



**Government of Kerala**



**AZHIKODE GRAMA PANCHAYATH  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

**Kannur District**

---

**Department of Economics and Statistics, Kerala**

**[www.ecostat.gov.in](http://www.ecostat.gov.in), [ecostatdir@gmail.com](mailto:ecostatdir@gmail.com)**

**2010**



**Government of Kerala**

**AZHIKODE GRAMA PANCHAYATH  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT  
Kannur District**

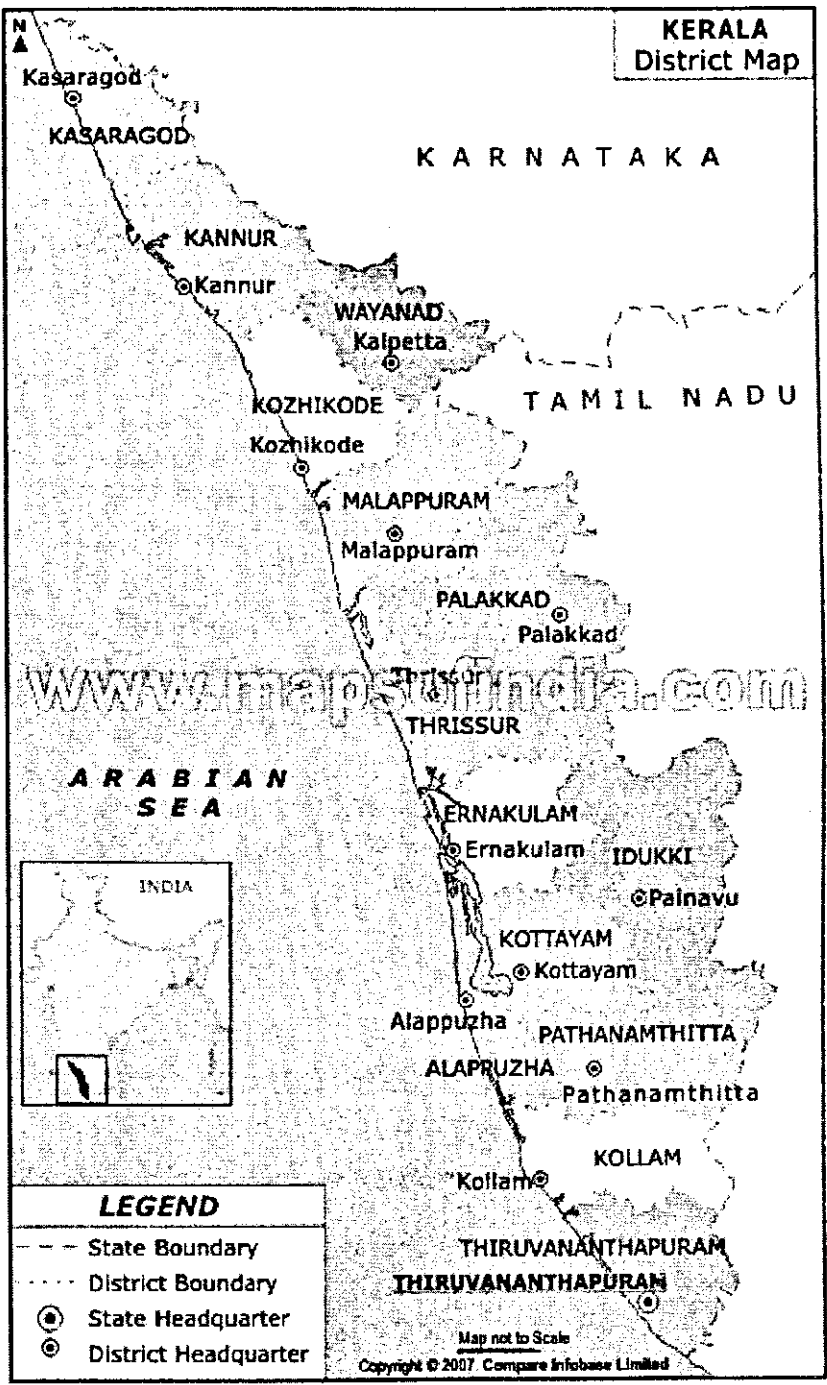
---

Department of Economics and Statistics, Kerala

[www.ecostat.gov.in](http://www.ecostat.gov.in), [ecostatdir@gmail.com](mailto:ecostatdir@gmail.com)

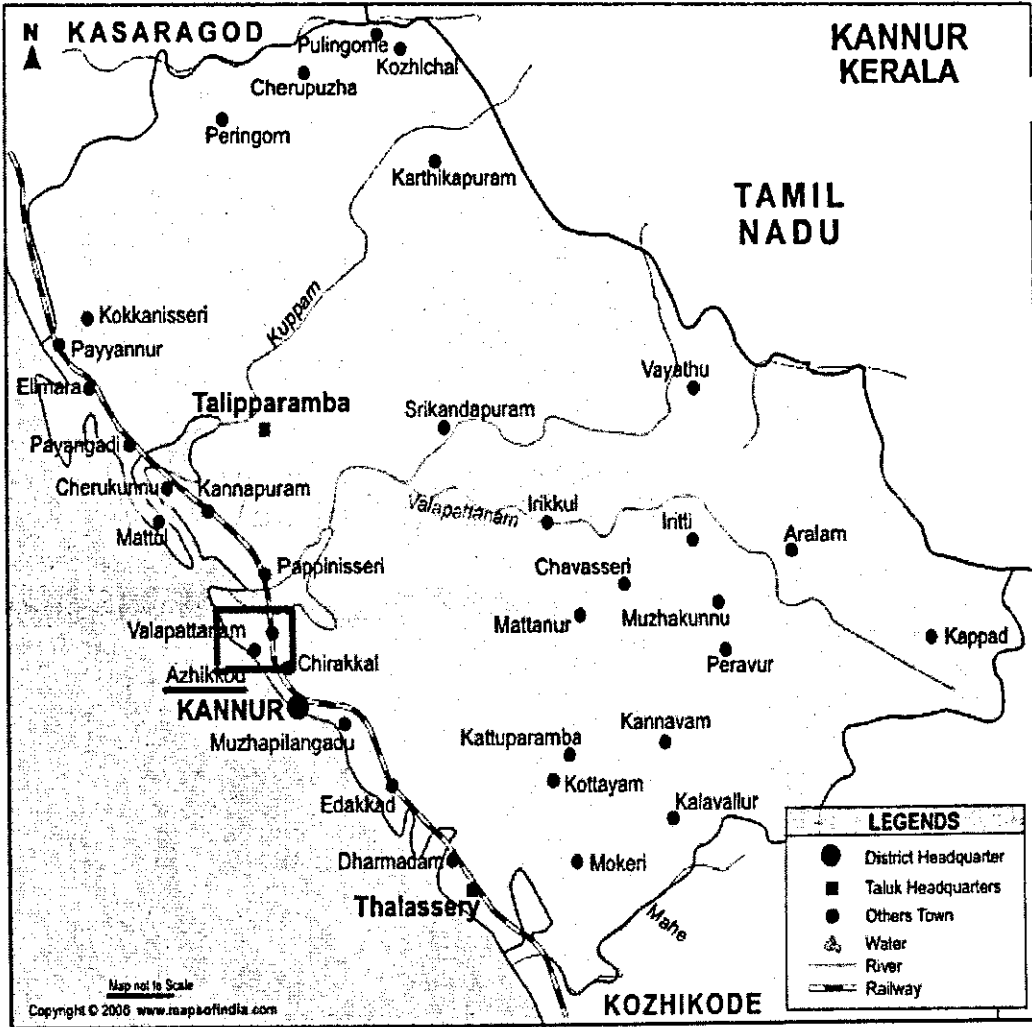
2010





(Courtesy: www.mapsofindia.com)



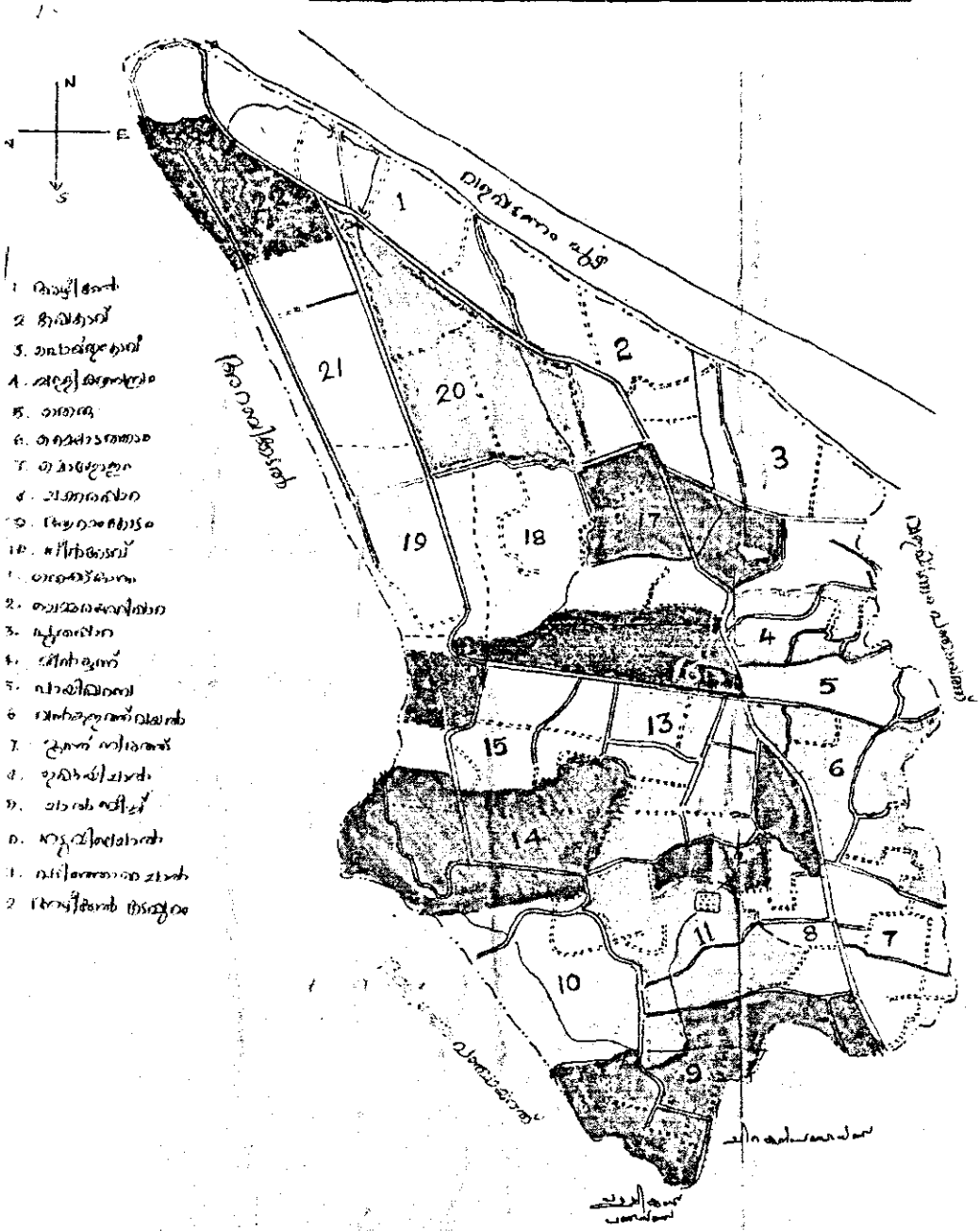


(Courtesy: www.mapsofindia.com)





# ഭൂമിശാസ്ത്ര ഗ്രാമപട്രം





### Acknowledgement

This Human development report of Azhikode Grama Panchayath has been prepared by a team of officials led by Sri. N.Ramakrishnan, Deputy Director, assisted by Sri. E.V.Premarajan, Research Officer, Sri. K.Raghavan, Additional District Officer and Smt. Sini Kassim, Research Officer under the Supervision and Guidance of Sri.D.Rajan, Additional Director, Department of Economics and Statistics.

The report reflects the overall scenario of the Grama Panchayath, which was emerged from the sample household survey conducted in all the 22 wards. Behind the success of the survey, in particular we are thankful to the Grama Panchayath president Sri.Jayadevan Master and his associates. Last but not least, officials of the District office, Economics and Statistics, Kannur who have sincerely involved in the survey and made the event fruitful.

Suggestions and criticism for the improvement of the report are welcome.

