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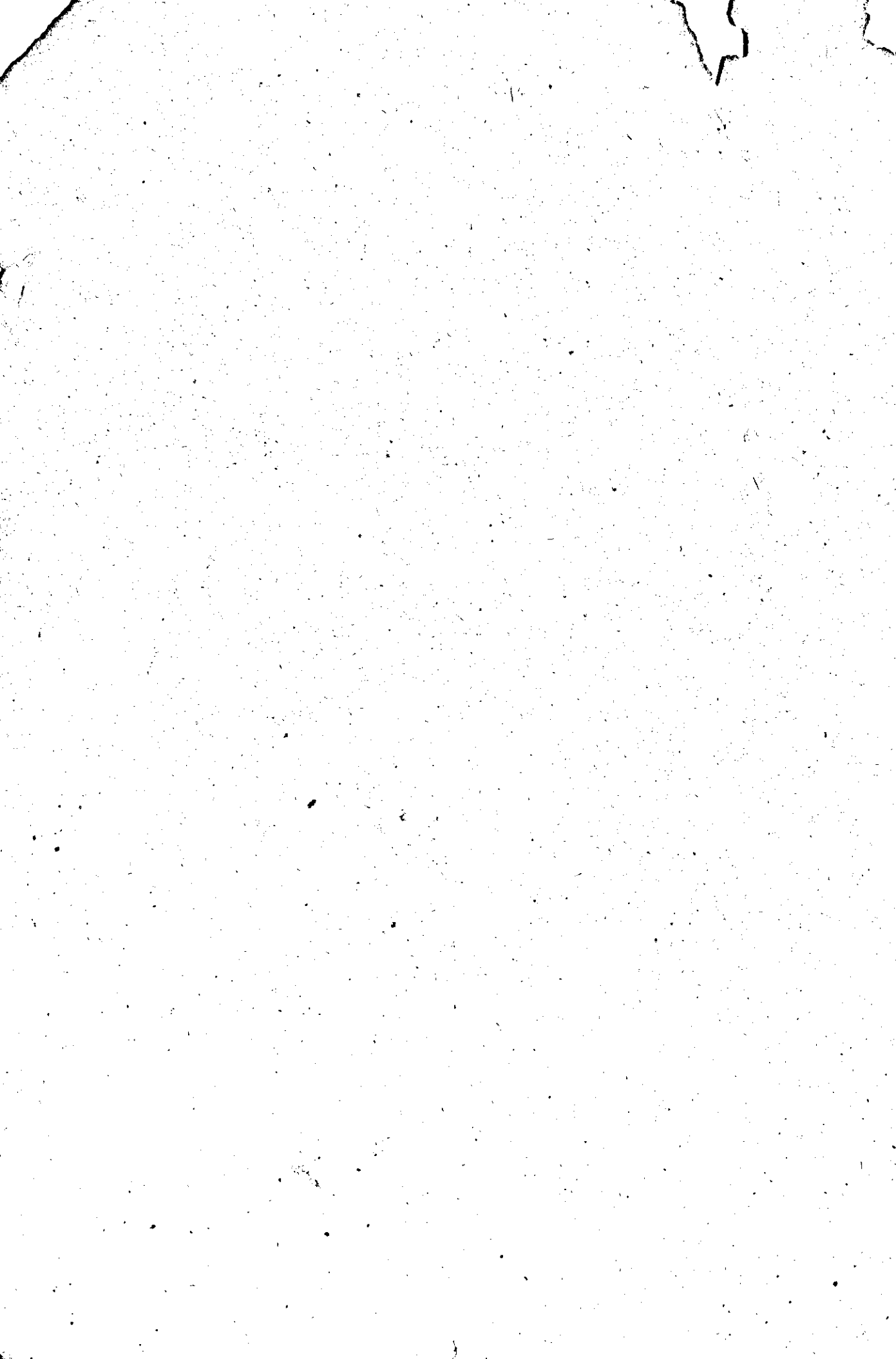
**BUREAU OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS
KERALA STATE**

**AN INNOVATIVE STERILISATION
CAMPAIGN**

(Report of a Mini Family Planning Camp during
Santhosh Trophy Football Tournament at
Kozhikode from 1-12-75 to 9-1-1976)

APRIL 1976

**DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH
CENTRE, TRIVANDRUM.**



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P R E F A C E

The organisers of the Santosh Trophy Foot-ball Tournament held at Kozhikode during December 1975 to January 1976, deserve to be congratulated for arranging a mini sterilisation camp at the Foot Ball grounds with the innovative extra incentive of Free tickets to witness the semi finals and final matches. The opportunity was promptly availed of by Dr. P. Sathyanarayana, Asst. District Medical Officer, Kozhikode and Sri V. G. George, District Statistical Officer, Kozhikode, who arranged to collect detailed data on the characteristics of those who have come forward to accept sterilisation at the foot-ball grounds. The initiative shown is appreciated.

