CHAPTER - VI

BASIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES AND INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETIES

Love, kindness, truth, justice and selfless service are the great values of the BCCs stand. These high ideals are given practical expression in the form of Basic Integral Development Societies. BCC is the basic structure from which start not only the administrative structures but also agencies of economic and social developments. In this chapter an effort is made to what extent the BCCs are used for economic development of the members of the BCCs. As former Bishop Leon Tharmaraj observed that the establishment of the kingdom of God is nothing but the social, economic, political, cultural and spiritual expressions of human liberation\(^1\). The Vatican Council II also appealed to the Catholics to re-construct the needs of the society in the light of spiritual experience\(^2\). It is also said that the Christian approach to spirituality has the inner features such as rehabilitation, developmental activities and educational awareness and to create a society based on justice. The core of the social action should be economic development.

Objectives

1. To create awareness among the BCCs irrespective of caste, creed and religion.
2. To research the needs of the subaltern people.
3. To create a documentation centre on the basis of the research and survey reports.
4. These reports should be sent to the Kuzhithurai Integral Development Society to create action programmes.
5. KIDSS forms various committees on the basis of the reports collected.
6. These committees have to be made as movements to give action programmes to the Basic Integral Development Societies.
7. People in the BIDS have to develop awareness to act with responsibilities.
8. To make the people to set self awareness for self employment.
9. To instruct the people about the Government developments programmes.
10. To make the Agricultural Labourers, Fish Venders, Artisan and Building masons to become member of the Government Welfare Committees as to get benefits.
11. To work for liberation of Children, Women, Physically handicapped, Scheduled, Tribes and Adhi Dravidar.

12. To make the people to join in the Panchayat Organizations.

13. They have to tell the authorities about the section in which development is needed.

14. To encourage the Self Help Groups.

15. To safeguard the natural resources for sustainable development.

16. To give awareness about the importance of native medicine.

17. To establish set up to give counseling and family welfare.\(^3\)

18. To give importance to education and to take care of the drop outs.

19. To conduct coaching classes for entrance examination.

20. To help to set the basic needs of the people from the Government.

21. To artist the people use the service of Public Libraries and mass media.

22. To co-ordinate the different department for Integral Development and.

23. To create fund for Higher Education\(^4\).


The Structure of Kuzhithurai Integral Society

It is created for the integral development of the people of the whole Diocese. The structure of KIDS comprised of three structural layers such as Basic Integral Development Society (BIDS), Vicariate Integral Development Society (VIDS) and Diocese Integral Development Society (KIDS).

These structures have been co-ordinated with the Panchayat structure of the District such as Village level Organization, Union level Organization and District level Organization. The Village level and Union level Organizations are co-ordinated by the Vicariate Integral Development Society and KIDS will co-ordinate the Diocese level activities⁵.

The Basic Integral Development Society

BIDS has to be created in all the Parishes and Substations of the Diocese. It works for the welfare of the people of the particular BIDS. It is created as the integral part of the KIDS. So it has to work under the rules

⁵. Ibid., p.7.
and regulations of KIDS. BIDS also works along with the Parish Council. So that it submits proposals to the acceptances of Parish Council⁶.

One member is selected from one BCC to the BIDS. All the structures of KIDS will have at least one member from any BIDS of the Diocese. Besides the representatives from BCC, recommends a man and woman from those who are interested in social services are nominated by the Parish Council. They are the member of the BIDS. Along with that the administrators of the Parish Council became the members of BIDS.

The Parish priest is the Director of the BIDS as to co-ordinate and direct all the activities. The members of BIDS select its President, Vice-President, Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasure. They are the Executives of the KIDS. The Parish Council Executives will not be selected as Executives of BIDS.

**The Powers of BIDS**

Executive Parish priest will be the Director. He encourages the members to do social services. BIDS takes a leading part in social service activities in the Diocese and Parish. Priest will integrate himself to the

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⁶. Personal Interview with Fr. V. Robert, aged 70, first Director of KIDSS, Kuzhithurai, dated 23 June, 2012.
task. In his presence, the monthly meetings of the BIDS will be conducted\(^7\).

The President of the BIDS is directed by the members. He will preside the meetings of the BIDS. He will execute the social service activities of the people. Along with the Parish priest, he has to give acceptance to the resolution of the BIDS. The funds of the BIDS have to be deposited in a joint account in the name of the Director, President and Treasurer. Since the Parish priest is having the total responsibility of the total development, the President has to co-operate with the Parish priest.

The Secretary is also elected by the BIDS. He or she has to co-operate with the Director and President. The Secretary has to prepare the agenda in consultation with Director and President. He has to fix date and time for the monthly meetings. The minutes and resolutions of the meetings have to be recorded and submitted to the BIDS meeting.

The Treasures has to submit the accounts in the monthly meetings. He wants to submit the income and expense of the month. The money should be deposited in a Bank on a joint account as noted above. There is a scheme called “Aruvadai”. The Treasure has to collect every week from the BCC the weekly savings for the Aruvadai. One year collections to be

\(^7\) KIDSS, *op. cit.*, p. 9.
returned to the members during Christmas season\(^8\). Previously the Aruvadai collection will be deposited in the Vicariate Bank.

