Jyothi Jeevapoorna Trust ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE A trailblazer in the realm of women's empowerment

മലയാളി മങ്കമാർ മേസ്തിരിഷണിയിലേക്ക്

റെജി ജോസഫ്

കോട്ടയം: കെട്ടിടനിർമാണത്തിൽ പത്ഷനമാർക്ക് കാലങ്ങളായു ണടായിരുന്ന ആധിപത്യം സ്ത്രീകൾ ഏറ്റെടുക്കുന്ന കാല മാണിത്. കൊല്ലം ജില്ലയിലെ സ്ഥാമി മരിതാശ്വാസ്ക്യാനമ കളിൽ സ്ത്രീകൾ മേസ്തിരിമാ രായെത്തിയപോൾ ജനം അതി ശയിച്ചു. ഇപ്പോഴിതാ കോട്ട യത്തെ തെള്ളകം, അതിരന്നഴ ഗ്രാമങ്ങളിൽ ഇരുനിലവിട്ടെകൾ പണിയാനം വനിതാമേസ്തിരി മാർ നിരവധിയുണ്ട്.

മേസ്തിരിപ്പണിക്കൊപ്പം മരം ഫർണിച്ചർ നിർമാണത്തിനും സ്ത്രീകൾ രംഗത്തുവന്നിരി ക്കുന്നു. ഉളിയും കൊളവടിയു മെടുത്ത് മേശയും കസേരയും കട്ടിലും പണിയാൻ സ്ത്രീകൾക്ക് പരിമിതിയില്ലെന്ന് യുവതികള ടംബം നിരവധിപ്പേർ തെളിയിച്ചു

ഒബ്ബേറ്റ് മിഷണറീസ് ഓഫ് ണ്യവും നേടിയ അമലഗിരി മേരി ഇമാക്കുലേറ് സെക്കുലർ സ്വദേശി ജയ്യശി อาจัญโดยรูโดย กับจากวรตโลว രാണ് ഇത്തരത്തിലൊരു തൊഴിൽവിപ്ളവത്തിന്തുടക്ക മിട്ടത്. ത്രസ്യാമ്മ മാത്യ പാഇ ക്കുന്നേലിന്റെ നേത്യത്തിൽ വിവിധയിടങ്ങളിൽ ആരംഭിച ດຫວະກີເຈັນເຢເຫັຍແກມຄອດໃໝ່ໃຫ້ പ്രാഗത്ഭ്യം നേടിയ നൂറുകണ ക്കിന്സ്ത്രീകൾപ്രായദേദമന്യേ ഇന്ന് വിവിധ ജില്ലകളിൽ മേസ്തി രിപ്പണിയിലുണ്ട്. കല്പം ഇഷ്ടി ສໝາະ ເພາຂາຊີມວາຫາຂວາມີ ຄາມາດ ສະເດີຫວລາສ໌ ກໄດ້ຂວຍກະ ກຣ ത്താൻ ഇവർക്ക് മിതി തെല്ലമില്ല. തെള്ളകം അർച്ചന വിമൻസ് സെന്ററിൽ ആശാരിപ്പണി പരി ശീലനം നേടിയ യുവതികൾ മാള

കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയാണ്.

കെട്ടിടനിർമാണം പരിശീലി

പി.കെ കഴിഞ്ഞ ഓഗസിൽ സിഡ നിൽ msm

00000 BOL സമോനത്തിൽ AL 0 8 51 000 വനിതാ മേസ്തിരി പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ (A) 0 00 00 (A) 1

കൊണ്ടുള്ള ചെലവാകുറഞ്ഞ

ക്കുന്നു. പരിശീഖനരംഗത്ത് ചെയ

പ്രാതിനിധ്യവുമറി യിച്ചു. ഹോദ ങ്ങിൽനിന്നുള്ള പിറർ. ഡോ. ത്തിലാണ് കേരള ചെലവുകുറഞ്ഞ കെടിട നിർമാണത്തിൽ. ത്തിലാദ്യമായി മുള CASHERER BERTROAD

വർഷത്ത അറിവും പ്രാവി

കെടിടമ്പങ്കാക്കിയാൽ എയർ 2001

വിദേശ ത്വതന എഡ്വേർഡ് എന്നീ തെള്ളകം അർച്ചന വിൻസ് സെന്ററിന്റെ ആഭിമുഖ്യത്തിൽ സാങ്കേതികവിദ്യയു എൻജിനീയർമാ മത്രസ്വാമ്മ മാത്യവിന്റെ നേത്യത്വത്തിൽ ആശാരിപ്പണി മായി വിദഗ്ദർ കുടെ രുടെ മേൽനോട്ട പരിശീലനം നേടിയ യുവതികൾ മുളകൊണ്ടുള്ള യുണ്ടെങ്കിലുംകെട്ടിട നിർമാണരം ഗത്ത് -കെ.ജെജോസ് തങ്ങളെ ആരും

പിൻത ള്ളിലെന്ന് ന്നത്. ഈ കണ്ടിഷനൊപ്പം കിടപിടിക്കും. ഇവർ തെളിയിച്ചു.

കരിയിൽ എട്ട് ബലപ്പെടുത്തി ഒരു തലമുറയുടെ കാലപഴക്കം

150 പേർക്കിരിക്കാ മന്നഹാളം ഓഫീസം തീർക്കാൻ ചെലവ് ഒന്നര ലക്ഷം രൂപയി 00190 വരില് കുടുതൽ ഈടുലഭി ക്കാൻ ഇലയിൽ രാസവ സ്തുക്കൾ ചേർത്ത് ചുട്ടെടുക്കുന്നതും കെട്ടി ടത്തിന്റെ നിർമാണപ ണികൾ നടത്തുന്നതു മൊക്കെ ഇവിടെ വനിത കമാണ്.

