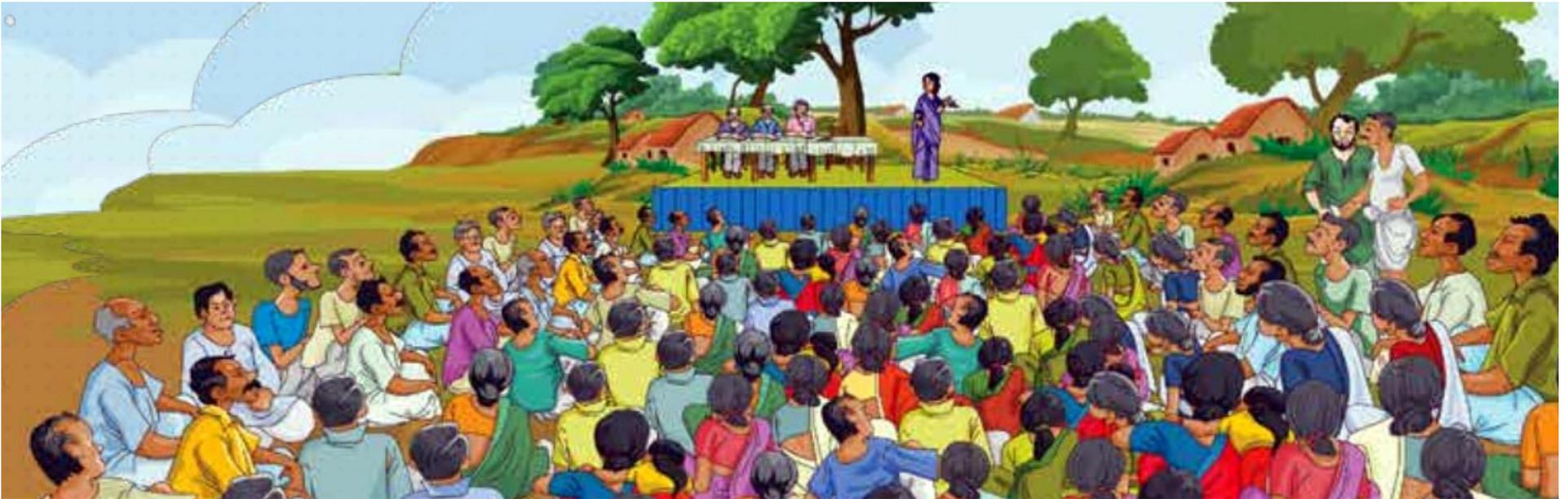


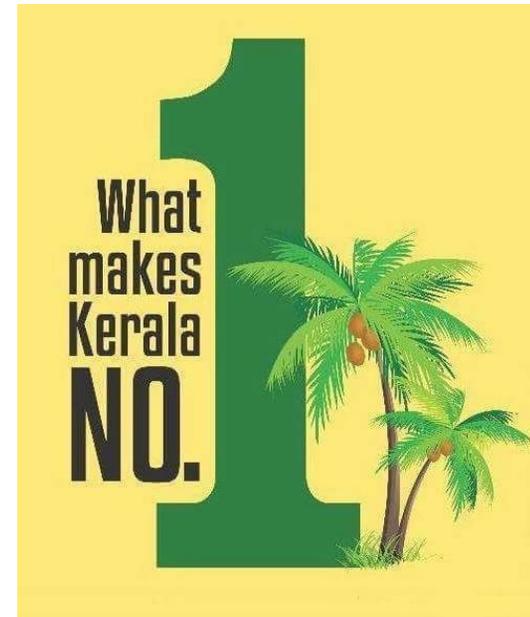
# DEMOCRATIC DECENTRALISATION WHAT NEXT?

Dr. T M Thomas Isaac



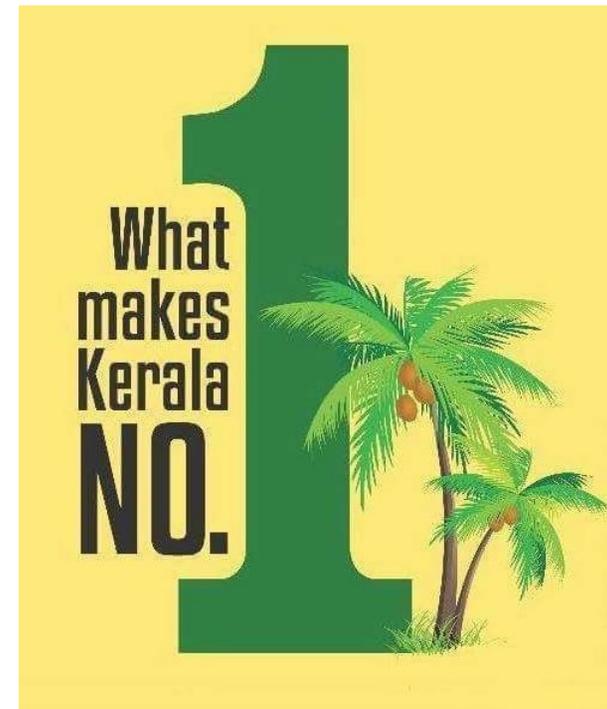
# Kerala No. 1 in Decentralisation

- **Only state that celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 73<sup>rd</sup> – 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendments**
- **Dramatically realized that local governments were a new source of social strength during the Great Flood and Covid-19**
- **The agency for major developmental achievements of the State Government recently**



