CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 The study in retrospect
5.2 Objectives of the study
5.3 Hypotheses of the study
5.4 Methodology in brief
5.5 Major findings
5.6 Tenability of hypotheses
5.7 Conclusions
5.8 Implications and suggestions
5.9 Suggestions for further research
5.1 The Study in Retrospect

The present study has been designed to investigate the awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability and implementation of laws and utilization of funds for the differently abled in Kerala. This study was also expected to the utilization of funds and implementation of laws for the persons with disabilities in local bodies. The details of the objectives and methodology are given below:

5.2 Objectives of the study
1. To identify the level of awareness of local body secretaries in Kerala on disability.

2. To identify awareness level of local body secretaries on disability with respect to certain socio demographic variables.

3. To find out attitude of local body secretaries towards persons with disabilities.

4. To find out attitude of local body secretaries towards persons with disabilities with respect to certain socio demographic variables.

5. To identify the extent of implementation of laws for persons with disabilities in local body levels.

6. To identify the extent of implementation of funds for persons with disabilities in local body levels.

7. To find out the relationship between awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability.
Summary, Conclusion and Suggestions

8. To find out the relationship between awareness of local body secretaries and implementation of laws in the local bodies on disability.

9. To find out the relationship between attitude and implementation of laws of local body secretaries on disability.

10. To analyze the nature and extent of the utilization of funds for persons with disabilities in local bodies from 2007-08 to 2011-2012 financial years.

5.3 Hypotheses of the study

The major hypotheses of the study were:

1. There will be no significant relationship between the awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability.

2. There will be no significant relationship between the awareness and implementation of laws on disability.

3. There will be no significant relationship between the attitude and implementation of laws on disability.

4. There will be no significant difference between the awareness levels of local body secretaries with respect to selected socio demographic variables.

5. There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of local body secretaries with respect to selected socio demographic variables.
5.4 Methodology in brief

The sample of the study consists of 300 local body secretaries from Panchayath, municipality and corporations in Kerala state. Random sampling method is used to select the sample. The standardized tools used are: 1. Disability Awareness Inventory for Local body Secretaries 2. Scale of Attitude towards Disability for Local body Secretaries 3. Disability Laws Implementation Inventory 4. Disability funds utilization inventory.

The data collected using these tools were analyzed using the following statistical techniques.

a) Computation of frequencies, percentages, arithmetic mean, median, mode and standard deviation

b) Coefficients of skewness and kurtosis

c) The student’s t-test

d) One-way analysis of variance

e) The test of least significant difference for post hoc comparisons

f) Karl Pearson’s product moment coefficient of correlation

5.5 Major findings

The major findings that have emerged from the present investigation are given below in separate titles.
5.5.1 There is different level awareness among local body secretaries on disability

The awareness of local body secretaries on disability were found to be at a high (14.43). Most of the local body secretaries (62.3%) having high awareness and 19.7% of local body secretaries have average awareness and 17.7% have very high awareness and 0.3% have low awareness about disability.

Karl Pearson’s product-moment coefficient of correlation revealed a significant high positive correlation (r = 0.622, p<0.01) between awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability and positive correlation (r=0.158, p<0.01) between awareness and implementation of laws.

5.5.2 There is high awareness of local body secretaries on disability with respect to certain socio-demographic variables

Type of local body was not a significant factor in the awareness of local body secretaries (F=0.081, df=2; p>0.05). Years of experience in job in local body (F=1.913, df=2; p>0.05) and years of experience as secretary in local body (F=0.124, df=2; p>0.05) were not a significant factor in the awareness of local body secretaries. Education of local body secretaries emerged as a significant predictor in awareness of local body secretaries (F=6.370, df=2; p<0.01). Highest mean value was obtained by the post-graduate and above group and lowest mean value was obtained by the below degree group. The mean differences of below degree - post graduate and degree-post graduate
groups were found to be significant at 0.05 level. Age of local body secretaries was not a significant variable in awareness of local body secretaries ($F=1.606, \text{df}=2; p>0.05$).

Gender was not a significant predictor of awareness of local body secretaries about disability ($t=0.874; p>0.05$). Locality of residence was not a significant predictor of awareness of local body secretaries about disability ($t=0.730; p>0.05$).

**Religion of local body secretaries emerged as a significant factor influencing awareness of local body secretaries** ($F=14.634, \text{df}=2; p<0.01$). Highest mean value was obtained by the Christian group and lowest mean value was obtained by the Muslim group. The mean differences of Christian-Hindu groups and Christian-Muslim groups were found to be significant at 0.01 levels. Christian community local body secretaries have more awareness than Hindu and Muslim community local body secretaries. Family members with disabilities was a significant factor that influences awareness of local body secretaries about disability ($t=4.49; p>0.05$).

