



# KOTTIYOOR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

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# **Kottiyoor Community Development Society**

Kottiyoor is a village situated in the eastern hilly area of Kannur and is located in the serene hills of Western Ghats. The terrain is undulating in nature and the extreme eastern side has forests bordering Karnataka state. Kottiyoor Community Development Society(CDS) in Kannur District is one of the best CDS in Kerala. The area of the panchayat is 1152.5 sq kms. It shares a border with Karnataka and Wayanad district of Kerala. The population is 17,100 as per the 2011 survey. The number of wards in the Area Development Societies(ADS) is 14.

There are 4982 families in the CDS which has 238 NHGs. There are 3050 NHG members in the CDS. 26 Elderly NHGs are also functioning in the state with 320 elderly people as members. The number of ST NHGs in the CDS is 11 which has 160 members. There are 8 PWD NHGs 8 which has 70 members. The number of SC NHGs is 4 which has 63 members.

## **CDS Committee**

Ms. Pushpakumari is the Chairperson of the CDS and Ms. Sherly Thanath is the Vice Chairperson. Ms. Prabha Kuttiyakkil is the Micro Enterprise Convener. Ms. Sulomani holds the charge of the Social Development Convener whereas Ms. Lillykutty is the Infrastructure Convener. Ms. Sinu Naduvath is the Convener of NREGS and Centrally Sponsored schemes. 99/2003 is the register number of the CDS.

## **General Achievements**

Linkage loans have been availed by 192 NHGs. Whereas Bulk loans of Rs 2 crore have been availed by 55 NHGs. There are 25 Micro Enterprises functioning in the CDS, out of which 18 are group enterprises and 7 are individual enterprises. There are 85 members finding their livelihood out of these enterprises. Three months back, Kottiyoor CDS was allotted with a space to start BUDS School. The further activities are progressing now.

There are 265 Joint Liability Groups functioning in the CDS and the cultivation is ongoing in 292 acres of land. It also includes intercropping as well. Plantain the main crop being cultivated. In Kottiyoor CDS, a total of 41 students had secured placements through DDUGKY programme.



Rs 8,75,00,000 is the total thrift of the CDS and Rs 11,00,00,000 is the total loan. 234 NHGs have been graded and 192 NHGs have been linked. Kudumbashree MIS, TB MIS, NRLM MIS and NHG, ADS, CDS Profile creation has completed 100 %. 3 Prathyasha Enterprises are functioning in the CDS. 6 Poultry farms are also functioning in the CDS. There are 48 Balasabha functioning in the CDS. In the CDS, the main focus is given to agriculture and animal husbandry.

### **Special Activities**

- Special Programmes were organized in the CDS giving special focus to the tribal colonies.
- 13 Balasabha were started at ST colonies.
- All the people in the colony were given job cards.

- A Shinkari Melam unit and a cloth was formed in the CDS by including in the Woman Component Plan(WCP).
- ST Café was also formed in the CDS by including in the Woman Component Plan (WCP).
- Snehitha Calling Bell Sangamam was organised for the Snehitha Calling Bell beneficiaries.



### **Efforts during Covid 19/ Flood**

Kottiyoor panchayat was badly affected by Covid 19. The NHGs and families were extended support through various activities. Kits were arranged under the leadership of the CDS and was distributed to the needy people. Masks were prepared and was given to the needy people in the CDS. The CDS had also contributed Rs 23,635 to the Covid First Line Treatment Centre functioning in the panchayat.



Community Kitchen was also actively functioning in the CDS. The ST Café functioning in the CDS was converted into the Community Kitchen. WhatsApp groups were formed to disseminate the messages to the community. ADS and CDS members play a major role, in delivering medicines, daily necessities to the home and transporting patients to the hospital without any fail. Mask distribution was also done under the leadership of Balasabha.



'Karuthal Campaign', the product- marketing campaign organized during the onam season for providing support to the Kudumbashree entrepreneurs and farming groups who had to face loss due to the covid-19 lockdown was well implemented in Kottiyoor CDS. The Grand Care Programme to spread awareness to the public regarding the need to take special care for the elderly to prevent them from Covid-19 was also implemented well in the panchayat. Spreading awareness on "Special Care for elderly" to families through the NHGs, calling elderly people directly through call center and spreading message and awareness through IEC were well implemented in Kottiyoor CDS.



During the floods and landslides Kottiyoor CDS have been giving leadership to commendable activities. The CDS was in the forefront to clean houses, remove the sand from the houses etc. They were also active in making check dams to prevent the floods. During the floods of 2019, they also contributed beds and other items to the flood affected areas in Cherukunnu, the nearby panchayat.





### Best Practices of CDS

- Chocosoft Chocolate of Kottiyoor CDS was branded among the 10 other branded products launched by Kannur District Mission. The Chocosoft Chocolate is the first ever chocolate produced by a Kudumbashree enterprise. By launching the branded products,

Kudumbashree Mission aimed at securing more market for the products of Kudumbashree micro enterprises from Kannur.

- A 'Snehaved' was built for one Ms. Omana, a beneficiary of Destitute Free Kerala Programme, who has mental issues.
- House was built for a Balasabha student whose father was physically paralyzed and mother is doing tailoring for finding livelihood. Assistance was also received from the School of the child for building the house.
- House was built for those who lost their house during the land slide associating with few clubs and organizations.

### **Most Satisfying experience of CDS Chairperson**

According to Ms. Pushpakumari, the present CDS Chairperson of Kottiyoor Panchayath, becoming a member of Kudumbashree had changed her life altogether. As she was from a jointly family, she was not at all used to intervene in the social matters. She was not at all used to stepping out of her house. It's after joining Kudumbashree, she started realizing her hidden strengths. She and her CDS was able to support a girl, who had secured scholarship in continuing her further studies. She has now got placement as a school teacher at Chinmaya Vidyalaya School, Kannur. Also as part of Jalakam 18 programme, she along with other CDS Chairpersons had visited Rajasthan and it has been a great exposure for her. They had stayed there for a month. According to her, she was able to interact with the poor villagers and could educate them regarding their rights and all. She also said that they are still maintaining contact with them and keep on empowering them.

### **General Feedback/comments/ opinions/ observations from the CDS Chairperson**

The CDS Chairperson suggested that the tenure of the CDS committee could be fixed as 5 years just like the Panchayath committee. According to her, that would make difference in the relationship between the panchayat and the CDS which would therefore be beneficial for the NHG members.



She suggested that an honorarium could be given to the other members in the CDS as well. Many of them have to meet expenses from on their own. So according to her, it would be highly appreciable if the other CDS members will also be given an honorarium.

Also she suggested a 'Kudumbashree bank' could be started for strengthening the financial activities of the NHGs.

### **Learning Points**

It is understood that the rapport between the panchayat and CDS is inevitable for the smooth functioning of the activities of Kudumbashree and it will reflect in the welfare activities for the people.