Director

30.03.2010



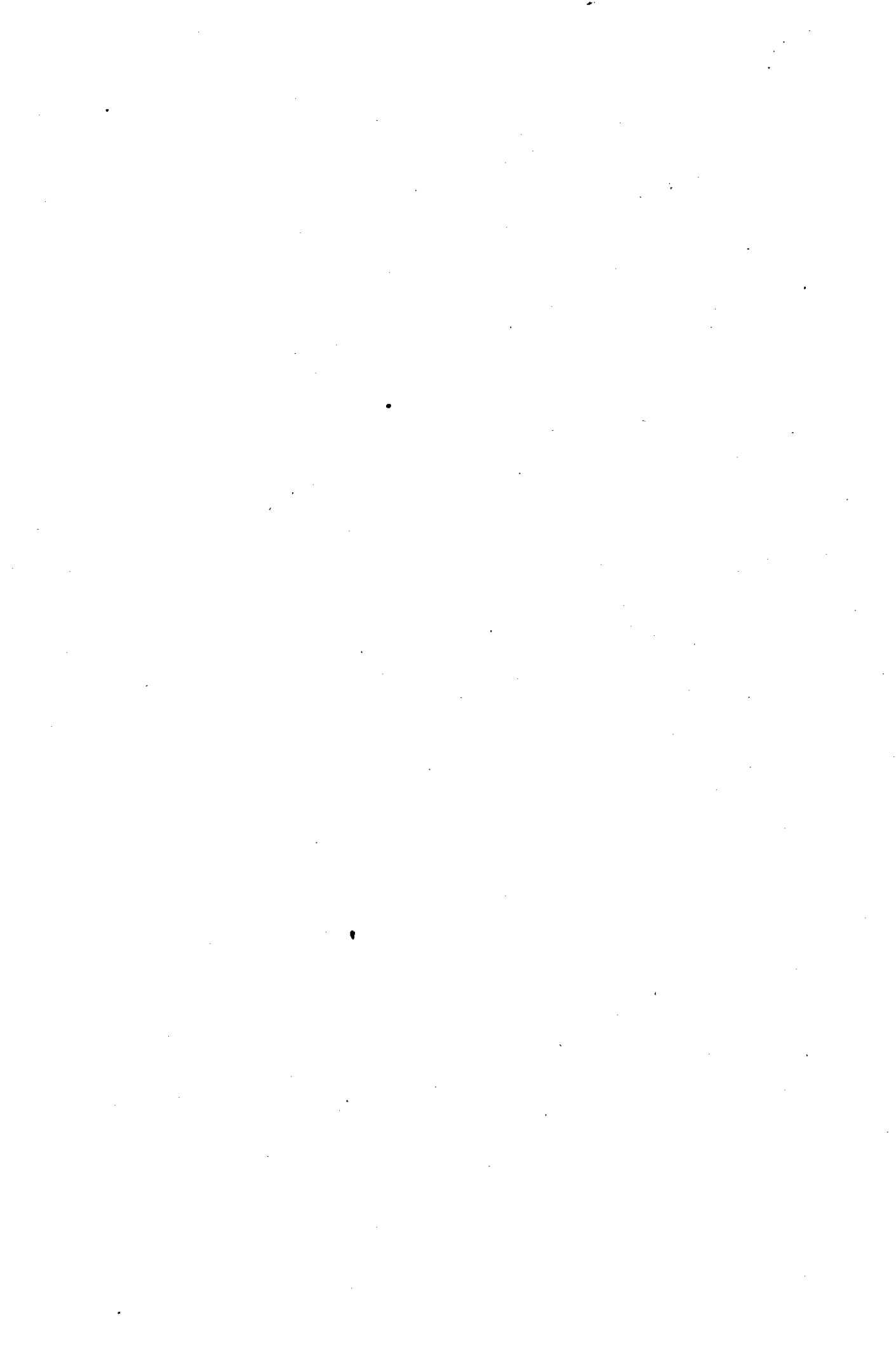
## Contents

Page  
No

<b>Chapter I</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Human development Report- an introduction	2
1.3	Human development index- an introduction	3
1.4	Methodology	4
1.5	Inter district Variations in HDI	4
1.6	Objectives of HDR	5
1.7	Approach	6
1.8	Objectives of the survey	6
1.9	Period of the survey	6
1.10	Concept and definitions	7
1.11	Training	7
1.12	Supervision	7
1.13	Sketch of the Report	8
<b>Chapter II</b>	<b>Azhikode Grama Panchayath – a profile</b>	<b>10</b>
2.1	History and location	10
2.2	Demographic particulars	12
2.3	Population	13
2.4	Social groups: religion, caste and distribution	14
2.5	Ageing Population	17
2.6	Other infrastructure facilities	18

<b>Chapter III</b>	<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>20</b>
3.1	Agriculture Scenario	20
3.2	Live stock	22
3.3	Scope of Agriculture	22
<b>Chapter IV</b>	<b>The Resource Base- Land, Water and Human</b>	<b>23</b>
4.1	Land Holdings	23
4.2	Water resources and Irrigation	27
4.3	Irrigation	29
4.4	Rainfall	31
<b>Chapter V</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>33</b>
5.1	Schools and infrastructure	33
5.2	Literacy in the Panchayath	35
5.3	Students strength, enrollment and dropout ratios	39
5.4	Anganvadis	40
5.5	Adult education programme/ Continuing education programme	40
5.6	Computer literacy	41
<b>Chapter VI</b>	<b>Health and Sanitation</b>	<b>42</b>
6.1	Hospitals	42
6.2	Major diseases occurred	43
6.3	Water oriented diseases	44
6.4	Solid waste management	45
6.5	Alcohol and Pan	46
6.6	Local body's efforts in Health sector	46

<b>Chapter VII</b>	<b>Economic Activities</b>	<b>47</b>
7.1	Income of the Panchayath	47
7.2	Major social welfare schemes	48
7.3	Identification of Poor	49
7.4	Old Age Home	49
7.5	Industries and its role	50
7.6	Environmental issues	50
7.6	Fuel, Electricity, telecommunication	50
7.8	Monthly Consumer Expenditure	51
<b>Chapter VIII</b>	<b>Gender Development</b>	<b>53</b>
8.1	Gender issues	53
8.2	Women welfare and health	55
8.3	Some women's co operative societies	56
8.4	Issues	56
<b>Chapter IX</b>	<b>Fisheries Sector</b>	<b>57</b>
9.1	Fishermen Population	57
9.2	Social status	58
9.3	Social Welfare Societies under Matsyafed	58
9.4	SHG's in Fisheries Sector	59
9.5	Schemes implemented through the fisheries department	60
	<b>Problems &amp; Suggestions</b>	<b>61</b>





## Chapter I

### Overview

#### 1.1 Background

The 'Kerala Model' democratic decentralization focusing on people's participation has been appreciated worldwide and ours is a model to other states. Kerala known for its peculiar model of development; has been held highest rank (0.773) among other states in India in its Human Development Index (HDI). Since 198, 1 minor deviations in HDI are being observed among districts due to its geographical as well as social set up.

People's planning programme contributes a lot towards infrastructure, education and health with the three-tier system of people's participation. With the knowledge of existing facilities including infrastructure, social set-up etc a new method of planning approach may be adopted so as to increase people's choices in terms of not only money but also a better perspective so that they have plenty of choices to live in a healthy atmosphere. Here comes the need of a detailed Human Development Report (HDR) of every Panchayath, which depicts the real situation of the basic unit of development. HDR reveals the needs, issues and achievements for an ideal development process. People's planning programme will find a direction through this report. It reaches as a guide in the hands of planners. Local governments and related institutions can utilize their funds in the right direction without wasting single paisa, with the help of HDR

This is an attempt to prepare such a Human Development Report. Azhikode Panchayath is taken for study and made an attempt to satisfy the modern views on Human Development indices. The Human development report of Azhikode Panchayath hereby depicts the real picture of Azhikode in a view that people, not materials are the wealth of nation and it is they who should be the focus of a development directed to 'Expanding their choices'.

## **1.2 Human Development Report – an introduction**

The concept of human development is that it is a people oriented approach of development, which is relevant to rich as well as poor nations. The basic idea is to enlarge people's choices and thus it is action oriented. Generally choices of people may vary according to time. Among all the levels of such development the three essential ones required by people are that

- 1) To lead a long and healthy life
- 2) To acquire knowledge and
- 3) To have access to resources needed for a descent standard of living.

As the development is indefinite, additional choices highly valued by many people range from political, economic and social freedom to opportunities for being creative, productive and enjoying personal self-respect and guaranteed human rights. Thus there are two sides of human development, which are

- a) The formation of the capabilities by improving health, knowledge and skills and
- b) Utilize the people of their capabilities for productive purposes or being active in cultural, social and political affairs.

The above two sides should be finely balanced, otherwise human frustration may result. By utilizing the capabilities of people, naturally they expect financial benefits. But this income is not at all the development as such. It is something more than that. As Aristotle (384-322 BC) said

“Wealth, is evidently not the good we are seeking for it is merely useful and for the sake of something else.”

The “something else” is the opportunity for the people to identify their potential. Amartya Sen's “Capability Approach” for Human development is the primary effort in this sector. Mahbub Ul Haq' of Pakistan presented a paper in first Global Human Development Report' in 1990.

### 1.3 Human Development Index – an introduction

The HDI is the summary measure of human development. It measures the average achievements in three dimensions of human development. As per UNDP, these dimensions are:

- A long and healthy life as measured by life expectancy at birth.
- Knowledge as measured by the adult literacy rate above (with two third weights) and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio (with one third weight).
- A decent standard of living, as measured by GDP per capita.

As per UNDP standards, the above three dimensions have indicators according to availability of data as life expectancy at birth (%), the literacy rate (above 7+ years in %) with gross enrollment ratio (%) and real per capita income expressed in purchasing power of parity in US in Dollars respectively. An index has been constructed for these by choosing maximum and minimum values for each. The Max & Mini values adopted by UNDP are as follows.

Indicators	Maximum	Minimum
Life expectancy at birth (years)	85	25
Adult Literacy rate	100	0
Gross enrollment ratio	100	0
GDP (PPP US\$)	40000	100

The dimension index is calculated by applying a general formula.

$$\text{Dimension index} = (X - \text{mini } X) / (\text{max } X - \text{mini } X)$$

The human development index is calculated by taking the average of the dimension indices.

## 1.4 Methodology

In general, to transform a raw variable, say  $x$ , into a unit-free index between 0 and 1 (which allows different indices to be added together), the following formula is used

$$x\text{-index} = (x - \min(x)) / (\max(x) - \min(x))$$

Where  $\min(x)$  and  $\max(x)$  are respectively the lowest and highest values that the variable  $x$  can attain.

The Human Development Index (HDI) then represents the average of the following three general indices:

- Life Expectancy Index =  $(LE-25) / (85-25)$
- Education Index =  $2/3 * ALI + 1/3 * GEI$
- Adult Literacy Index (ALI) =  $(ALR-0) / 100-0$
- Gross Enrollment Index (GEI) =  $(GER-0) / 100-0$
- GDP Index =  $(\log(GDP) - \log 100) / (\log 40000 - \log 100)$

$$= (\log(GDP) - \log 100) / \log 400$$

## 1.5 Inter District Variation in HDI

A study report by Uday Misra of Center for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, reveals that HDI is maximum in Ernakulam district and lowest is in Malappuram district.

The following table shows the indices involved together with HDI for the districts. Kannur ranks 7 in the list.

**Table 1.1 Human development Index of Districts in Kerala**

Districts	Income index	Health Index	Education index	HDI	Rank
Thiruvananthapuram	0.573	0.837	0.910	0.773	9
Kollam	0.561	0.868	0.930	0.787	6
Pathanamthitta	0.566	0.862	0.957	0.795	3
Alapuzha	0.567	0.868	0.947	0.794	4
Kottayam	0.583	0.843	0.963	0.796	2
Idukki	0.593	0.791	0.878	0.754	12
Ernakulam	0.600	0.849	0.953	0.801	1
Thrissur	0.574	0.857	0.950	0.794	5
Palakkad	0.538	0.851	0.894	0.761	10
Malappuram	0.490	0.843	0.913	0.749	14
Kozhikode	0.560	0.839	0.945	0.781	8
Wayanad	0.563	0.809	0.886	0.753	13
Kannur	0.551	0.844	0.955	0.783	7
Kasargod	0.555	0.846	0.881	0.760	11
<b>Kerala State</b>	<b>0.562</b>	<b>0.827</b>	<b>0.930</b>	<b>0.773</b>	

### 1.6 Objectives of HDR

The HDR of Azhikode Panchayath aims to improve the following aspects on the basis of existing conditions:

- (i) The improvement in health of the people in terms of consumption of medicines, hospital visits, developing the drinking water availability, proper sanitation and drainage facilities, waste management.
- (ii) The education level of the people in terms of quality and easy access is to be analyzed. The secondary data from census 2001 reveals that the Panchayath possesses 94.69% literacy. The level of education is important, since when higher quality of education is attained, better will be living condition. This also helps to reduce the unemployment level

and thereby reducing the social evils such as crime rates etc. The women empowerment through SHGs, Kudumbasree, Entrepreneur Development clubs etc. brings up the hidden capabilities of the women folk of the Panchayath.

### **1.7 Approach:**

In order to have an idea of health, education and income of the Panchayath, a survey is to be conducted as there is no secondary data available. A stratified cluster sampling method is adopted for the survey. The Panchayath consists of 22 wards. All the residential households were listed and serially numbered. Then the households were divided into hamlets of 25 households. Of these 25% of the hamlets were selected randomly using a random number table. The survey was then conducted in all the selected hamlets. 22 Statistical Investigators of the department and 22 properly trained voluntary workers from the Panchayath were engaged in the survey. There were 10 supervisors and 4 Coordinators from the department were entrusted for the smooth conduct of the survey. The local self government authorities viz Panchayath President, governing body members, the Panchayath secretary his associates were very much cooperative.

