

Grama Kiranam Programme of Kasaragod District Mission

The Grama Kiranam Programme of Kasaragod District Mission stands out unique because of the innovative idea that it put forward. The District Mission thought out of the box and brought about this noble initiative. Fighting back all the gender issues, the district mission equipped the women of Kasaragod to prove themselves the sheer confidence that they have within. Unleashing the strength within them, the Kudumbashree Women of Kasaragod will start climbing the electric posts very soon! The initiative not only brings about the women to the forefront but also proved that no task is impossible for women and in short, gender is not a barrier. Let's see what had Kasaragod District Mission did to make a difference and how did they made it possible!

What is Grama Kiranam Programme?

The Grama Kiranam Programme initiative is the new innovative programme put forward by Kudumbashree Kasaragod District Mission. The Grama Kiranam programme enables the women to make LED Bulbs and repair the street lights in their own localities. The innovative idea put forward by Kasaragod District Mission would enable the women to repair the street lights leaving behind all the gender discriminations.

The noble idea of Grama Kiranam was put forward by the District Mission Co-ordinator of Kasaragod.

The programme envisions in equipping the women to take up jobs that were considered suitable only for men. LED Bulb making and street light repairing can be done by anyone who are properly trained. The selected women are given training in making LED lights and repairing street lights. The women are given proper training, both theory and practical sessions. Once operational and found successful, the initiative will be extended to all panchayaths in the district.

Why LED Lamp?

The light-emitting diode (LED) is one of today's most energy-efficient and rapidly-developing lighting technologies. An LED lamp is an electric light or light bulb for use in light fixtures that produces light using light-emitting diodes (LEDs). LED lamps have a lifespan and electrical efficiency which are several times greater than incandescent lamps, and are significantly more efficient than most fluorescent lamps, with some chips able to emit more than 300 lumens per watt. Quality LED light bulbs last longer, are more durable, and offer comparable or better light quality than other types of lighting.

LED is a highly energy efficient lighting technology, and has the potential to fundamentally change the future of lighting. Widespread use of LED lighting has the greatest potential impact on energy savings also.

How the Grama Kiranam Programme works?

The District Mission of Kasaragod had selected Cheruvathoor and Uppala Grama Panchayaths for implementing the programme. The training is being held at two centres in the district, Cheruvathoor and Uppala. 'Imprint' the accredited agency under District Mission of Kasaragod and Adersh Technical Institute are providing the needed training for the participants of the programme in Cheruvathoor and Uppala respectively. Those who wished to become the part of the programme were selected through concerned CDSs.

The CDSs announced the details of the programme and those interested registered their names in the concerned CDSs. On finding the programme successful, it would be implemented in other panchayaths as well.

Training is given to 30 people each through both centres. A team of 5 is selected from each panchayath out of which 3 are women and 2 are men. Not only on LED making and repairing, the participants are also given training in business management, communication leadership, accounting etc as well.

The teams are also trained in making LED, tube, emergency, panel light etc. At first the women were shown how the LED bulbs are made and later the instructor made each participant to make the LED Bulb of their own.

Both the theory and practical training for making LED bulbs and repairing the street lights are being given to them. Those who finished the LED bulb training may start Micro Enterprises.

22 people from Cheruvathoor and 21 from Uppala attended the theory cum practical training. Once the training is completed they would climb the electric posts to do the electric works of their panchayaths.

The participants welcomed the programme with sheer enthusiasm. For many of them, it was a newer experience. The instructors had given detailed classes with all patience that the participants had found it very much interesting. Many of the women are ready to start LED making enterprises as well. All them are away from Electronics sector and were truly unaware about the electronics and electrical sectors.

Scope of the Programme

The District Mission also looks forward to get them works from the side of Panchayaths as well. Discussions are also progressing in submitting a proposal to the KSEB for procuring the LED Bulbs made by the Grama Kiranam Programme for gifting the customers who had paid the electricity bills in time. If it would be a reality, the women would get more opportunities to make use of the skills that they had acquired through the Grama Kiranam programme.

Once operational, these women would therefore be able to break all the stereotypes of gender.