

BABITHA

KERALA



Life wasn't an easy journey for **Babitha** and her family, who lived in a kutchra house earlier with her young daughters. They are residents of Irinjalakuda, Kerala. Her husband **Sheriff** moved to Saudi Arabia to earn a living for the family while she took care of their daughters Aami (12) and Amna (14) and her mother Rasiya (54).

Babitha's husband suffered severe health issues in Saudi Arabia as a result of which, he came back home. The family couldn't afford his treatment. Meanwhile, due to the absence of a pucca house, the women of the family felt insecure. Everyday was a struggle for Babitha. On one hand she had the responsibility of her husband and on the other of their daughters and mother.

Like it's said every cloud has a silver lining. Babitha's life also changed when they came to know about the PMAY(U) being implemented in the Irinjalakuda. The scheme is jointly being implemented by the Government of India, State Government and Urban Local Body (ULB) with the objective of providing "Housing for All".

With this support, she constructed a pucca house. Meanwhile, her husband also recovered from his illness and started working again.

Babitha's daughters Aami and Amna say, "Now we own a safe and secure shelter. We have our personal rooms and enough space for studies and for our dance practice." Babitha loves gardening. She also makes craft items out of waste bottles and her house has ample space for exhibiting it. Only when there are good houses to live in, families can build a healthy life and, thereby, a healthy community. Babitha and her family have now turned the house they got through PMAY(U) into their 'home'.