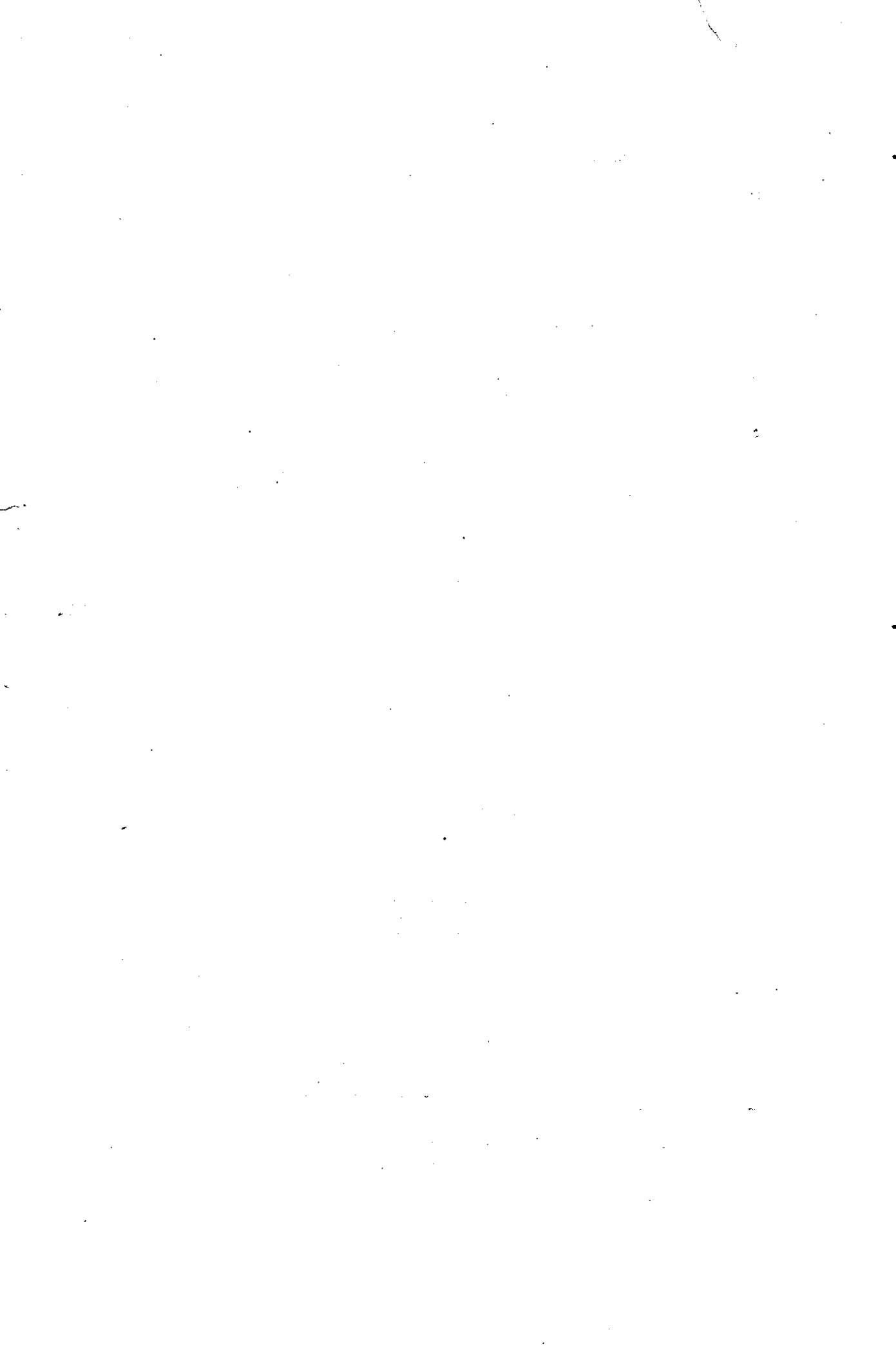
The analysis of the data collected has been done at the Demographic Research Centre of the Bureau of Economics and Statistics and the present report is the result. The report reveals the selective nature of the acceptors at the foot-ball grounds, who are younger in age, of higher educational level and of lower parity, as compared to their counter-parts in other camps and under the normal programme. The organisers of the camp have paved the way for a new strategy in popularising sterilisation among people who congregate in melas, festivals and the like.

