



Finance Department
Government of Kerala

ELDERLY BUDGET

2026-2027



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Elderly Budget 2026-27

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

FOREWORD

The Elderly Budget is a new feature of Kerala's annual budget. Elderly Budget 2026-27 takes into consideration the needs to contribute to the welfare of elderly, to enhance their capabilities and to create new social and economic spaces for the elderly.

The Elderly Budget for 2026–27 has a significant fiscal commitment to the welfare of senior citizens, with a total consolidated outlay (Plan and Non-Plan) of ₹46,236.52 crore.

A significant highlight of this year's budget is the focus on the 'Silver Economy' and 'Care Economy', emphasizing social and physical infrastructure development. Furthermore, recognizing that women constitute a larger share of the elderly population, this budget works in tandem with our Gender Budget to tackle the 'feminization of ageing'.

The preparation of the Elderly Budget 2026–27 involved extensive consultations with the Kerala State Planning Board, geriatric experts and other stakeholders. This participatory approach ensures that our policies are not merely welfare-oriented but are transformative, empowering the elderly as active participants and mentors in our society.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the team at the Kerala State Planning Board for the dedication in formulating this document. It is our hope that this budget serves as a model for right -based and inclusive governance for the entire nation.

K. N. Balagopal

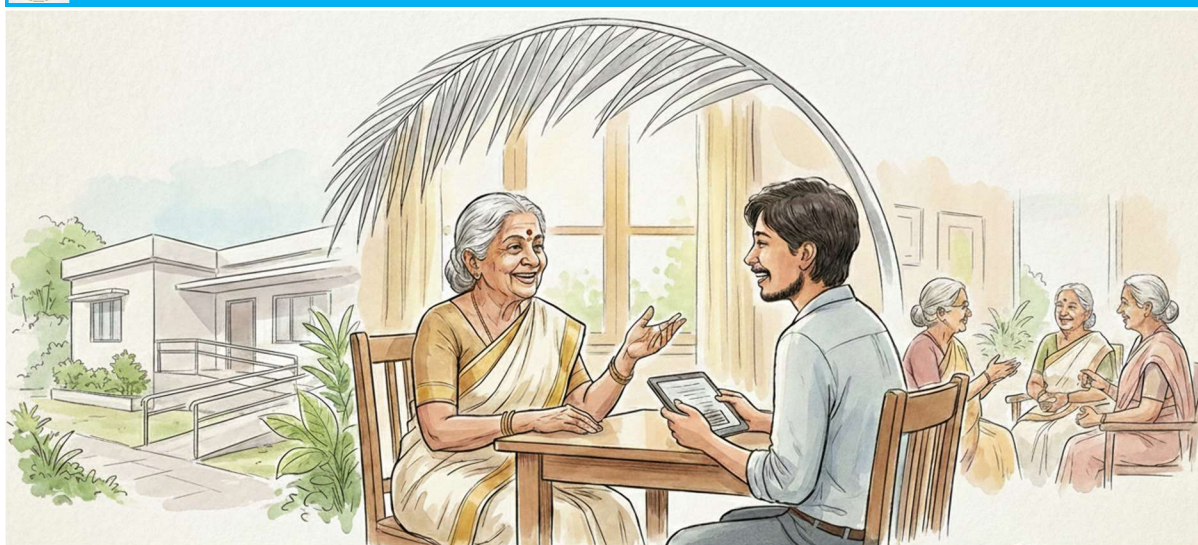
Minister for Finance

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1. Elderly Budget 2026-27 in Brief



The Government of Kerala has been undertaking a range of interventions aimed at the welfare, social security and health care of the elderly, and a substantial amount of resource is earmarked for this purpose through the State budget. Elderly Budget is a new feature of Kerala's annual budget. The elderly budget is not a separate or standalone budget; rather, it is intended to mainstream the needs and concerns of the elderly population across various sectors and departments.



Methodology of the Preparation of Elderly Budget

For the preparation of Elderly Budget 2026-27, state plan schemes exclusively/ partly (identifiably) benefitting elderly, 5 percent of local body plan (excluding Finance Commission Grant) and non-plan grant for elderly have been taken into account.

State Plan Schemes: A majority of government programmes -particularly Plan schemes- provide direct or indirect benefits to the elderly. For the purpose of preparing the elderly budget, schemes that exclusively or partially and identifiably benefit the elderly population are taken into account. Plan schemes that benefit the elderly exclusively or predominantly (90-100 per cent) are classified under **Part A**, while schemes that partially benefit the elderly (below 90 per cent) are included under **Part B**.

Local Self Governments (LSGs): Local bodies play a key role in addressing the needs of the elderly. In addition to implementing exclusive plans for senior citizens, Local Self Governments complement State Plan schemes by providing

additional funds and undertaking related functions at the local level. As per the LSGD guideline for the formulation of the Annual Plan of the Grama/Block/District Panchayaths as well as Municipalities/Corporations, under 14th Five Year Plan, 5 percent of the Development fund including Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) should be allocated for the welfare of the elderly and palliative care. Construction/maintenance of 'Pakal Veedu' and related expenses, assistive devices for the elderly, Senior Citizens' Arts and Sports Festival etc. are some of the projects taken under LSGD Plan by the Local bodies.



Non plan: Focusing exclusively on Plan schemes does not provide a comprehensive picture of public expenditure on the elderly. A substantial share of social security support for senior citizens is delivered through pension mechanisms, including service pensions and social security pensions, which constitute the most critical income support for the elderly. In addition, the operation and maintenance of elderly care institutions in the government and non-government sectors are supported through non-plan grants. Accordingly, allocations towards pensions and non-plan grants for elderly institutions are incorporated to ensure a holistic assessment of public spending on the elderly.

Budget in Brief: The State's expenditure on the elderly encompasses Plan schemes (both state plan and LSGIs plan), pension support and non-plan grants. While Plan schemes address welfare, healthcare, livelihood, age-friendly infrastructure and social inclusion, the core of social security for senior citizens is provided through service pensions and social security pensions. In addition, non-plan grants support the functioning of elderly care institutions in both the government and NGO sectors, ensuring a comprehensive and integrated approach to elderly welfare.

Within the State Plan, Part A, comprising schemes exclusively dedicated to senior citizens with an allocation of ₹128.94 crore, and Part B, covering inclusive schemes with an outlay of ₹835.83 crore, totalling a Plan expenditure of ₹964.77 crore. When combined with the ₹376.95 crore allocated under the Local Body Plan, the total State Plan for elderly welfare reaches ₹1,341.72 crore.