### **1.8 Objectives of the survey**

- To identify the number of families and population in Azhikode
- To study the living conditions of the People
- To study the education status of the Panchayath.
- To study the Health status of the Panchayath
- To study the income status of the Panchayath

### **1.9 Period of the survey**

The survey has been conducted during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of November 2009. The field work of the survey has been completed within 5 days from the date of commencement.

### **1.10 Concept and definitions**

Household: A group of persons normally living together and taking food from a common kitchen will constitute a household.

Household size: The number of members of a household is its size.

Ward: The Panchayath ward constituted for the last Panchayath election is defined as ward for this survey

Hamlets: A group of 25 households situated nearby in a locality is defined as hamlet

Informant: the one who gives the details about the household particulars and details.

Age: Completed years as on date of survey.

### **1.11 Training**

The training was given to the district level officers at Thiruvananthapuram and then organized field level training to the officers and enumerators.

### **1.12 Supervision**

The Statistical Inspectors were the primary supervisors of the work of enumerators and District level officers were co coordinators and supervisors of the SI's.

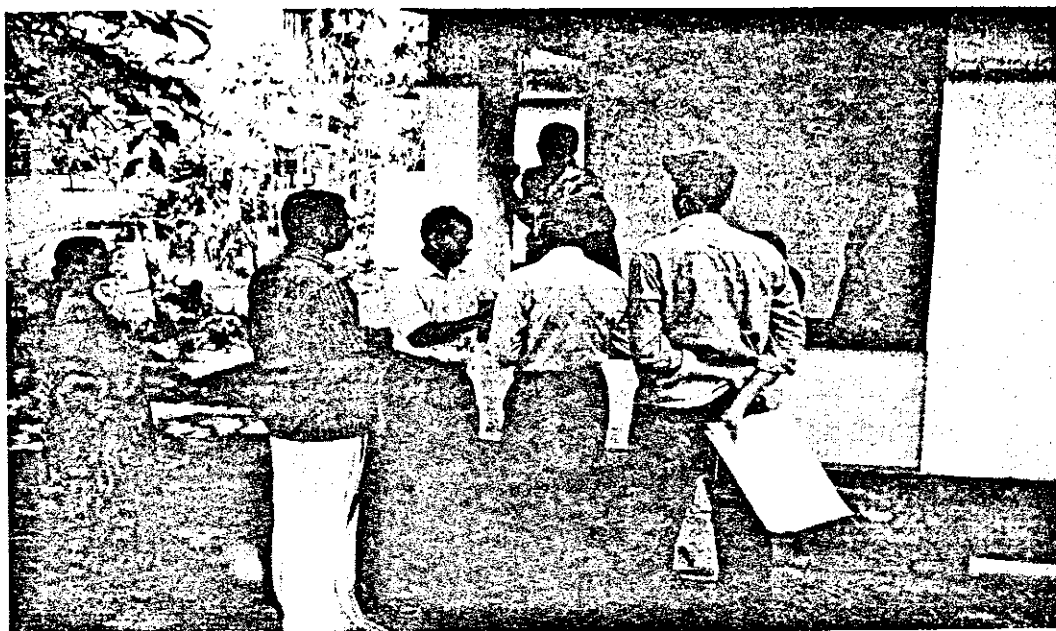
**Table 1.2 The total and selected numbers of households**

<b>Total Number of households</b>	<b>Number of hamlets formed</b>	<b>Number of hamlets selected</b>	<b>Number of Households selected</b>
<b>10068</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2517</b>

### **1.13 Sketch of the Report**

Human development report of Azhikode Panchayath is an attempt to give the picture of Human Development in the various fields like Education, Health, Housing conditions, economic activities etc. The second chapter shows the location, history and demographic particulars of the Panchayath, its, housing conditions and other infrastructural facilities. The third chapter discusses the agricultural scenario of the Panchayath. Even being a coastal area Panchayath, the most crucial problem of Azhikode Grama Panchayath is, scarcity of pure drinking water. The fourth chapter of this report dealt with water resource problems and remedies. Being a 100% literate Panchayath, the facilities available in education sector together with people's attitudes are discussed in the fifth chapter. Problems that are faced by people regarding their Health are discussed in detail in the sixth chapter. Major diseases and their statistics, and the efforts that being taken by the Panchayath improving health conditions are briefly described in this chapter. Seventh chapter deals with the economic activities. Gender development issues are described in the eighth chapter. Fisheries sector described in the ninth chapter and the report ends with the tenth chapter, in which conclusion and various suggestions were incorporated.





(The HDR Survey 2009- Team under extensive enquiry under the supervision of Sri.N.Ramakrishnan, Deputy Director, Economics and Statistics, Kannur)

## **Chapter II**

### **Azhikode Grama Panchayath- a profile**

#### **2.1 History and location**

Azhikode Grama Panchayath is one of the major Panchayath in Kannur district. This Panchayath is situated on the coast of Arabian Sea. It is about 8 km away from Kannur town. Azheekal port is very famous even before centuries. It was the gateway to Malabar. It was through this port that the Arabs and other foreigners exported wooden furniture, hill produces and spice.

The place is most famous as the birthplace of Sukumar Azhikode, an influential thinker and literary critic. The people of this place are mainly fishermen, farmers, cigar workers, and handloom weavers. This is also one of the growing tourist places in Kannur. Mind-blowing beaches like Meenkunnu & Chaal are the main attractions of this place.



**Dr. Sukumar Azhikode**

Azhikode Grama Panchayath is surrounded by the Valapattanam River in the north, Arabian Sea in the west, Chirackal and Pallikkunnu Panchayath in the south and Valapattanam and Chirackal Panchayath in the East.

**AZHIKODE GRAMA PANCHAYATH- AT A GLANCE**

1. Name of the Panchayath : Azhikode Grama Panchayath  
2. Revenue villages included : Azhikode North, Azhikode South  
3. Block Panchayath : Kannur  
4. Taluk : Kannur  
5. District : Kannur  
6. Assembly Constituency : Azhikode  
7. Parliament Constituency : Kannur  
8. Area : 16.04 Sqkm.  
9. Population : Male 22195  
Female 23756  
Total 45951 as per 2001 census  
10. Number of Wards : 22  
11. Name of the President : K. Jayadevan Master

**BOUNDARIES**

- East : Valapattanam and Chirakkal Panchayath  
West : Arabian Sea  
South : Chirakkal and Pallikunnu Panchyath  
North : Valapattanam River

## 2.2 Demographic Particulars

Table 2.1

Demographic particulars	District	Panchayath	As per HDR Survey 2009
Population (As per 2001 census)	2408956	45951	47940
Male	1152817	22195	21820
Female	1256139	23756	26120
SC Population	98991	2742	2984
Male	48275	1331	1348
Female	50716	1411	1636
ST Population	19969	00	00
Male	9793	00	00
Female	10176	00	00
Geographic area (Square Km)	2966	16.04	16.04
Population Density/Sq.Km.	812	2865	2989
Sex Ratio (for 1000 males)	1090	1070	1197
<b>Religion</b>			
Hindu	1480748		34472
Muslims	665648		12832
Christians	261019		636
Sikhs	312		
Buddhists	118		
Jains	36		
Others	95		
Religion not stated	980		
No. of Households	457368	8141	10068
<b>Literacy Rate</b>			
Male	96.13		
Female	89.40		
Total	92.59	94.69	

### 2.3 Population

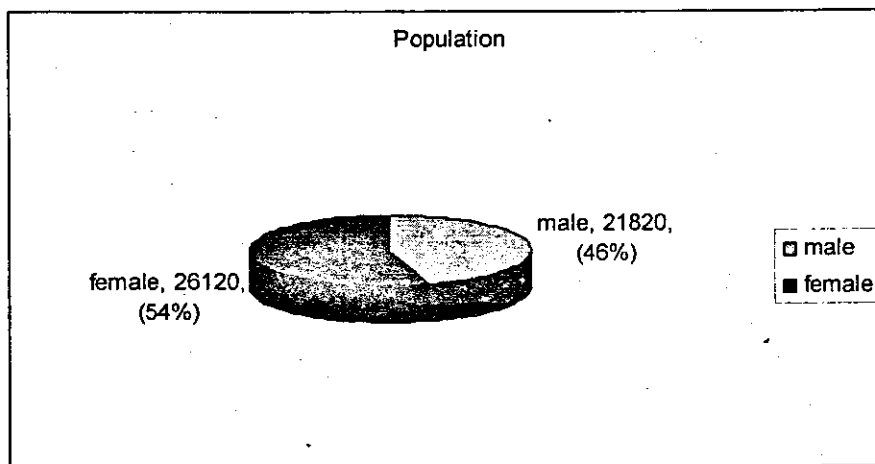
The HDR Survey 2009 covered the entire Panchayath and identified 10068 households. The survey identified 47940 individuals in which 21820 are males 26120 are females.

**Table 2.2 The age distribution of the population by sex**

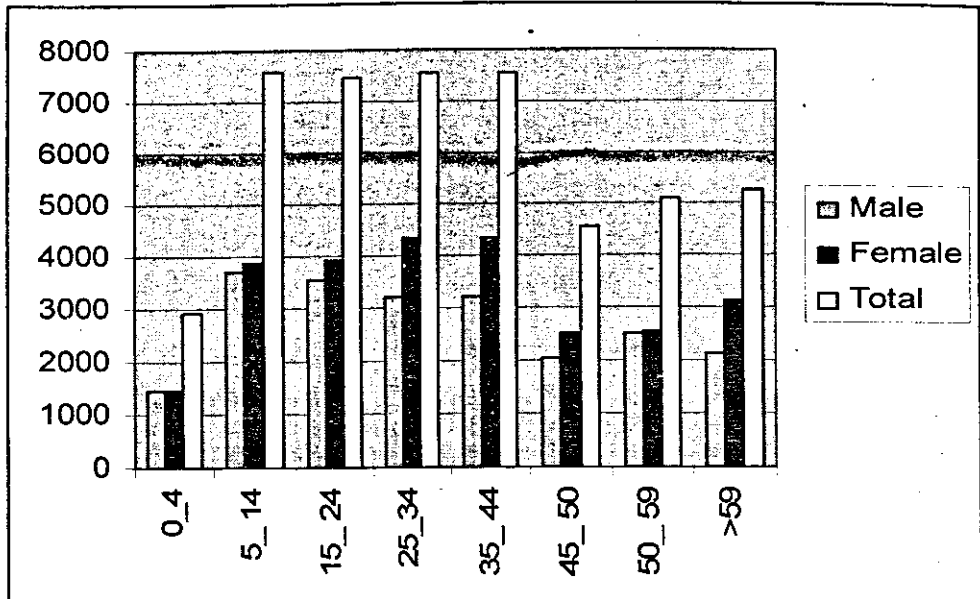
Sex	Age group								Total
	0-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-50	50-59	Above 59	
Male	1468	3712	3536	3192	3208	2044	2516	2144	21820
Female	1460	3884	3932	4336	4336	2500	2552	3120	26120
<b>Total</b>	<b>2928</b>	<b>7596</b>	<b>7468</b>	<b>7528</b>	<b>7544</b>	<b>4544</b>	<b>5068</b>	<b>5264</b>	<b>47940</b>

Roughly the population is distributed as 67% adults of working age (15 to 59 years), 22% children (less than 15 years) and 11% elderly (more than 59 years). Pictorial representatives of these details are given in the following figures.

**Figure 2.1**



**Figure 2.2**



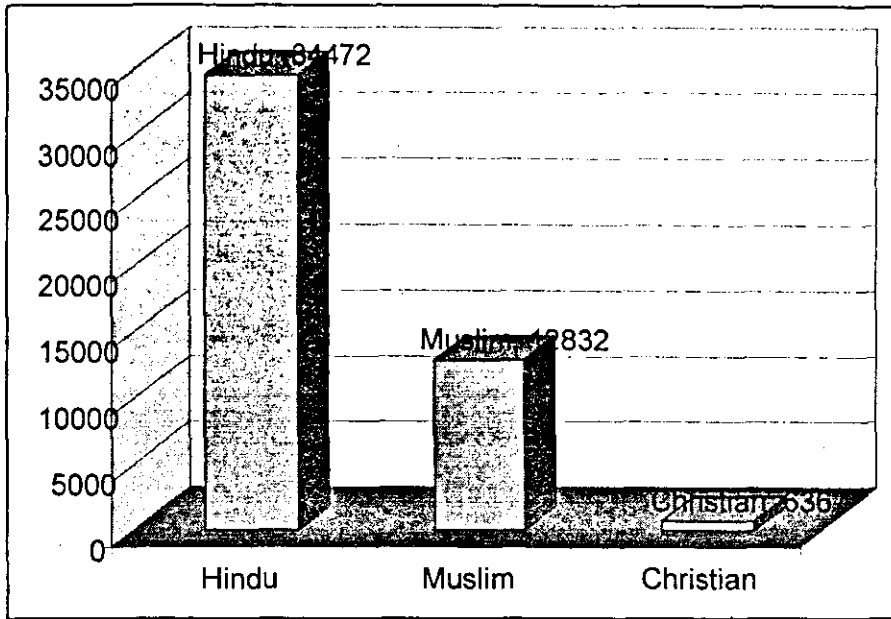
#### 2.4 Social groups: Religion, caste and distribution

As in any other area different religious population inhabit in Azhikode Grama Panchayath. Mainly three religions are there in practice namely, Hindu (72%), Christian (1%) and Islam (27%). Also several castes among the population are present. But no disputes have been reported between castes or religions in the area for the nearby years.