The report has been prepared by Sri C. Surendranathan Nair, Research Officer under the guidance of Sri P. S. Gopinathan Nair, Assistant Director. The draft was revised and finalised by Dr. R. S. Kurup in consultation with me.

Bureau of Economics
and Statistics,
Trivandrum, 2-4-76

N. COPALAKRISHNAN NAIR
DIRECTOR

BUREAU OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS



AN INNOVATIVE STERILISATION CAMPAIGN

(Report of a Mini Family Planning camp during Santosh Trophy Foot Ball Tournament at Kozhikode from 13-12-1975 to 21-12-1975)

1. Introduction:

While Family Planning Festivals have been conducted in many parts of the country following the example of Ernakulam camp, the idea of taking Family Planning services including sterilisation to places like Railway Station where people congregate, has been successfully tried in Bombay. A combination of these two features has resulted in the conduct of a Mini sterilisation camp at the Foot-Ball ground in Kozhikode, where Santosh Trophy Foot Ball Tournament was held during December 1975 to January 1976. A tournament of such nature as Santosh Trophy attracts a large number of football lovers, especially in the Kozhikode and neighbouring districts. Hence, among the foot-ball lovers, people from all walks of life could be expected with a predominance of middle and young age groups. It is only in the fitness of things that the organisers of the tournament saw through of holding a mini sterilisation camp at the football ground, with the unique additional incentive, of a free ticket costing Rs.15/- to witness the semi-finals and the final of the Santosh Trophy matches, to all those who undergo vasectomy at the mini camp. The formal compensation of Rs.20/- given to all acceptors of vasectomy was increased by Rs.17/- during the last nine days of the camp. Added to these, the acceptors were given tonic and vitamin tablets and 103 prizes to the winners (among the sterilized persons) in the lucky draw held on the last day of the camp.

This report attempts to present the characteristics of the 1018 persons who accepted sterilisation at the football ground as compared to the normal programme and other camps.

2. Source of data:

The salient socio-economic and demographic characteristics like age, religion, education, occupation, income number of children born and living to persons sterilised, etc. are discussed briefly, followed by pointing out the distinct achievement of enlisting a large percentage of youth to accept sterilisation.

3. Age composition of acceptors

The acceptors of the mini camp seem to be drawn from the younger age groups to a larger extent than that of earlier mass camps. A comparison of the percentage of acceptors from the two crucial age groups, 20-29 and 30-39 given below is revealing.

TABLE -1

Age group	Percentage distribution of sterilised persons in the two age groups					
	Kozhikode	Trichur	Kannur		Trivandrum	Coimbatore
	Mini camp (1976)	camp (1972)	1st camp (1970)	2nd camp (1971)	camp (1972)	camp (1972)
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
20-29	15.61	8.4	9.5	13.5	13.1	6.3
30-39	50.10	46.3	44.3	46.2	46.0	41.3

The percentage of acceptors from both the above age groups is distinctly higher than the corresponding percentages of all the earlier camps since 1970. Certainly, this could be due to the fact that the universe of foot-ball lovers, from whom the sample of acceptors has come forward is younger in age. As against this, the proportion in the age segment of 40 years and above, among the 2nd camp acceptors is lower than that of other camps. Still, the continuance of slightly more than one third of the acceptors in the age group 40 and above, points to the need for greater discrimination in accepting persons of younger age, as this will have a better demographic impact. The age group of acceptors among the three religious groups also show variation. Among the christian acceptors, 83% belong to the age group 25-39 while the corresponding figure for Hindus is 62 and for Muslims 66. (Table 2 appended).

More significant is the age composition of the wives of sterilised males. Hence, it is interesting to compare the percentage of wives of sterilised males, in the high fertility age groups of 20-24 and 25-29.

Table 3

Age group of wives	Wives of sterilised males - % in some important age groups				
	Kozhikode	Trichur	Kannur	Trivandrum	Coimbatore
	Mini camp 1976	camp 1972	2nd camp 1971	camp 1972	camp 1972
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
20-24	39.0	11.3	15.8	20.3	13.2
25-29	35.0	22.8	27.4	29.4	29.4

As may be seen from above, there is marked difference in the proportion of acceptors from the younger age groups, at the mini camp.