**5.5.3 There is high positive Attitude among local body secretaries towards disability**

**The attitude of local body secretaries towards disability was found to be a high positive** (126.9). Karl Pearson’s product-moment coefficient of correlation revealed a significant high positive correlation ($r = 0.622, p<0.01$) between awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability.
5.5.4 Certain socio-demographic variables had no significant influence on attitude of local body secretaries towards disability

Type of local body was not a significant factor in the attitude of local body secretaries \( (F=0.038, df=2; p>0.05) \). Years of experience in job in local body \( (F=0.471, df=2; p>0.05) \) and years of experience as secretary in local body \( (F=0.174, df=2; p>0.05) \) were not a significant factor in the attitude of local body secretaries. Education of local body secretaries emerged as a significant predictor in attitude of local body secretaries \( (F=6.496, \, df=2; \, p<0.01) \). Highest mean value was obtained by the post-graduate and above group and lowest mean value was obtained by the below degree group. The mean differences of below degree - post graduate and degree-post graduate groups were found to be significant at 0.05 level. Age of local body secretaries was not a significant variable in attitude of local body secretaries \( (F=2.55, \, df=2; \, p>0.05) \).

Gender was not a significant predictor of attitude of local body secretaries towards disability \( (t=0.494; p>0.05) \). Locality of residence was not a significant predictor of attitude of local body secretaries towards disability \( (t=0.862; p>0.05) \).

Religion of local body secretaries emerged as a significant factor influencing attitude of local body secretaries \( (F=5.373, \, df=2; \, p<0.01) \). Highest mean value was obtained by the Christian group and lowest mean value was obtained by the Muslim group. The mean
differences of Christian-Hindu groups and Christian-Muslim groups were found to be significant at 0.05 levels. Christian community local body secretaries have more attitude than Hindu and Muslim community local body secretaries towards disability. Family members with disabilities was a significant factor that influences attitude of local body secretaries towards disability (t=10.855; p>0.01).

5.5.5 There is low level efficiency in the implementation of laws for persons with disabilities in local bodies

The implementation of laws for persons with disabilities in local bodies was found to be at a low level efficiency (5.59). Most of the local bodies (87.3%) having low efficiency and 10% of local bodies have average efficiency and 2.7 % have high efficiency in implementation of laws for disability in local body.

Karl Pearson’s product-moment coefficient of correlation revealed a significant positive correlation (r = 0.158, p<0.01) between awareness and implementation of laws.

5.5.6 Utilization of funds for disability from 2007-08 financial years to 2011-2012 year

The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2007-08 financial years was found to be at low level efficiency (36.61). Only 16.3% local bodies are not utilized the funds for disability. Only 3.3 % local bodies are fully utilized the funds for disability.

The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2008-09 financial years was found to be at average level efficiency (43.76).
Only 9.7% local bodies are not utilized the funds for disability. Only 2.7% local bodies are fully utilized the funds for disability.

**The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2009-10 financial years was found to be at average level efficiency (48.69).** Only 6.3% local bodies are not utilized the funds for disability. Only 3% local bodies are fully utilized the funds for disability.

**The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2010-11 financial years was found to be at average level efficiency (50.70).** Only 8.3% local bodies are not utilized the funds for disability. Only 2.7% local bodies are fully utilized the funds for disability.

**The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2011-12 financial years was found to be at average level efficiency (50.34).** Only 10% local bodies are not utilized the funds for disability. Only 2.7% local bodies are fully utilized the funds for disability.

### 5.6 Tenability of hypotheses

1. The study findings revealed that there exists significant positive relationship between the awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability. Hence the hypothesis 1 (There will be no significant relationship between the awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability) is rejected.

2. The study rejected the null hypothesis 2 (There will be no significant relationship between the awareness and implementation of laws on disability), that is there will be
significant relationship among the awareness and implementation of laws of local body secretaries on disability.

3. No statistically significant relationship between the attitude and implementation of laws of local body secretaries on disability. Therefore the third null hypothesis (There will be no significant relationship between the attitude and implementation of laws on disability) is not rejected.

4. Education, religion and family members with disabilities were found to have significant effect on awareness level of local body secretaries about disability. Type of local body, years of experience in job, years of experience as secretary, age, gender and locality of residence were found to have no significant effect on awareness level of local body secretaries about disability. Hence the null hypothesis 4 (There will be no significant difference between the awareness levels of local body secretaries with respect to selected socio demographic variables) is partially rejected.

