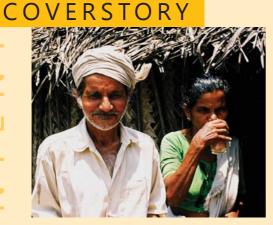




Ministers release the doves as a gesture for Peace and Development at Kanakakkunnu, Thiruvananthapuram in connection with National Livestock Exhibition.



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## EDITORIAL

## Noticeable Indications

Helping people who cannot help themselves is viewed as decorous, humane and absolutely essential by all societies. For a Government it is something very much to aspire for. Focusing on the necessities of the most vulnerable can drive growth today and lay the foundation for a more sustainable and prosperous tomorrow.

Kerala is still in the forefront in poverty eradication. A self-employment scheme will be introduced for widows, divorcees, abandoned women and unwed mothers. Seventy-five major drinking-water projects, which will benefit 35 lakh people, are commissioned this year. Electricity connections are available on demand. Decades old worry is now over. Priority will be given to households having children studying for the SSLC examinations. Substantial stimulus efforts have been taken by the Government, to ensure that the welfare measures trickle down to meet the immediate needs of the poorest.

Providing land for all the landless poor in the State is the proclaimed policy of the Government. Health insurance will be extended to 9.32 lakh families of workers in the unorganised sector. About 18 lakh poor families are already covered under the National Health Insurance Scheme. The palliative care policy has also earned great compliment. All the panchayats in Kerala will have Plus Two courses by next year. The Government sanctioned 22,000 additional seats at the Plus One level in various schools in North Kerala.

It is no secret that the only way a Government can move forward is by providing ways to improve the quality of life of the people of its state.

A web-enabled Integrated Voice Response System Helpline is being set up by the Public Works Department for the public to bring to the notice of the Department the problems in roads, buildings, bridges. The Government has set a vegetable output target of 3.25 lakh tonnes for the current year. It is promoting vegetable cultivation in 12,000 hectares of land and has pumped in Rs.11 crore for the purpose.

Onam kits with grains and vegetables costing Rupees.71.55 each, is being given free of cost to 20 lakh families living Below the Poverty Line during this festival season. 12 kg of rice is given free of charge to every tribal family. The month of Chingam revives the workers and peasants from famine, diseases and difficulties they experienced during Karkkadakam. Government is committed to ensure that they will see this revival in their own lives and livelihoods.



## Change Policies

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Hari Peyad