

Activity Report of Kerala Development Society: 2017-2018

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 has been working with various ministries of the central government, state governments, district administrations and international organizations. It actively works with local communities, business communities, various local government institutions and district administrations.

Projects and Programmes

1. Documentation of the Governance arrangements in Non –Part IX Areas of North Eastern States Client Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India

KDS has started a study on governance arrangements in Non –Part IX Areas of North Eastern State in March 2018. Parts IX of the Constitution have not been extended to entire Meghalaya. Parts IX does not cover Nagaland and Mizoram. Parts of Assam, Mizoram and Tripura are governed by the provisions of Sixth Schedule. The national self-governance frame in Part IX (Panchayats) and Part IXA (Municipalities) covers a few North Eastern States. Statutory Autonomous Councils are established by some States through Acts passed by the respective State Legislative Assembly. Traditional institutions such as Village Development Council continue to function in most of these States. Within these parameters the present study provides objective assessment of the governance arrangement in these States. This study examines how far ADCs and other administrative structures in NE States have been performing obligations towards local governance. The study covers the eight North Eastern States - Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura the tribal dominant areas. The main objective of the study is to examine how far ADCs and other administrative structures in NE States have been performing obligations towards local governance. The specific objectives of the study are to:

- Analysis of the local governance system in each State and its comparison with the Part – IX areas in that State, wherever applicable.
- Suggest options for deepening democracy in these States and adoption of better provisions of these States, if any, by other States

KDS has completed the field survey and prepared the first draft report

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. We have made an in-depth study of the programmes/schemes /facilities provided for transgender by the Centre, State or Local Government and critically identified the areas of economic activities for self-reliance. The study covered an in-depth analysis of the laws and policies 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. The draft report submitted and presentation on the findings of the study was made to the Chairman and Members of the National Human Right Committee. The project is approved. The report is available at www.nhrc.nic.in/research_completed.htm

3. Mahila Panchayat Programme - Delhi Commission for Women, Government of N. C. T. of Delhi

We have been running a Mahila Panchayat project in Sultanpuri, New Delhi. Mahila Panchayat is an innovative collective approach for community participation in dispute redressal. After need assessment and motivation, community leaders are identified and these women are then motivated to volunteer as Mahila Panchayat Members. Women leaders are being trained in legal issues and dispute redressal mechanism--, trained in the laws relevant

to crimes against women, given exposure about the existing legal position regarding property, maintenance, marriage, custody, etc. They are also given training in counselling, FIR writing, pursuing with police station, how to proceed for legal recourse. The Mahila Panchayats itself act as a "Watch Dog" and its members, after orientation, and training, can handle delicate and family disputes. They find solutions at the local level through the workers in the field itself. This is an ongoing programme of KDS

4 State of Panchayat Report (SoPR) and Devolution Index Report (DI) - Ministry of Panchayati Raj , Government of India-on a Consortium basis

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR), Government of India has been preparing the Devolution Index (DI) and State of Panchayat Report (SoPR) for 2016-17. The high ranking States and UTs on the DI will be awarded and honoured on the Panchayati Raj Day on 24th April 2017. The MoPR has assigned the task to Centre for Rural Management (CRM) Kottayam, Kerala. KDS is a consortium partner of this project.

State of Panchayat Report (SoPR) of all the Indian States and UTs will be prepared in a ten months period. In addition to supporting the preparation of the Devolution Index (DI), KDS is also in the process of preparing the State of Panchayati Raj Report of Haryana and Uttarakhand .

5 Need Assessment and 13 Detailed Project Reports for Alappuzha Municipality, Muvattupuzha Municipality and Kadappuram Gram Panchayat. Sponsored by Kerala Local Government Service Delivery Project, Local Self Government Department, Government of Kerala

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

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

Muvattupuzha Municipality

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

Kadappuram Grama Panchayat

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

All the DPRs are finalized and got approved. KDS has extended all the services in getting the administrative approval of the respective district planning committee and technical sanction. After the approval the construction work has been started. The task of KDS has been completed.