The vast majority of the expenditure is categorized under the Non-Plan sector, which totals ₹ 44,894.80 crore. This includes critical social safety nets and statutory obligations, such as ₹31,454 crore for Service Pensions and Pensionary benefits to Employees of State Aided Educational Institutions, ₹11,591.33 crore for Social Security Pensions and ₹1,821.67 crore for Welfare Fund Board Pensions. Additionally, the Non-Plan segment provides essential operational support through ₹17.18 crore in grants to the Orphanage Control Board (OCB), ₹6.57 crore for the maintenance of government-run Old Age Homes and ₹4.05 crore for the Kerala State Elderly Commission, ensuring a comprehensive financial framework that balances long-term developmental projects with immediate social security needs.

Table 1. Elderly Budget in Brief (Rs in Crore)-2026-27

Plan	
Part A Schemes	128.94
Part B Schemes	835.83
Total	964.77
Local Body Plan	376.95
Total State Plan	1341.72
Non Plan	
Service Pension	(1)31454.00
Social Security Pension	(2)11591.33
OCB grant	17.18
Welfare Fund Board Pension	(2)1821.67
Nonplan - Old Age Home	6.57
Kerala State Elderly Commission	4.05
Total Non Plan	44894.80
Total (Plan+Non Plan)	46236.52
(1) Proportionate amount has been taken for above 60 age elderly beneficiaries.	
(2) The amount includes administrative cost also.	

- Elderly budget constitutes 3.8 percent of the State Plan.
- Out of the total non-plan expenditure, **21.72 percent** is earmarked exclusively for elderly.
- Total elderly budget is Rs. **46236.52 cr** which is **19.07 percent** of the total State Budget.

Table 2. Proportion of Elderly Budget (2026-27)

Plan	Outlay (Rs in Cr)	Elderly Budget Outlay (Rs in Cr)	Percent
State Plan Excluding Allocation to LSGs	25561.00	964.77	3.80
LSG plan (excluding FC grant)	7539.00	376.95	5.00
Total State Plan	35750.00	1341.72	3.80
Non Plan	206723.64	44894.80	21.72
Total Budget	242473.64	46236.52	19.07

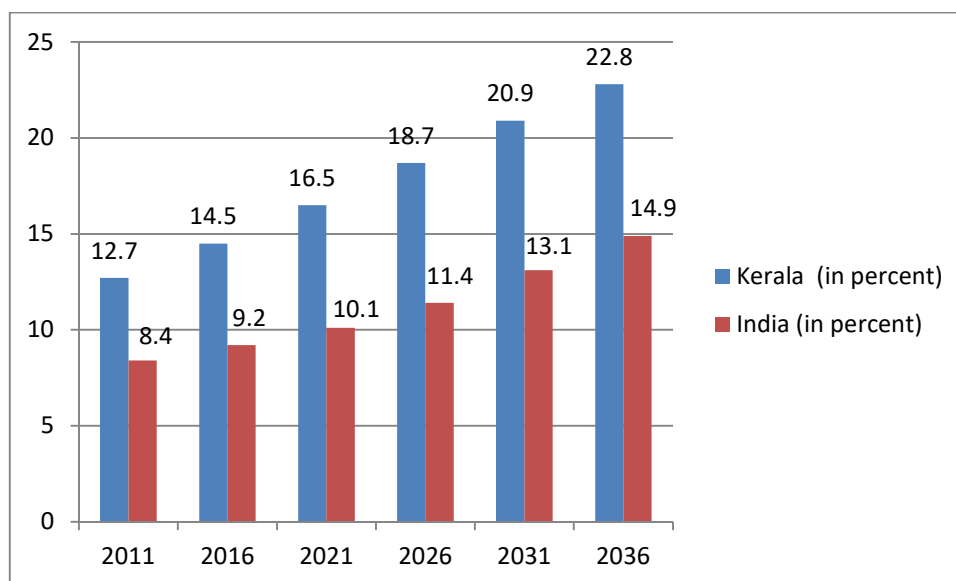
Though many sectors contribute significantly to the welfare of the elderly, only the identifiable proportion of expenditure is considered for inclusion in the elderly budget. For instance, health is a major sector that substantially benefits the elderly, as senior citizens are among the primary users of healthcare services. However, since most health programmes are universal in nature and not exclusively targeted at the elderly, only a small portion of expenditure relating to programmes that directly and distinctly benefit the elderly could be identified and taken into account in the elderly budget.



2. Major Highlights- Elderly Budget 2026-27

Kerala has one of the fastest-growing elderly populations in India, currently forming a considerable proportion of the State's population. According to official population projections, this share is expected to increase substantially, with the elderly projected to constitute nearly 25 per cent of the total population within the next ten years (Figure 1). The total population of elderly aged 60 and above in Kerala is projected to double from 2011 to 2036, from 4.2 million to 8.4 million, constituting about 22.8 per cent of the State's total population.

Figure 1: Proportion of population 60 years and above, 2011-2036, India and Kerala



Source: Population projection for the period, 2011-36, Office of the Registrar General of India (RGI)

The elderly population projection for the year 2026 by the Office of the Registrar General of India is 18.7%. But in Kerala the budget allocation for elderly population is 19.07%. **Overall the proportion of budget allocation for elderly is more than the proportion of the population.**

A significant proportion of the elderly need access to healthcare, require hospitalisation more often, have multiple chronic morbidities necessitating consistent health monitoring, and have disabilities leading to difficulty in carrying out day-to-day activities. They also face the challenges of mobility and accessibility constraints, the digital divide, limited employment opportunities and inadequate social security coverage. Because of the increasing vulnerabilities and loneliness, psychosocial and emotional support from families and communities need to be ensured. Recognising these challenges, the State accords high priority to the protection of the rights of older persons and to the effective implementation of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, including the strengthening of Maintenance Tribunals and the expansion of quality community-based services such as doorstep service delivery and day-care facilities, in partnership with Local Self Governments, Kudumbashree and non-governmental organizations.

Every elderly person should be assured access to safe, comfortable, and non-coercive housing, supported by facilities that enable functional ability and independent living. They must have access to comprehensive healthcare services, including preventive, curative, palliative and counselling care, along with reliable and affordable transportation. Opportunities for recreation, intellectual stimulation, information, continued employment and voluntary engagement are essential for active ageing. In addition, access to appropriate assistive technologies should be promoted. Given that a significant proportion of the elderly require frequent healthcare, experience multiple chronic conditions and face disabilities that hinder daily activities, these provisions are critical to ensuring dignity, well-being and social participation in later life.

