



Activity Report of Kerala Development Society: 2015-2016

I. Introduction

Kerala Development Society is a socio-economic research organization and a centre for the development of Indian States. It has emerged as a technical support institution to various government agencies and community organizations. It has vast experience in working with various ministries of Government of India and departments and institutions of several Indian states. It actively works with local communities, business communities, various local government institutions and district administrations. It has been working with various ministries of the central government, state governments, district administrations and international organizations. Some of them are listed below:

Ministries: Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Central Statistical Organization of Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Department of Justice of Ministry of Law and Justice: Planning Commission of Government of India : National Human Rights Commission , Ministry of Labour of Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, National University of Educational Planning and Administration of Ministry of Human Resources Development.

State Governments: Delhi Minorities Commission of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Government of Kerala, Government of Assam, Government of West Bengal and Government of Haryana

District Administrations: Bodoland Territorial Council of Assam, Kokrajhar District of Assam, Bongaigaon District of Assam, Barpeta District of Assam, Bankura, District of West Bengal, Jalpaiguri District of West Bengal, Uttar Dinajpur District of West Bengal.

International organizations: International Development Research Centre Canada UNDP India, UNICEF India, South Asia Network of Economic Research Institutes and DFID

Communities: Micro and Small Enterprises, Young and Emerging Enterprises, Self Help Groups, Transgender People and Minority Communities

2 Entrepreneur Development Programmes

2.1 Kerala Business Forum Summit 2015

The first ever Kerala Business Forum (KBF) Summit was held on 15 November 2015 at the Constitution Club, Rafi Marg, New Delhi. The KBF Summit was a special business networking programme for Non-Resident Keralite (NRK) entrepreneurs from the NCR of Delhi. Over of 200 CEOs of NRK enterprises participated in the event. Dr. Jacob John, President, Kerala Development Society and Convener of KBF, while delivering the Welcome Address, stated that KBF is now functional as a project of Kerala Development

Society (KDS), and within a short span of time KBF is expected to become a separate organization. According to an estimate, over 1000 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) owned by Keralites are present in the NCR of Delhi and of these 400 MSMEs have been identified by KBF. Shri. Satyendra Jain, Hon'ble Minister of *NCT of Delhi* (Industries, Health, Home, Public Work and Power Department), inaugurated the KBF Summit 2015. Dr. T. Thomas Isaac, CPI (M) leader and former Finance Minister of Kerala was the chief guest. He pointed that the state of Kerala should move towards the value based development path to create employment opportunities for educated youth. He has emphasized the need for setting up of a Kerala Chamber of Commerce in foreign countries and other Indian cities. Shri. Binoy Viswam, CPI leader and former Forest Minister of Kerala inaugurated the KBF by lighting the lamp along with select successful Non- Resident Keralite Entrepreneurs. The entrepreneurs - Shri. K.K. Thomas, Shri. Ranjit John, Shri. Rajan Skharia, Mr. Unnikrishnan T. Nair, Shri Jose George, Mr. A.T. Sainudeen, Mr. Achuthan Nair- who have all made substantial achievements in their respective business sectors joined Shri. Viswam in lighting the lamp. Shri. Jagdeep Singh, MLA, Hari Nagar, Delhi delivered the special address. Shri. Rajan Skharia, Mecpro Heavy Engineering Ltd. Shri Anto George, General Manager, South Indian Bank, Prof. K.R.G. Nair, formerly Head, Department of Business, Economics, University of Delhi and Shri. K. K. Thomas, Avid Apparel Industries, Noida, Dr. Darlie O. Koshy, DG & CEO, Institute of Apparel Management and Apparel Training and Design Centre, Dr. K. P. Sunny, Director, National Productivity Council and Dr. Sibichan Mathew, Professor NIFT addressed the Summit.