ളുടെ ഉന്നമനം, സാമ്പത്തിക സുസ്ഥിരത, എതുതൊഴിലിലും പ്രാവീണ്യം എന്നിങ്ങളെ വൈവി ധ്യമാർന്ന ലക്ഷ്യങ്ങളോടെ യാണ് ഒബ്ളോ് സഹോദരിമാര് നുതന പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങൾ ആവി ഷ്കരിപകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നത്. ത്രേസ്യാള്ള മാത്യവിന്റെ കർമ ശേഷിയിൽ കൊല്ലം ആദിനാട്

തൊഴിൽഹേിതരായസ്ത്രിക

പഞ്ചായത്തിൽ 32 വനിതാരമ സ്തിരിമാർ സ്വനാമിബാധി തർക്ക് ഒൻപത് വിടുകളം ഒരു സോഷ്യൽ സെന്ററും പണി തിർത്ത

തൃശൂരിൽ മേസ്തിരിപ്പണി പരിശീലിച്ച നൂറിലേറെ സ്ത്രീക ളാണുള്ളത്. ഇവരിൽ ഇെർന്ന വിദ്യാഭ്യാസമുളെവരും പലരാണ്. സർക്കാർ ഉദ്യോഗംപോലെ ആഭിങാത്യം എല്ലാ തൊഴിലിലു ജണ്ടെന്ന് ഈ പരിശീലനത്തി ലൂടെ വനിതകൾക്ക് ബോധ്യമ

യോഗ്യത; വനിതാ ന്നതിനാൽ വനിത -വലിയതൊഴിത് 0000 minone.

001 20 mooser GA000000 (ST. ഗത്തും ഇവർ ശീലനം നൽഷ വീടിന്റെയ กาลางเวาเล ഇടെ സാന്നിധ്യം നുള്ള നവീന പ്പ ആവിഷ്കരി

a leimami

ണ്ടായതായി ഒത്സ്വാമ്മ മാത്സ പറയുന്നു. ഫർണിപ്പർനിർമാണത്തിൽ തൊഴിലാളികൾ കുറഞ്ഞവരം

ക്രത്താരികാർ രംഗത്തേക്ക് uderman നടത്തിയ പ്രിക്ഷന്തര് പ്രതിഷ നടത്തിയ പ്രിക്ഷന്തര് പ്രതിഷ

വടത്തെട്ട പെടുതാരികൾ ഇൾപ്പെടെ 633(90/569) 70/5566(897)(84) 03(9987): 04759), 70/7136(3) 05(910):04 9870(9), 70/91(1099) the function and the transform നോട്ടത്തിൽ നെള്ളും. തർച്ചന വിടത്തിരു സെറ്ററിട് ആഗാരിപ്പ് നോടത്തിരു സെറ്ററിട് ആഗാരിപ്പ് വിലാസം സെട്ട് എഴ്ചായിൽ ണിവിൽ പരിശീലനം സേദിയ അ ഞ്ഞുന്നുനുകളും മുന്നുപുരുഷന്മാ കെട്ടിടനിർമാണം സ്ഥയിൽ ഏറ്റെടുക്കും മേസ്തിരി സംഘങ്ങ

ജീവിതവും പഠിച്ചു റാങ്കിന്റെ തിളക്കത്തിലേക്ക് EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

കോട്ടയം എട്ടാം ക്ലാസിൽതോ gaston assessor varian ണ്നൊണ് അജിത ചൊന്ന പ്പൂൻ കരുതിയത്. പാനം ഉപേ ക്ഷിച്ചു. പിന്നീട് വീട്ടമായായി. ญาย์โ เปล้าเลยาหายามาคร അഡഗ്ട്ട് ആന്ടഡ് കണ്ടിന്യൂയി ങ് എജ്യുക്കേഷൻ വകുപ്പു തട ത്തിയ ബിൽഡിങ് ടെക്നോള ജി കോഴ്സിൽ രണ്ടാം റാഞാ ടെ പാസാര വിവരം അറിത്തു 2.49200 . ຄວາຍເຍາະ ດາໃຈອັສກາ വും അഭിനന്തിച്ചപ്പോൾ അജിത യുടെ ആഹ്ലാദം മാനം മുട്ടുന്ന കെട്ടിടത്തോളം ഉയർന്നു. താൽ രങ്ങിയല്ലെന്നും പ്രെപ്പെട്ടതി പെ യാവാനം മിനയാ എാ

പത്താം ക്ലാസ് പാസാതി ത

ടപ്പായ നെയ്ത്തുമായി കണ്ടതിരുന്ന ശ്രീലത് രവി ന്ദ്രൻ ഒന്നാം റാങ്കിന്റെ തിളക്ക ത്തിൽ ജീവിതത്തിന്റെ പാന്തു തയ്ക്കുന്നു. കരിജല്ലിൽ പക ലന്തിയോളംപണിയെടുക്കുന്ന ഭർത്താവിനു തന്റെ വരുമാനം കൈത്താങ്ങാകുന്നതിന്റെ സ നോഷം ശ്രീലത മറച്ചുവൽക്കു ന്നില്ല് മുട്ടിചിറ എഴുമാൻതുരു ത്ത് കൂരിയപ്പാറയിൽ ശ്രീലതര വിന്ദനും നാടൻതുരുത്തിൽ രാലത്തിന്റെ സ്ത്രീപ്പെങ്കുടാ തജിതാ പൊന്നപ്പനും മാറുന്ന



