Production of Shayya bedrolls is the new activity that Ernakulam District Administration plans to implement through Kudumbashree. Personal Protection Kits (PPE) are excessively being produced as part of the medical treatment for the covid-19 pandemic. Gowns are part of PPE kit; and both small and large scale tailoring units are getting work orders to stitch gowns. Shayya bedrolls are made out of the tailoring scraps of PPE Kits from these tailoring units (tailoring scraps available after stitching the gowns). Bedrolls produced in this manner could be made available for the Covid First Line Treatment Centres (CFLTC) at reasonable rates. This was the thought behind Shayya. In addition, the waste cloth from the tailoring units could be used creatively and the units may make new income from this.

Ms. Lakshmi Menon, (https://www.facebook.com/lakshmi.menon.9699) presented the concept of Shayya to Kudumbashree. Wisdom Development Foundation, an NGO based out of Kochi came forward offering support for this concepts. They offered assistance and support to source and collect the gown material scraps from major tailoring factories and units. They assured that the scars collected from large scale units like Kitex, Poppees would be collected and brought to the bed roll making units at free of cost. They also offered support for providing training in bed roll production. Assistance in marketing was also offered to Kudumbashree. As per this,
Kudumbashree has started piloting this concept. The bedrolls would be produced through Kudumbashree units under the leadership of the Ernakulam District Administration.

Harithakarmasena team members from Eloor Municipality of Ernakulam district have taken up producing these bedrolls on a pilot basis. Photo given along this post is that of handing over of a ‘Shayya’ Model Bed rolls to Mr. S. Suhas IAS, District Collector, Ernakulam.

At Covid Care Centres, one bedroll need to be given to each patient. So these low cost bedrolls is expected to help reduce the expenditure of the Care Centres. After examining the demand and acceptance of this low cost product in the market, and after ascertaining the availability of the raw materials, production of Shayya will be extended to other districts as well. One unit each from all the 14 blocks in Ernakulam district has been identified for Shayya Production. The units near the tailoring units which make gowns of PPE kits are selected for this.

Through ‘Shayya’ Kudumbashree tailoring units are expecting to get a new opportunity for getting additional income during the time of covid-19 pandemic.