHUR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S INITIATIVES FOR THE ELDERLY AND DIFFERENTLY-ABLED RESIDENTS

## Vettathur Gram Panchayat

Vettathur Gram Panchayat is strategically located within the Perinthalmanna block of Malappuram district. Encompassing an extensive area of 35.84 square kilometers, the Panchayat boasts a diverse and vibrant landscape, offering a unique blend of rural charm and modern amenities.

As of the 2011 census, Vettathur Gram Panchayat is home to a total population of 13,040 individuals, contributing to the region's rich cultural tapestry. Among these inhabitants, there are 6,243 males and 6,797 females, reflecting a balanced gender distribution within the community.

The Panchayat authorities, in collaboration with local government entities, are steadfast in their commitment to promoting the well-being and progress of the region. Efforts are focused on advancing crucial infrastructure, social services, and sustainable development projects to meet the evolving needs of the residents and ensure a prosperous future for all. With its picturesque landscapes and harmonious community, Vettathur Gram Panchayat continues to thrive as a flourishing hub of opportunity and growth within Malappuram district.

Cots for the Elderly project, included in the 2021-22 annual plan of Vettathur Gram Panchayat, has been successfully implemented, distributing 150 cots to individuals in the general category and 30 cots to those in the Scheduled Caste category. In total, 180 elderly individuals have received cots through this initiative, involving a carefully arranged budget of Rs. 448,000.

The management committee of Vettathur Gram Panchayat is diligently exploring and recommending innovative projects aimed at assisting the elderly population facing various difficulties within the Panchayat. Their commitment to serving the community is evident through their genuine concern for the well-being of the elderly residents.

An important milestone in this endeavor is the inauguration of the "Cot for the Elderly" project, specifically targeting individuals who have completed 100 years of age. This thoughtful gesture fulfills the cherished wish of many underprivileged people in the area. While the Panchayat consistently implements numerous projects to improve living conditions, they refrain from extravagant ceremonies and instead focus on ensuring tangible benefits reach the people. The Gram Sabha, a fundamental unit of governance, plays a vital role in this process, serving as a platform for open discussions and the implementation of proposed initiatives.

Additionally, the 2021-22 annual plans have also considered the needs of differently-abled individuals, with approximately 18 individuals in Vettathur Panchayat receiving various specialized equipment to help them integrate seamlessly into mainstream society. This project, costing Rs. 466,951, aims to empower differently-abled individuals and promote their active participation within the community.

Overall, Vettathur Gram Panchayat's proactive approach to addressing the needs of its elderly and differently-abled residents reflects their commitment to inclusive development and social welfare, making a meaningful impact on the lives of those they serve.

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: TAVANUR GRAM PANCHAYAT'S ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN

**Tavanur Gram Panchayat**

Tavanur Gram Panchayat is situated in Ponnani Block of Malappuram District. During the year 2021-2022, an important project was undertaken in Tavanur Gram Panchayat to combat drug addiction. The project received funding of Rs. 50,000 from the Panchayat Head and Rs. 25,000 from the Vimukti Fund. The Panchayat carried out extensive preparatory activities for this initiative. In the first phase, a management committee was formed at the Panchayat level to formulate a comprehensive plan. Subsequently, a meeting was convened, bringing together people's representatives, officials from various departments like excise, police, revenue, and health, political leaders, religious organizations, youth groups, reading room officials, club officials, civic leaders, and others to discuss and contribute to the project.

To create widespread awareness about the campaign, a large-scale publicity drive was launched under the name "Oppam Anti-Drug Campaign." Posters, banners, and stickers were designed and distributed to spread the message effectively. To mark the commencement of the projects, a hundred families released colorful

balloons on the banks of the Nila River near the Kuttipuram Bridge at Mini Pampa in Tavanur Gram Panchayat on 26th November 2021. On 3rd January 2021, the anti-drug campaign was inaugurated by Tavanur MLA Dr. K T Jalil, with the logo being released by Minister for Sports , V Abdurrahman.

The Panchayat Bharana Samiti evaluated the progress of the campaign in all its meetings, making it a special agenda. In the Gram Sabha meetings, the anti-drug campaign was highlighted as a significant topic of discussion. Panchayat level and ward level committees were formed to coordinate the efforts. A youth resource force was created and provided training under the guidance of excise and police officials. Various awareness programs were organized, including cycle rallies, poster and sticker printing, signboard installations, family meetings, and evening gatherings to disseminate the message of the campaign effectively.

This anti-drug campaign involved collaboration between Tavanur Gram Panchayat, youth organizations, clubs, reading rooms, and special meetings, all coming together under the banner of "We are Together." On 3rd April 2022, an extensive Chitra Kala Camp was organized at the state level along the banks of the Nila River, with participation from renowned artists from the state.

Furthermore, on 27th May 2022, a special meeting was convened with representatives from all schools and colleges in the Panchayat. Detailed instructions were given for anti-drug activities to be carried out from 1st June 2022 to 31st March 2023. The Smile Drug-Free School Awareness Program was launched, focusing on promoting a drug-free and happy LIFE. Special awareness classes were conducted for both parents and students in all educational institutions, under the guidance of excise and police officers. The entire Panchayat enthusiastically participated in these campaign activities.

Tavanur Gram Panchayat has been actively combating the serious challenge of drug addiction since 2019. Similar to the collective fight against the Covid-19 pandemic, the Panchayat is now united in its determination to address this addiction issue that affects the creativity and future of the young generation. To set an example for other local institutions, 49 teams from the Panchayat

participated in a football tournament against drug addiction, just before the World Cup.

The Panchayat's resolute efforts and dedication to tackle drug addiction have made a significant impact in the region, setting an inspiring example for the rest of the nation.

# EMPOWERING THE WISDOM OF AGE: VENGARA GRAM PANCHAYAT'S COMMITMENT TO ELDERLY WELFARE

**Vengara Gram Panchayat**

Vengara Gram Panchayat is situated in the Vengara block, which falls within the Tirurangadi taluk of the picturesque Malappuram district. Encompassing an expansive area of 18.66 square kilometers, this vibrant Gram Panchayat is home to a thriving population of 50,000 residents, thoughtfully distributed across its 23 meticulously planned wards. Among the diverse residents of Vengara Gram Panchayat, approximately 14% are esteemed elderly members of the community. Their wisdom and experience enrich the social fabric of the Panchayat, contributing to its unique cultural heritage and intergenerational harmony.

As the Panchayat continues to develop and flourish, its governing body remains steadfast in their commitment to the overall well-being and welfare of its residents, particularly the elderly population. The Panchayat recognizes the significance of providing tailored services and support to cater to the needs of its elder citizens. Efforts are made to enhance the quality of LIFE for the elderly, ensuring that they enjoy a sense of dignity and security. Vengara Gram Panchayat takes pride in its inclusive approach, ensuring that the voices and concerns of the elderly are heard and valued. By fostering

an environment of respect and care, the Panchayat actively promotes active aging and social engagement for its esteemed senior citizens.

The Panchayat places a strong emphasis on the welfare of its elderly residents and has implemented various schemes and programs tailored to meet their needs. Twice a year, Elderly Gram Sabha's are conducted, providing a platform for the elderly to voice their requirements and concerns, enabling the Panchayat to devise appropriate plans and initiatives. Recognizing the challenges faced by the elderly during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Panchayat took proactive measures by establishing the Vayo call center. This center served as a helpline, offering assistance and solutions to the elderly, ensuring their well-being during the unprecedented times.

In collaboration with Kudumbashree, Vengara Gram Panchayat introduced a tea service at affordable prices, providing tea for Rs. 2 to those above 75 years and Rs. 5 to those above 70 years. This thoughtful initiative aimed to promote social interaction and support for the elderly. The Panchayat, in association with the Agricultural Department, launched a significant project involving the elderly in vegetable farming. Partnering with "Sayamprabha" old age home, this initiative empowered the elderly by providing them with engaging and rewarding opportunities.

Furthermore, through the MGNREGS project, the Panchayat generated employment opportunities for 137 elderly individuals during the financial year 2021-22, boosting their financial independence and sense of purpose. To strengthen the relationship between the police and the elderly, Vengara Gram Panchayat launched the "Meet the Inspector" program, fostering trust and understanding between the two parties. Various recreational activities were also organized to entertain and engage the elderly. An excursion, friendly football match, and art exhibition, featuring traditional art forms, were among the successful events that garnered widespread participation and appreciation.

The Panchayat actively encouraged intergenerational interaction, facilitating an interaction between the new generation and the elderly, where they shared their stories, experiences, and wisdom with each other. Furthermore, special events such as Vaikom Muhammed Basheer day, "Pahari making competition," and sports

competitions were organized, celebrating the unique skills and talents of the elderly.

