

RESTORATION OF DIGNITY

Name : Kumudini Das
Age : 55 years
Gender : Female
Date of Rescue : 05/07/2021
Rescue Place : 08/07/2021



Kumudini Das, aged about 55 years is a permanent resident of Village Padmakesharipur under Khordha District with her husband, daughter and grandson. Her Son in law is a Person with Mental Illness; hence her daughter & grandson are dependent on her. Kumudini & her husband were snackers and from that they were earning their bread & butter.

Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) jointly with the Department of Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Govt. of Odisha has initiated a mission with the active involvement of Voluntary Organizations to make the Bhubaneswar city free from begging. Under this mission one Beggars Rehabilitation Centre (Ekamra Nilaya) for Elderly has been established in the South-East Zone of BMC and managed by the Voluntary Organization 'Vikash' since 11th June 2021.

On 5th July 2021 during the search & rescue operation by Vikash Team, Kumudini Das was rescued from BDA Colony Area, Bhubaneswar while she was begging. Kumudini placed at Elderly Beggars Rehabilitation Centre and provided with accommodation, food, drinking water, sanitation facilities etc. The Counselor of BRC counseled her and provided Psycho-social support. At the time of counseling, we came to know the fact behind her begging. Due to COVID-19 pandemic Kumudini became jobless and compelled for begging to feed her family members. The BRC Team collected the facts and information about her family & relatives and contacted to her daughter Dulika Das; a 28 years old lady. Dulika expressed her interest to bring back her mother and she reached at BRC on 8th July 2021 along with the copy of the Aadhaar Card of Kumudini Das. Dulika submitted an undertaking in the BRC mentioning that Kumudini Das will not go



for begging further in future in any circumstances. Dulika Das pledged that she will ensure a dignified and safe life of Kumudini without any violence. Finally, Kumudini was taken back to her home with her daughter and integrated with family.

On 8th August 2021 the BRC team made a surprise visit to her home as part of the follow up activity to know the ground reality and present condition. The team found all the family members in the home. The team came to know that Kumudini is working as maid servant in a house and earning her bread & butter.

Prepared by Vikash