പ്പത്. പരിക്ഷ പാസായ മറ്റ് ആ റ്റ് പോടാടൊപ്പമാണ് ഇവരും

മേസ്തിരിപ്പണി പറിച്ചു സൂര് വിടു നിർമാണത്തിലേട്ടപ്പെടു ട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് സമ്പാദിക്കാൻ പുറ ന്നത്. 150 മുതൽ 200 രൂപ വരെ പ്പെട്ടപ്പോൾ ഇവരെ പരിഹാസി ദിവസം കൂലി ലഭിക്കുന്നു. കോ പ്പവർ ഒട്ടേറെയാണ്. പരിശീല ഴ്സ് ഡയറക്ടർ ത്രേസ്യാജ മാ ന കേന്ദ്രമായ അർച്ചന വിമൻ ത്യൂവിന്റെ പ്രോൽസാഹനമാ സ് സെന്ററിൽ പോകുന്നതിൽ ണു തങ്ങളുടെ വിജയത്തിനു നിന്നു പിന്തിരിപ്പിക്കാൻ ഒരു പ പിന്നിലെന്നാണ് ഇവർ പറയു രിഹാസത്തിനുമായില്ല ന്നത്. യൂണിഹോമും തൊപ്പി

സ്കൃശ്വിട്ടുവർഷങ്ങൾക്കു ശേഷം നല്ല കുട്ടികളായി ഇവർ ളാസിലിരുന്നു. സഹപാഠി വി ജയാമയുടെ വീടുന്നിർമാണ പങ്കാളികളായാണു 'ഡാക്ടിക്കൽ' പഠനം ആരംഭി

Women foray into bamboo technology

Kottavam, Dec 19: They created firsts with women masonry work nearly two decades ago. Now it is a foray nto innovative building techniques through bamboo technology, aided by Dutch experts. Women of various age groups under the Archma Women's Centre, funtioning under Jyothi Jeevaooma Trust at Thellakom, ear Eettumanoor, are all set create another record by uipping themselves with odern skills of carpentry, create bamboo houses I furniture. The low-cost nboo houses will cost one-third or less than യും ധരിച്ചു ചാന്തു തേയ്ക്കുന്ന will ordinarily go into යාමාගුමිකාලි නෙසැසැගු සාලාකා making of an RCC or ടെ വീടുനിർമാണ സ്രാപ്ന tiled structure. ങ്ങൾക്കു ചന്തം ചാർത്തുന്നു. er Hogenbirk and

a from Netherlands have been imparting the expertise to women workers of the Archana Centre for the past days and the training

Peter Hogenbirk and Edwin, the Dutch experts in bamboo technology discussing details of the construction of a training hall at Thellakom, Ettumanoor near Kottayam on Tuesday, as workers of the Archana Women Centre were engaged at work

centre is coming up as a testimony of women's adaptation of the skills.

Chemically bamboo poles are erected in- distances, to reinforce its knocked down and assembl- out the path-breaking and centre.

stead of pillars for a building and connected with nuts and bolts. Cement will be in- and money saving contreated jected into the poles at given struction is that it could be

strength. The advantage of the time

concrete buildings. And it years," he said.

Peter and his friend Edwin close to the activities gold had flown all the way from on into the making of th Netherlands to Thellakom, bamboo-training hall, s after they came to know ab- V.C.Roy, co-ordinator of ...

ed at a given place. As such, successful training imparte the pre-fabricated structure for women in masonry wo can be put up anywhere in a under the aegis of Archar few days time. The walls can Women's Centre. They have also brought modern to kits with them, giving th much needed ease to a otherwise tedious carpent work. They are providing th training free of cost. Archana Centre direct

Thresiamma Mathew hop that bamboo technology w catch-up in a big way, with a short span of time, "N ing construction, especially only in the tourism sector. in the tourism sector of the will be a cost-effective alt state. "India is not prepared mative to the housing need to handle bamboo in the of the poor," she said. Th right way. Bamboo houses centre had been instn will definitely attract fore- mental in popularisit igners, since they are least masonry work among won interested to be put up in en. right from 1989.

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Jyothi Jeevapoorna Trust

ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE A trailblazer in the realm of women's empowerment



ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE A trailblazer in the realm of women's empowerment.

Motto : FULLNESS OF LIFE FOR ALL (JN:10:10)

Originally, an offshoot of the social development wing of the secular Institute -The Oblate Missionaries of Mary Immaculate (OMMI] Jyothi Jeeva Poorna Trust - Archana Women's centre is today undoubtedly a proud achiever of women empowerment and gender equity-equality.









KEY OBJECTIVES

- To aid the integrated development of women in our society.
- To impart skill development training in non -conventional trades for women.
- To enhance gender consciousness to ensure women's rights, security, well-being and sustainable development.
- To promote women-led community-based organizations and micro enterprises.
- To promote psycho-social competency of children, adolescents and mediate in problem-solving.
- To provide counselling centers for women, children and adolescent groups who seek redress in family grievances.











UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS

- Women empowerment through skill training Masonry, Carpentry, Bamboo and Ferro-cement technology, Bricks Manufacturing.
- Gender Resource Centre Counselling, Legal aid, Awareness Classes, NGO interventions, Rights and issue based activities, Campaigns.
- Child Resource Centre Life skill education, Summer camps, Training classes, Vocational courses, counselling, children's club, Anti drug campaigning, Observing special days and celebrating its themes.
- Natural resource management Conservation of water, Organic farming, farmers' collectives, Waste management, Rural housing, Sanitation, Potable water.
- Social training- Changing mindsets of women and men for a more equitable and gender sensitive approach, especially to advocate unconventional livelihood skills.









