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DECENTRALIZATION AND
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20-21 January 2016

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Good Governance and Rural Health Service in India

Abhijit Anilrao Pilkhane

Health care for every one and particularly for the weaker section living in rural area is still a far cry. The medical health delivery to rural people is still remain critical the serous handicaps are defective personnel policy, non development of adequate staff and inadequate of medical and materials. Provision of basic health care services to rural community is the primary objective of the government as well as non governmental organization in the context of rural development. Rural health services, safe drinking water, sanitation, nutrition etc. have therefore, been brought together in the form of an integral package to improve the social, economics and health conditions of the people and primary goal of any

health care delivery system is to organize the health services in such a manner as to optimally utilize the available resources, knowledge and technology, with a view to preventing and alleviating diseases, disabilities and suffering of the people. This service is provide by rural health unit i.e. community health centre, primary health centre, and sub centre.

WHO has just announce India is polio free country it is the work of all health person and specially the rural health workers be side this National Rural Health mission is a new path towards better service to rural areas in the country.

In this paper basic need and provision health service in rural is discused.

Decentralisation and Development: Need for Intellectual Property Rights Awareness Among Stake Holders

Akathparambil Madhavan Ravindran

This paper attempts to make some observations on capacity building and training so as to make self-help groups and micro enterprises prepared to meet the Intellectual Property Rights challenges of Globalisation and liberalization of the economy. It is based on secondary data collected from various institutions, agencies and researchers on decentralisation, participatory planning and impact of various Intellectual property rights on different stake holders.

Provisions of intellectual property rights framework are intended to provide an international platform for the management and regulation of the intellectual properties. Such a framework is expected to promote free and fair competition and protection of

the emerging technologies, methods, processes and designs internationally.

Our study found that Generally women self-help groups and Microenterprises were largely successful in food products, catering services and hotels and hospitality and environment friendly sustainable tourism sector, whereas in handicrafts and handlooms and other traditional and ethnic products indicated mixed trend. There has been deliberate attempt by established firms either to hijack the good will of certain established successful women Self Groups Like that of (successful Kudumbasree units of Kerala) or to destroy the competition from locally manufactured cheap products through dubious methods (eg. personal hygiene sanitary napkin units organized by women Self Help Groups in Tamil Nadu).

Administrative Decentralisation in Kerala

Akhila S.S.

Administrative decentralisation seeks to redistribute authority, responsibility and financial resources for providing public services among different level of government. It is the transfer of responsibility for the planning, financing and management of certain public functions from the Central Government and its agencies to field units of government and its agencies to field units of governments agencies, subordinate units or levels of government, semi-autonomous public authorities or corporations, or area wide regional or functional authorities. The objectives of the present study are to study the status of administrative decentralisation in Kerala, to identify the issues and challenges of administrative decentralisation in Kerala, to identify the issues with regard to the performance of staff in the institution of Grama Panchayat, to assess the adequacy of functionaries in

performing the devolved functions and to analyse and explore the possible way to improve the administrative decentralisation in Kerala.

Kerala has devolved functionaries to a very high degree to local self government institutions for strengthening of Panchayat Raj institutions. Effective decentralisation requires clear delegation of roles and responsibilities. Administrative decentralisation requires the deployment of staff with necessary expertise and authority at appropriate levels to discharge the functions devolved by law. When the Government of Kerala transferred functions to local governments, it also transferred associate functionaries to the local governments based on the premise, work and worker going together.

Devolution of powers and functions on the local self government institutions

requires availability of qualified and trained personnel at all levels for efficient discharge of functions. However, there exist a dual control entered on the functionaries from Panchayat Raj Institutions as well as from the departments. This dual control makes impediments on the efficient performance on the functionaries. It is also contented that the staff strength is not sufficient enough considering the gravity of responsibilities shouldered on the Panchayats and officials. This raises concerns on the extent and adequacy of administrative decentralisation in Kerala.

Participatory Development for Kerala

Alice Mani

In other words, the most distinguishing feature of the decentralization of governance in Kerala was that it envisaged empowering the local governments not only in routine governance, but also in planning and development of the region under their governance. Not only that, in this context, Kerala was, perhaps, the first and the only state in India that boldly, and perhaps, without a second thought, embarked up on transferring right away in one stroke in 1996 wide powers and responsibilities to local governments in both governance and development, along with 35 to 40 percent of the state Five Year Plan fund for local development. Thus democratic decentralization of governance and development with people's participation in Kerala came to stay in Kerala since 1995. The ten years' experience of Kerala in this process provides several important lessons.

The local bodies till then were having only limited resources, financial powers and very few functions and duties confined to some routine subjects and were never been involved in planning and development activities. When these bodies, with no experience or even knowledge of planning and development and no exposure to complicated state financial code, rules and procedures of governance, were, on a fine morning, given powers and responsibilities of self-governance and planning for development, they were, really, taken aback and were in total confusion as what to do and how to do with the vast powers and responsibilities transferred to them by the state government. The panchayaths were really in a vacuum and were totally ignorant of what they are actually expected to do.

People's direct and active participation in the local area development decision-

making process aims at self-help and empowerment of the individuals as well as the institutions. It can be an end in itself or even means to an end. Through agency based approach' or even efficiency based approach' the participation of the rural poor especially the women, dalit and tribal communities can be ensured. The inherent hierarchies, power differentials and socio-economic disparities both within and outside the communities play a big role in bringing differentials in participation (Puri 2004). However, the elected representatives to the panchayaths have keep in mind that they are elected by the constituency to think and act on behalf of them and

always think good and constructive as well. At the same time they also have to overcome their own poverty otherwise thinking and acting on behalf of others may be difficult. So, data base grounding and its authentication on a regular basis with active participation from the primary stakeholders can meet the local needs with due mobilization of the internal as well as external resources would promote ownership, transparency in the system, make the development administrators accountable for their wrong doings and above all promote good governance at the grassroots. This paper examines the need for participatory development for Kerala.

Decentralization and Development - The Road to Rural Local Government: Issues and Intricacies

Alluri Venkata Nagavarma

This paper examines the dimension of the decentralization process in the rural administration in India as compared to Bangladesh. Both India and Bangladesh have three tiers rural administration: lower, middle and upper. Lowest-tier rural administration in Bangladesh has huge dependency on the middle tier. However, rural administration in India has been empowered by decentralization. Decentralization denotes the transfer of power and authority from the central government to local units of the government for the meeting of grass root peoples demand. However, decentralization in Bangladesh is a political issue that often arises from political commitment. Almost all attempts to change local government aimed at serving the interest of the rulers rather than ruled. Upazila system was an attempt to introduce decentralization at the middle-tier rural

administration in Bangladesh. However, decentralization process at the Upazila level has not succeeded in ensuring popular participation in rural Bangladesh.

Panchayats or rural local government in India, have ancient origin and functioned as an effective instrument of people's organizations at the grassroots levels "...there is no other socio-political program launched by the government in independent India which has generated.

A road map needs to be prepared for the functional role and responsibilities of local government. The road map should provide strategies to give a bigger voice to local people by activating a new political structure at the village level. Citizens should also have a voice in evaluating the level of improvement in local services.

Local Government's And Care Services : An Approach Towards better Services and Improving The Quality of Life

Amitabh Shukla

Introduction: India is undergoing a massive urban transition. By 2031, 600 million people are projected to reside in Indian cities, up from 400 million today. It has been reported in the 12th Five Year Plan that the urban share in the countries output may have crossed 60 percent in 2009-10. While, India has second largest urban system in the world with more than 5,000 cities and majority of them fail even to provide basis requirements of a healthy life.

The Issues: As a city grows further, urbanizes backed by population growth and economic progress, the problem of sustainability gets worst. Thus, in the process of rapid urbanization in India, it is essential to adopt the concept of sustainability in the policy and planning decisions. The Indian cities already grapple with multiple problems and challenges viz. over crowded and increasing population , lack of proper

infrastructure , pollution , unhealthy environment , lack of proper health care facilities, problem of garbage's , sanitation , traffic , lack of greeneries and parks for maintaining the environment & protecting from pollution etc.

Focus of the Paper: An attempt has been made in this paper to address the main problems and suggesting the areas where more emphasis is required for a balanced, inclusive & sustainable development which can save our cities and human life.

The Challenges: Besides the above mentioned issues, the main concern should be focused the constraints and problems which local governments are facing tremendously. These are : the insufficient funds , untrained staff and there negligence towards there responsibilities , lack of managing the system and upcoming problems with

insufficient funds & staff and modern technologies , issues pertaining to allocation & transfer of resources from state governments to local authorities , negligence of citizens towards making clean city etc., etc.

The Policy Perspectives : As in the 12th Five Year Plan , the Indian Government focuses on “ Faster and more inclusive sustainable growth “ , it becomes necessary to achieve sustainable

development of new emerging cities and to make an overview with scientific plans for existing cities.

In these context few approaches needs attention and consideration for making clean cities for achieving quality life and for saving the future of future generation.

In the present phase of Globalization , it is must to adopt a new look by considering flowing approaches

Rural Development: A Critical Analysis for Poverty Alleviation in India

Amritha Gunasekaran

This paper includes to

- A) To study the role and function of the Government and its programmes for rural development in India.
- B) To examine the strategies and programs for rural development in India.
- C) To analyze the science and technology departments for rural development through governments, public and private non-government organizations.

The researcher carried on doctrinal research by referring to books, articles, newspapers, Government reports etc. In spite of continuous and tremendous efforts have been initiated by the Government of India through several plans and measures to alleviate poverty in rural India, there still remains much more to be done to bring prosperity and

development in the lives of the people in rural areas. In India, technology developers for rural areas have been catering to needs (with small improvement), rather than creating demand. There is no industry linkage machinery to create demand-based-technology market for rural communities. Besides, there is also an imbalance between strategies and effective management of programmes. Propagation of technology/schemes for rural development is slow and there is a lacking in wider participation of different stakeholders. An ideal approach may therefore, include the government, panchayats, village personals, researchers, industries, NGOs and private companies to not only help in reducing this imbalance, but also to have a multiplier effect on the overall economy.

Employment and Poverty Reduction

Anagh

In a nuclear family, each member has the responsibility to find opportunities to eke out his living. Moreover, the advent of technological advancements, coupled with increasing competitiveness linked in man, a thought of Self-reliance, ie, a n inclination to live independently. The structure of the society was also very competitive. As such, employment became a necessity, which could generate income, resulting in satisfaction of increasing number of wants, at a high standard.

The increase in the number of wants and the limit in opportunities of employment has forced the man to go in for any kind of employment,

irrespective of Educational qualifications. Though the feeling of dignity of labour exists in our midst even today, there is a reduction in its rate, owing to the fact that Employment gives rise to increased income, resulting in reduction of poverty. Have we ever contemplated on the number of educated women, employed as low paid servants, in several Kudumbasree units in the state of Kerala. Such educated women, who are qualified graduates or even postgraduates, remove the garbage / waste of several households. Whatever be the nature of employment/duties performed, the same results in reduction of poverty, owing to the generation of income.

Structural Evolution of Panchayati Raj Institution since Vedic period: With Special Reference to West Bengal

Anil Kumar Biswas

The main objective of the study is to highlight the changing dimension of the rural local government since Vedic period. This paper enquires the various challenges to the Panchayati Raj institution in present day. This paper also trying to suggests some ways for removing these types of difficulties. It is an empirical study, so author is studies various literatures related to the rural local government as secondary data. Author also conducted field trip to one district from West Bengal for collection of primary data for the research. For this, author conducted interview and survey method for primary data collection. The main sources of the data are various literatures about the rural local government which are from books, published article, published

government documents, monographs, various article from news paper, reporting from news papers and annual report of Panchayati Raj Institution from the department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Office of the Gram Panchayat etc. After collection of data from various sources author are using simple statistical method for analysis data. As an empirical study author first accumulated data and various literature from various sources and then given result through his observation. At the time of data analysis it is found that Panchayati Raj Institution is over take a long period and changing her structure time to time for her time need. Now it is structurally a strong institution and this pattern come in a long evolution.

Critical Analysis of SCP and TSP Under Decentralised Governance

Anilkumar UP

Special Component Plan (SCP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) were designed to channelise the flow of outlay and benefits from the general sectors in the state plan in proportion to SC and ST population both in physical and financial terms.

Despite spending enormous funds by the Government for the implementation of SCP and TSP to promote SC/ST people to lead a quality life, the impact of the programme on the living condition of the SC/ST population is far from satisfactory. Benefits enjoyed by the targeted population are not commensurate with investments. It is the million dollar question and the various problems in the implemen-

tation and the real impact of this programme on the beneficiaries needs to be investigated objectively in order to find out the structural deficiencies of the Plan, shortcoming in the implementation, leakage of funds, causes for poor performance, improper management etc.

This paper attempts to critically analyse the working of SCP and TSP under decentralised governance. It will examine and evaluate the existing guidelines and procedures for the implementation of SCP/TSP schemes through LSGIs and suggest practical remedies to satisfy the empowerment of SC/STs, the very objective of SCP/TSP, at the earliest.

Technological Innovation in Livelihood and Micro-enterprises

Animesh Ghosh

The paper will also narrate the implications of using technology in livelihood and micro-enterprise. Since technological innovation has become leading factor for regulating changes within the society. Technology has become master of every field be it political, socio-economical, societal, psychological, environmental etc. Today technology has reached every nuke and corner of the society in different form. None of us can live without technology. We have become slave of the technology. Technology has been driving the economy of the nation since decades. Every product manufacturer wants to sell their product in the market and they want to highlight the specialties of their product through advertisement or promotional events. Simultaneously, the house wives who have been cooking and taking care of her family members till 2013 have now taken a step forward by adopting modified

livelihood options for flourishing their future .Digital Marketing for handmade products of Women Self Help Groups, artisans and manufacturing of supplementary food packets for the malnourished are some of the highlights in this paper from one of the Maoist affected district of West Bengal, Purulia. The paper will highlight on two livelihood micro-enterprises as a case study from Purulia , West Bengal where technology has changed the situation drastically. The district of Left Wing Extremism has come forward in every respect be it digital marketing or risk taking to change their fate has been depicted and has been validated with statistics in this paper. This paper sets examples for all Women Self Help Group members from different part of the World to achieve Socio-economic empowerment through livelihood and microenterprise.

Decentralizing the centralized Habitat

Anish Mathew

Decentralized governance has been discoursed as conceiving and exercising the authority and power through the formal and informal institutions. Among the advantages of decentralized governance in present social situations some operational disadvantages of decentralization directly questioning the human existence, bio diversity and constitutional rights of civilians' especially Article 21 of the constitution.

Kerala were crushed with the cooperative relation of decentralized units and the pressure groups of the local. As far as concern the lives of the common in this area it is clear that the constitutional rights of the peoples in this area were collapsed with the dust and dumping. If channelized power again partially concentrating the bottom level with may any reason lead to more corruptive and favoritism.

The Kalanjoor grama panchayat near Konni in Pathanamthitta nestling in the hilly tracts adjoining reserve forests, is perhaps the part of rural Kerala worst affected by indiscriminate rock quarrying. Official records show that the Mining and Geology Department has granted quarrying licence to 18 granite quarries in Kalanjoor and Koodal in the panchayat. This is besides the permits given by the Revenue Department for quarrying from Revenue 'poromboke' lands and unauthorised quarries.

Even the laymen in Kalanjoor are well aware of the rules and regulations of quarrying, showing the effectiveness of the public awareness campaigns launched by the local action councils that have been crusading against the quarry menace in the village for the past 15 years.

Community Development of Bamboo Workers in Kerala: Essential Elements for Sustainability

Anitha V

The main objective of the study is to assess the impact of dwindling bamboo resources in the livelihood of marginalized sections in Kerala. Both primary and secondary data are used for the study. For primary data a field survey is conducted among the traditional weavers in the Agasthyamalai Biosphere Reserves of Kerala. Based on the multistage sampling method 100 samples are selected from the Achencoil, Konni, Chithara and Vithura. Since majority (more than 80%) of the traditional weavers are women, the study concentrated to women only. Statistical techniques like simple percentage, case studies and multiple response method are used to analyze data. Based on the existing literature and the field survey, the study developed a conceptual framework regarding the issues in the sustainable development of bamboo resources and its impact on the livelihood issues of the traditional women weavers.

Rural development is important for the sustainable development of an economy. Even though the contribution of these sectors to national income is very low, these sectors play an important role in determining the livelihood of the people. It is found that the existing property rights and the unscientific harvesting of the bamboo resources by the industrialists create active as well as passive exclusion in the bamboo sector. As a result the livelihood of this community is pathetic. The major recommendation of the study is that in order to increase the supply of bamboo reeds, the government should take necessary steps to plant bamboo in an effective way. For this the government can implement the Recognition of the Forest Right Act, 2006 and the participation of the community in the management of bamboo resources is one of the solutions to the sustainable development of the economy.

Decentralized Governance and Conservation of River: A Study with the Experiences of Bharathapuzha

Anoop P.V.

The 'conservation of river' is the most vibrant environmental initiative in the modern era. These initiatives are fruitfully implementing through by decentralized planning. So that local bodies are the safeguard of river protection in Kerala. Rivers is the part of civilization. The first great civilizations are born in the banks of rivers. Water pollution is a major environmental issue in India. Indiscriminate sand-mining in the Bharathapuzha has caused acute drinking water shortage in 175 Grama Panchayaths covering over six lakh people and nearly a dozen of municipalities in Palakkad,

Malappuram and Thrissure districts. So that local bodies are vital role for conservation in river of Bharathapuzha, especially to implement strict procedure of sand-mining licence and controls illegal sand-mining through remodification of decentralized planning should implement all local bodies which Bharathapuzha is passing. The main **Objective of the study is**

1. To analyze the importance of river protection in Kerala
2. To find out problems and challenges of bharathapuzha
3. To examine the role of decentralization and river protection

Participation of Rural Women in Self Help Group as a part of Decentralised Watershed Program : Uttarakhand Himalayas

Aradhana Singh

There has been a paradigm shift in development and governance. Democratic decentralisation, empowering community based organisations, participatory development, have proved to be instrumental in people participation in development and governance as well as their empowerment. The study area is in middle Himalayas, Uttarakhand. This area faces harsh climate and socio-economic backwardness, poverty, illiteracy, poor connectivity and infrastructure. There is a heavy dependence on agriculture and land holdings are small. The region is facing low agricultural productivity and absence of assured irrigation. Besides, there is an absence of industries and hence of alternative employment opportunities. The family size is large, low health status and a low literacy rate further aggravates the situation. Apart from that women have been

marginalized in terms of resource allocation and household decision making process.

It was therefore, interesting for one to conduct research into the issue of women empowerment and how it is affected by their participation in Self Help Group. The SHGs have been formed under the community development programme of the Decentralised watershed programme called *Gramya* implemented by Government of Uttarakhand and World Bank. The programme implementer is Gram Panchayat as a decentralized institutional setup. The primary research objective of this study is to determine whether and to what extent participation in Self Help Groups has an impact on the empowerment of women members of SHG and also to explore if the SHG approach has been successful in the empowerment of rural women

living in highly traditional societies of the Northern Indian state of Uttarakhand.

For this study three villages were selected from two districts Dehradun and Tehri Garhwal. For the study, 6 SHGs and a total of 80 respondents were contacted and interviewed. The study looks at various dimensions of empowerment – material, cognitive, perceptual and relational. The analysis shows that access to credit can help in

expansion of material base of women by enabling them to start and expand small businesses, often accompanied by market access. The women also experienced “Power within”, feelings of freedom, strength, self identity and increase in levels of confidence and self-esteem.

This paper also discusses the strength and weaknesses of the microfinance sector in relation to gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Institutions and Beyond: The Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the Provision of Public Health

Arindam Roy

The proposed paper seeks to underscore the importance of an otherwise insignificant oversight of public policy making process, i.e. non-institutional elements like socio-cultural factors in the overall success of public policy and thereby intends to plug the recurring wastage of public money. To validate the positive correlation between non-institutional factors and public policy, the paper has chosen a public health delivery and intends to investigate as to how socio-cultural factors especially social and cultural practices, customs, and precedence act as deterrent in the actualization of public health programme. Public health in India, since its very inception, has been relying on institutional framework. In fact, the Bhole Committee Report, which had initiated public health in India, had laid out a detailed country-wide hierarchical institutional network for providing public health services. But

the Committee failed to come out of the straight jacket approach of colonial India. Public health had an instrumental value for the Colonial empire. The colonial health administration in India emerged out of a growing concern among the British as to how the ailing army in the colony be protected from the scourge of disease, filth. In fact, the elaborate structure of public health was a response to that concern. The new administration also fell back on the colonial policy on public health based on centralized administrative structure and reposed similar importance on institution building. Consequently, non-institutional factors like socio-cultural factors have always remained outside the cognizance of the policy makers. Therefore, the apparent mismatch between supply-side and the demand-side of public health can be addressed by incorporating socio-cultural factors in public policy making. Hence, public

health can only be successful if we go beyond formal institutional paraphernalia of public health and local government and take proper cognizance of innumerable non-institutional factors which have played a pivotal role in constructing health seeking behaviour of the people concerned and also socio-cultural parameters affecting the behavioural and attitudinal dimensions of the deliverers.

The Role and Importance of PRIs in Grass root Planning – A Case Study of Odisha State

Ashok Kumar Behera

This paper, based on 'case study' makes a holistic approach on the status of grass root planning in the Odisha State, covering all dimensions i.e. the history of planning in Odisha (Post 73rd & 74th CAA), the status of DPCs, role of various stakeholders, various lacunas in the planning process and with an update on the latest developments by the Govt. of Odisha to make the Panchayat and District Planning more transparent and effective such as devolving more funds and functionaries to the Panchayats as per the recent recommendations of the 4th State Finance Commission. The paper finds many grey areas in the planning process and mechanism of the State Government such as lack of a proper training and capacity building strategy with 'check-n-balance', absence of transparency and accountability of various planning stakeholders, over dominance of politicians and bureaucrats over the PRI

representatives in the planning and decision-making process, lack of the principle of subsidiarity, activity mapping and convergence plan, etc.

The study also suggests the role of Grama Sabha in making the village plan more viable and imperative. Odisha, being one of the poorest states of the country in terms of human development index, needs to ride the ladder of socio-economic development by strengthening the local governance through proper decentralized planning and implementation of flagship programmes and schemes of both the Centre and State. Undoubtedly, people's participation in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes will not only enable the State more economically prosperous but also will speak the laurels of grass root democracy.

Good Governance and Panchayat Raj: Role of Adivasi Women in Nayagarh District of Odisha

Ashok Kumar Pradhan

Absence of active and affective participation by women in panchayats will deteriorate the dreams of the 73rd Amendment to make them productive human resource in the society. In a given opportunity women can play a significant role in rural governance in terms of economy and social development through better implementation of schemes and integrative area plans.

Objectives of the study are,

- To gain knowledge about the socio-economic and political backgrounds of the tribal women members of Gram Panchayat.
- To assess the role which tribal women members play to promote good governance in local panchayat mechanism.
- To identify the problems faced by tribal women members in

discharging their given responsibilities and to record their perceptions in this respect.

- To give suggestions to the academicians and policy makers in order to ensure good governance

The study is mainly based on primary and secondary data. Primary data has been collected through structured interview schedule / questionnaire containing fixed-alternative and open handed question-answers. The research work is also based on sampling method. Historical method has been used to look into the past happenings of political process involving women's governance in grassroots level. However, statistical and comparative methods have also been followed whenever required.

It is the grassroots level tribal women who could contribute significantly to the governance of their communities. Planning and decision-making

committees should comprise at least 50 percent tribal women. It was evident that lack of political background, absence of proper socio-economic and political environment, lack of appropriate organizational framework, lack of skill and training placed tribal women behind to prove their competencies compared to their men counterparts.

Decentralisation: Role of the State in the Context of Development

Ashwini Roy A.S

This paper tries to focus on the concept of development, institutional mechanisms, general outcome of decentralisation, and regulatory role of state and facilitator policy environment.

In the context of political system, decentralisation is concerned with the extent to which powers and authority are dispersed through the geographical hierarchy of the state, its institutions and the processes through which such dispersal occurs. The scope of decentralisation therefore includes subdivisions of the state's territory into smaller areas and creation of political and administrative institutions in those areas.

Decentralisation is often regarded as a necessary precondition for economic, social and political development. In the context of developing countries, this term is often used in a loose sense which

allows diversity in forms of institutional arrangements for decentralisation. Quite often, decentralisation is designed to strengthen the administrative capacity for planning and implementation of the developmental programmes.

Decentralisation of development functions to field offices or local governments means that functionaries become more knowledgeable and sensitive to local problems and needs from working at the level at which these are most visible and pressing. Besides increasing political and administrative support for national development policies at the local level, decentralisation can promote national unity by giving the various groups in different sections of the country the ability to participate in the planning and decision making process, thereby increasing their stake in maintain political stability.

Protecting Women's Right : A Case Study of Kolkata Brothel Area

Awkash Kumar

Kolkata has a long history of migration of sex workers in the city come from a variety of localities within India and surrounding countries including Bangladesh and Nepal. Many of girls and women are being trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation, and some of them are forced into prostitution by gender discrimination, race discrimination, poverty, abandonment. Mostly woman and girl prostitutes are marginalised, poor, uneducated and helpless, therefore easy to control by the brothel owners. Sonagachi in Kolkata is one of the largest brothel in West Bengal. More than 10,000 women and girls are working as sex workers in the Sonagachi. At the national level it has been estimated that 35.5 percent of sex workers enter the trade before the age of 18 years old. In Kolkata estimated number of sex workers under the age of 18 are greater than national average.

It has been found that 34 percent indulge in prostitution before the age of 14, around 37 percent of girls enter before the age of 18. Majority of sex workers that is 74.28 percent are under 30 years of age.

The present study has been conducted in the Sonagachi brothel area of Kolkata. This study focuses mainly on the human rights issues of sex workers, it will see how their all basic human rights are violated acting as prostitute. The study is also analysing the roles and responsibilities of international agencies, national agencies and non-governmental organisations towards right based development of sex workers. The study is based on primary as well as secondary data. Primary data is collected through field study and the secondary data is collected from books, journals, news and governmental reports.

Impact of Social Exclusion on “Service Delivery” in Local Governance

Azeemah Saleem

The prime objective of the paper is to analyze the reason for social exclusion in decentralized process. The reason varies from socio-economic conditions, education, political tokenism, insecurity, unawareness, huge indebtedness, social stigmas and taboos which deepened the root of exclusion among women, dalits and deprived. Social exclusion is the concern of every government since it involves the denial of access to social spaces, ownership, and control over resources, denial of opportunities and basic needs, denial of right to representation and participation in social, economic, and political participation. The disadvantage situation of the marginalized forced impact the service delivery for their development. It has merely deepened the village level hierarchies limiting polices, programs for prominent class of village or district level.