5. Education, religion and family members with disabilities were found to have significant effect on attitude of local body secretaries towards disability. Type of local body, years of experience in job, years of experience as secretary, age, gender and locality of residence were found to have no significant effect on attitude of local body secretaries
towards disability. Hence the null hypothesis 5 (There will be no significant difference between the attitudes of local body secretaries with respect to selected socio demographic variables) is partially rejected.

5.7 Conclusions

1. The awareness of local body secretaries on disability was very high. Karl Pearson’s product-moment coefficient of correlation revealed a significant high positive correlation between awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability and positive correlation between awareness and implementation of laws.

2. Type of local body was not a significant factor in the awareness of local body secretaries. Years of experience in job in local body and years of experience as secretary in local body were not a significant factor in the awareness of local body secretaries. Education of local body secretaries emerged as a significant predictor in awareness of local body secretaries. Highest mean value was obtained by the post-graduate and above group and lowest mean value was obtained by the below degree group. The mean differences of below degree - post graduate and degree-post graduate groups were found to be significant. Age of local body secretaries was not a significant variable in awareness of local body secretaries.
3. **Gender was not a significant predictor of awareness of local body secretaries about disability.** Locality of residence was not a significant predictor of awareness of local body secretaries about disability.

4. **Religion of local body secretaries emerged as a significant factor influencing awareness of local body secretaries.** Highest mean value was obtained by the Christian group and lowest mean value was obtained by the Muslim group. The mean differences of Christian-Hindu groups and Christian-Muslim groups were found to be significant. Christian community local body secretaries have more awareness than Hindu and Muslim community local body secretaries. Family members with disabilities were a significant factor that influences awareness of local body secretaries about disability.

5. **The attitude of local body secretaries towards disability were high positive.** Karl Pearson’s product-moment coefficient of correlation revealed a significant high positive correlation between awareness and attitude of local body secretaries on disability.

6. **Type of local body was not a significant factor in the attitude of local body secretaries.** Years of experience in job in local body and years of experience as secretary in local body were not a significant factor in the attitude of local body secretaries. Education of local body secretaries emerged as a
significant predictor in attitude of local body secretaries. Highest mean value was obtained by the post-graduate and above group and lowest mean value was obtained by the below degree group. The mean differences of below degree - post graduate and degree-post graduate groups were found to be significant. Age of local body secretaries was not a significant variable in attitude of local body secretaries.

7. **Gender was not a significant predictor of attitude of local body secretaries towards disability.** Locality of residence was not a significant predictor of attitude of local body secretaries towards disability.

8. **Religion of local body secretaries emerged as a significant factor influencing attitude of local body secretaries.** Highest mean value was obtained by the Christian group and lowest mean value was obtained by the Muslim group. The mean differences of Christian-Hindu groups and Christian-Muslim groups were found to be significant. Christian community local body secretaries have more attitude than Hindu and Muslim community local body secretaries towards disability. Family members with disabilities were a significant factor that influences attitude of local body secretaries towards disability.

9. **The implementation of laws for persons with disabilities in local bodies was low level efficiency.** Karl Pearson’s product-
moment coefficient of correlation revealed a significant positive correlation between awareness and implementation of laws.

10. **The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2007-08 financial years was found to be at a low level efficiency.** Only 16.3% local bodies were not utilized the funds for disability. Only 3.3% local bodies were fully utilized the funds for disability purpose.

11. **The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2008-09 financial years was found to be at average level efficiency.** Only 9.7% local bodies were not utilized the funds for disability. Only 2.7% local bodies were fully utilized the funds for disability.

12. **The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2009-10 financial years was found to be at average level efficiency.** Only 6.3% local bodies were not utilized the funds for disability. Only 3% local bodies were fully utilized the funds for disability.

13. **The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2010-11 financial years was found to be at average level efficiency.** Only 8.3% local bodies were not utilized the funds for disability. Only 2.7% local bodies were fully utilized the funds for disability.

14. **The fund utilization of local body for disability in 2011-12 financial years was found to be at average level efficiency.**
Summary, Conclusion and Suggestions

Only 10% local bodies were not utilized the funds for disability. Only 2.7% local bodies were fully utilized the funds for disability purpose.

