

FAQ Regarding Destitute Free Kerala Campaign

1. What is Destitute Free Kerala Campaign?
Destitute Free Kerala is an important program of the Government of Kerala which envisages the rehabilitation of all destitute in Kerala thereby enabling them to live in a prestigious way.
2. Is DFK a continuation of Asraya Project?
Yes. Asraya Project was started in 2003 as the Destitute Identification and Rehabilitation Program. The program was restructured in 2017 as Agathirahithakeralam/ Destitute Free Kerala.
3. Who are targeted through DFK?
The program is targeted at the poorest of the poor population. The main stakeholders will be the destitute families identified by Kudumbashree and LSGIs.
4. Who are the Government stakeholders in the program?
DFK is a convergence program of Kudumbashree, Panchayati Raj Institutes, State Civil Supplies Department, Health Department, Education Department and Social Justice Department.
5. How are the beneficiaries of the Campaign identified?
Destitute families are identified using a transparent risk index framed by Kudumbashree Mission. Risk Index had 9 main criteria and 8 additional criteria in rural and 10 additional criteria in urban areas. A family is deemed to be destitute if 7 out of 9 main criteria and 1 of the additional criteria are satisfied by the family.
6. What are the criteria in 9 – point index used to identify the DFK beneficiaries?
The following are the criteria in 9 – point index:
 - i. landless/ have land less than 10 cents in rural and 5 cents in urban
 - ii. houseless/ have dilapidated house
 - iii. have no drinking water facility within 150m
 - iv. have no sanitary toilet
 - v. family with no earning member (have job for less than 10 days in a month)
 - vi. women headed family
 - vii. family with physically/ mentally disabled members
 - viii. SC family/ ST family/ family whose sole livelihood is fishing
 - ix. have illiterate adults

7. How is the final list of beneficiaries of DFK made?

DFK program uses a mobile platform to identify the beneficiary families. Kudumbashree CDS, with the help of Neighborhood Groups (NHGs), will form an initial list of beneficiary families which will be surveyed by trained resource persons using the mobile app. The mobile app uses GPS to pin point the beneficiaries' location precisely. Later the data is sorted and beneficiaries for the program are selected automatically using the software designed for the same. Since manual selection has been done away with, it is expected that selection of beneficiaries will be more reliable. This list is published in LSGIs and appeals on the list are verified by the Panchayat. Finally the list is approved and ratified by Gramasabhas and the Panchayat Committees/ Municipal/ Corporation Councils.

8. How can appeals be given regarding DFK beneficiary list?

Anybody can give appeal to the CDS Chairperson to include or exclude a family from the DFK beneficiary list. The appellate has to fill the appeal form and get the appeal receipt signed by the CDS Chairperson.

9. How is the health factor of the beneficiaries ascertained?

Once the beneficiary list is finalized, the LSGIs have to organize medical camps to ascertain the health issues of the beneficiaries with the help of the Medical Officer of the area. After ascertaining the health issues of the beneficiaries and the medical expenses are calculated in the Project report, health cards are issued to the beneficiaries. The format of the same is available in the DFK Guideline.

10. Can a new person be included in DFK beneficiary list?

Yes, there is a provision for anytime inclusion of a family in DFK beneficiary list.

11. How can a new person be included in DFK beneficiary list?

Any person can give an application to either the LSGI/ CDS of the area to include a family in the DFK beneficiary list. The LSGI/ CDS will have to intimate the District Mission regarding the same after which the family will be visited by a Resource Person appointed by the District Mission to collect their details. If a family satisfies the criteria aforementioned (given in questions 3 and 4), they will be included in DFK beneficiary list.

12. What are the benefits available for DFK beneficiaries?

Basic needs (food, clothing, education, health services, pension), Infrastructure needs (land, housing, sanitary toilet, drinking water facility), development needs (skill training, helping to start a microenterprise unit), psychological needs (ensuring social inclusion via Kudumbashree NHGs, counseling etc)

13. Which benefits are catered to by Kudumbashree?

Basic needs (food, clothing, education, health services, pension), development needs (skill training via DDU-GKY, helping to start a microenterprise unit), psychological needs (ensuring social inclusion via Kudumbashree NHGs)

14. Which stakeholders' funds are used in DFK?

Kudumbashree and Panchayati Raj Institutions together raise the funds for DFK.

15. What is Kudumbashree's share in DFK Fund utilization?

For DFK Project, Kudumbashree gives a fund called Challenge Fund. Challenge Fund is 40% of the total fund for DFK or Rs. 40 lakhs whichever is lesser. In case of ST Projects, Challenge Fund is 40% of the total fund for DFK or Rs. 50 lakhs whichever is lesser.

16. In case of complaints or appeals who should be approached?

In case of complaints or appeals regarding DFK, a person can approach the LSGI/ CDS and the District Mission. If the complaint is still unresolved the person can approach the State Mission.

17. Where can I know more about DFK?

DFK Guideline can be viewed in the following web page:
<http://www.kudumbashree.org/pages/20>