



Republic Day Speech of
Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh
Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
26th January, 2021

On the occasion of the 72nd Republic Day, I extend my greetings to the people of Andhra Pradesh and I salute the founding fathers of our nation who have struggled to make India free and the architects of our Constitution, which has laid down the guiding principles for us to progress with dignity and decorum.

It is prudent here to recall what Prime Minister Narendra Modi had recently said quoting legendary Telugu playwright and reformist Gurazada Appa Rao by saying "Desamante Matti Koadoyi, Desamante Manushuloyi". Very aptly the preamble of our Constitution begins with 'We the people...

More than seven decades ago, on this day, our Constitution has come in to effect which has placed on our shoulders the responsibility to adhere to justice, liberty, equality and fraternity, which are the main tenets of democracy.

The government has clear-cut agenda of all round development of the State. It laid emphasis on Education, Medical and Health, Agriculture and Welfare the Government has launched numerous schemes to benefit all the sections of the people. The beneficiaries are selected in a transparent manner without any discrimination of caste, creed, religion or political affiliations and the schemes are implemented in 100% saturation mode.

Before listing out the details of the welfare schemes, the acumen with which our Government had handled the Covid pandemic merits praise. We have passed through testing times with the outbreak of Covid pandemic and my Government had effectively handled the situation taking measures which have won accolades from across the country.

With vaccination rolling out ten days back, the run has been smooth and the Government has put in place the necessary infrastructure, which includes storage and movement mechanism of the vaccine.

Despite Covid, the implementation of welfare programmes did not stop at any point of time and, on the contrary, more initiatives were taken up to deliver ration, groceries and vegetables, purchase of agriculture produce giving better price to the farmer, even to perishable goods, exporting aqua products and flagging off the Kisan Rail among others.

In the recent past, however, there were some disturbing incidents that were trying to threaten the smooth flow of the social fabric by some elements which no civil society can tolerate. The Constitution provides equal rights and equal opportunities to all, irrespective of their affiliations, political, religious or otherwise.

We have to respect all faiths and that is what our tradition has been. The recent distractions from the guiding principles laid down in the preamble of our Constitution are very distressing. The Government is very firm in safeguarding the social fabric, which is spun by the colorful yarn of various faiths that reflects unity in diversity.

While the Government believes this principle in letter and spirit, some vested interests have been trying to whip up passions by instigating and resorting to unsavory incidents which are crude, meaningless and are laced with ulterior motives.

The Government has given a stern warning to such elements and all perpetrators of such acts of madness will be brought to book without mercy or pardon. Upholding the harmony of the social edifice is the prime responsibility of the Government, no matter what it takes, to ensure peaceful coexistence.

Desecration, vandalism, arson and all such acts of insanity have no place in our society and those responsible for the aberrations will be dealt with firmly by all means to restore peace and harmony in the State which has been making rapid strides in terms of welfare and development.

Housing for All – Navarathnalu

We celebrated Vaikunta Ekadasi and Christmas on December 25 with the Government taking up the huge task of distributing nearly 31 lakh house sites to the poor and also begin the construction of houses. Such a programme was never held in country earlier. There were some hurdles for implementation of the welfare scheme. However, Government went ahead and distributed the house site pattas, in all litigation-free areas.

It was not construction of houses but building of habitations with 30.75 lakh beneficiaries of which 28.30 lakh houses are coming up in 17,000 YSR Jagananna layouts. In the first phase, construction of 15.60 lakh houses has commenced with a cost of Rs. 28,084 crores and the remaining 12.70 lakh houses will be taken up soon. The government has acquired 68,361 acres of land worth Rs. 23,535 crores and the beneficiaries will be given the choice either to build houses on their own or seek help for material component or to delegate the work to the government in toto. Never before was such a massive exercise taken up by any government with clear markings, title deeds registered in the name of the woman of the household.

This will give a boost to the economy of the State and also provide massive employment opportunities to around 1.40 Crore persons. The houses will have a Bed room, Living room, Kitchen, Bath cum toilet and verandah in every house with a plinth area of 340 Sft. Besides this, it was decided to provide (2) fans, (2) tube lights and (2) LED bulbs to each beneficiary.

TIDCO Houses

The Government has delivered sale agreements pertaining to 2.62 lakh TIDCO houses worth Rs. 21,345 crores to eligible women beneficiaries in urban areas, of which 1,43,600 TIDCO houses of 300 sft are handed over for just Re.1/-

Government will bear 50% upfront contribution share of beneficiaries costing around Rs.482 crores for 44,304 houses of 365 sft and 74,312 houses of 430 sft.

DIRECT BENEFIT TRANSFER (DBT):

The transparency of the government is very much seen by one and all with the direct benefit transfer of amount to the beneficiaries giving no scope for pilferage or corruption. Not long ago, people in public life were worried as only 15 paise of the rupee was reaching the intended sections. The answer has come in the form of DBT by the government which has been crediting amount to the beneficiaries directly with the click of a button in the full glare of media and beneficiaries airing their views and happiness. On the first of every month social security pensions are being disbursed at the doorsteps to the old and disabled, putting an end to their ordeal of standing in long queues and foregoing the day's wage and complying with the temperamental functioning of gadgets at the disbursing offices. The government has so far disbursed Rs. 79,715.53 crores under DBT benefiting 6,43,09,701 beneficiaries and Rs. 15,162.42 crores covering 1,50,03,686 people under non-DBT taking the total to Rs. 94,877.94 crores to 7,93,13,387 beneficiaries.