6. Centre for Education & Research Services (CERS)

Centre for Education & Research Services (CERS) is an ongoing programme of Kerala Development Society (KDS), Delhi. It offers research support to research institutions and individual researchers. The services are provided by a team of experienced and senior professionals, researchers and development specialists from across the globe. We create a right network of experienced and senior professionals, researchers and development specialists from across the globe that can help in providing these services. The primary objective of this network is to promote the contributions and brand name of each network member by facilitating the sharing of their knowledge and expertise for research and development. CERS provides an integrated package of education and research services that try to address various needs of education and research institutions and individuals with the deeper involvement of experienced and senior professionals, researchers and development specialists. We create a right network of experienced and senior professionals, researchers and development specialists from different countries who can help in providing these services. Our network covered researchers and development specialists across the globe. We continue to identify and include national and international experts in different domains. The primary objective of this network is to promote the contributions and brand name of each network member by facilitating the sharing of their knowledge and expertise for research and development. Sharing of government policies in the field of education and research among network members is another important activity.

7. Entrepreneurship Development Programmes

7.1. Business Chamber of Non-Resident Keralites in India : Successful

Completion of an Institution Building Project - Registration is completed

KDS has provided technical support in setting up of Non-Resident Keralites Business Chamber in Delhi within the framework of Kerala Business Forum project of KDS. KDS has carried out various activities as a part of its technical support in setting up of Non-Resident Keralites Business Chamber. For example, 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

entrepreneurs from the NCR of Delhi. Over 200 CEOs of NRK enterprises participated in the event. 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 KDS.

The formation of Business Chamber of Non Resident Keralites in NCR of Delhi has been completed now. Currently it facilitates in the areas of business promotion, incubation, government support schemes, certifications, Government regulations, company formation national and international partnerships. The first meeting of the Central Committee of the newly formed chamber was held at 5.30PM on December 30, 2016 at Conference Hall of Mecpro Heavy Engineering Ltd, 610, Som Datt Chambers-II, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi. Mr. Rajan Skhariya was unanimously elected as the first President of the Chamber

The President Mr. Rajan Skhariya is the Managing Director of Mecpro Heavy Engineering Ltd. Secretary is Mr. Unnikrishnan T. Nair who is Chief Executive of Prime Labs while Treasurer Mr. Jacob George is Managing Director of Jams Furnaces Pvt. Ltd. From KDS side, Dr. Jacob John and Prof. K.R.G Nair participated in the proceedings. A total of 23 entrepreneurs covering various business sectors have become members of the Central Committee. Now the newly formed Business Association got registered under Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860 with number S/ND/892/2018 dtd.05 January 2018.

7.2. Startup Promotion Centre and Malayalee Business Network

Startup Promotion Centre (SPC) promotes innovative business ideas, business models, business experience and delivery of services in different sectors. SPC provides incubation facilities in virtual forms. It has a well-connected network of mentors who are mainly successful and well experienced entrepreneurs. The Centre has a team of business promotion specialists, academics, promoters and business partners. It facilitates interface between policy makers, entrepreneurs, industry, domain experts, mentors, educational institutions in India and abroad, government departments or institutions in India. It provides an integrated package of services that try to address stakeholder's need with the deeper involvement of successful entrepreneurs and investment and technology promotion specialists.

KDS has started Malayalee Business Network programme to assist entrepreneurs to extend their reach through its networking groups, business promotion meets, usage of social media marketing and other new age communication media . Through partnerships with Professional bodies in the respective segments Malayalee Business Network can support the efforts of entrepreneurs to realize their business goals. These programmes help in sharing the experiences and best practices in the industry and promote national/international exposure of entrepreneurs. KDS Malayalee Business Network liaisons with central and state and local governments, embassies, foreign trade organizations, etc. to promote interests of Keralite Businesses in NCR of Delhi. Malayalee Business Network is planning to organize four quarterly network meetings in 2018.

