Village Poverty Reduction Plan (VPRP) through Kudumbashree

Kudumbashree’s project implementation in the field level is mostly in convergence with the Local Self Government Institutions. Kudumbashree organizational system always strives to bring the needs of the neighbourhood group members to the attention of the LSGIs, so that such needs get good priority. We are trying to implement this bottom up planning activity of Village Poverty Reduction Plan (VPRP) preparation as a part of our National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) implementation. The activities for survey and data collection of VPRP is progressing. I will explain about that in today’s article.

In the grass root level, every individual, family and the society have many needs. At individual level, the need may be to get various services they deserve. Access to Entitlements such as social welfare pensions, insurance support, MGNREGS Job Cards etc. may be the requirement. These rights of each individual will be included in the first part of the VPRP. In addition to the plans regarding the entitlements, the programmes for the livelihood for each individual will also be made part of this planning process in the ward level. The needs of families or livelihood groups in agriculture, animal husbandry, small scale enterprises, marketing sectors would be identified and those needs will be included in the VPRP plan formulation.

In addition to this, there would be needs that would be needed to make possible the general growth and development of a society. Programmes would be needed to find solutions for the local social problems such as alcohol consumption, environmental issues, pollution etc. Other than this, there would be numerous needs from the bottom level to construct public properties, extend various services, to construct roads, anicuts (masonry check dams), drinking water facilities, street lights, libraries, public spaces, playgrounds etc. Through VPRP, we aim at submitting a plan under the leadership of Kudumbashree to the Panchayath, which is prepared by receiving the needs of a village by including entitlement demands, livelihood needs, social projects and infrastructural requirements.
Kudumbashree has started the activities for preparing this Poverty Reduction Plan under the banner of Village Poverty Reduction Plan (VPRP) in 941 Panchayats of Kerala. 'Gramakam' is the name given for this campaign. For this, 320 Resource Persons from our Training Team were selected. They are extending training in the CDS level. Following that, special NHG meetings will be conducted to fill in the various needs in the data collection form for preparing the VPRP. These data's are taken from each NHG and forms are compiled in ADS level. This Ward Level Plan is prepared. Later, these programmes are compiled and the Panchayath Level Plan is prepared.

CDS level training in VPRP has been completed now. The ADS trainings are also progressing. Once it would be completed, NHG meetings would be conducted. We aim at presenting the Poverty Reduction Plans comprising of the needs and demands of SHG members before the 941 Panchayaths. This will be done under the leadership of Kudumbashree CDS Chairpersons by 26 January 2021.

When the VPRP, which is prepared by giving importance to the bottom level planning is presented before the newly elected representatives, the Panchayath Administrative Committee would be able to identify the programmes that people need the most. They also will be in a position to select those priority programmes for the panchayath.

The relationship between Kudumbashree Organizational System and Panchayath will be more strengthened through this. Also, VPRP will ensure that the planned programmes will meet the needs of the people. I request all NHG members to sincerely take up this programme and ensure partnership in planning.

The VPRP guidelines and other details are available in this link: kudumbashree.org/pages/476