Beautician Course Inauguration



Beauty Clinic



Kitchen Cupboards



Garment Designing

IN-HOUSE UNITS

- Build Tech Carpentry Unit
- Build tech Brick unit
- Archana Kitchens and interiors
- Herbal beauty Clinic
- Garment Designing Unit
- Garment unit









WHY IS AWC A TRAILBLAZER...

rchana Women's Centre made a serious dent in the glass ceiling Awith their breakthrough University-certified courses in building technology and carpentry for women. AWC in association with Mahatma Gandhi University has churned out many women masons over the years skilled in carpentry, building and bamboo technology. The traditional community of masons is severely male-oriented. The construction industry itself employs women only as extra hands for manual labour. But all this has changed with AWC's intervention into making women aspirants masonry professionals through certified academic courses. Bamboo technology, although not an academic course yet, is an extremely popular choice of construction owing to its cost-effective, eco-friendly and time-saving nature. Here again, AWC became the first-ever institute to engage a team of women to build a training hall using chemically-treated bamboo poles under the careful supervision of a team of Dutch experts.

The initiation of women into the revolutionary skill of masonry first started in Thrissur under a Dutch–Danish led water and sanitation programme. The gross exploitation, wage and gender discrimination ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE

























prevalent in the construction industry against women 'helpers' led to the path breaking intervention of training them to become masons. The women masons trained under this sanitation scheme are skilled in constructing toilets, concrete blocks, Ferro-cement rainwater-harvesting tanks, and the laying of paving tiles and constructing house colonies under the government programmes. Together they are called the Jeevapoorna Women Mason's Society or JEEWOMS. The JEEWOMS run hollow block factories, paving tile unit, production of concrete door window frames, and a canteen in Thrissur district. The women mason's contribution to the sanitation programme was indeed remarkable. They constructed more than 15000 toilets in Thrissur district alone. Many women masons turned out to be trainers in the state run Total Sanitation programme.

The first fruit of their labour was the training centre at Peringavu, Thrissur. The 3000 sq ft three-storied building was constructed by the women masons with financial aid coming in from the district panchayat and Bilance, a Holland-based partner. They lent their expertise to the coastal areas of Alleppey and Kollam too, especially in giving a face-lift to the rudimentary sanitation systems followed for years by its population. The group formed in Allappad panchayat became the pioneers for reconstructing the Tsunami affected areas of Allappad panchayat. The













Jyothi Villa constructed by the women masons of Allappad is a standing monument of women's power!

The interventions in Kottayam with the help of Bridderlech Deelen of Luxembourg began in a small scale in 2004 paved the road for a 10 years long partnership from 2006- 2016. The office building and the carpentry workshop of Thellakom, the hollow block factory, the carpentry training center and the master piece of women's artisanship-The Archana Architech [Office cum training center of Archana Women's Center] at Vettimukal are fruits of this partnership and proofs of women's capabilities in construction.

The Maso-Carpe Welfare Society, set up along the lines of Jeewoms in Kottayam is a self-help forum of trained masons and carpenters who construct residential houses and apartments and run units for production of carpentry goods, hollow bricks and Ferro –tanks etc. Aided by the special training in bamboo technology, this team has gone on to build villa projects in three different localities.

Between 2006 and 2016 around 750 women in 23 batches were successfully trained in all aspects of masonry under AWC. Out of this, 180 women were selected and identified by Kudumbasree units recognized by the State Government.

ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE

The training in Carpentry was initiated with the help of Peter Hoggenberk from the Netherlands and with the guidance and support of Captain. MPV. Shenoy and Mr. Ananath Narayan of SAMBHAV from Bangalore. Starting with the construction of the work-shed for carpentry using bamboo - a big stride in construction scenario, the trainees in carpentry began to sweep the heights of interior work skills. They are now master carpenters skilled at using all modern machineries in manufacturing furniture, kitchen cabinets, ward robes etc. ETC Netherlands, through Wout Straallman, aided these women carpenters to attain the level of excellence.

Both Jeewoms and Maso-Carpe Welfare Society are extremely active organizations even today, generating incomes to scores of households across Kerala through its women. These groups have challenged and changed the traditional practices in construction industry. They succeeded in establishing norms for equality in wages – "equal pay for equal jobs". They established their right for becoming skilled, employed and earn at par with men; they claimed their right to operate machines and equipments which were hither to the monopoly of men. The success stories of these women of JEEWOMS and Maso-carpe of Archana have been replicated through UNICEF, World Bank, Total Sanitation Mission and Kudumbasree.











OTHER COURSES

Site supervision course for young women

AWC ventured into a very challenging course for young girls who passed 12th grade, getting trained as site supervisors-a six months course on civil engineering, certified by National open School [central Government] 15 students gratuated and were placed in jobs at Vettoor Constructions. With the help of Mr. Mauro Peppolino, a volunteer from Luxembourg, Six of these underwent electrician course and completed the wiring of two houses.

Beautician

Many batches of the Beautician Course were successfully completed over the years. The course was initiated by the reputed corporate giant Godrej and certified by them. Later they underwent coaching for the state government-certified Beautician examination. All the students passed and received certificate, a feather in their caps for sure. Godrej, pleased with the students' performance, helped set up a Herbal Beauty Clinic, at AWC. This is a boon to the graduates who can now intern at the premises before seeking employment elsewhere.

























Paper Craft

Mrs Aero Lillian Olok, an Ugandan national, came to AWC for placement under an international course at KANTHARI. She taught the women to make decorative items out of paper and the Centre held many sessions on paper craft for schools and women's groups.

AWC has also conducted umpteen other short-term training sessions in jewellery-making, home-management, cooking and so on.