But now it is allowed to rotate the collection within the BIDS. BIDS charges a normal interest from the Borrower. A portion of the interest will be given to the Treasure and the BCC collection agent as a commission\(^9\). Through this lakhs and lakhs of rupees are given for interest to the member of the BCC. Therefore insipient income will come to the BIDS. A committed BIDS can do wonderful services on this basis\(^{10}\).

The duration of the BIDS is for three years. As soon as the BIDS is formed, it has to be registered in the KIDS. They have to get a registration No. There is a registration fee for the BIDS. Only the registered members are the members of KIDS. Only such BIDS have to get the programmes of the KIDS. After registration, if there is any change in the Executive, it has to be reported to the KIDS.

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8. Personal Interview with Fr. Jerold Justine, aged 48, Parish priest, Kaliyakkavilai, dated 10 October 2012
10. Personal Interview with Mr. Sathyadas, aged 60, President, Vicariate Integral Development Society, dated 21 March 2013.
The Functions of KIDS

It has to function on the basis of the KIDS programmes. It has to encourage the people to save money, to get loan for small scale business, educational loan, awareness education, value education, counseling, rehabilitation programmes and guide the people to get the Government Schemes.

It has to co-ordinate the social services activities with the development programmes of the Parish. To get the ten percent due from the Parish and to allot them to the poor people, to encourage people movement and to join to the common development programmes of the Panchayat and the Government. For the construction of house and educational help, the BIDS has to set recipient funds from KIDS or other agencies\(^\text{11}\).

The BIDS has to safeguard its fund carefully. It has to be noted already that a join account in the name of the Director, President and Treasure is to be operated in a Bank.

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\(^{11}\) KIDSS, *op. cit.*, pp. 11 – 12.
BIDS is subjected to the direction and supervision of KIDS. BIDS has to submit all the details of its function to the KIDS. The activities of the BIDS are published in the magazine called “Muttam”\(^{12}\).

As noted earlier, BIDS is the primary structure of KIDS. The responsibilities of the BIDS are so much. The Vicariate Bank allots a major portion of the profit to the educational and nothing developments of the BIDS. Normally an assistance of five thousand is to be given to a student who has professional education. Three thousand is given to others of higher education. Normally in a Parish, five to seven students in a year used to get assistance from the Villavancode Self reliance Credit Services (VSCS). Normally up to 30 to 35 thousand rupees allotted for the Church\(^{13}\). The BIDS has to receive the application from the Church. The application will be processed by the BIDS on the basis of the criteria given by the VSCS Bank. The following are the important condition by which the BIDS has to follow. The applicants should have an Recurring Deposit Account in the VSCS Bank. He must be financially poor. The performance of the candidate has to be taken into account. The candidate’s involvement in the Church activities has to be taken into account\(^{14}\). The candidate once received the help is to be considered for the next time, if the candidate

\(^{12}\) Rural Motivation Programme’s special issue circulated in the BIDS.

\(^{13}\) KIDSS Report, 2007, p. 37.

\(^{14}\) KNL, Diocese of Kottar, Nagercoli, January – February, 2005, p. 15
continues his studies. The VSCS Bank Planning Executive Committee used to send the condition well in advance to the Secretary of the BIDS\textsuperscript{15}. More guidance have to be sincerely maintained by a resolution recommend the candidates on the basis of the guidelines in order\textsuperscript{16}. The proposals and recommendations have to be forwarded to the President of the Planning Committee of VSCS. The committee comprised of the Chairman of VSCS and two Directors of VSCS, one member from VIDS and one member from the BIDS\textsuperscript{17}. The President of the committee is the Chairman of the VSCS. The Planning Committee will go through the recommendation of the BIDS. If the committee satisfied with due evidence of BIDS will approve the list for the financial assistance. The Secretary and the Treasure of the Planning Committee will send the intimation letter to the parents about two amounts and the due date on which they have to receive the aid\textsuperscript{18}. The parents and the candidates directly come and receive the money from the VSCS.

Each BIDS has a share of Rs. one lakh in the VSCS Bank. The Bank gives the 20% dividend to the BIDS share. So that each BIDS will get a

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{15} The Guide lines of Planning Committee of VSCS, 2013, pp. 1-2.
  \item \textsuperscript{16} Ibid.
  \item \textsuperscript{17} Nanjil Milk Plant Souvenir, Mulagumoodu, 2010, p. 10.
  \item \textsuperscript{18} Ibid.
\end{itemize}
dividend of Rs. Twenty five thousand per year\(^{19}\). The Government did not allow the company (Bank) to pay dividend not more than 25 percent\(^{20}\). Hence, the BIDS who set Rs. Twenty five thousand as dividend has to distribute the money to the people on the basis of guidelines given by the Planning Committee\(^{21}\). These money has to be distributed to the deserving poor and suffering people like sick, orphans, aged, poor people, for the marriage of poor girls, widow rehabilitation programmes, education and coaching classes. The BIDS has to send a list of beneficiaries and the amount allotted to the Planning Committee\(^{22}\). Besides the BIDS also sets an incentive of four percent of the amount deposited in the VSCS Bank in the form of Recurring Deposit\(^{23}\). BIDS has to select carefully the beneficiaries and distributes the money\(^{24}\). Thus BIDS has a very good responsibility to act judiciously to give the aid to the deserving people. Very often in some Churches, the BIDS did not go as per the guidelines. Therefore, there are occasions of conflict and in the Church with any aid to selection of suitable beneficiaries\(^{25}\).