Vengara Gram Panchayat also took a holistic approach to improve the overall health and well-being of the elderly, focusing on their physical, emotional, and social health. The Panchayat's thoughtful interventions and initiatives have ensured that the elderly residents are well-cared for in the community.

# KOZHIKODE DISTRICT

1. Senior Citizen friendly Gram Panchayat
2. Upliftment Of SC\ST Communities In All Aspects By Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat
3. The Significant Attention For Differently Abled By Panangad Gram Panchayat
4. Milestone Activities In The Field Of Palliative Care And Health By Thamaraserry Gram Panchayat
5. Mobile Unit For Elderly Project By Perambra Block Panchayat
6. A Great Accomplishment In Health- Palliative Care-Geriatric Disability Friendly Activities By Kodiyathur Gram Panchayat
7. Community Developmental And Monitoring Centre By Kunnummal Block Panchayat

# SENIOR CITIZEN FRIENDLY PANCHAYAT BY THUNERI BLOCK

**Thuneri Block Panchayat**

Thuneri Block in Kozhikode district, Kerala, has made significant efforts to provide care and support for the elderly. Recognizing the importance of protecting and ensuring the well-being of senior citizens, the Block Panchayat has become a model for elderly care at the state level.

The Block Panchayat has established a dedicated place for senior citizens, where various schemes like libraries, healthcare facilities, and associations have been implemented. This initiative provides a space for elderly individuals who have contributed to the Nation throughout their lives and are now in need of support and care. Additionally, the Panchayat has set up a congregation center and a geriatric clinic at the Government Taluk Homeo Hospital, offering services to the elderly twice a week.

One significant program, "Sayoojya Vayojana Sabha," has been introduced to address and resolve the issues faced by the elderly. The Panchayat actively monitors and provides legal aid to protect the rights of senior citizens, ensuring they are not subjected to abuse or mistreatment.

The Panchayat's library has become a popular destination for many elderly individuals. The presence of facilities such as TV and newspapers helps them find solace and peace of mind. Loneliness and health problems are common concerns among the elderly, and the absence of loved ones to share their burdens can often lead to depression. Recognizing these challenges, the Block Panchayat has taken steps to address their needs. An allocation of 75 lakh rupees has been set aside for the welfare of the elderly under the district Panchayat.

Thuneri Block Panchayat is implementing various schemes and programs to provide a healthy, happy, empowered, dignified, and self-reliant LIFE for senior citizens. The objective is to make all seven Gram Panchayats under Thuneri Block Panchayat fully age-friendly within one year. The Panchayat aims to bring the elderly to the forefront of society and elevate their status in the community.

# UPLIFTMENT OF SC\ST COMMUNITIES IN ALL ASPECTS BY MARUTHONKARA GRAM PANCHAYAT

**Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat**

Maruthonkara is a village and Gram Panchayat in Kunnumal block in Kozhikode district. The famous Janakikkad tourist center of Kozhikode district is located in this Panchayat. Major tourist attractions such as the Peruvannamuzhi Dam and Kuttiyadi Dam are situated near this village, which is also known as Mullankunnu due to its lush greenery and water resources.

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are officially designated groups and among the most disadvantaged socio-economic groups in India. These terms are recognized in the Constitution of India, and individuals are classified into one or the other category.

In Maruthonkara Gram Panchayat, there are 163 Scheduled Tribe families and 773 Scheduled Caste families residing in two colonies. Besides utilizing all the funds received specifically for this sector, funds from other sectors have also been allocated to ensure their development. The drinking water problem in both the Scheduled Tribe colonies of the Panchayat has been resolved. Additionally, 39 Scheduled Tribe families have received 5630 working days through the Employment Guarantee Scheme. The Kudumbashree has organized the distribution of dresses and Onam celebrations in the

colonies as part of the Asraya Project.

Under the leadership of the health department, medical camps have been conducted every month in the colonies to ensure the healthcare of the residents. An amount of Rs. 8000/- has been spent for this purpose. House wiring in the colonies has been completed by paying Rs. 27000/- to three people. Rs. 1 lakh has been spent on distributing nutrition-enriched food to tribal students. Furthermore, Rs. 2 lakhs have been provided by the Panchayat as financial support for the marriages of poor Scheduled Caste girls. Rs. 150000/- has been allocated to provide study rooms for two tribal students, and goats have been distributed to five individuals belonging to the Scheduled Tribe category at a rate of Rs. 6000/- each. The Panchayat has taken steps to ensure the welfare of these sections. Rs. 1 lakh has been spent on the distribution of nutrition to Scheduled Castes. Rs. 6 lakhs have been provided to make the houses of eight individuals habitable, and 25 individuals who spent Rs. 4582312/- under the LIFE Mission scheme have been given houses.

The Gram Panchayat has undertaken activities to ensure the welfare of these sections. In the year 2021-22, 5418 working days have been provided to 69 families under the Employment Guarantee Scheme. Rs. 39000/- has been spent on distributing drinking water tanks to 12 families. Rs. 609000/- has been spent to provide study rooms for SC students, benefiting five students. Additionally, Rs. 156000/- has been allocated for the distribution of goats to 13 SC women, and assistance has been provided to the weaker sections.

The Panchayat is working tirelessly for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and its activities have greatly contributed to improving the quality of LIFE for these communities.

# THE SIGNIFICANT ATTENTION FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED BY PANANGAD GRAM PANCHAYAT

**Panangad Gram Panchayat**

Panangad is a village in Balussery block of Kozhikode district. Panangad Gram Panchayat stands out for its proactive approach to healthcare, palliative care, and inclusivity. With an emphasis on supporting the elderly and differently-abled residents, the Gram Panchayat continues to work diligently to provide a conducive and caring environment for all its inhabitants.

Health and palliative care, elderly, and disabled-friendly initiatives have been given significant attention in Panangad Gram Panchayat. With an area spread along the scenic Western Ghats, the Gram Panchayat is home to a population of 36,266 residing in 20 wards. Among them, 455 belong to Scheduled Castes, and 408 belong to Scheduled Tribes, making it important to address the healthcare needs of these marginalized communities.

To ensure the well-being of its residents, the Gram Panchayat has established two family health centers, One in Kandypoil (20th ward) and Two in Wayalada (3rd ward). Additionally, there is an Ayurveda hospital in the 4th ward and a homeo hospital in the 6th ward, providing residents with both traditional and alternative medicine options. Complementing these facilities there are four health sub-centers, one health inspector, six

JHNs, and 20 Asha workers, who work tirelessly to ensure the safety and health of the entire community.

For public health work, each ward has health and hygiene committees, fostering a collaborative approach to community health. Furthermore, palliative care activities are prioritized, with two palliative care units functioning in the Gram Panchayat. During the financial year 2021-22, a substantial amount of Rs. 9,96,931 was spent on palliative care initiatives, with Rs. 53,447 collected through voluntary contributions from families. The funds mobilized under the Primary Health Center (PHC) are utilized for treatment, ensuring that palliative care services reach those in need.

In a bid to promote inclusivity and support the elderly and differently-abled individuals, the Gram Panchayat has allocated Rs. 1,40,884 for various schemes catering to their needs. This allocation has been utilized entirely to address the specific requirements of this vulnerable population.

The Gram Panchayat is committed to social security as well, with Rs. 8 lakhs being allocated for schemes aimed at supporting the poor. Additionally, Rs. 1,00,000 has been set aside in the health sector through the senior friendly projects, emphasizing the importance of healthcare for the elderly.

To improve accessibility and ensure the participation of differently-abled individuals in mainstream social LIFE, the Gram Panchayat has implemented a special queuing system and wheelchair accessibility in public spaces. Roads have been constructed under the Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme, further linking the lives of differently-abled individuals to the community. Three-wheelers are provided annually as part of a comprehensive scheme, while 104 differently-abled families receive scholarships each year.

# MILESTONE ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF PALLIATIVE CARE AND HEALTH BY THAMARASERRY GRAM PANCHAYAT

**Thamaraserry Gram Panchayat**

Thamarassery formerly known as Thazhmalachery in Koduvally block Panchayat , is one of the taluks in Kozhikode district and major hill town in the Kozhikode district of Kerala , India. It is located 30 km to the North-East of Kozhikode city and 29 km East of Koyilandy.

Thamarassery Panchayat is doing many activities for health care, elderly care, palliative care, and for differently abled people. With the conviction that healthy people are the wealth of a nation, Thamarassery Panchayat has done commendable works in the field of health and has been able to make a mark in all areas such as palliative care and elderly-disabled friendly activities. Through these activities, the Panchayat aims not only to achieve disease- free status, but also physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being.

