



## Book on Umayanallor Ela Wetland Conservation



A 60 page color booklet titled "A study report by HELP Foundation on Umayanallor Ela Wetland Conservation to ensure water and food security" on Umayanallor Ela depicting its Ponds, Chiras and Irri-

gation Canal as part for Ela Conservation Efforts has been made available to aid in the conservation of its water supply network.

For those of you who would want a copy of the same please send an email to the below and pick it from our office. We are planning on releasing it officially so that it becomes available to all.

Email: [help.foundation@rocketmail.com](mailto:help.foundation@rocketmail.com),

Tel: 0474-2556414.



## Guild of Old (GOLD) PAKAL VEEDU

Inaugural function of the PakalVeedu, which is done through the collaboration of a host of NGO,s under the NGO Consortium banner and also with backing from Lions Mayyanad. The beauty of this is initiative is the pooling together of resources from various NGOs of Mayyanad to make this happen. We are still hugely short on resources and we are counting on support under CSR and from Lions to make this a fully sustainable initiative.

The home for the elders under the GOLD banner was inaugurated by Smt Sabeena Beegum, Distrct Social Justice Department Head, Kollam. The function was graced by Shri P.Vinod, Regional Deputy Director, Information and Public Relations Department.

## MANGROVE NURSERY



Collected around 600 seeds from Munroe Island. They have planted in the seed bed which will be later transferred to plastic covers once they sprout. Season monsoon rains caused some destruction as well as the spate in Ithikkara River took its toll on the mangrove seed bed. Workers have been engaged to fill up the covers so that the sprouted seeds can be transplanted.

We have also been able to place orders for a boat for conservation related activities in Paravur LAKE. This is a first of its kind in Kollam where we have a water transport for conservation related activities and mangrove Afforestation.



## CANCER SUPPORT

A cancer diagnosis turns a person's world upside down — emotionally, physically and financially. Our dialysis assistance program "DAYA" has been going on quietly for the past 4 years and we have been inundated with request to run a cancer care program. A team under the leadership of Gigi Mathews was setup with specialized resource people.

The team has been making headway in its activities and has tied up with another organization Manava Seva (an all women NGO) so as to roll out the program. Study teams were send to RCC (Regional Cancer Centre, Trivandrum) and to other NGOs working in the same as arena so as to adopt the best practices. Stay tuned more details of the program in our next quarter bulletin.

## NGO CONSORTIUM



HELP Foundations activities have been gaining undue traction with the political class (local level) trying to pull it down as it is kind of goes against their local existence. Rather than support it they want to dismantle it, be it Mangroves, Afforestation Programs, Child Home, Wetland and Paddy Field Conservation efforts this is kind of unnerving them. The politics of social work is clashing with the politics of Political parties, if I may put it that way.

So support of the non political class is essential for us to keep doing good work. Hence it warranted an NGO Consortium to keep supporting our activities. The consortium has been growing and we intend to do good work without any hindrance from unscrupulous local representatives of political parties

## HELP CLUB

HELP Club is a concept we are promoting under the banner of the NGO Consortium so to be able to create working groups or support groups irrespective of the issue. One of the issues we have been facing in our social outreach programs and interventions have been the lack of participation of youngsters or their indifferent attitude to the problems we have been trying to highlight. Progress has been slow but nevertheless there is forward momentum and we are going all out to make this function.



## DHWANI The Fundamental Duties

The following ten Fundamental Duties were introduced by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976 — Article 51-A: It shall be the duty of every citizen of India: To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem; to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom; to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India; to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so; to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities and to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women; to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture; to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures; to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform; to safeguard public property and to abjure violence; to strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity, so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement. Subsequently, another duty was added by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2002: for a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education of the child or ward between the age of six and fourteen.

Since then, the scope of Fundamental Rights under Part III of the Constitution has seen significant expansion through judicial pronouncements; the right to free legal services to the poor, right to speedy trial and right to live in a clean and healthy environment are just a few examples. As a result, an imbalance has been created between the current set of Fundamental Rights and Duties. Here is an attempt to examine the Fundamental Duties in the Constitution of this country could help in balancing out the rights of its citizens and further make them more responsible towards the country's development

Source: Justice Kurian Joseph speech from the article in Hindu.

## AFFORESTATION PROGRAM

This has been a classic case of a well indented program, which should have been a roaring success not being able to live up to its expectations. A Silver Year Program of Auxilium E.M School conceived by HELP Foundation, Kollam, in Association with Aadichanallor Panchayat and with full backup from PWD (Public Works Department) Kollam. Once the project execution got completed certain external factors and a change in school management personnel took the sheen of an otherwise stunning project. Will have to put in more effort in the coming years towards Afforestation related activities.

