

Name of the Gram Panchayat	Ezhukone and Veliyam
State	Kerala
Theme	Agriculture, primary health centers and dispensaries

1. Organic Farming Organic farming implies cultivation practices consistent with soil health and effective use of organic (crop, animal and farm waste, aquatic waste) and bio-degradable materials along with beneficial microbes (bio-fertilizers) to release nutrients to crops for increased sustainable production in the eco-friendly pollution free environment. Ezhukone GP in Kollam (Kerala) focused on implementing project namely Aerobic Composting Units in Public Places for biodegradable waste. The Agricultural Officer informed that the project has recruited 25 members (both men and women) of 'Karshika Karma Sena' (Farm Workers Army) at GP level at Rs. 20,000/- per month remuneration (equal for both men and women). These recruited members are trained in agriculture work ranging from tilling of land to hi tech farming. Under this scheme, organic compost is raised in the form of grow bags with the help of these workers. This model adopts layering technique and a single layer may hold as much as 500 kg of wet organic waste. Nature friendly microbial consortiums and other materials are used to begin the compost process. For example, for raising one grow bag about 8 kg soil +1.5 kg coir pit compost +300 gms of cow-dung (dry)+ 100 gm bone meal +neem cake+ 10 gms. of micro-food is needed. It takes 10 days to make organic compost. Apart from cultivation of crops by using organic manure, this technique also manages community level waste. It can be an important initiative in waste management as well to curb pollution; also, it helps increase OSR to GPs.



2. Family Health Centre (FHC) In GP Veliyam (Kollam), the Primary Health Centre (PHC) is upgraded as FHC under the 'Aardram' Project of the Government of Kerala. The main aim of FHC is to provide modern medical treatment facilities locally. FHC provides services based on the principles of universality, family based, equitable and non-discriminatory, portability and continuity of care, protection of patient rights, community participation, accountability, transparency, and responsiveness. All the staff (1 Medical Officer, 3 Doctors, 6 Staff Nurse) is available for the routine outpatient services in the FHC during the prescribed time (9.00 am to 6.00 pm) based on the duty schedule to screen, examine, diagnose, prescribe, investigate/ treat and follow up sick patients. On an average, 300 patients visit