At the policy level, the State Government advocates a shift from a welfare-centric approach to a rights-based and life-course approach to ageing, aligned with the principles of 'Active Ageing', which emphasize health, participation, security and dignity. This approach seeks to enable older persons to remain active contributors to society while ensuring adequate care and protection for those in need. Its effective implementation requires coordinated, multi-sectoral action led by the Social Justice Department as the nodal agency, with the involvement of multiple departments, LSGs, NGOs and local communities.

In this framework, the Government of Kerala has been implementing a range of schemes and programmes aimed at strengthening healthcare, institutional and community-based care, social protection and opportunities for participation for the elderly. Reflecting this progressive approach to elderly, Kerala is the first state in India launched **Vayojana Commission (Elderly Commission)**, a dedicated statutory body for senior citizens. The Commission's foundational mandate is to ensure the welfare, protection and rehabilitation of senior citizens, addressing the demographic challenges posed by Kerala's rapidly ageing population. Through this institutional mechanism, the State seeks to mainstream elderly concerns into policy-making and strengthen a rights-based and inclusive framework for active and dignified ageing.

The key programmes and initiatives for older persons in the State are given here in four major categories: 1. Health and Care, 2. Social Security, 3. Adult Education and Livelihood and 4. Inclusive Infrastructure

I. Health and Care

The Government of Kerala has initiated a wide range of programmes to promote healthy ageing and enhance the overall well-being of older persons, many of which have received international recognition. Adopting a comprehensive and integrated approach aligned with the principles of active and healthy ageing, the State has implemented multiple schemes across key priority areas, including healthcare, institutional and community-based care and opportunities for participation and inclusion.

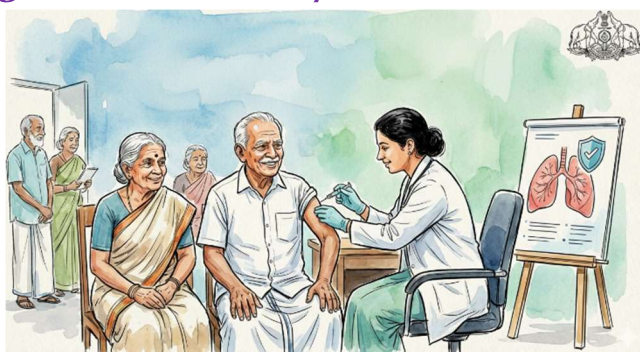
I.1. Health Care: Based on the budget outlay for 2026-27, Kerala's health sector is prioritizing a comprehensive and multi-tiered approach to geriatric care, reflecting the needs of a state where nearly 20 per cent of the population is elderly. Health Services Department is dedicated for establishing special geriatric clinics to ensure the elderly receive special attention separate from general outpatient divisions. This is further supported by a major new pneumococcal vaccination programme targeting individuals aged 60 and above with comorbidities, particularly those from BPL families. The infrastructure is also being modernized to make government medical colleges 'elderly friendly' through the installation of specialized cots, railings, ramps and modified toilets.

The strategy extends beyond physical health into specialized mental and palliative support. The Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences (IMHANS) is establishing a Centre for Geriatric Mental Health and Cognitive Rehabilitation, while the Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS) is developing a feasible social care model for citizens aged 75 and older. Furthermore, the Indian System of Medicine (ISM) and Homoeopathy departments are integrating elderly care into their core services through specialized geriatric care centres, palliative units and research into anti-ageing properties of traditional medicines. This holistic framework combining preventive vaccinations, specialized clinical environments, academic research and inclusive insurance coverage under KASP aims to improve the overall quality of life and healthcare accessibility for Kerala's senior citizens.

Some of the major health programmes with substantial budgetary allocation and extensive elderly coverage are specially mentioned below:

Pneumococcal vaccination programme for Elderly:

Elderly people, especially those with certain chronic conditions, are at higher risk of pneumococcal disease. The primary objective of the comprehensive pneumococcal vaccination programme



targeting elderly individuals in Kerala is to reduce the burden of pneumococcal diseases and enhance public health outcomes. The programme will primarily focus on elderly individuals aged 60 years and above from BPL families, especially those with one or more comorbidities conditions. An amount of ₹ 5000 lakhs is provided for the scheme during 2026-27.

State Health Agency-Karunya Arogya Suraksha Padhathi (KASP):

Through this scheme a family can have the benefit cover of ₹ 5.00 lakh per year. The total number of families to be covered is around 42.09 lakhs. An amount of ₹ 90000.00 lakh is provided for the scheme in 2026-27 budget. In 2024-25, the total number of beneficiaries availed the treatment benefit was 579454 and out of this 282375 beneficiaries were above 60 (44.2 percent). Though number of the beneficiaries constituted 44.2 percent, the amount utilized for elderly was much above that because of the complications and multiple morbidities.

Vayomithram: This social safety net programme, implemented by the Kerala Social Security Mission, provides health care and support to the elderly above the age of 65, residing in urban areas of the State. Currently, 95 Vayomithram units function in Kerala across 6 Municipal Corporations, 85 Municipalities and 4 Block Panchayats. The project provides health care and support by conducting free medical check-ups and treatment through mobile clinics. An amount of ₹ 2750 lakhs is earmarked for this scheme in 2026-27 budget.

Health Care Package under SayamPrabha Scheme: The Vayoreksha Scheme offers emergency medical assistance, including first aid, surgery, ambulance services and rehabilitation for indigent and abandoned elderly individuals. Through the Vayoamrutham Project, residents of government old age homes receive Ayurveda-based treatments in collaboration with the

Indian System of Medicine, enhancing their health and quality of life. The *Mandahasam Scheme* provides free tooth sets to senior citizens, and the *Vayomadhuram Scheme* supplies glucometers to elderly diabetic persons from BPL families, ensuring comprehensive support for their health and dignity. An amount of ₹ 1400 lakhs is earmarked for various activities of Sayam Prabha in 2026-27 state budget. Apart from this fund, local bodies have also earmarked their contribution for complementing the activities.

Apart from the outlay earmarked under Health Department, the health needs of the elderly from the marginalized sectors are addressed by other various agencies such as SC, ST, OBC and Fisheries departments. Under the 'Health Care Scheme' of Scheduled Caste Department, special components for addressing the elderly care have been included. Fund is also given to Dhanwanthari Centres attached with Medical colleges to start geriatric care and palliative care of the aged people.

Various academies under Department of Cultural Affairs (including Kerala Sangeeta Nataka Academy, Kerala Sahithya Academy, Kerala Folklore Academy and Kerala State Chalachitra Academy) provide medical assistance and insurance support to the elderly artists.

