



**SOCIAL AUDIT UNIT KERALA**



## **STATE LEVEL WORKSHOP ON**

**Exploring Opportunities for Extending  
Social Audit from MGNREGS to  
Other Development Programmes**



**11 July 2024**

**Institute of Management in Government (IMG)  
Thiruvananthapuram**

**Organized By  
Kerala Society for Social Audit (KSSA)**

### **Esteemed Delegates,**

Social audit is widely recognized as an effective instrument for ensuring accountability, transparency and participation in development programmes. The process and methodology of social audit provide opportunities for people to know their rights and entitlements and other details of the programme implemented by various government departments. Social audit beautifully combines the aspects of statutory audit systems and the democratic vigilance of the people. Therefore, Social audit is an audit of a scheme jointly undertaken by the people with the support of the government, including local government. It is a powerful democratic tool to strengthen democratic accountability, responsiveness and community participation in public management and governance. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) provide a strong legal framework for conduct of Social Audit and institutionalized the Social Audit process through Grama Sabhas. Section 17 of the Act says that the Grama Sabha shall conduct social audit of all projects under the scheme taken up within the Grama Panchayat.

The democratic decentralization implemented in Kerala during the last twenty five years has significantly helped to achieve remarkable progress in ensuring comprehensive coverage of Social Audit within the MGNREGS framework. Today, Kerala is the only state in the country which fulfill the mandate of Social Auditing Standards to conduct Social Audit of all MGNREGS works by the Grama Sabhas twice in a year. The SAU Kerala has conducted pilot Social Audit of PMAY-G, NHM and Schemes under DoSJE. The continuous support and ownership demonstrated by the Panchayats have been instrumental in creating a favorable eco-system for the successful conduct of Social Audit in Kerala. The Govt. of India is keen on extending Social Audit to all other flagship development programmes and Social Audit Unit of the state is entrusted to facilitate the audit of these schemes. By harnessing Kerala's rich social capital democratic governance institutional systems, we would be able to create a more accountable, transparent and inclusive governance system and to build a New Kerala that fulfill the aspirations and needs of the people.

The one day state level workshop on "Exploring Opportunities for Extending Social Audit from MGNREGS to other Development Programmes" organized by the SAU Kerala enhances our understanding on the scope of Social Audit, the current status of Social Audit in MGNREGS, the present issues and challenges faced in the Social Audit practice and the strategy for extending Social Audit to other flagship development programmes of the central and state governments. The key themes of the workshop are;

- Current Status of Social Audit of MGNREGS and other Schemes in Kerala
- Scope of Social Audit in Enhancing Development Effectiveness and Outcomes
- Strategy for Extending Social Audit from MGNREGS to other Development Programmes

The workshop provides a platform for promoting collaboration between different stakeholders and sharing their insights and understanding for strengthening Social Audit practices in the state. The deliberations in the workshop will be enriched with the participation of Sri. M.B.Rajesh, Hon. Minister for Local Governments, Excise and Parliamentary Affairs, members of the policy making team in the Government of Kerala, including Smt. Sarada Muraleedharan IAS, Adl. Chief Secretary, LSGD, Planning and Economic Affairs, Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph IAS, Principal Secretary, LSGD, Sri. Pranabjyothi Nath IAS, Chairman, Kerala Society for Social Audit and Secretary to Govt., Sri. Seeram Sambasiva Rao IAS, Principal Director LSGD etc. With great pleasure and pride, the SAU Kerala invites your presence and active participation in this workshop and deliberations.