Past examples have shown us that concentration of development at a singular place would lead to unrest and regional imbalances. The Government is of the firm view that decentralization of development with Visakhapatnam as executive capital, Amaravati being the Legislative capital and Kurnool as the Judicial capital would usher in balanced development of all regions. Andhra Pradesh has been among the top Performing States in the country and Visakhapatnam has won an Award in the Best Performing Municipalities under special category while the State has also bagged Awards

in Project Monitoring Tools and Innovative Construction Technology categories.

AGRICULTURE SECTOR

The economy of our State is predominantly agrarian and the Government is leaving no stone unturned to encourage agriculture and its allied fields and has launched several pro-farmer schemes, in this sector.

YSR Rythu Bharosa

Under YSR Rythu Bharosa, which has completed two rounds, Rs. 13,500 is paid directly into the farmers' bank accounts in three installments for a period of five years. Though it was promised only Rs. 12,500 for four years but was enlarged for farmers' welfare. The Government has already paid Rs.13,101 crores as Rythu Bharosa assistance, benefiting 51.59 lakh farmers and ours is the only government to extend the benefit to tenant farmers, assigned lands and RoFR pattas as well.

YSR Rythu Bharosa Kendralu (RBKs)

Adjacent to village secretariats, 10,641 YSR Rythu Bharosa Kendras (RBKs) have been established to cater to the needs of our farmers from seed to sale of the agriculture produce. RBKs will supply quality certified seeds, fertilizers and pesticides among others. They will facilitate free crop insurance and zero interest farm loans. RBKs would also act as procurement centers to enable the farmers to get remunerative price for their produce. The government is also establishing 147 YSR Agri-testing Labs at the constituency level and 13 labs at the district level and 4 regional coding centers to increase agriculture production.

In the coming year, my government will establish all the pre harvest and post harvest infrastructure worth Rs. 10,657 crores by setting up multipurpose facility centre beside each RBK. This centre will comprise of all

facilities needed by farmers such as godowns, cold rooms, drying platforms, primary processing equipments, pre-harvest and post harvest equipments, quality testing equipments, janatha bazars etc. This will further boost the farm gate infrastructure.

Procurement of Agricultural Produce

The government has established a Price Stabilization fund of 3000 crores to do market intervention in agriculture and horticulture produce. State Marketing department has procured 14.96 lakh MTS of agricultural commodity worth Rs.5460 crores which is a record in AP history. Out of this, more than Rs.2,500 crs was procured during lockdown period which proves the government commitment towards farmers.

I am proud to state that AP is the only state in the country where all procurement under MSP happens at the village itself. Each RBK centre in the village acts as procurement centre. The scheme implemented from this kharif season, no farmer in AP need to go outside the village for selling his produce at MSP rates. This has saved the farmer transportation costs.

AP is the only state in the country to announce MSP for 6 agriculture produce: Chilli, Turmeric, Minor millets, Onion, Banana, Sweet orange.

Ours is the only state in the country which collects farm prices from each village on a daily basis through an App called the CM APP. It stands for comprehensive monitoring of Agricultural Price and Procurement. Through this app, prices are collected daily and market intervention is done wherever necessary.

AP will be the first state in the country to establish an e marketing platform called 'eFarmarket' to connect the farmers of AP to the traders in the country. This e-platform will enable the farmers of AP to sell their produce anywhere in the country.

AP is the only state in the country to have 50% reservation for women in the Agricultural Market Committees.

Input Subsidy:

Like never before, the Government is handing over compensation for crop loss suffered in a season before the end of that particular season itself. Government has so far paid Rs.1055.20 crores on input subsidy covering 13.69 lakh farmers and 18.57 lakh acres of land, including the pending compensation.

YSR Sunna Vaddi:-

Under YSR Sunna Vaddi Panta Runalu, the Government has spent Rs.289 crores so far benefitting 14.26 lakh farmers. We can proudly say that we have cleared previous dues of Sunna Vaddi Panta Runalu amounting to Rs. 904 crores covering 51.24 lakh farmers.

The loanee farmers of kharif 2019, though crossed the one year period, were also made eligible if they repaid within moratorium period i.e., 31st august, 2020.

Free Power to Agricultural Sector:-

The Government has spent Rs.17,430 crores towards free power subsidy to farm sector and Rs.1,700 crores for new feeders to supply 9 hours uninterrupted free, quality power during day time.

In order to ensure free power to agriculture for next 30 years, Government has already called for tenders for 10000 MW solar power projects.

YSR Free Crop Insurance:-

After formation of this Government an amount of Rs.1,968 crores settled towards crop insurance claims, benefitting 15.67 lakh farmers was

distributed. The largest number of farmers 49.81 lakh farmers and 45.96 lakh hectares have been brought under insurance cover in 2019- 20 by implementing YSR Free Crop Insurance. The premium on behalf of farmers was paid by State Government itself.

