

# SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS OF BEACHES IN KERALA





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**Jacob Samuel**

Director- Programmes

## Executive Summary

“Situational Analysis of Beaches in Kerala” was undertaken by ESAF (Evangelical Social Action Forum) with the technical support of HealthBridge, Canada. The study was conducted to analyze the contemporary situation of the beaches and disseminate the study report among the authorities and stakeholders related to beaches. Kerala being one of the states which have a lengthy coastal area draw a major chunk of its tourism revenue from beach tourism. Many international and domestic tourists visit our beaches on yearly basis. Beaches are also one of the most vibrant public places of Kerala. In this context, it was really important to study the challenges and potentials of them and put some recommendations before the government for the betterment of the beaches.

The study result shows majority of our beaches are underutilized despite having a lot of potential. While the existing development activities concentrate around famous beaches like Kovalam and Cherai, there are many other beaches if provided with proper infrastructure can develop in to the same standard of those famous beaches. Lack of proper initiation have negatively affected those beaches which otherwise would have generated a huge amount of revenue.

The research provided insight on the quality, ambience and user friendliness of Kerala beaches. The detailed study report which contains analysis of 25 different beaches and specific suggestions and recommendations can act as guide and reference tool for future development of the beaches.

# 1. Introduction

Beaches are the most fascinated tourist hot spots we can find now. The tranquility of the blue water, beach sand can't be defined with words rather, it is always one of the best experiences humans ever had. This is one of the main reasons why human settlements increase in beach cities all around the world.

Beaches are one of the major factors, behind urbanization. We can even find that most of the world's populated cities are beach cities. Hamptons, New York is one of the most costly residential areas in the world, situated adjacent to the ocean. Beach tourism gives major contribution to the Gross Domestic Product of any country.

Beaches are not just a tourist spot, but it is also one of the most delightful gifts that the nature offered to all living beings. Beaches serve as a habitat for variety of flora and fauna. Spreading over 7517 kilometers of coastal line, India is one of those countries which have innumerable beach wealth. The enchanting beauty of Indian beaches is world famous and huge amount of tourists both domestic and foreigners visit these beaches quite frequently. Ranging from the exotic beaches of Goa and Kerala in the western side to the cultural and scenic presence of Tamilnadu, Pondicherry and Odisha beaches in the east coast, no other nation have such diversity that the peninsula possess. The beaches of India are not just tourist picks, but also are eco spaces where a lot of nature enthusiasts do observations and research. Indian beaches are also famous for adventurous activities like gliding, para-sailing and sea surfing.

It is not surprising to know that the beaches of Kerala provide serene beauty and peace along with party mix. Spreading over 550 kilometers of coastal line, Kerala accommodates around 35 natural beaches in which some are globally famous and most visited. Kovalam is an international tourist destination which accrues mass revenue to the government annually. Fort Cochin is another beach, which has immense cultural heritage. Cherai, Muzhappilangad, Snehatheeram is also part of the elegant beaches which adds beauty to the state. Kerala beaches are managed and promoted under the auspices of Local Self Government (LSG) and District Tourism Promotion Council (DTPC).

Beaches face a lot of challenges in the modern scenario. The major challenge is pollution, the pollution content of the beaches have shown marked increase in modern times. The major pollutants are solid wastes, aged sewage plants, industrial wastes and oil spills. Lack of effective infra-structure is the other major drawback of the beaches in Kerala. There are no studies published covering various aspects of beaches in Kerala. This study is an effort to draw light to the existing condition of beaches in Kerala and prepare a study report as a reference point for development.

## 1.1. Kerala Tourism Policy (2012)

Kerala is one of the Indian states which have a high potential for tourism. The state is blessed with the presence of beaches, hill stations, back waters and wild life. These diverse options make the state a premium tourist destination for domestic and foreign tourists. The state government is providing high

priority for the development of this sector. Beaches play a major role in this tourism boom because of the lengthy coastal area which accommodates over 40 beaches. The policy proposes various pro active and productive strategies to strengthen and develop the destinations including beach. A project named "Vision Tourism" is proposed which includes

- Integrate private partnerships with public domain
- Ensure world class visitor experience
- Link local community with the tourism sector which create opportunities
- Assess the existing conditions of the destinations
- Promote eco friendly practices and turn the destinations waste free
- Promote "Responsible Tourism" through communities and Local Self Government
- Form a "State Tourism Advisory Council" to lead and guide in all aspects of the development

The policy inculcates various aspects which are vital for the development of the beaches. But there are no specific recommendations for beach development. The policy after 3 years of conception still has not been able to be fully implemented. Through proper implementation and monitoring of these strategies every beach will get a proper facelift which in turn will boost the economic and social progress of the state.

## **1.2. Kerala State Tourism Department**

State tourism department is the apex body which monitors and regulates the entire tourism scenario of the state. The department works as an independent agency. The department is spearheaded by the tourism minister, supported by a senior secretary. There is also a director and two additional directors. The current minister is V.S. Sivakumar and director is T.V. Anupama I.A.S.

## **1.3. District Tourism Promotion Council**

DTPC is constituted for exploiting the tourism potentials of the state through various activities and strategies. The council coordinates various government departments, local self governments and other agencies for tourism development of the district. The district collector serves as the chairman of the council while other members include tourism experts, government nominees and community people.

## **1.4. Local Self Governments**

The primary responsibility for the development and procurement of the beach lies with LSG's. LSG's can be Grama Panchayath, Municipalities or Corporation according to the geography and population of the area. LSG's are the main promoters of the beaches and also plays a major role in conducting Beach Festival and other activities related with beaches.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1. Rationale

Though the beaches have immense potential to contribute in ecological and economic sphere of the nation, there is considerable lacking in studies conducted to identify the quality of beaches in Kerala. This has prompted the need for collecting information, regarding the exact situation of beaches for policy level intervention.

Keeping this in view, ESAF with the aid of Health Bridge, Canada has conducted a "Situational Analysis to identify the quality and quantity of beaches in Kerala". The study focused on various parameters like overall cleanliness, infra-structure, safety, cleanliness, play space and amenities Data collection was done using audit tools and questionnaires. The collected data was analyzed with the help of statistical tools and detailed study report was prepared.

The study result will serve as the database to measure the quality and quantity of beaches in Kerala. The report will aid the concerned authorities for initiating policy level interventions to develop the beaches.

### 2.2. Objectives

To conduct a situational analysis to identify the quality & quantity of beaches in Kerala

#### 2.2.1. Specific Objectives

- To quantify and list out the beaches in Kerala
- To conduct policy review of the beaches
- To conduct beach audits
- To find out the quality of infra-structure provided in the beaches
- To collect and analyze the opinion of the users regarding the quality of beaches
- To list out and analyze the kind of facilities provided in the beaches
- To find out the limitations of the beaches
- To provide constructive suggestions for the development of beaches

### 2.3. Research Methodology

- Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used for the research.
- The study consists of Activity audit, which audits the daily activities occurring in the beach
- Infra-structure audit to review the existing infra-structure facilities available in the beaches
- User's interview, to gather suggestions from the users. Key informant survey was used to gain in depth and specific knowledge about every beach.
- The research report was developed after compiling all the findings from these studies

## **2.4. Target Population**

Target population of the study was the users of the beach and the vendors stationed at beach premises.

## **2.5. Study Site**

The study was conducted in 25 beaches of Kerala.

## **2.6. Sampling**

Convenient sampling was used for the study. The sample population were the visitors of the beaches who engage in various recreational activities and the vendors who sell items at various beaches.

## **2.7. Tools of data collection**

The tools for data collection was developed by HealthBridge, Canada and later modified by ESAF.

## **2.8. Timeline for the study**

The proposed study was completed within a period of four months. The researcher did an observation visit and beach audit during week days and weekends, to document the findings.

## **2.9. Pilot Study**

The pilot study was conducted at one of the recognized beaches in Kerala.

## **2.10. Data Processing;**

The collected data was processed manually.

## **2.11. Research Team and Orientation**

The Research team was mentored by Manju George (Project Manager, ESAF). The team of George M.P (Project Officer, ESAF), Arun A.G (Project Coordinator, ESAF), Mr.Devas Boban (Project Coordinator) and Labeeba.T (Project Coordinator) conducted the survey at various beaches.

## 3. Data Interpretation

### 3.1. CHERAI BEACH

#### 3.1.1. General Description

Cherai Beach is one of the famous beaches and most sought out tourist destinations in the state. The beach attracts both domestic and international tourists throughout the year. The beach adds a major chunk of tourism revenue of the state. Located in northern part of Vypin Island, the beach is 25 kilometers away from Ernakulam city and 30 kilometers from Cochin International Airport. The beach provides a splendid view of sea and lagoons. Coconut groves, paddy fields, sea shells and Chinese nets are the other major attractions. The beach also hosts Annual Cherai Beach Fest in the month of December.



