

Democratic Decentralization & Local Governance

- ▶ Gender, Labour & Health Integrated Reform
- ▶ Second Generation Decentralization Framework

Aswathy Vibi

President ,Kodakara Block Panchayath

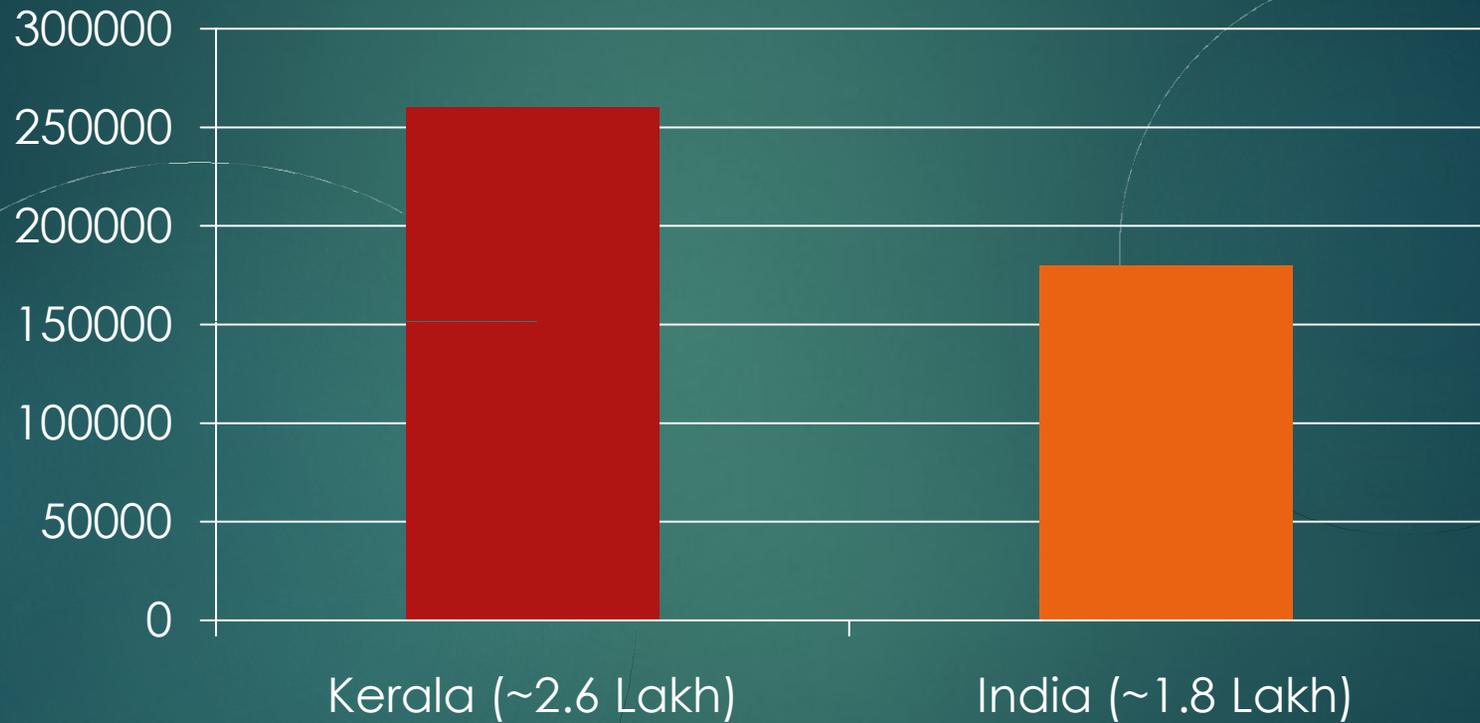
Thrissur Dt.Keralam

Kerala's Decentralization Success

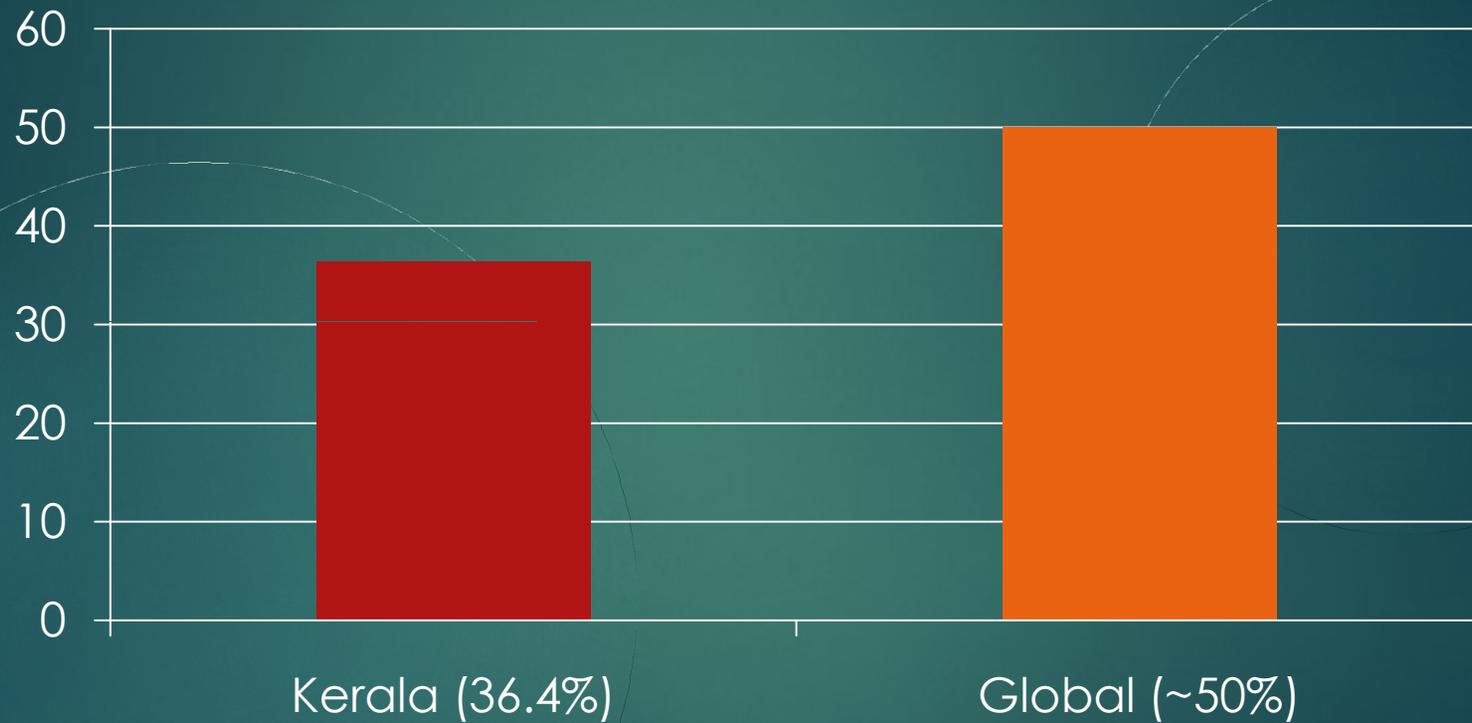
- ▶ Flood Governance Efficiency
 - ▶ COVID-19 Local Coordination
 - ▶ Administrative Decentralization Proven

Per Capita Income (₹)

Value



Female Labour Force Participation (%)



Economic Paradox

- ▶ High Income
 - ▶ High Literacy
 - ▶ Moderate Female Participation
 - ▶ Structural Design Issue

Social Mindset Barrier

- ▶ Employment is seen as optional for women
 - ▶ Cultural mobility restriction

Parenting Burden

- ▶ Children return at 4 PM
 - ▶ Care responsibility on mothers
 - ▶ No structured after-school system

Elderly Care Responsibility

- ▶ Women primary caregivers
 - ▶ No community eldercare ecosystem

Under-Wage Issues

- ▶ Organised sector is strong
- ▶ Unorganised sector enforcement gap
- ▶ Textile & retail vulnerability

Unfriendly Job Timing

- ▶ 10 AM – 8 PM retail schedule
 - ▶ Incompatible with caregiving roles

Skill Mismatch

- ▶ Educated but not market-aligned
 - ▶ Need ward-level skill mapping
 - ▶ Placement tracking required

