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# Govt to conduct survey of street vendors in state

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**T**HIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The state government will conduct a survey of the street vendors in Kerala as part of its efforts to rehabilitate them under the central government's National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) programme.

The survey, to be carried out in 14 towns, is expected to address the various concerns of more than two lakh street vendors. A high-level committee chaired by urban affairs minister Manjalamkuzhi Ali here on Wednesday decided to set up state-level and district-level coordination committees as part of the move.

The state-level inauguration of the programme will be held at Kozhikode on September 26. In the first phase, the survey will be conducted at 13 district headquarters, excluding Idukki, and at Thrikkakkara in Ernakulam.

The street vendors enumerated thus will be issued identification cards so that they can avail various NULM benefits. The government is planning to launch projects worth Rs 3.50 crore for the facilitation of the vendors. Of this, Rs 98 lakh will be earmarked for the survey, rehabilitation and giving them necessary facilities in addition to issuing them identification cards. Various trade unions and development organizations have been roped in for the survey which will be conducted by master of social work students with help from the Kudumbashree Mission.

The NULM aims to reduce the poverty and vulnerability of urban poor households by enabling them to access gainful self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities. The mission also aims to address livelihood concerns of the urban street vendors by facilitating access to suitable spaces, institutional credit, social security and skills for taking advantage of emerging market opportunities. tnn