Figure 1 - Cherai Beach



Figure 2 - Walkway at Cherai Beach

#### 3.1.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach authorities have shown interest in maintaining beach premises through proper installation of waste bins
- ▶ The information centre is capable of providing vivid and adequate information on beach and tourist amenities
- ▶ Beach has adequate rescue staff and police surveillance
- ▶ The walkway is well maintained and usable
- ▶ The absence of a children's park is a severe limitation
- ▶ Rest room facility is limited
- ▶ The beach lack proper shade from sun and rain
- ▶ Absence of proper first aid is a prominent issue
- ▶ Lack of sitting benches are also a major limitation
- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility

### 3.1.3. Suggestions

- ▶ A children's park should be constructed
- ▶ More trees should be planted in order to ensure shade for the visitors
- ▶ Tree shades can be provided alongside the walkway
- ▶ Stone benches can be constructed in the beach
- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

## 3.2. MUNAMBAM BEACH

### 3.2.1. General Description

Munambam Beach is situated in the northern tip of Vypin Island alongside the estuary of River Periyar, which forms the border of Ernakulam district. The beach is famous for its picturesque portrayal of the surroundings. The beach attracts lot of visitors throughout the year. Mostly people visit the beach to view the sunset. Chinese nets, beach walkway are the major attractions of the beach. The beach is situated 5 kilometers north of Cherai beach, 30 km away from Ernakulam city.



Figure 3 - Walkway at Munambam Beach



Figure 4 - Munambam Beach

### 3.2.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach walkway is well maintained
- ▶ The beach is filled with water weeds
- ▶ The green space is poorly maintained
- ▶ The play space lack facilities
- ▶ Lack of children's park is a major challenge
- ▶ Rest room facilities are limited

- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lack of better seating facilities
- ▶ Lack of first aid facility

### 3.2.3. Suggestions

- ▶ The green space needs to be properly landscaped
- ▶ More trees should be planted to ensure shade
- ▶ The play space should be furnished with suitable equipments
- ▶ Construct a children's park
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Provide better seating facility
- ▶ Provide first aid facility

## 3.3. PUTHUVYPE BEACH

### 3.3.1. General Description

Puthuvype Beach is one of the most beautiful beach destinations in Kochi. The most attractive factor about the beach is the peace and serenity it provides. The tranquilizing sea, green meadows and a lone tree in the beach will make a worthy experience for the visitors. The nearby “Light House” is the other major attraction of the beach. The beach is ideal for beach sports and also it is the venue for kayaking and swimming competition of Cochin carnival. The beach is also suitable for swimming.

Puthuvype is the most proximate beach from the City of Kochi. It is just half an hour drive from the city across the Goshree Island. There are frequent buses from High Court junction. The beach is bordered by the Puthuvype LNG Terminal and Marshy lands on either side. There is also an annual Beach Fest hosted in the beach as part of promotional activities.



Figure 5 - Puthuvype Beach



Figure 6 – Playground at Puthuvype Beach

### **3.3.2. Key Findings**

- ▶ The beach is calm enough to provide the visitors a wonderful experience
- ▶ The beach provides play space for the local community
- ▶ The beach is famous for its breath taking sunset
- ▶ The sitting benches are poor and deteriorated
- ▶ The absence of the parking lot is a serious challenge
- ▶ The beach have a considerable presence of litter which questions the cleanliness of the beach
- ▶ Lighting facility is poor
- ▶ Safety measures are scarce
- ▶ Rest rooms facility are inadequate
- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### **3.3.3. Suggestions**

- ▶ Continue the development practices in the present pace and vision
- ▶ Construct more sitting benches
- ▶ Construct parking lot
- ▶ Facilitate adequate lighting
- ▶ Provide more safety measures and appoint beach staff
- ▶ Provide more refreshment stalls
- ▶ Construct a Children's Park
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Provide first aid facility

## **3.4. KUZHUPPLY BEACH**

### **3.4.1. General Description**

Kuzhuppily Beach lies in the Vypin Island. The beach is filled with white sand along with wide green space and nearby backwaters. The beach is one of the less crowded yet widely popular beaches. The beach is a venue for Kite Festival and it is one of the swim friendly beaches of the state. The beach is situated 25 kilometers away from Ernakulam City.



Figure 7 - Kuzhuppily Beach



Figure 8 - Overflowed Trash Cans

### 3.4.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach has quiet and pleasant ambience
- ▶ The beach cleanliness is poor
- ▶ Rest rooms facility is limited
- ▶ Lack of children's park
- ▶ Lack of proper lighting
- ▶ Lack of proper safety measures
- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### 3.4.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Construct more trash bins and rest rooms
- ▶ Construct children's park
- ▶ Ensure proper lighting
- ▶ Ensure proper safety measures
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facility

## 3.5. FORT KOCHI BEACH

### 3.5.1. General Description

One of the famous beaches of the state, Fort Kochi Beach has its fair share of cultural and historic legacy along with being the venue for famous Cochin Carnival. The beach is situated near the estuary of Vembanad Lake. The beach is adjacent to many historical monuments that speak about the colonial past of Kochi. Fort Kochi beach is part of culture and lifestyle of Kochi. The beach is crowded in most of the evenings especially in weekends and vacations. The beach is also famous for Kite – flying.



Figure 9 - Walkway at Fort Kochi Beach



Figure 10 - Sea Weeds in the beach

### 3.5.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach is one of the most busiest public place of the city
- ▶ The beach has a wide and long walkway which gives the tourists to walk and enjoy the beauty of the water bodies and beach
- ▶ There are lot of food joints that provides tasty sea food cuisine
- ▶ There is a children's park adjacent to the beach which is functioning properly
- ▶ The beach walkway is a busy shopping spot
- ▶ The beach have some real cool graffiti
- ▶ The beach cleanliness is poor
- ▶ Rest room facility is limited
- ▶ Tree shelters are not sufficient to provide shades
- ▶ Beach staff is limited
- ▶ Lacks safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lacks first aid facility

### 3.5.3. Suggestions

- ▶ The beach cleanliness has to be a priority and needs suitable intervention
- ▶ Construct rest rooms and shelters
- ▶ More beach staff has to be appointed to ensure safety of the visitors
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Provide first aid facility
- ▶ Plant more trees for providing shade to the visitors

## 3.6. MARARIKULAM BEACH

### 3.6.1. General Description

Mararikulam Beach is one of the most splendid beaches of Kerala. Marari beach is calm and quiet. Visitors are privileged to enjoy the sun under the shades of coconut trees which adds charm to the beach. Foreign tourists visit the beach especially for enjoying sun baths, water sports and ayurvedic treatment. The white sand and coconut groves provide a serene environment around the beach. The beach is often visited by the foreigners than the local people. The beach is situated 15 kilometers away from Alappuzha town.



Figure 11 - Rafts in the beach



Figure 12 - Mararikulam Beach

### 3.6.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach has a serene ambience
- ▶ The beach is suitable for various water sports, sun bath etc
- ▶ The beach don't have a tourist amenities centre
- ▶ There are no Rest rooms
- ▶ litter presence can be found in the beach
- ▶ Lack of proper lighting and beach workers increases safety threats
- ▶ Lack of adequate refreshment shops
- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### 3.6.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Rest rooms have to be constructed mandatorily
- ▶ A tourist amenity centre should be started
- ▶ Proper lighting has to be ensured
- ▶ Appoint more beach staff for safety

- ▶ Provide Rest Rooms
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Provide first aid facility

### 3.7. ALAPPUZHA BEACH

#### 3.7.1. General Description

Alappuzha Beach is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Kerala. Due to the proximity of the town, the beach now has turned to be the liveliest public place. The 135 year old pier is one of the major attractions of the beach. The Vijaya Beach Park which is situated near to the beach adds more attraction. The mesmerizing beach is also apt for sea surfing, parasailing and other water sports. The beach is also swimming friendly. The visitors can also visit the old lighthouse situated nearby. Alappuzha beach is the venue of Annual Alappuzha Beach Festival. Lot of food joints is present near the beach which provides delicious sea foods. The sunset view of Alappuzha beach is one breath taking moment.