\(^{19}\) Memorandum of VSCS, 1994, p. 6.  
\(^{20}\) Ibid.  
\(^{21}\) The Guidelines of Planning Committee of VSCS, 2013, p. 3.  
\(^{22}\) Personal Interview with Mrs. Lourthu Mary, aged 45, RD collection agent, Paramanvilai, dated 2 March, 2012.  
\(^{23}\) The Guidelines of Planning Committee of VSCS, 2013, p. 4.  
\(^{24}\) The minutes of the Planning Committee, dated 18-09-2013.  
\(^{25}\) Ibid.
The VIDS sends applications for the house construction aids to the BIDS. The BIDS has to announce it in the Church to give application for house. The VIDS has its own guide lines for the selection. The beneficiary should not have a concrete house. He should be poor. He must have the required land. The BIDS has to set application. If there are many applicants on need basis, the BIDS will select the beneficiary. BIDS will forward the application along with suitable land and due recommendation. The VIDS Executives will execute the land of the applicant and conduct a survey in person. They will accept or reject the application on their own suitability and findings. Persons selected for home construction, Rs. Sixty thousand will be given as financial aid. The money will be given by the VSCS Bank from its profit.

A constructive BIDS has tremendous responsibility. Its activities depend upon the creative abilities of the member of the BIDS. All the activities of BIDS depend upon field based socially oriented programmes. Hence, a dedicated service of office bearers can do wonders with regard to the development of the people. The BIDS can render help even to the non Christian based upon needs.

27. Personal Interview with Mr. Rose Berg, aged 55, Treasurer of Planning Committee, dated 20 October, 2013.
28. Ibid.
Vicariate Integral Development Societies

It is the intermediary structure of KIDS. It takes the programmes of KIDS of the BIDS and sees that the programmes are properly executed. It helps the BIDS to intervene the constructive works in a creative manner. It conducts orientation programmes. It evaluates the programmes of the BIDS and to give money for such programmes through KIDS²⁹.

The President, Secretary and Treasure of BIDS are the member of VIDS. Besides this, three members of each organization variations under the KIDS are also the member of VIDS. Three members from Self Help Groups are working under the KIDS will also become the members. The Executive member of Vicariate Pastoral Council, on the basis of their position, will become the member of VIDS. The Vicariate movement leaders will also come as member of VIDS. The VIDS will also nominate five members³⁰. All the Parish priest of the Vicariate also become the members of VIDS. The Planning Committee Director will also become the member of VIDS. The Vicar Forane on the basis of the position also is the member of VIDS³¹.

³⁰. Ibid., p. 15.
³¹. Ibid., p. 16.
The Executive of VIDS

It is the body which leads the activities of VIDS. 10 members of the Executive will be elected from VIDS. One representative from each organization will represent the Executive of the VIDS. From Self Help Group one male and one female representative will come to the VIDS Executive. Two members will be nominated by the Vicariate administration. One male and female from the Religious personals will also represent the VIDS. The Secretary of the Vicariate Pastoral Council is also a member of VIDS. A representative from Parish will also be there. The BIDS will nominate two members one as Planning Director and other as a member. The Vicar Forane on virtue of the position is the Co-ordinator of VIDS. The KIDS Executive Director, the Secretary and Treasurer by virtue of their position will become the members.\(^{32}\)

The Executives of the VIDS will be selected from the member of VIDS. The Vicar Forane on the basis of his position will become one of the Executives. The KIDS Director will also become member of the Executive Committee. The period of VIDS is for three years.\(^{33}\)

As per rule the VIDS General Body will meet once in four months. The President will preside the meeting and the Vicar-Forane will coordinate. The Executives of KIDS will also participate in the meeting. The Executive will meet once in a month. The VIDS Secretary will read out the report. The Director of the Planning will submit the report for the planning programmes. The Vicar Forane will coordinate the programmes for the constructive development of the Diocese\textsuperscript{34}. The President will preside over the VIDS. He has to supervise all the constructive programmes. The Vice-president will preside over the meeting in the absence of the President. The Secretary has to prepare the agenda in consultation with the President and he has to record the minutes and resolution of the meeting\textsuperscript{35}.

The Joint Secretary has to act in the absence of Secretary. The Treasure has to keep the account and submit the accounts to the VIDS. A joint account will be kept. To execute the decision of the VIDS, the Director has to play a leading role. To supervise the construction works of the Parish, he is a key person to kindle the growth of the Parish. He has to formulate new programmes and to appoint the clerical person for the VIDS secretariat. Once in three months he invites the executives of the BIDS to plan for the programmes. There should be a Finance Committee to

\textsuperscript{34} Ibid., p. 19.
\textsuperscript{35} Ibid., p.20
scrutinize the accounts. The member of the committee will be appointed by the Executive. They will scrutinize the accounts and give its approval. This account will be submitted to the General Body.

VIDS is the intermediary layer of the KIDS to play a role in the functioning of the KIDS. Its role is creative and innovative. It takes a good role in the section and allotment of free houses to poor people. It will submit the cases to the VSCS Bank for financial help. The entire selection of parsons is done with suitable care. It also recommends the cases for financial aid from Nanjil Diary Scheme. Nanjil Diary Project selects some 25 students of professional course for financial aid. Each one will be given Rs. 25000 per year. The VIDS forwards its recommendation to the Nanjil Project. So it plays important role in many ways. Actually it is a buckle that joints the BIDS and KIDS36.

