



Government of Kerala

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(Programmes and Events conducted during December 2023)

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS & STATISTICS

# ECOSTAT BULLETIN

NEWSLETTER

## MESSAGE

"I congratulate Shri. Sreekumar B., Director of Economics & Statistics and his dedicated team in bringing out monthly titled **Ecostat Bulletin** covering all important department specific events conducted in the preceding month. I hope that these record of events will benefit in highlighting the achievements of the Department and to pave the way for planning events in future."

**Smt. Sarada Muraleedharan IAS,**  
*Additional Chief Secretary,  
Planning & Economic Affairs  
Department*



## New Secretary for Planning & Economic Affairs

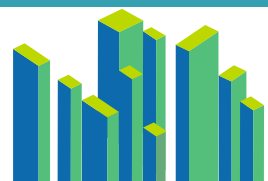
Smt. Sarada Muraleedharan IAS has taken charge as Additional Chief Secretary of Planning & Economic Affairs Department on 18th December 2023. Earlier she was in charge of LSGD.

Kannur Vivara Sanchayika is a project initiated by District Panchayat, Kannur and supported by Department for developing an exhaustive database for all local bodies in Kannur district to facilitate local level planning

## Vivara Sanchayika project in Kannur



Official launch of Vivara Sanchayika Project in Kannur District on 5-12-2023



effectively. The Department is planning to replicate this model in all districts for effective planning at all levels. The District Planning Committee of Kannur District has approved this project in the 2023-'24 budget. The Department of Economics and Statistics Kannur district provides technical support for the preparation of questionnaires, training to enumerators for data collection and report preparation.

The survey was officially launched on 5th December 2023 and the district-level inauguration of data collection using the Android Mobile Application has been done by Sri. M.V. Govindan Master, former Minister for Local Self Government and Member of Legislative Assembly. District Panchayat President Smt. P.P. Divya, Deputy Director of Economics & Statistics Sri. E.V. Premarajan, members of District Panchayat Kannur, officials from District Planning Office Kannur and Department of Economics and Statistics Kannur were present during the ceremony.

Directorate of Economics and Statistics has developed Mobile App and Web Portal for the Vivara Sanchayika Project through the

startup M/s Bayesian Ways LLP, a registered startup under Kerala Startup Mission. This kind of complete enumeration of all households covering all aspects of socio-economic parameters is unique in Kerala and the data collected is supposed to meet the challenges in addressing all developmental issues of the local level economy. The survey also aims to fill the data gaps for localising Sustainable Development Goals.

Expenditure for the conduct of training, printing of questionnaires, honorarium for enumerators for collection of data and report preparation in each local body shall be borne by the respective local body. The survey is proposed to be supervised by the statistical staff deployed at Taluk level. A five member technical committee at the Directorate level oversees the implementation of the project and extends necessary support.

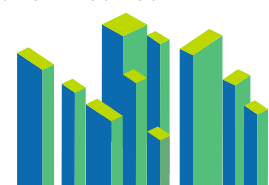
After analysing the reports of the survey and the benefits of the data obtained for decentralised planning, the Department aims to replicate Vivara Sanchayika in all local bodies in other districts. As it is a one-time exercise, annual updation in relevant areas is also envisaged.

“The department aims to replicate Vivara Sanchayika in all local bodies in other districts.”

## TRAINING PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED IN SASA

### I. Training on Planning Monitoring & Evaluation

A fourth batch of the training programme on 'Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation' was conducted at the State Academy on Statistical Administration (SASA), Kaimanam from 6th to 8th December 2023 for the staff posted in Block Development Offices. Sri. Sreekumar B., Director, SASA inaugurated the programme. SASA Training Manager Sri. D S. Shibukumar coordinated the programme. 27 Extension Officers (Planning and Monitoring) posted in Block Development (Block Panchayats) offices in Palakkad, Malappuram and Kozhikode districts had attended the fourth batch of the programme. Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Localising Sustainable Development Goals, Functions of the District



Planning Committee, Sakarma application, roles and responsibilities of EO (P&M), Panchayat Raj Act, etc are the topics covered during the three-day capacity building programme. Accommodation of trainees for this residential training programme was arranged at the hostel in SASA Campus. Faculties from DES, Department of Rural Development, District Planning Office and Information Kerala Mission (IKM) had handled topics.