Non -Financial Initiatives of the Government: The MEDISEP (Medical Insurance for State Employees and Pensioners) scheme has significantly benefitted a large number of elderly people, who often live with chronic and multiple morbidities. Owing to the State Governments proactive initiative, unlike other private insurance schemes, MEDISEP provides insurance coverage for pre-existing diseases as well and ensures comprehensive health-care protection even without prior medical check-up. This inclusive approach has resulted in substantial benefits for the elderly population. In the last year alone, about 6.4 lakh persons availed insurance claims under the scheme. Significantly, 41 per cent of the beneficiaries were above 70 years of age, while 37 per cent belonged to the 57–70 age group, clearly indicating that a large proportion (78 percent) of the beneficiaries are elderly and near-elderly individuals.

Similar to MEDISEP, the NORKA Care Insurance Scheme, recently launched for Non-Resident Keralites (NRIs) also ensures insurance coverage up to ₹5 lakh which is particularly beneficial for elderly persons, as it provides health insurance support even in the presence of pre-existing

health conditions. Both MEDISEP and the NORKA Care schemes ensure insurance protection to the elderly primarily because of effective government negotiation and intervention, enabling inclusive coverage of older persons who would otherwise be excluded from conventional insurance schemes.

1.2. Institutional and Community Based Care:

The Department of Social Justice plays a central role in providing institutional and community-based care for the elderly through the operation, regulation and oversight of old age homes and the implementation of welfare schemes. At present, sixteen ***Government-run old age homes*** function under the direct control of the Department. Beyond Government-run facilities, nearly *680 registered old age homes* function under the Orphanage Control Board. Ensuring robust regulation, monitoring and quality assurance of these institutions is critical to safeguarding the rights, dignity and well-being of elderly residents. Altogether 37895 inmates are staying in these old age homes in 2024-25 availing the care and support of the government. In addition, the Department operates *Sayamprabha Homes* in collaboration with Local Self Government Department (LSGD) institutions to provide structured day-care services for older persons. Initiated in 2018 across 82 LSGIs, these centres represent an upgraded model of the earlier *Pakal Veedu* (Day Home) initiative of Local Self Governments (LSGs), with expanded provisions for recreation, basic healthcare and nutritional support. Further strengthening this approach, the Department has piloted *Model Sayamprabha Homes* as multi-service day-care centres designed to address diverse needs of the elderly. Apart from Sayamprabha homes, LSGs run day care centres (*Pakalveedu*) from their own/ plan fund. With the enhanced outlay, Government of Kerala aims to expand the SayamPrabha homes in all local bodies in a phased manner since the scheme is comprehensive one which caters the individual needs as well as community care of the elderly.

Dementia Care Programme: The Kerala State has initiated a programme called Smruthipadham. The Social Justice Department and the Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Society of India undertake this initiative. As part of this project, a day care facility at Kunnamkulam and a full-time day care centre at Edavanakkad, Ernakulam are available.

In 2026-27 budget, provision has been made to initiate a new project viz, '***Retirement Homes***' to provide age friendly homes in all districts on

a fee paying basis with government regulation and monitoring mechanisms and raise as a model institution in the State giving scientific basis for Government level interventions in the activities of paid welfare institutions.

Abhaya Kendra (Homestay) for Artists/Art Village: This project of the Culture Department aims to develop sustainable livelihoods for artists and artisans who have become socially or economically isolated. The initiative provides for the construction of an *Abhayakendra*, a dedicated facility equipped with essential amenities including food, accommodation, and spaces for artistic performances and creative activities, thereby supporting both the welfare and continued cultural engagement of the beneficiaries.

II. Social Security and Community

Social security and social protection for the elderly are key responsibilities of the State Government, with the Social Justice Department serving as the nodal agency for the formulation and implementation of schemes for older persons. The Kerala Social Security Mission plays a significant role in operationalising and delivering several welfare and protection programmes for the elderly. In addition, Local Self Governments and elderly self-help groups are important stakeholders in providing community-level care and support. Complementing these efforts, a wide range of non-governmental and charitable organisations also contribute substantially to the care, protection, and well-being of the elderly population in the State.

Old age Pensions: According to available financial data, more than 75 per cent of Kerala's elderly population is covered under various pension schemes, including old age pensions, welfare board pensions, and other social security pensions, reflecting the extensive reach of income support mechanisms for older persons in the State. These pension schemes constitute a central pillar of Kerala's social protection framework, aimed at ensuring the economic security and dignity of the elderly and other vulnerable groups. Their effectiveness is further strengthened through the active involvement of Local Self Governments and the use of digital platforms such as *Sevana Pension*, which enhance efficiency, transparency and timely delivery of social security benefits.

Social Security Pension: Government of Kerala ensures universal social security pension to all deserving people. This is a non-contributory pension scheme for low-income citizens aged 60 years and above. Beneficiaries

receive a monthly pension of Rs 1,600, which was raised recently to Rs 2000/- per month. As of October 2025, there are 28.8 lakh beneficiaries under the old age pensions scheme. The Central contribution (through the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme) is Rs 200 per month for persons aged 60-79 years and Rs 500 per month for those 80 years and above. The State meets the remaining requirement for these individuals as well as the full pension amount for those not eligible for IGNOAPS benefits.

Welfare Board Pensions: Kerala has established multiple Welfare Boards to provide pension and social security benefits to registered members belonging to various occupational and community groups, including agricultural workers, construction workers, artists, and artisans. These Welfare Boards function as statutory mechanisms for social protection, with pensions financed through a combination of member contributions, government grants and other resources mobilised by the respective Boards. Eligible members are provided with financial support in the form of regular pensions, invalid pensions, family pensions and other welfare benefits as stipulated under the individual Board schemes, thereby ensuring income security and protection against contingencies during old age and periods of vulnerability.

Ashwasakiranam: Through this scheme a monthly assistance of ₹ 1000 will be provided as a compensation for employment forgone by a family member to look after the bed ridden patients at home, including old age and severe physically and intellectually disabled persons.

Community Development and Kudumbashree Networks: Kudumbashree has a strong organisational network across the state, comprising 1,070 Community Development Societies (CDSs), 19,470 Area Development Societies (ADSs) and 3,17,724 Neighbourhood Groups (NHGs), covering 48,08,837 members. Within this extensive structure, special emphasis is given to the elderly through 25,992 Elderly NHGs (Ayalkoottams), consisting of 3,12,280 members.

