PMAY (Urban)- LIFE sets a model

We had already elaborated about constructing houses in the urban areas of Kerala for the homeless as part of Pradhan Manthri Awas Yojana (Urban) - LIFE and various other activities in the previous articles (Making an Impact Articles-14, 31,81,83). Today PMAY (Urban) programme mark its fifth anniversary in the national level. The programme which was launched on 25 June 2015 in the national level is being implemented jointly by the central, state governments as PMAY-LIFE programme in Kerala. Kudumbashree is the nodal agency of the programme in Kerala. On the ocassion of the fifth anniversary, I would explain about the progress of this project in Kerala.

The programme was initiated in Kerala during December 2015. PMAY (U) was started by constructing houses at all the 14 district headquarters. Following that, during 2016-17 financial year, the programme was extended to all the 93 Urban Local Bodies in the state in two phases. During February 2019, the programme was converged with LIFE Mission, the comprehensive housing scheme of Government of Kerala and the implementation of the programme was strengthened as PMAY (Urban)-LIFE. As part of the programme, the construction of 1,11,252
houses got approval. After data cleaning, 88,025 houses are in various stages of construction. Out of this, the construction of 48,445 houses had already been completed. Construction of 27,513 houses are in different stages. Through various municipalities and corporations, we were able to complete the construction of about half lakh houses and we consider it as a great achievement.

As part of the PMAY (U) - LIFE programme, Kerala made many convergences possible that caught attention in the national level. For building a house, Rs 1.50 lakhs is given from the central government. In Kerala, additional 2.5 lakh is provided. Rs 50,000 as the state share and Rs 2 lakhs as the ULB (urban local body) share. Altogether, Rs 4 lakhs is given for building one single house. This is an important policy in Kerala.

In addition to that, there is provision for providing 90 man days to every beneficiary converging with Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme (AUEGS). Through this, beneficiaries of PMAY (Urban) - LIFE beneficiaries get additional financial assistance of Rs 24,390. This is a value addition / convergence being implemented only in Kerala. After implementing this convergence programme possible, 20.65 lakh man days were given until now. Through that, additional financial assistance of Rs 38.05 crores was given to PMAY-LIFE beneficiaries.

As part of National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM), the process of extending skill training to the interested persons from the families of PMAY-LIFE beneficiaries are also progressing. As of now, 795 people were given training. Out of them, 210 got job placements.

‘Angeekar Campaign’ was also implemented to help those who got houses. Through this campaign, they received many other assistances.

The benefits of various social security programmes including ration card, gas connection, pensions etc were made available to the beneficiaries through this campaign.

50 women construction groups under Kudumbashree in Kerala was made part of the process of house construction in urban areas. This was one of the main activity. 496 Kudumbashree women of these groups are engaged in the process of constructing houses as part of PMAY (U) - LIFE programme.

During the occasion of 5th anniversary of PMAY (Urban), we are proud that Kudumbashree could make great results in Kerala through innovative and efficient program implementation.