

CASE STUDY
BY
Government High School Beenachi, Wayanad,
Kerala

**Theme : School Leadership: Multiple Roles
and Responsibilities**

School Leadership: Multiple Roles and Responsibilities

Presented by: *Saji T G, Headmaster, Government High School Beenachi, Wayanad, Kerala*

Myself, **Saji T G**, presently serving as the **Headmaster of Government High School, Beenachi**, in Wayanad district, Kerala. I have been a teacher in various government schools for the past **25 years**, and during this long journey, I have had the privilege of undertaking multiple roles and responsibilities in the field of education. I would like to share some of my experiences with you today.

My Journey as a Teacher

I began my teaching career in the year **2000** at GHS Vellarmala — a school you may remember, as it was tragically destroyed in the **Mundakkai–Chooralmala landslide of July 2024**. Until 2006, I worked in various schools across Wayanad district. Later, I was promoted as **HSST (Junior)** and posted to my own school, **GHSS Meenangadi**, where I served for **15 years**.

Being a local person, I actively participated in the **PTA Committee** and took major initiatives to raise the school to **international standards**. For the first time in Wayanad district, we started **entrance coaching** for students with PTA support, helping many to secure admissions in prestigious institutions like **AIIMS, IISER, IIT, and NIT**. With great pride, I can say that **none of my students have failed a public exam** in the past 20 years.

As a science teacher, I had the opportunity to make several contributions to the field. My students were selected **five times** to represent at the **National Children's Science Congress**, total **25 students** participated at the national level.

From 2014 to 2021, I also served as **Secretary of the Wayanad District Science Club Association**, promoting scientific curiosity and innovation among students.

Transition to School Leadership

On my promotion as **Headmaster**, my responsibilities grew broader and more challenging. Maintaining a **harmonious relationship** with colleagues, PTA, SMC, and local self government bodies was not easy, but with their support, we achieved remarkable results over the past four years.

Our school, **GHS Beenachi**, was established in **1952** as a primary school and upgraded to a high school in **2013**. In its early years, it struggled due to a lack of infrastructure and teachers. In **2018**, before the COVID pandemic, our enrollment stood at **600 students**. When I assumed charge in **2022**, the number had risen to **940**, and today, it has reached **1,112**.

While many government schools in Wayanad are facing a decline in enrollment, we are proud to be growing — purely due to our school's **academic excellence and community trust**. In recognition of our achievements, the **Government of Kerala** selected **GHS Beenachi** as the **only Model School from Wayanad district in 2023**.

Major Initiatives and Activities

1. Comprehensive Quality Education

When the Kerala Government launched the **Comprehensive Quality Education** project in 2024–25 (pilot for Class 8), our school extended this support from **Classes 4 to 9** during the **mid-summer vacation of 2025**, under the name “**Samgra 2K25**.” This initiative was highly appreciated by the Education Department as a model of proactive leadership.

2. Humanitarian Initiatives

We conducted a “**Selfie Challenge**” to raise funds for the **Mundakkai landslide victims**. The beautiful garden, *Pooppadam*, filled with sunflowers and marigolds, was opened to the public for a nominal entry fee, and the collected amount was donated to the **Chief Minister's Disaster Relief Fund**. This activity helped nurture a spirit of **empathy and social responsibility** among our students.

3. Kathiranipaadam-paddy cultivation

To reintroduce students to the importance of food and farming, we launched a **paddy cultivation project** in a nearby field. Students participated in every step — from planting to harvesting — and even prepared *payasam* and *thamuk* using the rice they harvested. This hands-on activity instilled a deep appreciation for agriculture.

This year, we also combined **art with agriculture** through an innovative “**Paddy Art**” program carrying the message “*Save Earth*.” The project received wide media attention and public appreciation.

4. School Vegetable Garden and Greenhouse

We cultivate **fresh vegetables** within the school campus, providing students first-hand experience in organic farming. The **sweet corn** grown in our greenhouse during the **Millet Year** celebration was shared among all students — a small but meaningful step toward sustainability.

5. Banana Biodiversity Park – “Poonkadali”

We developed a **banana diversity garden** featuring **50 different varieties** of banana plants. The names and details of each variety are displayed, helping students learn about **biodiversity and conservation** in a practical way.

6. Anti-Drug Campaigns

In today’s challenging social environment, we conducted various **anti-drug awareness programs**, including **human chains, cycle rallies, street plays, oath-taking ceremonies, and awareness classes**, which made a strong impact on our community.

7. Tribal Student Support

One of our most heart warming initiatives was a **special study tour for ST students**, especially from the **Kattunayka** community for the last 2 years. Many of these students had never travelled outside Wayanad. We organized a **free tour** that allowed them to experience a train journey, see the sea, visit a planetarium, and travel by boat. Their joy and excitement were beyond words — it was truly a transformative experience.

Infrastructure Development

In the past **five years**, our school has mobilized nearly **₹ 7 crore** from various government and non-government agencies for infrastructure development.

With support from **voluntary organizations**, we constructed **two houses** for students in need and have started work on a third.

We also had the honor of felicitating **Army personnel** who built the **Bailey Bridge** at Chooralmala during the disaster relief operations — a moment of great pride for our school.

Awards and Recognitions

Over the last few years, our school has received several prestigious recognitions:

- **Second Best PTA in Kerala** – with a cash award of ₹ 4 lakhs
 - **Mathrubhumi Seed Sreshtha Haritha Vidyalaya Puraskar (2025)**
 - **Best School in Kerala** – awarded by **APJ Abdul Kalam Study Centre**
 - Personally, I was honored with the **Gurujyothi Best Teacher Award** by **Sugathavanam Charitable Trust**, in memory of the great poet and social worker **Sugathakumari Teacher**.
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Conclusion

In my 25 years as a teacher and school leader, I have tried to perform every role — teacher, mentor, innovator, administrator, and community builder — with sincerity and dedication.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to **SIEMAT officials** for giving me this wonderful opportunity to share my experiences with the distinguished audience gathered here.

Thank you all.

Jai Hind!