The paper analyze the way forward to social exclusion should be the inclusion of disadvantages and marginalized groups in all the development aspects, which in turn will improve service delivery. Service delivery in the field of education, employment, infrastructure, human resources, political development, and enhancement of life. The process of strengthen of decentralization is one of the most important projects for reorganization of the life of the society. The decentralization aims to enable the citizens, either directly or indirectly, to be more involved in the decision making process without being a puppet of political tokenism, transparency, accountability, improving the efficiency and equity of local service delivery. The decentralization is considered as a tool for promoting development and addressing the issue of social exclusion.

The major promise of democratic decentralization, according to Blair (2000), is that by building popular participation and accountability into local governance, government at the local level will become more responsive to citizen desires and more effective in service delivery. Decentralization of authority and power increases efficiency, accountability, equity, democracy and participation which are all considered to be an important devices to tackle the social exclusion to enhance service delivery.

Decentralisation and Women in Development

Bhim Nivrutti Raskar

Historically women have been virtually excluded from politics or political power all over the world. Although women constitute half the population, they form an average of 11.6% of the world legislature. Even in Indian context, women constitute nearly 49% of the population of which 80% reside in rural areas. Since ages women have been deprived of opportunities to equally participate in social, political and cultural processes at every level. All political systems regardless of ideology or form, routinely **deny women formal political status**. Politics, more than any other realm, because of its condensation of power and authority has remained largely a monopoly of men.

MahilaRajsattaAndolan (MRA) A campaign for Women in Governance was initiated by Resource & Support Centre for Development (RSCD), Mumbai in collaboration with its

regional networks in Maharashtra in the year 2000 with a vision of empowering Elected Women Representatives of the Gram Panchayat and other motivated members and development groups to strengthen their participation & governance role in political processes through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). MahilaRajsattaAndolan's (MRA) experiences of Panchayat Federation" in partnership, basically aims to map the overall process of MRA's evolution, the experience of federation building and various dimensions of its journey. Series of exercises were undertaken while working on the journey, which has been challenging as well as very insightful for the working team. The methodology used is exploratory and analytical in approach and helped in appreciating and critically engaging with the different innovative strategies to strengthen the process of MRA which can also serve as

a role model for similar initiatives in other regions of the country.

Concerns & Challenges

It is true that reservation has broken the monopoly and domination of certain groups who remained uncontested and unchallenged in the larger framework of power. The narratives of EWRs show that their journey in politics has not been an easy one as many of them have entered these positions through reservations under a lot of distrust, resistance and in discouraging environments. Lack of finance, years of

unpaid taxes, Motion of no-confidence, physical violence etc are all issues that are related to larger level problems. The overall journey shows that women in rural Maharashtra are breaking these hegemonic power structures in different ways. They are critically engaging with what is limiting their participation and they are aware of the structural inequalities and loopholes of the system. This paper can prove effective for development practitioners working in the field of governance, inclusion, gender and leadership.

National Service Scheme as Community Based Organisation with Local Government

Beena Lorance

The objective of this paper is to throw light the enormous possibilities of NSS in the field of community development and a search for the potential of NSS to deepen Democracy at grass root level. This is being analyzed with a case study of the activities and achievements of NSS, Technical Cell, Kerala.

The concept of national service is based on the Gandhian concept of students should learn how to impart their social responsibility. in 1958 the then prime minister Jawahar lal Nehru took all initiative to implement social service a

part of curriculum and .the NSS came into being on 24TH Sept 1969 in India only 43% of colleges constituted NSS and the beneficiaries are the local society and the volunteers who earn a firsthand experience in their life for the overall development of their personality in Kerala. All the poly techniques and engineering colleges together constitute the Technical cell..All their activities and novel projects are the best practices to be followed by all the NSS units all over the country. The principles and impact of NSS is similar to that of a CBO which enhances community development.

Development and its Discontents Revisiting the Policy of Inclusiveness and Decentralization.

Bikram Keshari Mishra

The paper intent to

- To examine whether there is any linkage between decentralization and development.
- To analyze the inclusive nature of development.
- To ascertain the extent to which development is equitable.
- To find out the connection between development and disparities.
- To critically understand contemporary resistance to development: its emergence, causes and consequences.

Apart from critical exploration of conceptual/ theoretical understanding of governmental approaches and programmes, the paper is rooted in

fieldwork conducted in Khurda district of Odisha, having non-probability type with convenient sampling.

The paper uses data from two sources: official documents and views of respondents. Respondents include officials engaged in hospital, school and Panchayat.

Chilika and Banpur Blocks in the district of Khurda, Odisha are taken as the field of study.

The paper carries two components: theoretical and empirical viewpoints. With special reference to the issues of education, health and livelihood, the paper seeks to interrogate the issues of decentralization, social development, inclusiveness and people's protest from a critical perspective and examine their linkages.

Employment Guarantee and Women's Participation: Experiences from Patanamtitta District, Kerala

Bijulal MV

This study was conducted in 2014-15 in twenty Panchayaths of Pathanamtitta District in Kerala. Examining the extent of inclusiveness, mainly the financial inclusion was the main task of the study. It was seen that the opportunity to work was primarily a livelihoods opportunity, and in detailed enquiry it was seen that the MGNREGS also acted as a hub for improvement of skills, status and dignity of women. Integration of the most vulnerable groups among the rural women was a notable aspect. It was also noted that the women participation in democratic processes got enhanced through various engagements with the MGNREGS. Highlighting such aspects of social and politico-cultural implications of the implementation of the guarantee

scheme is the main objective of this paper. It will also present a range of suggestions and field-based observations related to specific aspects for improving the functioning of similar programmes. The mode of selection of Panchayats was based on performance history. Those with lower indicators of performance, and higher levels were accommodated. Geographic distribution was also a concern in the selection process, as well as inclusion of places with higher participation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A sample of 600 beneficiaries and 400 non-beneficiaries were done as part of the study. Public interactions, focus group discussions etc were also part of the study. The study was funded by the State Institute of Rural development.

Right of Single Elderly Persons: A Study of Union Territory of Chandigarh

Bindu

Aging refers to a multi-dimensional process of physical, mental and social change. Population aging, the shift in age distribution towards older ages, is of immense worldwide concern. In India, the proportion of the population aged 60 years or more has been increasing consistently over the last century. The elderly persons are considered as vulnerable group, mainly because they are at a risk of reduction in participation in various domains of life through the loss of paid work, a decrease in income and an increase in health problems. Among these elderly persons, those elderly who are single (widowed/divorced/never-married) are more vulnerable than the other. Both single elderly men and women are

discriminated on the basis of age in the family and society as well. So, there is a need to secure the single elderly population by providing them special rights and status. For this purpose, a study was conducted in Union Territory of Chandigarh. The data is collected through primary and secondary sources. For the primary data, 50 respondents were selected for interview.

The main objectives of the paper are to identify the major issues faced by single elderly persons in Chandigarh and to offer an insight towards elderly human rights. This paper also highlight some specific for policy makers and decision makers so that issues concerning single elderly persons could be given due importance at grass root level in future.

Why Urban Local Bodies Fails to Exercise, the Core Functions of Regulations - A study of the ULBs in Kerala

Binu Francis

74th constitution brought drastic changes in the function of the Urban Local Bodies which extends in all sphere of life viz development, Welfare, regulations etc. Since cities are engines of growth and more than 60% of the GDP are coming from the cities, having only 3% of the total geographic area of the country, catering more than 32% of the people needs greater attention in respect of regulation.

With the tremendous transfer of functions and devolution of funds to the ULBs in Kerala, the ULBs are sidelining the regulatory function of the ULB which defeat the future aspiration of the cities as well as the quality of life. Since exercising regulatory power is not people friendly, only a dedicated and determined political leadership can exercise the regulatory authority enshrined in the constitution and in the Kerala Municipalities Act in 1994.

Local governance or urban governance is inclusive of the proper exercise of the regulatory power, but most of the ULBs fail to perform its authority in a satisfactory level. This study- , "*Why urban local bodies fails to exercise, the core functions of regulations -A study of the ULBs in Kerala*" reveals the need for enforcing the regulatory functions otherwise called negative/prohibitory functions and the reason for the same.

The study comes with the conclusion that the political leadership as well as the affected parties is not interested in enforcing the same where as the general public are interested. Further the interested parties or otherwise called vested parties are organized and mighty even to change the policy of the ruling front of the ULB which warrants a well informed society and a determined political authority as well as bureaucracy.

A Study on Reducing Poverty and Creating Employment in India

Biswa Mohana Jena

The experience of countries that have succeeded in reducing poverty significantly point to the important role of high rates of economic growth combined with high rates of employment.

However, the challenge of achieving rapid economic growth in combination with high rates of employment generation has become more daunting in the aftermath of the Great Recession and the ongoing debt crisis in the eurozone area.

This situation has engendered greater uncertainty about the ability of many troubled countries to achieve more robust economic growth, let alone expand opportunities for productive employment or reduce worsening income inequality. Overall, Theme emphasize the need to rethink public

policy, beyond poverty reduction strategies and labour market programmes, and to reorient macroeconomic policy towards the reduction of poverty and employment creation.

They stress the importance of rebalancing the sources of economic growth and taking a more proactive approach to industrial policy and sector-specific strategies.

While no single policy prescription can secure the transition to more inclusive, equitable and sustained patterns of economic growth, the theme discuss economic and social policies that can work together to reduce poverty and boost demand in a sustainable manner through increases in decent work and universal social protection, rather than through speculation in credit and asset markets.

Decentralisation For Empowerment Of Rural Poor Using Microfinance

Boney Bose

Poverty in India is widespread with the nation estimated to have one third of world's poor. Microfinance has been proposed as a possible solution for the maximum outreach and alleviation of poverty in the rural poor especially the disadvantageous sections of the society. In terms of financial exclusion India's world rank is 4th with 135 million people. The term empowerment¹ has been widely employed for over a decade, both in the discourse of international organizations and by politicians and actors in the field, notably by those promoting microfinance schemes throughout the world. Generally speaking, empowerment refers to greater access to power by underprivileged or vulnerable segments of the population. In India, therefore, this includes the poor, women, and also the scheduled castes (SC) and scheduled tribes (ST). In its initial judicial meaning (Oxford Dictionary), to empower is to give somebody the power or authority to do something. This paper examines the decentralisation for empowerment of rural poor using microfinance.

Gram kachaharis of Bihar: Roots, Rhetoric and Realities

Chandan Chaman

Bihar's local village court popularly known as Gram Kachahari is a case in this matter. Emanating from the Directive Principles of State Policy, the authority to enact and implement the Panchyati raj was given to States. Its enactment has been seen as a bold experiment but it remains a lofty idea at the ground if we care to peep into the villages of Bihar.

The major objective of the paper is to understand the relevance of Gram Kachahari in contemporary socio-economic context with discerning its functioning and impact on citizens. Bihar is possibly the only state in India to have this machinery in each Panchyat. The Gram Kachahari is headed by an elected representative called as Sarpanch with four associates. Irrefutable is the fact that the rationale behind this law is real decentralization of power and providing justice in one's

own panchyat. The principle of reconciliation is the overriding goal of the court without burning the holes in villager's pockets. The aim is to save the poor villagers from the trappings of costly legal paraphernalia. This research was carried by using in-depth interviews, as a tool of data collection, with court members and villagers of the Panchyat.

Focus group discussion and observation also helped in eliciting more data. The paper used both primary as well secondary data. Given the paucity of literature in this area, the researcher was more dependent on primary sources which consist of interviews and available court records.

Major finding of this study is that though the local courts remains a paper tiger and the practice of the act reflects a cruel ugly little republic. Most of the

sarpanchs are illiterate and never provided training. The impact is depressive as the cases in local police stations are piling up. People have very less faith in this quasi-judiciary The Act on the paper seems cornucopia of good ideas but falls flat at the ground. The paper is the unfolding of historical roots of these local courts, rhetoric's around it and the ground realities.

Participatory Planning and Social Development in India : Issues and Concerns

Dasarathi Bhuiyan

This paper explores,

1. To explore the core issues of participatory development plan.
2. To investigate the Capacity building of Elected Representatives of PRIs.
3. To record the infrastructure and resources available in Gram Panchayat.
4. To assess Participatory Rural Appraisal for social mapping and problems of people.
5. To evolve a model wherein different stakeholders i.e. PRIs, Departments, stakeholders and volunteers work together to prepare a development plan.

An effort has been made to collect data pertaining to subject both from primary as well as secondary sources. The methods and tools used for this study are a synthesis of a large number of experiences with community participation. Data and its Source are

collected through village mapping exercises, semi-structured interviews, transects, daily and seasonal schedules, and social structure diagrams. To ensure the active participation of all members, the villagers are divided themselves into self-defined groups based on age, gender, ethnic group or other affiliation.

The participants shall be facilitated by the Resource Person preparing social maps, resource maps and the draft plan for each ward. The draft plan should be presented to the members of Gram Sabha in each ward, their observations, comments and suggestions received should be recorded and taken into the consideration while consolidating in the final plan for the Gram Panchayat as a whole.

Thus, the first step involved imparting formal knowledge through training intervention and the second was imparting skills by actually working in the field.

Participatory Planning and Social Development

Debangana Baruah

This paper examines the fractures within the Tiwa tribe, namely between the Tiwa plains and Tiwa (lalung) Hill tribes, and its causes such as the increasing hybridization through marriage and assimilation and politics of self-determination. The paper also critiques the bias within the existing Tiwa Autonomous Council, majority of whose members are from the Tiwa plains, towards the Lalung Hill tribes. The Lalung Hill Tribes do not feel privileged enough to access the rights of the autonomous council and due course of time, they almost alienated themselves from Tiwa plain.

The paper discusses the limitations of overlapping governing bodies such as

the Panchayati Raj Institute and the Tiwa Autonomous Council - as such a system creates apathy and confusion diverting the real concerns of the Tiwa people.

Finally, the paper indicates that despite the Memorandum of Understanding between the Assam government and the Tiwa Autonomous Council, little has been done to reach out to the Tiwas leaving on the margins of their own native lands. The paper presents an exhaustive list of issues that impede on the development of these people and finds that for most Tiwas, development and economic growth is and will remain a distant dream if the state affairs is not actively questioned.

Decentralized Mechanism in Rural Administration: Study of Left Front Government in West Bengal (1977-2011)

Debasish Nandy

The success of a democratic system is largely depends upon wide spread and systematic democratic decentralization of power, authority and functions. Local self government is a system of direct and active involvement of the people of a local area in the administration of local affairs for the satisfaction of local demands with the help of local resources, and through organized local efforts. The key objective of this paper is to find out the effectiveness of decentralized rural self government in West Bengal (1977-2011). This study is carried out by descriptive qualitative research techniques. This study is based on secondary source of information. Secondary information was gathered from available literature review. Secondary data was also assembled from different journal, website, articles and books, essays, national and international newspapers. Descriptive and

preferential qualitative techniques are employed in this study.

The major analysis of this paper is divided in to two parts – (i) theoretical discussion of decentralization and (ii) The West Bengal experience of rural local self government .The framers of the Indian constitution were deeply concerned about the imperative necessity of organizing a system of local government at the grass root level. The Panchayati Raj has been evolved over the years The thought of Gandhiji has a great impact on Panchayat Raj system in India. The Panchayat Act of 1973 had brought about a revolutionary change in the Panchayat system in that enabled to local self-government to impose local tax.

The year 1977 was a land mark in the history of West Bengal, in the sense that the Left Front Government came in to power in that very year. In their election

manifesto, left committed to implement the Panchayat Act of 1973 and propagated extensively for protection of marginalized people in rural Bengal. Through the implementation of Panchayati Raj system, numerous developmental activities were taken by the left government and made a bridge with rural people, whom turned in to a strong voter base for left front. In conclusion, I will evaluate the effectiveness on decentralization in rural Bengal during left front government (1977-2011).

Decentralization When Land and Resource Rights are Deeply Contested: A Case Study of Nilambur Eco tourism project in Malappuram District

Dhanya M.

The key objective of this study is to investigate the actual involvement of the community in decision making processes, planning, management, control of the project, and also the kinds of benefits which accrue to the staff members, horse owners and the wider community. The evidence of this study would suggest the project has been at least partially successful in achieving its goals, but also raises questions about the model of a community-run project being applied in this case, and about the long-term economic sustainability of the project. This case study also highlights a number of key strengths and weaknesses of the community-based or bottom-up model of tourism development.

Ecotourism can be an incentive for conservation, especially when it triggers

positive economic change. Yet it introduces many changes to communities: positive and negative, social and economic. The full range of change is seldom evaluated in direct relation to conservation at the local level. In this study of Nilambur ecotourism project, local leaders discussed changes from ecotourism in their communities. Economic benefits were mentioned, but so were new restrictions on time, decreased reciprocity, and social conflict. Other changes included heightened self-esteem and greater community organization. Such shifts should be considered in relation to conservation as they affect the stability of local institutions and the prospects for long-term collective action for resource management.

Decentralisation and Development in India: A Study of Panchayati Raj System in Jharkhand

Digvijay Kumar

There are many studies and evidences from states like Kerela, Maharashtra and Karnataka which reflect that decentralisation has proved to be an approach to development and deepening democracy. There are very few studies on decentralisation in the state of Jharkhand and those studies have limitation by role and functioning of the local government at the village level.

The present study in an attempt,

- a) To understand the structure and functioning of the local governance institution.
- b) To find out the role of decentralisation in deepening democracy and enhancing development.
- c) To find out the effectiveness of 73rd Amendment for social upliftment of weaker sections of the society.

- d) To identify the role of bureaucracy with the elected representatives and the villagers in the process of decentralisation.
- e) To identify the problems and hurdles in the structure and institution of the local governance in the village.

This is a qualitative research which includes both primary and secondary sources. Primary source of data and information has been collected from various methods which include interview (Structured/Semi structured and Close/Open ended), Focus Group Discussion (FGD), Observation (participant and non participant form) and Oral history. Secondary source of data has been collected from the government and panchayat reports.

Promoting Forest Based Livelihood Enterprise for Tribal Women in Jharkhand

Dipti Paridhi Kindo and Shailja Tigga

The case study has been taken from the densely forested and naxal-affected-affected area of Angara block which is one of the largest and tribal-inhabited blocks of Ranchi in Jharkhand where the societal pattern was traditionally patriarchal and even girls were denied access to education and were married early. The families were having only 4 months of assured livelihoods and for the rest of the year they mainly depend on wages from agricultural labor.

Thus in this paper, the researcher will attempt to critically examine how promotion of Lac cultivation in that area which was earlier traditionally harvested in the area in very less

amount has changed the scenario? Few families have earned more than one lakh also in the very first year of lac cultivation which makes this case only one of its kind. The paper would also enlighten that there is a vital role of tribal women in it through several empirical field case studies, FGDs and secondary data.

Hence, the study will find out the issues and challenges in promoting the lac cultivation as another source of income in the 'Jharkhand, Lac State of India' which alone contributes about 59% of the national production but was neglected earlier by strengthening the tribal women.

Quantitative Vs. Qualitative Equality: An Analysis of Social Acceptability of Women Leadership in Local Gov- ernance

Divya Balan

Decentralisation with power to those weaker sections of Indian society including women has significant implications for social development and democratic good governance. Reservation of 33% of the seats for women in the local governing bodies under the 73rd Amendment Act of the Constitution was indeed a positive step towards gender equality and women empowerment which has provided them legroom in the mainstream political arena.

This paper argues that women are not *de facto* empowered in the political sense of the term as social acceptability is still short of when it comes to women in leadership and decision making positions of the political sphere of the country. Gender bias is pronounced in various overt and covert ways in governance, national, regional and local levels, where forced silencing,

mistreatment, disrespect and 'back-seat driving' are commonplace. Similarly, lack of political background, experience, and training along with an absence of suitable socio-economic and political environment put women behind their male counterparts thus restricting them exercising their full political rights in public policy making.

This conference paper will identify the various problems faced by the women members in local administration in particular and in the mainstream political sphere in general. The paper will be an analytical study to the extent and effectiveness of participation of women representatives in local self-governing bodies so as to appraise whether the so called notions of greater gender equality and empowerment accomplished by women in the political sphere of India through the reservation is quantitative or qualitative.

Decentralized Development in Jammu and Kashmir: An Analysis

Farooq Ahmad Waza

The present study is an attempt,

- To study the decentralization and development in Jammu and Kashmir
- To study the impediments responsible in the way of decentralization and development
- To study the challenges for decentralization and development in the Jammu and Kashmir
- Make analysis of the working of last five years of panchayats in the state

The data is drawn from, government publications, and personal interviews with experts in the field, Panchayat representatives, and common people, based on structured questionnaires. Personal observation was also made use by way of field survey.

Though have a long history of decentralization, however, due to lack of political will decentralized development could not takeoff in the state. The political crisis after 1989 further undermined the prospects of democratized decentralization. Panchayat elections of 2011 offered an opportunity for decentralized development, however, not much has been achieved as far as inclusive governance is concerned. Absence of intermediate and district level Panchayats is the major hurdle in realization of decentralized development in J&K. Issues of political favouritism, lack of proper representation of women and other weaker sections and lack of transparency need to be addressed for a meaningful process of decentralized development.

Decentralization, Public Healthcare Infrastructure and Health Manpower in Tribal Hamlets: Kerala Perspectives

Gangadharan

Kerala has achieved remarkable progress in human development, as reflected in the high levels of education and health of its people. Government intervention in this sector is the main reason for these achievements. However the dark side of healthcare development in Kerala can be noticed in the tribal hamlets where maternal mortality, infant mortality, low immunization, issues like maternal anaemia, early marriage, and teenage pregnancy, huge chronic and acute morbidity etc. are dominant. Whatever may be the success of decentralization total in Kerala, among the tribal hamlets the light decentralization has not reached. Decentralized governance process has not much effective in the tribal dominated districts in Kerala. Many socio, economic political and cultural factors are responsible for this hurdle. Currently, the public health sector in

Kerala has been facing a severe shortage of all key cadres of health professionals including doctors, nurses and paramedics, especially in rural and tribal areas. Decentralization could not make a serious involvement in this segment of lack of health manpower. To examine these issues, the study intends to explore the extent of health care infrastructure and manpower in the tribal hamlets of Kerala and also aims to assess the maternal and child health care service utilization in the tribal hamlets of Kerala. Massive efforts from administrative, political, and people's levels with a decentralized governance and also a policy direction from Government are essential to provide attention to the destitutes who actually suffers from severe ailments of chronic and communicable diseases on the one side and acute anaemia and mal nutrition on the other.

Disaster Preparedness and Risk Reduction – Need for a Policy Initiative

K. Gireesan

Significance of empowering LGIs and Youth Organisations (YO) in the process of disaster preparedness and risk reduction will be discussed in the paper. LGIs can analyse the hazard, risk, vulnerability and capacity effectively, which is very much essential in disaster preparedness and risk reduction. Being close to the people and by virtue of its sheer mandate for local leadership, they have a greater responsibility to take all possible efforts to forecast, prepare and meet any such eventualities. And local knowledge about the resources, facilities and support systems, and the alternative options are crucial in disaster management.

This paper highlights the need for a policy initiative in the domain of disaster preparedness and risk reduction, with an important role for LGIs and YOs. The existing literature on Disaster Management like High

Powered Committee Report (2002), Disaster Management Act (2005), National Policy on Disaster Management (2009) and most of the policy documents released by different State Governments do not provide any 'significant role for LGIs and YOs' in the process. However, it needs no emphasis that 'LGIs and YOs are in a better position to contribute in Disaster Preparedness and Risk Reduction'. Interactions with the elected members and officials of LGIs from different parts of the country and discussions with the youth functionaries from political and non-political organisations provided the primary data. In addition, the researcher interacted with the officials of various local institutions like School, Primary Health Centre, Anganawadi, Agricultural Office, Veterinary Hospital, and functionaries of different community based organisations, who also supplemented with useful inputs.

Challenges on Inclusive Governance; Special Grama Sabhas (SGS) in Kerala are Remedy?

Gokul MA

Kerala, the pioneer of local governance has been welcomed numerous strategies to sustain people's participation in governance process. Such experiments for the total involvement of the people in planning and decision making procedure are found to be true in its efforts to making the governance more inclusive. Even the state adores for premier governance at the local level, still the major outcomes are remained inaccessible to certain sections of the society including Women, Children, Tribals, and Dalits. In this context, Local Self Governments in the state particularly Grama Panchayats have been implemented so called Special Gram Sabhas (Special Village Assemblies) for inclusive development of the marginalized communities and denied groups of the population in order to adapt themselves with the dynamic socio political conundrum.

Orukootom for Tribals, Matsya Sabha for fisher community, Bala Sabha for Children, Vayojana Sabha for aged citizen, Bhinnasheshi Sabha for differently abled and Vanitha Sabha for Women are the some prime models of special Grama Sabhas in Kerala.

The study is conducted in an explorative method aims to analyse the challenges on inclusive governance and how far Special Grama Sabhas becoming effective among desired communities, which is the prime objective of this paper. The data will be analysed both in qualitative and quantitative methods endorses the reliability of the study and helps to reach general conclusions. For quantitative analysis possible statistical tools Mean, Mode, Median etc could be useful. Analysis shall comprise diagrams pertaining to the relevancy of the situation.

MGNREGA : Rights based Legal Guarantee for employment

Gopakumar K and Prasanna V Salian

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act as a fall back employment source is designed to make a significant differences to livelihood security in rural India. MGNREGA epitomizes the right to employment on demand and it has been devised as a public work programme to address the issue of a rights-based approach to development; provide income security to the rural households through guaranteed wage employment; reduce/check distress migration from the rural to urban areas and create durable community assets to trigger an overall development of rural areas.

Article 41 of the Indian Constitution provides a non-justiciable right to work under the Directive Principles of State Policy and proclaims: "The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to work in case of unemployment".

This Article remained dormant for fifty-five years until the legislation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), in 2005. However, the MGNREGA is a partial fulfillment of the right to work, as it assures employment at the household and not at the individual level, and guarantees a maximum of 100 days of wage employment. Nevertheless, it signifies a landmark development in the sense that it highlights the confidence of the State in its economic capacity to convert non-justiciable rights provided in Part IV of the Indian Constitution into justiciable ones.

Based on the secondary data and literature review on various aspects of implementation of MGNREGA, the paper examines whether MGNREGA in various States has realized the "right to work" by providing 100 days of employment per year on demand. The paper also examines the other provisions

of the act related to workers rights viz., unemployment allowance, compensation for delay in payment of wages etc. It also discusses the challenges ahead in realizing the various provisions of the Act and suggestions for the effective implementation of MGNREGA.