Through these elderly NHGs, 525 micro-enterprises have been initiated to promote livelihood opportunities. Each eligible Ayalkoottam is provided with a ₹5,000 revolving fund, under which 7,668 Ayalkoottams have benefited so far. In addition, the K4CARE programme is a key initiative of Kudumbashree aimed at delivering community-based care services for the

elderly and other vulnerable sections. The programme includes geriatric care, home-based care, emotional support, assistance with daily activities and basic health monitoring, thereby ensuring dignified ageing and improved quality of life.

Unarvu, established in 2010 under the auspices of Vythippilly Samskrithi Bhavan, functions as a cultural collective committed to the empowerment and social integration of senior citizens. The association organises regular monthly cultural assemblies and skill-sharing platforms, providing elderly participants with opportunities for creative expression, intergenerational interaction and continued social engagement. Through these activities, *Unarvu* contributes significantly to promoting mental well-being, self-esteem and an active cultural life among senior citizens.

III. Adult Education and Livelihood Networks

Kerala State Literacy Mission Authority (KSLMA) plays a significant role in promoting elderly education and lifelong learning in Kerala by addressing the educational, social and digital needs of the ageing population. Through its continuing education programmes, KSLMA provides elderly persons with opportunities to improve functional literacy, numeracy and life skills, enabling them to remain informed, confident and socially engaged. *Koode*, an initiative of the *Kerala State Literacy Mission Authority (KSLMA)*, is a community-based programme aimed at addressing the educational, emotional and social needs of the elderly through a participatory and inclusive approach. The programme focuses on bringing elderly persons together in local learning and support groups, where they engage in activities related to health awareness, rights and entitlements, creative expression and social interaction.

Under *Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)*, *Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Programme* and *Kudumbashree*, elderly livelihood support in Kerala is addressed through a combination of wage employment and community-based self-employment initiatives.

The age-wise distribution of MGNREGS and Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Programme workers in 2024–25 shows that the workforce is dominated by middle-aged and elderly workers. The highest concentration of workers is in the 51–60 and 61–80 age groups,

highlighting the dependence of older individuals on this employment for livelihood security. Overall, the data suggests that such employment programmes function mainly as a critical income support system for older age groups rather than for younger workers. 5,81,040 elderly persons (37.72 percent) could avail employment in 2024-25 under MGNREGS while 17,557 elderly workers participated in Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Programme (28.49 percent).

Kudumbashree plays an important role in supporting elderly livelihoods in Kerala by enabling continued economic participation, particularly among elderly women, through community-based and flexible livelihood models. Many elderly women remain active members of neighbourhood groups, through which they access thrift and credit facilities and small loans to undertake income-generating activities suited to their age and physical capacity. Within the extensive structure, special emphasis is given to the elderly through 25,992 Elderly NHGs (Ayalkoottams), consisting of 3,12,280 members. Apart from these exclusive NHGs, a huge number of elderly are included in general NHGs.



Through these elderly NHGs, **525 micro-enterprises** have been initiated to promote livelihood opportunities. Each elderly Ayalkoottam is eligible to avail ₹5,000 revolving fund. Kudumbashree also addresses the needs of destitute and elderly-headed households through programmes such as Ashraya, in convergence with local self-governments, providing livelihood support along with social care.

Employment department has initiated an exclusive scheme for elderly, **Navajeevan**, for giving self-employment loans (with 50 percent subsidy) to the age group of 50-65.

In the Art and Culture sector, livelihood support and social security measures for the elderly are also integrated through various initiatives. Projects such as *Abhaya Kendra (Art Village)* provide sustainable housing and income opportunities for isolated and elderly artists, ensuring their social and economic security. In addition, various academies extend pension support to senior artists, while the Directorate of Cultural Affairs implements

the scheme “*Livelihood for Artists / Rural Art Hubs*” to strengthen income generation and dignity of life among artists and cultural practitioners even in their old age.

IV Inclusive Infrastructure

Kerala has been progressively strengthening the development of barrier-free and elderly-friendly infrastructure in line with a rights-based and inclusive approach to ageing. Public buildings, transport facilities, health institutions and community spaces are increasingly being designed or retrofitted with features such as ramps, handrails, elevators, non-slip flooring, accessible toilets, clear signage and seating arrangements to ensure safe and independent mobility for older persons. Local Self Governments play a key role in implementing age-friendly infrastructure at the community level, supported by State guidelines and standards for universal accessibility. These initiatives contribute to creating enabling environments that promote independence, participation, safety and dignity for the elderly, consistent with the principles of active and healthy ageing.

Kerala’s *health infrastructure* for the elderly is undergoing a comprehensive decentralized transformation, moving from primary care to tertiary care. The state is modernizing its public health facilities to become ‘elderly-friendly’ by installing specialized cots, railings, ramps and modified toilets, alongside establishing dedicated geriatric clinics in taluk-level hospitals and advanced units in Medical Colleges to provide specialized attention to geriatric care. This physical modernization is integrated into a multi-tiered framework that includes primary home-based care through Family Health Centres, specialized cognitive rehabilitation at the tertiary care hospitals viz. Medical Colleges, District hospitals, etc. Kerala is building a holistic infrastructure designed to support to senior citizens and ensure dignified and accessible healthcare for its senior citizens.

ELDERLY BUDGET 2026-27 STATEMENT: PART A
(Elderly schemes with allocation of 90-100 percent)

Sl.No	Scheme Code	Sector/Subsector /Scheme	Head of Account	Plan outlay (in ₹ lakh)		6 as % of 5	Objectives
				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation to elderly		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Art and Culture							
1	ATC 126	Abhaya Kendra (Homestay) for Artists/Art Village	4202-04-800-84	50.00	50.00	100	This project proposes to develop a sustainable livelihood for various artists and artisans who were isolated in their life.
Medical and public Health							
2	MPS 551	Pneumococcal Vaccination Programmme among Elderly in Kerala	2210-06-101-08	5000.00	5000.00	100	The Pneumococcal Vaccination programme will primarily focus on elderly individuals aged 60 years and above from BPL families, especially those with one or more comorbidities conditions such as diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, cardiovascular diseases, Cancers and other immune compromised conditions.
3	MPS 492	Ensuring disabled & elderly friendly environment in all Medical Colleges	4210-03-105-20	300.00	270.00	90	Differentially abled/elderly friendly environment in all Medical Colleges
4	MPS 448	Assistance to Ayurveda Colleges	2210-05-101-52	45.00	45.00	100	Special Geriatric Care

