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Greens ready for zero-waste project

51 local bodies in district form Haritha Karma Senas

Supporting the district administration's zero-waste project, 51 local bodies in the district have formed Haritha Karma Sena, a group of green technicians, for the collection, segregation and disposal of non-degradable waste.

According to Suchitwa Mission officials, 48 grama panchayats and 12 block panchayats, which were short-listed for the project, have formed Haritha Karma Senas and finalised their proposals for setting up Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) for the segregation and disposal of non-degradable waste.

"Though a few local bodies are facing opposition to the setting up of MRFs because of the ignorance of the people, most of them are successfully proceeding with the project," said C. Kabani, District Coordinator of Suchitwa Mission. Haritha Karma Senas are ready in all the selected grama panchayats to begin the work, she said.

The panchayats will make a monthly payment of Rs. 15,000 to

each Haritha Karma Sena member.

Service charge

This will be in addition to the service charge of Rs. 40 collected from each of the households benefiting from their service. Till now, Kudumbasree members under the Haritha Sena have been providing the service.

Vadakara municipal authorities said they selected the members to the Karma Sena by conducting an interview under the leadership of their standing committee on health.

Door-to-door collection

According to the agreements finalised in the municipal limit, the members will be given a fixed monthly payment and a service charge up to Rs. 50 from the households.

Door-to-door waste collection service will be offered twice a week and the collected waste will be brought to the MRFs for segregation.

The MRFs will be handling all the shredding and baling and disposing work in a scientific way sticking to the parameters fixed by the Suchitwa Mission.

All the block panchayats have been asked to invest at least Rs. 31 lakh to set up MRFs. The cost of mini MRF units in grama panchayats will be below Rs. 7 lakh.

In Kozhikode district, the total cost for the zero-waste project is estimated at Rs. 70.43 crore.

The amount will be mainly used for setting up MRFs and training the Karma Sena members.

Rs. 70.43-crore project

Haritha Karma Sena will collect and dispose of non-degradable waste

Sena worker will get a monthly payment of Rs. 15,000 from panchayat

Material Recovery Facilities will be set up in all panchayats