Tax System of Local Governments in Uttar Pradesh: Issues and Reform Options

Harinam Singh

India is a federal country. India has 29 states and 7 union territories. Uttar Pradesh, with a population of 19.98 crores as per 2011 census, is the most populated state of the country comprising of 75 Districts with 18 Divisional Headquarters. Uttar Pradesh covers 2,40,928 sq.kms. and accounts of 7.3 percent of the total area of the country which makes it the fifth largest State in the country.

The prime objectives of the paper specifically are: -

- To focus the legislative provisions related to finances of local governments in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- To highlight the levels and trends of total revenue of urban local

government [Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)] of Uttar Pradesh for the period of 1995-96 to 2011-12 and

- To highlight the levels and trends of total revenue of rural local government [Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)].

This paper is based on the secondary data. For the present study, the data have been collected from the various Reports of Central Finance Commissions (CFCs), Government of India; and various Reports of State Finance Commissions (SFCs), Government of Uttar Pradesh.

The paper analyzes the tax system of local governments of Uttar Pradesh from the perspective of the best practice approach to tax policy and reform.

Decentralisation In India : The Invisible Pillar Of Democracy

Harsh Gattani, Anubhav Singh

Decentralization of power among citizens is an important aspect of any development. However, it is not practically possible for each and every citizen to individually participate in the functioning of the government. Therefore there are elected representatives who on behalf of the citizens perform in the functioning of the government. Elections are what define democracy. With the recent history being made in Saudi Arabia where for the first time in history women were allowed to vote. This paper will focus on the founding moments of Democracy.

The paper will take instances from Aristotle's Nichomatian Ethics which would elaborate on the fundamentals of justice. Further the paper will focus on the history of elections in India. Also

it will try casting the governance from days of Mahabharata.

Also the paper will give way to the present day decentralization of power. Focusing on present day aspect the paper will go on to the aspect of distribution of resources. Natural Resources in India are in abundance. However these natural resources are in full control of the government. But in distribution several genetic resources the government shows arbitrariness. There are some genetic resources which are confined to a particular place of origin. But the natives or founders of such resources are given no benefit by the government and they are in contravention to the TRIPS agreement signed by India. This study will be followed by a case study of "Jeevani".

Attaining the Quintessence of direct democracy through fiscal decentralisation: Issues and Challenges

Harshad K.Bhosale

The 73rd and 74th amendments to the Indian constitution have attempted to give a new identity to the Indian federation. These amendments have endeavoured to make Indian federation as a Cooperative federation.

The paper further envisions that cooperative federation in recent years has assumed three forms i.e. inter dependent spheres, marble cake and independent spheres. But Indian version of cooperative federation unlike

the above mentioned category has given rise to a multi level federalism. This is so because the local governments have acquired a more institutionalised form.

The paper ventures to suggest policies and strategies to be adopted by the government to make the local fiscal government as an epitome of direct democracy. The paper may also unravel the increasing incongruity in terms of fund transfers between the Center, states and local bodies.

Community Participation in Tourism Development

Hilal Ahmad

Local participation in tourism has been regarded as a positive force for change and identification to development. The principle behind local participation may be easy to promote, however the practice is far more complex. Generally, it is often assumed that members of a community are willing and able to participate equally. In reality however, local residents often lack the experience, resources and hence even interest, needed to establish successful tourism ventures. Tourism has become a major agent of transformation in every society and destination.

Local participation in tourism has been regarded as a positive force for change and passport to development. It is the combination of the two words local and participation that is paradoxically implying local residents being so often left outside of the planning, decision-making and managing of tourist development.

The principle behind local participation may be easy to promote, however the practice is far more complex. Generally, it is often assumed that members of a community are willing and able to participate equally. Participation of local people is a criteria often agreed on as an essential condition for development and sustainability of any new form of tourism.

This study applies it to create an understanding of how a community constructs, perceives and participates in tourism development Travelling is inevitably associated with pleasure as well as to build economy in the local area. This paper will analyse the participation of pony walas associated with the development of tourism in local area. The paper is based on non participation observation, interview schedule and secondary sources.

A Study of Household's Assets and Amenities in Standard of Living of Belgaum district in Karnataka

Hucche Gowda

Household's assets and amenities reflect a household's quality of life. Electric lights enable more reading and education; modern and improved stoves provide a cleaner environment and better health; clean water and sanitation reduce the prevalence of gastrointestinal diseases; motor vehicles and mass media strengthen the household's connection to the country as a whole; access to piped water and use of kerosene or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) for cooking reduces the time women spend in fetching water and fuel collection, thereby reducing domestic drudgery and increasing time devoted to other activities. While these amenities improve the quality of life, they also demonstrate to family and neighbors that the household has succeeded financially. In modern life, household possessions are both the sign of social status and instruments for a better life. Assets and amenities cost money, so

their acquisition is determined primarily by household income. Household possessions reflect accumulation over many years, so they may be a better indicator of a household's long run economic standing than annual measures, such as income.

A household's assets and amenities are also determined by its economic context and the development of local infrastructure, such as road, electricity and water. For example, a television is not of much use if the village has no electricity. Motor cycles, or cars are not very useful without a network of roads and easy access to petrol pump. Gas cylinders are difficult to replace if the household is many kilometers away from the supplier. Moreover, because these all possessions are sign of the family's economic success, owning a television, motor cycle or gas stove becomes all the more important when one's neighbor has one. Thus, a rich

household in a rich state will have many more amenities than an equally rich household in a poor state. The availability of these services and the number of household assets vary considerably throughout the district. Household income is closely related to

all of these services and assets, but local and state wise income levels are also important, especially for many of the public services. Secondary data were used to analyze this paper; the present paper focuses on Standard Living of Belgaum District in Karnataka.

Community Governance for Sustainable Local Government

Janaka Hemathilaka

Community governance is the result of decentralisation, which refers to the central government's devolution of specific functions and the associated administrative, political and economic attributes, to democratic local governments that are independent of the centre within a legally delimited geographic and functional domain (Fageut, 2004). Decentralisation reduces the distance between constituents and their government, which in turn is empowered to respond to their concerns. Government and governance mechanisms are linked to development through institutions, which consist of systems of rights and obligations in the form of recognised, formal or informal, but enforceable rules that enable individuals to cooperate to achieve common purposes by creating regularised role relationships (North 1990). These institutions determine individuals' freedom to achieve their

full potential. In other words, institutions determine development. Sustainable development is a form of development that stresses on the need for institutions that entail social inclusion, economic development and environmental protection (Sachs, 2015).

It is accepted by the development expert academic and other professionals that there is a close relationship between the governance and development. Therefore, in most of the academic and research purpose definitions the key words of systems, approaches, methodologies, management and administration and civil society are involved, in the total picture of development.

The concept of community governance in general can be identified as one of the advanced version of 'good governance'. The concept basically explains about the decentralization of

power to the community level and getting the community participating in local level decision making. This concept is putting the community at the center of decision making practice and involves the community in the entire governance process. The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government (2011) noted that "Much of literature relating to community governance has come out of the United Kingdom and more recently New Zealand. In the UK this was closely linked to the process of local government reforms that took place under New Labor

Sri Lanka has a long history of different community government institutions. The common community decision-making process has been implemented in agriculture and irrigation through such institutions as the WelSabha and Gam Sabha. Other structures that involved common decision in different

levels included the VarigaSabha and DaayakaSabha. The colonial regimes abandoned these institutions by 1881. Some of them did reappear, however, after they were identified as valuable tools for social control by colonial authorities. Thereafter, the institutions of community governance have remained in various forms and at various levels, in the post-colonial government.

Although Sri Lanka had different practices, initiatives, concepts and approaches on community governance throughout the ages, there is no commonly accepted community governance model which can be utilized for local development. Therefore, this paper is to evaluate the existing community governance models implemented in Sri Lanka and to assess its contribution to establish sustainable local Government system in the country.

Comparative study on Public Distribution System in Pudukkottai District, Tamil Nadu

Janatha Selvi

Public Distribution System (PDS) is playing an important role in attaining higher level of household's food security. Public Distribution System in India is the largest distribution network in the world. Until 1992, the Indian PDS is universal to all the consumers. In 1992, Revamped PDS was introduced, it limited to primarily drought prone, tribal and hilly, and remotely located. Then it has been substituted by Targeted PDS in 1997, specifically focused on Below Poverty Line (BPL) people in all parts of the country.

PDS is considered as a major food security programme in India, for which the government is spending only Rs. 9200 crore as food subsidy. In India, there is network of more than 4.99 lakh Fair price Shops (ration Shops) one of the biggest Public Distribution System in the world and responsible for distributing to more than 160 million families commodities worth INR

15,000 crores. Every year government spends Rs. 750 approx. billion which is one of the biggest of its kind in the world. For the proper management and distribution of food grains the government of India has created Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and public Distribution.

The objectives of the study on the inclusion and exclusion of households in the Public Distribution System. The level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries about the quality of the commodity distributed in Public Distribution System. In this view, the researcher purposes to analyze, The selection of the study area was based on Comparative study on inclusion and exclusion of Public Distribution System on Rural and Urban in Pudukkottai District, in Tamil Nadu. Multi stage random sampling procedure was adopted in the selection of the sampling

Devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries: An Odisha Experience

Janmejay Sahu

India has come up with several initiatives so that the issues of grassroots people can be sorted out democratically as well as grassroots leadership can be developed. Importantly, after several attempts the government of India brings 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act-1992 (73rdCAA) to institutionalize the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for the betterment of rural community with a constitutional status however the 73rd CAA empowers the State governments to ensure proper implementation of this Act as well as in making strong independent PRIs. Moreover, it clearly states that primary responsibility of the State government is to ensure proper devolution of required funds, functions and functionaries to panchayati raj institutions which are the backbone of PRIs. In the reality, at present except the States like Kerala, Karnatak, West Bengal and Tamilnadu, other States

have not yet devolved adequate 3Fs to 3 tiers of PRIs including Odisha. Moreover, Odisha is one among the few States where with Odisha Gram Panchayat Act 1964, panchayati raj system was functioning much before the 73rd Panchayat Act which is now further strengthened only after 73rd CAA with some amendments to its earlier Odisha Panchayat Act.

This paper focuses upon only the state of Odisha to understand the status of devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to various levels of panchayats and whether it has achieved to the spirit of Panchayat Act in the democratic process. Also, it tries to highlight the reasons behind the inadequate devolution of 3Fs to panchayats in Odisha despite its old practice of panchayati raj and after 22 years of 73rd CAA.

Public Distribution and Poverty in India

Jayan T

This paper examines the performance of Targeted Public Distribution System in the four Southern States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala in terms of off take of food grains, coverage and targeting. It attempts to quantify the volume of food grains and income transfer the households belonging to different classes in rural and urban areas obtained from PDS and its impact on poverty. The study uses the data published in 2007 and 2015 by NSSO. It also focuses on to evaluate the performance of National Food Security Act in Karnataka based on primary data

Role of Fiscal Decentralisation in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Jawed Alam Khan

The process of fiscal decentralization aims at devolving fiscal power to the lower levels of government. In a centralized system of governance, the top-down approach in decision making and supply oriented system of delivery of goods and services resulted in corruption and inefficiency in meeting the felt needs of local people.

The present of paper is a comparative analysis of the extent of fiscal decentralization to PRIs of major States using secondary data and feedback from various stakeholders particularly from few States. The paper would assess the role of overall public investment on social sector and fiscal decentralization to local governments in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In India, autonomy over expenditure by local government is too weak with the share of local government expenditure in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and consolidated public expenditure at 1.6 percent and 5.5 percent respectively. The own revenue collection of PRIs as percentage of Centre and State revenues has declined to 0.27 percent in 2007-08 from 0.33 percent in 1990-91. The PRIs are heavily dependent on the transfers from Centre and States for social sector development.

The paper suggests that adequate public investment on social sectors and fiscal decentralization to local government is essential to implement the SDGs by 2030.

Decentralization of Local Self-Government in Rural Tripura

Jayanta Choudhury

Purbita Gupta

Present paper discusses decentralisation, its purposes, medium and segregation of fund, functions and functionaries (three Fs) in local self-government of rural Tripura. It also reviews the status of decentralisation of 6th Scheduled areas and panchayats of Tripura in the wake of 49th and 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act 1984 and 1992 respec-

tively. The paper identifies the challenges of functionaries as well as elected representatives of local self-government and suggests ways to improving their overall decentralisation condition of rural Tripura. To fulfill the objective of the study secondary as well as empirical data were also collected from ADC and Non-ADC areas of Tripura.

Women Empowerment Through Self-Help Groups : An analysis

Jayasree T.O.

Empowerment is considered as one of the most recent and powerful discourse to women in development. Programmes aiming to improve the living conditions of the poor cannot, therefore, be effective unless women participate in their formulation and implementation, as contributors as well as beneficiaries. With the formation of Women's Self-Help Groups, these women are now achieving social and physical mobility. It is recognized that while the empowerment of women is a process that will not happen automatically, SHGs are suitable means for the empowerment of women.

The Kerala Government stipulated that all local bodies should set apart ten percent of their total plan funds for projects this paper makes an attempt to analyze the allocation of funds for women empowerment through local

government. The more specific objective of the study is to analyze the socio-economic profile of the women self help group members and to analyze and assess the impact of SHGs in-terms of employment, income and savings of beneficiaries in the selected wards of the study area and to identify the problems and offer suggestions for effective functioning of the SHGs to benefit women. For analyzing various objectives, the study makes use of secondary as well as primary data. The study concludes that SHG is a media for development of savings habit among the women as it enhances the equality of women, as participants, decision makers and beneficiaries in the democratic, economic, social and cultural spheres of life, though the members were facing certain constraints.

Students as Agents of Social Change a Case Study with Special Reference to SHEPHERD Outreach Programme, St. Joseph's College, Trichy

G. John

S. Aruldoss

SHEPHERD is the acronym for Science and Humanities for People's Development. Through this outreach programme, an attempt is made to infuse responsible citizenship into the existing educational system in order to respond to the crying needs of society' rural people. The student community within the realm of higher education need to be nurtured so as to make them agents of social change with a sense of social justice, responsibility, compassion, sensitivity, and concern for the poor and the disadvantaged. By facilitating the student community to become agents of social change, higher education becomes more meaningful and relevant to the society.

Initiated in the year 1986, through this outreach programme the students impart their subject knowledge and skills towards the betterment of the neighbourhood communities and in turn they imbibe the rich traditions,

culture and values of rural communities. The students work for the total development of the communities in partnership with the villagers by utilizing local resources.

The students belonging to different disciplines/department are serving in 96 neighbourhood communities covering a population of 80,000 in Blocks spread over three districts. Each department is entrusted with a cluster of villages and each class one village. These villages, with mostly poor and illiterate people, are located within the radius of 35 kms from the college. The various activities undertaken are: education, skill training, environments related activities, health and hygiene, civic organization, liaison with NGOs and local governments, and infrastructure development. The impact of SHEPHERD outreach is critically evaluated on the basis of impact it has made on the lives of rural people.

Post Implementation Issues of FRA (2006): Need to Strengthen the Role of Local Self-Government in Kerala State

Jyothis Sathyapalan

Post implementation issues of Forest Rights Act 2006 remain unresolved in many places. Tribal communities reported that the title deed under FRA is not even acceptable to government officials as a proof of their land ownership. The land possession certificate issued by a forest range officer is still recognized in all government department to avail benefits of tribal welfare programs, not the title deed issued by the government under FRA 2006. The right over big standing trees in tribal lands is vested with forest department and therefore they share land rights indirectly. This is another factor creating land insecurity among many families. Many such instances generated a perception among tribal communities to doubt the true spirit of

the title deeds, even the security it provides to their land and livelihoods. Using data from a 525 households located in southern and northern districts of Kerala, this paper shows a sense of 'lacking' in land tenure security and argues that FRA 2006 created a differential impact on tribal communities in terms of land tenure security which in turn determined by internal as well as external factors at household level. Therefore, government intervention through local bodies like Panchayats is necessary to protect the true spirit of the Act by recognising the title deed as an official document for availing the benefits of government programme particularly for investment in land that helps them to sustain land based livelihoods.

Local governance and CBOs in Rural Development: A Study on Maharashtra

Kalidas Shamrao Khobragade

The main objective of this paper is to understand the role of community base organization in rural development in India with special reference to community participation and community empowerment. Beside these broad issues, the specific issues addressed in this research were the following: (a) decentralized micro-level planning, (b) special role of CBOs, (c) role of state, (d) local resource mobilization, and (e) socio-political environment of rural development. The paper will use explorative research method based on secondary data. In secondary will use the government report, census report, NSS survey report, books, article and journals.

This paper will finding Social and economic change are transforming rural and regional development by local governance and community based

organization. The local governance and community based organization has sought to respond by emphasizing, service delivery, supporting in rural infrastructure, increasing capacity of local people and giving opportunity and alternative policy in rural development. The local government and community based organization developing program and plan for social and economical development sustainably in rural development. The utility of both local government and community based organization can be considerably enhanced when agencies work in partnership with one another in rural development.

There is in evidence a great appetite for rapid inclusive growth in all the regions poverty reducing and livelihood enhancing; there is a need for greater decentralization and local empowerment by local government.

Universalisation of Elementary Education in Rural Areas : The Role of Local School Management Committes and Challenges

Kappey Yadagiri

Community participation in public service delivery can act as a lever for change by increasing the transparency of information on service performance. It can stimulate citizen involvement by encouraging beneficiaries to expose shortcomings and demand better performance. Increased citizen pressure may also improve provider responsiveness resulting in better outcomes for citizens.

This paper aims to study SMCs and their requirement through RTE and their existence prior to the formulation of the RTE. It aims to trace the historical background of SDMCs (School Development and Managing Communities) in Karnataka and VECs (Village Educational Committees) in Tamil Nadu and their impact on the educational institutions. It hopes to provide a basis for analysis of the shift in their nature of functioning before RTE and after RTE and whether there was a change for the better. Moreover, it will try to address the need for such

independent governing bodies. The paper will also try to understand the law governing the SMCs formulation and functioning through RTE.

Behind the study is that the SMCs in many states should have come into existence after the RTE Act-2009. But previous to act, committees similar in the line of SMCs were functioning in both the states, Therefore, the study will analyze this development i.e. the shift from the pre-RTE to Post-RTE in terms of these committees formation and examine whether the shift is underway or already happened.

1. To do a systematic and comparative study that covers two government schools in two states i.e. Telangana and Andhrapradesh?
2. Analyze the difference in functioning of SMCs (School Management Committees).
3. Compare rural schools' SMCs with the urban schools' SMCs to know about the differences in the governing structures among the two.

A Study on Students Enrollment in Public and Private Schools in Rural area of Tiruchirappalli District in Tamil Nadu

E. Karthikeyan & S. Sathiya

Education is a key in human capital formation. Quality of human resources depend upon the quality of education of a country. Various changes have occurred in educational system in recent times due to the changes in socio-economic development, political environments, cultural science and technology etc. The number of private schools have also increased tremendously for the last one decade. But, there is a wide gap between the academic achievement and performance of private and government school students. The percentage of children enrolled in schools under private management rose to 34.92 per cent in 2012-13 from 30.42 per cent in 2009-10 (NUEPA). Further, it shows that total enrollment at the elementary level (class 1 to 8) in government schools dropped by 43 lakh between 2011-12 and 2012-13 while there has been an increase of 50

lakh in enrollment in private schools. A notable decline in government primary school enrollment took place in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Though, the government is providing lot of facilities for students like free tuition fee, free books, free bags, free Mid-Day Meal etc., but now-a-days most of the parents are choosing to send their children to private schools for variety of reasons. Based on current understanding, this study mainly focused on to find out the factors that determine the public and private school enrollment in rural areas. It was found that private schools are equipped with a variety of factors which includes quality education, well care of child, control over the students, good command over the communication skills, good infrastructure, healthy and hygienic environment, extra co-curricular activities and safe transportation facilities at door step for

students which reduces the risk of child trafficking.

Pathetic physical conditions of government school buildings and classrooms, inadequate number of classrooms per school to accommodate all the standards in different rooms, system of having multiple standards in the same room at the same time, prevalence of several single teacher

schools; immeasurable non-teaching activities thrust on school teachers that divert their attention, punctuality and regularity in teaching the students; inadequate supportive infrastructure in the school like toilet for boys and girls separately, drinking water facility and electricity etc. are the factors responsible for the enrollment of higher income families children to be admitted in private schools.

Poverty Alleviation & Economic Empowerment of Socially Secluded through Micro Projects

Krishna Chandra Pradhan

India has the largest concentration of tribal people anywhere in the world except perhaps Africa and their lifestyle are conditioned by the Eco-system throughout the length and breadth of this country. The tribals in India constitute 8.2 percent of the total population. The areas inhabited by the Tribals constitute a significant part of the under-developed areas of the country. The tribals live mostly in isolated villages or hamlets. They have their presence in all States and Union Territories except the State of Haryana, Punjab, Delhi and Chandigarh.

Tribal communities like Gujars and Bakerwals in Jammu & Kashmir, Gaddis and Bhotias in Himachal Pradesh; Jodhs and Marches in U.P. Hills and Todas in Nilgiri Hills are pastoralists

and nomadic. Remarkably, some tribals in H.P. and U.P. combine agriculture with pastoralism for their means of livelihood. In the north-eastern region tribals in general are good craftsmen and prepare handloom products of wool, cotton, silk and handicraft of cane and bamboo. Thus occupationally, the tribals in India involve themselves in a variety of activities. Thus location-specific approaches are required to improve the living conditions of tribals spread all over the country.

In the light of the above facts the present work is a humble attempt to study the impact of one such micro project which is location - specific and working for the socially secluded and economically backward primitive tribe-Lanjia Saora of Odisha.

Micro Entrepreneurial activities among Tribal Women in Andhra Pradesh

Krishnaveni Motha

The present study aims to find out the reasons for women to venture into entrepreneurial activities and what structural attributes of Koya tribal society contributed to take-up these activities. The study also tries to evaluate level of involvement of tribal women in enterprise management and constraining factors associated with entrepreneurial activities.

The sample size of 210 Koya women entrepreneurs from 6 blocks of Rampachodavaram Revenue division of East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh were selected by using purposive Snowball technique. Mixed research methods (both quantitative and qualitative) were applied to collect and analyze the data. Quantitative methods like interview schedule and 10 point Enterprise Involvement index were used for collection of the socio economic traits, enterprise details,

enterprise involvement and constraints faced by them. The qualitative methods i.e. focus group discussions, observations and in depth interviews were applied for analyzing the structural attributes of the Koya tribal society which promoted the women to venture into entrepreneurial activities.

The extent of involvement of women in enterprise management, projected through enterprise involvement index shows that the time spent by Koya women on entrepreneurial activities was reported to be highest and membership in community organizations was found to be the lowest score on 10 point dimensional scale. Stiff competition with non tribals, lack of access to credit, inadequate knowledge and awareness about marketing strategies and weak transport system were constraints mentioned by women in carrying out entrepreneurial activities. Even though

a lot of strategies for development of entrepreneurship among tribal women were made by the government and developing agencies, yet many women entrepreneurs were relying primarily on

their social capital and informal ecosystem for the development of their enterprises, still succeeding in keep them going and establishing themselves as actors in their own development.

MGNREGA and Strengthening Decentralization Myth or Reality: Insights from District Budgam

Kounsar Iqbal and Hilal Ahmad

The passage of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in 2005 marks a new chapter in Indian history as well as the history of decentralization in India. The passage of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act by the Parliament in 1992 has been heralded as the dawn of a new era in the history of India and also as the largest decentralization project in the world (Widmalm, 2005). The Act postulates creation of elected 3-tier local government structure for ensuring inclusion and empowerment of local masses.

Various programmes of the Central Government were coordinated with the local governments for realization of the mission of the local governance in letter and spirit and some of these people-centered legislations such as MGNREGA. MGNREGA aims at enhancing livelihood security by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in a

financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. one basic rule is that Only Job Card holders are to be employed for MGNREGA works and also to provide employment within 15 days of application, no contractor, no task to be performed by using machines but manual labour only. But all these rules are violated in broad day light in Raziwan, a panchayat halqa of district Budgam and the violators are the elected representatives of local governing body.

The study is based on snowball sampling and observation where it was found that there was usage of machines instead of manual labors. Cash was transferred to bank account holders who had no clue whether they possess job card or not and had never done manual work. The study is exploratory in nature and will end with some valid suggestions to tackle this violation of MGNREGA.

Local Government and Dalit Problem in India

Kuldip Kumar

Panchayat Raj had to go through various stages. The Constitutional (73rd Amendment) Act, passed in 1992 came into force on April 24, 1993. It was meant to provide constitutional sanction to establish “democracy at the grassroots level as it is at the state level or national level. The Constitution visualizes Panchayats as institutions of self-governance.

But questions still remain on Dalit issue after 65 years of India’s independence, Dalit atrocities still growing on in rural India as well as in Urban India? Question still remain in backlog of reservation? Still reservation not fulfill

properly nor dalit candidate participate freely in electoral process from local election to unban, they still mouth piece of big guns, even dalit can not cost their votes freely, even they cannot participate any society related programme? And they cannot enjoy government facility in local level? Means that feudalism still working and playing important role in lacking of proper implement of government policy in local level. So, Government should still need check and balance to implement their policies properly or not in local level?

Paper based on mainly in secondary sources and field work experiences,etc.

Decentralization and Development with Community Based Initiatives – A Case Study

Lata Jayaraj

The paper intends to bring out an in-depth understanding on the role of CBOs in women's political empowerment and the efforts put by these activities in facilitating women participation in Panchayats. This paper focuses on the role of CBOs in promoting women's participation in Decentralisation – with case study of South and North of India.

It is found that these organizations/ activities provides platform for the marginalized sections of the society like women, SCs, and STs and if formed,

planned and monitored in the right manner, these community based organization can empower women and other marginalized sections– socially, economically and politically also.

The main objective of the study is to assess these community based activities' motivation towards encouraging the women to participate in local politics.

The above objectives will help the policy makers and other government officials to realize the importance and effectiveness of these organizations in development of local bodies.

Employment & Poverty Reduction Programme of Differently Abled Persons in India

Maneesha C S

Differently abled are described in terms of lack of normal functioning of physical, mental or psychological processes. It is also defined as learning difficulties or difficulties in adjusting socially, which interfaces with a person's normal growth and development (Social Justice). As per the provisions of the Persons with Disability (PWD) Act 1995, Differently Abled means:- Blindness, Low vision, Leprosy cured, Hearing impairment, Locomotor disability, Mental retardation and Mental illness. Differently abled persons are valuable human resource and creating their employment opportunities and increasing participation in poverty reduction programme with inclusive growth is the most important factor for empowering them. Inclusive growth means that "including all extremes" and "not excluding any section of the society". This will happen only through the enhancing

full and effective participation of differently abled persons in society for creating barrier free environment.