Figure 13 - Alappuzha Beach



Figure 14 - Pier in the beach

#### 3.7.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach pier is one of the historic monuments which have a lot of cultural importance too
- ▶ The beach hosts most of the cultural events of the town
- ▶ The beach is synced with the daily life of the citizens
- ▶ The beach has a police control room adjacent to it
- ▶ Sitting benches , green space and walkways are poorly maintained
- ▶ The pier is not maintained well
- ▶ Rest room facility is limited
- ▶ There is lack of adequate beach staff
- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lack of proper First Aid facility

### 3.7.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Renovate the pier with the aid of an expert
- ▶ Proper maintenance should be assured for the walkway, green space and sitting benches
- ▶ Construct more rest rooms
- ▶ Appoint more beach staff
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

## 3.8. MUNACKAL BEACH

### 3.8.1. General Description

Munackal Beach is the longest beach in Thrissur district. Situated 10 kilometers away from Kodungallur town, the beach is along the estuary of River Periyar. The beach was reconstructed with the aid of tsunami rehabilitation fund. The beach is one of the spacious beaches in Kerala. Casuarinas forest, adequate sitting benches, walkways and open air auditorium provides both awesome natural and cultural ambience for the visitors. There are skating tracks and food courts also as additional attractions. The beach hosts Munackal Beach Fest annually. The beach is also one of the major destinations under Muziris Project.



Figure 15 - Munackal Beach



Figure 16 - Green Space

### 3.8.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach is one of the widest beaches of the state
- ▶ The green space is one of the best comparing to other beaches
- ▶ There are enough shelters and sitting spaces
- ▶ The walkway is well maintained
- ▶ The beach has enough warning boards
- ▶ The beach has some litter presence

- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lack of first aid facility

### 3.8.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Construct trash cans
- ▶ Appoint more beach staff
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Provide first aid facility

## 3.9. CHAVAKKAD BEACH

### 3.9.1. General Description

Chavakkad beach is in Thrissur district and is about 5 kms from Guruvayur and 30 Kms from Thrissur town. People from different places, especially pilgrims from Guruvayur visit the beach. The place is calm and beautiful hence people choose this place to spend their time for relaxation. A few programs and different fests are often conducted in the beach. Many people who visit Guruvayur temple choose to visit the beach before going back to their native place and this implies that there is definitely a need and scope of development of the beach.



Figure 17 - Chavakkad Beach



Figure 18 - Boats in the beach

### 3.9.2. Key Findings

- ▶ New toilets are built
- ▶ There are few shops where people can get tea and snack
- ▶ Auto rickshaws are available just outside the beach
- ▶ Lack of proper seating facilities
- ▶ Lack of shelters to protect from the sun
- ▶ Lack of proper lighting for the people to stay more in the evenings

### 3.9.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Provide proper seating, lighting and shelters which could attract more people to the beach.
- ▶ Provide proper sign boards on the way to the beach to make the journey easier
- ▶ Ensure safety and security of the visitors by appointing security staffs.

## 3.10. PERIYAMBALAM BEACH

### 3.10.1. General Description

Periyambalam beach is about 40 Kms from Thrissur town. It's famous for Ramacham plantation. People from different places spend quality time in this beach. The beach is calm and safe and people choose to come here with their family and friends. There are few tea and snack shops in the beach but restaurants are absent. Visitors tend to stay more in the beach but absence of proper lighting pose a challenge for them. Compared to the facilities in the past, the beach has improved by providing seating and toilets. But the spending of allotted money for the beach renovation is doubtful as the local people had an opinion that fund utilization for beach is ineffective.



Figure 19 - Periyambalam Beach



Figure 20 - Coconut Lawn in the beach

### 3.10.2. Key Findings

- ▶ There are a few concrete benches to sit and relax .
- ▶ There are a few umbrellas installed for shade but people have an opinion that they doesn't provide adequate shade.
- ▶ Lack of trash cans.
- ▶ Lack of proper lighting.

### 3.10.3. Suggestions

- ▶ The seats are a bit far from the beach and shades are not properly installed.
- ▶ Facilitating more seats near the beach and providing shades to protect the people from sun will attract more people.

## 3.11. SNEHATHEERAM BEACH

### 3.11.1. General Description

Snehatheeram is an attractive destination for beach lovers. It is situated in Thalikulam which is around 30 kilometers away from Thrissur town. The beach is maintained by Kerala Tourism Development Corporation (KTDC) and has provided with seating facilities, rest rooms and trash cans. The beach is family friendly and has a beautiful park nearby. The park has a marine aquarium and a beautiful garden. The beach is said to be safe and a calm place to sit, talk and relax. The beach is approachable for people in day and night since it is equipped with adequate lighting. There are a few restaurants and other vendors in and around the beach where people can get food and snacks.



Figure 21 - Walkway



Figure 22 - Gateway

### 3.11.2. Key Findings

- ▶ Adequate seating facilities and trash cans.
- ▶ Rest rooms facilities are available.
- ▶ Shelters and proper shade is provided in the beach where people can sit, read and relax.
- ▶ It's a safe and calm place, hence it attracts families more.
- ▶ People could stay more in the evenings because there are adequate lights.
- ▶ A good park with aquarium and garden is present in the beach.
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility.

### 3.11.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Maintain the facilities in the beach at regular intervals to prevent the loss of beauty of the beach and its surroundings.
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility.

## 3.12. VALAPPAD BEACH

### 3.12.1. General Description

Valappad Beach is in Thrissur district and is about 25 kilometers from Thrissur town. It's a beautiful beach but not crowded. Since there are not much visitors, the amount of trash is also less. It's a beach with a pleasant ambience to sit and relax. There are no restaurants and vendors in the beach. The majority of people who come to the beach reside in the nearby places. Few of the visitors are foreigners since there is a resort close by.



Figure 23 - Valappad Beach



Figure 24 - Boats in the beach

### 3.12.2. Key Findings

- ▶ It's a venue for different cultural festivals.
- ▶ Inadequate rest rooms facilities
- ▶ Seating facilities are not provided
- ▶ Water taps and shelters are absent
- ▶ Lack of proper lighting facilities
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### 3.12.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Provide proper seating and shade in the beach for the people
- ▶ Provide rest rooms facilities
- ▶ Provide adequate safe drinking water facilities
- ▶ Provide proper lighting to encourage more people to stay in the evening
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

### 3.13. VADANAPPILY BEACH

#### 3.13.1. General Description

Vadanappily Beach is a beautiful beach located around 22 kilometers from Thrissur town. It's a very calm place to sit and relax as the beach is not crowded. The beach has a good ambience but there are not much people who visit the beach from distant places. The presence of 'Snehatheeram Beach' which is a well maintained beach near to this beach attracts less people to Vadanappily Beach.



Figure 25 - Coconut Groves

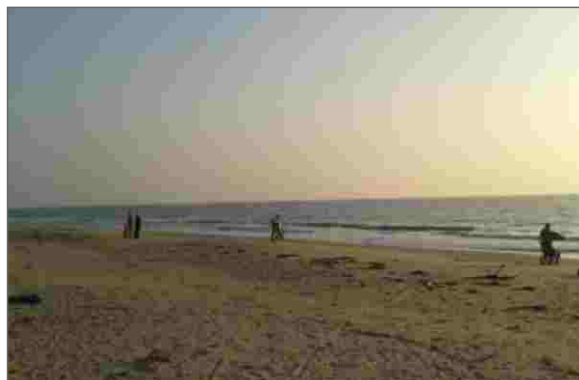


Fig 26 - Vadanappily Beach

#### 3.13.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach has a good ambience to sit and relax
- ▶ There is a play ground near the beach where the children in the locality come and play games
- ▶ There are no rest room facilities available in the beach
- ▶ There are no seating arrangements or shade for the people to come and sit for a long time
- ▶ No lights are installed in the beach
- ▶ Lacks proper first aid facility

#### 3.13.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Provide proper seating arrangements and shade for the people to come and sit
- ▶ Provide drinking water facilities and trash cans in the beach
- ▶ Adequate lighting is necessary in the beach to attract people to stay more time
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

### 3.14. NATTIKA BEACH

#### 3.14.1. General Description

Nattika Beach is about 25 kilometers away from Thrissur town. The calm ambience of the beach is appropriate for the people to come and relax. A few festivals are often conducted in the beach. Majority of

the visitors reside in the local areas and this beach is a very good place for them to relax or enjoy. People could see a few fishermen in the beach with their boats.



Figure 27 - Nattika Beach



Figure 28 - Nattika Beach (1)

### 3.14.2. Key Findings

- ▶ Nattika beach is a fishermen's beach more than a tourist destination
- ▶ The beach has a wide scope of development as it provides good and calm ambience
- ▶ People in the locality use the beach to exercise and relax
- ▶ Lack of sufficient rest rooms and seating facilities attracts less visitors to the beach
- ▶ Lacks proper first aid facility

### 3.14.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Provide adequate seats and shades to attract more people to come, sit and relax
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facilities as people in the locality choose the beach to exercise
- ▶ Provide trash cans to avoid litter in the beach
- ▶ Provide proper lighting
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

## 3.15. KOLLAM BEACH

### 3.15.1. General Description

Kollam Beach which is also known as Mahatma Gandhi Beach is in Kollam city and is less than 3 kilometers from Kollam railway station and bus stand. It's a beautiful beach which is opted by the people to visit and relax. The beach features a children's park which is inaugurated in 1961 by Zakir Hussein , former Vice President of India. The beach has lot of local hawkers from where the people could get food and drinks. There are small shops for the children too.