Organic Farming

The AWC's project in Organic Farming began as part of their Health and Wealth scheme which aimed at an integrated developmental program through which biogas plants and vermin compost pits, waste management tanks are promoted. Awareness classes on bio-fertilizers, vermin-compost, green-leaf manure, bio- pesticides are held at AWC. Farmers' clubs undergo extensive training in these aspects and the AWC supports them by giving grow bags, organic manure, pesticides, saplings and so on. Hundred families are provided with waste management tanks and organic vegetable cultivation. The scheme's benefit reached out to more than 1200 families. Model organic farm at the AWC and in Mannanam are the proof of its success.









Home management

Periodic sessions are conducted for home management under AWC for women and students. Some of these are supported by Nehru Yuva Kendra [Youth ministry]. Preparation of special and exotic items is demonstrated from locally available vegetables and fruits. Variety of cakes is taught to interested groups.

Gender Campaigns

In its run to empower women with skills, the AWC never forgot its primary responsibility to spread gender equality and women's rights. Sensitization programmes were held at every juncture to train the elected women representatives at the grassroot level in leadership, planning and egalitarian development. A state-wide gender campaign addressing the atrocities and conflicts against women and the girl child was also organized by reaching out to schools and colleges in the important districts of Kerala over a span of three months.

Every year Women's Day celebrations at the AWC are a well-executed affair with state-level campaigns on policy advocacy, social crimes,









Women Presidents of Local Self Government being Honoured by AWC

gender equality awareness workshops and other women's issues. Some are in the form of meetings, some as street theatre and drama. Perillatha Penkutty (Girl without a Name) was one such representation that had its intended impact on scores of school-girls and boys across the State. It was a sharp and poignant attack on our society that turns a blind eye towards the plight of its women.

Together with STREEVEDI, an activist group, AWC takes lead to address atrocities against women, accompanies women and girls in distress, help them file cases where needed, get police help, and create awareness among women's groups in many districts of Kerala, and net work with other like minded NGOs.

AWC set up a Gender Resource Center to address the growing threat against women and children in distress - a perennial problem of all women activists – the lack of support in times of need. This Centre provides counselling and legal aid for victims of domestic violence, discrimination and crime. It addresses any pertinent issue of women and organizes net working linkages. The gender library at the resource center and the public library at Thellakom have impressive collections of videos and books, which are being extensively used by local women, colleges and research students.







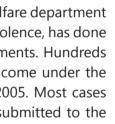


Under the GRC women trainees are given training in karate and self defence. The women trainees motivate other women by performing on International Women's Day celebrations and other occasions. The GRC encourages women to become more autonomous in movement from place to place by offering training in driving and helping the purchase of two wheelers.

The Service Providing Centre, under State Social Welfare department set up by the AWC to protect the victims of domestic violence, has done exemplary work through counselling and legal settlements. Hundreds of cases are registered at the SPC. Out of this many come under the Protection of Women under Domestic Violence Act 2005. Most cases are settled by the legal counsellor, while others are submitted to the court for trial.

Archana Taxies

This is the latest intervention under GRC - Training young women to be taxi drivers. Batches of 10 women each are trained by the Maruthi Udyog Company and placement is ensured first for the private residential sector. Later they acquire license as taxi drivers and start driving their taxies on road.











EMPOWERING THE CHILD

Sure enough, the AWC has held training programs in schools to address:

- > Alcohol and its side-effects and influence of media on children.
- Life-skills regarding health, sex, family, friends, finance and education of school children.
- Origami class
- Classes on Leadership and Gender rights

These sessions are held in collaboration with NGOs, schools and Anganwadis. Text-book education has its limits. Today's child needs to be socially aware and exposed to the varying demands of society and be trained in dealing with them.

These programs were not an isolated affair. Follow-up was done and many school children, who attended these sessions visit the Child Resource Centre even today to play games, borrow books from the library and so on.

ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE

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AWC was also fortunate to join hands with a leading NGO- Sakhi and set up a new project "Scaling up Life Skill Education of Young People in Kerala towards its mainstreaming and Sustainability – 2013". The program aimed at creating genderawareness to the adolescent groups in different panchayats in Kottayam and Ernakulam districts.

The module included Personality Development: Self awareness; Knowing one's Body: and Communicative skills.

Extra-Curricular Activities: Cycling, campaigns, environmental studies, visit to police stations.

This project was completed in 10 panchayats of Kottayam and Ernakulam districts. And the AWC continued this project during the next year in Ettumanoor.

Summer camps are also organized for children selected from schools and neighbourhood groups jointly with CEVA Cochin. Apart from recreation, classes on child abuse, sexual harassment, child rights are held. Two of the best selected as leaders are given the opportunity to participate in the State-wise one-day camp at CEVA, Kochi.









Ullasaparavakal – [Happy Birds] the AWC's brainchild for adolescent girls in summer - It is an activity-oriented camp to help young girls discover their talents and creativity. Paper craft, Jewellery making, Beautician course, Cookery, Photography, diet, Time management, Selfdiscipline, Gender studies, Child legal rights, Meditation and Yoga were some of the courses offered.



The CRC also has Teen's Clubs which meet regularly and organize games, art classes, and attend lectures on sex education, career guidance, stress management, yoga and fitness. Balavedi (children aged below 15) is another group of young children which meet monthly and attend annual summer camps too.



AWC also launched a mass awareness drive to alert homemakers. mothers and working women about the emerging threat of lifestyle diseases. The programme was named 'happy, Healthy, Wealthy project". The awareness program had experts talking on consumerism addiction to digital entertainment and lack of interpersonal relationships.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND WATER CONSERVATION

∧ rchana Women's Centre is a pioneer movement in women's Rempowerment with a deep-rooted commitment to preserve all that is free and natural in our world. And that leads us to conservation of water, air and earth. The AWC believes in all alternative and organic methods to conserve water, free air from pollution and earth from destruction.