4. Religious composition

69% of the persons sterilised in the camp are drawn from Hindus, 25.3% from Muslims and only 5.3% from Christians. The religious composition of Kozhikode district

shows that 62% of the population are Hindus, 30.6% Muslims and 7% Christians. In the case, while Hindus are over-represented, Muslims and Christians are under-represented compared to their corresponding proportions in the total population. This phenomenon is observed in other studies also.

5. Educational standard of acceptors

A distinctive feature emerging from the analysis of the educational standard of acceptors is the comparatively lower percentage of illiterates. This category comes only 11.7% as against 21% among acceptors of sterilisation in the District under the normal programme. A comparison with other camps may be seen from Table below:

Table 4

Percentage of illiterates in the various camps

Thiruvananthapuram mini camp	Trichur (4)	Iduvancherry (5)	Aranyankulam (5)
11.7	20.8	40.2	27.1

Quite contrary is the position, regarding the proportion of those at the other end of the educational scale - namely literate and above. The percentage of this category among the acceptors at the mini camp is 12.6, as against only 8.4 among the acceptors of the normal programme.

The relatively lower literacy level of Muslims is evident in the case of mini camp acceptors also. 20% of the Muslim acceptors are illiterates, while this category comes only 9% among Hindus and 4% among Christians. On the other hand, the percentage of those who are "literate and above" perceived among the Christian acceptors is distinctly higher (18.6%) when compared with Hindus (11.1%) and Muslims (5.2%). (Table 5 appended)

The relevant figures are given in Table 2.

6. Occupation

It would be interesting to find out the occupational classification of the acceptors, as this would throw light on the categories of persons who come forward to accept sterilisation as against those who refrain from acceptance. 42.5% of persons sterilised in the mini camp belong to unskilled workers. 31.7% are drawn from cultivators and farmers. Teachers and businessmen form only 8.6%. An important factor to be noted here is that in the mini camp, only 1% of the acceptors are drawn from the category of agricultural labourers. The corresponding figure for the acceptors under the normal programme in the District is 1.2% and that of Trichur camp 21%. This could mean that the

agricultural labourers in general, lack interest in foot-ball match and the camp connected with it. Relevant figures (with District level figures in brackets) are given in Table 2 appended. Another notable characteristic of the camp is that 16% of the adopters in the camp belong to skilled workers. The corresponding district level figure for the normal programme is 6.5%.

Compared to the pattern of the adopters of the District, it may be pointed out that there is a notable increase in the proportion of traders, and businessmen, clerical workers and skilled workers and a sharp decrease in the proportion of the category of agricultural labourers, unskilled workers, cultivators and farmers. This shift in the patterns is evidently due to the relative predominance of certain occupational categories among the foot-ball lovers who are mostly drawn from urban and semi-urban areas. This finding is a pointer to future strategy of organising mini camps as part of fairs and festivals, where certain categories of people, who normally are not netted by the normal programme, are likely to congregate in large numbers.

7. Income:

There is a tendency to project a low income by the persons who come to adopt sterilisation. Income reporting is always in tune with the level of concessions fixed by Government or other agencies. So the statement of income is rather pivoted on the level of concession or benefit. With this limitation, the income data are analysed. Only 17% of the adopters have reported a monthly income of more than Rs.200/-. On an average those who have adopted sterilisation have a monthly income of Rs.132/-. About 80% have reported an income of less than Rs.200/-. Under the normal programme in the District, 80% have reported an income of less than Rs.100/- (Table 7 appended).

8. Number of children born and living

The average number of children born to a person at the time of sterilisation in the mini camp is 3.25. In fact 66.5% of the adopters have 3 or less than 3 children born to them at the time of sterilisation. The corresponding figure for the district under the normal programme is 53.3%.