The National Policy (2006) for persons with disabilities recognizes that differently abled persons are a valuable human resource and seeks to create an environment which provides those equal opportunities, protects their rights and ensures full participation in social and community activities. The post development agenda (2015) reveals that maintaining and creating decent job with livelihood opportunities for all, including persons with disabilities are very crucial for human development.

The main objective of this paper is to attempt to analyze the employment status and poverty eradication schemes of differently abled persons in India. For highlighting these objectives the secondary data were used. The analysis reveals that the reservation in quota

policy and poverty alleviation programme among differently abled persons is about less than 3 percent. The stated vision of the recently released draft Twelfth Plan document is “of India moving forward in a way that would ensure a broad-based improvement in living standards of all sections of the people through a growth process which is faster than in the past, more inclusive and also more environmentally sustainable”.

Right to Fishing : An Exploratory Study

Manikandan A.D. & Dr. Jisha John

Main objectives of the study are as follows: 1) To understand socio-economic marginalization of fishing community in Kerala; 2) To study the depletion of marine fishing resource and ecology; and 3) To develop a concept of right to fishing. Qualitative research methodology was used as modes of inquiry for the study since it reflects on social phenomena, natural settings, context, interactive and humanistic and complex reasoning. Fisherfolk interview was conducted using the standardized, open-ended interview method. Sample of 50 fisherfolk were selected through mixed methods (MM) sampling techniques i.e. samples were taken purposively and randomly from marine fishing villages in Alappuzha, Thrissur, Kannur, and Thiruvananthapuram districts in Kerala. Group discussions were done in order to understand the views of fisherfolk.

Socio-economic marginalization of traditional fisherfolk is contributed to the depletion of their livelihoods and marine resources and ecology in Kerala. In Kerala, more than 90 per cent of the mechanized boats are operating along the Kerala coast are bottom trawlers which use nonselective fishing gear that can be quite destructive to the sea floor environment in addition to harvesting levels of by-catch. The open-access nature of the seas, institutional factors, pollution and other unpredictable events like climatic changes had exacerbated the sustainability issues in marine sector and cause threat to marine ecosystem and livelihood security. Also the change in government policies allowing foreign fleets affects the livelihood of fishers.

The paper argues that there is a bi-directional relationship between the depletion of marine resources and

ecology and social-economic marginalization of fisherfolk. Therefore, the paper argues that there is a need for the implementation of right to fishing in India. Right to fishing is a statutory power of the fisherfolk to catch fish resources from specified area of inland and marine sector where nonfisherfolk people is allowed to catch fish.

Role of Non-Governmental Organisations in Child Rights Development : A Case Study of Gujarat

Manisha

The present paper is based on the study conducted in the major cities in Gujarat state i.e. Surat, Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Bhavnagar. The study mainly focuses on the reasons behind increasing trends of child rights violation within the state. It talks about the various forms of abuse committed against children, and the most vulnerable group among them. The study has also analysed the impact of abuses on adolescents. Further, the study briefly focuses on the major roles and responsibilities played by various NGOs in Gujarat for the protection of child rights. The major initiatives taken for the welfare of children who are in

need of care and protection. This study is based on both primary and secondary data. Primary data have been collected by conducting a survey in selected cities and from the concerned NGOs, and the secondary data is collected from books, journals, census reports, published reports and other reports. And lastly the study is concluded on the basis of findings that after the efforts made by the stakeholders still child rights violation exists within state in various forms. Gujarat alone having around 32 percent of the 28 million children engages in the child labour in India. It has become very crucial to pay urgent attention to the child rights issues.

“Decentralisation of Powers and Development Intervention: Examining the Case of GPs, Udaipur Rajasthan”

Manish Vishnoi

This paper is an attempt at empirically studying the implementation of Backward Region Grant Fund Scheme (BRGF) in four gram panchayats of Udaipur district in the state of Rajasthan. The scheme was implemented from 2006 -2012. This study has the following three aspects:

Presenting data on the works undertaken under BRGF in the four gram panchayats. , Assessing the BRGF works with reference to the removal of backwardness in the four gram panchayats, Assessing the implementation of those works with reference to the exercise of powers by the gram panchayat.

This study collected data from the following four gram panchayat 1. Paduna, 2. Saroo (Girwa Block) 3. Kherwara, 4. Mandva Fala (Kherwara Block). Focus Group discussion with GP members and respondents was taken

up with the help of a check list and a structured questionnaire. Similarly discussions were held with both State and district level implementing officials. The study team interacted with Chairpersons of Zilla Parishad, Subject Committee Chairpersons, Block Panchayat Chairpersons, Gram Panchayat Chairpersons, District Magistrate, Chief Executive Officer, District Rural Development Agency, Project Directors, other concerned officials and non officials.

Rajasthan has taken some steps in devolution of powers. Physical verification of BRGF assets indicates that assets have been created but the quality of the work is not very high. This provision is because local supervision was not very strong. This has implication on the devolution of powers to gram panchayats. Observation and discussion indicates that the Sarpanch is a key figure in decision making.

Rural India in the Digital Age

Manushi

The study examines the patterns of people's ICT use and information flow perceived in India, especially in the rural areas of Haryana which is one of India's developing states.

The descriptive research design was used to analyze the ICTs (Internet, mobile phone and satellite/ dish television) using patterns and flow of information among the people of Babupur and Dharampur villages. The empiric study was designed to probe into the interrelationship between ICTs, information flow and development in rural areas. People's access and use of ICTs lead to their participation in flow of information which results expansion of their choices and enhancement of capabilities (development).

One respondent from every household of Babupur and Dharampur was interviewed to gather the data. On the Whole, ICTs are used by the people in the rural area but these are at very nascent stage. ICTs especially mobile have great impact on the lives of people whereas internet is emerging one. The use of mobile breaks all social, economical, political and cultural barriers. Youth is becoming the leader of ICTs usage. ICTs are providing ways to the economically, socially, and politically transformative. The impact of village structure, size, location and distance from the city doesn't matter in the use of ICTs, it is once individual capacity and infrastructure characteristics which matters.

Community Governance – Still a Distant Dream

Mary Philip

Community governance is often considered synonymous with terms such as local governance, social governance, network governance and participatory governance. An effective community governance system recognizes *engaging citizens, measuring results, and getting things done*. Citizen engagement invests legitimacy in those decisions and performance measures and helps build local awareness, capacities, ownerships and benefits. The community characterized by grassroots participation ensures all the possible support in the form of resources, credibility and usage of the local language and culture. The extent to which the functioning of the community is localized, the greater are the chances of maintaining the ecological and environmental standards of the community. It further ensures transparency and accountability of the

local operating system. The presence of such a mechanism helps reduce mismatch between the real needs and the proposed solutions offered by authorities and institutions, leading to quicker decisions fostering sustainable developmental prospects.

This paper, to begin with, tries to trace the meaning of community governance as interpreted and practiced by various communities in Kerala along with an overview of the distinction between corporate, public and community governance to provide a context to the study. The focus on 'community' rather than on a corporation, organization, local government or the public sector is the distinguishing feature of community governance vis a vis these other forms of governance. This itself speaks volumes about the whole-hearted acceptance and support for such undertakings.

The remaining paper cites examples of similar communities in different parts of the world who are trying and have succeeded with similar experiments. The factor that prompted such a study is the realization of the fact that the universal goal of every activity undertaken should be to “take our communities into the new millennium” (Hutchinson, 1999, p.1).Based on the observations made with regard to the governance of these communities, certain suggestions have been put forward in the concluding part of the paper in the hope that systems whether political or social, where democratic planning and execution is yet to bear fruit, these rays of light will bring in the necessary energy and stimulation for further growth.

Performance Analysis of MGNREG Scheme with Special Reference to Arpookkara Panchayat, Kottayam

Mathew Abraham

MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for one hundred days of employment in every financial year to adult members of any rural household willing to do public work (unskilled manual work) at the statutory minimum wage. This act was introduced with an aim of improving the purchasing power of the rural people, primarily semi-skilled or un-skilled work to people living in rural India, whether or not they are below the poverty line. Around one-third of the stipulated work force is women.

The study basically interested to analyze the effectiveness of the scheme in Arpookkara panchayat. The proposed study aims at analysing the impact of the scheme in the creation of employment and assets, provision of wages, and thereby providing the suggestion for the improvement of the scheme and implementation. The scope of the study is limited to Arpookkara

panchayat in Kottayam district. The beneficiaries of MGNREGS in Arpookkara Panchayat in Kottayam district constitute the universe of the study.

It was observed that MGNREGS has caused for increase in monthly income of majority of workers enhancing their purchasing power. And the scheme to a greater extent, provides job guarantee in Arpookkara Panchayat. A considerable increment was reflected in the amount of savings; thereby boosting the earnings of women and their intra household status.

MGNREGS has provided for rural development in Arpookkara Panchayat by way of job guarantee, eco-friendly surroundings, hygienic environment, skilled workers, increase in savings, strengthening the lively hood resource base and creation of durable assets.

Issues and Challenges in Rights Based Development in India

Mathew Sinu Simon

Development with a rights based approach is however plagued with problems in its implementation at national and state level that are identified. This paper argues that development can be actualized if its benefits involve people at grassroots level. Rights based development through legislations is not a reality for citizens at the grassroots level. It is argued that this lag of implementation of right for development requires civil society interventions in forms of collective group rights. Bottoms up approach as recommended by policy makers remains a farce unless there is empowerment and autonomy granted to panchayats.

The objective of this paper is to examine the nature of dialogue and interface

between government, civil society and people in realization of socio-economic entitlements. In this interface, the difficulties and shortcoming in implementing right based approach are analyzed. The rights based development approach as outlined in this paper identifies vulnerable and marginalized sections of society whose rights have been addressed at various levels of governance. However, it may be contested there still remains much to be done in addressing rights of dalits, adivasis and environment and development displacees. The paper derives its sources from governmental reports, case studies and academic literature pertaining to rights based developmental approach.

Scheduled Caste Development Programs In Kerala : A Dalit Reality

Maya K.S.

Dalit is a self- designation that was adopted by assertive groups that have been traditionally regarded as low caste. They are mixed population of numerous caste groups all over south Asia and speak various languages. We have already know the miserable situations of Dalits during the pre-modern & modern period .They are the people ,who are subjected to massive exploitation on the basis of caste inequalities . The present study is the role of development and social change among the Dalit communities of Kerala. This intends to to study the changes brought about the development in two Dalit colonies with their socio ,political ,economic and cultural impact on the

Dalit community in contemporary period. A critical examination of the analysis of government developments programs. The study suggests further policies for the upliftment of Dalit community in Kerala.

First one is renaissance another is colonial modernity. Of Cause Kerala history the developments of renaissance, but obviously it is concentrated only around the Hindu elite class. So the context of colonial modernity has significant role in the social and cultural life of Dalit's .So the modernization process under colonialism led to the entry of low caste people in to public sphere as individuals.

Rebirth of Local Government Libraries in Kerala : Need of the Hour

Meera K.

The Local Self Government Institutions in the State of Kerala are in a better position in respect of fund, functions and functionaries compared to their counterparts in other States. The Kerala Panchayati Raj Act, under Sectoral Functions of Panchayats, provides for management and promotion of reading rooms and libraries. The subject of library comes under the purview of the Development Standing Committee of Local Bodies. In the modern age, Libraries are recognized as the Knowledge Centres. It is the primary responsibility of every Knowledge Centre to deliver right knowledge to right person at right time. If it fails in this task, it becomes a developmental issue. Both the rural and urban local governments in Kerala have their own Libraries. Nevertheless, they are either in a closed state or functioning in conventional methods. This state of affair offers hurdles to the local bodies

in the sense that they are at a loss to provide information to the people in increasing their knowledge level as well as to handle them as dead asset to the local bodies.

Unlike other sectors, the local bodies bestow little attention to the development and services of their Libraries. In order to critically evaluate the effectiveness of Libraries run by the GramaPanchayats, Municipalities and Corporations in the state and to suggest measures for their improvement, a study was conducted taking into consideration the perspective of the Librarians. The study was conducted taking the whole full time working Librarians of the Local Government Libraries in the State as purposive sample.

The methodology adopted was survey and tools employed were structured questionnaire and interview. The

analysis of data has revealed the dismal and feeble conditions of the libraries in terms of their collection, services, infrastructure, staff etc. The lethargic and cold attitude on the part of the local bodies has made these public spheres remained *bonsai* in nature. Lack of fund has weakened the functioning of these people's universities.

The findings of the study calls for the coordinated initiative of local bodies, librarian, officials and policy decisions of the government to regain the past of these temples of knowledge. Above all the people in the area should be sensitized with the concept of library marketing.

Interstate Migrants In Kerala

Megha Madhavan E.V.

Migration is considered as the movement of persons from one geographical unit another across an administrative or political border based on certain specific intentions. Interstate migration defined as the movement of people from their place of residence to state other than that of birth. Recently Kerala became a hub of migrant people due to the large inflow of migrant workers from other states. In Kerala, wage rate is comparatively higher than other states in India. This is one of the reasons for the attraction to Kerala. There are several push and pull factors behind it.

Migration is a more more complex issue in Kerala. More than twenty-five lakh interstate migrants are staying in Kerala. They are engaged in several fields. It is interesting to note that the naive people in Kerala are migrate to other countries in search of job. The migrants to Kerala are compensating the absence of Kerala people, to a greater

extent. At present, in Kerala the migrants have become inevitable part of the Kerala society. But the socio-economic conditions of the migrants in Kerala are found to be very poor in terms of educational facilities for the children, health services, housing, sanitation, etc. They are vulnerable to the basic services which is the primary responsibility of local bodies. In this context, the present study looks into the various institutional mechanisms for protecting the entitlements and welfare measures.

Based on the analysis the study concludes with some pragmatic suggestions as policy measures. It may be observed that even the basic services which are mandatory series of local self governments are not provided to the migrant people in Kerala. Local governments have to take into account these people also while they plan for economic development and social justice.

Employment and Poverty Reduction: MGNREGA in Ganderbal District of Jammu and Kashmir

Mehrag ud Din Bhat

Since independence employment generation and poverty reduction has been the principal concern of planning in India. The MGNREGS is a right-based and demand-driven scheme being implemented in the country with the motive to enhance the entitlement and productive capacity of the vulnerable sections of the society.

These schemes are meaningful only when deserving households get work on time, receive wages within reasonable time period and have impact on the poverty status and employment generation of rural households. In this paper, an attempt will be made to examine the performance of

MGNREGA during 2006/07-2015/16 in Ganderbal District of Jammu and Kashmir. The paper especially looks into the problems involved into the implementation process of the Act. It argues that in its present avatar the scheme is faced with multiple problems on the ground, which if not addressed properly will defeat the whole purpose of the Act.

While MGNREGA has had positive impact on the poorer sections of society, however, in its present avatar the scheme is faced with multiple problems on the ground, which if not addressed properly will defeat the whole purpose of the Act.

Eradication of Poverty: Issues of Social Exclusion and Unemployment in South Asia

Mohamed Rafeek KP

1. This paper aims to delineate the magnitude of abject poverty in South Asia along with depicting the major constraints in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
2. It is the prime objective of the paper to present employment (pragmatic, not technical) as a means to eradicate poverty from South Asia
2. This study would like to suggest some pragmatic measures which can be implemented to mitigate this hazardous situation of chronic poverty in South Asia with an emphasis on India condition.

Methodology

Deploying both qualitative and quantitative methods of research the study analyses various rationales behind the prevailing poverty in the region and will present some tables from authentic sources as testimonials for the claims

made in the paper which help to convey the message adequately. It is not a pure ethnographic or exclusive quantitative study, rather a theoretically oriented depiction which picks up illustrations from the field and narrate it at particular contexts wherever it suits.

Analysis and Conclusion

At the very outset this study will define and distinguish absolute poverty, relative poverty and mass poverty and will focus on absolute poverty as a case of fervid attention to be yielded by policy makers and officials throughout the South Asian countries. Unemployment as a major constraint to poverty reduction will be elaborated and the rationales behind this pathetic situation will be described. Recognizing social exclusion and gender disparity as the two key factors behind the perpetual backwardness of South Asian society the study also suggests some crucial innovative steps to be applied in the

poverty alleviation programmes and advancement can be deployed as tools
discusses how employment in in the process of eradicating poverty in
pragmatic sense and technological South Asia.

Inter-State Disparities: A Challenge Ahead to Inclusive Growth of India

Mohammad Rafi Bhat and Iqra Mukhtar

Since its independence, Indian states have experienced different degree and pace of economic growth, where some states are forerunner in terms of economic growth and some others languishing at the back. In India, regional disparity has been one of the major concerns before policy makers and planners. There had been a huge gap between active and vibrant regions and hinterland during pre-independence period in terms of accessibility of amenities and this has resulted in the form of unequal levels of development both in terms of economic and human. After independence, decrease in inter-state disparities has been emphasized during successive Five Year Plans, but the problem continued unabated.

The World Bank (2008) in its recent release "The Growth Report Strategies for sustained Growth and Inclusive

Development" has mentioned that disparity in income distribution in India has risen during 1993-2005. The Draft Eleventh Five Year Plan 2007-2012, vol. I), has also admitted that regional disparities have continued to grow and the gap have been accentuated as the benefits of economic growth have been largely confined to the better developed areas.

The consequences include the erosion of democratic governance, the pulling apart of social cohesion, and the vanishing of equal opportunities for all. Unless bold political solutions are instituted to curb the influence of wealth on politics, governments will work for the interests of the rich, while economic and political inequalities continue to rise. As US Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis famously said, 'We may have democracy, or we may

have wealth concentrated in the hands of the few, but we cannot have both.

The present study has been undertaken against this backdrop. In order to accomplish the task, inter-state disparity in total as well as per capita Indian states for the period 1980-2002

has been examined with the help of inequality indices. Widening gap in terms of income among rich and poor states, especially after 1991 has this is indeed an alarming situation and a potential threat for stability of a federation like India.

Women Participation in Village Governance and Development: A Study on Tagaramphung Women Society in Manipur

Moses Maguipuinamei

This paper brings out the structure, functions and contributions of Tagaramphung Thangal women society. Tagaramphung Women society was chosen as the subject for the study because it is the oldest women society within the Thangal tribe. As a village institution it has determined its own agenda of development and function as an autonomous organization. Direct interview was conducted with the chairperson and the executive members of Tagaramphung Village Women Society. Moreover secondary data were collected from the Annual General Meeting record and the souvenir published by Women Society to commemorate their fifty years of establishment.

The study established that the Tagaramphung Woman Society is a registered organization under the Indian Societies Registration Act of 1860. The

structure of the Tagaramphung women societies are categorized into three groups based on the marital status and the age of the women. The unmarried women form an exclusive category known as *Anlamii*; the married group is known as *Ranpii*; and the older age group of women knows as *Kalappuimii*. In ethnically violent and militarized zone like Manipur where the Armed Forces power Act empowers the army to torture and murder civilians by masquerading as encounter, women society played a major role in preventing many oppressive acts of the army and maintained peace and security in the village. The main contributions of the women society is in the field of social welfare and charity measures during natural calamities and ethnic violence. The contribution of Tagaramphung during the Naga-Kuki conflict of 1997-1999 is highly acknowledged.

In the village election the women equal voting rights with the male counterpart and enjoy equal opportunities to be elected as representatives in the village committees. Moreover women society participates actively in the village administration by attending the Half Yearly and Annual General Body Meeting of the village and the Church. They bring in constructive suggestions before the villagers' committee and ensure transparency and disclosure of village finance statement during the village assembly. At the economic front, the Tagaramphung women society initiated community employment programme by sanctioning small amount of loan to the village textile weavers and invested capital for ginger pickle manufacturing plant at the village. Thus women society as an institution holds, commands and exercises power in executive and legislative spheres of village administration.

Decentralisation and Democratisation of Health Amongst Select districts of Maharashtra

Mrudul Nile

The objective of the paper is to assess whether the primary health care centres are responding to the needs of people. The question is whether the budgets that are available are leading to capacity building in terms of infrastructure and facilities. In terms of lived realities the needs of people may often not be satisfied with abysmal infrastructure and lack of facilities such as the absence of X-ray machines or medicines, which are basic needs. The absence of trained medical personnel makes the situation worse, as even the minimal infrastructure that is available cannot be put to effective use. The health centres are expected to give facilities for free to citizens.

However, since facilities do not exist, citizens are forced to access health care from private providers at high costs. There are private facilities which open

up near the health care centres, which are relatively better equipped. The citizens are forced to make use of these facilities and pay high user fees for the same. Consequently, citizens from Dalit and tribal communities are denied the right to health, which is an important part of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).

While this is an important objective, the question to be asked is whether this is a core public health objective that a Primary Health Care centre (PHC) can pursue. An objective such as this only reiterates the dependence of the PHC on other agencies of the state. Also, this is a narrow technocratic view of the state where health is reduced to medicines. Such an objective also creates dependency among people rather than empowering them to intervene to assert their rights about health.

Right to Livelihood: A Case Study of Beggars in Aurangabad; Maharashtra

Muktar Ahmad Arif Shaikh

Begging is a major problem in India. Indian constitution guaranteed various rights to every Indian citizen. Despite these written guarantees, we found lot of discrepancy in practical life. Despite rapid economic growth & inclusive development, India has not able to eradicate this problem. In unpublished data of 2001 census, that there were 7.03 lakh beggars and vagrants.

The objective of this study is to find out socio-economic profile of beggars, to explore whether they are aware & access to various government schemes designed for them. The study would also analyze & asses various rehabilitation schemes implemented by local government administration for this marginalized community.

The present field study was conducted on primary data of one hundred beggars, using random sampling method, in Aurangabad City of

Maharashtra state in India. Interview and observation tools were used. The interview has been conducted at Central Bus Stand, Gajanan Maharaj Temple, Jama Masjid & Aurangabad Railway Station of Aurangabad city. The present study is based on secondary data and information collected from the variety of sources like books, newspaper, articles & websites etc.

It has been found that right to livelihood to this section has been continuously denied & they are always humiliated by the society. They use to capitalize their disability & religious sentiments of the other people. Local governments are not serious towards their right to food, right to shelter & specially right to health. The schemes such as Shraavanbal Yojana, common orphanages, old age homes, and shelter homes are established by the government, but are not operational as per standards & inadequate in number.

Migrant Labours in Ernakulam District, Kerala: A Study on Identity and Human Rights

Navas M Khadar

This study examines the dimensions of migrant labourers in Kerala society with focus on special migrant locations like Perumbavoor, Angamali etc in Ernakulam District. A major dimension of speciality is the fact that the 'other state migrant population exceeds the local population. The local business and allied social and cultural activities are also influenced to accommodate the needs and tastes of migrants. The present study examines how the workers assess their experiences in leading a life with guarantees of rights. Based on the results of this survey, the study will further see how the state and other agencies in the host state of Kerala respond to reduce the vulnerability of migrant workers. An effort to make an assessment of a pioneering welfare scheme for migrant workers introduced by the Kerala government is also attempted.

The study calls for better coordination among host state of Kerala and states of origin to ensure that the migrant workers' rights are assured during the course of migration. It seeks to argue that the Central Government also should consider 'migration' as criteria for allocation of resources to different states. The study also observes that a strategy to reach out to migrant workers coming from diverse backgrounds and different languages has to be introduced as the social strategy, by the law enforcement agencies or the public service providers, which can deal with issues of lack of communication between migrants and the locals.

This research examines the dimensions of migrant workers in Kerala, a state in India known for its social development and implementation of social protection mechanisms for labourers.

Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) and the Business Correspondent Model: Banking Innovation for Financial Inclusion of Women

Naveen Kolloju

Owing to the wide spread financial exclusion both in terms of inaccessibility and unavailability of banking services, financial inclusion - banking to all - has become a key policy concern for the Government of India. It is believed that continuous exclusion of the poor, particularly women from the institutional banking system has not only perpetuated economic inequalities but also inhibited their growth. In this regard, the Government of India has been implementing various policies and programmes to address financial exclusion from time-to-time.

Recently, the Indian Government has come up with another initiative, namely the Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) in the year 2014. The scheme is primarily intended to financially empower people by opening bank accounts in every household and

providing various basic banking services. It is going to be of special benefit to the rural women who are hitherto financially excluded from the institutional banking system.

The Indian government, apart from various policies and programmes, has also come up with an innovative model in the realm of banking sector, i.e., Business Correspondent (BC) model. This model, seen as a 'branchless banking', primarily aims at providing affordable banking facility to the unbanked population where bank branches are not available. This model is increasingly aided by technology such as point of service handheld devices, mobile phones and biometric scanners. In relation to implementation of the PMJDY scheme, the Indian Government considered the Business Correspondent (BC) model is an important strategy and a potential

contributor for successful implementation of the scheme.

In this context, this paper, based on the primary and secondary sources of data, attempts to discuss the concept of financial inclusion and highlights its importance. It introduces the PMJDY scheme and discusses its objectives, benefits and its progress. As central to the study, the paper critically examines the potentialities of the BC model

(which is considered as an innovation in the banking system) and interrogates the feasibility of the PMJDY scheme through this model.

The paper concludes by highlighting the operational challenges of the PMJDY scheme and the BC model. This paper advocates and proposes for the promotion of 'Self-Help Group women' as 'Business Correspondents'.

Surviving on Borrowed Plumes? Kerala's Maneuvering with Fourteenth CFC Grants for Local Bodies

Nisha Velappan Nair

The Fourteenth Finance Commission grants for local bodies are expected to be additional to the funds that state governments devolve to the local bodies. The Tenth Central Finance Commission, which began the grants to local bodies, had also envisaged it in that manner. Three of the four SFCs of Kerala had adhered to this view. The fourth SFC headed by M A Oommen, however, fixed 25% of the plan funds of the state as the minimum level of devolution to be enhanced to 30% progressively over a five-year period after pooling the CFC grants for local bodies also, thereby making the CFC grants an integral part of Kerala's devolution package. This has led to a substantial reduction in the burden of the state government in financial devolution.

Further, the 14th CFC grants are meant for the first tier local bodies alone and need to be spent on core functions for

which planning is necessary. The study will look into the proportion of funds the four SFCs that have submitted their reports had recommended. The first did not recommend any definite percentage and it was the State Planning Board that came up with devolution of 35 to 40% of plan funds to local bodies. The second SFC suggested 33% excluding state-sponsored schemes, but was not accepted by the state as such a stipulation was found redundant since enough funds were devolved any way. The third SFC did not recommend any specific percentage of plan funds, but only recommended that the funds should be used optimally arguing that mere mentioning of a certain percentage does not have much significance. It also suggested increase in grants of 10% each year.

