

Palakkad scores high in the ID Card Distribution for street Vendors

By issuing ID cards Kerala became the first state in the country to ensure the proper inclusion of street vendors in the market, thereby in the society. The programme was implemented throughout the 93 Urban Local Bodies in Kerala. And Palakkad district was more active than other districts in the state and almost completed the ID card distribution.

Urban Street Vendors

Street vendors constitute an important segment at the bottom of the pyramid of the informal economy in cities. Street vending provides a source of self-employment, and acts as a measure of urban poverty alleviation. It also holds a prominent place in the urban supply chain, and provides inexpensive and convenient access to goods and services to all segments of the population including the poor. Therefore street vending can be defined as an integral part of the economic growth process in urban areas.

Low levels of education and skills, limited access to formal credit and micro enterprise support constrain street vendors' ability to access emerging market opportunities. On account of being unorganized and self-employed, street vendors and their families often lack in any linkage to social security, welfare and assistance schemes and initiatives of the Government. This makes street vendors

and their families vulnerable in difficult times, or when they may require assistance for unforeseen expenses.

Support to Urban Street Vendors

It is in the context of such vulnerable situation that the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) seeks to address the concerns of urban street vendors by facilitating access to suitable spaces for vending, institutional credit, improved skills and social security linkages. The Support to Urban Street Vendors Component (SUSV) of NULM sets out the strategy and operational guidelines with regard to this component.

National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM)

To reduce poverty and vulnerability of the urban poor households by enabling them to access gainful self employment and skilled wage employment opportunities, resulting in an appreciable improvement in their livelihoods on a sustainable basis, through building strong grassroots level institutions of the poor. The mission would aim at providing shelters equipped with essential services to the urban homeless in a phased manner. In addition, the mission would also address livelihood concerns of the urban street vendors by facilitating access to suitable spaces, institutional credit, social security and skills to the urban street vendors for accessing emerging market opportunities.

Kudumbashree Mission is the nodal agency entrusted by Government of India to implement NULM programme in Kerala.

Benefits under the Support to Urban Street Vendors Component (SUSV)

- Urban Local Bodies will be supported for the conduct of street vendor survey to get the size of street vendor population so as to prepare plan of action for the rehabilitation of street vendors
- All eligible street vendors will be provided with street vendor ID card which will be treated as a statutory valid ID card for any purpose including for opening bank account
- License/certificate will be issued to all eligible street vendors. ULB can decide the license fee for street vending
- Determination of vending zones as restriction- free vending zones, restricted vending zones and no-vending zones
- Preparation of city street vending plans and development of vending markets, in all ULBs, as per requirements
- Infrastructure development of existing vending zones in the city
- Training and Skill Development for street vendors
- Financial inclusion and access to credit
- Linkages to social security schemes

Street Vendors Survey

During the survey, the basic details about the street vendor and his family was collected. Name, permanent address, residential address, age, caste, religion, educational qualification, family details, mobile number, bank account details (if any), Aadhaar Number (if any), ID card number, details of parents, location of vending, ward name, ward number, owner of location, importance of the location, landmark, characteristics of business, time of vending, way of

vending, license (if any), availed loans (if any), amount invested, if getting enough income to meet the family expenses, daily profit earned etc were the details collected from the street vendors.

Phase of Execution

In the survey conducted by Kudumbashree Mission in 93 Urban Local Bodies in the state, 19863 street vendors were identified out of which 16896 are men, 2966 are women and one is a transgender. And it was decided to issue the Identity cards to all the eligible street vendors. Hence, Kerala became the first state in the country to issue Identity cards to street vendors. The suggestion was put forward by the State Level Advisory Committee presided by Dr K.T Jaleel, Minister for Local Self Government Department, called as per the guidelines of the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.

After ID card distribution, license will be issued to the street vendors. Even though, 'No objection Certificate' from Public Works Department and National Highways Department are needed in this regard, license will be issued to those function according to the rules and regulations issued by Town Vending Committee. No hindrance should be created to the transportation as well as to the pedestrians, removal of the waste in street vendors own risks and the removal of the properties from the vending place as the sale is over are the regulations put forward them.

The guidelines for improving the quality of life of the street vendors are included in the programme. The training programmes for improving their skills are also included. Steps would also be taken to get them financial assistance from financial institutions.

Aadhaar Number, Phone Number, details of the things they sell, the street where they sell etc will be notified in the ID card.

Excellence in Execution- Palakkad Model

Palakkad District comprises of 7 ULBs viz. Palakkad ULB, Chittur, Ottapalam, Mannarcaud, Cherupulassery, Pattambi and Shornur. The survey was conducted in Palakkad district during 2015- 2016. The ID card distribution was successfully completed 100 % in Shornur. And maximum number of ID cards were distributed in Palakkad municipality.

The details of the ID card distribution in Palakkad District are as follows:

Name of ULB	Survey Completed	ID card issued
Palakkad ULB	678	509
Chittur	260	148
Ottapalam	116	0
Mannarcaud	58	52
Cherupulassery	97	87
Pattambi	73	52
Shornur	43	43
Total	1325	891

Compared to other districts, Palakkad was more active in ID card distribution and they issued maximum number of ID cards to the beneficiaries. By issuing the ID cards to 434 street vendors in the district Palakkad will attain cent percent inclusion of street vendors in Support to Urban Street Vendors Component. The

process of finding the vending zone is progressing in the district. It is also planned to give training to the street vendors regarding health, law and license. PMAY-NULM convergence is also planned. The welfare programme for street vendor's families is also under plan. Training programmes for improving the life skills of street vendors will also be included in the programme.

The welfare programme for the street vendors envisages to improve the infrastructure and thereby to improve their lifestyle. By issuing the ID cards, Kudumbashree Mission thereby address the concerns of urban street vendors by facilitating access them suitable spaces for vending, institutional credit, improved skills and social security linkages.