

FIELD VISIT REPORT – NJARACKAL CDS, ERNAKULAM

Visited Njarackal CDS in Ernakulam district on October 25th & 26th. Njarackal CDS comes under Vyppin block. ADS totals to a number of 16. There are 230 NHGs in Njarackal CDS, out of which 5 are special NHGs. There are 68 elderly NHGs.

CDS chairperson – Smt. Mini Anthonies

Visited NHG (Jeevan NHG), Asraya Beneficiary, Special NHG, Elderly NHG, JLG, Prathyasha ME, Coastal ME etc.

Learnings

- Since it is a coastal area, the main occupation of the people is fishing. Men go to sea for fishing and women go to chemeen kettu for livelihood.
- Healthy relationship exists between CDS and Panchayath.
- Panchayath president is very cooperative in implementing the activities of Kudumbashree.
- CDS - ADS meeting is conducted twice a month.
- Coastal RP helps in writing minutes for needed NHGs.
- Elderly NHG (Velicham NHG) mostly discuss about the happenings around them. They are very much enthusiastic to meet once in a week.
- Awareness class given to elderly NHG regarding the laws that exist for their needs.
- Special NHG (Suhurtham special NHG) discusses about the activities for the welfare of the children.
- As it is a coastal area, only terrace farming is possible (JLG). Vegetables are cultivated in grow bags.
- GRC building has not been opened.
- Visited duck farm
- NHG members discuss mostly of their thrift and savings.
- Visited Green Summer Banana Centre (Prathyasha ME)
- Visited Sujeevenam Nature shop (coastal ME)
- Visited Anugraha Catering Café Kudumbashree, started by CEF fund.
- Visited Asraya beneficiary, Anandam aged 80. Have a mentally challenged daughter (aged 57). Both of them are very aged and Anandam goes for lottery business for a survival. Getting kit from Kudumbashree helps them a lot. CDS takes initiatives to support their medical needs.

Suggestions

- Elderly NHG members suggested to arrange an awareness class to younger generation people (aged 25 – 40) to take care of their elders.
- No value added units in Agri/ AH has started. Opportunity for value added units in AH/ Agri can be made possible.
- Training class for NHG members for writing minutes to be provided by CDS.
- Medical camp to be conducted for bedridden Asraya and calling bell beneficiaries.
- Efforts should be taken to ensure whether all funds given to CDS are utilised efficiently within the stipulated time frame.

- Submitted by
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