Table 2.3

Sex	Religion			Total
	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	
Male	15500	5984	336	21820
Female	18972	6848	300	26120
<b>Total</b>	<b>34472</b>	<b>12832</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>47940</b>

Fig 2.3



On the basis of social group, 6% belongs to SC, 86% belongs to OBC and the remaining 8% are forward castes.

**Table 2.4**

Sex	Social Group			Total
	SC	OBC	Others	
Male	1348	18824	1648	21820
Female	1636	22468	2016	26120
Total	2984	41292	3664	47940

The broad divisions of the Hindu community are Thiyya, Nairs, Ambalavasis, Brahmins and Kammalan. The Thiyyas form the majority among the Hindu community. Though they correspond to the Ezhavas in the southern parts of the State, both the communities disclaim any such connection. The Muslims, here known as Mappilas, form the second largest community. The Panchayath has the unique distinction of having the State's lone Muslim royal house – the Arakkal

royal family. The royal family played an important role in the political as well as Islamic history of the district. Though Christianity is believed to have been introduced in Kerala by the Apostle St. Thomas in 52 AD, the religion made progress only with the advent of the Portuguese towards the close of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The Christians belong mainly to four Churches; the Syro Malabar Church, the Latin Catholic Church, the Church of South India and the Orthodox Syrian Church. During the last few decades, there has been a large influx of Syrian Catholics from the Travancore-Cochin area of the State.

Theyyam is the flagship owner of folks in north Malabar. Chirakkal rulers rose into prominence as a great centre of the arts. The gift of the district in the field of art and culture is its folk arts. The social situation that prevailed here gave rise to various folk art forms. The assimilation of different styles of Aryan and non-Aryan culture and the influence of Jain and Buddhist philosophies put light into its growth further. Though the social set-up has been effaced by time, the cultural life of the folk remains unchanged. Many temples and kaavu (small temple) can be found in Azhikkode, they have annual festivals. Many sports related events organized by the youth clubs. Cricket and football are the games which attract more peoples. An annual youth festival named keralothsavam is organized by the Panchayath. Usually people meet in town, public reading room, library, Grama Sabha, weekly religious prayers, and temple festivals. Many youth organizations work in Azhikkode. They are Panchayath for cultural and sports activities.



## 2.5 Ageing Population

The greatest global challenge is the enormous increase in the number and proportion of older people in the population. So the twenty first century is known as the age of ageing. This process is more rapid in the developing countries. At the individual level, the concept of ageing is the growth of the person throughout his life course from infancy to old age. It may be biological, physiological, psychological and even social and economic. The concept of population ageing means the population ageing means the proportion of older people increasing more rapidly than the population in the other age segments The number of aged persons as a proportion of the total population has increased all over the world. This is comparatively high in the Azhikode Panchayath.

The Population Age group/Gender wise is presented in Table 2.5

**Table 2.5**

Gender	Age group								Total
	0 - 4	5 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 50	50 - 59	60 and above	
Male	1468	3712	3536	3192	3208	2044	2516	2144	21820
Female	1460	3884	3932	4336	4336	2500	2552	3120	26120
<b>Total</b>	<b>2928</b>	<b>7596</b>	<b>7468</b>	<b>7528</b>	<b>7544</b>	<b>4544</b>	<b>5068</b>	<b>5264</b>	<b>47940</b>

It is a fact that 11% of the population were above 60 years and 22% are above 50 years of old. The following indicators will give a clear picture of the Ageing of the population

Aged child ratio (ACR) = (Population above the age of 60/population below the age 15) \*100

$$\text{ACR (Azhikode)} = 5264 * 100 / 10524 = 50$$

ACR is directly related to population ageing. If ACR is above 30 the population is older. Here ACR is 50 shows that the Panchayath is facing the problem of Ageing.

$$\text{Aged Child Ratio} = 50$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Young Dependency Ratio (YDR)} &= 15 P_{0-14} * 100 / 45 P_{15-64} \\ &= 46.69 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Old Dependency Ratio (ODR)} &= (P_{60+} / 45 P_{15-64}) * 100 \\ &= 23.35 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total Dependency Ratio (TDR)} &= \text{YDR} + \text{ODR} \\ &= 70.04 \end{aligned}$$

### 2.6 Other infrastructure facilities:

SI No	Name of the institution
1	Panchayath office, Azhikode
2	Village office (2 Nos)
3	Krishi Bhavan
4	Govt. Pre Metric Hostel for Girls
5	Asst. Engineer, LSGD (Water resources)
6	Home for elderly
7	PHC , Azhikode
8	Govt Homoeo Dispensary
9	Govt Veterinary Hospital
10	ESI Dispensary
11	Fisheries Sub Inspector Office
12	Post offices (3Nos)
13	Customs house

14	Telephone exchange
15	SILK, Azhikode
16	Harbour Engineering, sub division
17	Port Office, Azheeckal (Senior port conservator)
18	KSEB office
19	Govt Production cum Training Centre, Alavil
20	Maveli Store
21	Govt : old age home

## Chapter III Agriculture

### 3.1 Agriculture scenario

The total area of Azhikode Grama Panchyath is 3939.39 Acres. The Panchayath is having 9.8 kilometer coastal boundary and 3.68 kilometer river boundary. The total area under cultivation in this Panchayath is around 2430 Acres. The main crops cultivated are coconut, paddy, vegetables, arecanut, pepper, cashew, banana, mango, jack, and tapioca. There was a wide cultivation of sugar cane and corn crops during 1980's. The present situation may be given There are 13 'Haritha sangham's in the Panchayath to promote vegetable cultivation in the Panchayath. Conversion of wet land to dry land for housing and industrial purpose is the main reason for shrinking the area of Paddy fields.

**Table 3.1 The different employment sectors and persons employed**

Sl No.	Employment sector	Persons Employed		
		Male	Female	Total
1	Farmers	84	42	126
2	Agricultural labours	330	208	538
3	Fisheries	897	25	922
4	Mining	24	1	25
5	MPSH (Production , Repair Etc)	162	66	228
6	MPSCH ( Production and Service)	3916	586	4502
7	Construction	563	74	637
8	Trade and Production	1517	111	1628
9	Transport and Communication	683	27	710
10	Others	827	420	1247
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9003</b>	<b>1560</b>	<b>10563</b>

(Source: Panchayath Vikasana Report)

The total area under cultivation in this Panchayath is 2430 acres. Out of which 84.3% is used for coconut, 6.18% paddy, 5.96 % vegetables and in the remaining area other crops are cultivated. The following table gives a clear picture.

**Table 3.2 Area of different crops**

Sl No.	Crop	Area in Hectare
1	Coconut	603.02
2	Paddy ( Autumn + winter)	18.43
3	Vegetables	60
4	Banana	20
5	Pepper	21.36
6	Areca nut	14.13
7	Cashew	20
8	Jack	80
9	Mango	95

(Source: EARAS 2008-09, DES)

**Table 3.3 The area and productivity of different crops**

Sl No.	Crop	Area in Hectare	Productivity
1	Coconut	603.02	2200 nuts/ acre
2	Paddy	18.43	710 Kg. Per Acre
3.	Areca nut	14.13	100000 nuts / acre
4	Pepper	21.36	115 kg per acre
5	Vegetables	60	5000 kg per acre.

(Source: Panchayath Vikasana Report)

### **3.2 Livestock**

Livestock are extremely important to the livelihood of rural small holder farmers. Being an urban natured Panchayath there is no large scale livestock farming or Poultry cultural enterprises in the Panchayath. There is one Veterinary clinic in this Panchayath situated at 'Kacherippara'. The facilities and services in this centre are not satisfactory.

Production of meat is insufficient in this Panchayath since most of the people are non vegetarians. The meats consumed by the people of this Panchayath are products of neighboring Panchayaths. This situation can be solved by means of group initiatives in the goat farming and poultry farming.

### **3.3 Scope of Agriculture**

Azhikode Panchayath was famous for the production of vegetables, especially watermelon during 1980's. Now the scenario has been changed because of conversion of land for construction purposes due to rapid urbanization. Due to scarcity of irrigation facilities, the vegetable cultivation is reducing. Attack of 'Mandary" and other diseases the production of coconut is alarmingly reducing in the Panchayath. The Local self government authorities are implementing a number of schemes in agriculture sector by promoting group farming. Kudumbasree and self help groups are getting subsidies for paddy and vegetable cultivation. This brings up the area of paddy cultivation by around 10% increase compared with last year figures.

The new generation fields of agriculture -Floriculture, horticulture, sericulture can be promoted in this Panchayath.

## Chapter IV

### The Resource Base- Land, Water and Human

#### 4.1 Land holdings

The per capita land available in Kerala is 0.13 hectares, while it is only 0.07 hectares in case of Azhikode. The following table gives the details of the area of land and ownership.

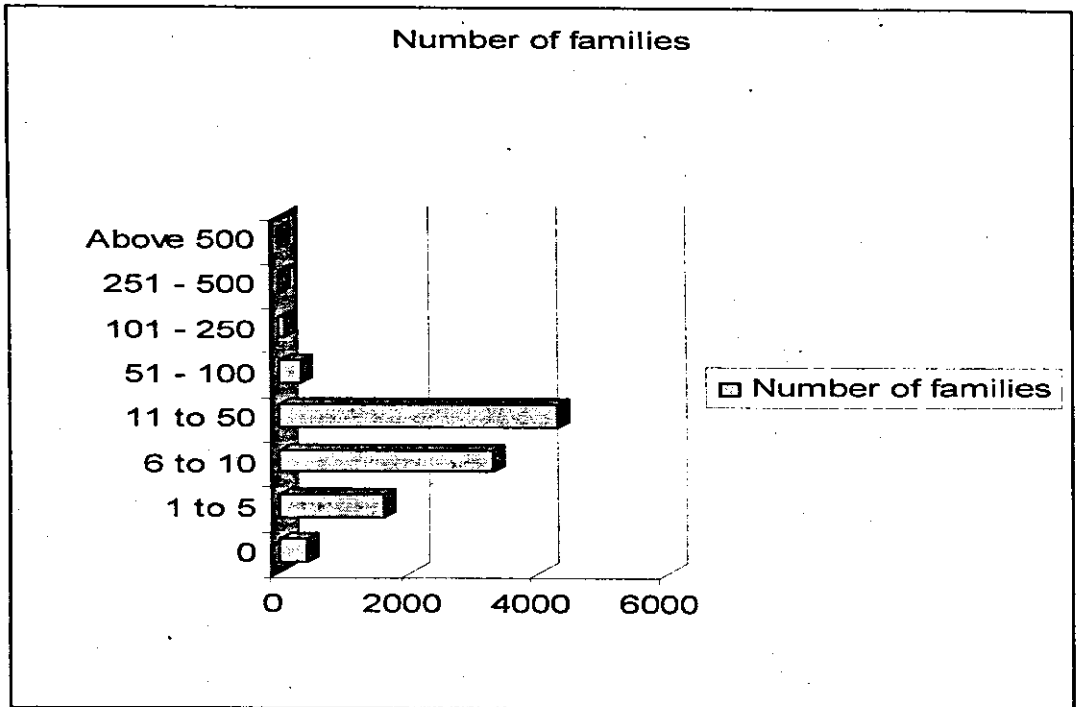
**Table 4.1**

Area of land	Number of Families
Landless	420
1 to 5 cents	1628
6 to 10cents	3288
11 to 50 cents	4312
50 to 100 cents	328
1 to 2.5 Acres	80
2.5 to 5 Acres	8
Above 5 Acre	4
Total	10068.

(Source: HDR Survey 2009)

Out of the total 10068 households in Azhikode Panchayath, 4.17% are landless families. 10% are having 1 to 5 cents of land. 33% have 6 to 10% of the land, while 43% of families possess land of 11 to 50 cents. 3 % of families are having land 50 to 100 cents. This shows that most of the families have land below 100 cents. Around 700 acres of land is used for building and courtyard in the Panchayath. This is about 20% of the total area of the Panchayath.

Figure 4.1



But the situation prevailed in 1996 is given in the following table, which gives us a different picture.