**Kuzhithurai Integral Development Social Services**

It is the final layer of the Basic Integral Society. It is meant to meet out the needs of the people at the marginal level. KIDS takes into account of the subaltern. People in the Diocese as whole. The Basic Integral Development Society and the Vicariate Integral Development Society act at the Parish and Vicariate levels. KIDS co-ordinates the activities of the

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first two layers for the social upliftment\textsuperscript{37}. It is the top most layer which spearheads and directs the social action in a meaningful way. It is more or like the blood and flesh of the social action group. Today KIDS sponsors so many programmes under its umbrella. There are specialized agencies undermines which actually touches the needy people in the bottom of the society. They are called as special departments or agencies\textsuperscript{38}. The following are the special departments.

1. Women Self-Help Group Sangam

2. Occupation oriented Departments such as
   
   1. Fish marketing Sangam
   
   2. Dalit coolies Agricultural labourers’ Sangam
   
   3. Agricultural labourers’ Sangam
   
   4. Small scale Agriculturalist Sangam
   
   5. Leather labourers’ Sangam
   
   6. Washer men labourers’ Sangam
   
   7. Haircutters’ Sangam and
   
   8. Widows’ Sangam

\textsuperscript{37} Personal Interview with Fr. Robert, aged 56, first Director of KIDSS, Kuzhithurai, dated 23 June, 2012.

\textsuperscript{38} KIDSS Rules and regulations, \textit{op. cit.}, p. 25.
Departments needed special attention such as:

a) Tribal Welfare Sangam

b) Dalit people Sangam and

c) Inland Fishermen Welfare Sangam

a) Functions of KIDSS

1. It co-ordinates and directs all the social service action groups of the Diocese.

2. All such activities are executed through BIDS and VIDS.

3. It gives permission to all the projects of the Diocese.

4. It prepares schemes to be completed for duration of three years.

5. It has Finance Committee, Audit Committee, Think Tank Team, and Project Evaluation Team.and

6. At the top level there is an Expert Committee which guides all the schemes of KIDSS.

The General Body of KIDSS

Since KIDSS is a people’s organization, the representatives from all basic societies and people movements are the members of KIDSS. KIDSS is the organization of the Diocese. So all the officials of the Diocese and the administrators of the Vicariate join. In the present category scientific
thinking, the social service activities of KIDS are to be nominated by the social scientists\(^39\).

**The following are the members of the General Body of KIDSS.**

One member from each BIDS, the President, Secretary and Treasures of each department, the President, Secretary and Treasurer of Diocese Pastoral Council, one member from Religious Order, one member from Catechist, VIDS co-ordinator, the Vicariates’ co-ordinators and the Bishop nominates six member on being their special nature are the General Body members of KIDSS\(^40\). Bishop is the Executive Trustee of KIDSS. On this behalf, the Vicar General will act the President of KIDSS.

**KIDSS Executive**

One Executive from VIDS, one Diocese representative from each department on special status, three members from Bishop nomination by the Bishop, one from the female Religious Organization, the Secretary of the Vicariate Pastoral Council, the co-ordinators of different departments, the Vicariate Co-ordinator, the VIDS Director, Bishop and Vicar General are the members of KIDSS Executive\(^41\).
**KIDSS Administrative Council**

The Vice President and the Joint Secretary are elected by the Executive of KIDSS. The KIDSS Secretary, Executive Director and Treasure are nominated by the Bishop. The Vicar General is the President of KIDSS. He is the one who co-ordinates the social works of the Diocese. The President has to ascertain that KIDSS work as per norms of the Diocese. The laity is having an important role in the administration of KIDSS. So he has to ascertain the constructive role of the laity. He will preside over the General Body and the Executive of KIDSS. He will give the acceptance to all the resolutions passed by the KIDSS.

The Vice President is a lay man to be elected by the Executive of KIDSS. He will preside the meeting in the absence of President. The Secretary is nominated by the Bishop. He will send the entire letters on behalf of KIDSS. He will submit the reports in the General Body as well as in the Executive.

The Executive Director is appointed by the Bishop. For the smooth working of the KIDSS he will have very good relationship with all the responsible executives of KIDSS. He will submit all the reports to the General Body and Executive Body. He has to forward the projects to the

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funding agencies. The assistance for the KIDSS applicants is to be forwarded by the Director. He has the responsibility to coordinate all the departments of KIDSS and to evaluate them into proper sense. He will make arrangement to give money to the projects of KIDSS through the Treasures. KIDSS will have a joint account. The Treasure is to be appointed by the Bishop. He is the person who heads the Finance Committee. As the head of Finance Committee he will forward the schemes of KIDSS. It is his responsibility to arrange for it. He will distribute the cash to beneficiaries as per the direction of the Director. The Bank account will be maintained by the Director and the Treasure.\footnote{Ibid., p. 30.}

The Bishop is the Chief Executive of the KIDSS. He is the legal person of the KIDSS. In the capacity as Bishop, he will execute all the constructive works of KIDSS. The Executive meeting of KIDSS will be conducted once in a month. There is a Finance Committee for the expense of the KIDSS. It will prepare the Budget. It will submit its report to the Executive. It has to verify of the project reports before they are sent to the relevant agencies. They should have dedication and creative in doing their job perfectly. The Treasurer is the coordinator of the Finance Committee. There will be a Secretary in the Finance Committee to present its report to
the Executive. There will be seven representatives in the Finance Committee. One of them there will be Priest and four will be laity inclusive of one woman. The Executive Director of KIDSS will participate in the meeting of the Finance Committee. All the finance will be kept in the Bank. The Bank finance will be in the name of President, Director and Treasure. There is an auditing committee to the accounts and submit it to the Executive. It has to send the accounts once in three months. It has to suggest ways and means to control the expense. It has to audit the project accounts also\(^44\).