The fourth SFC suggested 25% in the first year to be increased every year so

as to reach a figure of 30% in the fifth year. This figure is yet to be realized and the devolution remains pegged at 25%. Given the fact that the new SFC is now finalising its report at a time of austerity, it is likely to take its cue from the fourth SFC and suggest the continued reliance on central funds for local government plan financing. A beginning has been made in this line during 2015-16 by

transferring the 14th CFC grants as an installment of plan grants devolved routinely.

This is likely to confuse the local bodies. This paper will examine some of the issues arising from the clubbing of the CFC grants with state's own funds and the imperatives of the 14th CFC recommendations.

Akshaya: Key driver of Local governance

Nishitha Pankan and Dr. N. Radhakrishnan

Indian economy is one of the fastest growing economies of the world. It have introduced promising economic policies which have converted the image of Indian economy into an emerging one. E-governance is one of those policies which helped to reduce the facets of Indian economy such as population explosion, illiteracy, geographical disparity etc. Among the Indian states, the serious improvements in socio-economic indicators are shown in Kerala which have been the results of its unique features in the field of education, health, service sector, agriculture, food safety, welfare programmes, HDI etc coupled with e-governance policy. The application of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to the governance is usually termed as e-Governance.

Akshaya is one of the foremost e-governance projects in the state of

Kerala renowned for e-governance and efficient public service delivery. This paper attempts to show case e-governance project that have taken off in the state of Kerala. It will analyse how Akshaya e-centres have helped to tackle the problem of digital divide in the state. Further the paper will discuss the role of Akshaya e-centres in decentralisation and inclusive governance. For the realisation of objectives of the study both primary and secondary data have used.

Primary data have collected from 80 beneficiaries of Akshaya e-centres of Kannur district of Kerala. Secondary data have been collected from various sources including a range of articles, journals, government official websites, NIC, District Akshaya office, Kannur, Kerala etc., Simple mathematical tools like averages and percentages will be used to analyse the data; and graphs, charts etc have used to present the data

and also necessary statistical tests have been applied to test the hypotheses. The statistical package namely Microsoft Excel, SPSS, etc have been used for the analysis of data. From the study of Akshaya e-centres of Kannur district of Kerala, as looked from the beneficiary's point of view, it was found that the Akshaya e-centres have helped to attain the goals of good governance and act as

a tool of better service delivery platform for the citizens.

It have been concluded that e-Governance plays a vital role in the economic development of Kerala as it helps to cater dramatic changes in the economic, social and political life and is exterminated for eliminating digital divide and as a key driver of inclusive governance and decentralisation.

Public Participation in Grama Sabha

Niveditha M.A.

One of the key features of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act has been the role assigned to the Gram Sabha, 'the assembly of the citizen voters' as a deliberative and deciding body. In this manner an element of direct democracy is introduced at the lowest level. *Article 243 A* of the Indian Constitution provides that a *gram sabha* may exercise such powers and perform such functions at the village level as the legislature of a state may, by law, provide. That is one way to broaden downward accountability as well.

Grama Sabhas has been given a vital role to play in improving the service delivery mechanism in rural areas. Through a meeting of Grama Sabha the felt needs of the community are identified. The decisions are minuted and forwarded to the Local Governments. Each meeting is chaired by the elected member and has an

official as its co ordinator. It is the basic fora of participatory democracy.

The active participation of the people with the elected representatives in the decision making and administration makes the system more transparent .Also the responsibility and commitment of the representatives shows an affirmative result. They will be more accountable to people and society at large. The Supreme Court's judgment in Vedanta Mining Company case in Odisha¹ is the clear indictment of Tribal Affairs and Panchayati Raj; the judgment re-affirms the authority of Grama Sabha in those villages to decide whether to allow mining in their ancestral holy land or not.. There is a need to evolve mechanisms for regular and meaningful meeting of the Grama Sabha, active participation of its members and monitoring its functioning.

Stop Corruption in Myanmar

Nyo Mar Than

In Myanmar we are facing so many corruption by the government officer and authorities' persons. According to Corruption perception Index in Myanmar.

And In Myanmar Government formed the Conplain Mechanisms for about the anti-corruption all of the members are from the Government Authorities are most corrupted person, that why How can we reduce the corruption in Myanmar.

Our Spectrum did the research for the Corruption situation in Myanmar's NGOs, CBOs, INGOs and UN Agencies. In that research which Ministries are most corrupt in Myanmar, according to the research, we find out the most corrupt Ministry is the Political Person who have power and authority.

Whatever in Myanmar we have the policy for the Corruption, but that laws are death and not force in that laws. So we are trying to improve and force to that laws. The problems are Government Policies have to cover the corrupt person.

We don't have "rights to information Laws"?

So our organization trying to improve the awareness for the anti-corruption to the Interfaith Leaders, Youth Leaders, Community Leaders, Local and Township Authorities and Governments Officers to reduce the corruption in Myanmar especially for the Education Sector, Health Sector and Policies leaders.

How affect for the reduce corruption and how are the development for the Children and Yotuh.

In Myanmar, If we have the “Rights To Information Laws” we can do easily to stop the corruption. Now we are trying to get this laws from the new Government. Hopefully coming new government we can get this laws in Myanmar.

For the Corruption Wash Groups and Complain Mechanisms will be done completely in the anti-corruption process in Myanmar. That why we are trying to engage to the coming new governments.

A Study on Perceptions of Persons with Intellectual Disability on Employment

Pandurang M.Aloorkar

The present paper aims to find out the perceptions of Persons with Intellectual Disability with regard to employment.

To fulfil the objectives, descriptive research design was used with survey method. The sample for the present study consists of 40 Adults with Intellectual Disability undergoing vocational training in different special schools in Goa. The age ranges of sample were 18 years and above. Random sampling technique was used to collect the sample. The mode of data collection was interview method and from each of the four special schools; ten samples were drawn out. One- to- one interview was conducted with each of the participant in a separate classroom/ recreational room in order to elicit information to meet the purpose of the study.

It is indicated that the adults articulated about plans of having a job once their vocational training get completed.

Financial independence, luxurious life, supporting parents and getting good education were the main reasons cited by the participants for pursuing a job. The study emphasized the fact that the transition planning must take into account the student's preferences and interests and there is a need to restructure transitional planning while adapting the changes that meets the needs of Persons with Intellectual Disability.

The current study demonstrates the participants' views regarding their planning for future aspirations. The value of employment for people with ID is well documented by the relationships they develop and get acquainted with other people and the identity they build which is related to where they work and what they do at work. Furthermore, adults with Intellectual Disability require continuous guidance to translate their dreams into reality.

Striving to Survive - The Degeneration of Care with Respect to the elderly

Ms. Prabhavathi Prabhakaran

India has the second highest population of elderly people in the world, which is projected to rise to 12% of the total population by 2020. Therefore, under some definitions, we are an 'ageing population'. In India, the proportion of the elderly has risen from 5.63 per cent in 1961 to 8.3 per cent in 2012.

The paper points out the reasons for the decline of status of the aged population in the Indian context and the emotional and social alienation that has ensued in the process. Further, it looks into the general preparedness or rather unpreparedness of the society to face the situation and the need to come up with empathic caring solutions that would show an evolved and humane

face to the issues that confront the senior citizens.

The paper concludes with how local care agencies like Anganwadis and ASHA can introduce a framework of social and medical well being among the elderly so as to promote coherent, effective, and more inclusive partnerships among all relevant stakeholders. The focus of national policy, in the current milieu, of a developing nation like India, with the majority of its population aged 30 or less, is perforce directed to the basic developmental needs and welfare of children, adolescents and young adults and the problems and issues of its aging population occupy the back-seat.

Social Exclusion in Decentralisation: Special Reference to Tribal Sub Plan

Prathap Singh AS

Democracy is the best form of government in the world. It is the most accepted form of governance. In India, at first there were only two sets of governments, i.e., Central Government and State Government. These are otherwise known as representative forms of government. With the introduction of 73rd and 74th Amendments in the Constitution of India in 1992, a third tier of governance, i.e., local government came into existence. This was made a remarkable change in the history of India. Decentralisation of power paved the way for people's participation in the governance system. People's participation in governance can ensure efficient administration. Empowerment of people is possible only through active participation of people in the governance. It provides equal opportunity for every individual irrespective of caste, colour, creed, region, and class. Three five year plans

were completed in Kerala since the introduction of decentralization in the state through Peoples Plan Campaign (Janakeeyasoothranam). The assumption behind the introduction of Peoples Plan Campaign was that the people, especially the marginalized, will get due space in local governance and development. In Kerala, it is praised that it includes all the people in the decision making process and development activities are taken place through these types of participation. If so, the tribals who are historically excluded from the development sphere would have been benefited. There was also focus on tribal development through TSP. However, the socio-economic data of tribals depicts a black picture. Why is it so? What are the reasons for these sad states of affairs despite the TSP and similar initiatives? There are not many studies for the answers to these questions on exclusion. Hence the present study.

A Study on Role of Rural Women in Sustainable Agro-based Enterprise Development

Pradeep Kumar Panda

The present study is on Sustainable Agro-based Enterprise Development in Salumber and Sarada blocks of Udaipur. Objective of the study was to assess and evaluate role of rural women in enterprise development along with throwing light of issues and challenges of sustainable livelihood and development.

Study reveals that 80% of the population is rural, while 49% are Scheduled Tribes. In Udaipur, agriculture is supported by two Canals, Jaysamand and Daya. While 124 villages are irrigated by Jaysamand's Canal, about 30 villages are irrigated by Daya Dam's Canal. Udyogini's intervention lay in the villages Salumber and Sarada blocks outside of Udaipur. These two

blocks which primarily did vegetable cultivation were known collectively as the tomato cluster of Udaipur.

Innovative agriculture practices and marketing can be replicated in other regions for fruitful results. Respondents in the interviews made it clear that their ability to communicate with outsiders and to express their point of view in avenues like agriculture has seen a remarkable progress. Thus we do see that women consider that their respect in family and society has increased. To understand it from a broader perspective, the leading change from this intervention has been an increase in income and skill, which has started to filter down as respect within the family and community.

MGNREGA and Labor Market Dynamics: A Study of Villages Harda Madhya Pradesh

Prakash Chandra Dilare

This study makes an attempt to demonstrate the impact of MGNREGA with special reference to its likely impact on poverty reduction in the Harda district of Madhya Pradesh. The four villages Bori, Raibor, Jharpa and Kukravad of two blocks Timarani and Harda in Harda district of Madhya Pradesh State constitute the universe of the study. Two blocks one which was best performed (Harda) and another one which was least performed (Timarani) were identified on the basis of their performance in MGNREGA from the performance list collected from the Harda District Headquarter of Madhya Pradesh. Further two villages one which was best performed (Raibor and Kukravad) and another one which was least performed (Bori and Jharpa) were identified from each block (Timarani and Harda respectively) on the basis of their performance in MGNREGA in the current year.

A structured interview schedule was constructed and administered to each household to collect the responses from the selected villages. The Act is particularly a tool of empowerment for the most vulnerable sections of the village communities as they are also victims of social exclusion and political marginalization. Access to a job is not a panacea. Healthy growth rates, environmental sustainability, decent work conditions, and a government that safeguards public good provisioning on a permanent base and strives for universal entitlements are key ingredients for a humane, caring economy. But for the poor and ultra poor willing to work and not having access to a job, public inaction constitutes social assignment of some to extreme hardship, poverty, and social exclusion. In total it can be said that MGNREGA has the potential to challenge poverty in the future.

Decentralized Governance and Education in India: The Status of Children of Migrant Labour

Prakash Chittoor

The current research aims to understand the role of grassroots planning and decentralization in achieving universalisation of primary education. Especially, the research focuses on the participation of migrant labourers in the planning and execution of schooling system and its impact on the children and their education.

Based on the field research which is conducted in Hyderabad, Telangana, it is found that the children of migrant labour face extreme difficulties to access basic education in the areas where they migrate. While some of the parents do participate in the PTAs as a formality, due to lack of awareness about the functioning of the committee, they are unable to perform their roles and responsibilities. Whereas the remaining parents have no idea about the

committees and they have shown least concern for their children education. Accordingly, it is found that the parent's participation in PTAs has significant influence on the functioning of the school and the education of the children. Children opinion that their education has been negatively affected by the migration, whereas the teachers expressed various difficulties to mobilize various stakeholders in the process. Altogether, this proposed paper contributes quite significantly to the literature by brining various new dimensions in the implementation of RTE.

In the end, the paper offers policy suggestions to enhance decentralized planning and enrich scope for reaching out to the migrant children with provision of basic education.

Sustainable Livelihoods, Micro enterprises and Environmental Issues: An Analysis from West Bengal

Pralay Mal

Micro enterprises play a very important role for the development of local people in socio-economic perspective in rural, urban and r-urban area in West Bengal. In Hugli District of West Bengal, micro enterprises help to change the per-capita income status of the marginal workers, women and needy persons and eradicate the poverty, create employment in large scale. These not only influence the livelihoods of the people but also manipulate the environment in both positive and negative manner.

This paper focused on two micro enterprises- poultry framing and nursery gardens to identify the change of life status of the involver and how much surrounding environment is degrading by poultry framing and flourishing by nursery gardens. Also the

recent growth rates of these enterprises have to be finding out.

The whole work is based on primary data collected through the field survey to the tune of 50 poultry framing and nursery gardens as well as 200 households surrounded the enterprises in 6 Gram Panchayets under Balagarh Block, Hugli District in West Bengal. The collected quantitative data has analyzed through Excel and SPSS software to examine the comparative information of livelihoods (income, skills, good health, employment and network between rural and urban area) and environmental vulnerability context (natural shocks in air, water etc.). Also qualitative methods applied to show perception index about intensification, diversification and migration of the surrounding people of these enterprises.

Institution, Politics and Development: A Case Study of Kalpetta Municipality

Priya Ramesh

In the recent times in order to manage urban development, India has embraced governance reforms, especially in democratic decentralization and private participation. Consonant with the fuzzy nature of governance, such reforms engender new institutional configurations consisting of a multiplicity of actors with subtly different interests, capabilities and mandates (Coelho *et.al.*, 2011). The multiplicity of actors with different interests has an impact on service delivery, participation and social development in an area.

The nature of political competition within the municipality affects the performance, a consensual competition within the councillors is likely to yield a better performing government than when the government has high conflicts among them. This also affects the

accountability and responsiveness of local government and clientelism is a frequent result (Jones *et.al.*, 2014) and this is especially at low levels of development and when the credibility of political competitors is low (Keefer, 2002). This kind of political culture and bureaucratic culture characterised by rigid hierarchies and procedural complexities undermine the potential of decentralisation by demoralising people from using formal channels of claim-making (Chandra, 2006).

The objective of the paper is to analyse and explore how political influence and lack of institution capacities in a municipality can have a positive or negative impact on the development and participation of people in small urban towns in India. This papers aims to unpack these aspects with respect to Kalpetta Municipality, Wayanad, Kerala.

Importance of Education and Ethics in Local Governance: An Exploratory Study

Priyanka Garg

India can be called as democratic country in true sense only when it ensures participatory involvement from local community in policy formation and decision making. Panchayat Raj is on the best example reflecting involvement of common people in governance. In panchayat raj system representatives are chosen from local community people. Government has decentralised most of the power at village level for ensuring overall development of society. Now most of the local decisions involving planning, development plans, construction work, financial decisions etc are taken at local level through elected representatives. But there is another side of coin too. In many cases, elected candidates are not capable to make and implement appropriate policies for the welfare of society. There are many cases of injustice and fraud from all over the country.

The issue of ineffective local governance at village level is more serious in

Haryana state. Newly elected government soon recognized that lack of education and ethical practices among elected representatives are the main hurdles in the path of good governance in panchayat raj system. Haryana government came with revolutionary idea of fixing minimum education criteria and code of ethics for candidates contesting in panchayat elections.

The main objective of paper is to study the Haryana Panchayati Raj (Amendment) Act, 2015. The paper will also highlight the role of academic qualification and ethical practices in local governance. Researcher will try to present the concern of local people regarding amended bill. The primary data for the study will be collected with the help of discussion and interview method with government representatives, community people and contesting representatives.

Decentralization with Employment Generation Really matter for Poverty Reduction

Raghava Das Gorle

The contribution of the growth process to poverty reduction does not depend only on the rate of economic growth, but also on the ability of the poor to respond to the increasing demand for labor in the more productive categories of employment. In this paper the research focuses given upon the importance of employment for poverty reduction, job-creation should occupy a central place in national poverty reduction strategies. Many employment strategies are often related to agricultural and rural development and include using labor-intensive agricultural technologies, developing small and medium-size enterprise, and promoting micro projects in rural areas. Many strategies promote self-employment, non-farm employment in rural areas, targeted employment interventions microfinance and credit as means of employment generation, skill formation and training.

Such strategies, however, often address the quantity of employment while the qualitative dimensions, such as equity, security, dignity and freedom are often absent or minimal. In general notional poverty reduction strategies including poverty reduction strategies do not comment on employment programmers, social protection or rights at work. Neither do they offer in depth analyses of the effects of policies on poverty reduction. In the short run, while the overall employment intensity of growth does not matter for poverty reduction, the sectorial pattern of employment growth and productivity growth is important. While employment intensive growth in the secondary sector appears to be associated with decreases in poverty, employment intensive growth in agriculture increases poverty. Similarly productivity intensive growth in

agriculture is associated with poverty reduction.

This paper concludes by suggesting a social perspective on development emphasizes the view that the best route to social-economic development, poverty eradication and personal wellbeing is through decent work. Productive employment opportunities will contribute substantially to achieving the internationally agreed development goals. There should be a focus on creating better and more productive jobs, particularly those that

can absorb the high concentrations of working poor. Among the necessary elements for creating such jobs are investing in labor intensive industries, especially agriculture, encouraging a shift in the structure of employment to higher productivity occupations and sectors, and upgrading job quality in the informal.

In addition, there should also be a focus on providing poor people with the necessary skills and assets that will enable them to take full advantage of any expansion in employment potential.

Performance of Local Governments and Health : A study of Chembilode Grama Panchayat

Rahiyath C & Dr. K. Gangadharan

Health is a major public good, its quality depends upon socio-economic conditions and it is regarded as a merit good in the sense that all citizens with in the country should have an acceptable level of access and utilization of health services. Decentralization has been identified as a means of achieving health equity in many reform initiatives across the world, it may be perceived as a tool for change in the regime of health sector reform initiatives underway striving to maximize the use of scarce resources in meeting the ever increasing demand for health. One of the objectives of decentralization in Kerala was to strengthen the public health care networks and improve the quality of public health service delivery.

Decentralization helps welfare gains in the distribution of health services by facilitating to take regional measures for health challenges. As epidemiological

pattern varies from region to region, health sector is best in the hands of local governments, especially the Grama Panchayats. They are the bottom level and most resourceful authorities. Health care expenditure is an important task as far as grama panchayats are concerned. They can understand and evaluate the health conditions of the people and better management of health services with the involvement of local peoples.

In this context the present study has been proposed to analyze the trend and pattern of health care expenditure in Grama Panchayats of Kerala. One of the best performing Panchayat of Kerala, Chembilode has been selected for the study. The study is based on secondary sources of information which collected from Sulekha and Information Kerala Mission.

Livelihood and Micro-Enterprises

Rahul Pradhan

Identifying the aspirations of the young entrepreneur and understanding the imbroglio situation faced by them is an important role played by government in solving this menace faced by them. The root cause can be traced to financial institutions including factors like inferior raw materials, obsolete machinery, and lack of skilled labours. Well, all these factors are inter-related and come under the purview of financial cause. This group of people are actually entrepreneurs who are leaders in their fields respectively. Since, this committee is diverse in the kind of occupation hence they have a varied idea in dealing with the aspirations of the people and what they expect from the entrepreneurs. This committee will learn about the problems faced by the people and how and in what manner they need help or assistance from the government. The committee will meet at least once in a month or more

according to the hour of the need. The committee will be available at block, district and state level.

The main objective will be to make awareness about the need for entrepreneurships and the how to deal with the problems that are imminent. This is required people at village level are unaware of the kind of loans and the procedure to apply for loans and how to start. People at village although are willing to do micro-entrepreneurship but are not able just because they feel it's a work done by people born with silver spoon in the mouth. So, the committee will encourage people and make them expose to the various energy saving machineries. They will also make the residents aware about the benefits and all. The committee will be beneficial to its members because they will get

expose to different marketing strategies and hence can enhance their ability to adapt to the situations and become adept in that. The district level committee will govern the block level hence better entrepreneurs or more established entrepreneurs will be able to advice, them. This whole process too continues to state level too. Blaming the banks is not at all a perspicacious understanding of the problem. Knowing the ground reality is important.

The present livelihood of the micro-entrepreneurs is deplorable since they were not aware of proper policies available by SIDBI banks and hence they brought cheap quality of raw materials from merchants at an exorbitant price. This can be stopped and the furtherance of such steps by entrepreneurs can be prevented. The committee will be looked up by the government. Several acts should be passed so as to legislate it and bring it into force as it is the hour of the need.

Participation of Marginalized Communities in Local Self Governance and Development Process: A Comparative Study of Araya and Paniya in Kerala

Rajeesh C.S.

The active and deliberate participation of people and involvements of officials in the local self governing bodies have been considered as inevitable in the successful vindication of any development programmes and policies at the community level. Mutual interactions and balanced involvements of both service providers and beneficiaries could bring desired results in the governing system and society. The core intends of delegation, decentralization and devolution of powers to the governing bodies and governed is to promote and sustain the process of development at the community level and make the system more accountable and transparent to the needs of people. The past experiences and experiments on panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) had shown us that the level of involvement on development process by local government bodies and the community are enormously increasing. But at the same time, the involve-

ment of local bodies and participation of people is minimal in areas where marginalized communities are more demographically habituated. Consequently, it adversely impacted the core concepts of panchayati raj system—community development and people's participation. On the contrary, the less involvement of local bodies and people in development paradigm makes the system more unaccountable and less transparent. It could be also read with people's participation in the political process or their affiliation with any political parties. It underlines the fact that development is a two way process: which requires active participation of people and positive involvement of local government bodies. This paper intends to examine the level of participation by Araya (fishing community) and Paniya (tribal community) communities in the development activities. It throws light on the amount of awareness about

the rights, duties and privileges that these communities are entitled in the panchayati raj system. In addition, this paper carries out an analytical explanation on the initiatives taken by local self governing bodies in accessing its services to the Araya and Paniya communities. As per the government records, Araya and Paniya communities have been identified as marginalized communities and belongs to the reserved categories, OEC and ST. A sample of 25 households has been selected from both communities. The study covered a fishing village, Padinjare Vemballur, locates in the coastal area of Thrissur district and a tribal community lives in Mullankolly panchayat of Wayanad district. Interviews with local self government officials and ward members have been done. The results show that most of the people in Araya community are affiliated with any of the major political parties in the region. It enhances people's participation in the development process and activities of their concerned administrative wards. But in the case of Paniya community, it is found that most of the members hardly participate in the development activities of their ward and neighborhood. Their political affiliation with any political parties is seemed to be minimal. The occupational natures of both these communities are also determining factors in measuring the level of their participation. This paper ends with some valuable suggestions to enhance both these communities participation in their area development plans.

Livelihood to Micro Enterprises- Raising the Sustainability and Employability Quotient

Rajeev Johari

This theoretical paper focuses on the significance of transformation of livelihood opportunities into micro and small enterprises in ensuring sustainable livelihoods to the poor. In the context of the labor absorbing micro enterprises, the paper emphasizes on the promotion of self help groups, SHG's, ferrets out the varied practical problems encountered by them and stresses on their enrichment. Rigorous promotion of self help groups and cooperatives can go a long way in meeting the survival needs of poor.

In order to maximize the outcome of micro enterprises inputs like credit, market accessibility, dissemination of information on raw material and technology, design inputs, product development, packaging, appropriate storage, accountancy and costing need to be given due attention. Sustainable livelihoods approaches call for

comprehending the varied dimensions of poverty per se and the varied approaches observed by poor people to ensure livelihoods.

The paper advocates the application of the most fruitful natural resource based livelihoods. Natural resource based micro enterprises as alternate means of livelihood are gaining significance given the state of climate degradation in the country and the world. They are cost effective and easy to learn. Through the much needed integrated watershed management approach all natural resources in the watershed territories in rural India are managed with utmost efficacy such that the rural livelihoods can be improved substantially through synthesis of various occupations including both agriculture and allied activities. Thorough research on livelihood conditions and technological requirements of every group observing

traditional livelihood options whose viability is at stake like fishing communities needs to be carried out so that appropriate interventions can be planned. Partnership amongst agriculture and allied activities appears to be increasing and it is posited that this growing partnership between agriculture and allied enterprises eventually should bring about positive implications for rural economy.

The paper highlights the importance of diversified production/ farming based livelihood tasks and calls for their active promotion. By diversifying and maximizing the productivity of agriculture system as a whole and catering to the land owners the benefits of the approach finally trickle down to landless agriculture labor, leased in farmers and share croppers as well. Non farm, food products and forest

based enterprises which carry high potential for value addition are able to create more jobs so they need to be actively pursued. When livelihood enterprises take the shape of the skill based growth oriented enterprises the goal of sustainable livelihoods becomes achievable. Policies formulation towards promotion of micro enterprises need to take into account easy availability of rural finance, required need based training, minimizing of problems associated with uncertain marketing system, ensuring effective pricing for goods and services generated, provision for adequate revolving fund, capacity building programs on new technologies, marketing avenues etc. Inception barriers and obstacles in the due course of operations need to be tackled so that more and more livelihood avenues get translated into successful enterprises.

Strengthening Local Governance for Social Service delivery

*Rajendra Baikady
Channaer RM*

Given the youth comprises half of the total population of India, it is critical that youth are represented & can participate in politics at all levels. Youth participation and engagement on issues related to politics, democracy, accountability and governance will help create an able generation of future leaders of the country. As the number of government schemes and direct pay-outs to beneficiaries increase, it is important to ensure that the citizenry is active and engaged in order to prevent leakages.

Furthermore, existing programmes such as those run by MoPR are focused on youth who are already elected

leaders or in some way associated with politics, rather than on bringing more youth into political systems. Civil society groups are working hard, often through partnerships with government, to bridge these gaps. However, without a coordinated push and clear youth focus, these programmes are unlikely to be sufficient to help bring youth into the folds of politics and promote civic engagement at all levels of governance. The study was conducted in Vidisha District of Madhya Pradesh, with the objective to learn and analyze youth participation in local governance at various levels and suggest for better improvement.

Role of Local Government and Human Security: Delampady Panchayat in Kasaragod

Rajesh S.P.

