Hope you all will recall the ‘Making an Impact Article-09’, ‘Making an Impact Article-24’, ‘Making an Impact Article -96’ and ‘Making an Impact Article -127’, in which the details of Snehitha, Community Counselors, Snehitha Calling Bell and Vulnerability Mapping programmes being implemented by Kudumbashree for women empowerment were explained respectively.

Snehitha is the one stop centre for women functioning at the district level. Likewise, in each local body, we initiated the institution system of Gender Resource Centres (GRCs) in association with Local Self Government Institutions. GRCs are constituted for discussing the issues of women, conducting counselling and for co-ordinating the women empowerment activities at local bodies.
I am proud and happy to inform you all that this convergence programme initiated by Kudumbashree and Local Self Government Institutions during 2016-17 is growing fast. GRC project has now been extended to 502 panchayaths within 3 years. Yes! 502 Local Self Government Institutions have set up ‘Gender Resource Centres’ associating with Kudumbashree. ‘Gender Resource Centres’ are functioning as a moral point to converge women empowerment projects. Also GRC s co-ordinate various empowerment activities under the leadership of Panchayath.

A room allotted by Panchayath in own building or in any other convenient building is the ‘Gender Resource Centre’. Various activities for women empowerment would be coordinated through ‘Gender Resource Centre’. A fixed amount has been allocated from the budget of Kudumbashree for the smooth functioning of the ‘Gender Resource Centres’ in the initial phase.

In addition to this, a special project has been submitted to Govt of India for financial assistance to set up model Gender Resource Centres in every district and to make notable interventions through GRC s. Furthermore, our community counsellors visit each Gender Resource Centres twice a week, spend full time there and extend counselling support, legal assistance and other needed help for those in need.

GRC s enable us to start women empowerment activities at each locality. Gender Resource Centres, with the support of Local Self Government Institutions, function effectively for extending trainings, providing support and for framing projects for women.

We hope that Gender Resource Centres will inturn evolve into centres that would increase the esteem and prestige of women, help them fight back atrocities, assist women to identify solutions for their problems and issues, extend motivation and consolation when in need. These processes, in turn will boost self confidence of women in each locality. We hope that our Gender Resource Centres would evolve to a space that would help to increase the participation of women in regional development process and ensure their growth and development.