Many activities are going on the people of taluk hospital, which is located in the heart of Thamarassery. Medicines, food and ambulance facilities are provided to the patients arriving here. Great progress is also being made in palliative care. Home care system provides shades of love and happiness to those who are bedridden at home. A palliative ward is also functioning in the taluk hospital.

More than 25 patients rely on the dialysis center operating in the taluk hospital. Dialysis is completely free of cost. Similarly, vaccinations against typhoid, coved vaccination, vaccination for women and children, health camps and many other brilliant activities enriching the health sector are carried out in this hospital. The home dispensary located at Parapparpoil in the Gram Panchayat and many health activities are centered around it. Medicines and treatment are given to about fifty patients daily. Preventive medicines for chronic diseases and effective treatment for hereditary diseases are provided from here. For those who need homeopathic treatment but cannot reach the dispensary directly, the doctor comes directly to their homes and provides the necessary treatment.

The hospital in Thamarassery is also becoming a land mark in the health sector. The Hospital provides medicine and treatment to more than fifty patients daily. Medicines are delivered to the homes of patients who require Ayurveda treatment in palliative care and also preventive medicine for chronic diseases and treatment for post-covid health problems. Hereditary diseases are also treated here . Elderly Grama Sabhas are conducted to understand their problems and quality of LIFE and carry out activities accordingly. Various activities are also done for differently abled people. Gatherings and trips are held for their mental health and physical health. The Panchayat always tries to get them fair representation at all levels.

Thamarassery Panchayat is carrying out health , palliative care , elderly care, disability friendly activities in a good manner and as part of this, the backward sections in the society are coming to the forefront.

# MOBILE UNIT FOR ELDERLY PROJECT BY PERAMBRA BLOCK PANCHAYAT

## Perambra Block Panchayat

Perambra is a major town in Koyilandy taluk of Kozhikode district in North Malabar region of Kerala state, India. It is one of the 140 assembly constituencies in Kerala, and one of the 12 block Panchayats in Kozhikode district. Perambra lies almost at the center of the district.

Perambra Block Panchayat has been able to provide better services in the field of health in 2021- 22 years. This has also made it possible to get the first position in the health sector. Important among the best services are Physiotherapy Unit, Secondary Palliative Care Center, Dialysis Centre, Mobile Clinic etc.

The mobile unit for elderly project was officially inaugurated on November 14, 2022 and is working efficiently. A doctor, a pharmacist, a nurse and a health worker are available at the clinic, which operates in each division every day. Apart from providing diabetes check-up, blood pressure check-ups and necessary medicines are also distributed free of cost.

The dialysis center started functioning on 03.11.2014 and is progressing well. There are 18 employees working from 7 am to 11:00 pm in the institution. 10785 people are served in the year 2011. In the year 2002, 11171

people were served through this scheme. It has a system that can perform dialysis for 13 people at the same time. One patient can undergo dialysis three times a week.

The service of 2 nurses are available in the Secondary palliative care unit which is functioning as a part of Taluk Hospital. Inpatients are treated directly at home. The service is delivered to homes through Asha workers. O2 concentrator, colostomy bag, lymphedema band aid etc. are distributed to the patients as part of this project. Wheelchairs are also distributed to the needy.

The Physiotherapy Unit is working with 2 OPs, General OP 6 days a week and Palliative OP 3 days a week. 2 Physiotherapists are available and home care system is available depending on the condition of the patient.

# A GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT IN HEALTH- PALLIATIVE CARE-GERIATRIC DISABILITY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES BY KODIYATHUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

**Kodiyathur Gram Panchayat**

Kodiyathur village Panchayat in Kunnamangalam block in the Eastern region of Kozhikode district is home to 90 percent of the common people. Because of that, the governing body has made a significant intervention in the field of health, palliative care, and elderly-disabled-friendly activities during the period 2021-2022. The most important of these is the scheme implemented for kidney patients undergoing dialysis. This scheme provides free medicine to all kidney patients undergoing dialysis registered with Pain & Palliative in Gram Panchayat.

Health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being. For a healthy LIFE cycle, a person needs to have a balanced diet and has to regularly exercise. One must also live in a proper shelter, take enough sleep and have good hygiene habits. With advancements in the treatment of diseases including cancer, heart disease, diabetes, and COPD, doctors may be successful in giving their patients a longer LIFE. Both the disease and the treatment can cause pain and other side effects.

Palliative care is important because it gives patients an option for pain and symptom management and higher quality of LIFE while still pursuing curative measures.

When a patient is seriously ill, they understand the value of each day. While they still must face their illness, the support of palliative care in controlling pain and other symptoms can make each day more positive that allows the patient to make the most of the time they have with their families.

Geriatric care helps senior citizens manage their overall health and well-being and maintain their independence for as long as possible. Becoming an Age-Friendly Health System entails reliably providing a set of four evidence-based elements of high-quality care, known as the "4Ms," to all older adults in your system: "What Matters, Medication, Mentation, and Mobility."

The term persons with disabilities is used to apply to all persons with disabilities including those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various attitudinal and environmental barriers, hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. Persons with disabilities have twice the risk of developing conditions such as depression, asthma, diabetes, stroke, obesity, or poor oral health. Persons with disabilities face many health inequities.

The scheme of free delivery of materials to the home can be of great relief to the patient and the family. About ten lakh rupees have been earmarked for the project. 20 kidney patients undergoing dialysis are prvided with dialysis kits, medicines, and Medicines required for 5 patients, including injections, are delivered to their homes free of cost.

Along with this, a health fair was jointly organized by the Gram Panchayat and the Family Health Centre to bring various services of the Health Department to the people and to educate the people along with Allopathy Department, Homeo, Ayurveda, and ICDS Departments. The fair also held a LIFEstyle management clinic, an exhibition on infectious diseases and the need for exercises, seminars on various topics, and a palliative care class. The class aimed to improve nutritional status among children less than six years of age, adolescent children, lactating mothers, and pregnant women. Various programs held in the Gram Panchayat as part of Abhiyan project were also highlighted.

The nutritional exhibition, health classes, awareness seminars, etc. were held. 26

Anganwadi workers and helpers of the Panchayat participated in the program. There were many dishes cooked with food items provided to Anganwadi children and local foods were also on display. In a situation where LIFEstyle diseases are increasing steadily and the living conditions of the patients are going out of order , it is also a great achievement in this field that the Jivathalam project, which was conceived for LIFEstyle disease control under the joint guidance of the Health Department, Local Self-Government Department, District Administration, District Panchayat, and National Health Mission, was started in Kodiyathur Gram Panchayat.

The main objective of the project is a social change towards healthy living against LIFEstyle diseases, prevention, control, and early disease control. A workshop was also organized for Jivathalam members as part of the project. An open gym has been prepared for the public at Kodiyathur Family Health Centre. In the 2021-22 Annual Plan, about one and a half lakh rupees have been spent for Open Gym under LIFEstyle Disease Control Scheme. The open gym can be used free of cost by the public at fixed time every day in the morning and evening. The activity of the gram Panchayat during the covid era was a big discussion at the state level itself. A hi-tech vaccination center was started at AUP School in Pannikode. This came at a time when complaints were being raised from various centers in the state, including that the necessary infrastructure is not being provided to those who come to receive the vaccine.

Hi-tech facilities are provided for those coming for vaccination. Apart from free Wi-Fi connection, television, fan, rest area, toilet, emergency vehicle, coffee spot, and ample parking facility were provided for the visitors of the center. The Gram Panchayat was also able to complete Hundred percent vaccinations. The operation of the community kitchen in the Panchayat was also a model for the whole country. Immediately after the government announcement, the first community kitchen in the district was started in Kodiyathur village Panchayat.

For carrying out many activities for the differently abled sections, arts and sports fair held under the name of 'Semengham' was a refreshing experience for the differently-abled and their families.

Differently abled persons and their families participated in the program. Apart from presenting programs, everyone was sent back with gifts and foods. An excursion organized for differently-abled children and families to the Kannur Wonder Park was also a new experience for them.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENTAL AND MONITORING CENTRE BY KUNNUMMAL BLOCK PANCHAYAT

## Kunnummal Block Panchayat

Kunnummal Block is located in the Kozhikode district of Kerala state, with its headquarters in Kunnummal 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 per the 2001 India census, Kunnummal had a population of 174,652, with 88,298 males and 88,354 females. The local language spoken here is Malayalam, but people also communicate in English, Hindi, and Tamil.