It is the only State Government in the entire country which is implementing free crop insurance without any burden on the farmers. Each and every acre of land cultivated with notified crop and registered with e-crop is brought under the ambit of Free Crop Insurance scheme. The Government is shouldering the entire claim responsibility.

In yet another revolutionary step, the claims under kharif 2020 will be paid in March/April 2021 itself, soon after completion of crop cutting experiments and obtaining necessary yield estimates from the planning department. This will be the quickest payment of insurance claims for the first time in history.

YSR Jalakala:-

Fulfilling the promise made to farmers, the Government will drill 2 lakh bore wells and provide motors free of cost under this scheme across the State in 4 years incurring an expenditure of around Rs. 4000 crores, thereby providing irrigation facility to an additional 5 lakh acres of agricultural land.

AP- Amul Paala Velluva

To provide an additional income source to our villages, the government has launched different programmes for farmers in allied sectors like dairy, animal husbandry and fisheries.

Fulfilling another promise, the Government has taken up a major initiative to ensure additional income of at least Rs.5-7 per litre milk to each and every dairy farmer. For this an MoU has been signed with Amul to help dairy farmers. This will do away with middle men in milk procurement which

will now be done through women co-operative societies and ensure payment in 10 days to milk pourers. Establishment of automated milk collection centres, bulk milk cooling units and processing units in 9899 villages across the State is in progress.

Jagananna Jeeva Kranthi

Aiming to provide stable income and better livelihood to women farmers, my Government has started distribution of 2,49,151 sheep/goat units across the State with an expenditure of Rs.1,869 crores.

EDUCATION SECTOR

The syntax of education was given a new meaning by promoting government schools, revamping them and dusting out the dilapidated look and going for a total makeover and providing facilities like running water, toilets, furniture, fixtures, kitchen shed, staff and other amenities. No wonder there has been a steady flow of new students from other schools to government schools.

Jagananna Amma Vodi

Under Jagananna Amma Vodi, the government deposits Rs. 15,000 per annum into the bank accounts of mothers for sending her children to school as the State believes that no mother should stop sending her children to school due to poverty. The Government deposited the amount for the second year in a row in January. The Government has deposited Rs.13,121 Crores so far in to bank accounts of 44.49 lakh mothers benefiting 84 lakh children under this scheme which covers from Class I to Intermediate. The Government has created a district toilet maintenance fund which would look after the sanitation needs of students as lack of clean toilets is proved to be the major factor for school drop outs. The Government has given the option

of laptops in lieu of Amma Vodi from next year for children studying 9th, 10th and intermediate to equip them with modern technology.

Jagananna Vidya Kanuka

Jagananna Vidya Kanuka kits are provided to children for students of Class I to X comprising three pairs of uniform, text and note books, bag, shoes and three pairs of socks as soon as the school reopens. The Government has spent Rs.648 crores so far to benefit 42,34,322 students.

Jagananna Goru Mudda (Mid-day meal)

In order to ensure qualitative, tasty and nutritious mid-day meal is served to the children, the revamped mid-day meal programme has been launched in the name of "Jagananna Goru Mudda" since 21st January, 2020. The Mid-day meal scheme is given a value addition by the government. The Midday meal menu has undergone a thorough revamp with tasty, healthy and nutritious hot cooked meals being served with daily change in menu. Five eggs per week and 3 chikkis are also being served to children. During covid times the Government has distributed dry ration consisting of rice, eggs and chikkis as per the daily entitlement per child by utilizing the services of village/ward volunteers. The monthly honorarium for the cook cum helpers has also been enhanced from Rs.1000 to Rs.3000 from August, 2019 onwards. The scheme costs the Government Rs.1,456 Crores and is benefitting 36,88,618 students, which is being regularly monitored in 4 tier mechanism.

Jagananna Vidya Deevena

With the objective of helping poor children pursue higher education, the Government, like nowhere else in the country, is extending total fee reimbursement facility for students of SC,ST,BC, EBC, Kapu, differently abled, minority and poor pursuing degree, medicine, engineering and

polytechnic courses. The Government has so far paid an amount of Rs.4101 crores including the arrears kept pending by the previous Government.

Jagananna Vasathi Deevena

The Government is extending financial assistance up to Rs.20,000 per annum in two installments to students belonging to SC, ST, BC, EBC, Kapu, differently abled, minority and poor towards boarding, lodging and transport charges. Under Jagananna Vasthi Deevena Rs.1221 crores are spent to benefit 15.57 lakh students.

English as medium of instruction

Another innovative and most useful practical programme of the government is the introduction of English medium from Class 1 to Class 6. English medium enables our poor children to compete globally and nationally with children from affluent families. Nearly 97% of the parents have endorsed the English medium from primary level, though there were some hurdles. The Government has taken precautionary measures by starting bridge courses to the students and training to the teachers to cope up with the new curriculum and also introduction of English labs in school. I am confident that introduction of English as medium of instruction from primary level will be a game changer for the generations to come as it will provide a level playing field for all students.

