MGNREGS: Panel of mates from Kudumbashree before 15 March

We are writing about Kudumbashree’s convergence with MGNREGS Programme in today’s article as well. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is the programme that ensures 100 person days a year for all families in rural areas. The mates of MGNREGS oversee the activities of this programme. Mates oversee the quality of the work, ensures community contracting and function as the link between panchayat and the labourers. The mates ensure the rights of the labourers and the quality of their work. As per the No DD2/253/2020/LSGD dated 09-02-2021 of Local Self Government (DD) Department, updated guidelines have been issued regarding the appointment and service orders of the mates. Let me brief about the same here today. It is a matter of pride for Kudumbashree that, in Kerala the mates are appointed only from within the Kudumbashree members. It is a mandatory qualification that the mate should be an ADS General Body member.

Those who have a job card, those who are members of ADS General body and have done MGNREGS work for a minimum of 25 days during any financial year, from 2017-18 onwards are selected as mates. It is also mandatory that they should have passed SSLC, should be of age below 60 and should be well trained.

From this year onwards, there would be a slight change in the selection of mates, as per this circular. This year, Kudumbashree ADS should prepare a panel of 12 mates in a ward, before 15 March 2021. This circular suggests to select mates from the Kudumbashree ADS General Body members with the stipulated qualification, and as per the priority criteria mentioned in the circular. The circular also states that elected representatives, CDS Chairpersons, Asha workers, Anganwadi teachers, SC/ST promoters etc should be excluded from this responsibility. It is the responsibility of Kudumbashree ADS to
prepare the panel of mates with stipulated qualification during every financial year. So, Kudumbashree have decided to conduct a training converging with the MGNREGS programme regarding the selection of the mates as per this new circular. We are planning to extend the primary online training to the Assistant District Mission Coordinators, District Programme Managers and Block Coordinators through the State MGNREGS officials on 23rd of this month. These trained Block Coordinators would train the CDSs and they would train the ADSs and introduce the various criteria mentioned in the circular. The mates should be selected from the ADS General Body before March 15th based on the inputs given during this training. Panel of 12 mates each would be selected from about 20,000 wards in Kerala from Kudumbashree organisational network. There is no doubt that the relationship between Kudumbashree and MGNREGS would be strengthened through these 2.4 lakh mates.