Figure 29 - Kite flying



Figure 30 - Kollam Beach

### 3.15.2. Key Findings

- ▶ Rest rooms facilities are available
- ▶ A good and well maintained park situates adjacent to the beach
- ▶ Tea and snacks are available in the beach
- ▶ Inadequate number of trash cans
- ▶ Inadequate seating facilities
- ▶ There are life guards in the beach, but a few accidents are being reported in the beach due to dips in water
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### 3.15.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Provide adequate number of trash cans
- ▶ Provide seating facilities and shades in the beach
- ▶ Provide proper sign boards and warning signs in the beach to avoid accidents
- ▶ There should be strict monitoring in the beach to avoid accidents
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

## 3.16. SHANGHUMUKHAM BEACH

### 3.16.1. General Description

The Shanghumukham Beach which is situated in Thiruvananthapuram is a major tourist destination and is situated within 5 kilometers distance from the Thiruvananthapuram International Airport and Railway Station. The giant concrete statue of 'Jalakanyaka' made by Sri. Kanayi Kunjiraman, which is around 35 meters long is a main attraction of the beach. There are a lot of shops in the beach where people can get snacks, food and beverages.



Figure 31 - Walkway



Figure 32 – Statue of Jalakanyaka

### 3.16.2 Key Findings

- ▶ Many shops are available in the beach where people can get food, snacks and drinks.
- ▶ E-Rest room facilities are available which ensure clean and usable rest rooms in the beach
- ▶ Improper waste management in the beach leads to increase of litter in the beach

### 3.16.3 Suggestions

- ▶ Provide more trash cans in the beach.
- ▶ Monitoring should be there to ensure the proper waste management system.
- ▶ Awareness should be given to the people about disposing waste in the trash cans using various sign boards.
- ▶ Improve first aid facility.

## 3.17. KOVALAM BEACH

### 3.17.1. General Description

The Kovalam Beach is around 15 kilometers away from Thiruvananthapuram city, but it's easily accessible through public transport. This beach is also known as the Samudra Beach or Leela Beach. Kovalam is one of the favorite destinations of tourists, day travelers and other people in the locality. A wide variety of resorts, restaurants, handicrafts, jewelry shops and ayurvedic centers are available at the beach side.

### 3.17.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach is very popular and one of the favorite destinations of tourists and local visitors
- ▶ There are many facilities like good restaurants, shops etc for the visitors
- ▶ There are enough cost guards and security staff in the beach
- ▶ There are rest rooms facilities available at the beach



Figure 33 - Kovalam Beach



Figure 34 - Light House in Kovalam Beach

### 3.17.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Due to the Vizhinjam Terminal Project, there are chances for spoiling the good ambience of beach and clear water. It is necessary to take precautions to avoid such situation.

## 3.18. KOZHIKODE BEACH

### 3.18.1. General Description

This beach is a favorite haunt of sunset viewers. Adding to its natural beauty is the heritage retained by the lighthouse and the two crumbling piers, each more than a hundred years old that run into the sea. Entertainment facilities such as the Lions Park for children and the marine water aquarium are added attractions.



Figure 35 - Pier



Figure 36 - Sitting Bench

### 3.18.2. Key Findings

- ▶ This is one of the central attraction of Kozhikode city
- ▶ This is one of the few beaches that provides camel safari
- ▶ Kozhikode beach is also a famous movie shooting location
- ▶ Plastic waste has enormous presence in the beach

- ▶ Drainage comes directly to beach without any pipe line thus spreading bad odour to the atmosphere
- ▶ Lack of proper drinking water and seating arrangement is a major constraint for the visitors
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### 3.18.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Appoint more security guards to ensure the safe and security of visitors
- ▶ Imply strict parking rules
- ▶ Rest rooms complex should be constructed
- ▶ Provide trash bin as where as possible
- ▶ Install proper sign boards
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

## 3.19. BEYPORE BEACH

### 3.19.1. General Description

Beypore is an ancient port town in Kozhikode District in the state of Kerala, India. The place was formerly known as Vaypura / Vadaparappanad. Tipu Sultan, ruler of Mysore, named the town "Sultan Pattanam". There is a marina and a beach while Beypore port is one of the oldest ports in Kerala, which historically traded with the Middle East. Beypore is noted for building wooden ships, known as dhows or urus in the Malayalam language. These ships were usually bought by Arab merchants for trading and fishing but are now used as tourist ships. According to Captain Iwata, founder member of the Association of Sumerian Ships in Japan, Sumerian ships might have been built in Beypore. There is evidence to prove that Beypore had direct trade links with Mesopotamia.



Figure 37 - Beypore Beach



Figure 38 - Kite Flying

### 3.19.2. Key Findings

- ▶ Beypore port is the main attraction of this beach
- ▶ Migratory birds are very common here

- ▶ There is a strong presence of street vendors
- ▶ There are no separate rest rooms for ladies and gents
- ▶ Lack of shade troubles the visitors
- ▶ Resting spaces are not available
- ▶ Presence of animals create disturbance to the visitors
- ▶ There are no security guards around the beach
- ▶ Lack of sufficient waste bin and street lights

### 3.19.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Ensure good rest room facility for visitors
- ▶ More trees can be planted for providing shades
- ▶ It is one of the main beaches with historical importance so ensure security over there
- ▶ Ensure use of trash bin by shop owners to make the place litter free
- ▶ Construct wall around the beach so it reduce the number of animals to entering the beach
- ▶ Proper maintenance of street light and resting place

## 3.20. VALLIKUNNU BEACH

### 3.20.1. General Description

Vallikunnu Beach is a serene, secluded and spellbinding beach destination of Kerala. This beach is one of the prime attractions in the district of Malappuram. Ride the surf, get a tan, build sandcastles or simply sift sand through your toes at this tranquil beach. Anything you do here will relax you and help you unwind. A beach resort set in the middle of a coconut grove is the main attraction here, along with the Kadalundi Bird Sanctuary just a short distance away. The lack of a bridge which connects Aanangadi Junction to Vallikunnu Beach makes the travel to the beach difficult. The visitors have to drive 3 kilometer more to reach the beach due to lack of bridge.



Figure 39 - Vallikunnu Beach



Figure 40 - Boats in the beach

### **3.20.2. Key Findings**

- ▶ It is a wide beach with calm environment
- ▶ Migratory birds are common here
- ▶ The beach is less crowded
- ▶ Rest rooms are not available here
- ▶ Absence of the waste bin result in scattering of plastic wastes
- ▶ Un availability of proper street lights is a major concern about this beach
- ▶ Lack of shades creates disturbance to the visitors
- ▶ People need a bridge which connects Vallikkunnu with Aanangadi junction
- ▶ No provisions for emergency health care
- ▶ Lack of proper authority support has resulted in lagging of development
- ▶ No proper name board along the road side
- ▶ Lacks proper first aid facility

### **3.20.3. Suggestions**

- ▶ The beach has a great potential to develop if there is adequate public assistance
- ▶ Construct bridge connecting Aanangadi and Vallikkunnu beach
- ▶ Name board should be provided for the convenience of the visitors
- ▶ Ensure better transport facility and parking area
- ▶ Rest room, waste bin and drinking water should be facilitated
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

## **3.21. PADINJAREKKARA BEACH**

### **3.21.1. General Description**

Padinjarekkara Beach Situated at the end of the Tipu Sultan road near Ponnani in Malappuram District, the place offers a breathtaking view of the confluence of the Bharathapuzha, the Tirur Puzha and the Arabian Sea. Tourists visiting this spectacular beach have the option to enjoy a ride on water scooters or speed boats and they can also munch on tidbits at the floating coffee shop here. The beach is famous for bird watching, as migratory birds are often spotted here. You can also find an amenity centre, an amphitheatre and eco shops. Location is 17 kilometers from Tirur town, and 45 kilometers from Malappuram headquarters.



Figure 41 - Padinjarekkara Beach



Figure 42 - Migratory Birds

### 3.21.2. Key findings

- ▶ Migratory birds is the main attraction of this beach
- ▶ There are no separate rest rooms for ladies and gents
- ▶ Lack of shades creates problem for visitors
- ▶ Resting places are available but they not properly maintained
- ▶ Presence of wandering animals creates disturbance for the visitors
- ▶ Sign Boards are not kept nearby roads, so people coming from distance find difficulty to reach here
- ▶ There is no children's park nearby
- ▶ Lack of trash bin increases the waste in this area
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### 3.21.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Rest room, waste bin and drinking water should be facilitated
- ▶ Provide adequate shelter
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility
- ▶ Construct trash bin as where as possible

## 3.22. VAKKAD BEACH

### 3.22.1. General Description

Vakkad Beach is a popular beach destination situated close to Ponnani in the district of Malappuram, Kerala. A boat cruise down the river starting from Aanamala and gliding through the backwaters to the estuary in Ponnani, where the river meets the sea is a delightful experience.

