

## Chalakudy Forest Development Agency (FDA)

### Chalakudy Forest Division

# Kerala Forest and Wildlife Department

## A Report on the Activities Organised for Tribal Communities in the Chalakudy Forest Division – 2025

### Wings Week Success: Vanasree and Kadambaree Shine, Students Craft Prizes

March 18, 2025



The exhibition, featuring Vanasree products from the Forest Department and upcycled items by Kadambaree, drew an enthusiastic crowd. The event, Vanasourabham, hosted by Sahrdaya College of Advance Studies, Kodakara, Thrissur, held on 5/3/25, was officially inaugurated by SCAS Finance Officer Fr. Sibin Vazhapilly, who marked the occasion by purchasing the first product. The event's success was evident in the impressive total sales of ₹14,490. Vanasree products accounted for ₹10,195, while Kadambaree upcycled items contributed ₹4,295, showing strong support for both sustainable and handcrafted goods. Beyond

the sales, a practical training session on crafting plastic bags and decorative cloth work was a highlight. Students actively participated, demonstrating remarkable creativity and dedication. The beautifully handcrafted bags produced during this session were later used as prize packaging for our OMC sisters, adding a personal and meaningful touch to the event's closing celebrations. The entire initiative brought immense joy and a sense of accomplishment to all involved.

## **Chalakudy Forest Division Engages Youth in “Forests and Food” Social Painting Campaign**

March 21, 2025



In anticipation of the 2025 Forest Day, the Nayarangadi Vana Samrakshana Samithi (VSS), under the Chalakudy Forest Division, collaborated with the NSS Unit and Bhoomithrasena Club of Panampilly Government College to host a vibrant social painting campaign. The event centered around this year's global theme, “Forests and Food,” aiming to raise awareness about the critical connection between healthy forests and sustainable food systems. The campaign saw enthusiastic participation from college students and local community members, who expressed their interpretations of the theme through various artistic media. The paintings served as a visual dialogue, highlighting the importance of forest conservation in ensuring food security and biodiversity. The event fostered discussions on sustainable forestry practices, the impact of deforestation on food production, and the importance of

preserving local ecosystems. Participants also explored how forests contribute to food sources, from providing wild edibles to supporting agricultural productivity. The collaborative effort between the FDA, VSS, and the educational institutions showcased a strong commitment to environmental stewardship and youth engagement. The campaign served as a powerful reminder of the interconnectedness of forests and food, inspiring participants to become advocates for sustainable living.

## **World Forest Day Celebrations Echo through the Chalakudy Forest Division –**

**March 2025**

March 24, 2025

The Chalakudy Forest Division and Forest Development Agency (FDA) witnessed a vibrant celebration of World Forest Day (March 2025), with its various Vanasa Sanrakshna Samithis actively engaging in a range of impactful activities. These initiatives highlighted the crucial role of forests in our ecosystem and the importance of community involvement in their preservation.



**21/3/25**

The Chakkiparambu Adivasi Vana Samraksha Samithi (AVSS) under the Chalakudy Forest Division organized World Forest Day celebrations. The committee secretary briefed the members on the theme 'Forests and Food,' the importance of forests, and the need to prevent deforestation. Following this, the Samithi members shared their experiences in the forest. Subsequently, the Samithi members removed non-biodegradable waste from the Chakkiparambu nature area and carried out environmental sanitation.



**22/3/25**

As part of the World Forest and Water Day celebrations, students from Thrissur Maharaja's Technological Institute visited 'Karikkadavu Unnathi'. The students' visit was part of a study on this year's World Forest Day message, "Forests & Food." As part of the study, the students learned about non-timber forest products (NTFP) collection, processing, and marketing by the Karikkadavu SHG members. The students and AVSS members took a pledge for water conservation. The Samithi members who actively participated in wildfire prevention activities during the 2024-25 period were presented with gifts containing messages of wildfire prevention awareness.

**22/3/25**

As part of World Forest Day celebrations, the Kodassery Forest Conservation Committee conducted a yoga class for its members. Committee President Wilson Parotti presided over the meeting, which was attended by Ward Member Shaju M.L. and Division Coordinator E.P. Praseetha.