Human Security is a people centred concept it considered a broad range of condition which threaten survival, livelihood and dignity and identifies the threshold below which human life is intolerably threatened. Human security brings together the 'human elements' of security, rights and development. Human security is also based on a multi-sectoral understanding of insecurities. Therefore, human security entails a broadened understanding of threats and includes causes of insecurity relating for instance to economic (freedom from poverty), food (access of food), health (access of health care), environmental (Protection from degradation, pollution and assaults of wild animal), personal, community and political security.

Local Governments are expect to play important role in planning and implementing the various

developmental programmes and securing non military threats. The democratic decentralisation is also predicted upon the notion that greater participation in local political affairs will improve the quality and reach of the government service, particularly ones aimed at improving the lives of poor and politically marginalised groups of the society.

People of the Delampady Panchayat are threatened by a multitude of issues: People are threatened by poverty, famine, environmental degradation and assault of wild animal. Human security is "freedom from want" and "freedom from fear": positive and negative rights as they relate to threats to core individual needs. Delampady Gram Panchayat is an example of human security deficit.

Good Governance In Panchayati Raj System

Rajib Lochan Mishra

The issue of good governance in *panchayati raj* administration is gradually emerging as a key issue in the sphere of rural development. In this backdrop this paper tries to answer the following research questions: (a) Is failure in the rural governing system result into spread of corruption? (b) Is inadequate availability of basic services for the rural poor results in mal administration? (c) Is failure in tackling rural poverty results in bad governance?

Identifying major bottlenecks at the local governance level through consultative processes like group discussions, public hearings, developing participatory tools etc; Special efforts must be made to undertake training and awareness campaigns for Social Audit by Gram Sabhas. Simultaneously, the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs),

the Community Based Organisations (CBO s) and the civil society organisations (CSO s) should be given more space, to mobilise the local community in undertaking social audit.

Need to ensure closer networking with media and their engagement in creating public awareness and creating demand for good governance in PanchayatiRaj system. For ensuring rural development as well as eradication of rural poverty in a sustainable manner at the grassroot level, establishing good governance in *panchayati Raj* system should be a prerequisite. If rural governance policy is not framed properly and rural government structures as well as people's institutions are not set up properly - rural India will not be able to ensure a sustainable rural growth with equity and justice.

Decentralization and States of Devolution: SWOT analysis of PRIs in Bihar

*Rajiv Kumar Sinha, Sourav Kumar
Akansha Shipra*

With the passage of 73rd Amendment Act, people's participation in the process of (i) planning, (ii) decision-making, (iii) implementation and (iv) delivery system in rural India has been recognized. But, quite a good number of PRIs in Bihar have not shown significant result/performance in regard to and betterment of socio-economic conditions of rural people by **effectively using the**

In regard to devolution of powers and functions to Panchayats based on certain dimensions and indicators-Bihar's performance is quite lower than the national average. The mandatory nature of devolution as given in the 73rd Amendment Act comprised: (i) Framework (D1), (ii) Functions (D2), (iii) Finance (D3), (iv) Functionaries (D4), (v) Capacity Building (D5), (vi) Accountability (D6) and (vii) Overall Rank (D).

Despite efforts to strengthen the process of decentralization, **except D2**, BIHAR could show quite lower performances on indicators, viz.; D1, D3, D4, D5, D6 and D than the national averages during the year 2012-13. These were: 49.78, 19.40, 24.29, 42.01, 21.60 and 29.90 respectively.

In view of the eclipsed performance of PRIs, this paper seeks to address the following objectives:

To (i) Capture 'Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) of PRIs; and (ii) Suggest 'Observation-based Action Points'.

Besides available secondary data, the objectives in the paper will be addressed by undertaking case study of Lodipur Gram Panchayat under Sabour Block of Bhagalpur district (in Bihar). In addition to this, brief profiles of 05 more panchayats from different locations of

Bhagalpur district and 'instantly observed prevailing problems and their brief solutions' – may also be included in analysis. For this, recent series of 'Panchyat Survey Reports' being presently undertaken by "DanikJagran (Bhagalpur Edition)" will be used.

Problems of water logging, no construction of quality roads to different villages, inadequate number

of toilets, poor power supply, threat of larger area inundated by flood water almost every year, no distribution of Old Age Pension in quite a few Panchayats for the last few months- are revealed. Elected public representatives of PRIs need to be made aware of all on-going 'rural-development' and 'welfare programmes' – by professionals and scholars of the subjects/fields.

Functioning of Shinglup among the Loi community in Manipur: A case of Sekmai Loi, Imphal west District

Rakesh S. Khwairakpam

The paper attempts to trace the historical origins of Shinglup among the Loi community in Manipur, and also explores the functioning of Shinglup at Sekmai village of Manipur. Shinglup was one of the village organizations other than Keirup and Leirup that existed during the independent kingdom in Manipur. All the villagers were mandatory to be a member of these three organizations. Basically, the Keirup was considered as a military organisation, messengers of war, community soldiers and village guards. And, the Leirup was in charge of development functions such as construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, embankments of rivers and digging of canals. Lastly, the Shinglup was an organisation of firewood, helping bereaved family with wood, labour, money and performing death rituals. Unfortunately, the British rulers in Manipur had abolished the

Keirup and Leirup. Interestingly, it has been evident that Shinglup had drastically declined in their numbers, right after the practising of mass conversion of Meetei (valley dwellers) to Hinduism and Tribes (hill dwellers) to Christianity.

This study has adopted a qualitative method and exploratory in nature. It also understands the natural setting and focuses in gaining insight about the Shinglup, its evolution, coucome and practices.

It has been found that the first Shinglup was formed with the aim of extending help to the villagers during life circle rituals, protection and well being of the village. In terms of figure, 933 were members of Shinglup in Sekmai (out of 937 Loi households). When a member dies, the remaining of them is responsible for his/her ritual ceremony. The study also reveals that traditionally,

one adult member is mandatory to stay one night prior to cremation and Chak khangba (last ritual), and the oldest man is mandatorily to be the head of every Shinglup. The membership of the Shinglup ranged from 21 to 100 members. At present, there are 21 Shinglup and six divisions. It is also evident that since time immemorial, they have been playing a vital role for the protection of community resources. However, non-members are excluded from the tasks of collecting firewood, borrowing community money and even prohibited to burry and cremate their corpse in the lands of community.

Shinglup is the second oldest community institution among the

Sekmai Loi. It has been in existence since the time immemorial. Almost all the Loi household were the members of any Shinglup except five Christian Family. None members are considered as anti community excluded from community meeting and even prohibited to even burry and cremate their corpse to the community land. The oldest man is traditionally mandatory to appoint as the head of every Shinglup irrespective of their economic and educational status. Shinglup maintain records of every households, age groups and genders among the Sekmai Loi. It also plays the vital role for community development programmes, protection of community resources and well being.

Social entrepreneurship and Social Inclusion: Integration through Community based interventions?

Rama Krishna Reddy Kummitha

Inspired by the practice of social enterprises, this paper aims to understand how work integration social enterprises (WISE) function in relation to labour market integration of socially excluded persons in India. While examining how socially excluded persons benefit from such interventions, the paper also attempts to understand what motivates social enterprises to get involved and to what extent they benefit themselves.

This research identifies a potential win-win situation, as members of excluded communities are empowered through the work integration approach, but social enterprises also benefit by building trust and achieving a sustainable orientation.

The paper argues that social enterprises integrate grassroots level planning and community integration to enhance social inclusion among the

communities. The findings in the paper come from extensive field research carried out in four well known social enterprises in India namely Barefoot College (Rajasthan), Enable India (Karnataka), Gram Vikas (Orissa), Goonj (Delhi).

This research found that social enterprises in India adopt what in Europe is known as the WISE approach and facilitate job integration of persons who have been excluded from active market participation. The WISE approach aims to achieve two objectives. First, to include the most deprived and excluded persons in active roles within the labour market. Second, to enhance trust building among communities. To facilitate this dual process, social enterprises train potential candidates in the required skills before placing them as employees in the social enterprise concerned or helping them to obtain

employment elsewhere. The work integration element in the WISE strategies of social enterprises helps the jobholder to work as a connector between the communities being served and the respective social enterprise. As a result, both the communities and the social enterprises benefit from employing this strategy. In line with existing research, it is clearly found that the WISE approach helped the excluded sections to gain access to dignified and sustained livelihood and to attain quite active participation in mainstream society

The research also found that social enterprises made sure that they employ people from certain local communities. This helps them to connect with these communities and facilitates the trust-building processes. Employees who come from local communities know the local culture, language and customs, making it easier for social enterprises to connect with the communities. This aspect especially contributes to the sustainable social orientation of social enterprises concerned and helps them to enhance processes of trust building and social value creation.

MGNREGS and Poverty Reduction: The Case of Marginalised Sections

Reghunathan M.

The objectives of the study are 1) To analyse economic empowerment of marginalized sections; and 2) To assess the influence of the MGNREGS in poverty reduction. The methodology used in the study is empirical-analytical, based on both qualitative and quantitative data generated field survey and interactions with stakeholders. The two grama panchayats with maximum SC population and two grama panchayats with maximum ST population (2011 Census) has selected from Pathanamthitta district. Besides filed survey, government publications, study reports and secondary sources are also used.

The MGNREGS has influenced the rural women of Kerala. It leads them to public sphere and empowerment became multifaceted. The scheme is leading the marginalised sections to the

mainstream. The scheme was useful to the marginalized sections in many ways in the aspects of empowerment, collective action and companionship, family environment. Economic condition of the marginalised sections also showed considerable improvement. Family consumption level had increased a hike in the case of food, cloth, health and education. They are able to acquire physical assets such as household necessities and few procured financial assets using the wages. The marginalised sections are considering the scheme as an additional source of income. They are able to use the wages for their children's education, food and medical purposes. The study found that the MGNREGS has paved the way for economic empowerment of the marginalised sections and reduced poverty in a big manner.

PESA and Decentralisation: Hopes and Hurdles for Kerala

Renjith K R

The step to bring 31 grama panchayats and one municipality under the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA), has reawakened the hope of tribal communities for a better life with traditional rights over their land, livelihood and resources. The tribal's of Kerala also like others had a unique communitarian culture based on a subsistence non-accumulative lifestyle that was totally at odds with the consumerist culture spawned by contemporary industrial development. Thus, it was necessary to conserve this culture by secluding it from the aggressive thrust of modern day development. This would ensure land in the area is not transferred without approval of panchayats and empowers Gram Sabhas (village assemblies) to play a key role in approving development plans, controlling all social sectors – including the processes and personnel who implement policies, exercising control over minor (non-

timber) forest resources, minor water bodies and minor minerals, managing local markets, preventing land alienation and regulating intoxicants among other things. So the study deals with how far the PESA legislation improves the poor condition of Adivasis in Kerala.

The study will be historical and analytical mainly qualitative and quantitative data will use this study. Primary source of data and information has been collected methods from interview and survey. Secondary source of data has been collected from the books, articles, and government and panchayat reports.

The policies and programmes for tribal development are many in number but always the tribes are under poor condition. The case of Kerala is also not different. However the implementation of PESA will improve the participation of tribal people on their own governing process.

Local Governance Hybrids: Enabling Approaches towards Rights Based Poverty Alleviation

Reshma R.N

This paper addresses a wide range of issues that arise from decentralization. Consequently it critically explains how perfect a “Modern village “ is imagined through direct anti-poverty programmes like, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), TRYSEM, JRY, IRDP, PMIUPEP, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, and Skill Development initiative to name a few. Rural poverty alleviation has been the primary concern in the economic planning and development process of the country.

The paper has a structured methodology: firstly, it disaggregates decentralization into various dimensions –social, economic , political, and present a conceptual framework for the analysis of its impact on poverty. It will be followed by an assessment of the broad cross-cutting

associations between decentralization and poverty reduction. Linkages between decentralization and the provision of public services, especially in the education and health sectors will be explored further. In this context, selected insights from decentralization trends in these fields and their implications for poor will be reviewed from the perspective of rights and justice.

The following crucial questions will be attempted in this paper. 1. What are the conditions for positive or negative relationships between decentralization (of different types) and poverty reduction? 2. Does decentralization promote political participation by the poor, which may be facilitated by increased supervisory powers and improved governance? 3. Does decentralization become a tool for delivering rights to livelihoods and thereby offer a system based on larger tenants of justice to the majority of the rural poor in India.

Decentralization and Inclusive Governance in hill areas of Manipur: A study

Rupachandra Singh

The vulnerable situation in India's north east region is one of the biggest problems in the internal security domain. The region shares long porous international border with the Countries like China, Myanmar, Bangladesh etc. which become an apprehension within the diplomatic circles regarding the geo-strategic location and changing scenario in the international politics. The region became distinct because of the geographical barriers and inhospitable climate that have rendered it into a remote and isolated areas where it become the home of some 220 ethnic groups, speaking more than 325 languages in which this group of peoples act as bridge of buffer communities across the frontiers. Still the laws of the country and the normal administrative patterns did not apply to the areas beyond the inner lines. In it, Manipur itself becomes distinct from other north eastern state because the present law and order situation due to

the ongoing political violence remain at the centre scale of it.

In this regard, various ethnic groups had continues to demand more and more autonomy. But in the name of fulfilling their needs, further division of existing states, creation of states within the state and granting of more autonomy in the form of autonomous district council or any others that have been seen in the region from the early part from 1960s is not a meaningful answer of the issue. Mention may be made of Assam where most of the states of the region were curved out from it but such issue is boiling again and again. Even Nagaland was curved out to fulfill such aspiration but there emerge the issues of demanding eastern Nagaland comprising of four districts of Mon, Kiphre, Longleng and Tuensang. This paper tries to devise modalities to minimize the unrest or predict a time when the unrest is likely to end and give some suggestions and recommendations.

Poverty Reduction Initiatives Through Women in Malappuram Municipality

Saimudeen A

The Planning Commission claims that rural poverty has declined from 37.3 to 27.4 per cent of the population comparing the 50th round (1993-94) and the 55th round (1999-2000) National Sample Survey (NSS) data on consumer expenditure (though the latter figure has been recognized as an underestimate). Malappuram, as district, is situating in northern part of Kerala. Malappuram municipality has initiated some particular poverty reduction programmes within the municipality. For getting the path of the women empowerment, it initiated a lot of programmes to reach out to one of the marginalized section of the people, who are still struggling to get chance along with the patriarchal society.

How women oriented associations helped to reduce the hunger in particular area.

How women got participated in the process of poverty reduction despite it is a patriarchal society.

How women in Malappuram municipality earned the dignity, identity and entity in the process of women empowerment.

The paper will include both analytical and empirical aspects of the study. The paper uses the literatures and its reviews for the strength of analytical study and data and statistics and interview...Etc will help the empirical side of the paper.

The paper discusses the poverty and hunger in a particular municipal area and how women and women based community groups fought against poverty and how women are involved through the daily lives despite being of a patriarchal and introvert society due to the various obstructs such as religious ambiguity and gender disagreements.

This paper will make you understand that how women in malappuram municipal achieved the dignity and identity through the various empowerment programmes and it also reduced the poverty in the particular region.

Kerala State- Society Partnership in Primary Education of Malabar Coastal Region

Salman. AK

Democratic decentralization tends strongly to enhance speed, quantity and quality of responses from government institutions (Manor, 1999); local governments have both authority and resources to respond quickly to problems and pressures from bottom without waiting for approval at upper levels.

In this perspective it is important to examine the implications of the decentralized governance in theory and practice. The present study is on the implementation of the Right to education in the Tanur sub district and its effectiveness in the schools which included the children from the *pusalans*. In 2000 central government introduced a set up for those children in the name

of Multi Grade Learning Centre (MGLC) exclusively for the empowerment of the marginalized sections in the education field.

The study is trying to find out the state-society partnership in this case in the context of decentralized governance. The decentralized governance effected in India through the 73rd constitutional Amendment (1992) provided a common framework for the Panchayati Raj Institution(PRI)s to be devised by the state governments.

The study deals with the participation, accountability, transparency of Panchayati Raj Institution(PRI)s in this particular case of primary education in Malabar coastal region.

An Analytical Study of Community Assets in Respect of Employment and Poverty in Kognoli; Belgaum District

Sambhaji Mahadev Nikam

The paper analysis the approach which is adopted by the Kognoli Gram Panchayat in Belgaum district for using community assets in respect of employment and poverty reduction. In understanding the term community assets and its optimal utilization; three types of assets are to be noted here viz. Natural resources, Human Resources and Capital resources. The central and State governments are operating different programmes and schemes with considering creation of employment and reduction of poverty. For this purpose under the 73rd amendment of the constitution every Gram Panchayat has given special rights to do social welfare of the people with the focus of 'democratic decentralization' But Kognoli Village which is selected as a case study falling behind from absolute social welfare.

Objectives of the study:

- 1) To analyses the participation and accountability of Kognoli Gram Panchayat in using community assets for employment generation and poverty reduction
- 2) To highlight deprivation and disparities in access to basic amenities.
- 3) To evaluate the performance of poverty alleviation programme in Kognoli Village.
- 4) To provide recommendations for effective functioning of the system.

The methodology accepted in paper is descriptive and analytical. The data is used from both primary and secondary data sources. The primary data would comprise of expenditure Report of Kognoli and interviews of local officers. The secondary data includes various News papers, Books, concerned departments, and internet. The data

thus collected will be analyzed and presented in different heads. In this study Kognoli Gram Panchayat from Belgaum District in Karnataka State was selected because it has got different types of land proportions between SC,ST, and general category people and different types of works

Using descriptive and analytical methods of research this paper enhances the predominant role of Kognoli Gram Panchayat in upbringing a better society. The study also adopts tables and charts to analyses the data adequately. Thus this paper is an effort to cross check the efficiency and effectiveness of various schemes and programmes of Karnataka governments

in respect of employment and poverty reduction with special reference to Kognoli Gram Panchayat in Belgaum district.

This paper is an attempt to understand the politics of using community assets through the lens of a researcher. The paper tries to explore the complexity of federal structure and administrative issues in Kognoli Village. Hence this paper is an attempt to study and analysis the national policies, plans and programmes for poverty eradication. The study concluded that there are serious administrative laps in implementing the schemes and programmes in study areas.

Countering Globalisation: Possibilities and Opportunities at the Grassroot level, An Analysis of Decentralisation in Kerala

Sandeep E and Vysakh K.S.

Globalisation, which aims at centralization and global integration, is advocated for business development. Some consider that the development brought out by Globalisation is environmentally disastrous and unsustainable. Some consider it will improve opportunity and democracy. But it is clear that Globalisation benefits some who have money, technology and information. It has nothing to offer to poor villages.

Decentralisation or devolution of powers is found to be a good strategy for social development but Globalisation and decentralisation are at two extremities. Both the ideas, to India, were officially introduced by government during the same period,

1990's. but decentralisation is based on democratic principles and Globalisation is based on market principles.

The paper is explanatory as it explains the possibilities and opportunities for countering the forces of Globalisation at grass root level and using the institutions of decentralisation. This paper deals with the 'how' aspects of the problem.

Data were collected from both primary and secondary sources. In order to collect the primary data two interviews were held with two panchayath members of Bedadukka grama panchayath of Kasaragod district. The secondary data were collected from the annual reports of Bedadukka gramapanchayath.

Decentralisation and Devolution in Public Health: Case study of Karnataka

Sandesh Kotte

The main questions we want to analyse through this study are:

- Does the degree of decentralisation under the NRHM/NHM correlate strongly with perceived decision space of Health Department officials and PRI members at the District level and below?
- Does greater perceived decision space by any given functionary/official lead to better health outcomes?

For the research purpose, we use Bossert's analytical frame work. This framework outlines the concept of "Decision Space", by studying the range of choice that different actors in the health system perceive as being available to them along a series of functional dimensions. Within the framework of decentralization, officials operate within an actual or perceived area of autonomy which is characterized as their decision space.

The assumption is that within the boundaries of this decision space, officials are able to make innovative choices that promote their/the systems efficiency and effectiveness, and thereby enhance the achievement of measurable health outcomes.

The study covers 5 districts of Karnataka, in a combination of developed and backward districts based on the Nanjundappa Committee report. The study is based on qualitative and quantitative data generated from interviews and focus group discussions at the district and taluk/block levels. For the quantitative analysis, we designed a decision space module administered to a range of technocrats, bureaucrats and people's representatives at the district level and below (members of the District health society and Aarogya Raksha Samiti's). The questions relate to the respondents' perceptions of power at their disposal. Qualitative data will include interviews with the above-mentioned officials.

Decentralization and Women empowerment in Kerala

Sandhya P

Decentralization provides greater opportunities for the citizen to participate in governance at the local level and hence could be a good policy option for enhancing women's political participation. It does so by increasing descriptive representation of women, which in turn leads to women's responsive policies. It takes into account not only both the practical and strategic gender needs of women but also recognizes their triple role in development. The existing gender disparities give rise to a number of questions e.g. what are the reasons for the existing gender disparities? What can be done to eliminate such disparities? And their relative impacts on development? The reasons are many

folds. Development is a phenomenon that is taking place in all walks of life. For the process of development to be more efficient and effective, both women and men should equally participate in the decisions and processes that shape their lives. However, women being considered as a marginalized group in societies around the world, contribute very little to the process of development. One of the policy approaches that can help women contribute equally and more efficiently to development is the empowerment approach. This approach is seen as a viable policy approach for women in development. The present study is an attempt in Kerala context.

Role of Cooperatives in Poverty Eradication and Employment Generation in India. The Role of Women

Sanjay Kumar Verma

Cooperatives are the organizations which are deeply embedded within the communities in which they reside. They are an important model of democratic decentralization as they are governed by democratic principles and values which is well reflected in their functioning at the grass-root levels. The panchayats and cooperatives are important forms of decentralized model of governance.

Against the above backdrop, the present paper focusing on cooperatives will discuss the role of women participation, and also the role of women cooperatives in poverty-eradication and employment generation. The sub-theme 'Poverty Eradication and Employment Generation' is chosen because the cooperatives' basic existence is interwoven around this sub-theme.

The paper's focus is on women because in any meaningful deliberations on

development, the women's involvement needs to be discussed in detail. In poverty-eradication and employment generation, the role of women has become very important because of the dynamism, passion, integrity and innovation they exhibit in undertaking various socio-economic activities.

It will discuss some of the cases of successful participation of women in cooperatives, more particularly the exclusive women cooperatives who are led by women. The case of women participation in dairy cooperatives is a very good example of women playing an important role in poverty-eradication and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities. The women cooperatives working under SEWA are also a good example, which will be discussed thread-bare in this paper. The paper will also discuss the cooperative projects in under-developed areas of the

country where women through formation of SHGs based on the cooperative model are playing an important role in poverty-eradication. The case study of four exclusive women projects of National Cooperative Union of India will be discussed in detail, more particularly the women project in Bilaspur[HP] where women through Japanese collaboration started mushroom cultivation in order to improve their socio-economic living.

Right based Development and Its impact on Tribal Community: A Critical Study

Sarojini Ekka

Development as a process is the continuous improvement of the Well-being' of all individuals, but tribal development means development of groups which are at different stages of socio-economic development. On the basis of the level of their techno-economic development, eco-cultural setting and acculturative influences, the tribal could be categorized into four broad types: first, living similar to pre-agriculture pursuits; second, practicing sifting cultivation; third, agriculture based tribes; and fourth, acculturated tribes with advanced technology.

In the context of socio-cultural rights, identity articulation and the role of development are the crucial issue. Tribal identity is important for their socio-cultural life so right to preservation of their socio-cultural distinctiveness is important right. These sets of tribal

rights are normally expressed in demands for administrative autonomy (including the right to self determination), right to special representation, and the right to special culturally-oriented affirmative programs.

The second set of tribal rights covers the framework of right to development and various other socio-economic rights. 'Right to Development' is a right which may have to be delivered collectively, for a group or a country, but each individual belonging to the group or country should be able to exercise and enjoy that right.

The paper will analyse that the right based approach to development is primarily the responsibility of the countries concerned. But the countries with developing economies do not have

the much financial capacity to be able to meet the basic human rights needs of all people. So it is the crucial research question that how to make a balance to ensure full realization of the right to development in proportion to the resources and paramount welfare of the tribal community.

Looking Right-based Development through Anthropological Lens

Sasikumar V.K.

This paper tries to see how anthropological understanding is important for right-based development in the context of the recent debate over the Madhav Gadgil report (2011) on the Western Ghat. As Escobar pointed out the nature/culture divide (controversy) in anthropology dismayed its scope, when it had overlooked much of the developments related to it in other disciplines (Strathern, M 1992, Escobar 1999).

After the publication of Gadgil report, there were many controversies erupted in Kerala. Examining some of the media reports on it would throw lights on some of the short comings of the perspective of right-based development. This exposes the cultural contradictions of main stream society and the adivasi communities in Waynadu district of Kerala in utilising land and natural resources. It has wider

implication with regard to the right-based development is considered. Anthropological approach towards right-based development may help in filling the gap in these controversies, which may lead us to, as Escobar call it 'anti-essentialist political ecology'.

Political, developmental and ecological anthropology speculate that the communities living in a particular space develop their own ethical and ecological stand toward the environment which would help to survive the communities in society. This position of right-based development can be critically viewed in the light of Wayanad experience. The migrant communities include Hindu, Christian and Muslim, in contradistinction to the adivasi communities, with their political and economic interests tried to promote a particular kind of anti-ecological romanticism.

Participatory Planning and Monitoring In social Development Projects - Experience Based on an Exploratory Study

Satheesh Chandran R

The present paper aim at,

To assess the level of participation of major stakeholders in the planning and monitoring of the projects and its impact on project outcome in social development projects implemented in various states of India. The study also focused to identify the key determinants of level of participation and its influence on project outputs.

This is an experience based exploratory analysis of levels of participation of various stakeholders in social development projects. Qualitative methods like participant observation, focus group discussions, in-depth interviews and observational notes are used for this study. This analysis is done based on my role as a planning member and implementation manager in the

social development projects implemented across the country (in 7 states). I have adopted Roger Hart's ladder of participation (which is developed for UNICEF in assessing levels of participation in 1992) a standardized tool to assess the levels of participation.

The level of participation of major stakeholders in the planning and monitoring of social development projects are determined by many factors and it has direct and negative impact on the sustainability and quality of the project outcomes. It leads to underutilization of allocated resources and non achievement of desired quality outcomes. By adopting effective mechanisms, social development projects can be made more sustainable and change oriented.