Table 4.2

Area of Land	Number of owners
1 to 10 cents	3484
10 to 25 cents	4469
25 to 50 Cents	2942
50 to 100 cents	1356
100 to 200 cents	426
200 to 500 cents	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>12754</b>

(Source: Panchayath Vikasana Report 1996)



Table 4.3 Details of workers

<b>Main workers</b>	<b>Kannur</b>	<b>Azhikode</b>
Main workers	624394	13135
Main Cultivators	35095	24
Total Workers	764619	14573
Main Agriculture Labourers	63493	130
Main H/H Industry	15260	637
Workers in other than H/H industry	510546	12344
<b>Marginal Workers</b>		
Marginal H/H industry	3979	100
Marginal other than H/H industry	87232	1247
Marginal Workers	140225	1438
Marginal Cultivators	10828	20
Marginal Agriculture Labourers	38186	71
Non-Workers	1639638	31378

(Source: Census 2001)

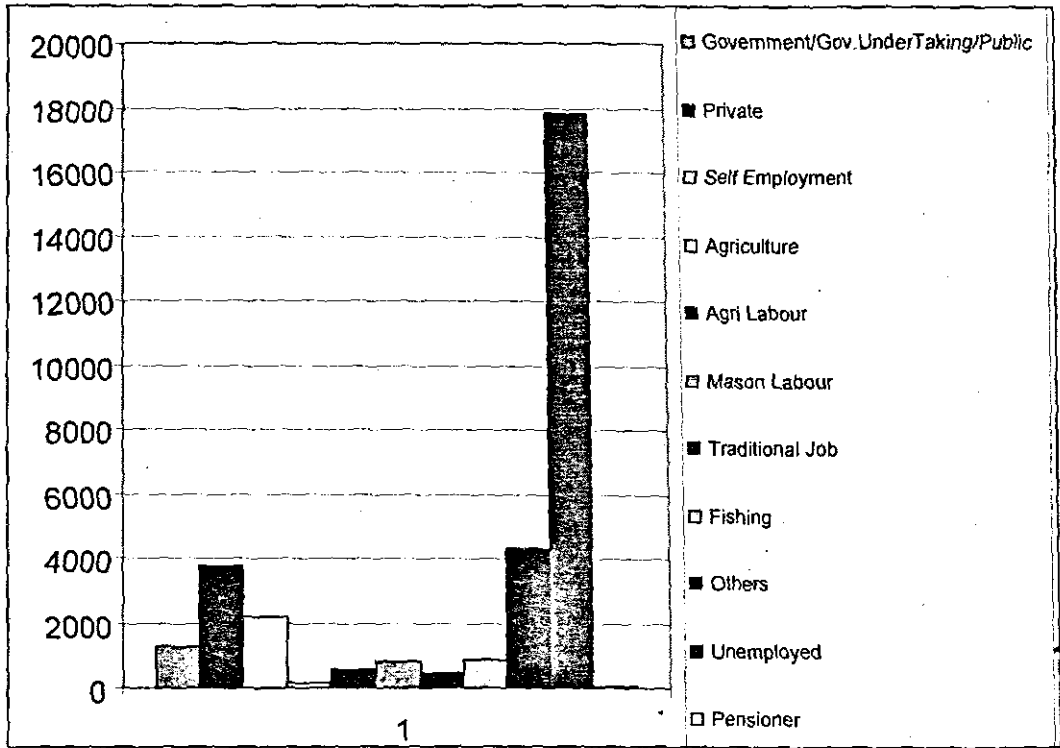
Table 4.4 Employment Details as per 2009 HDR Sample survey

<b>Job Description</b>	<b>SC</b>	<b>ST</b>	<b>OBC</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>
Government/Gov. Undertaking/Public	144	0	960	164	1268
Private	240	0	3004	500	3744
Self Employment	132	0	1844	184	2160
Agriculture	0	0	128	16	144
Agriculture Labour	104	0	464	12	580
Mason Labour	144	0	644	44	832
Traditional Job	32	0	400	12	444
Fishing	32	0	804	4	840

Others	288	0	3880	136	4304
Unemployed	1076	0	15492	1252	17820
Pensioner	4	0	32	20	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>2196</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27652</b>	<b>2344</b>	<b>32192</b>

(Source: HDR Survey 2009)

Figure 4.2



The people of Azhikode engage in a wide range of jobs. There are fishermen, retailers, Government employees, Cigar workers, handloom weavers, factory workers and farmers among the people. A large number of people migrated to the Middle East for better job prospects. But they never settle there. They return home after their fifties to spend the rest of their lives in their hometown. Most of the people here belonging to the middle class, but in the fishermen's area, we can see both poor and middle class families.

Table 4.5

Number of Persons Working Outside Country					
Gulf Countries	America	Britain	Australia	Others	Total
3332	28	8	4	80	3452

Table 4.6

No. Of Families Where Family Members Working Outside Country					
Gulf Countries	America	Britain	Australia	Others	Total
2500	20	8	4	44	2576

#### 4.2 Water resources and Irrigation

'Water, water, every where

Nor any drop to drink'

- S.T.Coleridge.

Even if Azhikode is a coastal Panchayath, the most vulnerable problem is scarcity of drinking water. The water supply schemes of the Kerala Water Authority and Fisheries department are not sufficient to solve drinking water problems of the people. All the parts of the Panchayath are facing shortage of drinking water. Only 8 % of families are having water connection in their homes.

Table 4.5

Water connection	Number of families
Available	860
Not available	9208
<b>Total</b>	<b>10068</b>

Table 4.6

	Drinking water sources						
	Own well	Public well	Other well	Tube well	Public tap	Others	Total
Number of families	7468	600	1328	100	452	80	10068

74% of the total families are having own well for drinking water. But the availability of drinking water throughout the year is only a dream to some of the families. Also in some wells, the water is contained iron or iron ore. Some others have salt water.

Table 4.7 Details about non availability of Drinking Water

Ward	No. of Families Not Getting Drinking Water for				
	1 Month	2 Months	3 Months	Above 3 months	Total
1	4	0	4	12	20
2	0	8	8	28	44
3	20	104	92	56	272
4	72	76	16	4	168
5	16	96	24	44	180
6	32	76	84	12	204
7	4	44	12	0	60
8	36	44	36	0	116
9	4	16	12	4	36
10	184	48	0	0	232
11	8	16	12	28	64
12	24	36	32	12	104
13	32	96	12	0	140

14	32	80	56	216	384
15	8	64	44	12	128
16	8	16	20	12	56
17	16	116	76	8	216
18	40	24	44	52	160
19	12	20	4	4	40
20	4	0	0	4	8
21	16	0	0	0	16
22	8	8	0	4	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>988</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>2668</b>

### Main problems

- Drinking water scarcity – through out the Panchayath
- Failure of big water supply projects
- Iron content in some of the wells
- Salt water problems
- Water supply schemes are not proper

### Solutions suggested

- Micro projects on water supply
- Purification of sea water
- Identify the water resources of the Panchayath
- Clean the public wells , ponds and water tanks
- Watershed oriented planning should be adopted

### 4.3 Irrigation

Small scale irrigation plays a good role in farming. Most of the irrigation projects get financial help from Panchayath. Many canals are used for irrigation. Group farming plays an important role in paddy fields. It helps to increase the total

area of paddy fields from 15 hectares to 45 hectares. The details of canals in the Panchayath are given below.

Table 4.8

Sl No.	Name of Canal	Area
1.	Kandanazhi Thodu	30 Acre and 47 cents
2	Pamban Thodu	11 Acre and 06 cents
3	Uppayi Thodu	67 cents
4	Nuchi Thodu	2 Acre 14 cents
5	Mundachalil Thodu	16 cents
6	Musliyar Thodu	1 Acre
7	Kakkan thodu	6 cents
8	Kavinchal Thodu	7 cents

The Panchayath is gifted with several ponds and water shed areas. The following table gives you an idea of ponds and its area.

Table 4.9

Sl No.	Name of the Pond	Area in cents
1	Uppayi pond 1	8
2	Uppayi pond 2	6
3	Makkuni	74
4	Vankulam	108
5	Oladakkuninu Thazhe	7
6	Chemmarassery	13
7	Meenkunnu	15
8	Thekkubhagam	14
9	Mulolum Ambalam kulam	(Pvt)
10	Oriyan kulam	6

11	Ezhuthodan kulam	7
12	Fisheries	8
13	Ayyankovil (Devaswam)	10
14	Madathile kulam (Fisheries)	12

Besides these ponds the 'East Kappu' and 'West Kappu' having an area of 60 acres, where water is available throughout the year are in this Panchayath.

#### 4.4 Rainfall

The following table gives an idea about the rainfall distribution among the months in Azhikode Panchayath

Table 4.10

2007-Rain fall in mm						2008- Rainfall in mm					
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
1116	784	596	315	72	0.2	0	1	250	24	57	726

2007-08		
Actual	Normal	Change
3940	3373	17

Water harvesting is the activity of direct collection of rain water. The rain water collected can be stored for direct use or can be recharged into the ground water. Rain is the first form of water that we know in the hydrological cycle, hence is a primary source of water for us. Rivers, lakes and ground water are all secondary sources of water. At present we depend entirely on such secondary sources of water. Water harvesting means to understand the value of rain, and to make optimum use of the rainwater at the place where it falls.

Rainfall harvesting saves water for 'not-so-rainy' days. Water conservation is becoming increasingly important in the Azhikode Panchayath. Rainfall

harvesting is an 'old technology that is new again'. Harvesting rain water can reduce the use of drinking water for landscape irrigation. Water harvesting not only reduces dependence on ground water and the amount of money spent on water, but also reduces off-site flooding and erosion by holding rain water on the site. Rain water is clear, salt free source of water for plants. In addition, rain water harvesting can reduce salt accumulation in the soil which can be harmful to root growth. Limitations of water harvesting are few and are easily met by good planning and design.



## **Chapter V**

### **Education**

#### **5.1 Schools and its infrastructure**

Azkikkode Grama Panchayath has a proud and long history in formal Education and social awareness. As in the other parts of Kerala, the 'Nilathezhuthassan' system was started in this village even in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. In 1870, Sri.Perumakkal Kelu Ezhuthassan established the first Single Teacher Formal Education centre. Examinations had been conducted and certificates had been given from this institution since 1870. Later this was known as Akliyath Lower Primary School.

Now the Panchayath has nine Lower Primary Schools, four Upper Primary Schools, two Higher Secondary Schools and one Vocational Higher Secondary School tallies the number of sixteen. In 1950, by the leadership of Senior Citizens of this place, a high School was set up in the Panchayath. In 1969 the government established Fisheries Technical School which was then a boon to fishermen children. In 1980, the Malabar District Board with the help of the local residents upgraded an Upper Primary School to High School under government sector. Higher secondary classes have been started in Azhikode High School and in Meenkunnu High School in 2004 and 2007 respectively.

The pupils of this Panchayath have an access to lower primary school within a reach of 2 km, upper primary school within a reach of 3 km and high school and higher secondary school within a reach of 5 km.

Now there are 11788 students studying in different institutes from LKG to Master degree courses and other technical courses.

The number of students according to the medium of instruction in which they study is given in the following table.

Table 5.1

Social Group	Malayalam		English		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
SC	180	173	105	165	285	338
OBC	2514	2658	2525	2612	5039	5270
Others	156	168	256	276	412	444
<b>Total</b>	<b>2850</b>	<b>2999</b>	<b>2886</b>	<b>3053</b>	<b>5736</b>	<b>6052</b>

The number of students according to different Courses they study is clear from the following table.

Table 5.2

Number of students according to location of institution										
Class	Inside Panchayath	Outside Panchayath	Total	Reason for Studying Outside Panchayath						
				No institution	No relevant course	Not getting admission	No good facility	Lack of travelling facility	Nearest institute is outside Panchayath	Others
Below LP	916	336	1252	28	40	12	168	8	52	28
LP	1976	852	2828	64	112	36	412	12	120	96
UP	1524	720	2244	56	76	36	348	28	92	84
HS	1600	740	2340	44	100	60	360	24	52	100
Plus2	492	872	1364	68	192	252	256	12	32	60
Degree	72	820	892	14 8	268	56	292	0	20	36
Master Degree	0	156	156	56	44	4	52	0	0	0

Engineering	0	136	136	44	28	12	52	0	0	0
Nursing	0	20	20	4	16	0	0	0	0	0
BEd/MEd	0	24	24	12	4	0	8	0	0	0
Diploma	0	132	132	36	40	0	48	0	4	4
ITI / ITC	0	76	76	12	36	0	28	0	0	0
TTC	0	16	16	8	0	0	4	0	4	0
Others	8	300	308	56	140	0	100	0	4	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6588</b>	<b>5200</b>	<b>11788</b>	<b>63</b> <b>6</b>	<b>1096</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>2178</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>408</b>

## 5.2 Literacy in the Panchayath

According to the 2001 Census, there are 94.65% people literate in the Panchayath. A ward wise (of them) split-up of the population of household and literacy rate is as follows. According to the 1961 Census the Panchayath Literacy was 56.07 percent. In which the Education Ratio of women was 47.69% and that of men was 64.31%. After 40 years, in 2001 Census this level was increased to 94.69 percent. Although in the Growth Rate of literacy all 22 wards of Panchayath pertaining the same standard.

