Possibilities through Livelihoods Mission

Today, I had made a presentation on the 'Possibilities of Livelihood Mission' for the IAS Professional Course Phase 1 trainees at The Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussoorie. Let me explain about a few points mentioned during the presentation, today.

In India, the activities to generate rural livelihoods is implemented through National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) in the National Level and as the State Rural Livelihood Mission in the State Level. Kudumbashree is the State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) of Kerala. Today, I made a presentation for the trainees on the different 'possibilities offered by livelihood missions in Kerala and at the National level as well. The presentation was based on 10 important possibilities. The powerpoint presentation of the same is available on the page of the Executive Director in Kudumbashree's website under this link: https://www.kudumbashree.org/pages/183. For your information, let me explain the 10 points explained during the class in a nutshell.

1. Power of the Collective
   While joining together for the weekly meeting of the Self Help Groups, opportunity is received for solving personal and community level issues. It also helps to move forward through the collective.

2. Social Capital
   Leadership opportunities, Network, Relationships, and opportunities to work as resource persons will result in excellent social capital through SHG members.

3. Economic Empowerment
   Through the thrift and internal lending activities held during the weekly meetings, economic empowerment is attained. Bank linkage will strengthen this.

4. Livelihood Opportunities
   Livelihood is secured through various types of enterprises such as farm and non farm enterprises, group and individual enterprises, manufacturing, trading and services based enterprises.

5. Convergence with Local Bodies
   Greater contribution to the Grama Panchayath Development Programme (GPDP) is a possibility of NRLM. Access to entitlements such as welfare pensions, MGNREGA Job cards, ration cards and improve basic
infrastructure such as roads, schools, street lights etc. are all possible for SHG members as their demand as Village Poverty Eradication Plan (VPRP) is considered n GPDP.

6. Decision Making Autonomy
Representation in decision making forums, right to handle various funds, right for beneficiary selection etc. gives real empowerment and opens up a wide arena of possibilities.

7. Ensured market and opportunities through Governmental Projects
Opportunity to start various production or service enterprises directly for the government (Nutrimix units, canteens, tailoring units etc) provides huge opportunities and fixed market, leading to good income for SHG members.

8. Women Empowerment
Possibilities through NRLM includes addressing of gender discrimination and violence. Organizing various activities such as Community counselling, Gender Resource Centre, Vulnerability Mapping Exercise, Gender Self Learning Programme (GSLP) etc. leads to women empowerment.

9. Active Participation in Disaster Management
Making fruitful interventions possible in disaster management by indulging with the society and by supporting the needy with novel programs is a good possibility of social service.

10. Unlimited Possibilities
In addition to the above mentioned points, there are endless opportunities to organise various activities as per the ideas and wishes of each and everyone. Kudumbashree School, Asraya Scheme, National Resource Organisation (NRO) etc are a few examples from Kerala.