The Kunnummal Community Developmental and Monitoring Centre (CDMC) were formally launched at Kunnummal CHC (Community Health Center) on February 14, 2022. Prior to this, care was provided to mentally and physically challenged children as part of the National Health Mission's (NHM) Anuyathra project.

The CDMC provides individualized training to children with various disabilities by accurately identifying their specific needs. The center operates from 9 AM to 10 PM and conducts regular parents' meetings and monitoring activities. Under the annual plan for 2021-2022, Rs. 150,000 has been allocated for the center, which includes the appointment of a speech therapist, physiotherapist, and rehabilitation psychologist. The

National Health Mission has also spent Rs. 2 lakh for the mental and physical well-being of the children and has installed improved play equipment. The Block Panchayat has allocated Rs. 20 lakh for necessary activities over a year.

The center conducts various counseling tests for children up to the age of 18 who have visual difficulties, difficulties in sitting, standing, walking, and other day-to-day ailments. The President of the Block Panchayat, KP Chandri, expressed his happiness that such treatments, which can be a significant financial burden in the private sector, are provided completely free of charge at the CDMC.

# WAYANAD DISTRICT

1. **"Compassionate Care: Mananthavady Block Panchayat's Secondary Palliative Unit"**
2. **"Nurturing Potential: Buds School for Specially Gifted Children in Thirunelly Gram Panchayat"**
3. **"Cultural Preservation and Social Welfare: Panamaram Block Panchayat's Initiatives"**
4. **Thavinjal's Thriving Health: A Beacon of Sustainable Initiatives**

# COMPASSIONATE CARE: MANANTHAVADY BLOCK PANCHAYAT'S SECONDARY PALLIATIVE UNIT

**Mananthavady Block Panchayat**

The Secondary Palliative Care Unit, a compassionate initiative, extends comfort and care to bedridden patients in the hilly district of Wayanad. Thoughtfully implemented by the Mananthavady block, this dedicated unit aims to provide relief and support to individuals who require extended treatment and are confined to their beds due to various health conditions. Recognizing the importance of this essential service, Mr. Justin Baby, the President of Mananthavady Block Panchayat, proudly attests that the Secondary Palliative Unit is functioning effectively under the administration of five Panchayats, rendering treatment to approximately 500 patients.

This vital service was established to cater to those in need of prolonged care and assistance. The compassionate team of the secondary palliative unit makes home visits to provide personalized care for bedridden patients with conditions such as kidney disease, undergoing dialysis, organ transplants, paralysis, spinal cord injuries, and more. Beyond medications and aids, the team also provides physiotherapy to enhance the quality of LIFE for these individuals. Grateful patients have expressed their appreciation for the significant relief they experience through this service.

With over 355 beneficiaries benefiting from the unit's services, it has proven to be a LIFEline for those who require consistent support. Additionally, more than 150 patients have registered for physiotherapy, which is thoughtfully provided as a home service. In a testament to the project's commitment, a generous allocation of 10 lakh rupees has been set aside to ensure the unit's smooth functioning and adequate resources.

The unit operates in collaboration with primary palliative care, ensuring a seamless continuum of care for patients referred to the secondary palliative care. The presence of this service in five Panchayats, led by the block, reflects the united effort to serve the community with utmost care and empathy.

The physiotherapy offered by the unit focuses on restoring patients' abilities to perform daily tasks independently, such as standing, walking, and even running, under the guidance of dedicated professionals like Shaijal, the physiotherapist. The team of palliative workers takes their responsibilities with utmost dedication, showing love and care to bedridden patients, and ensuring they receive the necessary medications and aids. They make regular visits to these patients, atleast once a week, to provide ongoing care and emotional support, fostering a sense of companionship and understanding.

The Secondary Palliative Care Unit stands as a beacon of hope and compassion for bedridden patients in the region. Its unwavering commitment to improving the lives of the vulnerable and bedridden population serves as a shining example of humanity in action. Through their tireless efforts and genuine concern, the team has become a source of solace and care, instilling a renewed sense of hope and comfort in the hearts of those they serve.

# NURTURING POTENTIAL: BUDS SCHOOL FOR SPECIALLY GIFTED CHILDREN IN THIRUNELLY GRAM PANCHAYAT

**Thirunelly Gram Panchayat**

In the village of Thirunelly, the Headmaster of BUDS School, Ashik, leads an educational institution known as BUDS Paradise Special School. This school caters to specially gifted children from Tirunelly Gram Panchayat, with approximately 90% of the students hailing from tribal villages. The school was established by Tirunelly Gram Panchayat to provide treatment and training opportunities for tribal children with disabilities, who often do not have access to such facilities available in other areas like Kozhikode and Bangalore.

Over the course of three years since its inception, BUDS School has achieved remarkable success. The school consistently secures the overall championship in the arts festival for differently-abled individuals and has received awards at both the district and state levels, recognizing it as the best institution of its kind.

The impact of education at BUDS School has been profound, with tribal children showing significant improvements in their behavior and abilities. Upon completing their schooling at the institution, the children demonstrate enhanced skills, including walking, effective communication, and excelling in various extracurricular activities. Many of them actively participate in outdoor

events, showcasing their talents to the delight of the community.

The efforts of BUDS School are wholeheartedly supported by Thirunelly Panchayat, who believes in creating a child-friendly environment. The aim is to nurture the unique abilities of each student, irrespective of their challenges, and empower them to lead fulfilling lives as active contributors to society. Together, they strive to build a village that recognizes and celebrates every child's potential.

# CULTURAL PRESERVATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE: PANAMARAM BLOCK PANCHAYAT'S INITIATIVES

**Panamaram Block Panchayat**

Panamaram Block Panchayat has taken commendable efforts to construct various types of houses for different tribal groups, tailored to preserve and honor their tribal customs and rituals.

One such remarkable initiative is the construction of the God Houses, which have been provided to the community by Panamaram Block Panchayat. These houses hold immense significance for the tribal families as they serve as spaces for various rituals and gatherings. Each year, the community gathers here, and with the Panchayat's support, the houses are well-maintained. From weddings to other significant events, these houses become the focal points for communal celebrations, where rice is shared, and everyone partakes in the joyous occasions. With a total of 22 families benefitting from these God Houses, the community expresses their heartfelt gratitude for the thoughtful provision of such essential spaces. These houses play an integral role in preserving and strengthening the cultural fabric of the tribes.

Similarly, Panamaram Block Panchayat has allocated Daivapura, another significant area for the community. Fifty households have been blessed by the provision of

Daivapura, where various rituals and traditional performances, such as Komaram, Velichappadu, and Kanalattam, are held. The entire community acknowledges the immense value of this space, and it is cherished as a place where cultural heritage is safeguarded for future generations. Thanks to the thoughtful support from Panamaram Block Panchayat, Daivapura serves as a vibrant hub for cultural expressions and is expected to benefit the community for years to come.

In addition to housing initiatives, Panamaram Block Panchayat has also undertaken construction projects under the PMAY scheme. This effort has provided homes for numerous families, transforming their lives and bringing joy and comfort to their daily living. With financial support of 6 lakhs, families have been able to build beautiful houses, elevating their living standards and bringing happiness to their lives. Moreover, the Panchayat has facilitated employment opportunities through the Thozhilurappu program, creating livelihoods and further empowering the community.

The residents express their heartfelt gratitude to Panamaram Block Panchayat for their unwavering commitment to their welfare. The provision of houses and the preservation of cultural spaces demonstrate the Panchayat's dedication to uplifting the community and ensuring its growth and prosperity. With these thoughtful initiatives, Panamaram Block Panchayat continues to create a positive impact, fostering a sense of belonging and pride among the people it serves.

# THAVINJAL'S THRIVING HEALTH: A BEACON OF SUSTAINABLE INITIATIVES

## Thavinjal Gram Panchayat

Thavinjal Gram Panchayat stands on the historical soil that witnessed the battles of the heroic Kerala Pazhassi Tampuran and his warriors, immortalized in golden scripts throughout history. The picturesque landscape is adorned with mist-covered hills, lush wild trees, vast fields, and mesmerizing tea plantations. Spanning an area of 142.3 km with a population of 39,813, the Panchayat is nestled in the Mananthavady taluk of Wayanad district, encompassing the villages of Thavinjal, Valad, and Periya. Sharing borders 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, the majority of its inhabitants are migrant farmers, farm workers, and plantation laborers. Additionally, around 8,800 Scheduled Tribes and 1,800 Scheduled Castes depend on agriculture and natural forest resources.

