



Joining hands with the Indian Railways



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We are proud of this novel opportunity received for Kudumbashree women in Indian railways. Kudumbashree members are taking care of the parking services as an enterprise model in 49 railway stations in Kerala under the Thiruvananthapuram division. Further, we are providing customer services in the railway air conditioned waiting halls in 5 major stations in Kerala.

Kudumbashree women are managing air conditioned waiting halls of Ernakulam South, Ernakulam North, Thiruvananthapuram Central, Kollam Junction and Thrissur railway stations. Kudumbashree neighbourhood group members got this opportunity to manage parking and waiting halls as an enterprise model after our Memorandum of Understanding (contract) with Trivandrum Division of Southern Railway. 243 women



are earning livelihood through this unique opportunity.

Three years back, when Kudumbashree women got a service opportunity at Ernakulam station, they impressed the railway authority with their sheer professionalism and compassion for work. Kudumbashree women's sincere and committed approach towards their work and the trust Railway bestowed upon Kudumbashree members paved way for the success of this innovative enterprise model. And at present, after assessing the initial partnership with Kudumbashree, Railway board had brought in a policy change that Self Help Groups of women may be encouraged for managing parking and other services! Yes, other states can also now try for new opportunities. In this partnership we are following revenue sharing model with railways. This project was selected as

one of the Best Livelihood Model by Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD).

Now, we are planning to make this enterprise more efficient by making use of modern technologies. We started a pilot project of managing the parking services with the help of a mobile app at Thiruvananthapuram Central and Thripunithura Railway stations. The registration number of a vehicle is fed in the software installed in smartphones, data is analyzed and the bill and other details is sent to the customer as SMS and we are able to get all analysis in the back end. This is improving the efficiency of services also. Kudumbashree is striving to make it the best enterprise model in service sector / government convergence.

