

## Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA)

### Introduction

Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) was established in 1990 as an autonomous institution at Thrissur with several campuses in Kerala. KILA is registered under the Travancore-Cochin Literary, scientific and charitable society Act 1995 and supported by the Government of Kerala. The main objective of the institute includes strengthening decentralization and local governance, establishment of training and research centres, conducting training programs for the local government officials. KILA provides support in training, research and consultancy for local self-governing institutions (LSGIs). The institute accelerates the socio-economic development of the State through the strengthening of LSGIs.

### Key Stakeholders

- Government of Kerala
- Organizational Structure of KILA- The institute has been headed by the Director and supported by staff who together form part of different organizational committees.

### Implementation of the practice

- KILA functions for promoting decentralized governance in both rural and urban areas.
- Organizational Structure of KILA- The institute has been headed by the Director and supported by staff who together form part of different organizational committees.
- The organizational committees are
  - Training Planning & Monitoring Committee
  - Journal Committee
  - Research and Internship Committee
  - Grievance Redressal Committee
  - Help Desk Advisory Committee
- KILA focuses on the following core areas to strengthen the LSGIs:

Participatory planning	Local & Urban Governance and Development	Gender Development
Local Economic Development and Livelihood Promotion	Poverty Management	Child Rights Governance
Natural Resource Management and Watershed Development	Financial Management	Food Security and Sustainable Agricultural Development
Good Governance and Social Accountability	Human Development	Training Skills Development

- KILA has been actively engaged in capacity building programs on local governance and decentralization. Training programs offered by KILA are:
  - Trainers Training Program
  - Panchayat to Panchayat Program
  - Certificate Course for Elected Representatives
  - National Level Course on Decentralized Governance
  - International Course on Decentralization
  - Decentralized Training for Local Government Functionaries

- Off-Campus Training Program-The institute also conducts research studies and publishes reports and working papers on decentralization and local governance. The institute disseminates information to the public mainly through its publications.
- KILA also promotes training of interns on video documentation using smart phones. The training aims to train interns who can further train panchayats using these video documentations.

### Results of the practice

- Involving all stakeholders in the discussion including the elected heads, district-level officials, representatives of major educational/research institutions, NGOs etc.
- Training support provided in development sectors like health, education, agriculture etc.
- 1,041 trainings conducted in 2019-20 with ~40,300 participants.

### Lessons Learnt

- Robust training and dissemination of information for decentralised local planning contributes towards smooth and efficient functioning.
- Similar curriculum maybe developed for PRI members and other LSGIs by centre to be taken up by States.
- Handholding support should be provided wherever required.

### Conclusion

Kerala has succeeded to a great extent in achieving local development through decentralized planning with the trainings and support provided through KILA, the implementation of health programs has been found to be better in the State which is reflected in the overall health outcomes. The LSGIs using these trainings are further developing innovative models to address problems like waste disposal, solid waste management, employment generation etc.

### Further Readings

- <http://www.dspace.kila.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/98/1/Development%20Interface%20Between%20Local%20Governments%20and%20MLAs%20-%20Hand%20Book.pdf>*
- <http://dspace.kila.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/228/1/Local%20Governance%20-%20Book%206%20Institutions%20and%20Services.pdf>*
- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5294441/>*