## MISSION @God's Own Paradise

The students of Vignan had set their journey forward on a mission to support and rehabilitate the flood victims of Kerala. The ideal mission is flagged by Registrar Cmdre M S Raghunathan, Dean Student affairs Dr M SS Rukmini here on Friday. A team of 23 students, 2 Faculty and a Doctor are associated with the students. The Pride Vignanites will spend about a week days of time in Idukki district of Kerala and will participate in flood relief camps in coordination with the local NGO'S.

The Local NGO's have expressed their gratitude and happiness to the team who are coming from Vadlamudi at this needy hour. Considering the present situation in Kerala, there is acute need of manpower to support the victims rather than donating commodities and supplies and the point was clearly caught by the team for the journey to begun.

The team in a way of supporting and donating them, they are carrying 500 ration kits weighing about 1000 kgs of rice, 500 kgs of dal,500 kgs of sugar, 1500 packets of sanitary napkins, medicines and toiletry items. The entire journey is being monitored by Assistance Registrar Mr Gowri Sankar at the operation room set up in Registrar office, the entire management, staff and students conveyed their wishes for the team towards a safer journey.

## **Flood condition**

Severe flooding affected the state due to unusually high rainfall during the monsoon season. It was the worst flooding in Kerala in nearly a century, in which over 373 people died within a fortnight, while at least 280,679 people were evacuated, mainly from Chengannur, Pandanad, Aranmula, Aluva, Chalakudy, Kuttanad and Pandalam. All 14 districts of the state were placed on high alert. According to Kerala government sources, one-sixth of the total population of Kerala had been directly affected by the floods and related incidents.

Thirty-five out of forty-two dams within the state were opened for the first time in history. All five overflow gates of the Idukki Dam were opened at the same time, for the first time in 26 years. Heavy rains in Wayanad and Idukki have caused severe landslides and have left the hilly districts isolated. The situation was regularly monitored by the Prime Minister and the National Crisis Management Committee coordinated the rescue and relief operations.

Responding to the chaos around the issue of rejecting foreign assistance to the Kerala floods, the government of India, in line with the existing foreign as well as domestic policy, made it clear that it won't accept any assistance from foreign governments but is fully committed to the relief and rehabilitation by domestic resources and efforts. However, it accepts all sorts of contributions as well as humanitarian aid from individuals, NGOs and PIOs world wide.

## **Donation of 25 lakhs by the Varsity**

The university had donated 25 lakhs to the victims of Kerala floods. Dr. L. Rathaiah ,said "Kerala along with amount, food items at this hour, there is acute need of volunteers to help the victimised people across Kerala towards cleaning and other activities.

He specially thanked and appreciated the university staff for the donation of "one day salary" from all of them towards the CM relief fund which made up together to 25 lakhs in totality.