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C O N T E N T S

Articles

How Is Kerala Doing in Higher Education? 3
Jandhyala B.G Tilak

Sustainable Livelihoods Perspective in Social Work
Education and Practice 19
Bindiya Narang and Zubair Meenai

Adoption as an Alternative Family System for
Childless Couples in Kerala 31
Lizy P. J

Shift in Cultivation vs Sustainable Agriculture:
Evidence from Kerala 43
N. Karunakaran

Food Habits and the Changing Social Scenario in the
Urban Kerala 57
N.S. Ramesh Chandran

From the Field

The Elderly Women Forum at Vypeen in Ernakulam
District of Kerala 67
Joseph M. K

Book Review

Child Sponsorship: A Tool for Development 85
Reviewed by *Joseph M.K.*

How Is Kerala Doing in Higher Education?*

Jandhyala B.G Tilak[♦]

Abstract

On the basis of many of the overall quantitative indicators, the higher education scene in Kerala is found to be favourably comparable with the all-India scene, and in some respects, the situation in Kerala is better than some of the rapidly expanding higher education systems in southern states. However, some serious threats do persist, the most important of which being rapid growth of non-philanthropic private sector in higher education, which, if unchecked, may rattle the very foundations of a just and equitable higher education system, which in turn is the foundation of a humane society. With the help of some most recent data, this short note analyses a few selective important dimensions of higher education in Kerala around this broad theme. The attempt is to offer a critical comment on policies and approaches being adopted by Kerala for the development of higher education and to outline what lessons can be drawn from Kerala's own experience and the experience of other states and countries.

Keywords

higher education, educational policy, Kerala, India

* Address given in the first Annual Conference of the Kerala Economic Association, Kochi, Kerala (8-10 May 2015).

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