## 2. Training on Advanced MS Excel

A training programme on advanced Microsoft Excel was conducted at SASA, Kaimanam from 6th to 8th December 2023 for the staff of the Department of Economics and Statistics. 25 officers from various



sections at the Directorate and statistical cells from selected line departments attended the programme. Sri. Sreekumar B, Director, SASA inaugurated this programme. SASA Training Manager Sri. D. S. Shibukumar coordinated the programme. Faculties from the Directorate and IMG have handled various topics during the programme. The training was imparted at SASA Computer Lab in hands-on mode. The topics covered were Advanced data management tools in MS Excel and Spread sheet management.

## 3. Training on e-office

As part of the implementation of paperless e-office management system in the district offices of the Department of Economics and Statistics, the Directorate of Economics and Statistics has conducted a one-day hands-on training on e-office at SASA on 5th December 2023. All IT Nodal Officers and Assistant IT

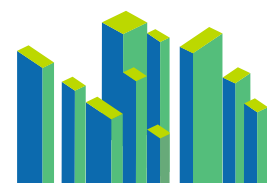


Nodal Officers from the 14 district offices participated in the programme. Sri. Sreekumar B, Director, SASA inaugurated the programme. Computer Division of the Directorate has coordinated the programme under the supervision of Deputy Director & e-office Nodal Officer Sri. D.S. Shibukumar. Smt. Sajitha, Statistical Assistant Grade II has handled classes on e-office. This is a Training of Trainers (ToT) programme and the rest of the e-office users in the districts will be given online training from the directorate. The technical

support for the demonstration of the programme was provided by Kerala State IT Mission. The training was imparted at SASA Computer Lab. It is proposed to implement e-office system in all district offices by 31st January 2024. The IT Nodal officer and assistant Nodal officer in each district will be responsible for effective implementation of e office in their districts.

## Capacity Building in AI & Data Analytics

The second batch of #AIFORALL, the capacity building programme in Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics, for the staff of the Department of Economics and Statistics was conducted by Digital University Kerala from 11th October to 21st December 2023. The 45-days course was conducted at IIITM-K,





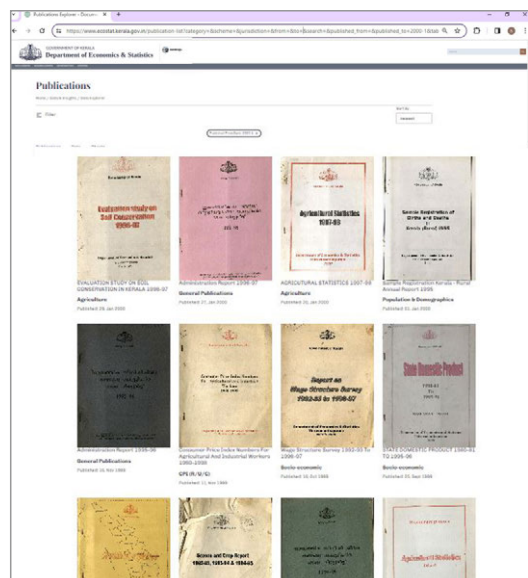
Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram. Dr Saji Gopinath, Vice Chancellor DUK inaugurated the event of commencement of the programme, Sri. Sreekumar B, Director, DES and Dr. Elizabeth Shirly, Distinguished Faculty DUK were present. The programme was coordinated by Sri. Surag M, Scientific Assistant DUK. 13 selected officers in the cadre of Statistical Assistant Grade II to that of Deputy Director have successfully completed the course. The course ended with the presentation of the projects by the participants. The officers have prepared project reports on various topics by analyzing the data of the department using various data management and analytics tools in **Python and R**. Data forecasting and modelling using the application of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence are the benefits of the programme.

The first batch of this kind of #AIFORALL for DES staff was held during the year 2022. In the first batch, 19 officials had successfully completed the course. With these resources a Data Analytics Unit was established at the Directorate of Economics & Statistics. It is proposed to implement research-oriented practices in the Department with the support of these trained resources in future.