# Poverty Eradication

- **Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (0.55% - 2023)**
- **Head count poverty ratio (1.3% - 2022-23)**
- **Extreme poverty eradication (2025)**
- **In every Social Index of Social Development No. 1**



# Important Contribution by Local Govts

- Health and education
- Nutrition and childcare
- Geriatric care: pensions, palliative
- Housing and rural assets
- Drinking water
- Differently abled
- Condition of women





## **A Vision Fired by The Ideals of**

**Autonomy,  
Subsidiarity,  
Participation,  
Accountability,  
Transparency,  
Complementarity  
and Role Clarity**

**SOCIALISM OF 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY**

# Process - Degeneration

1. Participation
2. Transparency
3. Routinization of Planning
4. Lack of Integrated Approach



# Another Round of Social Mobilization

- **District Planning**
- **Watershed Planning**
- **Waste Management**
- **Localizing SDG**
- **Local Disaster Management Plan**

# Possibility of Employment Drive as a Key Link

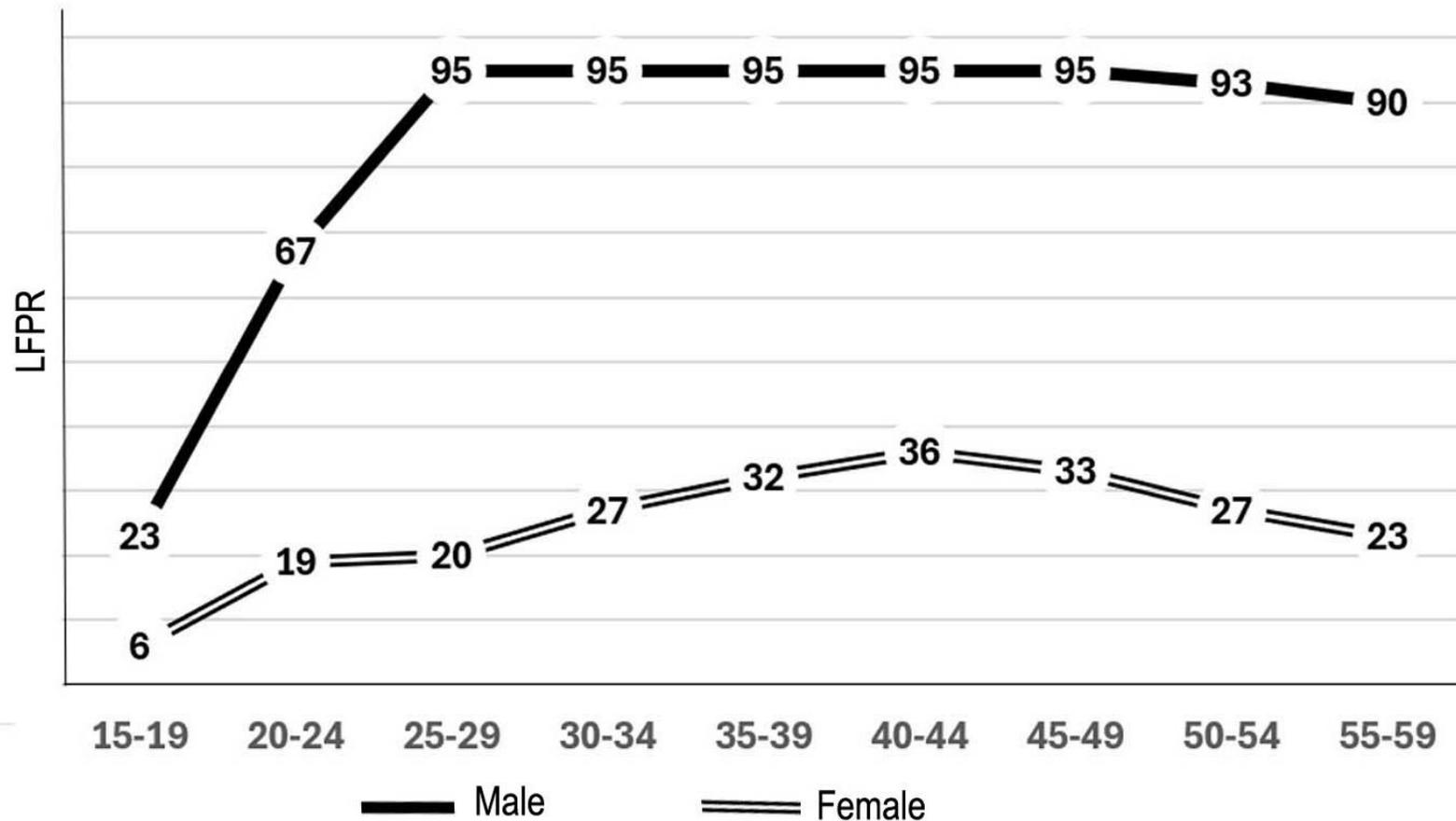
- **Felt need**
- **Potential of Women's Agency**
- **Backward Linkages to LED**
- **Potential for Process Transformation**