Table 5.3

Ward No.	No. of H.H	Population			S.C			S.T			Literacy Rate
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
1	527	3370	2036	1334	246	130	116	0	0	0	87.44
2	462	2384	1115	1269	329	161	168	0	0	0	96.16
3	416	2608	1241	1367	142	65	77	0	0	0	94.09
4	354	2574	1322	1252	217	96	121	0	0	0	90.34
5	384	2152	1021	1131	177	86	91	0	0	0	94.51
6	358	2046	972	1074	68	39	29	0	0	0	97.63
7	327	1786	836	950	14	5	9	0	0	0	96.24
8	377	2058	972	1086	16	8	8	0	0	0	96.77
9	409	2316	1076	1240	361	163	198	0	0	0	96.03
10	449	2692	1261	1431	21	12	9	0	0	0	97.41
11	395	2037	968	1069	285	141	144	0	0	0	97.61
12	387	2070	963	1107	69	30	39	0	0	0	95.75
13	340	2030	967	1063	17	8	9	0	0	0	93.71
14	416	2268	1028	1240	48	24	24	0	0	0	92.50
15	369	2088	984	1104	24	10	14	0	0	0	94.63
16	331	1700	826	874	14	7	7	0	0	0	96.73
17	402	2196	1018	1178	45	24	21	0	0	0	93.93
18	451	2335	1098	1237	28	12	16	0	0	0	95.79
19	523	2675	1275	1400	260	134	126	0	0	0	96.15
20	464	2566	1216	1350	361	176	185	0	0	0	95.15
<b>Total</b>	<b>8141</b>	<b>45951</b>	<b>22195</b>	<b>23756</b>	<b>2742</b>	<b>1331</b>	<b>1411</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>94.69</b>

(Then only 20 wards)

Table 5.4

Education Status	Age Group							Total
	5- 14	15- 24	25-34	35- 44	45- 50	51- 59	>59	
Through Literacy campaign	0	0	4	36	56	52	100	248
Below LP	2416	28	56	296	448	760	1100	5104
LP	2144	92	328	732	792	1004	1288	6380
UP	2120	1336	2072	2288	1424	1456	1132	11828
HS	612	2508	2720	2660	1288	1168	724	11680
Plus2	0	2348	1116	848	268	228	104	4912
Degree	0	972	984	528	160	168	92	2904
Master Degree	0	132	220	120	44	20	20	556
Others	0	16	24	8	0	8	12	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>7596</b>	<b>7468</b>	<b>7528</b>	<b>7544</b>	<b>4544</b>	<b>5068</b>	<b>5264</b>	<b>43680</b>

Figure 5.1

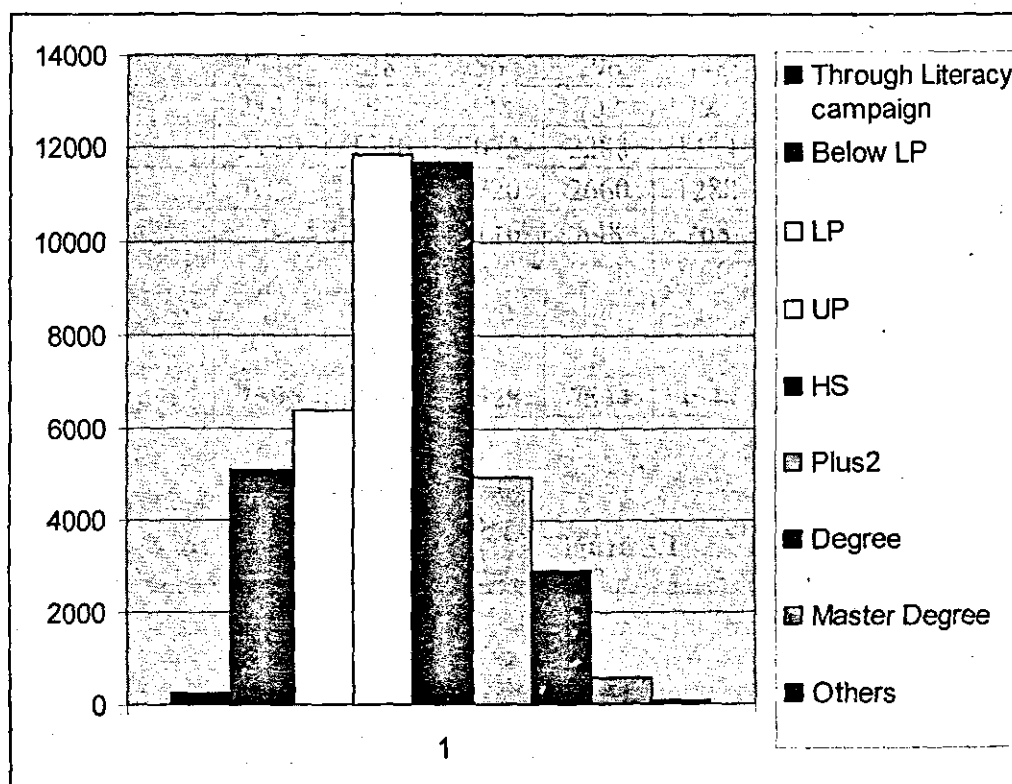
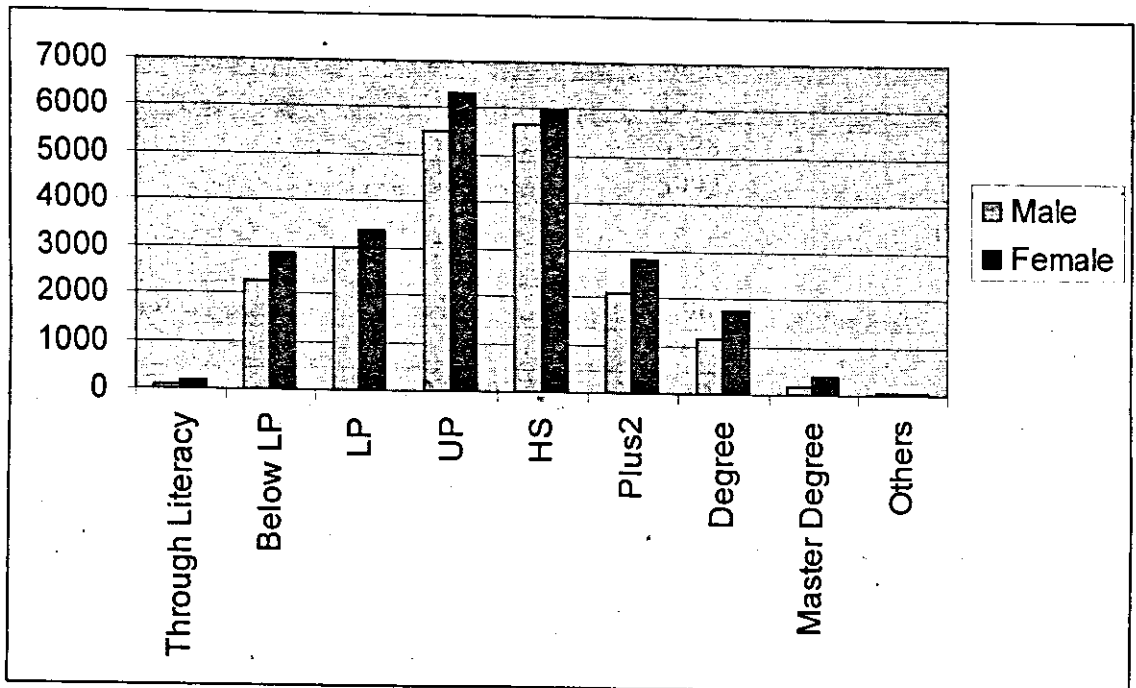


Table 5.5

Education Status	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Through Literacy	92	156	248
Below LP	2264	2840	5104
LP	3008	3372	6380
UP	5500	6328	11828
HS	5688	5992	11680
Plus2	2080	2832	4912
Degree	1160	1744	2904
Master Degree	160	396	556
Others	36	32	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>21820</b>	<b>26120</b>	<b>43680</b>

Fig 5.2



## 5.3 Students strength: Enrollment and dropout ratios

Table 5.6 Schools in the Panchayath

Sl. No.	Name of School	Aided/ Unaided	Total Number of Students			Total Number of Teachers			Student Teacher Ratio
			Boys	Girls	Total	M	F	T	
1	Kifayathul IMLPS	Aided	23	30	53	0	4	4	13
2	Kappakadavu JMLPS	Aided	52	62	114	3	3	6	19
3	Hidayathul IMLPS	Aided	49	46	95	2	4	6	16
4	Azhikode East LPS	Aided	19	16	35	1	4	5	7
5	Akliyath LPS	Aided	188	157	345	2	9	11	31
6	Azhikode Central LPS	Local body	40	44	84	2	3	5	17
7	Azhikode LPS	Aided	31	29	30	1	4	5	12
8	Govt: Mappila LPS	Govt	32	30	62	2	3	5	12
9	Govt: Fisheries LPS	Govt	32	31	63	0	4	4	16
10	Azhikode North UPS	Aided	207	201	408	2	15	17	24
11	Ramajayam UPS	Aided	312	324	636	5	17	22	29
12	Azhikode South UPS	Aided	331	341	672	3	24	27	25
13	Azhikode West UPS	Aided	108	104	212	4	9	13	16
14	Azhikode HSS	Aided	565	449	1013	6	9	15	68
15	Govt High School Azhikode	Govt	237	258	495	6	17	23	22
	Govt HSS Azhikode	Govt	115	158	273	4	17	21	13
16	Govt: RFTHS, Azhikode	Govt	52	---	52	3	4	7	7
	Govt: RFTHSS, Azhikode	Govt	47	45	92	5	4	9	10
17	Azhikode High School	Aided	1055	936	2021	17	49	66	31
	Azhikode Higher Secondary School	Un aided	153	157	310	5	8	13	24

Parellal college, namely "Vivekananda College" and two English medium schools namely "Chinnu Minnu English Medium School" and "St: James English medium school" run by private owners in the Panchayath.

There are no professional colleges or Vocational Training Centers in the Panchayath except one Regional Fisheries Technical Higher secondary school. For

higher education people depend on neighboring areas. But the infrastructure facilities available in the above schools are more or less sufficient. Extra curricular activities are promoted by the Panchayath as well.

There is one Engineering College, one Ayurveda Medical College, 4 Arts and Science Colleges (including one woman's ) within a distance of 15 km. Currently many English medium schools are established. Most of the kids from Middle class families reach these schools.

We could not identify any dropouts in this Panchayath.

#### **5.4 Anganwadis**

There are 45 Anganwadi's under the Social Welfare Department. 22 of them are functioning in own building. The Anganwadi's are playing a major role in the development of the health of women and children.

#### **5.5 Adult Education programmes/Continuing education programmes**

There are 248 new literate peoples in the Panchayath who were got literate under Literacy campaign, adult education programme and continuing education programme. Among these 156 are female. 'Kiran Project', a project of District Panchayath for new literates between the age 15 and 50 and who is not qualified class IV, to qualify for an equivalency certificate of standard IV, is successfully implementing in this Panchayath.

There are two women Saksharatha Prerak working in the Panchayath.



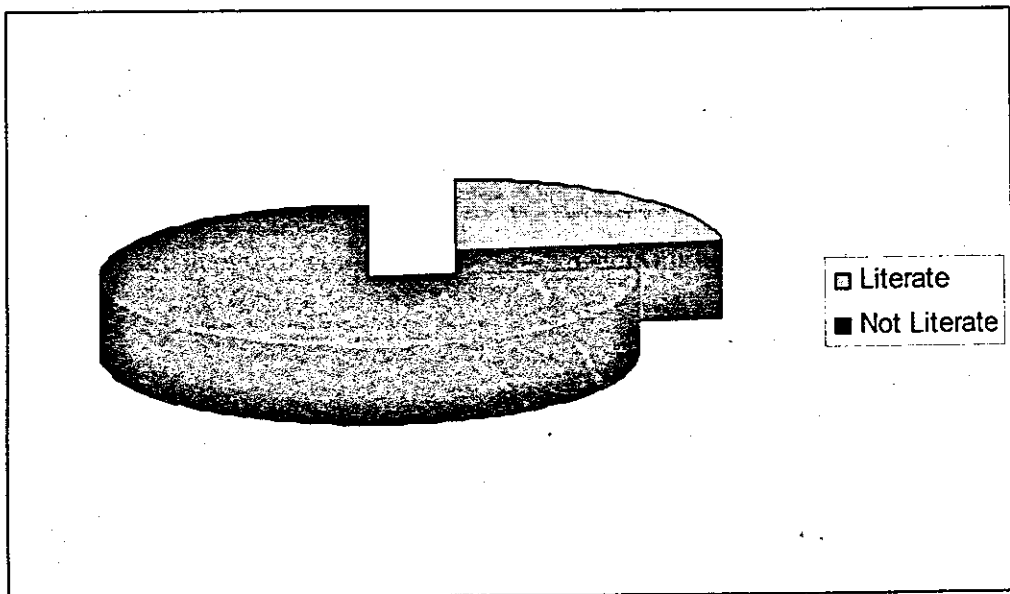
**5.6 Computer literacy**

Table 5.7

Computer Literacy	Age Group								Total
	0-4	5- 14	15- 24	25-34	35- 44	45- 50	50- 59	>59	
Literate	0	2964	4500	1784	968	292	300	136	10944
Not Literate	2928	4632	2968	5744	6576	4252	4768	5128	36996
<b>Total</b>	<b>2928</b>	<b>7596</b>	<b>7468</b>	<b>7528</b>	<b>7544</b>	<b>4544</b>	<b>5068</b>	<b>5264</b>	<b>47940</b>

The percentage of computer literacy considering the whole population is 23 in Azhikode Grama Panchayath. Azhikode Panchayath has an Akshaya Centre, a computer centre for the public, a Kerala government initiative.