Mana Badi "Naadu-Nedu"

Under Mana Badi Naadu Nedu, total revamp of infrastructure in 45,484 schools, 471 government junior colleges, 151 government degree colleges and 3287 government hostels, 55,607 anganwadis is being taken up in 3 phases with an expenditure of Rs.16,500 crores. In the first phase 15,715 schools have been taken up for revamping where basic amenities, like furniture, fan, toilets, running water, board and chalk, painting, compound

wall and English lab will have built. About Rs.2,248 crores are spent so far for it in the first phase. Works pertaining to first phase are at a completion stage. In order to ensure transparency all these works are being executed by parent committees under the technical supervision of various engineering departments.

Anganwadi

To benefit the young children aged 3-6 and to lay a solid foundation for their physical and mental well-being anganwadis which will be renamed as YSR preprimary English medium schools will now provide pre-primary education at PP1 and PP2 and pre-first class levels will be implemented from this year in all 55,607 anganwadis. English will be the medium of instruction and play way method of teaching would be adopted. Total revamp of existing anganwadi buildings and construction of new anganwadi buildings will be completed by June, 2023 costing around Rs. 4,500 crores.

Curricular Reforms

The Government has taken up numerous curricular reforms from the academic year 2020-2021 with a greater focus on fundamental learning and numeracy. The textbooks from 1-6 which are bilingual and also semester based with contextualized and localized content have been redesigned with more focus on activity based curriculum. The Government has also launched "We love reading campaign on 26th November, 2020 to inculcate and promote the habit of reading among students and teachers in the schools.

Andhra Pradesh School Education and Monitory Commission

The Government has established Andhra Pradesh State Education Regulatory and Monitoring Commission. The commission has taken up measures to set the standards of the educational institutions.

Education during COVID-19 pandemic

Despite adverse conditions, the Government has initiated a number of measures to enable the children to continue their learning during pandemic. The Government has conducted Vidyamrutham by telecasting online video lessons to SSC students through Doordarshan Sapthagiri Channel. Broadcasted radio lessons to SSC students in the name of Vidya Kalasam. 1.30 lakh teachers were trained in proficiency in English through webinars. During the academic year 2020-21 online classes are being telecast through DD Sapthagiri in the name of Vidya Varadhi.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH SECTOR

'Aarogyame MahaBhagyam, Health is Wealth'.

The Government understands the hardships faced by poor and middle class due to illness and health problems. To provide them a sense of security, we have launched revolutionary and comprehensive initiatives in health sector.

Dr.YSR Aarogyasri

The Government has revived the Dr.YSR Aarogyasri scheme. The eligibility limit has been increased to Rs.5 lakhs per annum thereby covering around 95% of the State population. The State has spent Rs.3000 crores extending the benefit to 9.89 lakh people. The number of medical ailments covered under the scheme has been increased to 2,436 from 1059, including all cancer treatments and aarogyasri facilities are also provided to the eligible in 112 super specialty hospitals in Hyderabad, Chennai and Bengaluru. Pensions are being paid to patients with chronic diseases up to Rs.10,000. All procedures costing above Rs.1000 are now covered under YSR Aarogyasri.

We have released Rs.630 crores to network hospitals to clear off the long pending bills. Also, an additional amount of Rs. 1,915 crores was released to the network hospitals for the year 2019-20.

YSR Aarogya Aasara

Under YSR Aarogya Asaraa, financial assistance of Rs.225/- per day and up to Rs.5,000/- per month will be paid during the post operative recuperative period for patients and the State has so far paid Rs.200 crores covering 3.7 lakh beneficiaries.

YSR Kanti Velugu

The Government has spent Rs.53.85 crores under YSR Kanti Velugu covering 67.69 lakh students. In the first and second phases, screening was conducted in 60,401 schools. The third phase is in progress. Free operations and free spectacles will be given to the needy under this programme. A total of Rs.560 crores will be spent on the scheme in six phases.

YSR Clinics

The Government is on the verge of completing construction of 10,500 YSR Village Clinics in rural areas with Rs. 2,000 crores. The YSR village clinics will run on 24 x 7 basis and will have a multi level health provider and an ANM. The clinics will have 90 types of medicines and would act as referral center for Aarogysri hospital.

For the first time in the history of the State, 560 YSR urban health clinics are set up which are full fledged PHCs. The clinics will have a doctor, 2 nurses, lab technician and other staff.

108,104 Ambulances

The Government has totally revamped 108 &104 services.

A fleet of 1,088 vehicles of 108 ambulances and 104 mobile health clinics were launched by this government and are on the field which would attend the call in less than 20 minutes.

Dr.YSR Telemedicine

The Government has rolled out Dr.YSR Telemedicine Services on 13th April,2020 to attend to covid-19 cases in remote areas, made the service accessible on toll free number 14410.

Naadu - Nedu

Under Naadu-Nedu, the Government hospitals are being upgraded to the national standards. In addition to the existing 11 teaching hospitals, 16 more along with nursing colleges with Rs. 8,000 crores will come up, 3 new cancer hospitals and kidney specialty hospitals will be established soon. Six multi specialty hospitals are to be set up in ITDAs. As part of this programme 1147 PHCs, 28 area hospital, 14 district hospitals and 191 community health centers are being modernized. The Government is taking up this programme with a cost of Rs. 16,300 crores.