There is also Planning Evaluation Committee. This committee has to plan for the successful running of KIDSS. It has to plan for the creation of fund both from internal and external sources. It has to analyse the project report seriously and submit the same to the Executive for approval. Along with the administrators there are three more members one also there in this committee\(^45\).

KIDSS is the social organization of the Diocese. It has to make the development as movement. The aims and objectives of KIDSS should be on the basis of the needs of the time. It has to adopt new strategies in its objectives. Updating its action programmes depends upon the dynamic the

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\(^{44}\) Ibid., p. 32.

\(^{45}\) Ibid., p. 33.
making and action of the administration. It is essential to dissent the programmes of the specialized units as to assert the performance of KIDSS.

A. Integrated Diary Development Programme (Nanjil Milk Plant)

KIDSS greatest achievement in the field of economic development is the Nanjil Milk Plant. It has a history of its own. It is the offshoot of the Rural Motivation Programme of KIDSS\(^46\). It was started in 1982 in order to motivate the rural people who rear cattle for Dairy purpose. KIDSS started the Integrated Diary Development Programme (IDDP). Under this programme loans were arranged for the purchase of cows. The milk produced by the cattle owners was purchased by the IDDP under the care of RMP. In one course the process for marketing the milk arises through a scientific process. When demand is created, there is a need to procure milk from other places. From 1990 onwards the Integrated Diary Development Programme changed into Nanjil Milk Project\(^47\). Now it has grown leaps and bounds. Nanjil milk has become so popular in Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari and Trivandrum District of Kerala\(^48\). More than one lakh of

\(^{46}\) Hereafter it is to be referred as RMP.
\(^{47}\) Nanjil Milk Plant Souvenir, *op. cit.*, p. 2.
\(^{48}\) *Ibid.*
litters of milk is being sold. Apart from this Nanjil also produces other dairy materials, Butter milk, Butter coco and Ice creams\(^{49}\).

Now the Nanjil Milk Project is registered under a Trust. The Managing Trustee of Nanjil Project is the Bishop. He coordinates the activities of the project. He appoints a Director, a Priest, who looks after the day to day administration of the project\(^ {50}\). There is a Secretariat which looks after the technical aspects of the project. The dairy technical staff possess mollification related to diary science\(^ {51}\). Experts in the field decide the nature of the nitric content of the milk. There are different varieties of milk on the basis of fat content. They also make one of Soya nears essence for the milk product to make more neutric\(^ {52}\).

The Nanjil Project have good numbers of administrative and field staff. The field staff including the drivers of the vehicles, collies, clerical staff takes a leading part in the distribution system. There are a large number of agents to whom the milk packets and products are given. A committee is given to them. They have to retail the protects special price prescribed by the project\(^ {53}\). Nanjil milk administration of marketing is

\(^{49}\text{Ibid.}\)
\(^{50}\text{Ibid.}\)
\(^{51}\text{KIDSS Report, op. cit., 2010.}\)
\(^{52}\text{Nanjil Milk Plant Souvenir, op. cit., p. 11.}\)
\(^{53}\text{Ibid.}\)
taken into account very seriously. It produces a huge profit also. The profit of the project is mainly spent for education. They give up to Rs.25000 to every poor student for professional education in a year. They are paid till the completion of the course. The project gives nearly 50 candidates every year\textsuperscript{54}. Besides the project also gives Rs.10,000 to a student of professional education and 5000 rupees is free from the total and the rest has to repay in equal installments without interest. Hence, Nanjil Project is productive and beneficiary project.

**B. Community Health Development Programme (CHDP)**

It was started as Child-Mother Care Movement in 1972. It developed into a new organization called CHDP in 1995 as per the needs of the time. From 1995 onwards thrust was given to naturopathy. Medicines were prepared from the local herbals available\textsuperscript{55}. To change the society through a healthy life is the long engaged goal of CHDP. The purpose of this organization is manifold to instruct the people about health and hygiene. Poor people can not spend so much money on medicine. Therefore it is an imperative necessity to do some thing for the healthy life of the marginalised people.

\textsuperscript{54} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{55} KIDSS, Rules and Regulations (Revised), \textit{op. cit.}, p 32.
At Chumgankadai, Nagercoil, there is a clinic under the care of a naturopathy doctor and two nurses are doing yeomen services to the people by this programme. Health mix is prepared here and sold to the public. Spirulina (a blue and green medicine) is prepared and sold to the public as a substitute to balanced food. Herbal medicines and oil are also supplied from here. Seminars and conferences are also conducted in this centre to give orientation to the public and practitioners of medicine. It also gives loan to head load vendors women\textsuperscript{56}. As to propagate the importance of Natural medicine, six extension centres are working under this scheme. These centres give awareness to the people about the Allopathic medicine and its side effects. It conducts camps to demonstrate the importance of Naturopathy. It coordinates with two Health Commissions of the Diocese. It also helps the people by instructing the nature of men causes due addictions.