Originally established as a Gram Panchayat in 1937, Thavinjal has been a shining example of development and progress, a culmination of the endeavors of former leaders, Panchayat Raj, and active public participation, attaining significant success in 2010. The Panchayat has not only acquired an office equipped with top-notch

physical facilities but has also elevated its office system to meet the ISO 9001-2015 international standard in 2017, maintaining the certification until 2025. This exemplifies the dedication of its management and employees to provide the best basic facilities and services to the public.

In its commitment to social welfare, Thavinjal Gram Panchayat prioritizes schemes aimed at the welfare of children, lactating mothers, differently-abled individuals, and the elderly. The Panchayat envisions achieving these goals through a comprehensive five-year plan, with the ICDS supervisor overseeing its implementation. Among its efforts, the Panchayat is constructing new model Anganwadis, with a focus on providing child-friendly facilities to all centers. These Anganwadis play a crucial role in providing nutritious food to children, preventing anemia and malnutrition among girls and lactating mothers, and offering improved physical facilities. Additionally, the Panchayat ensures the protection of children's and women's rights, support for senior citizens, and coordination of ward-level vigilance committees through services provided by women facilitators.

Notably, under the leadership of Haritha Karmasena, the Panchayat has made significant strides towards becoming a waste-free green Gram Panchayat. The dedicated members of Haritha Karma Sena diligently collect dry and stored plastic and other waste from households and shops, contributing to the noble goal of waste management. The efforts extend to separating and storing the waste at material collection centers and transporting it in Clean Kerala company vehicles. In addition, the Panchayat operates a bailing machine and its own vehicle to bolster the waste management initiatives.

Thavinjal Gram Panchayat's holistic approach to social security, health, and environmental welfare has not only preserved its historical heritage but also positioned it as a thriving and sustainable community dedicated to the welfare of its residents.

# KANNUR DISTRICT

1. Social welfare initiatives - Kuttiyattur panchayat
2. Empowering scheduled castes and scheduled tribes - Padiyoor kalliad panchayat
3. Development initiatives of marginalized communities - Chitariparamba Gram Panchayat
4. Impactful initiatives SC and ST communities - kanichar gram panchayat
5. Inclusive housing initiatives under the life mission project - Maloor Gram Panchayat
6. Social justice initiatives and welfare projects - Payam Gram Panchayat

# SOCIAL WELFARE INITIATIVES BY KUTTIYATTUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

## Kuttiyattur Gram Panchayat

Kuttiattoor is a census town in Taliparamba Taluk of Kannur district in the Indian state of Kerala. Kuttiattoor is located 26 km (16 mi) North East of District headquarters Kannur and 6.5 km (4.0 mi) South East of Mayyil. Kuttiattoor mango is popular and traditional cultivar of Kuttiattoor and neighboring Panchayat of Kannur district.

In Kuttiyattur Panchayat various social welfare initiatives have been implemented to support the physically challenged and vulnerable populations. As part of these efforts, walkers, crutches, and other mobility aids have been distributed to individuals with physical disabilities. Additionally, 185 patients under palliative home care receive specialized care and nursing. The Panchayat also extends support through various pension schemes. Indira Gandhi National Widow pension, Indira Gandhi National Old Age pension, Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension, and other pensions for agricultural workers and unmarried women above 50 years are provided to a total of 4,345 beneficiaries.

Under the Ashraya scheme, 34 families in the Panchayat, who are identified as the most disadvantaged, are receiving assistance. Education is a key focus, and the

Panchayat has distributed educational materials to marginalized sections of society. Furthermore, 96 cots have been distributed to the elderly to enhance their comfort and well-being. In an effort to empower vulnerable groups, the Panchayat has spent Rs 542,000 on distributing goats and chickens, providing a source of income and sustenance for those in need.

Recognizing the needs of differently-abled individuals, wheelchairs have been distributed to enhance their mobility and independence. These initiatives reflect the Panchayat's commitment to social welfare and its efforts to improve the lives of its residents, particularly those facing physical and mental challenges or experiencing socio-economic hardships.

# EMPOWERING SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

## Padiyoorkalliad panchayat

Padiyoor is a small town in Kannur district of Kerala state, India. Padiyoor village is part of Padiyoor-Kalliad Gram Panchayat in Iritty taluk. Padiyoor is located on SH 36 between Iritty and Irikkur towns. It is about 7 km from Iritty and 10 km from Irikkur. Padiyoor town is located near the reservoir of Pazhassi Dam. Padiyoor Town is the center of all Panchayat activities and the Panchayat Headquarters is situated here. As of 2011 Census, Padiyoor village had total population of 12,144 where 5,936 are males and 6,178 are females.

Padiyoor village spreads over 25.44 km2 (9.82 sq. mi) area with 2,758 families residing in it. The sex ratio of Padiyoor was 1,041 lower than state average of 1,084. Population in the age group of 0-9 was 1,214 (10% of total) which constitutes 634 males and 580 females. Padiyoor had overall literacy of 93.4% where male literacy stands at 96.7% and female literacy was 90.8% .Padiyoor-Kalliad Panchayat boasts a significant representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes within its total population.

Consequently, the annual plan of the Panchayat has prioritized the development of this sector. Various initiatives have been undertaken to improve the quality of

education for students in SC/ST colonies. Study rooms have been established, and necessary furniture has been provided to SC/ST students. The "Gothra Saradhi" scheme was implemented to facilitate transportation to schools for these students.

To promote education and a higher standard of living, libraries under the project 'Kanavu' were initiated in SC/ST colonies and these libraries have obtained affiliation from the library council. A significant portion of funds has been allocated to installing street lights in the SC/ST colonies. In the 2021-22 year plan, projects were carried out to provide cots and walking sticks to the elderly citizens of the community.

Moreover, through the LIFE Mission Project, the Panchayat has successfully provided houses to those in need among the SC/ST population. Financial assistance is being extended to students from SC/ST colonies for their higher education, and laptops have been distributed to support their digital needs. The Panchayat has played a crucial role in ensuring pipe water reaches every SC/ST colony, improving their access to clean water. Financial aid is also provided to married girls in the Panchayat. To encourage active participation, the Panchayat organizes various activities, sports training programs, and events for SC/ST students. Participants are acknowledged and motivated through the distribution of certificates and mementos.

# DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES OF MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES

## Chitariparamba Gram Panchayat

Boundaries of Chitariparamba village Panchayat belonging to Koothuparamp block Panchayat in Thalassery taluk of Kannur district are Malur, Peravoor, Mangattidam Panchayats in the North, Patiyam Panchayat in the East, Kolayad Panchayat in the West and Koothuparamp municipality in the West. The population of this gram Panchayat is 27305 with an area of 31.8 2 km Chitariparamba Gram Panchayat holds a significant position and it is actively working towards uplifting the marginalized communities and integrating them into the mainstream society.

The Panchayat allocates funds to various groups, focusing on initiatives that bring about positive change in the region. The "LIFE Housing Project" has been successfully implemented in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes regions, providing well-facilitated houses to the beneficiaries. Most of these houses are situated near the forest boundary, but the Panchayat ensures access to good roads and essential amenities.

Additionally, the Panchayat promotes composting through the Employment Guarantee Scheme, offering 16200 working days in the previous financial year. To improve the income of backward families, the

Panchayat has introduced the "Chicken and Nest Project," generating employment opportunities and constructing cattle sheds and sheep pens. In the healthcare sector, regular Ayurveda medical camps are conducted in remote tribal areas, offering free medicines through the annual plan. The Panchayat also runs the "Cot Distribution" scheme for elderly individuals in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes region, precisely identifying beneficiaries and implementing it annually. Moreover, they provide furniture and laptops to students to enhance their learning standards.

The Panchayat extends various facilities to students to excel in their studies. Special attention is given to projects aimed at improving the standard of living, providing higher education to students, creating income generating opportunities, and fulfilling basic needs for the people in Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe areas. Addressing the shortage of drinking water in the region, the Panchayat includes water tanks in the annual plan, benefitting approximately 60 beneficiaries every summer. These tanks help store water from areas with direct springs, alleviating the water scarcity in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes region.

# IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES SC AND ST COMMUNITIES

## Kanichar gram panchayat

Kanichar Gram Panchayat situated in the Peravoor Block of Kannur district has undertaken numerous commendable activities in the past with the core objective of improving the quality of LIFE for individuals belonging to SC and ST communities.

A significant focus of the Panchayat has been on identifying underprivileged families within these categories, enabling them to realize their dream of owning a solid home. This noble effort is carried out through the LIFE Housing project, which constructs houses for the deserving families. Another essential goal of the Panchayat is to uplift the cultural and educational aspects of the SC and ST communities.