Recruitment of Medical Staff

The Government has recruited 9712 medical staff to see that every hospital is equipped with requisite personnel. This is the highest recruitment at one go in the history of the State.

STEPS TAKEN DURING COVID PANDEMIC

True character, grit and determination of an individual or institution is revealed during the times of adversity. Covid pandemic has posed challenge to entire humanity and I can proudly say my Government has successfully risen upto the challenge and countered the menace. A few measures that were taken in this regard are:

The Government has effectively run wide publicity and media campaigns to raise awareness about Corona, its symptoms, and preventive measures. Strategically planned, mobilized and deployed response teams, health infrastructure, governing systems and preventive measures to manage the pandemic situation efficiently.

We instituted quarantine centres early on to identify and isolate symptomatic patients among home-bound population to the state to contain Corona spread. Ensured availability of best-possible medical care and nutritional meal worth Rs. 500 per person per day in the state-run quarantine centres.

The government has successfully utilized the village/ward volunteer and secretariat network of around 4 lakh readily available on ground resources to conduct five rounds of door-to-door survey to trace and track contacts which immensely helped in curbing corona spread.

Technology was utilised in tracing, shifting to isolation and monitoring home quarantine of returnees from all places. AP was the first state in India to import Rapid Testing Kits from South Korea to speed up COVID-19 testing capability.

We have established 19 public and private hospitals as Category-1 Dedicated COVID Hospitals; 67 hospitals as Category-2 Dedicated COVID Health Centres; 275 hospitals as Category-3 COVID Care Centres to ensure optimal utilisation of resources and to provide maximum care to COVID-19 patients in AP.

The government has made a significant move to bring COVID-19 treatment under Aarogyasri umbrella - AP being the first state to rush to the poor man's aid, an additional Rs 2,000-aid has been earmarked to each person upon discharge.

In the unfortunate event of death, state offered a Rs 15,000-aid to the family members for conducting last rites of COVID-19 deceased.

The Government ran free transport and food services to help migrant workers reach their destinations safely from the places they were stranded at or from wherever they found the bus while walking.

The government ensured safe return of 4500 stranded fishermen and migrant workers.

The State released Rs. 2800 crore to supply ration thrice a month, and a cash relief of Rs. 1000 to help the white card holders tide over the Corona crisis.

To come to the rescue of the migrant labour issue, the Government has set up over 400 relief centres to help provide food, shelter, and basic amenities to over 1.2 lakh migrant workers. The APSRTC buses and Sharmik Special trains were utilized to transport over 3.2 lakh-stranded workers to their homes, both in AP and in other states, free of cost. Free food was provided to the workers while they were on the road. Workers returning to their homes in rural AP are being provided additional MGNREGS jobs to help them earn an income.

Village / Ward Secretariats, Medical Personnel, Police, Municipal staff, Revenue, Electricity & other staff have done a wonderful job and stood in the front line in containing the spread of Covid-19.

Vaccination for Covid

Government has rolled out vaccination programme for covid-19 pandemic as per the guidelines issued by the Government of India. The State Government machinery is actively involved in vaccination programme. 11 lakh doses of vaccine is received in the State. The vaccination programme was launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 16th at GGH

Vijayawada. In the first phase 3.8 lakh health workers and 8 lakh, other frontline departments staff will be vaccinated. Another one crore persons aged 50 and above and those with co-morbidities will also be vaccinated in the next phase in the State.

Resilient Economy amidst Covid Crisis

The economies of all countries across the globe have been adversely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. India too suffered huge loss which resulted in a substantial decline in the growth of the economy. During 2020-21, as per the advance estimates, the Country's GDP at constant (2011-12) prices has registered a negative growth rate of (-)7.7%.

During the year 2019-20 (AE), AP state has registered 8.16% growth rate, which was higher than the Nation's growth rate of 5%. With the advance estimates of the economy of the AP state for this year yet to come out, my government is taking all necessary steps to improve the performance of all sectors and the livelihoods of the poor are adequately taken care.

WOMEN WELFARE

We believe that women of household are more discerning and responsible, when it comes to management of family resources. The Government is working towards empowering women and caring for their safety and security.

Zero % interest loans to Women Groups

The Government has deposited Rs. 1,400 crores in banks in lieu of interest amount of SHG loans of 8.7 lakh women groups thereby benefitting 91 lakh women. This is in contrast to zero amount paid towards interest during 2017-18 and 2018-19.

YSR Aasara

Heralding a new dawn of women welfare, self-reliance and empowerment with unwavering commitment, my Government has launched YSR Aasara scheme fulfilling one of its manifesto promises. SHGs having outstanding dues of loans taken from commercial and cooperative banks as on 11th April,2019 are being benefitted under the scheme.

The Government has already deposited Rs.6,792 crores on 11th September,2020 as first installment in bank accounts of SHGs to benefit around 87 lakh women belonging to 8.71 lakh Self Help Groups as part of reimbursement of total loans worth Rs.27,168 crores in 4 installments.

