CONCLUSION

SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF PAINKULAM PANCHAYAT

This dissertation entitled “Socio-Economic Development of Painkulam Panchayat” reveals the socio-Economic Development of the people of Painkulam Panchayat.

Painkulam Panchayat is situated in Painkulam Revenue Village of Vilavancode Taluk, Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu. This Panchayat is surrounded by Killiyoor and Keezhkulum Villages in the east, Kunnathoor and Arudesam Villages in the north, Arudesam and Ezhudesam Villages in the west and Arabian sea in the south.

The origin of the name of Painkulam Village is narrated below.

The name of the Village ‘Painkulam’ came from ‘Pynkili-kulam’. ‘Pynkilikulam’ is a Malayalam name. ‘Pynkili’ means green colour parrot and ‘Kulam’ means pond. The meaning of Pynkilikulam is pond of green parrot. It is said that this Village was a part of the erst-while Travancore State and was ruled by the Maharajas. The name for the Villages were assigned during the period of Maharajas regime. When the authorities came to this place for assigning Village name, they saw a large number of green...
colour parrots in the trees standing on the banks of a pond. So, they have given the name ‘Pynkilikulam’ for this Village. This name ‘Pynkilikulam’ has shrunk latter to ‘Painkulam’.

The total area of this Panchayat is 14.56 square Kilometers. It is noted that there is no forest area in this Panchayat. The total population of this Panchayat is 29,287 according to 2001 census. Out of this, 13,182 are males and 16,105 are females. There are 26 hamlets in this Panchayat.

Tamil and Malayalam are the languages of this Panchayat. The percentage of Tamil Speaking population of this Panchayat is about 90% and Malayalam Speaking Population is about 10%.

People of different communities like Nadar, Nair, Muslim, Mukkuvar, Arayar, Viswakarma, Kanmala, Vannan, Thandar, Cheraman and Sambaver are residing in this Panchayat.

The people of this Panchayat have engaged in Agriculture, Business, Fishing and Tapping Palmyrah. Only a small percentage is in Government service. Most of the ladies of this Panchayat are house wives and a few
percentage of ladies are engaged in tailoring, crafting etc... People of this Village are educated well. Cent percent literacy is prevailing in this Panchayat.

There are 19 temples, 7 Churches and 5 mosques in this Panchayat. It is appreciated that the Hindus, Christians and muslims of this Panchayat are living cardially.

Before 1-11-1956 Kanyakumari District was a part of the erst-while Travancore State. Travancore State was ruled by the Maharajas. When Kanyakumari District was under the rule of the travancore Maharajas, there had been great appression of the lower castes, which constitute the majority of the population in the District. Their plight during those times and their liberation from the oppressive treatment of the higher castes are well known. After the independence of India a people’s movement demanding the merger of this District with Tamil Nadu and their demand had been considered by the States Re-organization Commission in 1956, and merged with Tamil Nadu on 1-11-1956.
At the time of the state's Re-organization, the Socio-Economic condition of the people of Painkulam Panchayat was very poor. There were no proper facilities on education, public health, roads, drinking water, electricity, agriculture, industries, and banking. There were only two schools: The Government Primary School, Painkulam, and Amsi School at Amsi. There was only one part-time Government Hospital at Thengapattanam. There were only three roads in this Panchayat. There were no drinking water supply schemes; people were going to take drinking water with pots to the private wells. Electric lights were used only in the houses of some well-to-do people. There were no irrigation facilities for agriculture. So, crop failure was in common during drought seasons. There were only two industries: Palmgur Industry and Handloom Industry. There were no banks in this Panchayat. Because of these inadequate facilities, the Socio-Economic condition of the people of this Panchayat was very poor.

After the merger of Kanyakumari District with Tamil Nadu, Panchayat Raj system has been enforced. Panchayat administration has paved the way for the socio-Economic Development of this Panchayat.
Regarding education, at present there are 6 primary Schools, 2 Middle Schools, 2 High Schools and 3 Higher Secondary Schools in this Panchayat. Apart from there 13 Schools, 9 Libraries are functioning in this Panchayat. There Schools and Libraries are giving proper education to the people of this Panchayat. Regarding hospitals, One Government Hospital is functioning at Thengapattanam and six private Hospitals are functioning in various places of this Panchayat. Regarding roads, there are 3 High ways and 64 Panchayat roads in this panchayat. Regarding drinking water, proper drinking water supply schemes have been introduced by this Panchayat. There are 696 house connections and 476 public tap connections in this Panchayat. Hence, there is no problem of drinking water in this Panchayat. Regarding electricity, all the houses of this Panchayat have got electric Connections. 11 solar lights, 34 sodium lights and 1032 street lights (tube lights) have also been provided by this Panchayat on the road sides and in important junctions. Regarding Agriculture, sufficient water is getting from the ponds and from the Tamiraparani River (Kuzhithurai River) for cultivation. Regarding industries, palmgur industry, coir industry, Handloom industry, Granite Quarying industry and Cashewnut industry are in progress in this Panchayat. The economic condition of the people has been developed by these industries. Regarding banks one nationalized bank and two co-
operative banks are functioning at present in this Panchayat. They provide loans for the development of agriculture and industries. The economic condition of the people of this Panchayat has been developed by these banks.

The present Panchayat president Thiru T. Chandra Kumar, B.sc, L.L.B. has achieved the targets on socio-Economic Development works and received awards from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, from the Collector of Kanyakumari District and from the President of India. The details are given below.

The Government of Tamilnadu have selected this Panchayat for the award of “Thooimai Gramam” (Sanitary Village) for the year 2004-2005 and the certificate for merit for “Thooimai Gramam” was given to the Panchayat President by the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu on 18-05-2005. A cheque for Rs. 5, 00,000 /- has also been given to him to carry out development works in the Panchayat.

Not only in the sanitation works, the Panchayat President has concentrated the works under “Namathu Gramam Scheme” and achieved the target. So, this Panchayat has also been selected for the award of “Namathu Gramam Scheme”. The certificate of merit was issued to the Panchayat
President by the collector of Kanyakumari District on 26-01-2006. A Cheque for Rs. 3,00,000/- has also been given to him to undertake development works in the Panchayat.

Considering all works undertaken for the development of Painkulam Panchayat, this Panchayat has also been selected for the award of “Nirmal Purashkar”. The Certificate of merit was issued to the Panchayat President by the President of India on 23-04-2006. A Cheque for Rs. 4, 00,000/- has also been given to him to undertake development works in the Panchayat.

In short, the Socio-Economic condition of the people of Painkulam Panchayat has been developed considerably by the Panchayat Administration.