‘Dream Budget’ for Kudumbashree

The Budget presented by Hon Finance Minister Dr. T. M. Thomas Issac, in the Kerala Legislative Assembly today had great consideration for Kudumbashree. New goals are set for our team with an overall allocation of Rs 1550 crores for Kudumbashree. Rs 250 is provided as the Annual Budget allocation. In addition to this, Rs 200 crore is allotted from Rebuild Kerala for livelihood generation. Including the financial allocation from the Local Self Government Institutions, Rs 600 crores is the total budget of Kudumbashree. In addition to this, the Centrally Sponsored programmes of Rs 950 crores in the urban areas (PMAY and NULM) are also implemented through Kudumbashree. In total, it’s an overal allocation of Rs 1550 crores.
Projects highlighted in the budget for Kudumbashree include:

1. Bank loans of Rs 3000 crores would be given to the Kudumbashree members at 4% interest rate.
2. 1000 hunger free hotels would be opened which would serve lunch at Rs 25 per meal.
3. ‘She Lodges’ would be started in every towns to ensure safety of the commuting women.
4. 200 'Kerala Chicken' Outlets would be opened.
5. 1000 Green enterprises (Haritha samrambham) would be launched.
6. 50 hotels with daily turnover of Rs.30,000 would be started.
7. Management of 500 toilet complexes would be given to Kudumbashree.
8. 5000 new enterprises would be started.
9. Project preparing micro plans for tribal families like Alappuzha model, will be expanded to 14 more locations.
10. JLG s will do Organic Farming in 20,000 acres of land.
11. 500 'Gender Resource Centres' would also be launched.
12. 'Home Shops' would be opened in all districts scaling up the 'Kozhikode model'.
13. 'Kudumbashree Internship programme' would be started.
14. Kudumbashree Chitties (chit funds) would be started.
15. Pakalveed (day care homes) would be started for 2 or 3 wards and the 25,000 Elderly NHGs would be connected to this.
16. Rs 35 crores is allocated for BUDS Schools.
17. A programme for giving employment to 1.5 lakh people per year will be started through Local Self Government Institutions in non agrarian sector through local ventures. Employment should be created at the rate of one person per thousand persons. Kudumbashree will also become part of this.

The achievements of Kudumbashree mentioned in the Budget Speech are given below:

Kudumbashree had contributed much in increasing the visibility of women in the society.

1. The number of Kudumbashree members increased from 40 lakhs to 45 lakhs and the linkage loans from banks increased from Rs 5,717 crores to Rs 10,499 crores. The number of micro Enterprises increased from 10,777 to 23,453. JLG farming groups increased from 54,000 to 68,000.

2. It was stated in the last budget that Kudumbashree would introduce branding for 12 products of women entrepreneurs. As part of this, agreement has been executed with Civil Supplies Corporation for selling products such as umbrella, coconut products and curry powders.

3. 'Kerala Chicken' has been launched in the market. Already around 1000 poultry units are registered under Kudumbashree. Under the brand name 'Nutrimix', nutritious value added food items were introduced in the market. 212 handicraft products were linked with online marketing portals. Also, 275 Building construction units run by women, 206 Multi Task teams, 76 Event Management Teams were started. Agreement has been executed for starting more than 100 “Take-A-Break” centres.

4. 25,000 Elderly NHGs were formed and ‘Snehitha Calling Bell’ Scheme was launched for those who are living alone and need support.