YSR Cheyutha

The Government has launched YSR Cheyutha scheme which provides financial assistance to women belonging to SC, ST, BC and Minorities who are in the age group of 45 to 60 years . They will be receiving Rs.75,000 in four years at the rate of Rs.18750 per year. The Government is spending a total amount of Rs. 17,000 crores to benefit 23 lakh women .

The Government has taken up distribution of 4.69 lakh cow & buffalo units to women under YSR Cheyutha at a cost of Rs. 6,551 crores, in three phases.

Under both YSR Aasara and YSR cheyutha schemes, to empower women and make them self reliant, women are encouraged to set up enterprises for which government is extending support in the form of facilitating loans, giving them marketing facility and training by tying up with multinational companies like P&G, ITC, Allana, Reliance, HUL, Amul and banks among others.

YSR Kapu Nestham:

The Government is giving Rs.15000 per annum as financial assistance to all Kapu women aged 45-60 years. The government already distributed Rs.492 crores to extend financial assistance to 3,27,862 eligible kapu women under YSR Kapu Nestham.

YSR Sampoorna Poshana:

The Government launched the scheme costing Rs.1,863 crores to provide nutritious food to 30 lakh eligible women and children enrolled in 55,607 anganwadis.

50 percent reservations:

To empower women on the political and economic fronts, my Government has provided 50 per cent reservations in nominated posts and nominated works.

AP Disha Act:

To provide safety and security to women my Government brought in Disha Bill to take fast and stringent action against those involved in crimes against women and it is awaiting Hon'ble President's assent.

Abhayam:

The Abhayam app guarantees safe journey to the women and children helping them to travel without fear in autos and cabs. The project is being implemented at an estimated cost of Rs.138 crores.

YSR Pension Kanuka:

YSR Pension Kanuka is the first of the Navaratnalalu schemes to be implemented by my Government as the State has paid Rs.26,553 crores so far to about 62 lakh beneficiaries, my Government is spending about 1510 crores per month on this scheme. The pension amount is being handed over

to the beneficiary at the door-step by Village and Ward Volunteers on the first of every month without fail. The old, sick and disabled who had to go to the disbursing offices and wait for the whole day are now very happy as the welfare scheme is being door delivered.

YSR Jagananna Shaswata Bhu Hakku mariyu Bhu Raksha Pathakam:

"Your land – Our Assurance"

The Government in partnership with Survey of India launched comprehensive land survey 2020, with advanced technology like Drones, CORS, Rovers. This gigantic exercise is taken up after 100 years for protection of our lands and properties. Commenced on 21st December, 2020 the entire exercise will be completed by January 2023 with a cost of Rs.1000 crores. This survey guarantees permanent property title with government guarantee. Records after survey 2020 will be as per actual existent land, every parcel of land will be surveyed at free of cost and YSR Jagananna Bhu Raksha boundary stones are to be given free of cost. From now village secretariats will also function as immovable property registration offices.

56 BC Corporations:

The Government strongly believes that backward classes are backbone classes. For the first time in the country's history 56 BC corporations are established which includes 139 BC castes in the State with 672 Directors and 56 Chairmen. There will be 13 directors in each corporation to represent every district. 50% reservation for women is provided in posts of chairmen and directors. We have set up permanent BC commission to study the conditions of the backward classes and to find solution to their problems. More than what was promised in the manifesto, the Government has spent about Rs.40,000 crores on welfare of about 2.8 crores beneficiaries of BC community.

OTHER WELFARE SCHEMES:

The State government has left no stone unturned to reach out to last man of the society and provide succor to the needy.

YSR Matsya Kara Bharosa:

The Government is committed for the welfare of fisherman and under Matsyakara Bharosa we have extended assistance to those engaged in fishing with mechanized & motorized fishing boats of Rs.10000 each family during fishing ban period to 1,09,231 families of fishermen. A sum of Rs.211.70 crores has been spent in a span of 2 years.

YSR Nethanna Nestham:

With an aim to extend helping hand to weavers, my Government took a broader outlook to provide financial assistance of Rs.24,000/- for second consecutive year to poor weaver families. A total number of 81,703 weavers got benefitted from the sanctioned amount of Rs.384 crores. In addition to the above, Rs. 103 Crores was released to APCO to clear the outstanding bills left unpaid to the Weavers' Cooperative Societies by the previous government. Further Rs. 109 Crores was released to APCO to procure cloth from Weavers' Cooperative Societies, for making Corona face masks.

YSR Vahana Mithra:

In order to provide a financial assistance for insurance, fitness certificate, repairs and other needs of auto, taxi and maxi cab drivers having own vehicle the Government is extending financial assistance of Rs.10000 per year and has disbursed a sum of Rs. 513.95 crores till date to 2,74,015 drivers-cum-owners.

YSR Law Nestham:

The Government has extended a stipend of Rs. 5,000 per month to junior lawyers for a period of 3 years of their practice, under YSR Law Nestham, spending Rs.13.08 crores. As many as 2,012 advocates benefited from the scheme.