5.8 Implications and suggestions

1. About 20% local body secretaries have either low or average level of awareness about disability. So that these panchayaths did not effectively implement the welfare program for persons with disabilities. The governments should initiate awareness programmes for local body secretaries about persisting laws and the running programmes for persons with disabilities. Usually the government conducting orientation and refreshing programmes for local body employees, in that programme, authorities can include items focuses to orient the participant regarding acts, rules, rights, budget allocation projects concern for persons with disabilities.

2. High level of awareness and attitude towards disability can enhances the effective implementation of the laws and programmes for the persons with disabilities. Implementation of laws is an important factor determining the quality of life of the persons with disabilities. Study shows that, when the awareness increases the ability of implementation of laws also increases. So government should initiate orientation programmes for local body secretaries for increasing the level of awareness and also should keep in mind that those who are already well aware about the programmes can provide follow up programmes. In addition to this
they can establish monitoring cells for the supervision and improvements in the field of disability.

3. Education is a significant factor in the degree of awareness and attitude of local body secretaries. The government has been fixed education criteria for the selection of local body secretaries that is; those who are graduates can apply for the post. So it is not possible to change the criteria fixed for the selection of local body secretaries. But those who are below postgraduate education could increase their knowledge about disability through reading journals, magazines and books related with disability. The authority shall arrange these magazines and reading material in the library. So they can easily access and utilizes the same and can fix minimum one hour in a week for the library reference of local body secretaries.

4. Christian community possess high awareness level and attitude when compared to other religion. Historically Christian missionaries were involved with different charity programmes for the persons with disabilities. The churches in kerala directly involved and undertakes different kinds of charity and welfare programmes for the disabled. The other religious groups do not shows must interest in such charity programmes. Hence it is important to make participate religious leaders and to create awareness about undertaken charity and welfare activities for the disabled communities who are still living in the poor status. With
the support of the medias and social network sights government also take necessary steps to give propaganda for creating disability awareness. School and college studies should include creating awareness and attitudes programmes about disability especially to aim the young generation.

5. The study shows that 87% of the local bodies in Kerala are very poor in implementing the law and welfare programmes for the persons with disabilities. Most of the local body secretaries were well aware about the various aspects of disability but they do not show proper interest in implementing the laws like installation of auditory signals at red lights in the public roads for the benefit of persons with visual impairment, causing curb cuts and slope to be made in pavements for the easy access of wheel chair users, ramps in public buildings, hospitals, primary health centres, medical care and other rehabilitation institutions. All these things are provided in the laws, but these laws stated as “shall within the limits of economic capacity and development”. The local bodies were sometimes careless in the implemention of law because of one point in the law such as shall within limits of their economic capacity and development. Instead of the word ‘shall’ it would be change as ‘must’, then the law can implement in a better way. The building should construct in the least restricts way such as building up of ramps, elevators, toilets...etc. When a public building is to be constructed by should a local body, the local body
secretaries were ensure the least restrict environment and suitable infrastructure facilities for the persons with disabilities. The authorities take the advantage of loopholes in the laws related with disability. So the law should be amended. The laws stated in every clause such as ‘shall’ implement and it should be amended as ‘must ‘implement.

6. The study shows that in the financial years 2007-2012 the local bodies of Kerala were utilized upto 50 % of the allocated fund for the persons with disabilities. Local bodies are the primary responsible authorities for the welfare of the downtrodden mass in a local body level. It is revealed from the study that 50% of the allotted fund have not been utilized by the local body secretaries, further it is more surprising that some of the local bodies even not spend a single paisa for the benefit of the persons with disabilities. Hence how it is possible to dream the welfare of the downtrodden mass and persons with disabilities to be fulfilled. Based on these it is suggested that the responsible authorities not spending money which was earmarked for the welfare of persons with disabilities should be take appropriate leagal actions. Thus allotted fund can be utilized systematically, as a result the welfare of the persons with disabilities may be improved to some extend.


5.9 **Suggestions for further research**

In the light of the findings of the study and the valuable experience gained by conducting this investigation, the following topics are suggested for further research.

1. Study on awareness and attitude can be undertaken separately in the various fields of disability like visual, learning, orthopaedic and mental disability.

2. A comparative study can be conducted on the implementation of laws and funds for the disability area in different states.

3. Further study can be done to find out the role of policy makers on the implementation of laws and funds for the disability.

4. Identification of problems related to implementation of laws and funds in disability area is also suggested.

5. Awareness of members of parliament on laws and utilization of funds for the disability area.

6. A study on the implementation of laws and funds of related government departments and their efficiency on it.

7. A study can be conducted on enhancement of quality of life of the persons with disabilities, due to the implementation of laws and funds in Kerala.