Integrated Water Resource Management Programmes are a highlight of this centre. In every household, water is the responsibility of the woman. Be it in the deserts or the fertile plains, it has always been the woman's responsibility to fetch, carry and ration water. The AWC's water-conservation programmes keep this gender prospective in mind, and therefore, are rated as one of the most successful interventions in watershed development. It has built around 4000 water harvesting pits with the help of beneficiaries in Ettumanoor and Athirampuzha panchayats. It also organized a Jalasandesha Yatra (Message on Water Rally) across the state with representatives from 50 villages participating in it.









Ditto are its interventions into pro-environment and ecological welfare training programmes. Awareness classes on bio-non- degradable products, e-waste, waste management, recycling and excessive consumerism leading to poor lifestyle are held every year on special days.

EMPANNELLED BY KUDUMBASREE

WC's experience in the field of non traditional skills for women found Approbation and recognition when it was empanelled as the agency for imparting mason training to Kudumbasree led groups in 2014. Since then AWC got a number of groups to train as masons, plumbers, electricians, low cost house builders, goat shelter makers, and participate in the Prime minister's pet project-The Swach Bharath" by constructing toilets.

SOCIAL TRAINING

▲ WC takes pride in its highly effective and empowering approach Ato transform the timid, shy and absolutely dependent rural women to self confident, bold and enterprising workers, through its well defined social training. Without this it would have been impossible to bring about such revolutionary change in the mindset of these subjugated women. AWC believes that the success of its empowering intervention has as its base on this solid social training. ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE



























EVNETS OF IMPORTANCE

State level convention of women masons:

In 2012 a state level gathering of women masons was held at AWC to make the public become aware of the powerful group of skilled female workers in construction field, so that they can be mainstreamed .

Silver jubilee celebration of women mason's programme:

In 2015 hundreds of women masons, carpenters and other construction trade groups gathered at AWC to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the initiation of women in to construction sector as skilled labourers. The then chief Minister of Kerala inaugurated the gathering of over 400 women workers from all over the state.

National Seminar 2015, 11-13 December

A national seminar on Inclusive Development and Gender Equity with special focus on Women's skill Development and Entrepreneurship Programme for Sustainable and Equitable Development was conducted by AWC at Casa Maria, Thellakom, to bring together agencies involved in non-traditional skills for women in India and to disseminate the ARCHANA MODEL EMPOWERMENT to all around. It was a very enriching and enabling experience.

























International Conference -2016 December 27-28 on "SUCCESSFUL AGEING"

Archana Women's Centre, in its search for alternative models of senior care, organized a two-day International Conference in collaboration with the School of Social Work, Marian College, Kuttikkanam. The conference was aimed to examine the current status of senior citizens and discuss alternatives to help them live their lives enjoyably and with dignity. AWC was instrumental in creating a 'new social gerontology' with regard to our elders – "they need to be fully engaged in productive activities and interpersonal relations, in addition to healthcare."

Study Tours and Exposure Visits

AWC gives a lot of attention to provide good exposure to our staff and workers through the study tours and exposure visits it conducts. The trainees got many covetous chances to visit many important places like New Delhi, Agra, Mysore, Bangalore Chennai Munnar, Palakkad, etc and learn from the cultures, trades, interior designing, crafts, building technologies etc. They could also participate in many international and national exhibitions. AWC is also a place of interest for even international agencies. Boston school of vocational training regularly visits AWC to enkindle gender sensitivity and skills in their students. Trade union







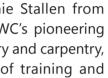


workers from USA led by Susan Moir visits us and give us also opportunity to visit Boston mason and carpenter training Institute. National youth from NYK, schools of social work, technical training Institutes, NGOs and SHG groups are regular visitors to AWC.

Trainers and supporters to AWC

Peter Hoggenberk, Wout Straalman, and Melanie Stallen from the Netherlands; They offered mighty support to AWC's pioneering interventions in bringing women to the field of masonry and carpentry, providing professional and international standard of training and technical and financial support.

Col. M. P. V. Shenoi and Ananth Narayan from SAMBAV Bangalore were powerful supporters to introduce AWC to modern technologies, machines and training modules and extend our exposure to international levels.













FOUNDER-DIRECTOR THE GENIUS BEHIND ARCHANA

Thresiamma Mathew, the founder-director, of Archana Women's Centre, is a reputed genderspecialist and member of the secular institute - The Oblate Missionaries of Mary Immaculate (OMMI).

Her vision to promote gender justice and equality and her Motto "The fullness of Life for all" [Jn 10:10] is the very foundation of her brain-child, Archana Women's Center.

She has broken all traditional barriers of women's role in society. She helped storm the male bastions of construction industry, carpentry, brick-laying and ferro-cement tank manufacturing by making her women graduates equal partners in the same.

Thresiamma Mathew leads a simple, unselfish life dedicated to the cause of the common woman. At heart a social worker, she advocates the principles of social justice, human rights and she has a deep respect for diversities. She believes in change and is ready to take that first step towards it. A recipient of many awards, national and international, Thresiamma Mathew has had a brilliant run the last 25 years. ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE









It is no exaggeration to say that the OMMI is her mentor, strength and inspiration. Founded by Fr L M Parent in 1952, it is a unique order under which its members are not distinguished by way of a uniform or a symbol. They adopt the costume of the society they live in. For, the OMMI believes in working *with* the poor, not *for* them. They are not addressed as 'Sisters' but as 'Miss' or 'Madam'. Its headquarters is in Canada, and its office in India is in Changanasserry, Kerala. Here, it works under the aegis of the Jyothi Jeeva Poorna Trust based in Tamil Nadu.

