

# Chembakolli Village

by Ramya





I live in the Chembakolli village. My village is inside the forest. We build our own houses. The older houses have roof made of grass and the walls are made of mud. The new houses have tiles now. We get fruits, honey, tuber and firewood from the forest.



We wake up around half past four in the morning. My parents leave for work at seven in the morning. We have to make breakfast and dinner before seven. We children help our parents by bringing water from the well. We don't have taps in our houses. We have to draw water from the well. We also go with our mothers to bring firewood for cooking.



We don't have electricity in the village. We use a kerosene lamp. We don't go out when it gets dark. All of us sit together and have dinner in the night. We go to bed around seven o'clock in the evening. In the night when everything is quiet we can hear birds and animals.





The houses in Chembakolli are far away from each other and some of us have to climb steep hill to reach our houses. We get lots of rain. In the rain, the path gets slippery. So we have to be careful while walking. But, even in the rain, we walk to the main road and get the school van. We have to walk to Bospara to get into the van which is two kilometres walk from my house. Here is the photo of the road from our village to Bospara.



Pepper plant

My parents grow pepper, banana and ginger. We also have some coffee and tea plants. We have one small shop in the Kaatunayaka village. The shop sells rice, lentil, coconut, soap, biscuits and some vegetables. Once a week the shopkeeper brings the supplies in a jeep.



Our village is very different from the houses in Gudalur town. I like the shops in the town and on some Sundays, we come to the town for shopping and to watch films at the cinema.

