EDAMULAKKAL CDS, KOLLAM

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EDAMULAKKAL CDS, KOLLAM

Edamulakkal CDS is located in the Anchal block of Kollam District. Smt. Ambika T S is the current CDS chairperson and it the second term for her as the chairperson.

### Basic Details

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of ADS (Area development society)</strong></td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Number of NHG</strong></td>
<td>389</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PWD NHG</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
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<td><strong>Elderly NHG</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
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<td><strong>SC - NHG</strong></td>
<td>9</td>
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<td><strong>Aashraya Beneficiaries</strong></td>
<td>183</td>
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<td><strong>Snehitha Calling bell support recipients</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Number of ME (Micro entreprises)</strong></td>
<td>32 (Individual – 5, group – 27)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Number of JLG (Joint liability groups)</strong></td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Balasabha</strong></td>
<td>32</td>
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### General Achievements

The present CDS committee was succesful in activating all inactive NHGs in the CDS. The CDS has distributed over 6 crore rupees as linkage loan and most of the NHGs have availed the loan. The CDS has completed the auditing of all the NHGs. The members have motivated the inactive ME groups and JLGs to be active in their fields and thereby many new enterprises were also formed.
The CDS has successfully conducted Kudumbashree school and Gender self learning programme with active participation from all the NHGs.

Edamulakkal is a place where the agriculture activities are prominent. The JLGs are mostly involved in vegetable cultivation. A plant nursery is one of the successfully running group which is making a good profit by selling seeds and plants.

The CDS is also actively engaged in Micro enterprises and Marketing initiatives as well. Some of the very successful MEs include food processing unit, tailoring units, stationary shops, kudumbashree café etc. The CDS has also conducted successful monthly markets till the lock down period. Most of the JLG groups in the CDS were the regular participats in the monthly markets. The Haritha Karma Sena is also working in the CDS and it has 44 members.
200 students were enrolled in the DDU GKY program and 44 students got job placement in various fields.

A BRC is functioning in the CDS which has 27 students. They are engaged in activities such as making floor mats, flower vase and lotion.

There are 183 Aashraya beneficiaries and the CDS is providing monthly food kits to them. The CDS has conducted a free medical camp for the beneficiaries in the past year.

The infrastructure and facilities for Gender resource center is equipped in the CDS but the inauguration could not be conducted due to the covid 19 restrictions.

**Special Activities**

The CDS has collaborated with external agencies to provide training and support to 60 beneficiaries to start income generation activities. Now the enterprises are successfully functioning.
**Most Satisfying Experience**

One aasharaya family that includes four minor children had no place to stay and they used to sleep in the varantha of a shop. One ADS took the initiative to collect fund and built a house for them. It was the most satisfying experience for the whole CDS.

Delegates from other states also visited the CDS to study about the agricultural activities and the successful food processing unit.

**Activities durid Flood and Covid 19 period**

Various relief activities were taken up by the CDS during the flood and covid 19. In the lock down period, two community kitchens were opened in the panchayat area and food packets were distributed to the needy. The vegetables needed for everyday cooking was provided by the joint liability groups in the CDS. Counselling service were provided by community counselors for the people who needed it. Snehitha calling bell beneficiaries are also been contacted by the community counselors. They organised house visits to provide various services. The tailoring units in the CDS stiched more than 20,000 masks in this period.

As part of Chief Ministers Helping Hand loan scheme, Rs.2,25,000 was distributed amoung the NHG members.

The CDS received 750 applications for Vidhyasree chitti scheme.

Edamulakkal CDS has contributed three lakh rupees to CMDRF after the flood. The CDS has supported district mission and the panchayat authorities in various relief activities during flood

CDS has supported families in cleaning their houses after the massive flood. The CDS contributed vegitables, dresses and other relief materials worth 75,000 rupees to the panchayat authorities. Apart from this, they also distributed food kits to the needy families. Cleaning materials were distributed by the CDS for this purpose. CDS also given contributions to the district authorities in this period.
A 50 member volunteer team of NHG members went to Pandanad in Alappuzha district for relief activities. They were actively participated in the huge cleaning process in that area where the flood was most disastrous.

**Best practises of CDS**

**Sneha Nidhi** – The snehanidhi fund collects small donations from NHG members so that it can be used for most needy persons. The CDS has collected 3.6 lakhs rupees as snehanidhi and it was distributed to cancer patients. It is a noble example that even a small contribution can result in a huge impact in the society and shows the power of cooperation and togetherness.

The CDS has successfully conducted Arangu and sports meets and the participants from the CDS got prizes in the state level fest.

**General Feedback from CDS Chairperson**

After taking charge as CDS chairperson, her first aim was to activate all the inactivate groups and distribute linkage loan to them. She also able to complete the 100% auditing of the NHGs. As these initiatives were successful, she is planning to implement more programs for the members. She also planned for some convergence programs with other departments and agencies for getting loan and livelihood support. Unfortunatly, due to the pandemic these activities were paused. She is planning to implement it once the pandemic period is over.

The CDS also planned to start a KALA team and develop it as an income generation group. It is an innovative idea as the team contains artists with talents in various fields.

The CDS planned to start a driving school for women and the priliminary steps were done. It will also resume once the pandemic period is over.

**Learning points**

The chairperson consided the co operation of the NHG members is the key to success in all the activities. She could motivate the CDS members and NHG members to take initiative and start new activities. They all actively participate in various activities and it helps her to plan new
things for the CDS. The CDS committee is very strong and always stand together to achieve the goals. “If the people are with us, no one can defeat us”, she says.

**Conclusion**

The CDS was able to carryout all the activities successfully. The success of the CDS shows how co operation and leadership of people can lead to the development of the community itself. It is a motivating and learning experience to everyone that how small the initiatives seemes to be, it will have huge impacts in the life of common people.