### 3.22.2. Key Findings

- ▶ Migratory birds are the major attraction of the beach

- ▶ There is no children's park in the beach
- ▶ The beach lack proper shelter amenities and lighting facilities
- ▶ There are no restaurants and shopping amenities
- ▶ No drinking water facility
- ▶ No first aid facility



Figure 43 - Vakkad Beach



Figure 44 - Bushes in the beach

### 3.23.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Lake tourism and houseboat for tourists can be considered
- ▶ Restaurants can be constructed nearby which can attract more visitors
- ▶ Basic facilities such as rest rooms, drinking water, transport facility should be provided
- ▶ Appoint more security guards to ensure the safety and security of visitors
- ▶ Better seating facility has to be ensured for visitors
- ▶ Provide adequate first aid facilities
- ▶ Provide drinking water facility

## 3.23. PAYYAMBALAM BEACH

### 3.23.1. General Description

Payyambalam Beach is located 2 kilometers away from Kannur city. This beach is one of the best beaches of the state. It is the usual relaxation point of the city people and one of the major tourist spot for foreigners. Payyambalam is blessed with white sand which cherishes the tranquility of the beach. Para Sailing, Scuba Diving and lot of other water sports are conducted in the beach. The beach is famous for its relishing sunrise and sunset. Remaining of legends like E.K. Nayanar, Swadeshahimani Ramakrishnapilla, Sukumar Azhikode situate in this beach. The beautiful sculpture of "Mother and Child" by Kanayi Kunjiraman is the other attraction of the beach.



Figure 45 - Payyambalam Beach



Figure 46 - Sculpture in the beach

### 3.23.2. Key Findings

- ▶ The beach has a calm and peaceful ambience
- ▶ There is lot of green space in the beach
- ▶ This beach is the only beach in the state which have remaining of famous people
- ▶ There is a Children's Park in the beach
- ▶ Beach walkway demands maintenance
- ▶ The green space lacks proper maintenance
- ▶ The children's park need to be renovated
- ▶ Rest rooms facility is limited
- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lack of proper lightning
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### 3.23.3. Suggestions

- ▶ Green Space beautification should be initiated with the help of a consultant
- ▶ Park equipments need to be renovated
- ▶ Construct more Rest rooms
- ▶ Provide safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Provide more lighting facilities
- ▶ Provide adequate first aid facilities

## 3.24. MUZHAPPILANGAD BEACH

### 3.24.1. General Description

Muzhappilangad Beach is the only drive – In beach in the state and the longest one of this genre in India. The beach is situated in 7 kilometers away from Thalassery, Kannur district parallel to NH 66. Anyone can

ride 400 meters uninterrupted in sandy beach which makes it an awesome experience. The famous Dharmadam Island is 100 meters away from the beach. We can walk to this island when the tide is low, which makes that trip special. The beach is bordered by black rocks which prevent it from high currents of the sea making the shallow water swimming – friendly. The beach has gained wide population in the recent times after starting Annual Beach Festival in the month of April.



Figure 47 - Driving in the beach



Figure 48 - Stone Gallery

### 3.24.2. Key Findings

- ▶ This beach is the most sought out location to practice driving for beginners and amateurs
- ▶ Maintenance of stone gallery is poor
- ▶ Rest rooms facility is limited
- ▶ Lack of proper lighting facilities
- ▶ Trash cans were not present
- ▶ Lack of proper shelters from heat and rain
- ▶ Lack of safe drinking water facility
- ▶ Lack of refreshment stalls
- ▶ No information centre
- ▶ Lack of adequate number of beach staff raises security issues
- ▶ Lack of proper first aid facility

### 3.24.3 Suggestions

- ▶ Renovate the stone gallery so that visitors can relax on it
- ▶ Construct rest rooms and shelters
- ▶ Provide adequate lighting, safe drinking water and trash cans
- ▶ Provide refreshment stalls
- ▶ Appoint more beach staff

- ▶ Start an information center
- ▶ Provide proper first aid facility

### 3.25. BEKAL BEACH

#### 3.25.1 .General Description

Bekal Beach is situated in Kazargode the northern most district of Kerala. The beach is located adjacent to the largest fort of the state, The Bekal Fort. The beach was developed in this present exotic manner by Bekal Resorts Development Corporation (BRDC). BRDC constructed Bekal Beach Park which now adds charm to the beach. The beach walkway provides a panoramic view of the beach which will make anyone's mind pleasant and calm. The view of the Bekal Fort in the cliff top is something which leads you to those historic times. The park has a well maintained green space, children's park and some restaurants which provide comfort to every visitor of the beach. There is also a safe drinking water facility which ensures pure and safe drinking water for all visitors.



Figure 49 - Bekal Beach



Figure 50 - Camel in the beach

#### 3.25.2. Key Findings

- ▶ Most of the beach visitors are those who visits the Bekal Fort
- ▶ The beach park is one of the best beach parks in the state
- ▶ The beach is a prioritized wedding photo shoot destination
- ▶ This is one of the few beaches of the state which you can find safe drinking water facility made available
- ▶ Lacks proper first aid facility

#### 3.25.3 Suggestions

- ▶ Continue the development practices in the present pace and vision
- ▶ Provide first aid Services

### 3.26. PRESENCE OF LITTER

60% of the beaches have some litter presence in it. 25% of the beaches have a little presence while 15% of them have a lot of litter in it.

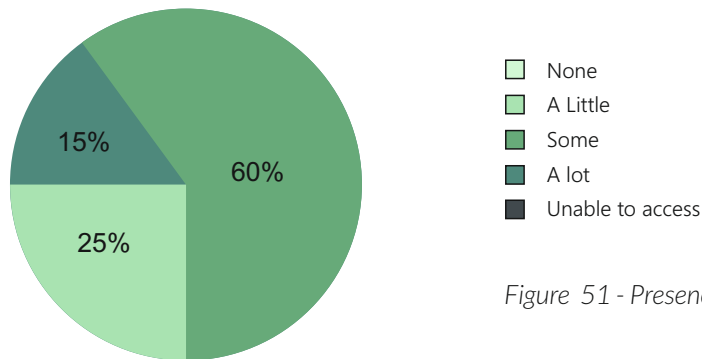


Figure 51 - Presence of Litter

### 3.27. PRESENCE OF TRASH

Majority of the beaches have some trash presence in there while 15% beaches have a little presence and 5% of the beaches have a lot of trash presence.

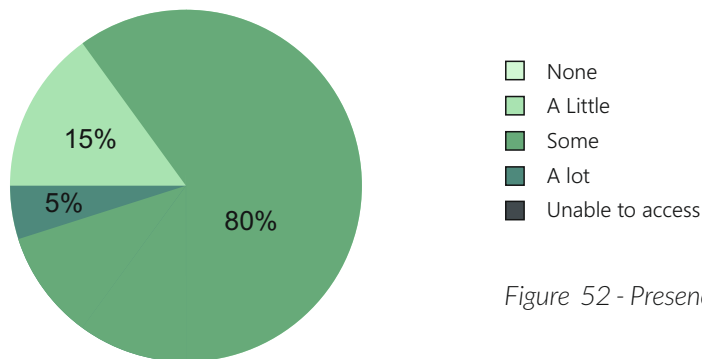


Figure 52 - Presence of Trash

### 3.28. PRESENCE OF RISKY LITTER

Most of the beaches have only a little risky litter presence in it. 10% beaches have some risky litter in it while 5% beaches have a lot of risky litter presence.

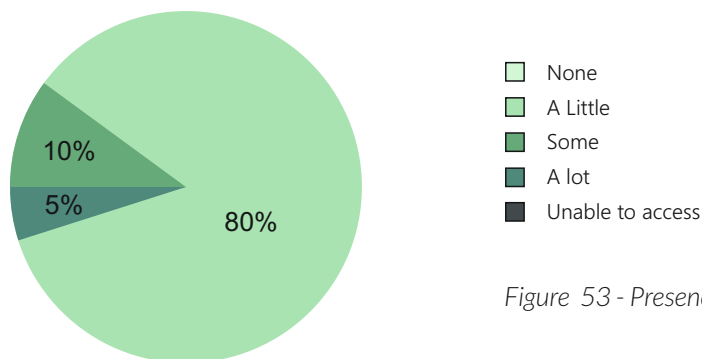


Figure 53 - Presence of Risky Litter

### 3.29. STATUS OF TRASH CANS

When 30% of the beaches provide good and adequate trash cans, 30% of the beaches don't even have one. Trash cans can be rated average in 12% beaches while the condition is poor in 28% beaches.