2.2 Panel Discussion on Smart Cities and AMRUT Cities: Business Opportunities

A panel discussion on business opportunities in Smart Cities and AMRUT Cities was organized by Kerala Development Society jointly with Kerala Business Forum on 23 April 2016 at Conference Hall, Kerala House. A total of 60 entrepreneurs participated in the meeting. Dr. K.R.G. Nair (formerly Professor and Head, Department of Business Economics, University of Delhi) chaired the meeting. Dr. Jacob John (President, KDS-Delhi), Dr. K.P. Sunny (Director, National Productivity Council, New Delhi), Mr. P. Z. Thomas (Managing Director, Environmental Engineers & Consultants Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi) Mr. Rajveer Singh (Managing Director, Apex Cluster Development Services Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi), Mr. Sushanta Kumar Pal (Development Specialist, formerly Operations Officer, International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group) were the panel speakers. Salient features of Smart Cities for urban transformation were discussed in the meeting. A Smart City is an urban region that is highly advanced in terms of overall infrastructure, sustainable real estate, communications and market viability. It is a city where information technology is the principal infrastructure and the basis for providing essential services to residents. The meeting discussed salient features of AMRUT Cities that providing basic services such as water supply, sewerage and urban transport to households and build amenities in cities which will improve the quality of life for all, especially the poor and the disadvantaged.

2.3 Consultation Meeting on Formation of a Business Chamber of Non-Resident Keralites in India

A consultation meeting on formation of Business Chamber of Non Resident Keralites in NCR of Delhi was organized by Kerala Development Society jointly with Kerala Business Forum on 23 April 2016 at Conference Hall, Kerala House, New Delhi. A total of 60 entrepreneurs participated in the meeting. Dr. K.R.G. Nair (Formerly Professor and Head, Department of Business Economics, University of Delhi) chaired the meeting. Mr. Unnikrishnan Nair (Chief Executive, Prime Labs, New Delhi and Convener, Kerala Business Forum), Mr. Rajan Skhariya (Managing Director, Mecpro Heavy Engineering Ltd, New Delhi), Mr. P.K.N. Nambiar (C.E.O, Electro Spark, New Delhi), Mr. A.T. Sainudeen (Star Marklink Pvt. Ltd.) and Dr. Jacob John (President of KDS-Delhi) have made presentations and led the discussions. The need for registering Kerala Business Forum as a chamber was emphasized. Kerala Business Forum has now been functioning as a project of Kerala Development Society. The new chamber should function as business promotion agency for Non-Resident Keralites in India in order to promote business and employment creation in the context of Make in India, Startup India and Stand up India Schemes, and other industrial promotion programmes of Government of India and governments of various Indian States. The primary focus areas of the proposed chamber are discussed. These include networking of non- resident Keralite entrepreneurs in Delhi and other national and international locations, dissemination of business opportunities, government policies and schemes, assisting entrepreneurs in dealing with statutory authorities and international business development and business support services such as conducting feasibility, evaluation and sectoral studies.

2.4 Technical Support Programme for Delhi based to Kerala Business People : meeting of Founder Members of Kerala Business Forum

KDS has started providing technical support in setting up of Kerala Business Forum in Delhi. In this context, a meeting of founder members of Kerala Business Forum was organized on 11 October 2015, at Conference Hall, Kerala House, 3, Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi - 110 001. A total of 45 participants attended the meeting. Another 34 members, who could not attend the meeting, have sent their suggestions in advance. It was decided to set up a common platform for Non-Resident Keralite Entrepreneurs in different parts of India. Various activities to promote interest of NRK business community were discussed in the meeting.

2.5 Technical Support Programme for Delhi based to Kerala Business People : Advisory Board Meeting of Kerala Business Forum

KDS has carried out various activities as a part of its technical support in setting up of Kerala Business Forum in Delhi. The first meeting of Advisory Board of Kerala Business Forum was organized on 24 October 2015 at District Centre, Janakpuri, New Delhi. Various aspects of Kerala Business Forum Summit 2015 were

discussed. The meeting provided several suggestions on matters related to the membership campaign, resource mobilization and delivery of services to the members.

3. Welfare Programmes: Delhi Minority Commission, Government of NCT of Delhi

Delhi Minority Commission, Government of NCT of Delhi, jointly with Kerala Development Society, Delhi, organized an awareness creation meeting on welfare schemes for minority communities at St. Mary's School, Mayur Vihar Phase-III on 29 January 2016. Shri. Qamar Ahmad, Chairman, Delhi Minority Commission, chaired the meeting. Shri. Manoj Kumar M.L.A. (Kondli East) inaugurated the meeting. Shri. Abraham M. Pattiyani, Member of Delhi Minority Commission, Dr. Jacob John, President of Kerala Development Society, Justice George Paracken, former Member, Central Administrative Tribunal, Government of India and Patron of Kerala Christian Association, Shri. G.S. Randhawa, former ACP of Delhi and a representative of Sikh community and Shri. A.T. Sainudin, Vice President of Kerala Muslim Welfare Association spoke on the occasion. Over 65 delegates representing Sikh, Muslim, Christian and Jain communities participated in the meeting.