'Thressiamma Miss' saw the abject poverty and destitution of women through the eye-opening sessions of OMMI's formation sessions. It moved her deeply. It was then that she decided to adopt a life dedicated to empowering women and paint their lives with new colours of progress.

It was not easy. And she never expected it to be. Drawing strength from the OMMI core values that nurtured and nourished her, Thresiamma Mathew has surmounted all odds and carved a niche in Kerala's women empowerment through Archana Women's Centre.

When she first started out with a group of women, people ridiculed her motives. She was focused on 'equal remuneration for all' and therefore, began to train women to become masons and carpenters through a









certificate course acknowledged by Mahatama Gandhi University. AWC was born and other interventions into social empowerment took root from there. Finally, when the masonry-certified women completed their training in the Ettumanur unit, they were given employment through the model-housing initiative started by AWC.

Today the AWC's building unit has established its name across the borders. Sure enough, Thresiamma Miss along with Radhika Prakash were invited to address and attend the 51st session of Division for Economics and Social Development at the United Nations and share their empowerment experiences advancing women's economic capabilities.







ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Outstanding Women Entrepreneur by Hon. Minister for MSME, Shri Kalraj Mishra, 5th International Women Entrepreneur Summit, 2015, New Delhi.

Sthreeshakti award

by JCI for her contributions to women empowerment and her social work.

- **Eminent Personality award** by the District Lioness Club.
- Prize for Creativity in Rural Women's Life by Women's World summit Foundation, Geneva
- Priyadarsini Award 2015 by Federation of Indian Women Entrepreneurs.
- Glory of India Award 2016 by Global Achievers Foundation.
- Women Super Achiever Award by international congress of FEMINA-2017 ARCHANA WOMEN'S CENTRE















MEDIA COVERAGE

Sindooram programme featured AWC on Surya Channel.

- T.V channels like Mazhavil Manorama, Surya, Asianet, Kairali, ACV, Goodness, Shalom, Sakhi, Media 1, Jeevan, Drisya and Doordarsan did documentaries on AWC in several occasions.
- All India Radio and BBC made broadcasts in the Middle East and Europe.

NEWS PAPERS

- Supplements and features were published by leading News papers like The Hindu, The New Indian Express, Deepika, Malayala Manorama, Kaumudi, Mathrubhoomi, Chandrika, Madhyamam, Deshabhimani, Mangalam, Emerging Kerala, etc.
- Several Magazines and books have also highlighted the revolutionary interventions of AWC in their articles.
- "Building Walls Of Confidence, Engendering Skills" are two books published on AWC and women masons.

NEW HORIZONS

Tomorrow's promise...

Archana Women's Centre is a trailblazer. The journey doesn't end here. Millions of women are yet to be saved. And there's hope for all.

Here are the testimonies of a few winners...



Radhika Prakash, 40, is a full-fledged mason today thanks to her five-year training at the AWc. She has built rainwater-harvest models, walls of the Thellakom and Vettimukal Centres and completed as part of the AWC team a multi-crore villa at Pattithanam. Her husband supports her work unconditionally now.



Valsala, 46, is a Ferro-cement worker who has done kitchen shelves, ferro-cement tanks, waste rings, ferro-cement slabs and cupboards. She too faced opposition from her spouse initially, but today she enjoys her family's complete support.











Omana Soman, 48, is a professional in bamboobased construction worker, trained by a Dutch specialist. She makes sofas, chairs, beds and today earns full-time for her household.



Sindhu, 39, a TTC graduate and tailor, is a successful carpenter too. She makes all types of furniture required for a house.





Shanty Babu, 38, is an expert in manufacturing hollow bricks. A widow, she supports her family entirely through her earnings today.



നികവിദ്യയുമായി വനിതക Churning out masonry professionals

അർച്ചന വിമൻസ് സെന്ററാണ്. ത്തിൽ വനിതൾ മേസ്തിരിപണി പ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നതറിഞ്ഞാണ് കെട്ടി ണ വിദഗ്ധരായ പീറ്റർ ഹോഗൻ ലാ. എഡ്ഡിൻ എന്നിവർ വന്നിതകൾ പന്ററിയിലും ബാംബു ടെക്നോ സൗജന്യമായി മികവ്യാ പരിശീ കാനെത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നത്.

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ളപതോഗിക്കാർ കഴിയുമെന്നാണ് അക്രോഗ്ര ഉപതോഗിക്കാർ കഴിയുമെന്നാണ് അക്രേഗ് വിമൻസ് സെന്റർ കരുയുന്നത്. പത്രസമേം നങ്ങിൽ ഹീറ്റർ ഹോഗൻബർഗ്, വി.സി റേ യി എന്നിവരും പങ്കെടുത്തു

The course offered by Mahatma Gandhi University has more takers among women.

George Jacob

KOTTAYAM: Perhaps, for the first time in the country, the State will have masons with university certificates in masonry. The novel idea comes from Mahatma Gandhi University and is expected to go a long way in churning out masonry professionals

Of the 10 persons who have passed the three-month certificate in building technology course, nine are women, though the profession is male-dominated.

Thresiamma Mathew, director Archana Women's Centre which runs this course, says: "Out of the 20 persons who had expressed their interest in joining the course, 11 registered. Ten of them have completed it successfully." Most of the women who had joined the programme were earning



ANOTHER BARRIER FALLS: A woman apprentice at work.

their livelihood from the traditional industry of screw-pine mat weaving and were from the Valkom area. They used to earn Rs. 45 or less a day, she said. Some others were working in the construction industry as head-load workers. After teaching them the basic

theory of masonry, they were sent to local construction sites for

practical training. Their incomes have increased by more than 300 per cent

"Most of them are earning Rs. 150 a day now." Ms. Mathew says. They have not been accepted as fullfledged masons at the work sites, but assist the male masons.