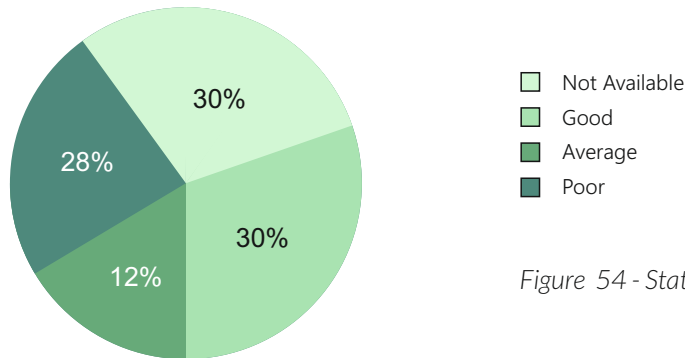


Figure 54 - Status of Trash Cans in the beaches

### 3.30. STATUS OF TOILETS

Half of the beach toilets can be rated average while 30% beaches have good and proper toilet facility. Toilets are not available in 20% beaches.

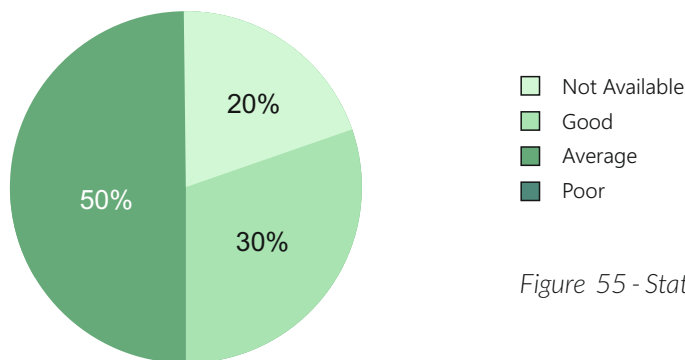


Figure 55 - Status of Toilets

### 3.31. STATUS OF SITTING BENCHES

Half of the beaches provide good seating facilities for the visitors while 10% of the beaches don't have any benches for sitting. Sitting benches in 30% of the beaches can be rated as average and it can be rated poor in 10% beaches.

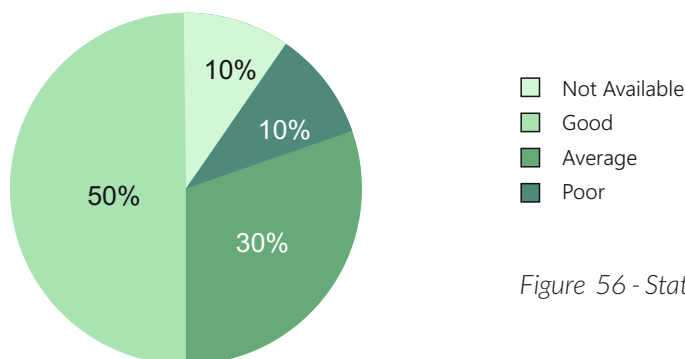


Figure 56 - Status of Sitting Benches

### 3.32. STATUS OF WATER TAPS IN THE BEACHES

Majority of the beaches don't provide drinking water facility for the visitors. Water Taps are good in 5% beaches while it is working poor in rest 15% beaches.

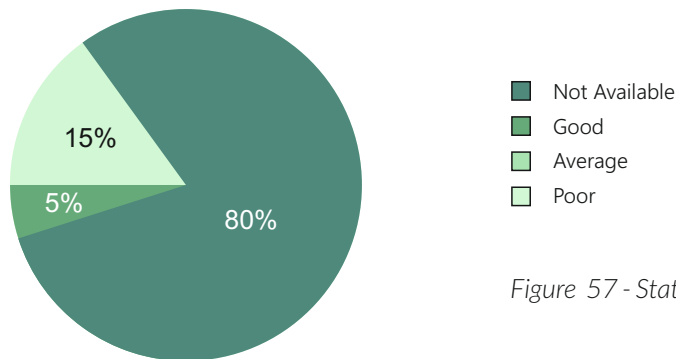


Figure 57 - Status of Water Taps in the beaches

### 3.33. STATUS OF SAFETY MEASURES

When 42% of the beaches don't provide any safety measures for the visitors, 38% beaches have proper safety measures for them. 15% beaches can be rated as average while it is really poor in 5% beaches.

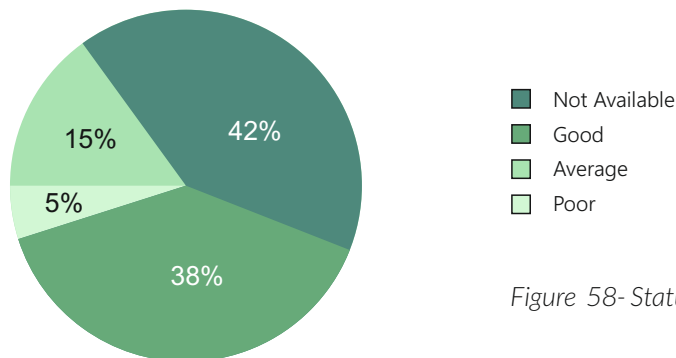


Figure 58- Status of Safety Measures

### 3.34. STATUS OF FIRST AID FACILITY

Proper first aid facility is not available in 90% beaches while it can be rated average for 5% beaches and poor for 5% beaches.

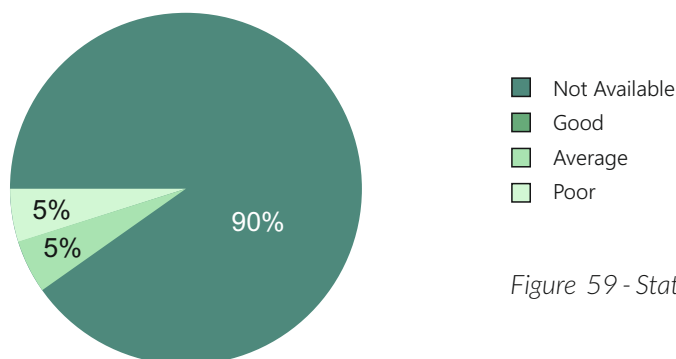


Figure 59 - Status of First Aid Facility

### 3.35. STATUS OF ART MONUMENTS

20% beaches take good care of the art monuments while 15% beaches can be rated as average. When 5% beaches take poor care of the monuments, 60% of the beaches don't have any art monuments.

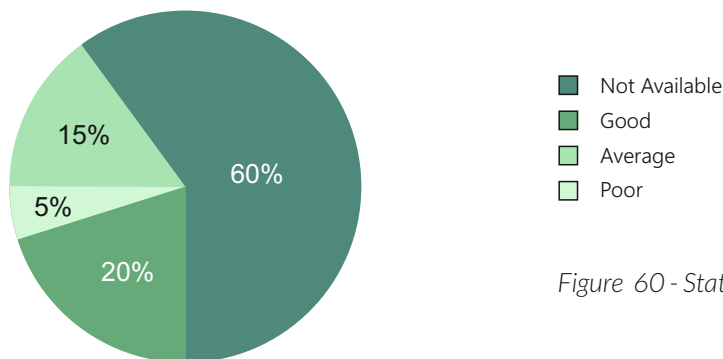


Figure 60 - Status of Art Monuments

### 3.36. STATUS OF GREEN SPACE

Only 15% of beaches can be rated as good in terms of green space while 30% beaches can be rated as poor. 30% beaches can be rated as average and rest of the beaches don't have any green space.

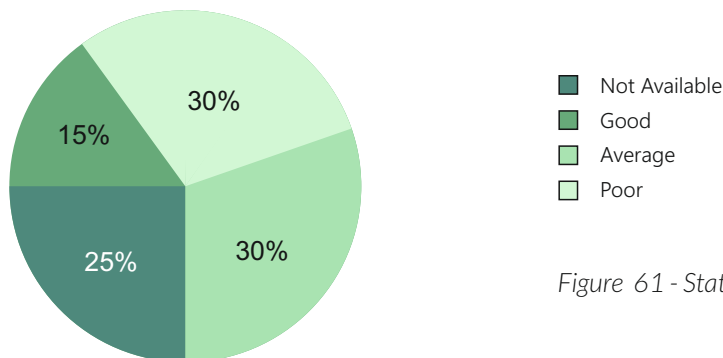


Figure 61 - Status of Green Space

### 3.36. STATUS OF WALKWAYS

40% beaches provide good walkways to the visitors while 5% beaches can be termed average on that. 55% beaches don't have walkways.