To achieve this, cultural centers have been established in three colonies within the Panchayat. Additionally, reading rooms have been initiated in these cultural centers to enhance the reading skills and foster creative thinking among the individuals.

The Panchayat is dedicated to paying special attention to the mental and physical health of the people belonging to the SC and ST category. Looking ahead, the Panchayat has future plans that involve giving

continued special consideration to the upliftment of individuals from these communities. The Panchayat's commitment to their betterment promises a more promising and equitable future for all.

# INCLUSIVE HOUSING INITIATIVES UNDER THE LIFE MISSION PROJECT

## Maloor Gram Panchayat

Maloor Gram Panchayat, situated in the Peravoor Block of Kannur district, is actively participating in the LIFE Mission project, which aims to provide safe and affordable housing to the underprivileged sections of society. During the financial year 2021-22, the Panchayat took a proactive step by constructing and allocating a total of 15 houses as part of the LIFE Mission project.

The project required a financial expenditure of 5,083,287 rupees, which was effectively utilized for construction, infrastructure development, and provision of essential amenities in these houses. The beneficiaries of these houses include individuals from Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), as well as the General category.

By encompassing beneficiaries from diverse categories, the project aims to address the housing needs of marginalized and economically disadvantaged communities, fostering inclusive development within the region. The newly constructed houses have significantly improved the quality of LIFE for the beneficiaries, offering safe and comfortable living spaces that contribute to their overall well-being and

social progress. The implementation of such projects reflects the Maloor Gram Panchayat's commitment to uplift the living standards of its residents and promote social equality and inclusivity in the community.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES AND WELFARE PROJECTS

## Payam Gram Panchayat

Payam gram Panchayat is a village Panchayat located in Iritti block in Thalassery taluk of Kannur district. Spread over villages of Payam and Vilamana, Payam gram Panchayat has an area of 31.21 square kilometers. Boundaries of this Panchayat are Karnataka state in North, Ayyankunn Panchayat in East, Keezhur-Chavassery Panchayat in South, Patiyur-Kallyad and Ulikal Panchayats in West.

Payam Panchayat came into existence on November 10, 1954 .In Kerala, the society plays a crucial role in implementing favorable actions for the welfare of all citizens, including those belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL), Above Poverty Line (APL), Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and other categories. Various schemes are being operated to cater to the diverse needs of the population.

Some of the key initiatives include providing fixed financial assistance for individuals, distributing hand-wheeled vehicles for the differently-abled, offering scholarships, and introducing special schemes for women. Moreover, the Panchayat is working towards establishing study rooms equipped with laptops and providing breakfast provisions for the SC and ST sections.

Projects that promote inclusivity and well-being are actively being implemented. To ensure the safety and protection of women and children, vigilance committees at the Panchayat level have been formed.

Under the leadership of Vanitasamaajika, special interventions are being taken to address issues related to violence and abuse. The Panchayat has also allocated 5 lakhs for the construction of a safe center dedicated to the elderly. Many residents within the community are actively contributing to various social welfare projects, showcasing their commitment to supporting the well-being of others. A range of pension schemes is provided to cater to different groups: 376 individuals receive Disability Pension, 2376 receive Old Age Pension, 1162 receive Widow Pension, and 578 receive Agricultural Laborer Pension.

In addition to this, financial assistance is offered to family members caring for bed-ridden patients and mothers taking care of differently-abled children, both of which are crucial schemes aimed at supporting caregivers. The Panchayat has successfully completed Ambedkar projects in Vilamana and Kunnoth tribal Colonies, amounting to a cost of Rs 60 lakhs. Efforts to improve housing conditions for 15 families in Kiliat, whose houses were damaged during the 2018 floods, are also underway. A special scheme, known as Agati Ashraya scheme, is actively being implemented for 72 eligible families. Under the guidance of Kudumbashree, essential kits are distributed to these families every month.

Another significant initiative is the regular care and support provided to palliative patients in the Panchayat. This ongoing program is led by FHSC (Family Health Service Center) to ensure the well-being of those in need of palliative care. Lastly, the Panchayat is actively reaching out to 65 individuals who belong to the extremely poor category, distributing Onakodi to provide them with essential resources during critical times.

# KASARAGOD DISTRICT

1. Together We Stand: Fostering a Socially Secure Village by Ajanoor Gram Panchayat
2. Secure Community: Ensuring Social Safety in Our Village by Meenja Gram Panchayat
3. Village of Support: Building Social Security for All Residents by Vorkady Gram Panchayat
4. Empowering Lives: A Village Committed to Social Well-being by West EleriGram Panchayat
5. Caring Connections: Promoting Social Welfare in Our Community by West Eleri Gram Panchayat
6. United for a Safer Tomorrow: Nurturing Social Security by Nileshwaram Block Panchayat
7. Embracing Social Safety: Strengthening Bonds in Our Village by Kanhangad Block Panchayat
8. A Safety Net for All: Empowering Residents in Our Village by Kanhangad Municipality
9. Socially Strong, Resilient Village: Prioritizing Well-being by Madikkai Gram Panchayat

# TOGETHER WE STAND: FOSTERING A SOCIALLY SECURE VILLAGE

## Ajanoor 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 this period when the health sector of Kerala is excelling in such a way that it becomes a model for other states, activities are being carried out in Ajanur Panchayat to implement allround and modern activities in the health sector. The aim of the project is to provide better health

services to the people. Health services are provided in the area of public health and family welfare and mother and child. Family health center started in 1942 as Anandasramam dharmashupathri and this institution has been working as a family health center as a part of various schemes of the Government. Ardram scheme of the Government has been able to improve the physical conditions and services. Ample parking facilities, disabled friendly token system and computerization through e-health system have been implemented in 2 family health centers. TV and books are available in the waiting area, modern equipped pharmacy, airport chair for relaxation, day treatment respiratory clinic for lung diseases, beautiful immunization system, ECG, vaccine storage system, cancer control activities, laboratory financial assistance, palliative consolation of patients , home visits, and palliative patient relative meeting etc. Ajanur Panchayat has been able to perform better activities in the field of health.

# SECURE COMMUNITY: ENSURING SOCIAL SAFETY IN OUR VILLAGE

## Meenja Gram Panchayat

Meenja is a Gram Panchayat in Manjeshwaram Taluk of Kasaragod district in the state of Kerala, India. It consists of 7 revenue villages. Kaliyoor, Koliyoor, Talakala, Meenja, Kadambar, Moodambail and Kuloor. .As of 2011 Census, Meenja village had a population of 4,144 with 2,044 males and 2,100 females. Meenja village has an area of 10.16 km (6.31 mi) with 826 families residing in it. In Meenja, 11.1% of the population was under 6 years of age. Average literacy of Meenja village was 86.6% higher than the national average of 74% and lower than state average of 94%: among which 92.1% were male literates and 81.2% were female literates. Meenja Gram Panchayat had 23,318 population among which 11,406 are males and 11,912 are females. Total number of households is 4,527 in the Panchayat limits. Overall literacy rate was 87.5% , lower than state average of 94%.

In the pursuit of social and economic upliftment of the Scheduled Tribes (STs) residing in different wards of Meenja Gram Panchayat, a series of impactful schemes have been diligently implemented. With a focus on addressing their unique needs and promoting

inclusivity, these initiatives have left a lasting positive impact on the lives of the ST community. One of the key projects was the construction of study rooms in close proximity to the houses of ST families. Recognizing the significance of education as a powerful tool for empowerment, Meenja Gram Panchayat allocated a substantial sum of Rs 4 lakhs for this purpose. The study rooms serve as sanctuaries of knowledge, providing ST children with conducive spaces for learning and self-improvement. These rooms have not only facilitated academic pursuits but have also fostered a sense of enthusiasm for education, encouraging the younger generation to dream big and aim high.

In another remarkable endeavor, the Gram Panchayat invested Rs 1,90,585 to provide ST families with personal wells, ensuring access to clean and safe drinking water. Prior to this intervention, the lack of adequate water sources posed a significant challenge to their well-being. The provision of personal wells has not only improved their quality of life but has also instilled a sense of dignity and self-sufficiency among the ST community. With reliable access to clean water, the burden of water scarcity has been lifted, allowing them to focus on other aspects of personal and community development. Furthermore, recognizing the need for communal spaces that foster unity and cultural exchange, the Gram Panchayat allocated Rs 1,17,731 to furnish community halls. These halls have become hubs of social gatherings, celebrations, and important community events. The provision of furniture has enhanced the functionality and comfort of these spaces, encouraging active participation and engagement of the ST community in various communal activities. The implementation of these schemes reflects Meenja Gram Panchayat's commitment to promoting social equity, economic empowerment, and inclusivity. By addressing the specific needs of the ST community and investing in their well-being, the Panchayat has demonstrated a profound understanding of the importance of uplifting marginalized communities. Through these transformative projects, barriers to education, water accessibility, and community engagement have been broken down, paving the way for a more prosperous and harmonious society. As the ST community embraces the benefits of these initiatives, their resilience and determination shine as guiding

lights, inspiring others to work together towards a future of shared progress and prosperity. Meenja Gram Panchayat stands as a beacon of hope and compassion, showcasing the incredible impact that thoughtful governance and community-driven initiatives can have on transforming lives for the better.

