

Media Release

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DP WORLD PARTNERS WITH THE MULAVUKAD PANCHAYATH TO OPEN DOORS OF THE NEW WELFARE COMPLEX IN THE DISTRICT

Cochin, India, May 09, 2018: Global trade enabler DP World in association with the Mulavukad Grama Panchayath in Cochin has opened a state-of-the-art welfare complex for the residents of the district. This complex in Ponnarimangalam includes a BUDS Rehabilitation Centre for children with special needs, a day care shelter for senior citizens and a public library with a reading room.

The centre was inaugurated in the presence of **Honourable Minister of State for Ports, Museums, Archaeology and Archives - Shri. Ramachandran Kadannappally** along with **Shri. Jibu Kurien Itty, Chief Executive Officer, DP World Cochin** and **Shri. Devang Mankodi, Director – Finance, DP World Subcontinent**. The event was presided by **Smt. Viji Shajan, President, Mulavukad Grama Panchayat**

Other dignitaries present at the inauguration were Smt. Sona Jayaraj, Ernakulam District Panchayat Member; Smt. Celin Charles, Chairperson – Welfare committee, Edappally block panchayat; Shri. Manoj. K. G, Edappally Block Panchayat member, Edappally and Shri Antony Aneesh, Ward Member, Mulavukud Grama Panchayat.

Commenting on the inauguration of the center, **Jibu Kurien Itty, Chief Executive Officer, DP World Cochin** said, "We firmly believe that working in a sustainable and responsible way is essential to building a strong business for our customers, our people and our society. We believe the new center will empower the youth of the district, while enriching the lives of more than twenty thousand people residing in the area. Sustainability is a long-term process and the Mulavukad welfare center is an attempt to assist in creating facilities that improve the quality of lives for the residents of the district for the years to come."

Details of the welfare center:

- The buds rehabilitation centre will be catering to children from age four to young adults of age twenty-two from the Mulavukad district. It is equipped with features like computers, skill and vocational development equipment, etc. A pick-up and drop vehicle has also been made available for the children to facilitate easy commute to the center.
- The day care shelter for senior citizens is a pioneering project undertaken by the Mulavukad panchayath for the senior citizens in the age range of 65 - 86 years from the district. This facility is equipped with a wheel chair accessible ramp, recreation & skill development equipment, etc.
- The redeveloped public library and reading room is named after Late Mr. Ponjikara Rafi and has a vast collection of more than five thousand books to its collection. The entire building is easily accessible by road.

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