CHDP is working under the KIDSS. KIDSS Director is directly responsible to the internal administration of CHDP\textsuperscript{57}. There is a Director for planning the activities of CHDP. He regulates the income and expenditure of CHDP. It is his duty to develop new projects. The project Co-ordinator has to supervise all the seminar and orientation programmes.

\textsuperscript{56} KIDSS Report, \textit{op. cit.}, 2010

\textsuperscript{57} KIDSS, Rules and Regulations (Revised), \textit{op. cit.}
conducted by the CHDP\textsuperscript{58}. The naturopathy doctor who find out the types of medicines to be prepared and instruments needed for the production. There are clerks to assist in the administration of the centre of the working hour of the centre is from morning 10 am to 5 pm. In the health clinic people will be there even on Sundays\textsuperscript{59}.

CHDP is doing wonderful services to the people. But to-day due to the financial constrains of KIDSS, proper fund is not allotted to the centre. The building that is set apart for this purpose is also changed. There is no suitable maintenance. There is a proposal to establish a medical college by the Diocese. At that time this naturopathy centre may get a face lift. There is no advertisement for this medical centre. Day by day its existence is facing threat. Hence, the Diocesan authorities has to take proper care to make CHDP is an excellent centre for native medicine. Kanyakumari District is famous for Siddha Medicine. There are number of local “Vaidyasalas”, which are making huge project and doing yeomen services. Like that this naturopathy centre can offer wonderful services. Let the Diocesan administration take care of CHDP\textsuperscript{60}.

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{58} Ibid., p. 33.
\item \textsuperscript{59} Ibid., p. 35.
\item \textsuperscript{60} KIDSS, Special Issue, Kuzhithurai, 2005, p. 75.
\end{itemize}
C. Rural Motivation Programme:

It is one of the units of KIDSS, started in 1982. It is meant for the people who indulge in agriculture and its related activities. It co-ordinates the Village Welfare Associations and Self Help Groups. Its vision is to work with the poor and marginal people in the society for self development. The mission of RMP is to make the people live in equal status with human dignity. It has to work for the welfare of the village people of the Diocese. It has co-ordinated agriculture, agriculture related works labourers, unorganized sectors and village development societies. It has to encourage small savings. It also encourages to start employment oriented small scale industries. It helps the people to know the Government programmes. It also creates awareness in political, educational and economic fields. It plans according to the changes in the society.

It starts Village Development Societies in rural villages. They have to be co-ordinated at the Regional, Vicariates and District levels. For administrative purpose Village Development Societies are created by taking taluk as a Region. The Basic Village Development Societies are called as Village Development Societies. A minimum of fifteen members

must be there in a society. A maximum of fifty members are allowed\textsuperscript{62}. Each Sangam has to remit a fee of Rs. 50 for registration in the RMP. The members are above 18 age and below 60. Each member has to pay Rs 10 as registration fees to become a member in the Sangam. Members have to pay Rs. two as monthly subscription\textsuperscript{63}.

These will be a President, Vice-president, Secretary, Joint secretary and Treasurer. The President presides over the meeting. He will execute all the programmes of the Sangam. He will participate in the Vicariate level co-ordination meeting\textsuperscript{64}. The Secretary has to maintain the records. He will present the minutes in the General Board meeting. The Treasure of the Sangam has to maintain accounts. The Treasurer should not keep more than Rs 5000 in his or her hands. He has to submit the accounts once in three months to the Audit Committee. At basis fifty percent of the members should participate in all the meetings\textsuperscript{65}.

RMP is doing wonderful programmes for the upliftment of the marginalised people. Economic development is the thrust of RMP. Mostly compare of women, as men are for better employment, the women folk who sits ideal in the house find these programmes are extremely useful.

\textsuperscript{62} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{63} KIDSS Rules and Regulations, \textit{op. cit.}, p. 38.
\textsuperscript{64} Ibid., p. 39.
\textsuperscript{65} Ibid., p. 41.
Rural re-contraction is the watch word of the Government programmes. As noted already, RMP in 1982 started Integrated Diary Development Programmes. It later developed into Nanjil Diary Project. This is the mega hit of the Diocese. At present Nanjil Diary Project runs the Nanjil Catholic College at Kaliakkavilai. So the constructive programmes of RMP deserve appreciations. At the Secretariat of the RMP many people are working. It gives direct and indirect employment to many. It makes people dignified and they live human dignity among the people.

D. Women Self Care Programme (WSCP)

It was created for the purpose of unfortunate poor women who were neglected. Widows, unmarried, divorced and poor deserted women need care and protection. To make them self dependent and self confident WSCP plays a leading role. The members of this organization are women who are from all castes, creed and community. WSCP strives to remove the age old restrictions in destitute women. It inspires the members to develop self confidence and to face problems of life without any fear or favour. It gives orientation and training to the members to face life boldly in different situations. To give training to become expertise in Small Scale Business, women are encouraged to send their children to schools. It
guides its members to get Government projects and schemes. The co-
ordinators have to help the members to get the proper help from KIDSS.
To give training to women, to fight against injustice against women, to
misfires women to become members in the civil organization and other
financial bodies. It is to train them to develop the practice of Small
Savings.

Having the developmental aspects in mind the members of the
WSCP are divided into Village, Regional and District level Groups. The
leaders of the Group work to co-ordinate the members at different levels.
The condition to become the members are from the age group of 18 to 55
and to give a registration fees of Rs 10. Besides, they have to give monthly
subscription on the basis 15 in each group. The leaders of the group are
elected on the basis 15 of election.