Sl.No	Scheme Code	Sector/Subsector /Scheme	Head of Account	Plan outlay (in ₹ lakh)		6 as % of 5	Objectives
				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation to elderly		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Labour							
1	LLW 050	NORKA Welfare Fund	2230-01-103-43	1800.00	1800.00	100	To implement various welfare schemes for elder Non-Resident Keralites.
Housing							
1	HSG 071	Loan to KSHB for senior citizen homes	6216-80-800-86	200.00	200.00	100	The scheme is intended to provide age friendly living environments for senior citizens capable of independent living, who require minimal support and care and willing to pay for accommodation, services and facilities. The beneficiaries are retired Government/non- Government employees /elderly people. The board proposes to construct cottages for senior citizens in the land owned by the Board and the project will be implemented on a sustainable/revenue generating model.
Social Security and Welfare							
1	SWE 149	Sayam Prabha (welfare of old age people)	2235-02-104-82	1400.00	1400.00	100	The primary objective is to promote active ageing and social integration, effectively combating loneliness among senior citizens. The main programmes of the scheme are individual care programmes, social assistance and community care programmes, institutional care,etc.

Sl.No	Scheme Code	Sector/Subsector /Scheme	Head of Account	Plan outlay (in ₹ lakh)		6 as % of 5	Objectives
				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation to elderly		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	SWE 253	Vayojana Commission	2235-02-104-71	50.00	50.00	100	The Commission's foundational mandate is to ensure the welfare, protection, and rehabilitation of senior citizens, addressing the demographic challenges posed by Kerala's rapidly aging population.
3	SWE 093(7)	Vayomithram	2235-60-200-72(07)	2750.00	2750.00	100	Vayomithram is a social safety net programme for the elderly . The components of the project are free medical checkup and treatment through mobile clinic, free health care, ambulance facilities, palliative home care, help desk facilities, counseling, Vathilpadi Sevanam social support programmes etc. to the elderly.
4	SWE 093(18)	Dementia/Alzheimer's memory screening clinics	2235-60-200-72(26)	100.00	100.00	100	The objective of the scheme Includes dementia memory screening classes/camps/trainings to all geriatricians, medical officers, co-ordinators, nurses and JPHN of Vayomithram Project, assistance to memory clinic, care giver group, helpline, day care centre, referral service, providing assistance of psychiatrist for persons assessed for dementia, purchase of medicine, expenses for programme and IEC activities etc.

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				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation to elderly		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	SWE 148	Barrier Free Kerala Scheme	4235 -02 -101 -99	800.00	800.00	100	The objective is to make the welfare institutions and offices of the Social Justice Department barrier-free.
6	SJP 004	State support for National Social Assistance Programme - National Old Age Scheme (State)	2235-03-101-99 (02)	3.00	3.00	100	The scheme is intended for giving additional support to Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme.
INDUSTRIES, MINERALS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY							
Village and small Industries							
Small Scale Industries							
1	VSI 396	Entrepreneurship Assistance for Senior Empowerment (EASE) - (as part of Local economic development and sustainability of enterprises Scheme) - Implemented by Directorate of Industries & Commerce.	2851-00-102-98	24.76	24.76	100	Scheme to support retired persons, who possess immense potential to become successful entrepreneurs by combining their experience, practical wisdom, community network, matured attitude and availability of free time.

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				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation to elderly		
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Information Technology Sector							
2	IT075	New Innings (as part of Kerala Startup Mission)	2852-07-202-68	400.00	400.00	100	The scheme aims to unlock the vast professional expertise of retired individuals to support innovation, create sustainable income for seniors, and foster intergenerational knowledge transfer
GENERAL SERVICES							
Civil Supplies							
1	CS 033	Annapoorna Food Security Scheme for the Aged Destitute (20% State Share)	2408-01-102-97(02)	1.00	1.00	100	Exclusively for elderly people. In the scheme, destitute individuals who have attained 65 years of age and eligible for National Old Age Pension, but not getting pension for some reason will get 10 Kg of rice per month free of cost for ensuring food security.
TOTAL				12923.76	12893.76		

ELDERLY BUDGET 2026-27 STATEMENT: PART B							
(Elderly schemes with allocation less than 90 per cent in 2026-27)							
Sl. No.	Scheme Code	Sector/Subsector /Scheme	Head of Account	Plan outlay (in ₹ lakh)		6 as % of 5	Objectives
				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation for elderly		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Art and Culture							
1	ATC 102	Livelihood for artists/ rural art hubs	2205-00-102-71	500.00	250.00	50	To help the folk artists and craftsmen to enhance their skill and enable them to reach out to the global market and to strengthen their livelihood.
2	ATC 028	Kerala Sangeeta Nataka Academy	2205-00-102-90	1300.00	130.00	10	Activities for elderly artists
3	ATC 029	Kerala Lalitha Kala Academy: activities for elderly artists.	2205-00-102-91	750.00	75.00	10	Activities for elderly artists
4	ATC 034	Kerala Folklore Academy	2205-00-102-74	500.00	100.00	20	Activities for elderly artists
5	ATC 018	Vyloppilli Samskrithi Bhavan.	2205-00-102-40	300.00	60.00	20	Weekend Programmes by Elderly artists at Vyloppilli Samskriti Bhavan and other programmes.
6	ATC 024	Kerala State Chalachitra Academy	2205-00-102-66	1600.00	320.00	20	The Academy organizes film festivals, conducts film appreciation courses, documentation etc. for the development of film and television media.

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				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation for elderly		
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7	ATC 027	Kerala Sahithya Academy	2205-00-102-97	500.00	150.00	30	The Kerala Sahitya Academy is an autonomous institution established for the promotion and development of Malayalam language and literature.
Sports and Youth Affairs							
1	SYS 081	Sports Development Fund	2204-00-104-82	1500.00	150.00	10	Rehabilitation of retired sports persons:- To empower all the former sports persons to be fit for life after enduring the demanding lifestyle of a person, a scheme is proposed for the rehabilitation of retired sports persons. This programme is implemented through KSSC.
2	SYS 111	Sports Infrastructure Facilities	4202-03-102-94	1400.00	140.00	10	Open Gyms and Multi-sport Play Space Cluster, Establishment of Sports Life Fitness Centres, Walk ways and cycling tracks.
			2204-00-104-45	1650.00	165.00	10	Expenses for the implementation of physical fitness programmes for all category people in the society including elderly.
3	SYS 140	Rural Play Grounds	4202-03-102-83	2800.00	280.00	10	Facilities like fitness Pavilion and Gym to improve mental physical capacity of the people including elderly.