Fig 5.3



## Chapter VI

### Health and Sanitation

Kerala has a unique distinction among the states of India in people's health condition especially in infant mortality rate, sex ratio, birth and death rates and life expectancy. The credit goes to the health department and public health institutions in Kerala.

The health indicators of Azhikode Grama Panchayath are as good as Kerala state. There is one Primary health centre, one Ayurvedic dispensary and a homeopathy dispensary in this Panchayath. These institutions are under the direct control of the Kannur Block Panchayath. The PHC which was established in 1971 now has 7 sub centers. The total staff strength is above 50 including 8 Doctors, 3 Staff Nurses and more than 25 field employees.

#### 6.1 Hospitals

SI No	Name of Hospitals	System of medicine
1	PHC	Allopathy
2	Homeopathic Dispensary	Homoeo

The primary Health Centre, situate at Azhikode is having a jurisdictionary area of 47.71 square kilometers (Five Panchyath of Kannur Block). The people of nearby Panchyaths also depend on this PHC.

The facilities and services available at the PHC

1. OP section-diagnosis and treatment to the patients
2. IP section
3. Post maternal care.
4. Free vaccination for children and pregnant women
5. DOT'S
6. Free diagnosis of skin disease.
7. Free testing of eye and vision
8. Diagnosis of Filaria
9. Laboratory

## 6.2 Major diseases occurred

It is observed that the number of Cancer patients and Heart patients are drastically increasing in this Panchayath. The causes of this situation are to be studied exclusively. The main health problem in some areas of the Azhikode Panchayath is filaria, the disease caused by mosquitoes. Being a costal Panchayath the rate of filaria content in the blood is very high in the local residents. There is no prevention programme exist in the Panchyath against the disease. Micro filerias can be identified only through blood test during night. So PHC should conduct night blood test camps at least once in a week in the coastal areas of the Panchayath. Also medical surveys and diagnosis clinics based on fileria should be conducted each year in order to identify the persons carrying microfilerias and provide proper treatments to them.

**Table 6.1**

Main diseases	Estimated Number of Patients
Diabetics	1902
BP	2660
Filaria	12
TB	60
Malaria	4
Asthma	512
Cancer	68
Heart diseases	524
Other diseases	4032

(Source: HDR Survey 2009)

It is also observed that another disease caused by mosquitoes, malaria, reported in the Panchayath. Such cases are less, but the chances are still in the air because of the high presence of mosquitoes. Eradication of mosquitoes is the only means to prevent both of these diseases. Also skin diseases are reported from this area. Panchayath's has an important role to play in this subject.

The mosquitoes are largely found in drainage and in other waterlogged areas. The mosquitoes in these areas can be destroyed through some minor engineering activities and through applying some chemicals. The most important and effective method is awareness among the common people about the activities to destroy the mosquitoes. Also the people should be aware about the need of blood test to identify the symptoms of malaria and fileria and the need of cooperating with the health volunteers of the health department.

### 6.3 Water oriented diseases.

It is also observed that Jaundice, Typhoid etc. are reported in the Panchayath. These can be prevented only through the distribution of pure drinking water in the Panchayath. About 7% of the people have no latrine facility available, especially in costal areas. This is one of the main problems of coastal area residents through out the state. There are several reasons for this problem, both economical and social.

#### **Box 6.1**

In coastal areas men have the habit of open air defecation. The fund distributed through the LSG institutions to construct toilets is insufficient to meet the expenditure. Apart from benefits health problems will arise in this case if modern toilets are not properly constructed.

In Neerkkadavu, one of the coastal ward of azhikode Panchayath, 'arayasamajam' - an association of fishermen community, constructed two complexes of six toilets each for 40 houses. This was only for the use of women. This is a remarkable contribution and can be taken as a model to other coastal Panchayaths.

**Table 6.2**

Good Toilet Facility	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total
Available	560	0	7964	868	9392
Not Available	92	0	568	16	676
<b>Total</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8532</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>10068</b>

(Source: HDR Survey 2009)

This Panchayath is a recipient of 'Nirmal Puraskar', an award given for complete sanitation facility. Even though, in some coastal areas and in some poor families good sanitation facility is not available in the Panchayath. About 6% of families are not having good toilet facilities.

#### 6.4 Solid waste management

Waste management is one of the main problems that our society facing now. In this modern age we have different kinds of waste namely e waste, plastic waste, bio waste, etc. About 96% of the families are disposing the solid waste (both bio waste and plastic waste) in their own places. The following table gives an idea about the waste disposal methods adopted in the Panchayath.

Table 6.3

Ward	Sewage Facility				Total
	Own Land	Public Place	Common Sewage Facility	Others	
1	400	0	4	0	400
2	500	0	0	0	500
3	244	12	12	32	300
4	496	8	4	0	504
5	404	0	0	0	404
6	392	4	0	8	400
7	500	0	0	0	500
8	376	8	0	12	396
9	396	0	0	4	400
10	332	60	32	24	448
11	456	24	0	8	488
12	444	4	24	16	488
13	496	0	0	0	496
14	500	0	4	0	500
15	500	4	0	8	512
16	496	4	4	0	500
17	400	0	0	0	400
18	500	0	4	0	500
19	476	4	0	16	496
20	492	4	0	8	500
21	400	0	0	0	400
22	500	0	0	8	508
<b>Total</b>	<b>9700</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>10068</b>

### 6.5 Alcohol and Pan

The consumption habit of alcohol is drastically increasing in our society. Azhikode Panchayath has no a different story to tell. But we could find some more crucial situation. The habits of people in the Panchayath concerning beverages and pan are given in the following table. We are sure that the figure we obtained through the survey is having a demerit of undervaluation, since the subject under consideration was personal.

**Table 6.3**

Habits	Estimated Number of persons
Smoking	1800
Betel chewing	332
Pan masala	44
Alcohol	1460
Other habits	68

(Source: HDR Survey 2009)

### 6.6 Local Body's effort in Health Sector

Panchayath has its own projects and programmes in Health sector. 'Clean Kerala Mission' is a programme of government of Kerala which is fruitfully implemented in this Panchayath. This Panchayath is one among the recipient of 'Nirmal Puraskar' of Government of India, which is given for a complete sanitation facility.

**Chapter VII**  
**Economic Activities**

**7.1 Income of Panchayath**

**Table 7.1**

Sl. No	Item	Amount in Rs
1	Building Tax	1285000
2	Entertainment Tax	39000
3	Duty on Transfer of property	817283
4	Profession tax	611000
5	Income from other sources	1232000
<b>Total</b>		<b>3984283</b>

**Expenditure of the Panchayath**

**Table 7.2**

Sl.No	Item	Amount in Rs
1	Establishment charges	1274629
2	Public works	79464
3	Education	50361
4	Water supply	518150
5	Electricity	221508
6	Others	178270
<b>Total</b>		<b>2322382</b>

Table 7.3

House Type	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total
Pucca	368	0	5724	540	6632
Semi Pucca	232	0	2540	312	3084
Katcha	52	0	268	32	352
<b>Total</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8532</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>10068</b>

Around 66% of the families in the Panchayath are having a good (Pucca) dwelling facilities. 31% are residing in an average quality house. The remaining 3% of the families are not having good houses or not having dwelling facilities.

Table 7.4

House Ownership	Total
Owned	9340
Rental	556
Others	172
<b>Total</b>	<b>10068</b>

## 7.2 Major social welfare schemes

Table 7.5

Sl. No.	Name of pension scheme	No of beneficiaries
1	Old age pension	319
2	Agriculture labour pension	459
3	Pension for handicapped	231
4	Pension for widows	483
5	Special pension for unmarried women (> 50 Yrs of age)	241
6	Pension for unemployment	138



### 7.3 Identification of Poor

This can be done by various methodologies such as head count, level of deprivation and unmet basic needs (lack of drinking water, proper sanitation and other basic amenities, etc.) Panchayath as a whole is more or less in a developed stage. Also, communication to neighboring municipality and Panchayath is better; people are floating for their earnings. Migrant workers are living under poor conditions. Still Panchayath authorities are keen in settling such issues.

Various social welfare schemes are designed by the local body for the upliftment of the poor. Some of them are:

- 1) Kudumbasree units
- 2) Self help groups
- 3) Adult Education programs.

### 7.4 Old Age Home

The old age home, under the social welfare department and the Kannur block Panchayath, is situated at Azhikode. It was started in 1997 in a rented building. But it has own land and building with a capacity to accommodate 100 persons. This institute is really a blessing for the helpless old age people (above 55 years of old). The administrative committee also planning to have a 'day care home' for old age people who suffer from loneliness to spend their day time.

**Table 7.6**

Ration Card Type	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total	
APL		288	0	5596	628	6512
BPL		296	0	1884	140	2320
With out Card		68	0	1052	116	1236
<b>Total</b>		<b>652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8532</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>10068</b>

(Source: HDR Sample Survey 2009)

### 7.5 Industries and its role

Azhikode is a small village in Kannur district and is famous for its handloom industry. The quality handloom products, locally known as 'Kaithari', are made by hand by the weavers with the help of handloom machines. To promote the handloom industry Azhikode has been declared as a handloom village. The Pilot textile park will give an enhancement to weavers in Azhikode.

### 7.6 Environmental issues

Azhikkode is the most populated Panchayath in Kannur block. The population figure is going to touch the half lakh mark. The population density is 2989 per square kilometer where as the same for the district is only 812.

Some areas of the Panchayath are under threat of environmental pollution. The waste of chemical colours from textile companies and the chemical waste from Plywood factories are some among these which are raised by some of the ward members in the Focus group discussions.

### 7.7 Fuel, Electricity, telecommunication

Table 7.7

Social Category	Major Cooking Source				
	Firewood	LPG	Electricity	Kerosene	Others
SC	628	300	4	56	4
OBC	8328	6036	108	708	28
Others	792	752	8	56	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9748</b>	<b>7088</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>32</b>

Table 7.8

No. of Electrified Houses	Total
Electrified	9816
Non Electrified	252
<b>Total</b>	<b>10068</b>

Table 7.9

Telephone Facility	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total
Available	148	0	3636	540	4324
Not available	504	0	4896	344	5744
<b>Total</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8532</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>10068</b>

Table 7.10

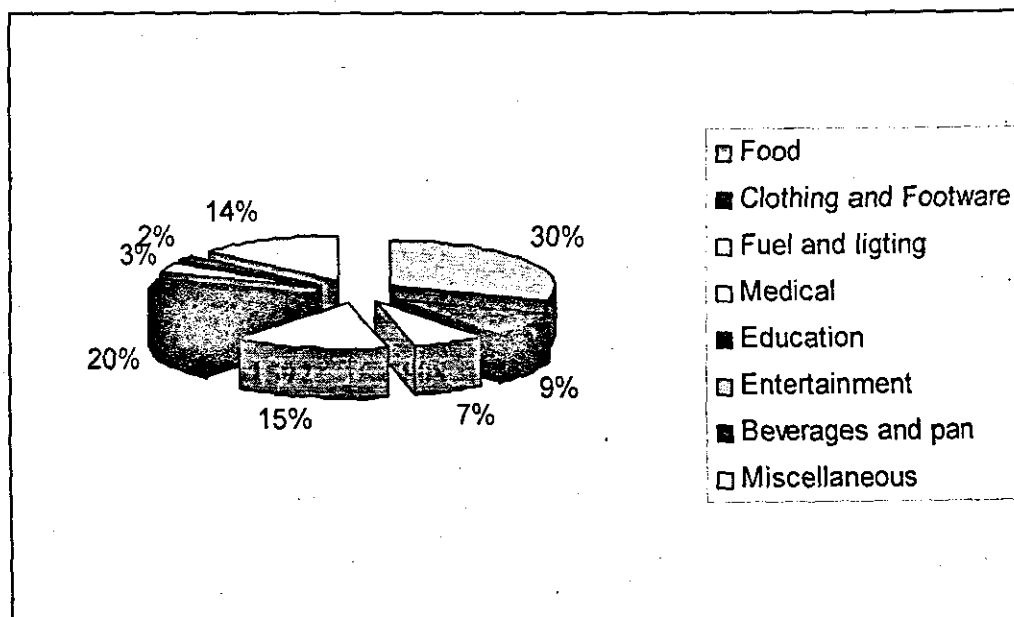
Mobile Facility	SC	ST	OBC	Others	Total
Available	576	0	7148	752	8476
Not available	76	0	1384	132	1592
<b>Total</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8532</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>10068</b>

Table 7.11

Social category	Family wise No. of Mobile Connections				Total
	Number of connections				
	0	1	2	3 And Above	
SC	76	380	156	40	652
OBC	1384	4912	1824	412	8532
Others	132	516	172	64	884
<b>Total</b>	<b>1592</b>	<b>5808</b>	<b>2152</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>10068</b>

## 7.8 Monthly Consumer Expenditure

Fig 7.1



The figure depicts the consumer expenditure pattern of a typical average family of Azhikode Panchayath. The highest portion of their expenditure goes to food items as 30% while 20% goes to education expenditure and 15 % to medical expenditure.