An average of 3.24 children are living to persons sterilised in the mini camp. 66.7% of the adopters have 3 or less than 3 children living at the time of sterilisation. The corresponding figure for acceptors of normal programme in Kozhikode District is 56.4%. Comparison with other camps is given in the Table below:

Table 3

Percentage distribution of sterilised persons according to number of children living

No. of children living	Kozhikode	Trichur	Trivandrum	Bonakulam	
	Mini camp	(4)	(3)	1st (1)	2nd (2)
2 & below	37.7	19.7	25.4	22.8	22.4
3	29.0	22.7	25.6	27.6	26.3
4 +	33.3	57.6	49.0	49.6	51.3

34.4% of adopters have only two children living at the time of adoption. In other camps the proportion of those with two living children are in the range of 19% to 25% (Table 9 appended). This remarkable increase in the proportion of adopters having only 2 living children in the mini camp may have some bearing on the enthusiasm of the young, educated or skilled workers towards Santosih Trophy foot-ball tournament. Another salient feature to be noted here is that 55.8% of those who had no male children and 38.4% of those who had no female children living, had 3 living children at the time of sterilisation. This indicates the general trend towards family planning; and their consciousness of family size is so great that the people terminate their reproduction as soon as they get three children living, no matter whether they got children of either sexes (Table 10 appended).

The average number of children living at the time of sterilisation for Hindus comes to 3.12 and for Muslims it is 3.19 and Christians it is 3.57. 72.8% of the Christian adopters have 3 or less than 3 children living (Table 11 appended) and the corresponding proportions for Hindus and Muslims are 69.9% and 56.4% while 44% of the Christian adopters have 3 children living at the time of sterilisation, only 27.2% of Hindus and 28.4% of Muslims have 3 children living at the time of vasectomy (Table 11 appended). As a matter of fact 11% of the adopters have no male children living at the time of sterilisation and 15.3% of the adopters have no female children (Table 10 appended).

9. Interval between the age of last live birth and acceptance of sterilisation

The age of the last living child gives an indication of the period, between the latest delivery of the wife of the vasectomised person and the acceptance of sterilisation. It would be better if this period is as short as possible; as otherwise, use of some other temporary method has to be suspected. When there is a long interval between last live-birth and date of sterilisation without contraceptive use, the possibility of secondary sterility has to be considered. In such a case the sterilisation is rather unwanted.

The average interval between the date of the last live birth and acceptance of sterilisation comes to 20 months. In more than two-third cases, the period is above 12 months. Unfortunately data on contraceptive use, if any, during the interval have not been collected.

10. Conclusions and implications

The idea of taking family planning service to those who are in need is implied in the organisation of family planning camps at places where people assemble for one reason or the other i.e. at the site of festivals, fairs, railway stations, tournaments etc. Kozhikode mini camp is of that type.

Cash incentives are offered to persons sterilised in the mini camp as in other camps. The only added attraction in the package of incentives offered is the free tickets to witness the Santosih Trophy semi and final foot-ball matches.

This has apparently influenced the foot-ball lovers who availed of the family planning facilities of these camps in greater numbers.

Comparing the present camp with that of the previous camps of the State, one can easily find that the acceptors of mini camps are younger than the acceptors of other camps and are drawn from a particular section of the people comprising traders, businessmen, clerical and skilled workers. Their desire to limit the family size and to witness the Santos Trophy are simultaneously satisfied. This camp indicates that there is still scope for extending the strategy of holding special family planning camps so as to suit the category of people desired to be brought under family planning fold.

Regarding the number of children living to persons sterilised in the camp, it may be pointed out that there is average of 2.24 living children to persons sterilised in the mini camp, while the corresponding figure for Kozhikode district is 3.9. On the basis of this difference, the birth averted by the sterilisation at this camp will be higher by 43% than in the normal programme. Hence, it may be concluded that this innovative approach has yielded comparatively better results in terms of demographic effect as compared to the normal programme. It is hoped that such attempts will be repeated and the performance of the family planning programme in the State will improve in the years to come.

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- (2) Report on Second Mass Vasectomy camp at Ernakulam. May 1972 - Demographic Research Centre - Paper No.73
- (3) A Report on the Family Planning festival at Trivandrum - May 1972 - Demographic Research Centre - Paper No.74
- (4) Trichur Mass Vasectomy Camp 1972 - An Analysis - Demographic Research Centre - Paper No.81
- (5) Family Planning Festival at Cannanore (11-3-72 to 10-4-1972) - Demographic Research Centre - Paper No.82

Table 2

Demographic particulars of sterilised persons according to age and religion.

AGE GROUP	HINDU		CHRISTIAN		MUSLIM		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15 - 19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20 - 24	5	0.71	..	..	10	3.89	15	1.47
25 - 29	90	12.83	13	22.03	41	15.36	144	14.15
30 - 34	170	24.22	21	35.59	68	23.46	259	25.43
35 - 39	175	24.05	15	25.43	61	23.74	251	24.66
40 - 44	134	19.09	4	6.78	39	15.13	177	17.33
45 & above	123	18.23	6	10.17	38	14.79	172	16.89
Total	702	100.00	59	100.00	257	100.00	1019	100.00

Table 15

Demographic particulars of sterilised persons (males) according to Educational status and Religion.