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4	SYS 090	Community Sports	2204-00-800-75	100.00	40.00	40	Community sports aim to create environments where everyone can participate regardless of gender identity, expression or biological sex, promoting gender neutrality and equality.
5	SYS 002	Assistance to Kerala State Sports Council	2204-00-104-97	4560.00	912.00	20	Kayika Kshamatha Mission aims to promote the benefits of leading a physically active life among the various cross sections of the society including elderly persons.
Medical and Public Health							
1	MPS 028	Pain, Palliative & Elderly health Care Centres	2210-01-110-52	500.00	350.00	70	The activities proposed are; elderly friendly hospital initiative, training on elderly care, elderly care day celebrations and IEC.
2	MPS157	Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS)	2210-05-001-93	1200.00	120.00	10	Development of a Feasible Model for Health and Social Care for People aged 75 or older.
3	MPS 507	Ayushman Bharat –Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY)/	2210-06-800-81	80000.00	36000.00	45	Health assurance to senior citizens.
4	MPS 510	Karunya Arogya Suraksha Padhathi (KASP)	2210-06-800-80 (02)	10000.00	4500.00	45	

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5	MPS 506	Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences (IMHANS)	2210-05-200-95	500.00	50.00	10	Centre for Geriatric Mental Health and Cognitive Rehabilitation.
6	MPS 445	Strengthening, Upgradation and Modernization of ISM institutions	2210-02-101-66	2200.00	220.00	10	For the construction and maintenance of elder friendly barrier free institutions.
7	MPS 233	Construction works under ISM	4210-02-103-94	600.00	120.00	20	GAH Kizhuvilam, Thiruvananthapuram General Ward - First Floor and Govt. ayurveda Hospital Vaikkom, Kottayam - Construction of Palliative ward.
8	MPS 090,448, 449,092, 093	Major Construction Works under DAME	4210-03-101-(99,75,83,98,93,78)	1500.00	300.00	20	Ongoing construction of building for geriatric ward.
9	MPS 451	Health Management & Speciality Health Care Centres	2210-02-102-74	675.00	135.00	20	Geriatric care centres and Pain and Palliative Care Centres.
10	MPS 104	Assistance to Homoeo Medical Colleges	2210-02-102-97	119.00	11.90	10	Palliative care units and geriatric care.
11	MPS 106		2210-02-102-98	169	16.9	10	

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Labour							
1	LLW 079	The Un-organised Workers Social Security Scheme	2230-01-103-17-00	250.00	100.00	40	To provide treatment benefit, maternity benefit, disabled pension, retirement benefit, marriage assistance, funeral benefit and other welfare activities to the workers registered under various Welfare Fund Boards.
2	LLW 135	Social Protection for Un-organised sector worker (Tree Climbers Disability Pension Scheme)	2230-01-103-60-00	200.00	100.00	50	to provide pension to the dependents and workers who have received financial assistance under the Kerala Tree Climbers Welfare Scheme.
3	LLW 137	NAVAJEEVAN	2230-02-101-87	80.00	40.00	50	for providing self-employment loans to senior citizens with in the age group of 50-65 and having employment registration.
4	LLW 089	Rehabilitation of Returnee Migrants	2230-01-103-11	3500.00	700.00	20	To provide sustainable livelihood for return emigrants by promoting self-employment ventures.
5	LLW 171	Rehabilitation, reintegration and coordination of NRKs	2230-01-103-48	3000.00	600.00	20	The project aims at rehabilitating, re-integrating and co-ordinating the elder returned Non-Resident Keralites, due to various reasons.

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6	LLW 019	Santhwana Scheme	2230-01-103-39	3500.00	1400.00	40	Distress relief scheme is intended to provide the time bound financial support to the elder pravasis who has returned back to his home land.
7	LLW 170	Pravasi Housing scheme	2230-01-103-44	100.00	20.00	20	providing loans from various financial institutions including Banks with Government assistance of 5% loan subsidy for the elder pravasi people.
8	LLW092	NORKA Business Facilitation Centre	2230-01-103-42	150.00	72.00	48	NBFC is offering comprehensive support to NRKS and returnee emigrants on investment opportunities in Kerala.
Social Security and Welfare							
1	SWE 026	Strengthening Administrative Infrastructure and Capacity building under SJD	2235 -02 -001 -96	750.00	187.50	25	The objective of this scheme is to strengthen the Social Justice Department's infrastructure and human resource capacity. In frame of old age homes also comes under this scheme.
2	SWE 079	Documentation and Publicity including observance of national days and weeks	2235 -02 -001 -93	100.00	25.00	25	Objective are to create awareness among public through print, audio, digital, social and visual media and through workshop, seminars, prevention campaigns etc. The department has been observing various days and weeks at State and District levels, such as, Social Justice Day, Old Age Day, Elderly Abuse Prevention Day, Probation Day, World Alzheimer's Day, World Disabilities Day, Human Rights Day and other days as decided by the Govt.

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	SWE 093(2)	Assistance to Mentally/ Physically Challenged Persons at Home (Ashwasakiranam)	2235-60-200-72(02)	10000.00	5000.00	50	Through this scheme a monthly assistance of ₹1000 will be provided as a compensation for employment forgone by a family member to look after the bed ridden patients at home, including severe physically and intellectually disabled persons, old age, cancer patients, 100 percent blind, autistic and persons with mental illness.
4	SWE 254	ANPU VEEDU - Block level Care Homes for persons with intellectual disability	2235-02-101-52	300.00	150.00	50	For providing day care and short-stay (respite) services to persons with intellectual disability. Helpful to the disabled persons as well as their parents.
5	SWE 103	Comprehensive projects for PwDs in collaboration with NGOs, LSGs, Autonomous bodies	2235 -02 -101 -73	1250.00	312.50	25	The objective of this scheme is to fulfill the mandates of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, by fostering synergistic partnerships between the government, NGOs, and local bodies.
6	SWE 223	Care providers for Inmates of Institutions under Social Justice Department	2235 - 60 -200 -72 (06)	400.00	280.00	70	Activities include training and skill development, honorarium and allowances to care providers of old age homes and other homes appointed in welfare institutions under SJD.