**Table 7.12 Other facilities**

<b>No. of Vehicles Owned By Families</b>					
<b>Religion</b>	<b>Bike / Scooter</b>	<b>Auto</b>	<b>Car/ Jeep</b>	<b>Others</b>	<b>Total</b>
SC	92	12	24	8	136
OBC	1580	204	456	88	2328
Others	228	32	56	20	336
<b>Total</b>	<b>1900</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>2800</b>

## **Chapter VIII**

### **Gender Development**

#### **8.1 Gender issues**

In the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's), the third goal challenges discrimination against women. India's commitment to gender equality is evident from the fact that it is a signatory to the convention on the elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which has ratified on 25 June 1993. The Constitution of India confers equal rights and opportunities to men and women in political, economic and social spheres. Gender equality and the empowerment of women is one of the objectives of the tenth plan (2002-2007). The Government announced the national policy for the empowerment of the women in 2001 to bring about the advancement, development, and empowerment of women; to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women; and to ensure their active participation for sustainable development.

Although the condition of an educated working woman is a little better, yet she is expected to financially support the family. Illiterate working women, end up in informal sector work activities with out much social security to look for. Being a bringer of the second income neither makes her independent nor does it absolve of her traditional functions of a homemaker. She has to balance herself between the two roles, the two identities, because the society continues to be male dominated. In the unorganized or the informal sector, the woman is a victim of a gender division even in wages and roles.

54% of the total populations in the Panchayath are women. But women are backward as compared to men in the field of education, especially in the technical education sector. So many women are there in the Panchayath who are not properly educated due to early marriage and some others are compelled to look after their family in their early age. There are no educational institutions exclusively for girls in the Panchayath.

Few years back lots of women were worked in agricultural sector, but now most of them have no job due to stagnation in the agricultural field. Also the wages of women are less as compared to in the labour sector.

There are lots of institutions providing employment to the people in the Panchayath running under the supervision of women. There are units under DWCRA and women co op societies in the Panchayath. But they can't assure the quality of the products and so the profit attained is very less. Also they are lacking adequate marketing facilities. So the majority of the institutions is under the threat of closing.

The participation of women is very less in the fields of politics, social work, cultural activities, sports and arts. The proper development of the society is attained only when we are able to bring women in the main stream of the society as they are more than half of the population.

Being a Panchayath situated near Kannur city good treatment facilities as well as good educational institutions are at a hand reach to the people of the Panchayath. Slowly but steadily urbanization is coming even to the interior parts of the Panchayath.

**Table 8.1**  
**No. of Unmarried Women's By Social Group**

Social Group	Age Group								Total
	0-4	5- 14	15- 24	25-34	35- 44	45- 50	50- 59	>59	
SC	0	0	96	64	28	28	12	4	232
OBC	0	0	988	448	408	212	192	172	2420
Others	0	0	84	20	44	16	4	4	172
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1168</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>2824</b>

**Table 8.2**  
**No. of Widows By Social Group**

Social Group	Age Group								Total
	0-4	5- 14	15- 24	25-34	35- 44	45- 50	50- 59	>59	
SC	0	0	0	0	8	28	56	164	256
OBC	0	0	0	16	136	232	484	1360	2228
Others	0	0	0	4	8	16	20	204	252
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>1728</b>	<b>2736</b>

**Table 8.3**

**Details About Women Facing Problems in Working Place (Ages Between 15 - 60)**

Problems	Number of Women
Physical Torturing	16
Mental Torturing	12
Less Payment	124
Discrimination	28
Others	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>244</b>

### **8.2 Women welfare and health**

One of the main issues in the development of a society is gender discrimination. Women are backward in all the facets of the development. The main objective of the eleventh plan is to compensate the developmental backwardness of women. This objective can only be attained by participating women in planning and developmental projects.

The primary health center plays a major role in the health sector of women and children. Most of the women are depending the District Head quarters Hospital and other private hospital situated at Kannur for medical check ups and treatment since the city is very near to them.

There are 45 Anganwadi's under the Social Welfare Department. 22 of them are functioning in own building. The Anganwadi's got a major role in the

development of the health of women and children. Nutritious food is supplied to children, women, teenaged girls and pregnant women through Anganwadis.

### 8.3 Some women's co operative societies

Azhikkode Multiwomen's Garments

Co-operative garments. Vankulathuvayal

Azhikkode south village women's co-operative society

Azhikkode North village women's co-operative society

Azhikkode women's co-operative society

The male female participation in labour sector is given in the following table

**Table 8.4**

Sl.No	Labour Sector	Female	Male	Total
1	Permanent employment	1560	9003	10563
2	Partially employed	304	383	687
3	Construction sector	74	563	637
4	Trade and commerce	111	1517	1628
5	Transport, storage, communication	27	683	710
6	Others	420	827	1247

### 8.4 Issues

- Women are not getting education
- Not getting equal opportunity in labour and employment sector
- Discrimination in remuneration
- Less participation in social and political activities
- Problem of dowry



## **Chapter IX**

### **Fisheries Sector**

The Panchayath is having 9.8 kilometers of costal boundary and 3.68 kilometers of river boundary and have a natural Cove. This is a gift of God to this Panchayath. Wards 1-azheekal, 2- Kappakkadavu and 3- Poythumkadavu are on the banks of the Valapattanam River. Ward 10-Neerkadavu, 14- Meenkunnu, 15- Payipparamba, 9- Aramkottam are on the banks of the Arabian Sea. Most of the fishermen families are living in these wards. Majority of the fishermen are from Araya caste. We can find Muslims, Christians and other forward caste people in fishermen population. Traditional way of fishing together with modern mechanized fishing is seen in this fishing village.

#### **9.1 Fishermen Population**

There are about 629 fishermen families in the Panchayath and about 1500 fishermen working in this sector. This includes interstate and inters district migrant workers. Inboard engine boats are using for fishing. Infrastructure facilities for marketing are available at Azheekal Port. "Matsyafed", an agency for the welfare of fishermen, has implemented so many projects in this sector. In addition to that there are department schemes and Panchayath schemes for the wellbeing of the fishermen community. There are around 6000 people working in fisheries and allied sector of employment.

Many schemes are implemented in the fisheries sector for the upliftment of fishermen and their families. Fisheries Bhavan at Azhikode is functioning in the coastal fisheries sector. There are service societies affiliated with 'Mathsyafed' .In addition to that, Tsunami rehabilitation scheme, Tsunami emerging relief scheme, SAF, and Integrated Coastal Area Development Scheme are being implemented in this Panchayath. These schemes provide assistance for starting financial

enterprises, financial assistance to health, sanitation drinking water and education activities.

## **9.2 Social status**

The social status of the fishermen in Azhikode fish village is comparatively better than any other fish village in Kerala. They are provided with good dwelling facilities, sanitary facilities and they are getting good social support from all other communities. There are many schemes implemented by the fisheries department, Matsyafed, welfare fund board and Panchayath in this area. Fishing Harbour at Azheekal is a large project by which by which the fishing Boats can be reach safely in all seasons and this is very helpful for marketing and transportation of fish.

It is common belief that the youth in the coastal area especially fishermen are hot tempered very much religious, drug addicted and alcoholic. It may be true in the cases of other coastal areas of Kerala. But in Azhikode we can see educated, well mannered and broad minded youths who are energetic part of the society.

## **9.3 Social welfare societies under Matsyafed**

### **1. Azhikode Kadappuram Fishermen development society**

It started in 2007 and working in good condition till date. Society has a net profit of 2.92 lakh up to Dec 2009. Capital of the society is Rs 30 lakhs and it has an asset of Rs 56 Lakhs. Under the jurisdiction of this society there are 1440 fishermen out of which 600 are members of this society.

Table 9.1

SI No	Description	Number of Fishermen under the jurisdiction of the society	Number of Fishermen with society membership	Number of Fishermen who received assistance from Matsyafed	Number of Fishermen who received assistance from other institution
1	Total Fishermen	1440	600	347	300
2	Active fishermen	585	427	232	200
3	Fish selling workers	225	105	60	0
4	Allied sector	630	68	54	100

#### 9.4 SHG's in fisheries Sector

The following table explains the activities and other information of SHG's formed under Matsyafed

Table 9.2

Serial Number	Items	Fishing group as on 31.12.2009	Fish selling group as on 31.12.2009	Allied group as on 31.12.2009	Total
1	Number of Groups	8	5	8	21
2	Number of members	100	27	89	216
3	Amount collected			4.72 lakhs	4.72 Lakhs
4	Fund/ loan from Matsyafed	3 lakhs	1.35 lakhs	5.34 lakhs	9.69 Lakhs
5	Loan given from own fund			2.6 lakhs	2.6 lakhs
6	Number of Graded groups	3		12	15

**Table 9.3 Details of fishing and allied instruments of the SHG**

Items	Numbers	Cost (in Lakhs)	Cost of Engine (in Lakhs)	Cost of Net and other equipments (in Lakhs)	Total (in Lakhs)
Inboard boats	5	100	99.5	40	239.5
Plywood boats	12	18	17.4	11.64	47.04
Other small boats	20	2		2.4	4.4

### 9.5 Schemes implemented through the fisheries department

#### 1. Housing scheme

Under the scheme an assistance of Rs. 50000/- is given to a beneficiary who has got land above 3 cents for house construction. At present the assistance is provided to the fishermen who are registered in the provident fund. It should be extended to the fishermen who are working in the allied sectors also.

The details of the amount sanctioned in the last 5 years under this scheme are given in the following table.

**Table 9.4**

Year	Number of beneficiaries	Amount sanctioned (in Rs.)
2005-2006	4	160000
2006-2007	5	200000
2007-2008	2	80000
2008-2009	7	350000
2009-2010	9	450000

## **2. House repair scheme.**

An assistance of Rs 15,000 is allotted for house repairing and for constructing latrines. Four families are benefited under this scheme in azhikode Panchayath and the amount sanctioned is Rs 60,000/-.

## **3. Social fish farming**

To increase the production of fish in the sea 70,000 prawns was deposited in the cove area of Azhikode.

## **4. Regional fisheries technical school**

This is a boarding school situated at Azheeckal. 53 students of fishermen family from different places of north Kerala are studying here. Mess allowance of Rs 900/- is given to each student per month. Aqua culture and Marine engineering subjects are taught in this Vocational Higher Secondary School. The fishermen students of this Panchayath are not fully utilizing this school properly.

## **Problems & Suggestions**

### **Problems**

- Shortage of labours
- Price hike of Fertilizers
- Water logging effects paddy cultivation
- Mandary effects coconut cultivation
- No marketing facilities including requirement and preservation of vegetables produced
- Overflow of sea water affects the agriculture
- No proper irrigation facilities according to the need and season
- No regular work and wage for agriculture labours
- Lack of new genesis in agriculture cultivation practice
- No proper and attractive banking loan facilities for agricultural sector

- Geographical peculiarities , shortage of water and under fertility conditions
- Shortage of proper high-tech agricultural implements
- Scarcity of pure drinking water
- Iron content in the wells
- Inadequate water supply schemes
- Lack of registered slaughter houses
- No waste disposal place (Trunch)
- No inpatient facility in the PHC
- No professional and specialized doctors
- Shortage of manual workers particularly in construction sector

#### Suggestions

- Prevent Seawater overflow by constructing seawalls
- Strengthen the krishibhavan by providing proper facilities
- Cleaning of Panchyath wells
- Provide high yield varieties of paddy , fertilizers and pesticides at proper time. Make market facilities for agriculture produces
- Have financial assistance to labours
- Encourage group farming
- Repair the canals and ponds
- Special attention should be made in the area of cultivable land
- Floury culture can be encouraged
- Procurement of coconut and coconut oil production
- Awareness campaign for various conventional jobs.
- Enrich the irrigation facilities to make more cultivation and
- Make scientific soil test procedures
- Make use of East Kappu and west kappu water sources to strengthen the irrigation capacity
- Encourage the backyard vegetable cultivation in each household
- Formulate the agricultural co-operative society with peoples' participation.

- Transportation facility should be extended to the agricultural fields
- Encourage drinking of tender coconuts
- Eliminate the problem of water logging
- Remedy for agricultural diseases
- Cultivate fodder grasses in barren lands
- Financial Assistance for crop lost by calamities
- Make seed farms for various agricultural varieties
- Encourage livestock production.
- Micro water supply schemes should be implemented
- Renovate 'Vankulam', one of the major drinking water sources.
- Promote tourism and related enterprises focusing on Seaside and Cove
- Exclusive training Centre for Construction and manual laborers
- Common play ground and related facilities
- Annual art festival- 'keralotsavam'
- Net factory for fishermen
- Ice plants
- Fish procuring, processing and exporting units
- Strengthening of Coastal guards by making aware the people about terrorist threats
- Overall coastal area perspective plan should be formed under the district plan with the assistance of state and central governments

1240



1240