**23/03/25**

As part of World Forest and Water Day celebrations, members of the Kavalakkatti Forest Protection Committee under the Chalakudy Forest Division, Vellikulangara Range Forest, and employees of Moopliyam Forest Station removed plastic waste discarded by travellers on both sides of the road adjacent to the forest in Kavalakkatti. Section Forest Officer Mr. V.H. Anoop from Moopliyam Forest Station delivered a message to the gathered well-wishers about the significance of World Forest and Water Day.

## Chalakudy Forest Division Empowers Women with Beeswax Value-Added Product Training

March 30, 2025



**Chalakudy, Thrissur, Kerala – March 30, 2025** – In a move aimed at enhancing livelihood opportunities and promoting sustainable forest resource utilization, the Chalakudy Forest Division successfully conducted a training program on beeswax value-added products for ten enthusiastic members of the Thenettam Para, Avilppara Self-Help Group (SHG). The empowering initiative took place today, March 30th, 2025, within the forest division.

The training was uniquely facilitated by two experienced members from the Karikkadavu SHG, also part of the Chalakudy Forest Division. This peer-to-peer learning approach fostered a supportive and collaborative environment, allowing for practical knowledge transfer and skill development in crafting various beeswax-based products. By adding value to this natural resource, the initiative aims to boost the income generation capacity of the Avilppara SHG members and contribute to their economic empowerment. The Chalakudy Forest Division's commitment to supporting local communities in sustainable forest-based livelihoods is evident in this program. By leveraging the expertise within existing SHGs, they are creating a ripple effect of knowledge sharing and skill enhancement across the division. This initiative not only promotes economic self-reliance but also encourages the responsible utilization of forest resources, aligning with broader conservation goals.

## Anappantham Tribal VSS Holds Public Meeting, Celebrates Achievements, and Boosts Green Initiative

June 2, 2025



**Vellikulangara, Chalakudy Forest Division, Thrissur** – On May 31, 2025, the Anappantham Tribal Vana Samrakshana Samithi (AVSS) successfully hosted a public election meeting at 9:30 AM, bringing together community members and stakeholders. The event, held within the Vellikulangara Range of the Chalakudy Forest Division, was a multifaceted gathering that combined civic duty with community development and environmental stewardship. A significant highlight of the day was the distribution of essential items to the younger generation. Thirty-two children from the Unnathi tribal settlement received school bags, umbrellas, bedsheets, and various study materials, aiming to support their educational journey and well-being. The meeting also underscored the community's commitment to environmental sustainability with a vibrant greening initiative at Unnathi. Under the expert guidance of activists from the Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishad and Dr.

Sajeev, a distinguished scientist from the Kerala Forest Research Institute, saplings of native trees like Java Plum (Njavel) and Arjuna (Neermaruthu) were planted. This initiative is a testament to the community's dedication to preserving and enriching their natural surroundings. The event concluded on a high note with a heartfelt felicitation ceremony. Sajeev Santhosh, Nithya Murugan, and Deepu Sabarishan were recognized and honored with cash awards for their outstanding academic achievements in the 2024-25 school year. Their success serves as an inspiration to the entire Anappantham tribal community.

## **Reading Day Blooms Bright: Thenettampara Kathir Library and Tribal School Join Hands**

June 20, 2025 / by Vanasree News / in News



**Thenettampara, Chalakudy, Thrissur, Kerala** – The spirit of reading blossomed brightly as members of the Thenettampara Kathir Library under Thenettampara AVSS of the Chalakudy Forest Division (Kerala Forest Department) recently celebrated Reading Day in a truly heartwarming collaboration with the students of Thudikkadavu Government Tribal School on 19/06/2025. This joint initiative fostered a love for books and community spirit among the youngsters. The day's festivities weren't confined to books alone. Demonstrating their commitment to environmental stewardship, the members and the tribal school students also rolled up their sleeves and participated in a meaningful seed-sowing program within the Thenettampara AVSS project area. This hands-on activity not only contributed to local reforestation efforts but also taught the children about the importance of nurturing nature. The collaboration highlights the vital role of community organizations like the

Thenettampara Kathir Reading Room in enriching the lives of local youth and promoting both literacy and environmental consciousness. Such initiatives truly sow the seeds for a brighter future.