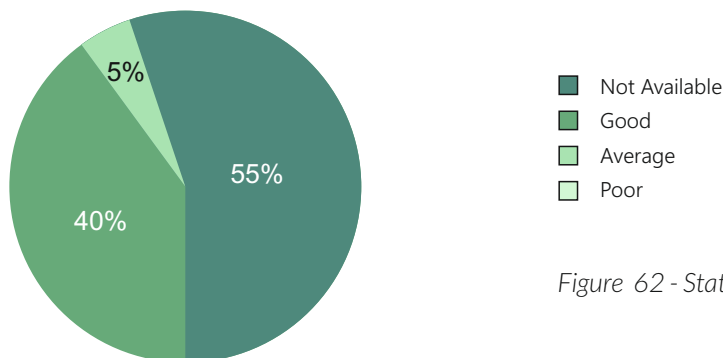


Figure 62 - Status of Walkways

### 3.37. STATUS OF CHILDREN'S PLAY SPACE

Only 30% of the beaches provide Children's Play Space and all of them can be rated as good.

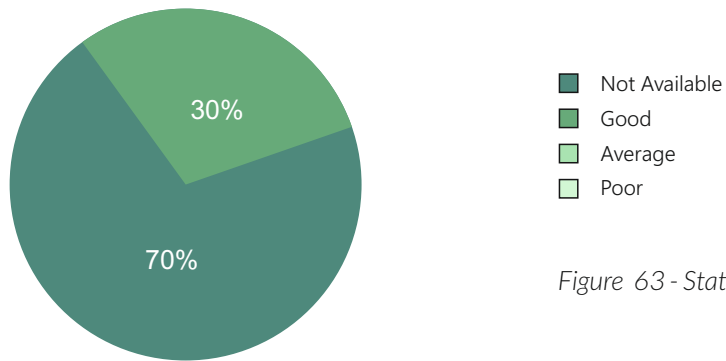


Figure 63 - Status of Children's Play Space

## 4. Conclusion and Recommendations

Beaches are both geographically and economically vital for the state of Kerala. Even being one of the major sources of tourism revenue of the state, most of the beaches are in a state of despair. Many beaches due to ignorance and mismanagement are now in a verge of losing its charm and elegance due to various issues which remains unaddressed. Pollution which is caused by various substances like plastic and other substance along with the lack of proper amenities and facilities for the visitors have adversely affected the beaches. These are pertinent issues which was interpreted from the study.

The major factor behind this poor situation is the concentration of the development in few beaches like Kovalam, Snehatheeram and Cherai. Beaches like Fort Kochi which have great historic and cultural tradition along with beaches like Vadanappily and Puthuvype with huge potential of growth are completely ignored from the development map. The continuity of this situation will adversely affect both the ecological, economic and tourism realm of the beaches.

This is high time for sustainable and inclusive development of all the beaches of the state. This study report can act as a guide for the authorities for constructive planning and implementation of the same.

Certain recommendations are put forward as part of the study

- Ensure safe drinking water facility in every beach
- Provide adequate infrastructure in the beaches
- Construct and maintain proper green space
- Ensure safety of the visitors
- Provide emergency care service for the visitors
- Construct Play space / Children's park in each beach
- Constitute beach development committee specifically for each beach for coordinating the developmental activities

## 5. Reference

- o Website of Kerala Tourism - <http://www.kerala-tourism.net/kerala-beaches.html>
- o Website of Kerala Tourism Department – [www.keralatourism.gov.in](http://www.keralatourism.gov.in)
- o [www.keralatourism.org/tourism-policy-2012-english.pdf](http://www.keralatourism.org/tourism-policy-2012-english.pdf)

## Annexure - 1

List of beaches studied

SI No	Beach	District
1	Cherai	Ernakulam
2	Munambam	Ernakulam
3	Puthuvype	Ernakulam
4	Kuzhuppily	Ernakulam
5	Fort Kochi	Ernakulam
6	Mararikulam	Alappuzha
7	Alappuzha	Alappuzha
8	Munnackal	Thrissur
9	Chavakkad	Thrissur
10	Periyambalam	Thrissur
11	Snehatheeram	Thrissur
12	Valappad	Thrissur
13	Vadanappily	Thrissur
14	Nattika	Thrissur
15	Kollam	Kollam
16	Shangumukham	Thiruvananthapuram
17	Kovalam	Thiruvananthapuram
18	Kozhikode	Kozhikode
19	Beyepore	Kozhikode
20	Vallikunnu	Malappuram
21	Padinjarekkara	Malappuram
22	Vakkad	Malappuram
23	Payyambalam	Kannur
24	Muzhappilangad	Kannur
25	Bekal	Kazargode

# Annexure – 2

## Research Tools

### Key Informant Interview Question Guide

#### Questions for Key Informant Interview:

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (dd/mm/yy)

Name of Interviewer: .....

1. Do you visit other public spaces in .....? Which places do you prefer and why?
2. Which part of the beach do you use? Why? Why do you avoid other parts?
3. What do you do at the beach? Are there other activities you would like to engage in but can't, and why?
4. What times do you usually come? How often? How much time do you usually spend?
5. What role does the beach play in your life, e.g. a place for exercise, an occasional get away, etc?
6. Do you exercise elsewhere as well? Which place do you prefer? Why? Would you be likely to get more or less exercise if you didn't come to the beach?
5. Does the beach contribute to your quality of life, and if so, how? How much?
6. Do you ever encounter problems at the beach? Have you witnessed the people having problems? Do you have any suggested solutions?
7. Do you ever buy things from vendors? Do you ever eat at the restaurants?
8. Do you think the restaurants take space away from other users? Do you benefit from the restaurants in any way, e.g. to eat at the restaurant, have lighting...)
9. How safe do you feel the beach is/what are your safety concerns?(very unsafe, somewhat unsafe, safe, very safe)  
Concerns: theft, sexual harassment, kidnapping, other)
10. If you have been living here/coming here for a longtime, how does the beach compare to the past?
11. Do you hear negative comments about the beach, and if so, what kinds of comments? What do you think about that?

#### Activity Survey

Name of the Beach: .....

Surveyor: .....

Name: .....

Date (dd/ mm/ yyyy):

Time of day (xx to xx):

Day of the week (tick one)

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Weather conditions (tick as many as apply)

Rain

Clouds

Sun

Windy

Cool

Warm

Hot

	ACTIVITY	Low (5 or fewer people)	Medium (6-20)	High (21-50)	Very high (51+)	Children		Teens/ Youth		Adult		Elderly (60+)		Comments (e.g. stationary/mobile, what other kinds of exercise, what is being sold, what kinds of play...)
						m	f	m	f	m	f	m	f	
1	Walking													
2	Jogging													
3	Sports													
4	School/ unisports/ fitness													
5	Other exercise													
6	Sitting													
7	Standing													
8	Selling													
9	Social interaction													
10	Romance													
11	Eating													
12	Drinking alcohol													
13	Playing in water													
14	Playing in sand													
15	Cleaning													
16	Music/singing/ dancing													
17	Dog walking/ dog play													
18	Fishing/ working with nets, boats													
19	Other													

Other comments: e.g. disagreements/ fighting, anti-social activity/conflicts, particularly interesting activities, anything exceptional...

## User Survey

### Questions for User Survey:

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (dd/mm/yy)

Name of Interviewer: ..... Starting Time .....

A1 Day of the week:

- Monday                       Tuesday                       Wednesday                       Thursday  
 Friday                       Saturday                       Sunday

A2 Weather conditions:

- Rain                       Cloud                       Sun                       Wind  
 Cool                       Warm                       Hot

### Part A. Survey Information

Hello. We're conducting a survey of Beach. Could you spare five minutes to answer a few questions?  
(If they refuse, please check off on your refusal sheet)

A3 Which of the following categories best describes your age? (Please tick one only)

- 16 or under                       17-19                       20-29                       30-39  
 40-49                       50-59                       60-74                       75 or over

A4 Gender of the respondent (Please tick one only)

- Female                       Male

A5 Where do you live? (Please tick one only)

- Resident in this Local Authority area                       Resident outside this Local Authority area

### Part B. About your visit:

B1 How often do you visit this area? (Please tick one only)

- First visit  
(Go straight to C1)                       Once a year  
(Go straight to C1)                       2 or 3 times a year                       Monthly  
 Weekly                       More Often/ Daily

B2 When you visit, where do you usually travel from? (Please tick one only)

- Home                       Work                       Shops                       Hotel  
 School                       College/University                       Friends/ relatives house  
 Other (please write in)

B3 How would you normally travel to this place? (Please tick one only)

- On foot                       Cycle                       Motorbike                       Car  
 Bus                       Three wheeler                       Taxi                       Train  
 Other (please write in)

B4 Approximately how long is your journey to this place? (Please tick one only)

- 1-10minutes                       11-15minutes                       16-20minutes                       21-30minutes  
 More than30 minutes                       It is depend of traffic when travel by vehicle

B5 Do you normally visit this place alone or with others? (Please tick one only)

- Alone  
(Go straight to B7)                       Ina group                       Both (equally divided)

B6 When you visit with others, who normally visits the beach with you? (Please tick as many as appropriate)

- Husband-wife                       Children                       With family                       Friends  
 Team/Club                       School group                       Girlfriend/boyfriend  
 Other (please write in)

B7 What days/ time of the day do you prefer to come? (Please tick as many as appropriate)

- Weekdays                       Weekend                       Holiday                       Early morning  
 Evening                       Other times

B8 Why do you visit the beach? (Please tick up main reasons for normally visiting the beach)

- To relax or think                       For peace and quiet                       To improve my health                       To play/have fun  
 To keep fit                       To get some fresh air                       To meet friends                       To follow the doctor's advice  
 Other (please write in)

B9 What do you normally do when you visit the beach? (Please tick as many as appropriate)

- Enjoy the beauty of the surroundings                       Walk                       Watch sport or games                       Exercise  
 Cultural Program/ Enjoy entertainment                       Play sports or games                       Eat (or non-alcoholic drink)                       Drink alcohol  
 Other (please write in)

B10 Do you ever buy things from vendors?