# Why Special Focus on Women Employment?

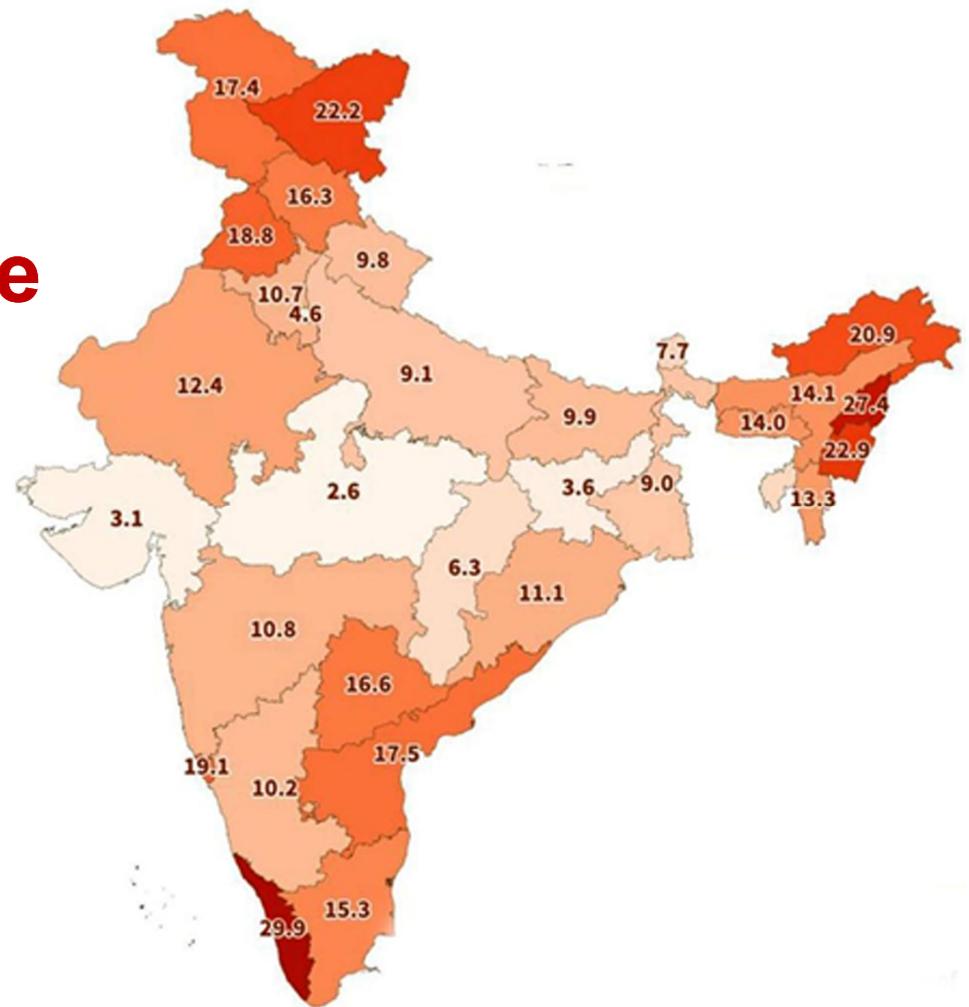
- 95% of male above 24 employed while only 27% for females
- 30-40 lakh migrant workers in Kerala
- Male aspirational levels much higher
- Complexity of women LFPR



## The LFPR of Male and Female by Age Groups in India (2017-18)



# Kerala Highest Unemployment Rate Among Youth And Women



# **The New Campaign will Bring LED into Focus**

- **Technological transformation of agriculture**
- **New co-operative agricultural institutions**
- **Watershed Planning**
- **Enterprises for value addition**
- **Digital platforms for aggregation**
- **Promotion of MSMEs**

# The Campaign will also Address Process Weaknesses



- Participation through activation of NHGs
- Innovative planning
- Integrated approach
- Employment of marginalised sections

## **Will also Revamp Kudumbashree**



**Focus on Income Generation through  
Self Employment as well as  
Wage Employment**

**Revitalise NHGs**

**Strengthen Linkage with LGs**