# VILLAGE OF SUPPORT: BUILDING SOCIAL SECURITY FOR ALL RESIDENTS

## Vorkady Gram Panchayat

Vorkady is a Gram Panchayat in Kasaragod district in the state of Kerala, India, under Manjeswaram Block Panchayat and consist of 16 wards. As of 2011 Census, Vorkady village had population of 8,787 which constitutes 4,350 (49.5%) males and 4,437 (50.5%) females. Vorkady village has an area of 13.51 km2 (5.22 sq. mi) with 1,737 families residing in it. In Vorkady, 11.4% of the population was under 6 years of age. Vorkady had an average literacy of 87.4% higher than the national average of 74% and lower than state average of 94%: male literacy was 93.2% and female literacy was 81.8%. Vorkady Gram Panchayat consists of 4 revenue villages. Vorkady, Pathur, Pavoor and Kodalamogaru. Vorkady Gram Panchayat had 25,576 populations where 12,767 are males and 12,989 are females. Total number of households was 4,751 in the Panchayat limits. Vorkady Panchayat had an average literacy of 85.8% lower than state average of 94%.

The implementation of various schemes for the social and economic upliftment of the SC (Scheduled Caste) and ST (Scheduled Tribe) communities living in different wards of Vorkkady Gram Panchayat has been a commendable effort. These initiatives have aimed at

addressing the unique challenges faced by these communities and providing them with better opportunities for growth and development. One significant initiative was the allocation of 300000 rupees specifically for SC and ST category students. This fund was utilized to procure essential infrastructure such as tables and chairs for children, study room furniture, and furniture for the community hall. These provisions were made with the intention of creating a conducive environment for learning and communal gatherings. By investing in quality furniture for students, the local authorities demonstrated their commitment to improving educational facilities for SC and ST students. Comfortable seating arrangements can positively impact concentration levels and overall learning experiences, encouraging students to stay engaged in their studies. The establishment of a well-equipped study room further enhanced the learning ecosystem, as it provided a designated space for students to focus on their studies outside of school hours. This space is likely to have been equipped with learning materials, books, and possibly computers to facilitate research and independent learning.

Additionally, the allocation of funds for community hall furniture aimed to improve the infrastructure available for social gatherings, meetings, and events. Community halls play a vital role in the social fabric of villages, serving as venues for various cultural, educational, and recreational activities. Upgrading these facilities can enhance community cohesion and foster a sense of belonging among the SC and ST residents. By directing funds specifically towards the welfare of SC and ST communities, Vorkkady Gram Panchayat demonstrated its commitment to promoting social equity and inclusive development. Such initiatives can play a crucial role in reducing disparities, empowering marginalized communities, and fostering an environment of equal opportunities for all. It is important to monitor the impact of these investments to ensure that they effectively contribute to the social and economic upliftment of the SC and ST communities. Regular assessments, feedback from beneficiaries, and constant engagement with the community can help refine these schemes and make further improvements to uplift the lives of these marginalized groups effect..

# EMPOWERING LIVES:
# A VILLAGE COMMITTED TO SOCIAL WELL-BEING

## West EleriGram Panchayat

West Eleri Gram Panchayat is located in Hosdurg Taluka of Kasaragod district in the state of Kerala, India, under Parappa Block , consisting of 18 Wards. It is situated approximately 42km away from the sub-district headquarter Kanhangad and 81km away from the district headquarter Kasaragod. West Eleri is also a gram Panchayat, which is a local self-government institution that is responsible for the administration of the village or group of villages. The West Eleri Gram Panchayat covers an area of approximately 77.45 sq.km. The Panchayat is responsible for various local governance activities and services, including the implementation of development projects, infrastructure development, social welfare programs, and more.

The implementation of the 2021-22 Annual Plan by the West Elleri Gram Panchayat has had a significant positive impact on the Scheduled Tribe (ST) students pursuing PG Degree/Professional courses. By distributing laptops to these students, the Gram Panchayat displayed a commendable commitment to promoting higher education and bridging the digital divide in the community. The distribution of laptops

to ST students in PG Degree/Professional colleges has been a transformative step. Laptops are essential tools for modern education, allowing students to access online resources, conduct research, and stay connected with their peers and educators. By providing these laptops, the Gram Panchayat has enabled students to overcome barriers related to technology and access to information. This move empowers students to enhance their learning experiences, leading to improved academic performance and increasing their chances of achieving higher levels of education and career opportunities. Furthermore, the initiative not only encourages students to pursue higher education but also supports their academic endeavors throughout their journey. Equipped with laptops, students can now engage in online courses, webinars, and other digital learning platforms that broaden their knowledge and skill set, even beyond the curriculum. This exposure to digital resources can significantly contribute to their personal and professional growth, making them better prepared to face challenges in today's dynamic world.

In addition to supporting higher education, the West Ellery Gram Panchayat's LIFE Housing Scheme is a testament to their commitment to improving the living conditions of Scheduled Tribe members. By providing financial assistance for the construction of houses, the Gram Panchayat addresses a fundamental need for secure and comfortable housing within the ST community. The LIFE Housing Scheme helps to uplift the living standards of ST families by enabling them to build safe and permanent homes. Adequate housing not only provides physical shelter but also contributes to better health outcomes, increased dignity, and improved overall well-being for the beneficiaries. Furthermore, stable housing conditions can positively impact education, as children growing up in safe and secure homes are more likely to perform well in school and have greater access to educational resources. Through these initiatives, the West Ellery Gram Panchayat demonstrates its commitment to inclusive development and social equity. By investing in education and housing for the Scheduled Tribe community, the Gram Panchayat fosters an environment of equal opportunities, empowerment, and dignity for all its residents. To ensure the sustained success

of these projects, it is crucial for the Gram Panchayat to continue monitoring and evaluating their impact regularly. Gathering feedback from beneficiaries and assessing the outcomes will allow for necessary adjustments and improvements, ensuring that these initiatives continue to make a positive difference in the lives of the ST community for years to come.

# CARING CONNECTIONS: PROMOTING SOCIAL WELFARE IN OUR COMMUNITY

## West Eleri Gram Panchayat

The West Eleri Gram Panchayat's Palliative Care Project for 2021 is a commendable effort to address the healthcare needs of its residents, particularly focusing on palliative care and combating the COVID-19 epidemic. The project is aligned with the Aardram initiative, which is part of the Government's Nava Kerala program, aimed at transforming the healthcare sector and providing accessible and quality medical services to all citizens.The palliative care aspect of the project emphasizes providing compassionate and holistic care to individuals facing serious illnesses and those dealing with Life-limiting conditions. Palliative care focuses on enhancing the quality of Life for patients, managing pain and symptoms, and offering emotional support to both patients and their families. The project likely includes setting up palliative care centers or home-based care services, staffed by trained professionals who specialize in palliative care. These healthcare providers offer physical, psychological, and emotional support, creating a caring and dignified environment for patients during challenging times.

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the project also allocates resources to prevent the spread

of the virus and support affected individuals. This might include the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers, masks, sanitizers, and other essential supplies to maintain a safe and hygienic environment. Health awareness programs could have been conducted to educate the community about COVID-19 prevention measures and the importance of vaccination. The Aardram project's implementation is a significant step in enhancing the overall healthcare infrastructure of the Gram Panchayat. By being part of the Government's Nava Kerala program, it is likely to integrate technology and innovative healthcare practices to improve service delivery, patient experience, and healthcare outcomes. The project could involve the digitization of medical records, telemedicine facilities, and initiatives to improve the efficiency of healthcare facilities.

Furthermore, the Gram Panchayat's commitment to supporting people with disabilities is praiseworthy. Providing aids and equipment to six individuals with disabilities can significantly enhance their mobility, independence, and overall quality of Life. These aids and equipment could include assistive devices like wheelchairs, hearing aids, walking canes, or specialized tools that cater to the specific needs of each individual. By undertaking such initiatives, the West Eleri Gram Panchayat is demonstrating its dedication to the welfare of its residents, especially the vulnerable and marginalized groups. The project's success will depend on effective implementation, regular monitoring, and continuous engagement with the community to assess its impact and identify areas for improvement. Overall, these efforts contribute to building a healthier, more inclusive, and resilient community for the residents of West Eleri Gram Panchayat.