K. Sabukuttan, Professor and Head of the Department of Adult Education of the university, says: "We have launched this project as part of the silver jubilee of the university." The department has certificate courses in such needbased disciplines, including a sixmonth certificate programme in carpentry, conducted in association with the Archana Women's Centre.

The other certificate courses are in dementia care. Yoga and meditation and counselling. Jos Chathukulam, who heads the Centre for Rural Management here believes the certification will

address both the practical and strategic gender needs in one go. The immediate effect will be a drastic improvement in their incomes. The traditional community of masons was male-

dominant, with women being confined to household chores. Even now, this gender inequality is evident

And ADIOD CONTONOICOLOGIOSO OGO A man who starts the career as an assistant to a mason will have the opportunity to major into an dependent mason. A female assistant will be confined to her job of head-load worker, taking cement and bricks to the mason. Certification of this kind will be an effective tool in the fight for gender equality, he said.

In the initial stages, he fears, the women masons will be confined to softer jobs such as work using ferro-cement or on toilets being constructed as part of State-funded programmes.

monological and the second sec "To take this initiative forward. we need agencies and an army of empowered civil engineers who will repose faith in them," he said. With the male masons majoring to hard jobs offered by the construction boom in the country, a whole new vista will be opened to certified women masons by the vast rural market and the government-funded programmes, it is pointed out.

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ഹാമാനാർ: മേസ്വിരിപ്പണിക്കും ഘഴ്സിറി സർടിഫിക്കറ്. ന്താലാ അഡാം 1-10051

ມອໄປເປັນມາອອກໂດຊ່ ອົນດາວເປັນ ກາຊ້ວນການ. ຫຼາວ ເຊິ່າມີ ວັດຊີເຊິ່ງ ອາກໂດຊີ ເມດາກັນ ປະດີບແຕ່ເວັດຊີເຊິ່ງ ອາກໂດຊີ ເພດຍ ເພດຍ ເພດຍ ເພດຍ ອາກໂດຊີ ເພດຍ ເພດຍ ເພດຍ ເພດຍ

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വിക്ക് വിതരണം ചെയ്തു. മാർക്ക് മിന്റ് ഉണ്ണത്തില്ലം എട്ടം. ഇന്റ് ജാല്പ്പറക്കായം ണ്യ കോഴ്സ് നടത്തിയത്.

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ഴ്സിറ്റി അഡാട്ട് എജ്യക്കേഷൻ വിഭാഗത്തി തിൽ മേസ്ലിരിപ്പണി പരിശീലനം നേടിയവർ സലർ ജാൻസി ജയിംസ്, അർച്ചനാ വിമൻസ് യറകർ ത്രേസ്യാമ്മ മാത്യു എന്നിവർക്കൊപ്പം. രചണ്ടാക്കിയത്. തൊഴിൽ പരിശീലനം വിജയകര

മന്നെ ആദ്യത്തെ മായിപൂർത്തിയാക്കിയവരിൽ ശ്രീ വനിതാ മേസിരി ലതാ രവിന്ദൻ 88 ശതമാനം മാർ ർ. ആറുമാസത്തെ ക്കും ഒന്നാംസ്ഥാനവും നേടി.85ശ

വളയിട്ട കൈകൾക്ക് ຫລວກ. ລວຽລຣະ ຍຸກຣໄພ ເຫຍໄຫວ ດປວກກຸມກວາກ ດອກອວເຫຼັດ ແລະຮັກນະ ກາດ-ກາວປູຣາ ຍີ່ເກີດເຊື້ອກອີຊີເຫຼືອງ

വിമൻസ ഒ സ്ഥാന്ത്രമാര എം.ജി.യുറ എഡ്യക്കേപ പ്രൊഫ.കെ. ണിഫോമുകര ഡോ.തോപ യിനമ്മ ഷിബു. മെമ്പർമാരായ ജോണി വർഗീസ്

എന്നിവർ പ്രസംഗ ല്പൊസ്, അംബിക്യ കെ.വിജയമ്മ, ലീലം ഇ.ജി.ജയൻ, ലക്ഷി എന്നിവരും സർട്ടിഫി

ഉളിയും വഴങ്ങും දෙනාදිතා : කාණාවයින් നെക്കൾ ഒട്ടാ കുറഞ്ഞതല്ല പൺകരുത്തെന്ന് പ്രവർ ത്തിച്ചുകാട്ടുകയാണ് ഒരു ରାଙ୍କ କ୍ରାଣ୍ଟ୍ୟ ଅନ୍ୟୁକ୍ତର ଅନ୍ୟୁକ୍ତର କାନ୍ତିତ ଭୁଧବାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଅନ୍ୟୁକ୍ତର ଅନ୍ୟୁକ୍ତର କାନ୍ତି କରୁଥିବା ଅଧିକ ଅନ୍ୟୁକ୍ତର ମହଲୋ തിരുന്ന കെട്ടിട്ടം പണിക്കും മപ്പണിക്കും ഒരു സർവകലാ ശാലയുടെ സാക്ഷ്യവത്ര ത്തിന്റെ അംഗികാരം കുടി െള്ളകം അർച്ചന വിന്റെ 2013.00) எம். സ് സെന്റന്ത് നാസത്രം സ് സ് സെന്വിന്നു അവന്നു എസ്റ്റി എന്നു അപ്പസ്പ ന്നെന്നു നേട്ടനു agin 14 galà magana

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A trailblazer in the realm of women's empowerment

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