Labour Reform – Decentralized Model

- ▶ Panchayat Worker Registry
 - ▶ Local Wage Monitoring Cell
 - ▶ Digital Grievance Redress System

Mobility as Economic Infrastructure

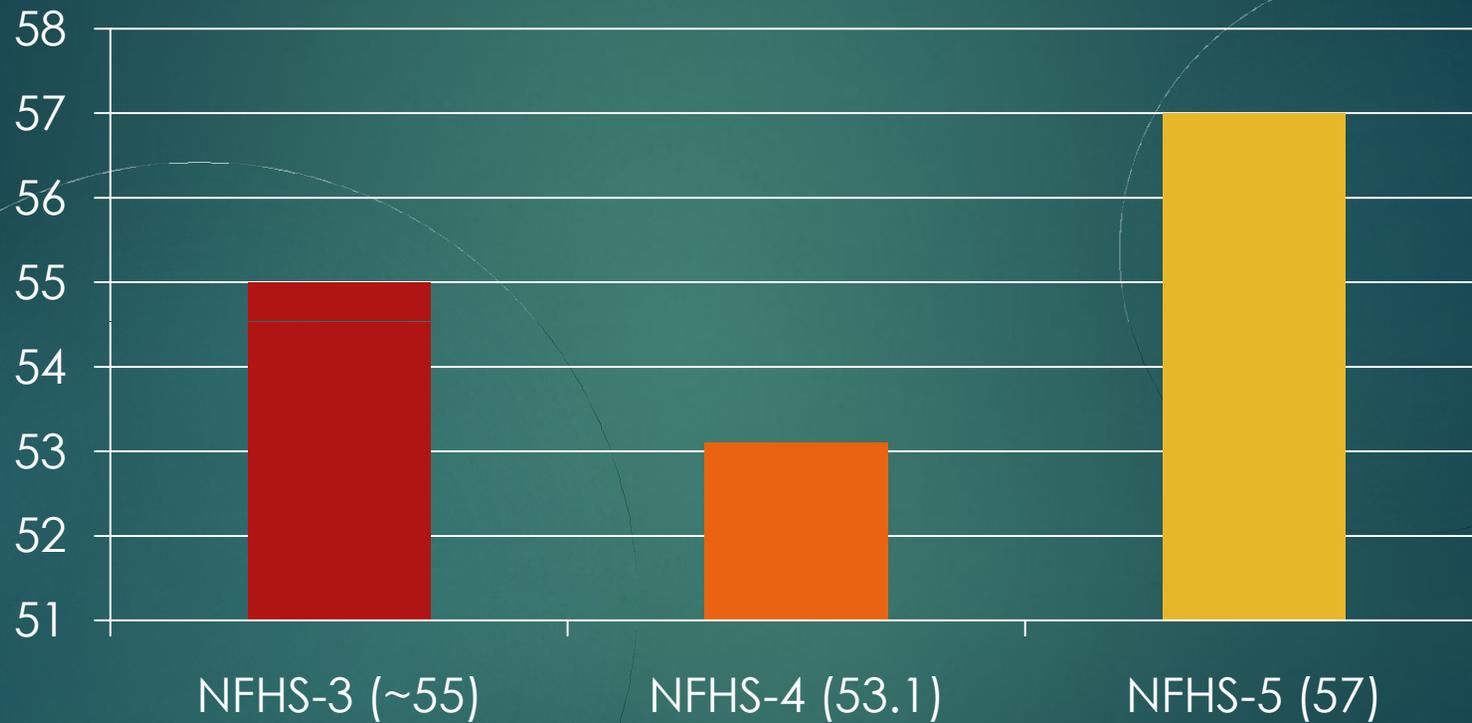
- ▶ Free Bus Travel for Women
 - ▶ Subsidised Rail Access
 - ▶ Mobility expands workforce radius

Mattathur Agro Service Centre

- ▶ ₹20 Lakh Turnover
 - ▶ Collective Mechanised Farming
 - ▶ Replicable Block-Level Model