- Yes                       No                       Don't know/ Didn't answer

B11 Do you ever eat at the restaurant at the beach?

- Yes                       No                       Don't know/ Didn't answer

**Part C. About the beach**

We want to know if you think this beach is a welcoming, healthy, safe and secure place which is properly cared for.

C1 How would you rate the standard of cleanliness of the beach? (Please tick one only)

- Very good                       Good                       Fair                       Poor
- Very poor                       No opinion                       Don't know                       75 or over

C1a Enter any comments provided by the respondent in the space below.

C2 Have you ever encountered or witnessed a serious problem at the beach? (Please tick one only)

- Yes                       No

C2a If yes, please explain in the space below.

C3 How safe do you feel that the beach is at this time of day?

- Very unsafe                       Somewhat unsafe                       Safe                       Very safe

Comments

C4 Can you think of anything that would encourage you to use the beach more often, or stay for longer? (Please tick one only)

- Yes                       No                       Don't know/ Didn't answer

C4a If you answered 'Yes', please choose option below, the top one or two things that would encourage you to visit more often or stay for longer. SURVEYOR: Read the options and ask the person to choose their top one or two choices (Please tick one or more)

- Provide playgrounds                       Public Toilets                       Water taps                       Ensure of shelter to protect from rain/sun
- Light                       Safer railway crossings                       More benches/ seating
- Other (please write in)

# Public Space Audit Tool

## Overall Questions

1. GPS Reading
2. Name of Beach (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
3. Is this area public or private?  
 Private – access       Private –no access       Public
4. Are there any foreigners in the beach?  
 Yes       No
5. Are there any other state citizens in the beach?  
 Yes       No
6. Are there any fests/ celebrations conducted in the beach?  
 Yes       No
7. Are car or motor bikes parked inside the beach?  
 Inside - Legal       Inside- Illegal       Outside - Legal       Outside- Illegal  
 No Parking
8. If there are cars parked, are they interfering with the function of the beach?  
 Yes       No       Unable to access       NA
9. What are the fees to enter the area (if no fees, enter "0")? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What activities are in the area? (Mark all that apply – this will then trigger only those surveys appropriate for beach)  
 No activities       Children's Play Area       Playground       Green Space  
 Walking ways       Water sports       Horse Riding  
 Other (please write in)
11. Based on what you saw today, how attractive is the area as a whole?  
 Poor       Average       Good       Unable to assess
12. What sounds do you hear in the area? (Mark all that apply)  
 Water       Birds       Traffic       People talking  
 Music       Other (please write in)
13. Rate the appeal of the smells in the area.  
 Poor       Average       Good       Unable to assess

14. How much litter is present in the area? (Litter consists of small trash, not in a can, that can be picked up by an individual. Rate without looking inside trash cans.)
- None       A little       Some       A lot       Unable to assess
15. How much trash is present in the area? (Trash consists of large items that take an organized effort to dispose of. Rate without looking inside the trash cans.)
- None       A little       Some       A lot       Unable to assess
16. How much "risky" litter is visible in the area? (Look inside the trash cans and look on the ground. Risky means anything that indicates risky behavior took place - i.e. alcohol containers, condoms, drugs, drug supplies, small Ziplocs, broken glass, etc.)
- None       A little       Some       A lot       Unable to assess
17. Locate all of the trash cans in the area. Are any trash cans in the area overflowing?
- Yes       No       No trash cans
18. How much graffiti is visible in the area? (Graffiti is any unauthorized writing or drawing on a public surface.)
- None       A little       Some       A lot       Unable to assess
19. Locate all of the sitting areas. Rate the general condition of all the sitting areas.
- Poor       Average       Good       Unable to assess       No sitting areas
20. Are there toilets in the beach premises?
- Yes       No
- If yes,
- 17 a) Number of toilets available? \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 b) Is there a fee to use the toilet?
- Yes       No
- 17 c) Rate the cleanliness of the toilets
- Poor       Average       Good       Unable to assess
21. Locate all the vendors in the surrounding area. What can you buy from the vendors? (Mark all that apply).
- Fruit Juice       Ice Cream       Water       Soft Drinks       Fruit
- No vendors in the surrounding area       Peanuts       Corn on a stick       Puffed Rice
- Pop Corn       Sugar Juice       Others (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_
22. Locate all of the water taps in the area. Rate the functionality of the water taps.  
(A water tap is functional if water comes out in an adequate stream for drinking.)
- No taps       Taps but not functional       Some are functional       All are functional

23. Locate all the art or monuments on the area. Rate the general condition of the art/monuments in the area.  
(Note: Decorative fountains should only be counted under "water features.")

- Poor                       Average                       Good                       A No art/  
monuments                       Unable to  
assess

24. While you were in the area, did you see any beach workers or police officers?  
(E.g. caretakers, park security guards, etc.)

- Yes                       No

25. Is there any warning signs present in the beach?

- Yes                       No

26. While you were in the area did you see any first aid facilities?

- Yes                       No

### Green Space Questions

1. Describe the area

- Landscaped                       Natural                       Mix                       Other (specify)

If landscaped, then:

1a) Are children allowed to play in this area?

- Yes                       No                       Unable to assess

1b) Does the area appears to be regularly maintained?

- Yes                       No                       Unable to assess

Is it safe for children to play?

- Yes                       No                       Unable to assess

2. Describe the surface area of the Green Space.

- Mostly Grass                       Mostly soil                       Mixed                       Other (specify)

3. How attractive is the landscaping in the green space?

- Poor                       Average                       Good                       Unable to assess

4. Rate the condition of the landscaping in the green space?

- Poor                       Average                       Good                       Unable to assess

5. What are the sources of shade in the green space? (Mark all that apply)

- Trees                       Adjoining  
Buildings                       Shelters                       No Shade
- Other (specify)

### Walking ways Questions

Are you able to access Path? If not, answer the questions in this section as best you can by observing from outside the path.

1. What is the surface of the path or path segment made of?  
(If surface varies within TA, select the most predominant surface.)  
 Asphalt                       Concrete                       Grass                       Sand  
 Soil                       Gravel                       Tiles                       Unable to assess  
 Other (specify):
2. How wide is the walking way?  
 Less than 1 meter                       1 to 2 meters                       More than 2 meters                       Unable to assess
3. Rate the overall condition of the surface of the walking way. (Look for evenness, smoothness, etc.)  
 Poor                       Average                       Good                       Unable to assess
4. Does vehicular traffic cross or intersect the path or path segment?  
 Yes                       No
5. What are the sources of shade along the walking way? (Mark all that apply)  
 Trees                       Adjoining Buildings                       Shelters                       No Shade  
 Other (specify):

### Children's play space questions

1. What type of play equipment is present? (Mark all that apply)  
 Swing Set                       Slide                       Climbing Apparatus                       Merry-go-Round  
 See saw                       Spring Rocker                       Tunnel  
 Other (specify):
2. What type of surfacing is under the play equipment? (Mark one; if multiple surfaces are present, check all that apply).  
 Asphalt                       Concrete                       Grass                       Sand  
 Soil                       Unable to assess
3. How much deterioration or corrosion is evident overall on the play equipment?  
(e.g. chipped paint on equipment surfaces, rusted pieces, exposed hard surfaces)  
 None                       Very Little                       Some                       A lot  
 Unable to assess

4. On average, how much appears broken or missing on the play equipment?

- None                       Very Little                       Some                       A lot  
 Unable to assess

5. Is the playground equipment surrounded by a fence that could be locked or keep people out?

- Yes                       No

6. What are the sources of shade in the children's play space area? (Mark all that apply)

- Trees                       Adjoining Buildings                       Shelters                       No Shade  
 Other (specify):









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