Educational status	Hindu		Christian		Muslim		N.R.		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Illiterate	65	9.26	2	3.39	52	20.23	..	..	119	11.09
Primary	130	21.87	18	30.51	85	33.03	..	..	253	24.83
Above Primary below Middle	289	41.17	12	20.34	67	26.07	..	..	368	36.15
Above Middle below Metric	102	14.53	16	27.12	31	12.00	..	..	149	14.64
Metric & above	96	13.67	11	18.64	21	8.17	..	..	128	12.57
Not specified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
N.R.	..	..	..	..	1	0.39	..	..	1	0.10
Totals	702 (68.09)	100.00	59 (5.79)	100.00	257 (25.25)	100.00	..	..	1013	100.00

Table: 6

Demographic particulars of sterilised males according to occupation.

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Occupation	Kozhikode Mini Camp 1976		Kozhikode District 1970-71
	No.	%	%
Agricultural labourer	11	1.08	7.16
Skilled worker	163	16.01	6.50
Unskilled worker	433	42.54	53.72
Cultivators & Farmers	116	11.40	12.01
Professional workers	27	2.65	6.94
Traders & Businessmen	88	8.64	5.79
Clerical workers	37	3.63	0.39
Others	127	12.48	7.49
N.R.	16	1.57	..
Total:	1018	100.00	100.00

Table: 7

Demographic particulars of sterilised males according to income.

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Income Group	Persons	
	No.	%
Below 50	5	0.49
50 - 99	303	29.76
100 - 149	397	39.00
150 - 199	138	13.56
200 & above	174	17.09
N.R.	1	0.10
Total:	1018	100.00

Average Income - Rs.132.87

Table : 9

Percentage distribution of sterilized males in the camp according to the No. of children living at the time of sterilisation.

No. of children living	.....			
	Kozhikode camp 1/72 %	Trichur camp 3/72 %	Ernakulam 1st camp 1970 %	Ernakulam 2nd camp 1971 %	Trivandrum camp 1/72 %
1	3.34	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.7
2	34.38	18.8	22.3	21.9	24.7
3	28.90	22.7	27.6	26.3	25.6
4	16.01	17.6	18.6	20.0	17.6
5	9.23	15.3	12.8	14.6	13.2
6	4.83	10.9	11.7	9.1	8.9
Above 6	4.03	11.6	6.5	7.6	9.3

Table 10

Demographic particulars of sterilised males according to living children by sex.

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Living children females	Living children females						N.R. Number	Total		
	0	1	2	3	4	5			6	Above 6
0	..	16	58	25	11	2	..	..	112	11.00
1	19	206	109	38	17	6	..	1	395	53.00
2	86	130	51	23	10	5	2	..	307	30.13
3	31	51	28	11	3	..	1	..	125	12.92
4	12	16	10	12	3	1	1	..	55	5.40
5	8	3	5	2	..	..	..	..	18	1.77
6	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	4	0.59
Above 6	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0.2
N.R.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	150 (15.00)	425 (41.75)	252 (55.74)	111 (10.50)	45 (4.42)	14 (1.38)	4 (0.39)	1 (0.10)	1019	100.00

Table : II

Demographic particulars of sterilised person (Males) according to Religion and No. of living children.

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No. of living children	Hindu		Christian		Muslim		N.F.		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1	22	3.13	2	3.30	10	3.59	34	3.34
2	373	38.89	15	25.42	62	24.12	..	..	350	34.18
3	186	27.92	36	44.06	73	28.40	..	..	295	28.22
4	103	14.67	8	13.56	52	20.29	..	..	153	15.01
5	60	8.55	5	8.47	29	11.29	..	..	94	9.22
6	26	3.70	1	1.70	14	5.45	..	..	41	4.05
7	15	2.14	1	1.70	10	3.89	..	..	26	2.55
8	5	.71	1	1.70	5	1.95	..	..	11	1.08
9	..	..	..	..	2	.78	..	..	2	0.20
10 & above	2	.29	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	0.20
Total:	702	100.00	59	100.00	257	100.00	..	..	1013	100.00

Average No. of children living to persons sterilised in mini camp, Kozhikode } = 3.24

Average No. of children living
 Hindu - 3-12
 Christian - 3-19
 Muslim - 3-57
 All - 3.24

1020