### Kerala State Statistical Commission (KSSC)

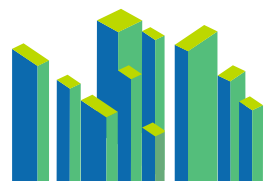
A sitting of KSSC was held on 18th December 2023 at its office in Kaimanam, Thiruvananthapuram. All members of the Commission were present. Local-level statistics and Business Register were the subjects discussed during the sitting. Sri. P.C. Mohanan ISS (Rtd), Chairman of KSSC, Dr. Madhura Swaminathan T, Member and Dr. Surjith Vikraman, Member, Sri. Sreekumar B, Member Secretary of KSSC & Director, DES were present during the sitting. Sri. T.P. Vinodan, Additional Director (Prices), DES also attended the sitting. Sri. D.S. Shibukumar, Deputy Director DES made a presentation on the Experimentation of Decentralized Planning in Kerala and Sri. Gopakumar S, Deputy Director DES made a presentation on the Business Register. Thereafter detailed discussion on these two topics were held.

A workshop cum discussion on the Migration survey was held at KSSC on 16th December 2023. Sri. P.C. Mohanan, ISS (Rtd) and Chairman of the Commission chaired the meeting. Sri. Somasekharan Pillai M, Professor (Rtd) in Statistics, Dr. M. Parameswaran Pillai and Prof. Vinoj Abraham from Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram attended this meeting as experts from outside. Sri. Sreekumar B, Director, DES, Sri. Manoj M, Additional Director (State Income) and officers in charge of the Survey & Design Division were present during the discussion. The forum discussed the surveys and studies proposed during the next financial year 2024-'25 also.



### Digitization of Publications

The Department of Economics and Statistics has been digitizing its old reports published since 1955-'56 which are available at the library. The digitization work is being implemented through C-DIT and the digitized reports in PDF format are available at the



Department website <https://www.ecostat.kerala.gov.in/> for public use. So far, about 700 numbers of old reports were digitized. It is proposed to setup a Digital Library.

## PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED BY DES

### 1. Training on Sample Check of EARAS Scheme



Two-day state-level training programmes on Sample Check under the EARAS scheme were held at the conference hall of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics Thiruvananthapuram from 11th to 12th December 2023. Deputy Director General (NSO- FOD) Smt. Sunitha Bhaskar, ISS inaugurated the function. Director, DES Sri. Sreekumar B presided over the function. Additional Director (Prices) Sri. T.P. Vinodan welcomed the participants and Smt. Haleema Beegum Joint Director (EARAS) delivered vote of thanks. Sri. Manoj M, Additional Director (State Income) facilitated the gathering. Deputy Directors, Additional District Officers (TRS), Research Assistants and Section Assistants in charge of the EARAS scheme from all districts attended the programme. All senior

officers in the cadre of Deputy Director and above and staff of EARAS section were also present during the inaugural ceremony.

### 2. Training on Cost of Cultivation Survey

One day State level training on the Cost of Cultivation Survey to District and Taluk level field staff was held on 13th December 2023 at the Directorate conference hall Thiruvananthapuram. Deputy Directors and Research Officers from all districts were present during the programme. Sri. Sujith S.V., the recipient of the 'Kerala State Haritha Mithra Award for the Best Vegetable Farmer in 2023' inaugurated the function. Sri. Sreekumar B, Director presided over the function. Sri. Manoj M, Additional Director (State Income) welcomed the participants and Sri. T.P. Vinodan, Additional Director (Prices) and Sri. Manoj S., Assistant Director, Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Department facilitated the gathering. Sri. Abhilash K., Deputy Director delivered vote of thanks. All senior



officers in the cadre of Deputy Director and above of DES were also present during the ceremony.

During the event, the department has honored the dignitary Sri. Sujith S.V. by offering memento and adorning *ponnada*. The Department has also appreciated the work done



by Sri. Abhilash K.V., Research Officer for development of a web application for MCCD data collection during the function with a letter of appreciation from Director and a memento.