Ongoing Research Studies

8. Study on Finances of Private Higher Educational Institutions: Sponsored by National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (Under the Scheme of Policy Studies of Ministry of Human Resources development)

In India, the important factors behind emergence of private universities were the processes of globalization and internationalization . Currently, in India, there are three main types of tertiary education: i) University and university-level institutions, ii) Colleges, and iii) Diploma-awarding institutions. The affiliating colleges, public and private, affiliated to state universities, cater to the major share of higher education. In this background, KDS has started a research study on “Finances of Private Higher Educational Institutions in India” . The major objectives of the study are to :

- Study the finances of different categories of private higher educational institutions
- Analyse multiple sources of finance of private higher education institutions
- Estimate the recurring and the capital costs of higher education by types and levels and analyze per unit cost incurred by private higher educational institutions
- Make recommendations for introducing suitable changes in fee structure for ensuring access, equity and equality in the higher education sector

The study is sponsored by National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration under the Scheme of Policy Studies of Ministry of Human Resources development .

9. Economic Development and Income Generation through Panchayats in Rural Areas

KDS has initiated a study on the role of Panchayats in ensuring inclusive economic development and income generation in their respective Panchayat areas through undertaking various economic activities and converging various resources at their disposal. The major objectives of the study are to:

- Understand the status of involvement of Panchayats in promoting economic development and income generation in their respective areas
- Explore and suggest potential areas of involvement of the Panchayats towards ensuring local economic development and income generation
- Make recommendations for strengthened role of Panchayats in economic development in equitable manner in their areas within existing frameworks and available resources under various funds, different central and state sponsored schemes its own revenue sources etc.

The study is sponsored by Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India.

Entrepreneurship Development , Training and Network Programmes

Malayalee Business Promotion Programme: KDS has started Malayalee Business Network programme to assist entrepreneurs to extend their reach through its networking groups, business promotion meets, usage of social media marketing and other new age communication media . Through partnerships with Professional bodies in the respective segments Malayalee Business Network can support the efforts of entrepreneurs to realize their business goals. These programmes help in sharing the experiences and best practices in the industry and promote national/international exposure of entrepreneurs. KDS Malayalee Business Network liaisons with central and state and local governments, embassies, foreign trade organizations, etc. to promote interests of Keralite Businesses in NCR of Delhi. Malayalee Business Network is planning to organize four quarterly network meetings in 2018.

KDS Malayalee Business Network Meeting

Malayalee Business Network Meeting was held on 21st July 2018 at the Hotel Emerald, 112, Babar Lane, Behind Lalit Hotel, Connaught Place, New Delhi. The KDS Malayalee Business

Network Meeting was a special business networking programme for Non- Resident Keralite (NRK) entrepreneurs from the NCR of Delhi. Over of 70 enterprises and self employed professionals participated in the event.



Various motivational speeches were delivered in the meeting. In addition, business experiences and best practices were shared .

Dr. S. Sunanda, Secretary General, Confederation of Indian Textile Industry, Dr. Jacob John, President KDS-Delhi, Mr. Binoj Cheiran Managing Director, STJ Electronics Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Babu Kuriakose, Business Consultant, Mr. Josy Antony , Managing Director, Blue Bell Buying Services Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Zack Varghese, Managing Director, Zack Marketing, Mr. Gilbert Chacko, Director, Emmanuel International Inc. , Advo. Manoj V George, Head-Litigation Attorney, Mr. K. G. Satheesh, Director, JVC Kenwood Marketing India Private Ltd, Mr. A.J. Antony, Managing Director, , Manna media, Mr. Jose K Managing Director, Drishya Holidays, Mr. Thomas James, Co-founder & CEO, Weg Voraus , Mr. Johnson P J, Director, HomePass Networks and Communications Pvt. Ltd, and Ms. Ritu Sharma Head, Marketing, Emerald Group made presentations in the meeting



Empanelment and New Research Projects Pending Sanction

A few research studies/ impact assessment studies sponsored by Ministries/ International organizations are expected to get sanction soon. KDS has been empanelled with the following Government Organizations, PSUs and Autonomous/Statutory bodies for conducting research studies :

- Competition Commission of India (CCI)
- NITI Aayog, Government of India
- Delhi Commission for Women, Government of N.C.T of Delhi
- Delhi Minority Commission, , Government of N.C.T of Delhi
- National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
- National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA)
- Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India
- Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India
