International Labour Organisation’s Special Training for Micro Enterprise Consultants

Non farm livelihoods (micro enterprises) of Kudumbashree plays a key role in helping the NHG members identify sources of livelihood of their own. Micro Enterprise Consultants (MEC) are the strength of our enterprises. Our MECs are selected from the community (from NHG members). They gain expertise in this sector after undergoing various training. MECs provide General Orientation Training and Enterprise Development Training to our enterprises. Also, MECs provide enterprises with support in preparing the project report and in obtaining various funds and subsidies. There are 325 MECs in Kerala.

MECs always try to identify the issues faced by entrepreneurs, offer help to resolve the issues and extend them needed support. During the crisis situation of Covid-19 pandemic, entrepreneurs have been facing many challenges. The issues they faced include the scarcity of the raw materials, lack of sales opportunities, difficulty faced in running the enterprises due to lockdown etc. It is a greater challenge to bring back the enterprises which faced these issues to normal production status. MECs are expected to provide leadership for these activities. So, it is inevitable to extend good training to the MECs. We have decided to extend online training to MECs through the International Labour Organisation (ILO) s trainings division. Our team received ILO s training earlier and were benefitted with the inputs. So, we decided to opt for the services of ILO for this training. And, as you all
know, International Labour Organization (ILO) is dealing with labour problems, particularly international labour standards, social protection, and work opportunities at international level.

The 7 day training would be extended starting from September till December in all districts. Along with the main trainers of ILO, the Master Trainers from among Kudumbashree MECs would also be part of the teaching team. Topic of ‘Sick ME Revival’ would be mainly dealt during the training. This topic is selected for reviving the enterprises that faced crisis during covid-19 and the unprecedented floods. In addition to this, training would also be extended in branding and accounting. After providing of training, ILO will continue supporting MECs for the next three months.

Once the training planned to be given from the month of September will be completed, it is expected that we will be able to capacitate the MECs in supporting the entrepreneurs who have faced challenges.