# UNITED FOR A SAFER TOMORROW: NURTURING SOCIAL SECURITY

## Nileshwaram Block Panchayat

Nileshwaram Block Panchayat is responsible for the administration and governance of the Nileshwaram Municipality and the surrounding Panchayats. It is located in the Kasaragod district of Kerala, India. Nileshwaram falls under the Thrikaripur Assembly constituency and the Kasaragod Loksabha constituency. The block Panchayat is composed of 13 wards and is involved in various local governance activities and services.

In the financial year 2021-22, several development activities have been initiated in Nileswaram Block Panchayat. The most important of which is the scholarship for Scheduled Caste students. 29,95,00/- was spent on 107 students studying for Poly and ITI courses in Government, Medical, Engineering and other postgraduate courses. The objective of the scheme was to ensure better financial support to students for furthering their studies and to prevent dropouts in the higher education sector. The block Panchayat has won in that. 15 classrooms have been constructed for 15 students studying for courses approved by the Department of Public Education and the Department of Higher Education at a cost of 30 lakh rupees near their homes. This project aims to provide a better learning

environment for students and promote learning. In the year 2021-22, the Block Panchayat implemented an innovative concept in the field of self-employment training. Between 18 and 10 years of age in the block 7 thayyam artists were given training in face writing as part of promoting career diversity. Gurukans of Pulayan, Malayan and Vannan groups led the training. In the workshop, training was given in calligraphy of Puliyur Kannan Vellattam, Rakta Chamundi, Madayil Chamundi and Dharmadaiva Vellattam. By training more people in this art, which is traditionally practiced by only a few people, more job opportunities have been opened up for those working in theyam sector.

Neeleshwaram Block Panchayat Kidney Patients Welfare Society", registered under Society Act 21 under Nileswaram Block Panchayat, including palliative treatment, elderly and differently abled cardiac activities, and started dialysis operations at Thrikaripur Taluk Hospital on March 9, 2020. In the first phase, this project started with one shift and now more than 40 kidney patients are undergoing dialysis in 3 shifts. Home care project is being implemented very well in 6 Panchayats under Block Panchayat and "Palliative Care" expert care department in Trikaripur Taluk Hospital and Cheruvathur Social Health Center working under Nileswaram Block Panchayat. At Cheruvathur Community Health Centre, "Snehapatham Sahathunna Athuralaya" home-going treatment system, "Athijivanam" comprehensive cancer control program are being implemented very well. Similarly, hearing test, eye test, dental clinic, X-ray unit and suicide prevention clinic are currently being implemented in 2 hospitals. They are also providing excellent services in the field of health. In the differently abled area, Nileswaram Block Panchayat has included schemes in the 2021-22 annual plan and provided a wheelchair to 15 people belonging to the differently abled category.

# EMBRACING SOCIAL SAFETY: STRENGTHENING BONDS IN OUR VILLAGE

## 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 Panchayat, 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 Panchayat 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.

Lymphedema sufferers, colostomy sufferers, old people, kidney patients, tracheosmia sufferers and other people with large wonders living in 5 village Panchayat of Kanhangad block Panchayat who require home care

twice a month are those who are registered in the secondary care department under this scheme.

985 palliative patients have received care till date in the secondary specialist palliative examination unit operating in CHC Periya. In all the 5 Panchayats under the block Panchayat, 12 home care nurses are providing home care, physiotherapy and doctor's home care to the patients who need intensive care. The unit provide rehabilitation vocational training for the economic upliftment of those who are bedridden in the homes of the diseased and also support their products to the markets. In addition, the patients relatives get tougher to provide social awareness and mental cheer to those trapped in their homes. In order to provide all the care at home for the patients in 5 Panchayats who need expert care, the project involves hiring a vehicle, providing care at home and introducing the family members who are the main caregivers to care for the patients. Patients requiring hospitalisation are admitted and treated in CHC periya and dist. Hospital, and assistance to provide care facilities such as water bed and air bed are given. Home care and medicines are provided under the scheme.

# A SAFETY NET FOR ALL: EMPOWERING RESIDENTS IN OUR VILLAGE

## Kanhangad Municipality

As of 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 spreads over an area of 70.47 km2 (27.21 sq mi) with 27,579 families residing in it. Kanhangad has 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).

Vathilppadi Sevanam (services to doorsteps) is a scheme designed to bring government services to the doorsteps of the eligible marginalized in society. The beneficiaries of this scheme are people above 60 years of age, specially abled, bedridden and those who suffer from locomotive disabilities. Palliative care activities are carried out in a very efficient manner in the Kanhangad municipality. 3088 people suffering from old age, serious illness and extreme poverty are registered in it. The municipality provide all these services at home to the people who do

not have access to basic government services on time due to lack of knowledge and many other problems. The home care facility is provided to 222 people who are bedridden. At present 420 out of 1382 patients require medicine. The municipality spends Rs.30 lakhs annually for this project. Vayomithra is an integrated scheme for the care and mental well-being of the entire elderly population within municipal limits. Forty lakhs was allocated for this in the plan year 2021-22. The municipality spends Rs.70 lakhs every year on integrated palliative activities. As part of Vayomithram project, doctors services examinations and medicines to the patients are arranged in 17 centers with in the municipal limits. The Kanhangad municipality has supported the destitute kanhangad residents who have weak legs and are unable to move. The Kanhangad municipality prepared a plan for the financial year 2021-22 to provide a three-wheeler scooter to the physically challenged. Medical examination camps are organized to find who appeared on the list and had a driving license. The municipality spend Rs.9 lakhs to buy the vehicles. The Kanhangad municipality is continuously striving to service the people at the bottom of the society and to be a part of the local self-government system.

# SOCIALLY STRONG, RESILIENT VILLAGE: PRIORITIZING WELL-BEING

## Madikkai Gram Panchayat

Madikkai Gram Panchayat is located 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). Madikkai is also known as the Moscow of Communists. The name Madikkai is derived from the Kannada word 'Matka' which means earthen pot.

The public health sector of Madikai has achieved promising results through public interventions. Although the crisis caused by the covid pandemic has created a situation full of worries, the Panchayat leadership with the help of the public in the health sector has stopped the fear of diseases to a great extent. The Primary Health Centres which had very basic facilities have become Family Health Centres. 7 sub centres under the FHC are also functioning. Panchayat administrative committee and health sector employees are extremely vigilant to provide the best treatment which has resulted in increasing the efficiency of the health system. Rs.3.32 crores have been allocated in the Kasaragod package and construction of new buildings has started. A model project to improve the quality of drinking water in public schools and anganawadies has been set up and

Rs.232000/- has been spent for this pupose. A pharmacist was also appointed in the hospital during holidays. The services of popular doctors are made available in PHC.

A domiciliary care centre has started functioning in Arikkulam ITI during covid. A nurse and a data entry operator were appointed in the domiciliary care centre. Rs.375000/-was spend for purchase of necessary ancillary equipment's for DCC. Swasthyam, Bheshanam, Sughayukyam, Punarjani, Kiranam were implemented during covid. At present 50 to 70 patients are coming to the homeopathic hospital operating in Erikkulam. It has become a model homeopathic hospital during 2015-16. It is evident that Kerala position in the health index is at par with the world level.in the health index, the birth rate in India is 17.4 compared to 15.2 in Kerala and 13 in madikai. The death rate has decreased to 3.66.

Our Panchayat has done good work in the development of basic facilities for the marginalised like the elderly and the differently abled section.3 day homes and basic facilities have been prepared for the elderly. The elderly group and neighbourhood group have been formed. The elderly and the differently abled were also provided with necessary medical check-ups at their homes. 30 lakhs rupees were spent in this area. Saadaram Ayurveda scheme was implemented for the elderly people.

There are 280 bed patients in palliative care and being carried out among them. Along with that, covid vaccinations have been given at home. Palliative care patients are being given food kits and clothes to those who need them with public cooperation. 900000 rupees was spent on palliative activities.

Madikkai Ayurveda hospital is an institution that has prepared better treatment systems in various fields according to the new era. It is an institution that seeks treatment from areas outside the Panchayat limits. The institution has 12 staff including 3 doctors and a sub centre. Special plan for menstrual treatment, cancer, and back pain are in place. 30 lakhs rupees has been spent during this period for geriatric treatment. A medical garden has been buil for various purposes in the Kanhangad

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