Recognition of Forest Rights (RoFR) Pattas:

To benefit tribals in scheduled areas and to see that no tribal family is left out without land in the State, and to ensure every tribal family gets atleast 2 acres of land, in the name of women member of the family, within the purview of RoFR, a programme was launched on 2nd October, 2020 to distribute 3 lakh acres of land to 1.58 lakh tribal families. Till date 2,15,000 acres of land is distributed to 1.10 lakh tribal families. The allotted lands are digitally surveyed with fool proof security from land disputes. YSR Rythu Bharosa assistance of Rs.13,500/- per year under YSR Rythu Bharosa is extended as an added benefit to every eligible tribal family.

Jagananna Chedodu:

'Jagananna Chedodu' was launched to support tailors, barbers and washermen families. An amount of Rs.10,000 was deposited in their unencumbered bank accounts. A total budget of Rs 298.43 crores was disbursed to 2.98 lakh beneficiaries.

YSR Bima:

An innovative scheme is envisaged by my Government to bring relief to families in distress due to death or permanent disability. This helps to provide a free insurance cover to 1.41 crore families having Rice card eligibility. The scheme includes Rs 2 lakhs benefit for Natural death within age group of 18-50 years, Rs. 5 lakhs for accidental death within 18-50 years and Rs. 3 lakhs for Permanent total disability within 51-70 years

besides Rs.1.50 lakhs to Permanent partial disability to those within age group of 18-70 years.

Jagananna Thodu:

This scheme is rolled out mainly to put an end to the plight of petty vendors and traditional artisans from loan sharks who grab abnormal interest for petty loans. The government facilitated interest free loan of Rs.10,000 per person to about 5 lakh petty vendors till date.

RESERVATION TO SC, ST, BC, MINORITIES:

Fifty per cent reservation is being provided to SC, ST, BC, and Minorities in all nominated posts and nominated works.

SC, ST COMMISSION:

The Government has passed an Bill to set up separate SC, ST commissions to implement the welfare programmes efficiently and to look into their overall development. We have set up 3 separate corporations for SCs and also one corporation for STs. I am happy to inform that approval for ST commission has already been received.

TRANSPARENT TENDER POLICY:

To ensure transparency in tendering process, the State Government has constituted a Judicial Preview Commission through a legislation wherein all tenders above Rs.100 crores will undergo the scrutiny by a retired High Court Judge and will be finalised by the Commission.

Process of Reverse tendering is being adopted so as to ensure transparency, increase competition and ensure savings for the exchequer. Through Reverse tendering nearly Rs.3,143 Crores was saved to the government exchequer till date.

INDUSTRIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT:

The Government is committed to the all- round development of the State with a focused approach to attract industries into the State.

Andhra Pradesh is ranked no. 1 in 2019, as per the State Business Reform Action Plan released by GoI and World Bank.

The State is seeing a sustained interest from global and domestic investors. Investments to a tune of Rs.28,242 crores is resulting employment generation upto 1,01,667 under large scale & MSMEs

New Industrial Policy 2020-23 to boost investment

Under AP industrial Development Policy 2020-23 various incentives are facilitated for establishing industries in the State with focus on generating employment through industrial units.

The Government waived fixed electricity charges of Rs. 187.80 crores to boost MSMEs in the state to reopen industries during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. The State has allotted a budget of Rs.200 Crore to offer working capital loans between Rs 2-10 lakh at lower interest rates to get the MSMEs back on track.

Government also released the 'Jagananna YSR Badugu Vikasam' policy with a vision to provide additional thrust to industry, especially amongst the underprivileged communities, including scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, through policy measures and institutional network.

Andhra Pradesh is the only State to implement three Industrial Corridors viz., Visakhapatnam – Chennai Industrial Corridor(VCIC), Chennai – Bengaluru Industrial corridor(CBIC) and Hyderabad – Banglore Industrial Corridor for accelerated development across the State.

The Government is taking up development of eight (8) fishing harbours and four (4) fish landing jetties, with an outlay of Rs.3000 crs and fish landing centers to create employment potential of about 85,000 which will be operational by 2023.

Government has established YSR Steel Corporation Ltd., at Sunnapurallapalle(V) in YSR Kadapa District with production capacity of 3 MTPA to fulfill the long-standing aspiration of the people at Kadapa.

The State has launched a mega ReSTART package of Rs 1,168 crores to revive the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and to secure 10 lakh existing jobs in this sector. The package included Rs. 827.5 crore to clear off pending payments left over by the previous regime.

Government of Andhra Pradesh has supported the implementation of "One Time Restructuring"(OTR) of MSME loans scheme under an umbrella programme Dr.YSR Navodayam.

"YSR AP ONE" Center will guide amateur entrepreneurs right from selecting a suitable project, preparation of DPRs, getting loans from banks & financial institutions, till they are sustained in the field.

To impart skills to unemployed youth and to cater to the needs of industry 25 skill development centers, one in each parliamentary constituency are being set up.

IRRIGATION: THE MAJOR THRUST:

Polavaram Irrigation Project was taken up with revised estimated cost of Rs. 55,548.87 crores to stabilise the existing ayacut of 23.5 lakh acres and to provide irrigation facility to 7.2 lakh acres new ayacut including Drinking water requirement of 4.46 TMC to 30 lakh people and 5.34 TMC to Industrial needs. The Government is committed to supply irrigation water by

gravity to Khariff Crop of 2022 and its land acquisition and rehabilitation works will be completed by the end of 2022.