Dr. Jacob John, President of Kerala Development Society, while delivering the Welcome Address, stated that joint efforts of different minority communities are required to enhance the access to different government welfare programmes for minorities.

Shri. Manoj Kumar, in his inaugural address, explained the minority welfare programmes of Government of NCT of Delhi. He has emphasized the need for an action plan with an active involvement of community leaders to create an awareness of welfare schemes for minority communities. Shri. Qamar Ahmad, in his address explained that inclusive growth is the basic need of development paradigm in the country and Delhi Minority Commission focuses its activities for achieving this goal.

Adv. Abraham M. Pattiyani, delivered an address where he laid out before the participants various steps taken by Delhi Minority Commission to enhance the access to government welfare programmes for minorities in Delhi. He made a detailed presentation on the prevailing schemes for enhancing education opportunities, skill development, etc.

Shri George Paracken emphasized the need for promotion of communal harmony and highlighted the significance of respecting different religions and sharing of information on various religions. Shri. G.S. Randhawa said that minorities in Delhi can avail several welfare schemes with the help of Delhi Minority Commission.

4 Action Research and Research Study Projects

4.1 Kerala Local Government Service Delivery Project, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala Need Assessment and 13 Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for Alappuzha Municipality, Muvattupuzha Municipality and Kadappuram Grama Panchayat.

Government of Kerala has entered into agreement with the World Bank for implementing Kerala Local Government Service Delivery Project (KLGSDP) for providing financial assistance to raise the level of service deliveries by Local Governments using modern tools of planning, development, project implementation and transparency in administration to ensure increase in revenues and enhance utilization of finance resources, thereby improving the quality of lives of the people. KLGSDP has assigned two municipalities and one Panchayat to KDS Delhi to conduct a study to ascertain the infrastructure development and service delivery needs and then prepare 13 DPRs to fulfill the identified needs through the funds available under IDA /World Bank assistance.

Need Assessment and selections of projects was carried out through a participatory approach. The data and information for this exercise were collected both from primary and secondary sources. KDS has prepared the Detailed Project Report for 13 development projects in two municipalities and one Panchayat against the World Bank funding Rs. 12 Crores

The 13 DPRs are as follows:-

Alappuzha Municipality

1. Dialysis Unit in Alappuzha Government General Hospital with Building Maintenance Alappuzha Municipality
2. Building of Municipal Health Office with Solar Electrification as a new Zonal Office Of Alappuzha Municipality

Muvattupuzha Municipality

1. Construction of Community Hall
2. Renovation and Modernization of Fish Market
3. Construction of Toilet Block and related amenities in Eastern Bus stand Yard
4. Infrastructure Support to Government School at Sivankunnu
5. Infrastructure support to Maradi Govt. School
6. Infrastructure support to Govt. JB School at Vazhapally

Kadappuram Municipality

1. Construction of a Gasified Crematorium
2. Solar Electrification of GP Office Complex
3. BUDS School– Special School for Mentally and Physically Challenged Children
4. Supply of Drinking Water through Developing a New Water Source
5. Improvement of basic infrastructure and construction of an Anganwadi building in Tsunami rehabilitation colony

DPRs are now in the draft form and the final draft will be submitted for the approval of the respective district planning committee

4.2 Study on Human Rights of Transgender as a Third Gender- Sponsored by National Human Rights Commission

To improve the situation of transgender in our country and to bring them to the mainstream development, National Human Rights Commission has assigned a research study to Kerala Development Society. The study covered the profile of transgender as a third gender encompassing important socio-economic variables. The main objectives of the study are to study the overall profile of transgender as a third gender encompassing important socio-economic variables, like age, caste, religion, education, employment and income and to examine various kinds of discrimination, human rights violations faced by them. The main objectives of the study will be follows:

- i. Examine various kinds of discrimination, human rights violations faced by them in all aspects concerning their lives, including coping mechanisms, both in urban and rural areas;
- ii. Evaluate entitlements given to transgender by Central and State Governments under various schemes/programmes like education, health, employment, food, pension, etc. and reasons for their inclusion/exclusion, including problems faced by them in accessing those entitlements;
- iii. Study in-depth the programmes/schemes launched/facilities provided for transgender by the Centre, State or Local Government and critically identify the areas of economic activities for self-reliance;
- iv. Make an in-depth analysis of the laws and policies, if any, for transgender along with the Supreme Court judgments and steps taken by the Central and State Governments for their overall developments in the light of the given policy, law(s) and judgment;
- v. Examine the prevalent practices towards transgender in foreign countries and also study the UN Yogyakarta Principles of international human rights law in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity; and
- vi. Develop and build database and come up with actionable recommendations to protect and promote their human rights – civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

The draft report submitted and presentation on the findings of the study was made to the chairman and member of the National Human Right Committee

4.3 Interregional migration from Eastern States to Kerala: A Socio-Economic Analysis- Sponsored by Ministry of Labour, Government of India

This is a study of various aspects of the complex issues of domestic migrant labourers in Kerala. It aims to enable various government authorities to formulate and implement an action plan to address various problems of domestic migrant labourers in Kerala. Since critical issues concerning the interstate migrants remain untouched now, the present study provides a roadmap for interventions by government of Kerala, government of India and government of various States which supply migrant labourers.

The major objectives of the study are to:

- examine the socio-economic characteristics of interstate migrants
- study the supply chain of migrants
- identify the factors influencing their decision to migrate to Kerala
- understand working and living conditions of interstate migrants in Kerala
- analyze various socio-economic, occupational and health issues of interstate migrants
- assess the social integration of migrants with the residents
- examine the role of Panchayats and Municipalities in addressing the problem of migrants.
- identify welfare and social security provisions for migrant workers.
- critically analyze need for special intervention for the upliftment and welfare of migrant workers through government programmes
- Suggest measures for enhancing the welfare of interstate migrants in Kerala.

The draft report is submitted, comments are incorporated and presentation was made to the Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Government of India. The study has been approved by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India.

5. Consulting Services/ Expertise provided by KDS members / Faculties

National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Government of India : KDS faculty staff members Dr. Jacob John, Ms. Seema Chelat Mr. Sunil pillai, Ms. Vijayasree. M. B. and Ms. Neema. V were engaged by the NIRD for the preparation of a National Report of “A Study on The Actual Status Of Devolution To Panchayati Raj Institutions.



RPGSA: Assessment of RGPSA programme in the following States - Dr. Jacob John has served as a member of Expert Committee to assess the performance of six states (Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Assam, Orissa, Manipur and Sikkim) in the Annual Plan 2013-14 under RGPSA, the centrally sponsored programme, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India.

6 KDS Studies Published

Working Papers : KDS has published the following working papers:

Kurian N.J, and John Jacob, *“Development of an Appropriate Methodology and Framework for Creating a Database of Self Help Groups”*, KDS working Paper series 1-14, Kerala Development Society, New Delhi, September, 2014 at [www. kdsonline.org](http://www.kdsonline.org)

Nair K.R.G, *“God’s own country courting disaster?”* ”, KDS working Paper series 2-15, Kerala Development Society, New Delhi, January , 2015 at [www. kdsonline.org](http://www.kdsonline.org)

John Jacob, *“Socio-Economic and Health Problems of Theyyam Dancers belonging to Scheduled Castes of Kerala”*, KDS working Paper series 3-15, Kerala Development Society, New Delhi, March, 2015 at [www. kdsonline.org](http://www.kdsonline.org)

John Jacob, *“Interregional Migration from Eastern States toKerala: A Socio Economic Analysis”*, ”, KDS working Paper series 4-15, Kerala Development Society, New Delhi, August, 2015 at [www. kdsonline.org](http://www.kdsonline.org)

John Jacob, *“Education of Children of Migrant Workers and Right to Education Act, 2009: A Critical Analysis”*, KDS working Paper series 5-15, Kerala Development Society, New Delhi, April, 2016 at [www. kdsonline.org](http://www.kdsonline.org)
