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# ROLE OF KAIVALYA SCHEME IN KOTTAYAM AND IDUKKI DISTRICTS OF KERALA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED SELF EMPLOYED

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#### Abstract

Differently Abled Persons constitute around 3.4% of the population of Kerala. Isolated by the main stream, these people lack education, don't have regular employment and mostly below the poverty line. Living with disability limits a person in actively participating in economic and social activities. These barriers restrict them to compete equally with others in the society, especially in the case of employment. Right to Equality is a Fundamental Right under the Constitution of India. So, it is duty of the Government to enrich these Differently Abled Persons and bring them at par with rest of the society. Govt. through its various schemes tries to develop this socially excluded minority group. Persons with Disabilities Act was passed by the Parliament in December 2016, for the upliftment of Physically Disabled Persons. Majority of the disabled population in the state lives in poverty. Self-employment is the best solution to uplift them socially and economically. In this paper the researchers evaluate the performance of Kaivalya scheme, the self-employment scheme for differently abled by the Govt. of Kerala.

## **Key Words**

Self-employment, Differently-abled, Kaivalya scheme, Entrepreneurship

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

The first announcement to protect the rights of people with disabilities, and prevent their exploitation was issued by Kautilya during the Maurya dynasty between the 4th and 5th centuries. The ancient Greeks and Romans viewed the disabled population as a burden on society and were treated atrociously. They even killed disabled babies. They believed that the disability is due to the wrath of God, so these individuals should be