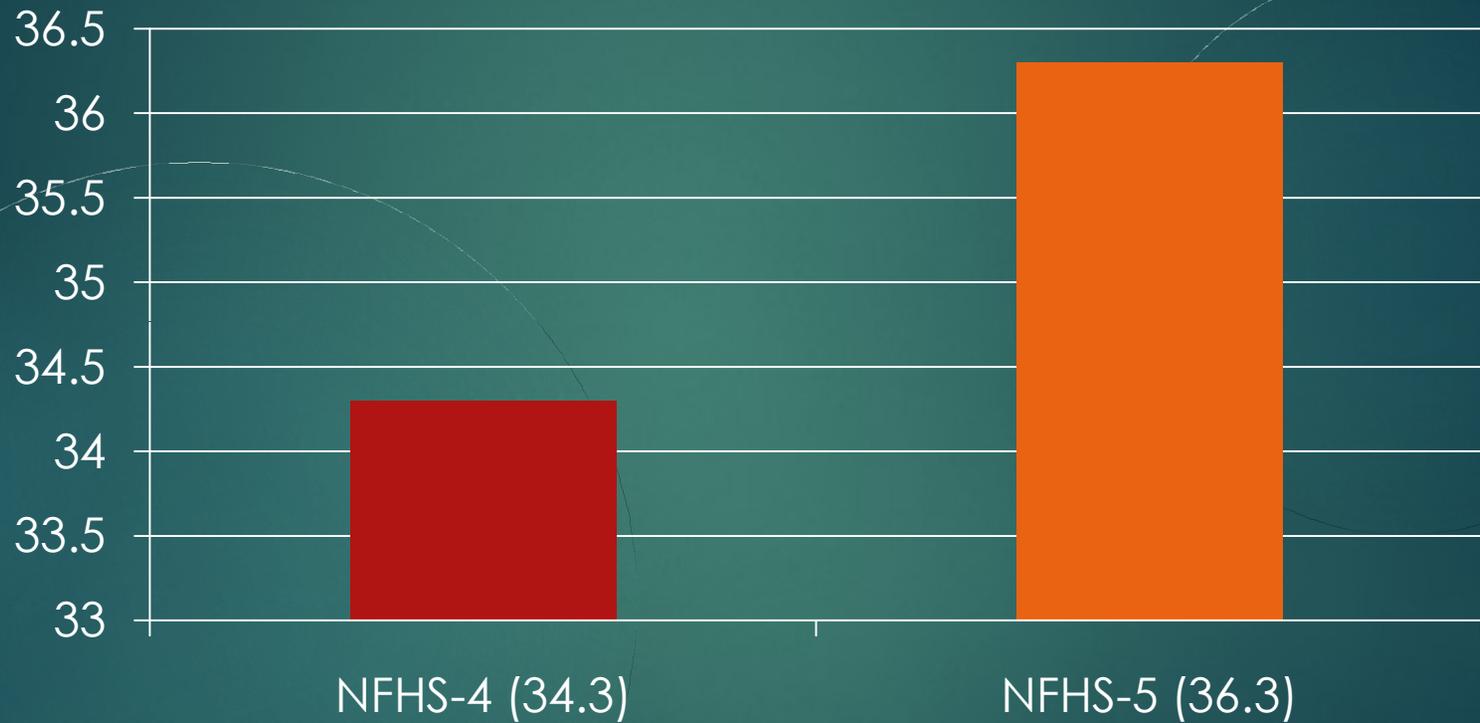
India Anaemia Trend (NFHS %)

Value



Kerala Anaemia Trend (NFHS %)

Value



HB12 Mission – Mattathur Case Study

- ▶ 15,000 Women Screened (15–59)
 - ▶ Household-Based Survey
 - ▶ 50-Women Cluster Monitoring
 - ▶ Target Hb ≥ 12 gm/dl

Vision 2031 – Projected Impact

- ▶ FLFP: 36.4% → 45% (+8.6%)
 - ▶ Estimated 4–5 Lakh Additional Women Workforce
 - ▶ Anaemia: 36.3% → Below 25%
 - ▶ ₹6,000–10,000 Crore Potential Annual Economic Activity
 - ▶ Under-Wage Elimination = Direct Income Injection

Final words:

- ▶ Democracy matures when opportunity is decentralised.
- ▶ And Kerala now stands ready to demonstrate that inclusive economic reform can begin at the local level.
- ▶ Thank you.