Kudumbashree received mandate to operate canteens at all ITIs established by the department of Labour and Skills, Govt of Kerala. This approval is as per Government order (G.O (MS) No.29/2020/ Labour). The requirement is to operate canteens as per guidelines of the ‘programme for providing nutritious food/ noon meal’ at 96 ITIs in Kerala. Through this, the students in these ITIs would get food at prescribed rates and the Kudumbashree entrepreneurs working in the catering sector would get an opportunity to get a regular income.

As per this order, Kudumbashree units will get the opportunity to implement programme for providing nutritious food at 82 ITIs and to provide food as per noon meal Programme at 14 ITIs. 30,000 student trainees of ITIs would be beneficiaries of the ‘Nutritious Food Programme’ and 6000 trainees would become part of the ‘noon meal’ programme. Nutritious Food Programme provides for a fund of Rs 15 per student per day. For the noon meal programme, Kudumbashree units would get Rs 340 per trainee for a week at the ITIs where the number of students is less than 500. The rate will be Rs 325 per student for a week in those ITIs where the number of students is greater than 500.

This new opportunity will bring more livelihood opportunities in the catering sector for our entrepreneurs. As per the order received in 2018, (G.O (Rt) No.2143/2018. LSGD) Kudumbashree got the approval to run canteens in all Local Self Government Institutions. We hope to receive more such orders! There are about 4500 canteen-catering units functioning under the umbrella of Kudumbashree in Kerala.

**Covid-19 Crisis: Special Micro Credit Scheme for Street Vendors started**

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We are happy to work towards more opportunities like this (Janakeeya hotel is an example) so that NHG members will be able to find income of their own through catering business.