

## ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

### ***The role of NGOs in generating income and employment : A study on Calicut District***

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The present study on “The role of NGOs in generating income and employment : A study on Calicut District” is organized in five chapters.

The first chapter begins with a general introduction about NGOs and their importance in creating gainful employment opportunity and thus contributing towards inclusiveness is discussed. The objectives of the study are to examine the socio economic profile of beneficiaries involved in NGOs , to study the functioning of NGOs involved in skill development programmes and to analyse the economic impact of livelihood creation activities by NGOs on the beneficiaries. The methodology of the study follows the objectives. Three NGOs functioning in different parts of Calicut are studied. . The sample size is 98 (32 beneficiaies from each NGO).

The study areas are Chelannur, Omakkara and Puthupadi villages. All three NGOs viz. STARS, COD and JEEVANA are providing vocational training and skill development programmes at their respective areas

The review of literature follows next. The available literature about this study has been sub divided in to four parts. First section deals with the NGO-Government relations; the second section is placed under the heading “NGO and Environment”. The third part and the fourth sections are classified as “NGO and Community development” and “Problems faced by NGOs”, respectively

The third chapter gives the detail account of the profile of the NGOs and the study area. The three NGOs identified for the purpose have strived with excellence in the arena of livelihood creation by focusing on the areas of tribal welfare (Jeevana),

women empowerment (STARS) and upliftment of the underprivileged class (COD) by providing vocational training and skill development. The functions, objectives and the activities of these three NGOs in their respective functioning area has been discussed in detail.

One of the area is Chelannur which is approximately 22 kilometers away from the city. Chelannur is a panchayath where the activities of STARS were carried out by forming a five Self Help groups consisting of female population. These self help groups are collectively known as Ashagram and they constitute separate units of jewellery designing, soap making and tailoring units respectively. Stars – a Society For Total Advancement And Rehabilitation Services, the official social work organization of CMI St.Thomas Province Calicut was established in 1991. The goal of the organization is the inclusion of the socially and economically excluded sections of the society to the mainstream. The organization has been working for last 22 years in various districts of North Malabar

Jeevana, is another nonprofit community based organization working towards women empowerment, education and livelihood promotion of the people of the diocese of Calicut. It was founded in 1978, the organization has worked among backward communities in the interior unreached pockets of 6 revenue districts of northern Kerala. Jeevana's goal is to raise the level of developmental action and awareness at all levels of society. Jeevana co-ordinates the developmental activities of the Community Based Organisations. Omakkara is the area studied which is a Village near the border of Calicut. It is also enlisted under the State Commission for Khadi Villages by the Government of Kerala. Jeevana, which has a long history of voluntary activism throughout the Malabar area, has however extended their work to Calicut only since a period of two years. Within two years, they have carried out significant skill development courses including DTP course, X Ray technician course, Binding, Welding and other vocational training to the rural population

Center for overall development (COD) the social work division of catholic diocese of Thamarassery was established in the year 1989. COD initiated its activities with the objective of giving a helping hand to the people in need particularly marginalized vulnerable communities irrespective of their caste, creed and religion. Puthupadi, the small township near Thamarassery belonging to Thiruvampadi constituency is a Panchayath. The panchayath is located at a higher altitude and the whole area is considered as an ecologically sensitive area due to its locational characteristic. Engapuzha, the nearby town is popular for organising River Rafting and Kayaking as a part of Malabar Fest. The population of the study area consists of farmers who are practicing agriculture since generations. Ninety percent of the population are Christian migrants who have relocated decades ago in search of farm land. Hence, COD which is a Christian missionary based NGO has been playing a significant role in the day to day lives of the beneficiaries focusing their overall development. COD enjoys consultive status with many agencies including governmental and non-governmental agencies. It acts as a nodal as well as implementing agency for several schemes of national and international agencies. COD is member of NGO network, Kerala social service forum.