Rayalaseema drought mitigation programme is taken up at a cost of Rs. 39,000 crores for mitigation of famine in Rayalaseema, Nellore and Prakasam districts and to avoid migration of people from these areas. Canals upgradation and modernisation works of all reservoirs in those districts are also taken up to fill them with flood water coming to Srisailem Reservoir within a short flood period.

Poola Subbaiah Veligonda Projects First Tunnel works have been completed in record time and various steps have been taken to complete the 1st phase and Second Tunnel works of the project by August 2021 to realise early benefits.

Babu Jagjeevan Ram Uttarandhra Sujala Sravanthi Project is taken up with an estimated cost of Rs. 8,000 crores in Phase-1&2 to provide 63.2 TMC irrigation and drinking water to backward districts of Uttarandhra viz Vishakapatnam, Vijayanagaram and Srikakulam. Works in Phase-1 are in execution and Tenders for Phase-2 works are under finalisation.

The Government have taken up YSR Palnadu drought mitigation programme at a cost of Rs. 6,000 crores to provide water to Palnadu region and Nagarjuna Sagar right bank canal and YSR Veadri and Varikaselapudi LIS in two phases is proposed to meet irrigation and needs in the uplands of Guntur and Krishna districts.

Proposals are made to construct two barrages downstream of Prakasam Barrage and Road-cum-Barrage upstream on it with an estimated cost of Rs. 4,600 crores and four cross regulators with a cost of Rs. 450 crores for prevention of salt water intrusion in Krishna River Basin and Kolleru.

I am happy to say that all the ongoing projects under Jalayagnam are progressing in a time bound manner.

GOOD GOVERNANCE:

Employees are the wheels of Governance and they are instrumental in converting government policies and plans into actions for the benefit of the people. The Government is committed to employee welfare and has taken up various revolutionary initiatives.

For the first time, the Government has provided Weekly Off facility to Police Personnel, increased the salaries of Contract Employees fixing with minimum time scales.

AP Corporation for Out Sourced Services (APCOS) was formed to weed out involvement of middlemen and to make the system corruption free.

The salary of 108 and 104 employees was increased. Drivers pay was hiked from Rs.13,000/- to Rs.28,000/- and those of Medical Technicians from Rs.15,000/- to Rs.30,000/-. Similarly, the salaries of Pharmacists and Lab Technicians of 104 Services have been raised to Rs.20,000/- from Rs.17,500/- and those of Drivers have been hiked to Rs.26,000/-. In addition to this, job security has been provided to them through AP Outsourcing Corporation.

The Government has increased the salaries of Home Guards from Rs.18,000/- to Rs.21,300/- and those of Asha Workers from Rs.3,000/- to Rs.10,000/-, Sanitation Workers in Government Hospitals from Rs.8,000/- to Rs.16,000/- , in Municipalities from Rs.12,000/- to Rs.18,000/- and in Panchayats from Rs.6,000/- to Rs.10,000/-

A Cabinet Sub-Committee was formed to look into the issue of contributory pension scheme and problems of Contract Employees.

Governance at the doorstep:

To change the rural landscape and decentralize administration, my Government has set up village and ward secretariats to bring governance to the doorsteps of people. It was the Government's vision to provide services at door step and over four lakh jobs which in itself is a record of sorts. This happened just in 4 months after my government took over. Government has set up 11,162 village secretariats and 3,842 ward secretariats to cater the needs of population of 2,000 in rural areas and to 4,000 in urban areas. There are 11 permanent staff and 40 volunteers to deliver about 540 services in a time bound manner to the beneficiaries in each secretariat. All the 50 persons would be locals, which is an added advantage.

The village/ward secretariats are ensuring that rice cards and pension cards are issued in 10 days, Aarogyasri card in 20 days and house pattas in 90 days

The village and ward volunteers will handhold the beneficiaries and see that all welfare scheme benefits including door delivery of pensions, ration, schemes under Navarathnalu and all other welfare schemes reach the intended beneficiaries on a 100% saturation mode without any scope for corruption or discrimination. The list of eligible beneficiaries will be displayed permanently at village/ward secretariats for social audit. Those people who are eligible for welfare schemes but do not find their name in the list by any chance, can apply with relevant documents, the village/ward secretariats will verify and if found eligible will be given benefit within the stipulated time.

Door Delivery of Ration through PDS:

In place of low quality rice supplied during previous regime, my government will be supplying better quality sortexed swarna variety medium slender rice. Putting an end to queues in front of ration shops, fraudulent weighing, black marketing and other irregularities in public distribution

system, the Government is launching door delivery of ration from 1st February,2021 with an additional expenditure of Rs.830 crores per year. To facilitate this 9,260 mobile dispensing units have been launched recently.

Dynamic leadership:

In the end, I am confident that the government with its young Cabinet is striving hard to make the state into a role model in the country. Andhra Pradesh state is and will remain as the most favoured destination to the investors, tourists and a wonderful state to live in.

As a tribute to the Architect of Constitution, a 125 feet Ambedkar statue is coming up in the heart of Vijayawada city with a memorial park.

I conclude by once again extending my greetings to the people of the State on the occasion of the Republic Day.

JAI HIND