

KUTTANAD PACKAGE

MEASURES TO MITIGATE AGRARIAN DISTRESS IN ALAPPUZHA AND KUTTANAD WET LAND ECOSYSTEM

The Kuttanadu Region Kerala is a highly complex Eco system. It is the deltaic formation of four major rivers, namely Meenachil, Pampa, Manimala and Achancovil together with the low lying areas in the around the Vembanad lake. It is a water logged area almost throughout the year and lies below the mean sea level.

The Kuttanadu region consists of 54 Revenue Villages spread over ten taluks in Alappuzha, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta Districts with a geographical area of 54935 Ha.

Vembanad Lake is known as the fish bowl of Kerala. Once the Kuttanadu Padasekharams, the Kayals and Vembanad Lake were supporting a very good fishery. Scampi, Karimeen, Mullet, Catfishes, Channa, etc., were predominant. Now, the production of scampi, karimeen, etc decreasing day by day due to water pollution by house boats, pesticides and weedcides coming out from the padasekharam over fishing, unscientific fish capturing methods, etc. The construction of the sat water extrusion barrier at Thanneermukkom was a major ecological disaster lead to severe alteration to the ecobiology of the biomass of Kuttanad. The fish wealth provides livelihood to about 25000 fishermen in Kuttanadu.

The following projects are included in fishery sector.

Task No.	Name of Schemes	Amount	Rs. in lakhs
			Implementing Agency
4	Elimination of Aquatic weeds in Kuttanad Back water	3000.00	Firma
5.3	Programme for revival of productivity for pearl spot (Karimeen) & Giant Prawn on a life cycle approach.	57.00	ADAK
12.3	Paddy Fish integration for economic and ecological security & Farmers Training.	211.82	ADAK
13.1	Cluster based cage culture	60.00	Matsyafed
13.3	Ranching , involving large scale hatchery reared production of post larvae.	20.00	ADAK
13.4	Fish hatchery for raising adequate quality fingerlings.	60 .00	ADAK
13.7	Fresh Water Prawn and Karimeen urgent conservation measures.	25.00	ADAK
14.1	Group based enterprise on ornamental fish culture.	12.00	Matsyafed
14.2	Cold storage facility for fishing communities.	30.00	Matsyafed
14.5	Training and Capacity building of Fishermen improving sanction & hygiene in processing unit	20.00	ADAK
	Exploited fisheries resources of Kuttanad Wetland ecosystem with special reference to developing a management plan for the improved sustainability of the resources	62.19	FIRMA
	Total	3558.01	