



For ‘Destitute Free Kerala’



S. HARIKISHORE I A S



Executive Director
Kudumbashree

Destitute Free Kerala is the programme designed for the sustainable development of the destitute families in Kerala. It envisages the rehabilitation of all destitute families, thereby enabling them to live a dignified life. Destitute Free Kerala is unique in design as that it considers the basic needs of each and every beneficiary family, and family based micro plan is the base of this project.

Kudumbashree began the survey to identify the destitute families in Kerala during 2017. The survey was conducted based on 9- point selection criteria. Landless/ less than 10 cent land in rural areas & less than 5 cent land in urban areas, homeless/



lives in dilapidated house, no drinking water facility within 150 meter, no hygienic toilets, family without an employed adult (has job less than 10 days a month), women headed family, family with members having physical/mental disability or chronic disease, family belonging to Scheduled Caste /Scheduled Tribe /Fishermen communities and family with illiterate adults constituted the 9-point selection criteria. In the first phase, if a family satisfied 7 out of the 9-point criteria, and one additional criteria, the family was deemed as a destitute and was included in the beneficiary list of the programme. The beneficiaries were identified after visiting each and every families and realizing their living conditions. This could be regarded as the distinctive feature of this project. The survey was conducted using mobile app with geotagging.

In the second phase, when the beneficiary list is approved and ratified by Gramasabhas and Local Self Government Institutions, plan would be prepared analyzing the basic needs of the families. The plan would be prepared so as to solve the identified issues regarding water, house, electricity, available medicine, need for food, medical needs etc. The Family Micro Plan developed as per the needs of

the families can be considered the most significant feature of this project.

Likewise, once the plans of all families in one panchayath/ urban local body is prepared, Kudumbashree and Local Self Government Institutions compile these plans and prepare a Detailed Project Report. 40% of the total amount for this project, limited to Rs 40 lakhs would be given by Kudumbashree. On approval of the proposal and receipt of funds, the service activities would be initiated.

As of now, 1,62,619 destitute families are identified from 1034 Local Self Governments in Kerala. Out of which, the projects of 1013 Local Self Government Institutions have been approved and ratified. We are endeavoring to implement the project in the best way possible, fulfilling the needs of each and every family and make 'Destitute Free Kerala' a reality. A group of people who remained unnoticed and sidelined would be brought to the mainstream of the society through this programme.