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7	SWE 118 (9)	Assistance to National Institute Of Physical Medicine And Rehabilitation(NIP MR)	2235 -02 -101 -69 (10)	2250.00	450.00	20	NIPMR is an institute dedicated for the state of the art services for children and adults with disabilities including early identification, intervention, management, rehabilitation and research. Major disabilities dealt with the institute includes neuro developmental disorders, locomotor disabilities, hearing and speech disabilities, spinal injuries, movement disorders and chronic neurological disorders, especially cerebral palsy.
8	SWE 093(04)	Comprehensive package for the victims of endosulphan	2235 -60 -200 -72 (04)	1800.00	360.00	20	Financial assistance to victims of endosulfan.
9	SWE 004	National Institute for Speech and Hearing (NISH)	2235 -02 -101 -85	2750.00	1100.00	40	Rehabilitating the deaf and hard of hearing persons in the State and for providing higher education to persons with hearing disabilities.
10	SWE 208	Samashwasam	2235 -60 -200 -72 (25)	600.00	300.00	50	Samashwasam scheme is designed to provide financial assistance to kidney patients belonging to BPL families, patients who have undergone kidney/liver transplantation surgery, patients who are affected by hemophilia and related diseases and financial assistance is provided to Sickle cell anaemia patients of non-tribal category who belong to BPL families.

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11	SWE 040	Training & Livelihood for Ex-Service mem/ Widows/ Dependents	2235 -60 -200 -77	60.00	12.00	20	The Department of Sainik Welfare is looking after the welfare and rehabilitation of ex-servicemen and their dependents. The department intends to give training to ex-servicemen, widows and dependents for the livelihood and activities to initiate self-employment.

XXXVII INDUSTRIES

Village and small Industries

Handloom and Powerloom

1	VSI 272	Weavers/Allied Workers Motivation Programme	2851-00-103-38	450.00	135.00	30	Scheme to motivate elderly weavers /allied workers to improve productivity by providing attractive incentives for additional work
2	VSI 198	Contributory Thrift Fund	2851-00-103-43	100.00	30.00	30	Scheme to inculcate saving habits among elderly handloom workers. Savings are disbursed to cover expenses like marriage and education of children of weavers.
3	VSI 408	Health programme for Handloom weavers and allied workers	2851-00-103-21	20.00	6.00	30	To address the weavers ailments, including ophthalmic requirements and ensure physical well-being of weavers.

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4	VSI 280	Modernisation of Handloom Societies and Promotion of value added products	2851-00-103-33	400.00	120.00	30	Scheme for modernisation of handloom societies, to promote greater value addition and ensure better working conditions for workers
GENERAL ECONOMIC SERVICES							
SECRETARIAT ECONOMIC SERVICES							
Excise							
1	SES 180	Vimukthi - De addiction Centre- 14 District	2039-00-001-88	1250.00	125.00	10	De-addiction activities for elderly people
Police							
1	SES 070	Community policing (janamaithri suraksha project)	2055-00-115-98				The project addresses the concerns of all section of society including elderly.
2	SES 070	Railmaithri Janamaithri Suraksha Project at Railways	2055-00-115-98				
3	SES 070	Migrant Labour Janamaithri Suraksha Project	2055-00-115-98				

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				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation for elderly		
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4	SES 070	Tribal Janamaithri Suraksha Project	2055-00-115-98	290.00	87.00	30	The project addresses the concerns of all section of society including elderly.
5	SES 070	Pink Protection Project in State. Women and Child Protection Scheme	2055-00-115-98				
6	SES 070	Prasanthi Senior Citizens Help Desk, consultation programmes, and Victim Support Cell for the welfare of Senior Citizens	2055-00-115-98				
7	SES 070	Coastal Security and Janamaithri Suraksha Project	2055-00-115-98				
8	SES 070	Janamaithri Kendram Project - Up gradation of infrastructure facilities of Hospitals and Janamaithri Lab:	2055-00-115-98				

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Treasury Department							
1	SES 221	Construction of Treasury Buildings including Treasury Directorate - Phase IV, designed to be women, elderly, and disabled friendly, as well as energy-efficient, supporting sustainable infrastructure and inclusive public service delivery.	5475-00-800-80 (04)	505.43	126.40	25	Renovation/Construction of Public Washroom with Special Facilities for elderly people and for providing other infrastructural facilities in Treasuries
Law							
1	SES 030	Modernization of Law Department - Socio legal awareness to the marginalized section of the society, women, student community (School, college etc.)	3451-00-090-98	73.00	14.60	20	Providing legal awareness to elderly also

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				State Plan (including state share of CSS)	Allocation for elderly		
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GENERAL SERVICES							
CIVIL SUPPLIES							
12	CS 036	Civil supplies: Assistance for implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA)- Mobile ration shop, General Awareness Programme, IEC Components - Awareness to different stakeholder.	3456-00-001-78 3456-00-001-80 4408-02-101-99	6857.00	2057.00	30	To ensure the nutritional support to all sections of people including elderly.
Rural Development							
1	RDT 081,051	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (MGNREGP) (State Scheme)	4515-00-103-97(02) 2505-02-101-99(02)	23009.00	8679.00	37.72	The Scheme seeks to provided for enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas. This scheme provide individual income support for old age groups.

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Community Development at Panchayat							
1	CDT 115	Kudumbasree (State share)	2515-00-102-29 4515-00-102-47	27500.00	5500.00	20	There are 25992 elderly NHGs (Ayalkoottam) and 525 micro enterprises initiated to promote individual opportunities.
Urban Development							
1	UDT 058	Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Programme	2217-80-800-76	20000.00	5698.00	28.49	The scheme aims to enhance livelihood security in urban areas. Workers aged 65 and above constitute a significant proportion, understanding the importance of the scheme in providing wage employment the elderly population
Scheduled Caste Development							
1	WBC 369	Health care scheme	2225-01-282-96	7000.00	2800.00	40	Setting up of old age homes and Dhawantharu centres attached with Medical Colleges will be strengthened to state Gender care and Palliative care to the aged people.
2	WBC 209	SAFE	2225-01-283-89 4225-01-283-82	254.00	63.50	25	Renovation of dilapidated houses of elderly people of SC.
3	WBC 278	Land to Landless	2225-01-283-87 4225-01-283-83	177.00	44.25	15	Providing land to landless elderly persons

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KSLMA							
1	RDT 100	Kerala Saksharatha Mission	2515-00-102-21	2020.00	1212.00	60	Literacy and Continuing Education for Elderly.
Welfare of Backward Class Communities							
1	WBC 073	Kerala State Backward Classes Development Corporation Limited	4225-03-190-98	2000.00	200.00	10	Livelihood support for eradication of poverty and backwardness of elderly people among the OBCs.
Welfare of Scheduled Tribe Communities							
1	WBC 072	Food Support / food Security Programme	2225-02-102-92	2200.00	880.00	40	Provide nutritional support to elderly people in tribal areas.
Total				240068.43	83582.55		

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