

these natural cum anthropogenic activities may lead to complete elimination of mangrove vegetation from the Kadalundi -Vallikkunnu mangrove ecosystem, which is the first declared Community Reserve of Kerala.

5. Conclusion

Mangrove afforestation is a key factor in the establishment of a nutrient –rich estuarine biotopes. Nowadays, mangroves are prone to various climatic and anthropogenic activities. An indigenous effort and mechanism for restoration in this Community reserve is the need of the hour. Awareness should be created among the scientific and public sectors, with more priority to the local people, on the protective, productive, ecological and environmental values of mangroves. This information would invite the attention of concerned authorities for making pertinent planning and decisions in the future to ensure protection of the mangrove ecosystems left behind.

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