Thiruvananthapuram  
04-07-2024

Sincerely,  
**Dr. N. Ramakantan**  
Director, SAU



## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

10:15AM – 11:00AM	<b>OPENING SESSION</b>	
	Welcome Address & Workshop Introduction	<b>Dr. N. Ramakantan</b> Director, Social Audit Unit, Kerala
	Presidential Address	<b>Sr. Pranabjyothi Nath IAS</b> Chairman, Social Audit Society, Kerala
	Keynote Address	<b>Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph IAS</b> Principal Secretary, LSGD, Government of Kerala
	Felicitation	<b>Smt. K.G. Rajeswari</b> Chairperson, District Panchayat Chamber <b>Sri. B.P. Murali</b> Chairperson, Block Panchayat Association <b>Smt. K. M. Usha</b> President, Grama Panchayat Association <b>Sri. S. Rajendran</b> Governing Body Member, Social Audit Society, Kerala
	Vote of Thanks	<b>Sri. P. Shaji</b> Social Development Specialist, Social Audit Unit, Kerala
11:00AM – 11:15AM	<b>TEA BREAK</b>	
	<b>TECHNICAL SESSIONS</b>	
11:15AM – 12:15PM	<b>TECHNICAL SESSION 1</b>	<b>STATUS OF SOCIAL AUDIT IN KERALA</b>
Thematic Presentation	Status of MGNREGS Social Audit and Social Audit of other Schemes in Kerala	
Presenter	<b>Dr. N. Ramakantan</b> , Director, Social Audit Unit, Kerala	
Moderator	<b>Sri. A. Nizamudeen IAS</b> , Mission Director, MGNREGS, Govt. of Kerala	
Discussants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Dr. Jay Elamon</b>, Director General, Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) Trissur</li> <li><b>Sri. P. Balachandran Nair</b>, Joint Director &amp; Programme officer (Rtd.) MGNREGS Mission</li> <li><b>Sri. Vijayakumar P.G</b>, Joint Programme Officer (Rtd.), MGNREGS Mission</li> <li><b>Sri. K. Animon</b>, Governing Body Member, Social Audit Society, Kerala</li> </ol>	
12:15PM – 12:55PM	<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>	
Rapporteurs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Smt. Nyna Mariya Varghese</b>, MIS Expert, SAU Kerala</li> <li><b>Smt. Nilasha S.</b>, State Resource Person i/c, SAU Kerala</li> </ol>	
12:55PM – 01:00PM	Vote of Thanks	<b>Dr. T. Shaji</b> State Resource Person, Social Audit Society, Kerala
01:00PM – 01:45PM	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	
01:45PM – 02:45PM	<b>TECHNICAL SESSION 2</b>	<b>SCOPE OF SOCIAL AUDIT IN ENHANCING DEVELOPMENTAL OUTCOMES</b>
Presenter	<b>Dr. Jiju P.Alex</b> , Member, State Planning Board, Kerala	
Moderator	<b>Sri. K. Jayakumar IAS (Rtd)</b> Director, Institute of Management in Government (IMG), Thiruvananthapuram	

Discussants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Dinesan Cheruvat IAS</b>, Director, LSGD (Rural), Govt. of Kerala.</li> <li>2. <b>Sri. T. Gangadharan</b> Member, State Resource Group, LSGD, Govt. of Kerala.</li> <li>3. <b>Dr. R. Ram Mohan</b>, Professor, Institute of Management in Government (IMG) Thiruvananthapuram</li> <li>4. <b>Dr. Monish Jose</b> Assistant Professor, Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA )</li> <li>5. <b>Sri. A.N.Prabhakaran</b> Member, Governing Body, Social Audit Society, Kerala</li> </ol>	
02:45PM – 03:25PM	<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>	
Rapporteurs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr.T.Shaji</b>, State Resource Person, SAU Kerala</li> <li>2. <b>Smt. Nilasha S</b>, State Resource Person i/c, SAU Kerala</li> </ol>	
03:25PM – 03:30PM	Vote of Thanks	<b>Smt. Shahina. A.S</b> , Accounts Officer, SAU Kerala
03:30PM – 03:45 PM	<b>TEA BREAK</b>	
03:45PM – 04:15PM	<b>TECHNICAL SESSION 3</b>	<b>EXTENDING SOCIAL AUDIT FROM MGNREGS TO OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES</b>
Presenter	<b>Smt. Sarada Muraleedharan IAS</b> , Addl. Chief Secretary, LSGD, Govt. of Kerala	
Moderator	<b>Dr. B.S. Thirumeni IAS (Rtd)</b> , Chairman, MGNREGS Appellate Authority	
Discussants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph IAS</b>, Principal Secretary LSGD</li> <li>2. <b>Sri. Seeram Sambasiva Rao IAS</b>, Principal Director, LSGD</li> <li>3. <b>Dr. Dinesh Cheruvat IAS</b>, Director, LSGD (Rural), Govt. of Kerala.</li> <li>4. <b>Sri. H. Dineshan IAS</b>, Director, Department of Social Justice, Govt. of Kerala</li> <li>5. <b>Dr. Rahul P</b>, Senior Deputy Accountant General (Audit Management Group I), Indian Audit and Accounts Department</li> </ol>	
04:15PM – 04:25PM	<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>	
Rapporteurs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Smt. Nyna Mariya Varghese</b>, MIS Expert, SAU Kerala</li> <li>2. <b>Smt. Nilasha S</b>, State Resource Person i/c, SAU Kerala</li> </ol>	
04:25PM – 04:30PM	Vote of Thanks	<b>Smt. Nyna Mariya Varghese</b> , MIS Expert, SAU Kerala
04:30 PM – 05:00PM	<b>PLENARY SESSION</b>	
Moderator	<b>Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph IAS</b> , Principal Secretary, LSGD, Government of Kerala	
05:00PM – 05:15PM	Consolidation and Wrap Up	<b>Dr. N. Ramakantan</b> Director, Social Audit Unit, Kerala
05:15PM – 05:40PM	<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>	<b>Sri. M.B.Rajesh</b> Hon. Minister for Local Self Governments, Excise and Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of Kerala
05:40PM – 05:45PM	Vote of Thanks	<b>Smt. Nilasha S</b> , State Resource Person i/c, SAU Kerala

**Kerala Society for Social Audit (KSSA)**

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