## **Van Mahotsav Celebration at Anappantham – Chalakudy**

July 7, 2025



**Anappantham, Chalakudy, Thrissur, Kerala:** The Van Mahotsav program was organized under the auspices of the Anappantham Adivasi Vana Samrakshan Samithi (AVSS) in the Velikkulangara Range of the Chalakudy Forest Division on 05/07/2025. Shri. V.N. Vinodkumar, Secretary of the Committee, delivered the welcome address. Historian and author Prof. Baby inaugurated the event. Shri. Xavier, the Ooru Moopan (tribal chief), presided over the function, and Divisional Co-ordinator Smt. E.P. Praseetha gave a felicitation speech. Greetings were also extended by Shri Aneesh Kumar and Shri Jose of Sasthra Sahithya Parishad, Shikhamani, social worker Shri Joy Kavungal, and Smt. Liji, program coordinator at Nandikkara VHSE. Environmental activist Shri. Prakashan Injakkund recited a poem titled "Kaadu" (Forest). Additionally, teachers and students from Nandikkara VHSE, committee office bearers, and members of Sastham Poovam Unnathi jointly planted various types of mango and medicinal plant saplings in different locations within Unnathi. Smt. Anitha from Sastham Poovam Unnathi concluded the event by thanking everyone who participated.

## 'Oorulsavam-2025' Celebrated in Chalakudy Forest Division

July 28, 2025



**Chalakudy, Thrissur:** 'Oorulsavam-2025' was jointly organized by the Aanapantham and Karikkadavu Tribal Forest Vana Samraksha Samithi (AVSS) in the Vellikkulangara Range of the Chalakudy Forest Division on 27-07-2025. The event commenced with a welcome speech by V.N. Vinodkumar, Secretary of Aanapantham AVSS. Shri. Anoop V.H., Section Officer, delivered the presidential address. Shri. Santhosh K.P., Mupliyam Forest Station DY RO (I/C), inaugurated the program by lighting the ceremonial lamp and spoke about the significance of 'Oorulsavam' and tribal culture. The Secretary of Karikkadavu AVSS offered felicitations. Members of 'Unnathi' (a group, likely referring to tribal youth or community members) presented songs and dances reflecting their indigenous culture. Participants in the cultural programs received prizes. Senior members of 'Unnathi' were honored with traditional shawls (Ponnada).

The event saw the participation of Xavier, Aanapantham Ooru Moopan (Tribal Chief); Jobindran, President of Aanapantham AVSS; Alkesh, President of Karikkadavu AVSS; social worker Joy Kavungal; staff from Mupliyam Forest Station; and members of 'Unnathi'. Tribal Promoter Suma Satheesh extended a vote of thanks to everyone who participated in the program.

## **Chalakudy Forest Division and Rotary Club Angamaly Organize 'ASHA 2025' for Tribal Communities**

August 16, 2025



**Chalakudy, Thrissur, Kerala** — In a collaborative effort to mark World Tribal Day, the Chalakudy Forest Development Agency and Angamaly Rotary Club organized a special event, 'ASHA (Action for Support & Hope in Adhivasis (Tribals)) 2025,' at the Unnathi center within the Vellikulangara Forest Range, Chalakudy Forest Division on 09/08/2025. The event was inaugurated by the Honorable Justice of the Kerala High Court, Shri P.M. Manoj. Rtn. Shri Jayachandran E.P., the ASHA Program Coordinator, delivered the welcome address. The function was presided over by Rtn. Adv. Shri Kirosh Rajan, President of the Angamaly Rotary Club. Shri Shinoj K.S., the Honorable Vellikulangara Range Forest Officer, delivered a message on the significance of the day. Greetings were also extended by Shri Anup V.H., Deputy Forest Ranger (i/c) of Mupliyam Forest Station; Smt. Savitha Joy, MRS Manager; Shri M.K. Chandran, Unnathi Moopan (tribal chief); Shri Alkesh M.C., AVSS President; and Shri Praveen P.R., AVSS Secretary. The Rotary Club's Vocational Award was presented to Shri Praveen P.R., the AVSS Secretary of Karikkadavu. As part of the initiative, Justice P.M. Manoj handed over essential items, including chairs, tables, a sewing machine, a cupboard, a sports kit, and an inverter, to the Moopan of Unnathi. He also presented the key to a newly renovated house in the community. The event concluded with various cultural programs. Attendees included members of the Rotary Club, representatives from Aanapantham AVSS, forest station staff, and residents of Karikkadavu. The vote of thanks was delivered by Division Coordinator Smt. Praseetha E.P.