Livelihood Condition of Differently Abled People in Tiruchirappalli District of Tamil Nadu State

Sathish kumar .V and Chandrakanta ***

Human labour, including that of differently abled persons, is very important to country's development. They are most marginalized and suffer from social deviance, stigma, social exclusion and oppression. According to Sen (2009), differently abled people and their families are more likely to experience economic and social disadvantage than those without disability. Disability is directly linked to poverty. Disability may increase the risk of poverty and poverty may increase the risk of disability. The onset of disability may lead to the worsening of social and economic well being and poverty through a multitude of channels including adverse impact on education, employment, earnings and increased expenditure related to disability. In this view, the researcher plans to study with the following

objectives: 1) To find out the livelihood condition of differently abled people of Tamil Nadu state, 2) To intimate proper measure to improve the life of differently abled people. In this study, Primary data have been collected from fifty visually challenged people at Gandhi Nagar in Tiruchirappalli district while secondary data have been gathered from population census 2011. In this study descriptive statistics have been used for analyzing data. The overall finding from the study concluded that the differently abled people are facing many hardships and troubles due to lack of employment, education and lack of direct livelihood schemes. Therefore, the government should bring appropriate schemes and it should implement in order to improve their sustainable livelihood and also their development.

Decentralised Governance for Human Development

*SatishDandge &
Ramprasad V. Pole*

Recent years have seen increasing concern about governance issues in development discussions and efforts, particularly in developing countries. In fact, there has been growing interest among policy makers towards governance and decentralization. Similarly in India, governance is also viewed as a means to promote development in participatory and democratic framework.

This paper is a attempt to analyze the fifteen years of the functioning of PRIs. The functioning of PRIs over the past decade reveals that there is lack of training amongst the representatives concerning their rights and duties, ineffective functioning of Gram Sabha, caste violence, ineffective

empowerment of depressed sections and lip service to the decentralization of functions and finance by the State governments. There is need to strengthen the Gram Sabha, matching responsibilities and finances, training the representatives, curbing proxy candidature by the central and state legislators, etc.

Recognizing the importance of governance, in this paper an attempt has been made to explain what governance is, identify elements of good governance and how decentralized rural local governance in India is addressing the components of good governance. While doing so, some existing best practices of Panchayati Raj Institutions are discussed to exhibit operational aspects of good governance.

An empirical review of Microfinance and its impact: A case Study of Gujarat

Sazzad Parwez

This paper examines the premise of microfinance for poverty eradication and financial inclusion mechanism for development of social systems and subsystems for livelihood development in Gujarat. This paper explores the impact of microfinance on livelihood development which could be sustained for a longer period of time in the context of various initiatives as programmes and schemes of government and non-government organisations being implemented all over the Gujarat. The methodology of the present study relied on both primary data with sample size of 225 collected through stratified sampling from the state and secondary data which has been collected and compiled from books, the web-based research, review of print literature and visit to the selected sites to witness Self- Help Groups (SHGs) and microfinance status.

Empirical study suggests that livelihood development through microfinance is slow and requires investment in capacity building over a period of time, it will help build the social capital and helps bring economic prosperity. Finding also suggest that microfinance interventions in the name of SHGs building and strengthening the movement should not be limited to, credit deployment and should focus on group promotion, savings, livelihood promotion, enterprise development and pooling and marketing the local produce with value addition. It is evident that several government and non-government organization in Gujarat has played their part in development movement of SHGs and generation of financial resources through livelihood development by linking the SHG to schemes and project which make these SHGs more sustainable.

It has been observed through a primary survey that the respondents as members and leader do not possess much knowledge about the functionality and administrative process of Self Help Group. Primary work also reveals that microfinance has a positive impact on poverty alleviation and

livelihood development. There is a need for a state level as well as a national level organisation to coordinate the financial resources to the SHGs and capacity building resources to the promoting organisations. The paper concludes that microfinance plays very important role in development livelihood and community.

Role of Social Work Profession in Participatory Planning and Social Development: Health Perspective

Seema Rani

The social Development theory attempts to explain qualitative changes in the structure and framework of society, that help the society to better realize its aims and objective whereas participatory planning is a process in which marginalized groups have an opportunity to participate in the planning process. Therefore it is clear that participatory planning is very essential for sustainable development. Health is also an important indicator of social Development. The Indian non-health seeking behaviors of people, emerging epidemics, absence of effective health policies, less available health facilities, low finance somehow results in slow down the process of social development. The social work profession has emerged as helping process to sustain development with its holistic approach. The profession has not only bridged the gaps coming across but provided a right based approach to

people those are either sufferers or effected. The participatory approach in health system not only insure the participation of all but signify their decision making too. The present paper is little part of research but more of reviews to highlight the role of professional social work in social development and participatory planning through health approach. **Objectives:** 1.To find out the role of social work profession in social development and participatory planning.2.To analysis the role of social work profession in health system. **Methodology:** The methodology includes reviews of health studies (HIV/AIDS, ART Treatment, Adherence), social work profession, PRA approach. **Analysis:** The studies shows that health system needs to be developed through comprehensive planning, and social work profession is very much helpful in overall social development.

Caste system an Impediment to Social Development in India: An overview

Shabeer Ahmad Bhat

Indian society fragmented into different caste groups which are serving as a breeding ground for injustice, inequality and other socio economic and political problems. The same situation is in the state of Jammu and Kashmir where social development and democratic decentralization is also hampered by the presence of caste barriers which is evident in the Panchayat of district Kulgam of south Kashmir. In the said district the total number of *SarPanch* is 15 out of which not a single one is from social castes other than upper caste which is an indication of caste monopoly however at state level the political exercise and bureaucratic power is rested in the hands of upper castes which may include, *Syeds, shahs* and *Sheikhs*.

The focus of this research work is to highlight the role of caste system from a Marxist perspective in Indian society

in general and Kashmir context in particular. Efforts will be made to know the root cause from which this caste system has emerged. The central idea of this research paper is to deconstruct the myths associated with caste system followed by an emphasis on those who are the left behind.

The basic objective is to deconstruct and reconstruct the basic source of caste system as in 21st century and after 68 years of independence we are still concerned whether a person is from a *Brahman* lineage or from a *Shudra* lineage, or from *Syed* or *Sheikh* caste which is obstructing the paths of inclusive development and decentralization at both micro as well as at macro level and of course the violation of human rights which is in no way allowed by Indian constitution neither is in the spirit of Indian society nor it is in the tradition of Kashmir.

In order to make the pre-seure paper theoretically as well as empirically sound and valid the researcher have surveyed secondary sources which may include reports of Panchayat Simities, reports of urban local bodies and other official reports of the state, this was

followed by participation observation, interviews and case studies along with oral narratives. Finally certain relevant suggestions have been given through which we can reduce disparities both at macro as well as at micro level.

Conservation Of Paddy Land And Wet Land And Role Of Local Self Government

V Shaharban

Conservation of Paddy and Wetland in accordance with the provisions of Act 28/2008 is an important obligation of the Local Self Government Institutions in Kerala to preserve the ecological balances of the state. Though there is a provision for the preparation of Data Bank in accordance with the rules framed under the Act 28/2008, most of the Local Grama Panchayaths are not prepared the Data Bank in accordance with the rules. Now an amendment has been brought to the Act namely Section 3 A of Act 28/2008 for the regularization of Un Authorized Reclamation of Paddy Land converted before 12/08/2008. There are two laws governing the field one is Kerala Land Utilisation Order 1966 and another is Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wet

Land Act 2008. Authorities are not exercising their power in tune with power vested under Kerala land Utilisation Order and its applicability as a subordinate legislation in consensus with the Essential Commodities Act. Researcher trying to identify the impact of the new Amended provision Section 3 A of Act 28 of 2008 on Kerala land Utilisation Order. Present study identifies the rigor of Act 28 of 2008 by the inclusion of property in the Data Bank without proper publicity by mere replication of the Basic Tax Register and the power of Local Level Monitoring committee in this regard with reference to Judicial Decisions. This paper will discuss the impact of 3 A and its impact on Section 6 of Kerala Land Utilization Order and other legal issues.

A case study on “Grampari” NGO located in Panjgani, Maharashtra : Participatory approaches used in Rural Development

Shaly Joseph

This paper presents an analytical study on the best participatory practices adopted by ‘Grampari’ a professional organization in Satara District, Maharashtra. Paper describes about the various approaches adopted by this organization in last 40 years. The highlights of the paper include value based leadership and transformation of people to bring in initiatives of change in the community.

The Paper explains how the organization envisions a just and sustainable society for all and works to create this vision by building the capacity of rural society through thoughtful, innovative and community led programs in livelihoods, health and

environment, empowerment and local governance. The success of the developmental work of the organization based on the basic approach to facilitate programmes which are **designed, implemented** and **maintained** by the community. Author elaborates how Grampari bring in ownership among community members to have sustainable development. This Organization is an initiative of people from all segments of society, including engineers, entrepreneurs, scientists and farmers. Therefore the coordination and support of interdisciplinary team also illustrated in this paper.

Value based development is the need of the time. In this context this paper would put more enlightenment in to sustainable development through transformation.

National Rural Livelihood Mission and Rural Development : A Study with Reference to Kerala

Shameem.C.C.

National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) is such a poverty alleviation project implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. This scheme is focused on promoting self-employment and organization of rural poor.

The basic idea behind this programme is to organize the poor into SHG (Self Help Groups) groups and make them capable for self-employment and find to their livelihood. In Kerala's context, NRLM funded through Kudumbashree which make self employment and livelihood of rural poor.

The paper purpose to collect quantitative data regarding NRLM from the primary as well as secondary sources like Government of India

Reports, Government of Kerala Reports, Reports of Ministry of Rural Development, and India. The study will be descriptive, and will study the problems precisely with available sources derived from secondary which includes books, journals, news papers article, and internet research. It explains and provides an understandable conclusion.

National Rural Livelihood mission helps on Kerala's rural economic development through employment, and poverty eradications. Under the NRLM which fund is allocated to self help groups in Kerala, which make self sufficient and self efficient of Kerala's economy through employment and poverty eradications.

Land Acquisition and Displacement: A Critical Appraisal

Shibu Kurian

This paper intends to look at the role of the local administrative body in bringing development in the grass root level from a critical view point.

Person with direct experience with loss of land and discomforts which many families have been facing since last three years. This experience has compelled to pursue a research on the challenges to peoples' rights. As part of this, we conducted few extensive pilot visits in Thiruvaniyoor, Puthencuriz and Maneed Grama panchayats in Ernakulam district. Following this ... made with enquiries with knowledgeable people of several dispensations regarding mandatory procedures in the event of establishment of huge infrastructure. Also I made personal visits to the worksite and talked to implementing

officers of this project. Apart from this I examined cases of displacement in Kerala which are having mentionable similarities to the power line on which the present study based. These primary field based observation and secondary data through popular press and media forms the major data for this study. The rights based approach to development will be used as major methodological tool.

In the above mentioned case we can see a big discrepancy between the welfare state and its development programme. For any development project the welfare and security of the people must be the centre. Our Constitution gives such an assurance to all people. Development therefore must be justice centered and sustainable. Development projects should be peoples participatory, democratic and not anti-democratic.

Giving Dignity in Death: Role of Local governments in Pain and Palliative Movement in Kerala

Shilujas M.

Kerala is the first state in Asia to bring forth a policy in palliative care. It emphasizes the community based approach to palliative care and considers home based care the “corner stone” of palliative care services. Kerala had long ago recognised the importance of palliative care as can be seen from the growth of community-based care. The “Panchayathi Raj” envisages decentralisation of governance and in Kerala most of the responsibilities with health services has already been transferred to the Local Self Governments Institutions (LSGI). This gives the local governments the power to make decisions regarding health that are locally relevant and implement them.

This paper probes the positive role of local governments in achieving the goals

of global standard of palliative care. The governmental role of close association with the CBOs and NGOs under the overall coordination of the LSGIs is essential for success of palliative efforts. It further inquires the activities to be planned at various levels of the government health services.

This study focusing the local governance of Malappuram District and its community based approach to palliative care. The information gleaned through the primary data and secondary data. Personal interviews and discussions with pain and palliative care volunteers, elected representatives and affected patients are used as primary data. The secondary data collected from the documents related Government Policy, Approach Papers, Panchayat Minutes, Census Reports and from periodical literature and journals.

Understanding local governance in the border panchayats of Kasargod and Dakshin Kannada

Shreehari Paliath

This paper looks at local level institutions in border panchayats of Kasargod (Enmakaje) and Dakshin Kannada (Peruvai and Adianadka) where the author spent six weeks as a field work. The respective governments of Kerala and Karnataka have approached decentralization differently. Kerala is a perfect illustration what implementation of local level governance through participatory planning can accomplish on the foundation that has been laid by Panchayat Raj Act.

It is a well-known that Kerala pays its panchayat members the best salaries and other benefits compared to the GPs in the rest of the country. In comparison Karnataka has only made meagre revisions to its elected members at the local level. Considering that the panchayats in Kerala serve a larger population compared to Karnataka increases the need for planned and

inclusive governance. We would think that considering how porous the boundaries are between these two parts—Kerala region resembling and slanting more culturally towards Kannada culture—the aspects of the GP governance remains robust only in Kerala. It is yet to pick up in effectiveness in the adjacent parts of Dakshin Kannada even though this part is the best performing district in Karnataka.

The process of gathering information is mostly based on oral histories of residents, local level functionaries and government officials. The interactions and interviews with people in Enmakaje, Peruvai, and Adianadka have allowed the author to build the paper.

In this paper I look to incorporate how certain institutions specifically ones like anganwadi, PHCs, and others of the GP are working differently probably due to

different approaches of respective state governments. The comprehension is based on interaction and secondary research

Considering that culturally the locations are similar, initiatives and circumstances in these almost similar locations are different. Although the time spent is only meagre in understanding the differences in a GP the intention is to see how state initiatives have played a role in making a substantial impact in

local level governance in these regions. Another important aspect is that both these regions are marked as endosulphan-affected which extends the health initiatives of the respective governments further through the local governments.

Essentially decentralization of functions is almost complete in both states, yet the impact on the lives of the residents of the respective panchayats is starkly different.

Role of decentralization in Employment and Poverty Reduction

Shubhang Gomasta

This paper presents to a analysis on how decentralization leads to employment or leads to increase in the employment ratio and poverty reduction. Methology used is basically an analysis done through secondary sources and knowledge gained from various publication and textbooks on decentralization on one hand and poverty reduction on the other hand .For knowing such a vast and a complex topic first one has to understand what decentralization is and how it basically helps in the new form of good governance. Decentralization is seen as a very important tool for good governance and shaping the future of the present generation, through decentralization there is always a greater measure of accountability which comes with it then in return the level of corruption, malfeasance is reduced. With the help of decentralization there

is always a mobilization of communities. When communities interact with each other there is always a chance of development and cutting cross the major caste based politics and the old school thinking which helps in development. a corrupt government would never allow itself to decentralize itself of a simple reason that it won't want to distribute its money and powers to other government of a lower cadre or of a lower division of governance.

Decentralization is considered as the back bone of development and which in turns helps in reduction of poverty. Here the role of good governance also takes into view. if a government who is really elected by the people of the country which we often called as democratic form of government will never hesitate to give or distribute its power and responsibility to other government lower than them.

Community participation and local Government: Evidence from Kashmir

Shugufta Akhtar and Rukhsana mir

Community participation emerged as the new paradigm of the development process. The rationale behind participation is multifold: increased participation is made-up to promote greater effectiveness, more responsibility, lucidity, better rights and empowerment. Participation is belief to be the genuine progression and sustainable growth by shifting of power to local and deprived (Nelson and Wright, 1995). Community participation is a core part of both general memo and local schema. Community participation means some form of involvement of people, with similar needs and goals, in decisions affecting their lives. Community participation has been regarded as a positive force for change and authorization to development. Community participation draws on the vigor and eagerness that exists within communities to define what that community wants to do and how it wants to operate. Community participation is fundamentally required to achieve strong and sustainable development at the local level. Community participation requires going beyond dialogue to allow citizens to become an integral part of the decision making and action processes. This is not curbed to a response to initiatives or agendas set in motion by politicians and professionals. It reflects the need for the development of more active communities in their own right especially in relation to assessing needs and assets, agreeing on a vision, generating ideas and plans for action, enabling action monitoring and evaluation. The present paper highlights the potential of community

participation in unlocking community capacity, energy and creativity in a small village of Kashmir who experienced development and social mobility due to cooperative participation in development strategy.

In this research work only some initial ideas are presented and should be considered work in progress. While concluding the paper few suggestions are given for development and mobility through participation at ground level.

Participation and Representation of SC in PRI'S in Kashmir: Insights from District Anantnag

Shumaila Rather

Scheduled castes are one of the most disadvantaged groups in Indian society. The genesis of the disadvantaged condition of the scheduled castes lies in the Hindu social structure. These castes are generally regarded as outcastes and are categorized as untouchables. They remain at the bottom of social hierarchy and had been denied all kinds of social and economic endowments. The social and economic deprivation among SC's had been most common during pre and post-independence. Since the starting of planned development process in India the development of weaker section of the society particularly SC's has been on the agenda of the government. People of the Scheduled Castes have a long history of being discriminated against, exploited, and placed at the bottom of caste society. The panchayati raj, after the enactment of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, brought in

measures to overcome these past indignities, and provided a quota within ordinary seats and among the office bearers of the panchayats.

This paper looks at the representation of Scheduled Castes in panchayats of district Anantnag, having majority of schedule caste in Kashmir division numbering 1826 according to census 2011. It has been found that in Kashmir there is no such exploitation and discrimination socially practiced as is being practiced in India, a positive change has been recorded in education as they have literacy rate of 98% in Kashmir. But political participation through PRI'S is miserable the gap between the mainstream and scheduled caste population still persists. Thus the need of our hour is to speed up the pace to bring these excluded into main stream level. Finally few valid suggestions will be provided regarding SC and their participation in PRI's.

E-Governance and Decentralisation: Challenges and Opportunities.

Sijin C.P.

The paper tries

To analyse the successful functioning and maintenance of E-Governance System in Kerala. To evaluate the merits and demerits of E-Governance programmes in Kerala. To critically evaluate the adoption of modern information in the process of governance in Kerala.

The study based on primary and secondary sources. Historical analytical method will be adopted for completing the study. Primary data will be collected from official sources, various reports, websites and other internet sources. Secondary sources will also contribute a major source of data.

The Government of India has been recently chosen Kerala for the best performing e-governance state in India. Kerala is the fore-front state in the implementation and successful functioning of e-governance in India. Kerala has implemented several programmes with the ultimate aim of serving citizens in a speedy and transparent manner. Despite the fact that the government has put forward several initiatives to facilitate the access to public services, the desired outcomes are yet to be fully realised. Thus the delivery of services in the public and government sector through the use of the Information and Communication technology (ICT) in the state of Kerala has gained a broad acceptance.

Failure of Governance in Attappady

Simon V.S.

The study aims at,

- To understand socio-economic and political roots of the problems in Attappady.
- To analyse the cause and consequences of failure of governance in Attappady,
- To evaluate the impact of welfare policies in Attappady.

The present study will be completed with the help of historical and analytical methods. Primary and secondary sources constitute the major part of the data. Primary data are collected from official sources, various reports, websites and other internet sources.

Numerous government schemes such as poverty alleviation, social security,

wealfare and livelihood security Schemes are implemented for those who are marginal, poor and tribals since 1960s, but not reached the proposed aims. The problem in the Attappadi reveals dubious governance in the Kerala. Even though vote bank politics is one of the reasons of adivasis situation today, besides it's also a good reason of spending money in the name of tribal and it also helped the people of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and multinationals corporate to encroach the forest land. If the crucial issues are not solved with a political will, the developmental project will not be succeeded. But state government and central government were announces project of thousands of crores of rupees and spent in their names but nobody asked what they wanted.

Role of Women Representatives in Decentralized Planning: Kudumbashree Experience

Smitha NB

The Kudumbashree initiative in the state of Kerala is a unique experiment in achieving gender equity as well as accessing credit through micro-finance which is undoubtedly the thrust area of research in development sector. The institution of gram sabha was introduced to them following the proliferation of neighbourhood groups (NHGs) at the sub-gram sabha level known as 'Ayalkoottams', provided an enabling environment for the functioning of local self governments.

This study is moulded within the current context of 50% women

reservation and the entry of women from kudumbashree network, especially from the poor families as agents of change in the discourses of empowerment as well as gender equity. This paper intends to trace out the process of empowerment through which these women are entered in to the political sphere and to examine whether they were admitted among other male members, the role of kudumbashree women members in the planning and implementation of projects specially designed for women under the women component plan.

Employment Security of Landless Agricultural Labours, Small and Marginal Farmers in Agricultural Sector

Smitha Rani

Employment security is social as well as economic issue. Agriculture is backbone of Indian economy. It is providing employment and livelihood security to majority of population in India, where majority of population is living in rural areas. After Economic reforms these sections are still in poor condition and not able to secure livelihood. Landless labours, Small and Marginal farmers are facing more problems in securing their livelihood from agriculture sector. Why there is a threat to livelihood security?

In the sentence of globalization our concentration is more on service sector whereas the small and marginal farmers employed in agricultural sector. Livelihood security can be improved through providing employment security. Employment security has direct impact on poverty eradication and employment

generation. With this background the study will focus on the issues related to employment and livelihood concerns of landless labours, and situation of small and marginal farmers.

The study will examine how there has been further marginalization of landholdings because of population pressure. Furthermore the study specially focuses on sectoral growth and occupational structure of rural areas in India. The study is specifically based on secondary data and various statistical tools will be used as per requirement of the study. The analysis will use recent available data from Census of India, NSSO reports, Reserve Bank of India and Planning Commission Reports, Statistical diary and Situation Assessment Survey of Framers and Agricultural Census.

The study finds that there is least improvement in livelihood security of landless agricultural labours, small and marginal farmers in agricultural sector. There is further marginalization of landholdings because of population pressure. Specifically as agricultural sector declines its importance in terms of its contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in economy. It is found that per person contribution to GDP from Service sector is more than 4

times per person contribution to GDP from agricultural sector.

It can be concluded that post globalization era could not generate adequate employment in Rural Areas of India. Therefore creation of non-farm employment, rural diversification and transformation from low value crops to high value crops is vital for improving the employment security and socio-economic status of small farmers in the country.

Civil Society and Right to Information: A Study in the Context of Developing Nations.

S.S. Sreekumar

The paper begins with a conceptual and historical background. An attempt has been made to study the role of civil society in developing nations by setting out the *broad areas* that should be considered when assuring right to information.

On this backdrop, the study intends to examine the following:

- a) To study the different approaches to campaign right to information in developing countries;
- b) To examine the challenges faced by CSOs in implementing legislation relating to right to information; and

- c) To study the extent to which implementation of legislation leads to good governance.

The above mentioned objectives will be examined in the context of developing countries. The paper concludes by outlining the findings and suggestions. It can be observed that in developing societies, many crucial issues are not highlighted. The inhospitable environment created by colonialism, changing development paradigm and resource constraints are some of the challenges facing CSOs in developing societies.

Parallel Bodies and Panchayat Raj- Boon or Bane: Case studies from Telangana

Srinivas Sajja

The main objectives of this paper is to look into the process of negotiation with empowerment and investigate deepening the inclusion process of Other Backward Castes (OBCs), Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Women, through participation in local governance and parallel bodies in Natural Resources Management.

Three case studies are provided from study done in three villages of Mahabubnagar District in Telangana state. Data was collected using observational method. Informal in-depth interviews were conducted with representatives of parallel bodies (past and present) along with the active participants in the Telangana separate statehood movement.

Legislations ensure representation but do not lead to effective participation and empowerment of the excluded communities. This is mainly because the ground realities are different with

lot of differentiation in the form of caste, gender and class. These differences would make it difficult to implement policy reforms aimed at including the excluded groups. The conceptual tool – ‘spaces for participation’ which was given by Andrea Cornwall had been used to explain how the marginal sections achieved structural transformation through the parallel bodies and politics of empowerment.

Despite facing the hurdles which are to be found commonly among the rural communities with regard to political representation of marginal sections, these case studies reveal how they created political space for themselves through parallel bodies like WUAs, CFM, Watershed committees, SHGs and other community based organizations. Their success enabled them to have further opportunities in the political sphere through representation in Panchayat Raj bodies and participation in the movement for separate statehood to Telangana.

Devolution, Development and Social Capital: Gram Panchayat and Healthcare in Himachal Pradesh

Sthitapragyan Ray

Neha Ojha

Kerala, with which Himachal shares the common asset of “social preparedness”. This argument is sought to have been empirically tested in a study carried out in four districts in the non-tribal lower areas of Himachal Pradesh, which constitute 60 per cent of the state’s area and account for 96 per cent of its population. Two of these districts i.e., Kangra & Una are relatively developed (in terms of indicators like literacy rate, percentage of SC population, sex ratio) and the other two districts i.e., Sirmaur & Solan are comparatively backward (criteria being the same). One block from each of the four districts was randomly selected for the study. From each of the sample blocks, six Panchayats were selected for detailed study, taking the total number of Panchayats to twenty-four in the four districts. After making allowance for

field level constraints, the final sample consisted of 144 villagers; 24 GP pradhans; 23 ward panches, 23 Panchayat secretaries and 23 Anganwadi workers; 18 ANMs; 12 MPWs and 6 Ayurvedic doctors. A set of both conventional and participatory tools was used for collection of primary and secondary data.

The study highlights the fact that the realization of the potential of participatory grassroots democracy, even in otherwise favourable conditions, depends crucially upon the establishment of a positive political context and external linkages or what’s called the “linking social capital”. Successful and sustainable decentralization require a political process, which ironically has to be initiated and if necessary sustained, from above.

Assessing Rights Based Development: A Study on Forest Rights Act in West Bengal

Subhandu Patra

The present paper is intend to evaluate the role of Rights Based Development (RBD) policy amongst the marginalized peoples and in doing so, this paper consider the impact of Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 which is believe to be the most appropriate mechanism to obtain forest based livelihood rights of the tribal people in India. From last decade, the notion of RBD has rapidly discussed in academia, as it was promised to depoliticize development activities and has great prospective to boost participation of local peoples in developmental actions. A Rights Based Development approach is stand on the principle of equitable distribution of existing resources and securing the rights of indigenous people. Indeed, decentralization of RBD including the forest policy in India taking place long back, although its implementation is not beyond satisfactory. The decentralization of Indian forest policy

enacted with introduction of National Forest Policy of 1988 and after that Joint Forest Management of 1990 was consider as milestone in transferring forest rights to local communities.

Despite all these efforts to ensure local people rights over forest resources, the scenario is not much improving. Struggle for livelihood rights of forest based tribal communities is continuing in different parts of the country. In this circumstance, this paper seeks to incorporate an empirical study on the impact of FRA as rights towards tribal communities in West Bengal. The main objectives of this paper is to find out the role of forest department in decentralizing forest rights, community awareness regarding their rights over forest as stated in FRA. In addition it will also draw attention on the effectiveness of decentralization in RBD as experienced by local peoples. The data

for this paper were collected from ethnographic fieldwork in villages of West Midnapore district and from secondary sources like academic journals, various reports etc.