The findings of the study can be summarised as follows

1. Out of the 96 respondents, 70 of them are females and 26 are males. The NGOs have played a vital role in forming thrift units under Self help groups in the study areas. Only women are included in SHGs while a similar group has been successful for men only under COD, one of the three NGOs
2. More than fifty seven percent of the respondents belong to the age group of 18 to 55 years while nearly 21 percentages of the respondents involved in skill development programmes are above 55 years of age.
3. As per the data, 24 percent of the population belong to APL category while 72 percent belong the below poverty line category
4. 38 respondents who were not having regular source of income has found a dependable income source through NGOs. The number of cultivators

has increased from 14 to 52 after joining NGO. The number of daily wage earners have reduced from 32 to 10 while the number of self employed have increased from 14 to 86.

5. Farming activities are engaged by 44 percent while 30 percent and 13 percent of the respondents are involved in dairy and poultry activities respectively. Another 13 percent are involved in secondary activities like soap making, tailoring, jewellery making etc etc
6. 42 percent of the respondents revealed that they did not find any other means of financial help while 29 percent of respondents cited poverty as the reason to NGO. 27 Percent of the respondents were migrants and they joined the NGOs to establish their existence.
7. 82 percent of the respondents reported an increase up to 5000 in their annual income after joining NGO while 16 percent reported an increase of 5000 to 10,000 in their annual income were involved in dairy farming.
8. 44 percent of the respondents have borrowed money for the purchase of house hold articles from cooperative credit societies while 48 percent of them have borrowed for marriage related expenses. Nearly 42 percent of the respondents also have borrowed from SHGs under the NGOs while 16 percent of them have borrowed from NGOs for the purchase of household articles. 11 percent have borrowed for education loan from State Banks.
9. 22 percent each of the respondents have received health awareness and environmental awareness classes and benefitted from them. 21 percent of the respondents feel that NGOs have given them a sense of social security to their family.
10. 80 percentage of the population have more than 10 years of experience with NGOs. 12 percent of them have 5 to 10 years of association with the NGO and 8 percent of them have less than five years of association.

## Conclusion

Based on the objectives of the study the following conclusions can be made

It is seen that the community in all the study area involved under NGOs are backwards in caste and nearly 72 percent are registered under BPL category. However 82 percent of the respondents also reported up to a sum of Rs 5000 increase in their income. This is a contradictory statement as they still belong to the below poverty income group as per the census. Hence, a more transparent system to verify the actual income need to be developed to identify the low income group.

Only 12 percent of the respondents stated that they have benefitted from the skill development programme .However 80 percent of the respondents is involved for more than 10 years with the NGOs and have registered under the skill development or vocational training programme. Also 82 percent have claimed an increase in their income compared to the previous year. The data on their consumption expenditure reveals that 33 percent of the respondents spent less than Rs.5000 for the purchase of essentials like clothing and footwear, education, medical expense, electronic durables, annual payment of life insurance policies etc during the previous year. 31 percent of the respondents spent between 10000-50000 for the purchase of essentials like education, medical expense, clothing and footwear, electronic durables, furniture, annual payment of life insurance etc during the previous year. 21 percent of the respondents spent between 5000-10000 for the purchase of the clothing and footwear. Five among the respondents spent amount between 50000- 1 Lakh for the purchase of the same. Maximum amount spent on these essential items by the respondents is above 1 lakh and 8 respondents spent an amount above 1 lakh for the purchase of the essentials like clothing and footwear, education, medical expenses etc.

Also the empirical evidence through econometric analysis using multiple regression suggests 24 percent of the increase in income is related positively with the livelihood creation activities of the N.GO.

The total years of experience and association with the NGOs however shows a high correlation of 64 percent. The time spent in association with NGOs is observed to be statistically significant and positively associated with the income earned by the respondents.

Hence ,it can be concluded that that the enrolment in and participation in skill development programme is said to have a positive and direct relation with income of the respondents. The period of association with the NGOs has also positively increased the income of the community.