

**STUDY ON ROLE OF RESIDENT WELFARE ASSOCIATION (RWA) IN
RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT**

Resident Welfare Association is an organization of a group of people exist in a common locality, street or road whose main objective is to address the issues within their local area and to provide its members a platform to represent themselves within their community. Since each association is formed to address the specific issues of their locality, their objectives as well as functioning differ from each other. The increased need for a social life among people in modern society has resulted in the formation of these associations. The study is conducted mainly to understand the emerging role and relevance of RWAs in residential neighbourhood management in Kerala context. This study also investigates into various activities adopted by RWAs for the social and economic welfare of its members and the various modes of resource mobilization adopted by RWAs for their developmental activities. Relationship between associations and stakeholders in services delivery as well as participation of residents in the activities of association at significance level were also examined through case studies. In implementing neighbourhood agenda, RWAs experience challenges that include low residents' participation and finances. The study recommends need to sensitize residents and associations on opportunities available for their participation in community development.

Keywords: *Resident Welfare Association, neighbourhood management, community development.*