The paper is divided into various sections with first a short history of decentralization and forest management

in India followed by a discussion on RBD and forest Rights. After that the paper will focus on the implementation of FRA in West Midnapore district of West Bengal. In conclusion, the study will address some remedial measure for efficient implementation of RBD in connection with local people.

Implementation of Smart Village – Smart Ward and Obstacles to Overcome to Reach the Objectives: A case study

D.Sudhir

This paper while discussing the objectives throws challenges on its implementation. Secondary sources which are available to undertake a case study of this project reveals the limitations of its operation. Lack of commitment among the partners, problems in fund mobilization and about the state of enthusiasm to take part till the goal is reached are the obstacles which has to be surmounted to achieve the objectives. There also raises one question as there are several programmes, both by centre and the state for the development at local bodies, what is the necessity of introducing this project. Possibility for the corporate big wigs to bargain with the state in their own advantage, taking excuse that they became partners. Coordination among

the three levels of panchayats, partners and the state government is little concern in the implementation of this project. There might be objections from all the quarters in taking credit, once if the project is finished. Many a time, public representatives will leave no stone unturned to get their own name.

It envisages the promotion of Brand AP image by providing dynamic learning environment. Due to lack of resources as the state is bifurcated and the software companies being in the capital city of Telengana, it will take some more time than the prescribed. Initiative is the first such in India and if it is going to be successful with eliminating the hurdles, it can be suggested to implement across the states.

Political Victimization Of Youth in Kashmir

Suheel Rasool Mir, Mansoor Ahmad Dar

The universe of the proposed study will be Kashmir valley. To have holistic understanding of the whole situation, secondary as well as well as primary sources will be used to collect the relevant data. The research study is based on the secondary sources of data, which includes reports of National Crime Records Bureau, journals, newspapers, magazines, and research papers and interview will be conducted to have a multidimensional understanding of this issue which is under study. The case study would also compromise one of the essential components of the study

They faced the problem of state suppression. Unemployment is of prime concern to youth of Kashmir valley, who see economic issues as strongly linked to the conflict. Employment and business opportunities are limited. Thousands of Kashmiri youth became the victim of

extremism. The reason offered was they were militants, separatists, and now terrorists. Social relations have been destroyed, thousands have been killed, and thousands became widows and orphans and in addition to this family breakdown, family conflicts, unemployment, late marriages, orphanage culture, etc. grew at fast rate in Kashmir valley, and it is the youth who are the majority victims. Their rights have been subjugated. Their psychological and physical development gets hampered. The younger generation is still searching for answers that governments from time to time have failed to provide. Only a concerned government could become the ray of hope for the smooth functioning of state while making the developmental path for its unrest youth. Efforts are to be made to provide relevant suggestions to provide safe space for youths in Kashmir.

Public Sphere as a Strategy for Deliberative Democracy in Local Governance

Suhel MA

The study is based on an empirical data from a group of youngsters who belongs to maritime community. Belongs to Muzris coastal belt of Thrissur district in Kerala. The study will address some facts and concerns on Youth in terms of Public Sphere Participation and its productive use which lead to an effective deliberative democracy and good local governance. The deliberative organization that takes place in the public sphere can be regarded as an expression of the intrinsic sociability of the human condition. In fact, there is no societal integration without the existence of a public sphere. Just as the existence of each individual cannot be dissociated from the existence of society, the existence of the private sphere is inconceivable without the existence of the public sphere.

The study indicates that Youngsters in the proposed coastal area are changing in terms of social participation and they are much more aware about the social scenario. The study shows that the targeted group is usually sit together for their public talk in streets as well as in their work places. In the proposed area most of the youngsters are working in fishing or fish processing units as fulltime and par time to earn. Hence their public talks usually takes place in these working places only.

The study attempted to assess the practice of Public Sphere among Young populations in a coastal community of Kerala. This study was an innovative effort in this direction to fill the existing research gap. As the respondent youth were from a selected coastal community, the results from this study should not be over generalized.

Role of Vocational Training in the Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities

Sultan Singh

Disability is one of the major public health problems facing the modern India. It is not only complex but multi layered in nature. It has been termed with different names such as handicapped persons, people with special needs, challenged people and so on. In India, around 3% of the total population is disabled. In such situations people with disabilities are always deprived of their social life, human rights and considered as burden on their families. Vocational training refers to a social and economical well being for persons with disabilities themselves as well as their family and to contribute in the society and made them productive citizen of the country where they stay.

The present paper will elaborate the different areas in vocational rehabilitation for persons with disabilities which has brought major changes among their life. In addition to this, the government of India has set up a national level institute to provide various vocational trainings in different areas to implement government acts, policies and schemes, develop human resources, service models, to conduct research and to document and disseminate information for the people with disabilities for example (**skill india program**).

The paper further will focus the aforesaid programs through reviewing literature, studies and experiences of the presenter as professional working in the field of disability rehabilitation.

Role of Local Bodies in Disaster Management

Sumi.N.S

Disasters, both natural and unnatural, are macro level events or processes, which induce disturbances and turmoil for a prolonged life-threatening environment for a community. Disaster Management is a dynamic process. It comprises the classical management functions of Planning, Organizing, Staffing, Leading and Controlling. India is considered as the World's most disaster prone country. Like many other countries in this region, India is plagued by various kinds of natural disasters every year, such as floods, drought, earthquakes, cyclones and landslides.

The role of Local Self Governments in managing natural disasters and thereby implementing relief, rehabilitation and

reconstruction activities are considered one of the major roles entitled to the Local Self Governments. They have an active role to play in all phases of disaster management. The need of the day is to chalk out a multiprolonged strategy for total disaster management comprising prevention, preparedness, response and recovery on the one hand and initiate development efforts aimed towards risk reduction and mitigation on the other. The objective to have a comprehensive approach that comprises both pre disaster risk reduction and post disaster recovery. It has to be framed by new policies and institutional arrangements that support effective action. In this regard the local bodies have an effective role to play and it should involve.

Economic Development and Women Empowerment In Delhi/NCR Region

Sweta Singh¹Rajwati Singh²

Women being the self-central feature of any developing society have been subjected to various kinds of atrocities, exploitation, neglect, and abuse and gender disparity. Enormously meaningful research and studies have suggested positive relationship between women empowerment and poverty alleviation, albeit, insufficient research has been conducted in Delhi/NCR state on the field of study. Men and women respondents (200) equally participated in this research. Women empowerment and economic development are closely related: in one direction, women development alone can play a major role in playing down inequality between men and women; in the other direction, empowering women may benefit economic development. This research paper reviews the literature on both sides of the empowerment-development, and argues that the interrelationships are probably too weak for women. Also finds a positive relationship with economic-development, and empowerment. A new paradigm of development which main objectives are to increase the well-being of the poor people specifically in women, provide resources and credit, increase self-confidence, self-esteem and increase their creditability in all aspects of lives. Women are better stone maker in economic development and play a key role for self-empowerment.

Making Panchayats Inclusive : Muslims in the Panchayat Raj Institutions, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh

Syed Najiullah

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act has addressed this problem to a great extent by providing proportional representation to Scheduled Tribes. The representation of Backward Classes was also ensured through reservation of seats in the panchayat raj institutions in many states including Andhra Pradesh. But the minorities who constitute more than 18 percent of the total population of the country are not covered under this scheme.

The participation in the decision making will have major impact on the socio-economic development and empowerment of a particular community and the overall inclusive growth of the country. Hence the present study focuses on the representation of minorities particularly

of Muslims who constitute the Major portion of the total minority population, in the panchayat raj.

The present study is undertaken as part of the Major Research Project funded by UGC to examine the importance of people's participation in the local self government particularly in the context of plural societies like India. An empirical study has been conducted on the level of participation of the Muslim minorities in the Panchayat Raj institutions of Kurnool district which has the highest concentration of Muslims in Andhra Pradesh. The study evaluates the problems and prospects of the participation of minorities in the decision making process at the local level and its impact on the inclusive growth of the rural areas.

A Sociological Study of Awareness Levels Among A Cross-Section of Women Regarding Pri's in Kashmir

Syeeda Nousheen Fatima

The state of J&K has had a long history of Panchayati Raj ever since the promulgation of the J&K Village Panchayat Regulation No. 1 by the then Maharaja. The state undersees the existence of Panchayats through its own set of rules and an Act but hasn't adopted the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in its entirety. In the present study, the emphasis is given to study awareness among women about Panchayat Raj Institution in Kashmir valley owing to the differences and confusions with the national standard.

Whereas Panchayats are a grassroots institutions and are aimed at inclusivity of all sections of the society including STs, SCs, OBCs and women. Some sections have been provided with reservations and therefore are assertive. Empowerment requires awareness as a tool in order to take forward and empower the women in decision-making process at local self-government. However, awareness in

Kashmir Valley, especially among women who face an impediment to securing access to resources, is very scanty. The paper, therefore, aims to highlight the gaps between awareness stratagems of the government and the awareness generated among a cross-section of women in the valley with regard to the entitlements, participation and general information about the structures, institutions and functioning of PRI's.

For the present study, both primary and secondary data was used. Primary data which was the base of our study was collected by interview schedule. The data was collected by the researcher from field. Secondary data was collected from various government records and other sources. The paper will conclude with a few suggestions for making awareness reach the target audience and therefore to ensure greater participation from among the women in PRIs.

Impact of MGNREGS in Women Empowerment in Kerala

Tiji P.V

This paper critically analyse the features of MGNREGS and its challenges and obstacles in its implementation in Kerala. It also evaluate the MGNREGS contribution to the socio-economic and political development of people in general and women in particular.

Descriptive and Analytical methods are used for the proposed study. Primary and secondary data are the basics of the study. The Primary data are collected from official sources, various reports, websites and other internet sources and The Secondary data are collected from authentic sources like Government publications, International Journals, and study reports.

MGNREGA bring tremendous rise in the economic development of Kerala state, particularly including the elevation of rural people in the state. MGNREGA scheme has created a revolution in women's empowerment and should definitely include some area like agriculture and fisheries within the scheme. Because of Kerala high population level, it is very limited in agricultural holdings and public facilities, so that the work taken under this scheme need to be reviewed and implementation should consider the existing situation.

Health and Right Based Approach to Development Kerala Scenario

Thushara Roy

The state of Kerala is widely appreciated for its remarkable achievements in the field of health in terms of Infant Mortality, Maternal Mortality and an impressive sex ratio compared to other Indian states. Keralites enjoy a better quality of life with a better health infrastructure and better civic consciousness on health. But still things are not as glittering as it is perceived. To be the best model to emulate, Kerala has to go far ahead in this sector. Kerala bears a high out of pocket expenditure (OOP) in health care which has resulted in a serious leakage of economic resources. It is indeed interesting why such a developed literate state has to bear such huge out of pocket expenditure. This is a serious economic issue that has to be addressed immediately. According to WHO, economic affordability is a key component of the Right to Health.

The paper tries to probe into the problem and finds out the causes of high out of pocket expenditure that is gripping the health sector of the State. It tries to showcase the skewed progress in Kerala health scenario which is cleverly covered in almost all literature available. Can we ever claim our right to health in the midst of high out of pocket expenditure which is again against economic, social and cultural right? Where the system is failing? The paper tries to assess the extent to which development agencies and non government organizations have achieved a positive transformation of power relations among the various development actors.

To examine the above objectives, both primary and secondary data are taken into consideration. Primary data are collected by Interview Method taking various health officials working in

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NGOs and development agencies and direct field survey. Secondary Data are collected from official records, government reports and review of literature. Both qualitative and quantitative tools of research have been resorted to.

Health policies and programmes have the ability to either promote or violate human rights, including the right to health, depending on the way they are designed or implemented. Taking steps

to respect and protect human rights upholds the health sector's responsibility to address everyone's health. The paper concludes with apt policy prescriptions and recommendations which would go a long way in making health structure in Kerala more sustainable and would facilitate a better blending of human rights and economic development. Kerala must recognise that it has rich veins to tap.

The Role of Transgender in the Decentralization

Vasu Jain and Anana Saroha

The fight of a transgender in asserting his place in society is similar to that of a woman in 1940s. A transgender has not been recognized as a part of civilized society. He has been made to live in a ghetto and he still battles to get out of that and find a place in the world.

This research article is an attempt to highlight the position of the third gender and how position of responsibility can reap great results benefitting the society. The article intends to study and analyze the emerging role of the third gender population in the decentralization process and its influence on the society. The question which evolved at this point is whether the society welcomes such change or still the mental sickness prevails over the concept of social justice.

This article highlights the success stories of such transgenders who have made their way to the representative government and acknowledges the recent judgment which asks for inclusion of third gender transgender in the panchayat elections. Then the role of panchayat and local government is discussed with respect to the transgenders. It is notable that there has been a significant role of local governments in the upliftment of the third gender. The article then moves on to the involvement of transgender in such third tier governments. With major focus on Indian society, an attempt has been made to observe the role of transgenders in foreign countries where they have done well in shaping the governance system.

'Pricing Development for Financing Development' - The Necessity of a Sustainable Financial Management for Development in the Context of Decentralised Planning in Kerala

N. Vijayakumar

Development is a process which consumes finance and generates finance for development. Development implies increasing domestic public resources and improving public expenditure efficiency. Mobilising finance for development is a task to the governors of civic bodies. Development is to be sustained and to be guarded from the scourge of its retarded growth. The concept also implies liberty of citizens, health and elimination of poverty.

The promises and visions are to be translated into realities. But there is a financial gap **between the** development concepts and its materialization. The gaps is this source of availability of funds, for sustainable development. This philosophy of development can be summarized as:



The global development agenda for 2000-2015 was MDG. Now it is replaced by sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The modern agenda of development focus on no poverty, no hunger, good health, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, clean environment, good jobs and economic growth, innovation and infrastructure, reduced inequalities, sustainable communities, responsible consumption, peace and justice and partnership for goals. Obviously this decentralised development process i.e., Kerala already selected this path of development.

But development will possible if it builds on some basic principles such as shares responsibility and shared solidarity. We need a vision in order to take this right steps on this vision set by new goals. Kerala entered into a new phase of development by organasing its

development agenda through decentralised planning process. Now it is the time for keeping this sustainability of development too. For this we need a strong structure of finance and its management. As we know, money is only a media of 'change'-"development". Financial Management in this context shall be conceived as managing money for development process. Finance is this essence of development.

In Kerala, local bodies are framing about 2 lakhs projects each year by utilising this development fund. Obviously this finance for its sustainability and maintenance shall be derived from these development projects.

This paper studies and emphasis the need for "pricing development" in this context of decentralised planning process and how the 'pricing' helps to meet this challenges of finance for development.

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Objective: Find the sources of fund through pricing of development.

Methodology: Analyze the various projects from cities in Kerala and how they are maintained. Is there a sufficient method of managing finance serves from this projects. Are they finally viable.

Conclusion: Pricing development is essential for financing development.

Delhi Residents and the Effect of transportation, Environment

Vijendra P Singh¹, Manoj Kumar²,

During the past 70 years after independence, there are three functionary local bodies New Delhi municipal Council (NDMC), Municipal Council of Delhi (MCD) and Delhi Cantonment Board (DCB). The basic functions of these local bodies are to provide facilities such as better roads and public transports, , medical facilities by hospitals and dispensaries, to provide jobs, to do better work for clean environment and participated in public and private partnership by local bodies social bodies' and do work for clean environment. Pollution and environment has been work together by departments and IIT Delhi to check but health independently. The data based on the current summary interacting 5-6 problems by local body and approximately participated 200 respondents in which 40% by female and 48% were male and 2% were not interested to response against local bodies. The Primary data collected from

the old record and new taken from the current survey. The three local bodies run under central, state government and by defense department. The road and transportation condition is better in NDMC, environment in DCB area and level of social life in the MCD area was better for average category, nearby NDMC because the politician and the burrocrates are there. For the person related to the government gets everything better and services provided by the local body NDMC.. The ratio is almost double in centralized and in the outermost areas. The covered area studied in the ratio of 1:33:1 approximately and the population was legislative assembly 3:66:1 based on analysis. The area divided into three categories', central, middle and outer circle of Delhi. Road and transport conditions in NDMC 2 to 3 times better than MCD and DCB and Health conditions of locals are 2 times better. The pollution level is in good condition in DCB area.

Role of Microfinance Institutions in Promoting Sustainability: a Review

Vikas

Sanjay Bhayana

This paper their to (i) developing the conception of new strategy for sustainable rural livelihood mission and (ii) will also addresses the issue of microfinance and its climatic change adaptation contribution. In order to achieve the above mentioned objective(s), the data has been collected through various secondary sources viz. empirical surveys, international reports, studies done by different researchers.

The perio'd of study is are from 1970 to 2014. With respect to the methodology part, initially the researcher has collected 200 research studies from various sources. After collecting the studies the researcher has applied the *informative critical analysis methodology* for this particular paper.

The study is broadly focuses on and concerned with role of micro finance

in promoting sustainable development in rural area. So, particularly the study is related to micro finance and livelihood. The researcher has presented, analyzed and interpreted the paper with the help of tabular form. The researcher has also found the gaps in the studies in the form of knowing what are channels to be followed by the MFI while offering different financial services to the rural people.

After analysis and interpretation of the collected data, it can be concluded that the study will be helpful in the improvement related to offering of microfinance services to the poor people from the rural areas. Further, this advancement will help poor people to cope up with the change in climatic conduction for achieving the sustainable development.

Reservation In Panchayati Raj; A Stepping Stone For Women Empowerment

Vineeth Thomas

The 73rd amendment has brought watershed changes in the life of Indian women. It has become a stepping stone for women empowerment in India. But this does not mean, 73rd amendment has been a fool-proof mechanism with regards to women empowerment. Elected women becoming proxy decision makers, lack of experience and expertise etc are self-defeating the goals of landmark 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act.

In this context, the paper intends to analyse the factors affecting women

empowerment in India. It also evaluate the importance of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act for the empowerment of women in India. It also explains the problems and challenges being faced while the implementation of the amendment provisions. This paper finally makes an attempt to answer the question on how the challenges faced in the implementation of the provisions of 73rd amendment can be addressed.

Challenges of Material Production under the LSGIs in Kerala: Food Product Making; Aryanad Grama Panchayat

Vipin kumar R.

The state of Kerala stands unique among other states in India not only with respect to the scale and extent of devolution of powers and funds but the mode of implementing the decentralisation process. Local Self Government Institutions (LSGIs) in the state, after the introduction of Kerala Panchayat Raj and Kerala Municipality Acts in 1994, have been placed as vital institutions in charge of rejuvenating particularly the stagnated material production sector in the state.

The objective of the study is to analyse reasons for failures of manufacturing units under Pannchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in Kerala. The study is based on the case of a food product making unit in Aryanad Grama Panchayat. To study the experience of food product making of Aryanad Grama Panchayat, direct personal interview was conducted

among direct beneficiaries of the unit and other stakeholders.

Aryanad Grama Panchayats have tried to intervene in the local economy by ensuring a stable, remunerative and assured price to the petty producers. Food product making unit in Aryanad Grama Panchayat faced problems in marketing of the commodity produced (Diabetic Food and Nutri-Laddu). In its first phase a large network of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) were brought for the manufacturing of Diabetic Food in SHGs under the support of District Panchayat in Thiruvananthapuram. As soon as the Aryanad Grama Panchayat withdraw the assured captive market, the product become unsustainable and eventually stopped its production. The study analysed factors that led to the failure of the Food processing unit in Aryanad Grama Panchayat.

Participation of Tribals in Local Governments in Vidarbha

Virendra Balaji Shahare

The paper deals with following objectives.

1. To study the participation governance as tool for empowerment of Tribals in Vidarbha
2. To understand the socio-economic, educational condition and livelihood patterns of Tribals in Vidarbha
3. To examine the impact of participation in governance for the empowerment vis-vis development of Tribals in Vidarbha
4. To study the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) and its impact on livelihood issues of Tribals in Vidarbha
4. To critically evaluate participation governance and exclusion of Tribals in Vidarbha region

The research paper is based on secondary data collected from various government reports, census reports, websites, magazine articles, books and other published reports. The paper is also based on primary source through interaction with few elected tribal members in gram Panchayat and government functionaries.

The present paper delineates about the Tribals accessibility to political power and the challenges they face in decentralised governance. The paper evaluates the socio-economic condition and livelihood means of Tribals. The level of Tribal participation in decision-making for implementation of programmes and schemes run by the government and non-government agencies for their development is evaluated in the paper.

Governance Issues in the Service Delivery of Water and Sanitation Programs- Role of Ward Committees and CBO's: A Case Study From Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Telangana State

M Venumadhav

Water and sanitation is one of the major determinant of several health hazards particularly in rural as well as urban setting. Poorer Communities are more prone to such hazards which might be having impact on their overall wellbeing. Due to lack of responsibilities and accountability of various administrative units, this issue is become is one of the grey area which was not touched by social scientists and hence this study will have greater scope to understand how the policy is working on this front particularly in urban slums.

This study will try to find out the gaps between policy and existing and implementation realities in terms of Service Delivery of Water and sanitation Programs. This paper Examine the Water and sanitation facilities in the poorer communities of urban slum areas. Analysing the capacity and efficiency of administrative units and

line agencies Water and Sanitation boards to discharges their duties and responsibilities. Assessing the performance of service delivery after involving the ward committees and CBO's in Water and Sanitation service process.

Scope of the study is limited to the selected in Greater Hyderabad Municipal corporation slums in Hyderabad City, Telangana State. As per Article 243-S of Constitution of India, Ward Committees have to be constituted in each ULB. Keeping the above constitutional provision in view. Ward committees and CBO's have to involve in governance process but due to local politics and illiteracy people are not willing to participate in governance process, but when women are encouraged in political process, the situation was changed. Ward committees were empowered to influence the development of regulatory

frameworks governing water services, and monitoring the quality and sustainable management of services.

Residents, particularly women, urban slum communities were encouraged to

participate in providing water and sanitation services and in monitoring water quality. The coverage of water and sanitation services was constantly increased, water quality improved.

Study on Right Related to Social Justice in Democratic Local Governance

M V Wykole

In the light of the above there is much debate today about deepening democracy, which is essentially about developing greater citizen empowerment, participation and gender equality in political process than is normally found in liberal representative democracy. Participatory democracy strives to create opportunities for all members of a population to make meaningful contributions to decision making. It attempts to go beyond the role of citizens as voters and watchdogs by enabling citizens to have a direct role in decision making that affects them, particularly at the community level, where citizens and officials engage as more equal partners in more inclusive processes aimed at ensuring greater citizen participation, particularly among women and marginalized groups.

Democratic governance is dependent on democratic values and principles being respected which itself requires society to be governed by laws which the majority of people consider fair and reasonable and which uphold human rights. The rule of law must apply to everybody equally and be enforced and administered justly, equally and openly and also apply to leaders, decision makers and administrators themselves. Without power, society cannot function. Parents, teachers and leaders have to tell their children, their pupils and their people what to do and what not to do, what is right and what is wrong. Actions and behaviors need to be rewarded or punished. Power has a lot to do with how humans act and behave. Accountability is now widely accepted as a key issue in service delivery improvements.

The state is obligated to provide essential services to citizens and citizens have a right to expect the state to deliver. Holding duty bearers to account for the services they are in charge of is an effective way of improving services and making local governance more effective and responsive to the needs and voices of the poor. For accountability relationships to function, sanctions for poor performance or illegal practices have to be real threat and enforceable. Making accountability relationships function is therefore a key aspect of our governance work.

Role of School Management Committee (SMC) in Participatory Planning & Social Development: A Case Study of Haryana

Yogesh Verma

Inclusive growth is the key for the development of any nation. It can only be ensured by involving all the section of society in planning and decision making processes. All the sections of society should feel their importance in democratic system. Good governance can only be ensured by implementing participatory and local governance at root level. Education is one the main sectors which need involvement and support of local people. Involvement of different social groups can promote effective education system with the help of participatory planning and involvement in decision making.

Education not only makes a man perfect but it also contributes in the growth of a nation. The falling standard of education in country is one of the key concerns which need urgent attention. Government of Haryana is taking serious steps to promote education in the society. Now the centre agenda of

all the policies has been shifted from education to quality education. Special attention is given for education of girls. In spite of various schemes and policies for promotion of education, school enrolment was low in Haryana, especially in villages.

Unawareness and non involvement of local people were found as main hurdles in the path of education system. Government recognised it and ordered to constitute legal body named as SMC (School Management Committee) involving local people from community to involve in various school level activities. The main function of SMC is to work for betterment of schools. This scheme is already showing its result as enrolment rate is increasing in most of the schools in Haryana.

The main objective of paper is to study the functions of SMC. The paper will also try to find the impact of local

participation in social development. Special care will be taken to involve all the state holders of society. Primary data for the paper will be collected by interacting with school staff, students,

members of SMC, parents and villagers. Secondary data will be collected with the help of various records of education department of Haryana, published and unpublished data and web.

Micro-Enterprises Based Creative Economy

Yulia asiska

Micro-enterprises based creative economy emerged as one solution to the economic improvement of small communities. This business idea in the form of medium businesses that can be run like a household business without the need for large capital. The effort may be goods or services. Limited funding and understanding of society that need to be considered and supported by the local government by facilitating.

Simple theory of micro-enterprises based creative economy is small businesses that invest. Effort began with the formation of several small groups within a large group to cooperate in starting a business. Micro-economy based enterprises kretif run by business groups, where they each meet each other's needs, products and services they produce are different. The members of a large group of micro-enterprises into consumer-based

creative economy for another business group. they are mutually invested by the same amount, thus forming a large business with public shareholders with a small capital owners. Investments that they do also managed such that it becomes a business with profits that they can enjoy together.

A simple description of the theory of micro-enterprises based creative economy. One group of people, make some business groups disimbol A business premises, business B, venture C, D. Enterprises A business has a business daily basic needs, business B has a water supply enterprises, enterprises C has a food business, medium business D transportation service providers. Each month the business unit A, unit B business, business units C, D business unit invested their profits in common units. The investment is carried in the property-

based businesses. At first they established a rented housing. The effort will also be developed in accordance with the level of profits.

Because micro-enterprises has creative economy will be run by medium community, capital resources, training and supervision carried out by the local government rules and regulations are structured. Micro-enterprises based

creative economy can be a solution to poverty and prevent unemployment. The government took an important role, poverty relief funds can be transferred on loan capital is not binding. To form a good working relationship, between the small communities with local governments in an effort to realize a better regional economy.