Nyayasamithis of Attappady

Nyayasamithis is another innovative idea being implemented by Kudumbashree Mission in Attappady as part of Attappady Special Project (Attappady Comprehensive Tribal Development and Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group Development Project). Nyayasamithis are committees chaired by tribal women, formed for settling the disputes of the tribal community. In other words, Nyayasamithi is a social development committee of tribal women formed in ward level to identify the issues in the hamlets, to discuss, analyse and thereby resolve the same through conciliation.

This official grievance redressal committee formed as
part of Attappady Special Project has 5 members. Monthly Adalats are being organised, complaints are received during adalats and the disputes are solved. The unsolved issues from the Adalats are handed over to the Gender Resource Centres or other relevant forums for addressing the issue. In addition to this core function, the Nyayasamithis also take initiative to create awareness about the rights, to provide information about various governmental schemes etc to the tribal women and family members.

As of now, 36 Nyayasamithis had already been formed in Attappady. 18 Nyayasamithis have started organising Adalats. 86 cases were reported until now and out of this, 17 cases were handed over to Gender Resource Centres and others are solved. As the issues in the hamlets are resolved in the hamlets itself and are closely watched, the new issue arising in the hamlets is now comparatively very low. This has in turn led to the social development of the tribal women community and raised the status of women in the society.

The selected Nyayasamithi members were given training on the aims of the Nyayasamithi, organizing Adalats, law, rights and gender self learning. Also, they are equipped and trained to solve the issues ethically. We now aim for formation of Nyayasamithis in all wards and form a women and child friendly atmosphere in the hamlets.

We hope that the Nyayasamithis would bring in a solution to the dispute settlements within the hamlets and would lead to the social development of the tribal community.