The activities of the Sangam depends upon the needs and the goals
of the Sangam. They have to plan different projects. More over annual
plans are taken for their development. Economic development is the major
goal of the Sangam. Hence, they have to draw action plans accordingly to
develop the economic welfare of the members. When there is a problem to

67. Ibid.
the member, they have to join together and also try to get the help of other organizations\textsuperscript{69}.

At the Parish level, the members meet once in a month. They have to do their executive for a period of three years apart from the President, Secretary and Treasure and the Parish priest will be as the Director. The President is the key person. He has to safeguard the interest and work for the development of the groups. The Secretary will maintain records and presents the minutes at the time of the meeting. The Treasure will maintain the accounts. There will be an audit committee. There will be a Vicariate and Diocesan level organizations to speed up the activities of orientation\textsuperscript{70}.

On the whole, the WSCP is doing yeomen services to the destitute women. Usually the members are bold to face any situation in life. Together they are bold to face the difficulties of life. For them life is not a burden, but to take the challenges and to come out successfully. The organization gives a new basis for action to many deprived women. They used to tell that WSCP created a revival in their life. Without it their life may be full of miseries. But it gives them confidence and way to solve serious problems in life. Hence, WSCP is the most important unit of KIDSS.

\textsuperscript{69} Bishop’s Circular, No. 4/2005.
\textsuperscript{70} Ibid
E. Inland Fisherman Organisation

The aim of this organization is to unite the inland fisherman to gather for the purpose of economic and social betterment. To give confidence to fisherman in life they live in different areas. They are useful, worth and powerful. Their growths depend upon coming together. They have to find out their potentialities and to channelise them for better development. It is to create awareness in the field of education, art and culture. It is to make them to get the Government schemes\(^7\).

The organization has a three type structure. The branch created at the Parish level is the lowest unit. The first level is the Vicariate level and the last one is at the Diocesan level. Each one has its Executive Bodies to carry on the administration and development programmes. The activities of this organization are unique. All the branches have to join together to act for the common good. They are given training to be self-confident and good citizen. The members are facing lot of problems in life, especially economic disability. Hence, the organization has to give loan to the members with little interest. This commission strives hard to create fisherman Sangoms in their own living place. IFC has to collect particulars about the fisherman and to plan accordingly for their betterment. It is to

\(^7\) KIDSS Rules and Regulations, *op. cit.*, pp. 85 – 86.
make the children to get basic education and induce higher education in them.

It is the duty of IFO to get Government schemes for their welfare and to compel the Government to declare the inland fisherman as in the case of the coast. They have to start Self Help Groups for their development. Those who belong the age of 18 to 55 are the members of this organization. As usual at the Parish, Vicariate and Diocesan levels, there are Executive Bodies with President, Secretary and Treasure. KIDSS designed its functions. They have to act accordingly at the Parish level and Parish priest will be the Director. There will be a Director at the Diocesan level. The organization members have to register by paying a fee of Rs 10. The duration of the Executive is for three years.\(^\text{72}\).

IFO is a leading unit of KIDSS. It unites the inland fishermen together. Formerly they lived in different places without knowing each other. Now there is a perfect unity. They from the rules and regulations how to market the fishes. Only they are allowed to sell fish in the market. The members will not allow others to sell fish in the market. Those who wanted to sell fish they have to sell it in the interior places. Nowadays, not only fishermen but the people of other caste men also sell fishes in

\(^{72}\text{Ibid.}\)
different places on two wheelers, three wheelers and four wheelers. Fish marking has become an important business. To a certain extent IFO regulates the fish marketting.\footnote{Ibid.}

F. Dalit Development Programme

The aim of this organization is to unite the Dalit Christians to gather to fight for their rights. The members of this organization are the Christian washer man, Barbers, Iyyanar, Pallar, Pulayar cheramans, Sombhavar, and Kanitribals. To safeguard the rights of the deprived Dalits and to redeem them from all types of oppression. The aim of DDP is to find out the reasons for their backwardness and to rectify such evils from the society. There is a social depravity prevailing among them. So we have to regenerate them through proper motivations and awareness. Another important objective of this organization is to work for the economic, educational and cultural revival of this people. It is to make the people to understand their stand and condition in the Church and also to make them to get self-awareness as to face with others.\footnote{KIDSS Rules and Regulations, \textit{op. cit.}, pp. 85 – 86.}

There are different layers in this organization at the Parish level, Vicariate level and Diocesan level. All the people from the Dalit

\footnotetext{73. \textit{Ibid.}}
\footnotetext{74. KIDSS Rules and Regulations, \textit{op. cit.}, pp. 85 – 86.}
community from the age group of 18 can become the members of this organization. There will be a registration fee of Rs.5. They can also remit Rs.100 for life membership. Besides, they have to remit monthly subscription as per the decision of each group. All the members above have the age of 18 become the members and to participate in the election process. The duration of the office of the elected people will be for two years only. Each member has to elect with integrity and liberty.

There are the groups at the Parish, Vicariate and Diocese. For each group there is an administrative body. KIDSS has been rules and regulations for their functioning. There will also be an Executive at the Diocesan level. They have to get together for the welfare of the community benefit. There are different communities that come under the Dalit. Each one has its own problems and solution. It is the duty of the Director to see all these things to remedy their problems. The Director has a crucial respectability to tackle the needs of all communities.