## Cultural Pride and Community Spirit: Chalakudy VDK Celebrates Jan Jatiya Gaurav Divas – 2025

November 18, 2025



**CHALAKUDY, THRISSUR, KERALA** — November 15, 2025, marked a day of unity, cultural pride, and historical remembrance as the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) under the Chalakudy Forest Division enthusiastically celebrated Jan Jatiya Gaurav Divas (Tribal Pride Day). The annual event, organised to honour the enduring legacy of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, the great tribal freedom fighter and social reformer, attracted active participation from multiple Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and tribal communities. The celebrations successfully raised awareness about the revolutionary contributions of Bhagwan Birsa Munda and fostered a sense of community pride among the children and members of the adivasi settlements.

The VDK's initiative brought together five key SHGs, each organising unique and engaging programs:

### 1. Elikode Unnathi SHG: Honouring the Leader

The birthday of Lord Birsa Munda was celebrated with great fervour at Elikode Unnathi. Key Address: President Shri Ayyappan K. V addressed all AVSS members, elaborating on the profound significance of the day and Birsa Munda's role. Youth Focus: The event saw children engaging in art programs, highlighted by a lively drawing competition. Acknowledgement: Prizes were distributed to all young participants, followed by the vote of thanks delivered by FDA member Shri Shaju.

## **2. Karikadavu SHG: Patriotism and Awareness**

Karikadavu SHG organised a spirited celebration that mixed cultural expression with awareness. Programs: The main highlights were the Independence song and a comprehensive poster display showcasing the tribal freedom struggle.

Messages: AVSS Secretary Shri V. N. Vinokumar delivered the day's message.

Community Gratitude: The gathering was welcomed by Karikadavu AVSS Secretary Shri Praveen P. R., and Mrs Rashmi Sajeevan of the SHG delivered the vote of thanks before sweets were distributed to conclude the ceremony.

## **3. Thenettampara SHG & Kathir Library: Educating the Future**

This celebration was held in collaboration with the Kathir Library, emphasising education and skill-building.

Competitions: Engaging events included a drawing competition and an extempore speech competition for library members, promoting both artistic and verbal skills. Support: To encourage learning, study materials were provided to all participants. Inspiration: FDA Coordinator Mrs. Praseetha shared an inspirational message, and former village elder Mr. Velayudhan concluded the proceedings with the vote of thanks.

## **4. Anapantham SHG: Sports and Enthusiasm:** Anapantham SHG combined remembrance with a focus on active, healthy community life. Key Address: Secretary V. N. Vinod Kumar emphasised the day's critical importance to the attendees.

Sports Event: The celebrations featured a spirited children's football match, fostering teamwork and fun.

Thanks: Prizes were distributed to all participating children, and AVSS President Mr. Jobindran expressed gratitude to everyone who took part.

## **5. Chakkiparamba SHG: Cultural Showcase**

Chakkiparamba SHG marked the day with a diverse array of cultural activities, highlighting local talent.

Inauguration & Welcome: President Urumooppan Shri Vijayan inaugurated the program. VSS Secretary Sri Pradeep Kumar delivered the welcome address, reflecting on the profound legacy of Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

Cultural Programs: The event featured a children's drawing competition, a powerful traditional dance performance by Unnati housewives, and a dynamic group dance by Unnati children.

Conclusion: The formal program concluded with a vote of thanks from Executive Member Smt. Sheeba. The unified celebration of Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas across the Chalakudy VDVK is a testament to the vibrant culture and strong community bonds within our tribal settlements. It ensures the inspiring story of Bhagwan Birsa Munda continues to motivate the next generation", stated the officials of the Chalakudy FDA. The 2025 Jan Jatiya Gaurav Diwas was a resounding success, underscoring the vital role the Chalakudy VDVK plays in preserving cultural heritage and empowering its community members.

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