



# Panayam

Community Development  
Society (CDS) Report

Prepared by K R Jayan05-10-20



## Community Development Society (CDS) Report – Panayam

It was around 7.30 PM one evening when MsRamany K, CDS Chairperson of Panayam in Kollam was contacted to finalize the CDS report. At that moment she was at the COVID First Line Treatment Centre (CFLTC) at the campus of College of Engineering, Perumon, overseeing the canteen operations. Ever since the advent of the pandemic she didn't know rest. However she was gracious enough to spend time then and later whenever there was a query or clarification regarding some aspects of the report.

CDS Chairperson	<b>Ramany K</b>
Vice Chairperson	GirijaRadhakrishnan

### Key Statistics

Total no of ADS (Area Development Society)	16
Total No of NHGs (Neighbourhood Groups)	239
Total no of members in the NHGs	3215
BPL Members	2003
SC NHGs	11
Minority NHGs	21
Elderly NHGs	18
Total No of MEs	28

### Achievements - General Activities

**Coverage and Inclusion – Organization:** Out of the total 239 registered NHGs, there are 6 registered PWDs out of which 2 are active and 18 are elderly NHGs.

**DeendayalUpadhyayaGrameenKuashalyaYojana (DDUGKY):** DDUGKY has benefitted a number of students in the Panchayath and Ramani Madam was proud to convey that four students, who have completed AC technician course are placed abroad and they are doing really well.



DDU-GKY  
Candidate  
Mobilization  
–  
PanayamPan  
chayat

She suggested that emphasis must be placed on technical jobs. Out of the 260 candidates registered in the Panchayath, 47 enrolled for different courses and 32 were placed. According to the Chairperson Community Resource Persons have played a key role in tracking candidates thus resulting in relatively better placement percentage.

On the *agricultural front* emphasis is given on fallow land cultivation and the CDS is promoting ‘Kara Nellu’ or dry land paddy cultivation.



Dry Land Padi Cultivation

Among a total of 28 **Micro Enterprises (ME)** 18 are group MEs and 10 are individual MEs. 99 members are engaged in entrepreneurial activities through the established MEs. As a part of the campaign ‘Kudumbashree ME product in every family’, the CDS was able to create awareness regarding Kudumbashree product line depth and breadth.



Products at Display – Curry  
Powder Unit



ME Unit Prepares Fish for Drying

**Micro Finance** (MF) is another vertical the CDS is proud to showcase. In the last financial year 63 NHGs were linked and live linkage is 100% (Except 4 groups which were formed less than 6 months back). Panayam CDS has acted proactively to avail the benefits of various schemes announced by government. NHGs have availed loans to the tune of Rs 1,39,65,000 under Chief Ministers Helping Hand Scheme. 10 groups have availed Rs 25,000/- each under MuttatheMulla Scheme.

### **Achievements – Other Programmes**

The **Gender Corner's** in the panchayat intervenes effectively to address atrocities against women and children. Through **Snehitha Calling Bell** project the CDS is ensuring that the needy gets counseling support, and have access to food, clothing and other basic necessities. Medical camp was organized for Calling Bell Beneficiaries and their needs were compiled and submitted to the panchayat. Currently there are six Nirbhaya volunteers in the CDS.

**Elderly day** is celebrated every year and the oldest person in the elderly NHG is felicitated by presenting traditional shawl. Last year 'PayasaMalsaram' (Sweet Pudding – Cookery Competition) was conducted to identify and honor traditional 'Payasam' recipes.



*Elderly Day Celebration*

There are 58 **Asraya families** in the CDS as per 2015-16 report. The CDS has recommended houses for 25 beneficiaries, education for 29 students and food kit for all beneficiaries. Under **Destitute Free Kerala (DFK)**, there are 140 families. All the members are provided with food kit and their needs are identified and addressed. In FY 2019 -20, 6 houses were constructed.

In the 29 **Balasabhas** a total of 349 children are enrolled, out of which 233 are girls and 161 boys. Class lead by famous trainer Sri MC Rajilan instilled confidence in the children. In the **BRC (BUDS Rehabilitation Centre)**, a facility for specially abled there are 32 members. 2

teachers and 3 care takers are managing the centre. The CDS chairperson gives special attention to the wellbeing of the members. A tour was conducted for the children, making use of CDS' own fund. She was proud to say that the activity group is actively engaged in paper-bag and file board making and the products are sold in collectorate, panchayat and other offices. She had made sure that food reaches their home twice a day during the entire period of lock-down.



Tour – BRC Children



Balakrishi



Balasabha Two Day 'Sahavasa Camp'.



BalasabhaTour.

## Special Activities

Ever since the COVID pandemic struck Kerala the CDS was on its heels and the chairperson communicated that she didn't sit a single day since. They have set hand-wash booths in all 16 wards and made available ayurvedic and homeopathic medicines in all homes in the panchayat. Masks were stitched by the members and were freely supplied to DMO office and panchayat. A canteen unit (Tripti) is run by CDS in COVID First Line Treatment Centre (CFLTC), set up in the campus of College of Engineering, Perumon where there are 122 inmates admitted.



Canteen Unit at CFLTC, Perumon Engineering College

Two community kitchens are also operational and in order to ensure the smooth functioning of the community kitchens, each of the 87 NHGs volunteered to contribute groceries and provisions to the tune of RS 1,000/- each. The chairperson has also contributed her one month honorarium for the fight against COVID, expecting that this will be emulated by others.

CDS had taken an active role during the worst flood Kerala had faced in decades. A team had travelled to one of the worst affected place, Chengannur, to take part in relief operations. Ward wise collection of necessary items were coordinated by CDS chairperson and was passed to the collection centre set up at the collectorate. CDS chairperson herself was at the forefront of post flood cleaning efforts in affected panchayats. Rs 1,37,000/- was contributed to CMs Distress Relief Fund.

## Most Satisfying Moment

The CDS chairperson had the idea of building a house for the neediest in the panchayat which was supported by ADSs and NHGs. The team visited many a families and from among all the 16 wards the neediest family was identified. The family was staying under a dilapidated shed. The family of four comprised of four members, two children and their parents. The father was a cancer patient and mother a heart patient. The house was built with a total contribution of Rs 4,75,000/-. The day of the housewarming is the most satisfying moment in her public life and the compassion for the family in her voice conveyed it all.



Snehavedu

## Learning

The exercise helped understand and appreciate the tremendous effort put forward at the grassroots to implement the project envisioned at the state mission. However there is tremendous scope for faster and right communication between all stakeholders at all levels so that quick intervention can be made and needs of the beneficiaries can be recognized and addressed immediately. For example the chairperson highlighted the need for more technical courses in DDU-GKY and conveyed that couple of students placed in a captive placement organization returned to their home. The interest in JLGs are not very enthusing and NHG members are not coming forward to set up chicken farms as they think that it's hard to get clearance (pollution). There are also instances of PwD NHGs becoming inactive (from 6 to 2). Many issues may be perceptual than real. However it's important that a platform to

address these issues are created so that opinions from the bottom can be gathered and proper policies made.

This process has to be institutionalized and something on the lines of 'Quality Circles' can be a starting point. In this people engaged in similar work across levels shall be met on a regular basis and solutions worked out immediately. For example, in a CDS meeting the concerned BC, DPM, and SPM (on a random basis) may take part and give and get input on issues related to their area. This process will reduce time in communication flow and results in understanding the issues faced by the members who implement and facilitate implementation in the field. This will replace top-down planning with bottom-up planning which will be receptive to those who implement the programme.