'Abhimanapoorvam Kudumbashree' (Pride of Kudumbashree)

'Abhimanapoorvam Kudumbashree' (Kudumbashree’s pride) was the programme organized yesterday (10-1-2021) under the leadership of Palakkad District team. We had explained in one of the articles that many Kudumbashree members had participated and won the Local Body Elections. They had sworn in to their positions of public service as members of local bodies. 'Abhimanapoorvam Kudumbashree' (Prideful Kudumbashree) was the get-together function of those who became elected representatives with the strength of the work experience received from Kudumbashree. Kudumbashree Palakkad District team conceived this programme as a discussion forum, which dealt about how the work experience received through Kudumbashree helped them in becoming the elective representatives and about the programmes being implemented for the public. Three Municipal Chairpersons, two Block Panchayath Presidents and 18 Grama Panchayath Presidents - these elected representatives who were selected from Kudumbashree system took part in this programme. 654 people who are part of Kudumbashree system in the district became elected representatives during this local body elections. Out of them, 13 were CDS Chairpersons and 10 were Vice Chairpersons. 58 CDS Members, 66 NHG Presidents and 81 Secretaries also won in the elections. There is no doubt that their ideas and words will be motivating for many. So when we got information about this program, we asked the District Mission Coordinator (DMC) of Palakkad to record and submit their speeches. In this post, let me share that note submitted by the DMC. Through their quotes, you all would be able to know about the hopes, aims and motivation, when the women who have had several years of experience through the Kudumbashree organizational system become elected representatives.

1. “It's after joining Kudumbashree and becoming CDS Chairperson, I came to know more about people. The training and the knowledge received from Kudumbashree had helped me in my political activities. I was a ward member in 2010. Later became a CDS Chairperson. That work experience helped me in contesting for the election and in succeeding in the same” - K. Beena (Member, Koppam Panchayath)
2. “It's during 1998, I started providing leadership for various activities of Kudumbashree. This has helped me a lot in intervening in many social problems. Following that, I became the elected representative for two terms. I became CDS Chairperson during 2011. Kudumbashree activities are giving greater strength” - P. Rajani (Member, Kulukalloor Panchayath)

3. “Kudumbashree had played a key role in giving voice for the women before the society” - Priya (Municipal Chairperson, Palakkad Municipality)

4. “It's as part of the implementation of the 50% reservation system, many women got the opportunity to become people’s representative. In the initial days, it was difficult to find women who are interested to become part of the elections. But many women who are capable of intervening in the social issues came up to the mainstream of the society through Kudumbashree. The achievements we made until today are the continuation of the efforts to address the pain of the common people as part of the Kudumbashree activities. Kudumbashree equipped us to speak confidently. We should aim at the development of the people who are in the bottom level of the society. The activities as NHG member and CDS Office bearers had undoubtedly helped in equipping us as a trustworthy person some one can rely upon. This experience had helped in strengthening such relationships. Hope the experience attained through Kudumbashree activities would help formulate and implement policies that ensure the welfare of women, children and the elderly people, by making use of this opportunity”. - Suhara (President, Thirumittakkod Panchayath )

5. “I am sure that the experience attained through the activities for NHG formation and all in the initial stages of Kudumbashree, will help me in intervening in the administration area with compassion. The experience in functioning as a Kudumbashree member, Resource Person etc. would motivate to get more involved with the common people. We are now more responsible as elected representatives. Just like the trees bend down, when the number of its fruits increase, we should intervene to address the issues of the public, understanding that this opportunity will strengthen us. People are our owners. Let’s realize that the people made us reach this position and let that thought itself inspire us. Let our activities continue by making best of the milestones”. - Sayiradha (President, Pallassana Panchayath)

6. “I was not even confident to deliver a welcome speech even at a small gathering. The experience attained through Kudumbashree by becoming a CDS Chairperson at a young age had raised me to the responsibility of a Panchayath President from a shy person. Kudumbashree had always inspired me to intervene with the fellow beings with compassion. The experiences received through Kudumbashree reminds me that the position of Panchayath President is a greater responsibility and the opportunity we got is to serve the public. The interventions made through Kudumbashree had helped in winning the elections with greater majority. It is a matter of pride for me that, those NHGs which were inactive when I was CDS Chairperson is now becoming active, when I became the Panchayath President. I hope the thought that they can approach us, as someone among them had made them come forward. Kudumbashree would always support the Sreekrishnapuram Panchayath who are bagging the Swaraj Trophy continuously. Let this self correcting fraternity lead us to the right direction”. - Rajika (President, Sreekrishnapuram Panchayath)

Hope these hopeful words will motivate many!