Very often DDP arranges agitations against Government to give the scheduled caste its status. They compel the Government to withdraw the presidential order of 1952 with the SC status to the Christian Dalits. There

76. Personal Interview with Fr. Chandra Sekhar, aged 42, Director, dated 3 November 2013.
are nearly 1215 families with a population of 4950 people in the Diocese\textsuperscript{77}. So they are a micro-scopic minority in the Diocese due attention to be given for their generation. It is the need of the hour. The majority community has to listen to them. They have a moral responsibility to bring them up. Now DDP is doing yeomen work and it is not sufficient. Proper care should be taken for their educational and economic growth.

**G. Banana Formers Development Programme (BFDP)**

The farmers who engaged in Banana cultivation come under this programme. This organization is created for the welfare of the Banana farmers. The aim of the organization is to create self awareness and also make them self-dependent. It is the need of the hour to improve the economic condition of the poor farmers. Therefore BFDP organizes programmes for the self-development of the Banana farmers.

It is to create the farmers associations at the Regional and District levels. It is to make the farmers to use their own land usefully and scientifically. The farmer has to satisfy the needs of his family. Therefore he has to work through the cultivation of bananas. The BFDP finds out

\textsuperscript{77} Ibid.
ways and means to safeguard the economic interest of the farmers. They work in different groups. 

These farmers have to divide into groups. A group may comprise of 12 to 20 members. All the people above the age of 18 are the members. They have to register by paying Rs. 40 as membership. Besides, they have to give monthly subscription also. Their group has to meet once in a week. At least they have to conduct the meeting for an hour. For each group there is a President Secretary and Treasurer. They have to discuses their problem pertaing to agriculture in their groups and find out solution. They have to contact Government agencies to get fertilizer under subsided price. There is also an insurance programme to safeguard the cultivation from natural calamities. There will be an animator for each Region. He will co-ordinate the groups in his Region. There is a very good net work from bottom to top. Therefore this organization is very serious in its work. It actually inspires the farmers to cultivate the bananas and very good varieties are to get the maximum profit. The group can contest the Co-operative Societies for marketing also.

79. Ibid.
80. Personal Interview with Fr. Michael Raj, aged 60, Director of BFDP, Kuzhithurai, dated 23 November 2013,
The BF Development Programme is a successful Programme with regard to this Diocese. There are more than 96 groups working under this Programme. The groups actually work as Self Help Groups.

They can get loan from the Banks\textsuperscript{81}. They keep their collection in the Bank. As per their account and the amount available, loan will be given to them. These are groups who get loan worth about lakhs. Hence, such groups invest namely in Banana Cultivation and earn lot of profit. They used to remit the loan form the income they get from the cultivation. Hence, dedicated farmers make use of this organization for their betterment. Hence, BFDP shows a way for the development.

**H. Self-help-Groups (SHGs)**

It is the organization which makes the people to work together as groups\textsuperscript{82}. It makes the people to save money and get loans from the Bank. The purpose of Self Help Group is to make the marginal, deprived and the middle class people to come together and to develop the habit of saving. Among the group people, it is to create an awareness of unity. Each group will work as a family\textsuperscript{83}. They have to work together in the field of economic development, culture, education and health. The members have

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{Ibid.}
  \item KIDSS Rules and Regulations, \textit{op. cit.}, pp. 107 – 108.
  \item \textit{Ibid.}, p. 109.
\end{itemize}
to work together and they have to participate in the family affairs of the group members. Each group has to plan for the educational development of the sons and daughters of the group members. The group members may belong to different occupational category. Yet they can work together for their development. They have to deposit their savings in the nationalized Banks. The member can get loan individually as well as jointly to start business or any productive establishment\(^84\).

Each group should comprise of 12 to 20 members\(^85\). As per the Indian Company Act, members above 20 join together and do money transaction, such group has to be registered. Hence, the maximum membership of group should comprise of maximum of 20 members\(^86\). Both men and women can join together or individually start the group. Women Self Help Group can get benefit under the Women Development Programme of the Government. All the members of the group should belong to the particular area. They should have the same wave length in the economic condition\(^87\).

There should be a President, Secretary and Treasurer for each group. In each group, one member should save at least ten rupees a week.

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84. Ibid.
85. Ibid.
86. Ibid.
87. Ibid.
Members can get loan from this amount. They can return the amount periodically with interest. All the accounts of the group should be kept in the nationalized Bank. The group can arrange various Small Scale Industrial Programmes. The group should have an agenda in each meeting. The Secretary has to take the members to participate in the meeting. Otherwise they have to remit fine for the non-participation and absence\textsuperscript{88}.

There are different layers in the Self Help Group. The tiny layer will be with in the Panchayat, and second will be the District Organization. Anybody who completed 18 years of age can become the members of the group. For all the loans the interest charged will be Rs. 18. Each group has to remit Rs. 100 to register. After that once in three years they have to remit a fee of Rs. 50 for renewal. The election rules of the Self Help Group should be within the rules of the Government, the SHGs. It is a self motivating agency which actually does a lot of developmental activities. The group members develop the habit of saving. The women SHG normally does wonderful work in all the places. They meet conveniently in every week and plan for themselves. The educated and uneducated feel the importance of unity, the value of plan and work together.

\textsuperscript{88} \textit{Ibid.}