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# SETTING BENCH MARK IN GOVERNANCE

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#### Introduction

The Peoples Pro Government led by Sri K.Chandra Sekar Rao(KCR) has offered various schemes for the welfare of the people and thus puts state on a fast paced track of development. The various schemes of the state are,

#### Grama Jyothi

Government of Telangana launched Gram Jyothi program, which is a logical continuation to Mana Ooru-Mana Pranalika. The objective of this mission is to improve the service delivery to the people in core sectors through the strengthening of the Gram Panchayats by bringing together the efforts of various independent departments.

Grama Jyothi aims at synergizing the developmental activities of the departments by achieving functional and financial convergence through preparation of Gram Panchayat Developmental Plans, believing in people are the real force for development. It seeks to exploit the enormous collective energy of the people by making them active partners in the development process, decision making and take good advantage of the social capital at the village level, since it makes sense that people are best judges of what they really want. The goal of Grama Jyothi is to bring in much desired accountability, transparency in the functioning of public institutions working at village level and make them responsive to the needs of the people.

#### Mission Kakatiya

A flagship programme of the government aimed at restoring 46,300 tanks in five years spending Rs 20,000 crore, which is huge money when compared to previous regions. Works of about 8,000 tanks, costing Rs 3,000 crore, is underway on a war footing and would be completed before the onset of monsoon. The initiative will improve the ground water table, reduce the power consumption by farm sector, get higher yields, spur the growth of livestock and rejuvenate rural economy on the whole. Preserving natural resources is the main objective of this dream project, backed by innovative and enterprising minister.

# **Telangana Water Grid Project**

This is one of the innovative and pro-peoples projects that aim at providing water to everyone. In this a mammoth 1.26 lakh km stretch of pipelines would be laid to quench the thirst of Telangana towns and villages apart from providing water for the industrial needs. For this purpose TRS Government has sanctioned Rs 4,000 crore for the FY 2015-16 out of a total project cost of 35,000 crore. Contributions from Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Rural Water Supply department have prepared the design for the project.

#### Haritha Haram

Firstly for the benefit of nature and preserving the tradition of nature one of the innovative flagships programme's of the government is Telanganaku Haritha Haram envisages increasing the green cover of the State from the present 25.16 to 33 per cent of the total geographical area. In this aspect a total of 230 crore seedlings would be raised in the coming three years starting the first week of July celebrated as 'Green Week'. Fifty lakh saplings would be planted in GHMC limits alone this monsoon. Forest Department and District Water Management Agency (DWMA) have made ready 41 crore saplings for this year. Rs 325 crore has been set aside in the FY 2015-16 for the purpose, aiming greenery everywhere.

# Kalyana Lakshmi/ Shaadi Mubarak

Nobody believed that TRS government would introduce such an innovative project for the welfare of a girl child, in a time when girl are being treated a burden. To remove and alleviate financial distress of SC/ST and minority families, TRS Government decided to sanction a one-time financial assistance of Rs. 51,000 at the time of marriage for brides who are residents of Telangana State, in case only, with a far sight that the beneficiaries are the best judge of what they want to do with the money given. Accordingly, Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubaarak Schemes have been introduced with effect from October 2, 2014 for unmarried girls, who have completed 18 years of age at the time of marriage and whose parental income does not exceed Rs. 2 lakh per annum. Already Rs 47 crore and Rs 32 crore disbursed to 9,368 SC and 6,483 ST brides respectively. Another Rs 50 crore was distributed to 10,533 brides from Minority sections. Everybody is happy with this scheme.

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# Arogya Lakshmi

The main of this scheme is to provide health to both mother and child so that a health state is build for future generation. Telangana government let by KCR, provides one nutritious meal every day to pregnant and lactating women and children below the age of six through Anganwadi centres. The scheme was launched officially on January 1, 2015 by Honourable Chief Minister Sri K. Chandrashekar Rao. For the women, 200 ml of milk for 25 days a month and one egg each day will be given with meal. Children, aged between seven months and three years are provided with 16 eggs a month in addition to a 2.5 kg food packet. For children aged between 3 and six years, one egg a day in addition to rice, dal, vegetables and snacks is supplied. A total 18,96,844 lactating mothers, 5,18,215 infants and 21,58,479 pregnant women were covered under the scheme expending Rs 627.96 crore in the past year. The quantity of food items supplied under the scheme has also been increased across all the categories.

#### **Aasara Pensions**

A State where elders, women and children are happy that state will flourish, with this as the main aim and as a part of its welfare measures and social safety net strategy, the Telangana government has introduced the "Aasara" pensions, with a view to ensure secured life with dignity for all the poor. With an aim to provide self respect to the down trodden a innovative scheme called 'Aasara' pension scheme is meant to protect the most vulnerable sections of society in particular the old and infirm, people with HIV-AIDS, widows, incapacitated weavers and toddy tappers, who have lost their means of livelihood with growing age, in order to support their day to day minimum needs required to lead a life of dignity and social security. The Telangana Government introduced "Aasara" - a new Pension scheme - enhancing the monthly pension from Rs. 200 to Rs. 1000 for the old aged, widows, weavers, toddy tappers and AIDS patients and Rs. 500 to Rs. 1500 for disabled persons. The government has spent Rs 4,700 crore on pensions benefiting 37, 65, 304 people including senior citizens, widows, physically handicapped, poor & old-aged artists and beedi workers. An increase of 478% over the previous such schemes.

### **Housing for the Poor**

One of the most highly appreciated schemes for the benefit of the poor is the Double Bed Room Housing for the Poor. This hallmark initiative of the Telangana government is intended to provide quality and respectable housing to the poor. The 'housing for the poor' plan provides for two and three storied buildings with the 2 BHK flats in Hyderabad and other urban areas while they are to be built as independent houses in rural areas. A pilot has been taken up at IDH Colony in Bhoidguda, Secunderabad. As many as 396 units - with each comprising of two bedrooms, hall and kitchen - are being constructed in 32 blocks of G+2 on 580 square yards at a cost of Rs 37 crore at 7.9 lakh per each flat. People are much appreciated program, where they are getting never dreamt housing at no cost. Thanks to KCR.

# **Land distribution to Dalits**

Another significant welfare scheme of the government that provides 3 acres of agricultural land to landless SC women, along with the provision for creation of irrigation facilities, land development and other agricultural inputs for their sustained livelihood. Government distributed 2,524 acres of land to 959 Dalits spending Rs 94 crore in the first year. The main aim of this scheme is to build wealth to the poor and needy.

#### **Rice Distribution**

With the aim of providing good and sufficient food to the poor, a whopping 87.57 lakh eligible families, approximately 2,86,00,000 (two crore eighty six lakh) beneficiaries, are being supplied rice from 1st January, 2015 at 6 kgs per person at Re. 1 per kg without any ceiling on the number of members in the family. That is if a family consists of 10 members they will be supplied quality 60 Kg Rice, unlike limited supply by the previous regimes. More than 1.80 lakh MT of rice per month would be required for this purpose. Rs. 1,597 was being spent on the subsidy. For getting benefit under this scheme and to arrive at the eligibility of the BPL families, the family income limit in rural areas has been increased to Rs. 1.50 lakh and in urban areas to Rs. 2 lakh. The land ceiling has also been increased to 3.5 acres of wet land and 7.5 acres of dry land. Government started supplying superfine rice, or Sanna Biyyam, to schools and hostels benefitting 56 lakh students annually with an additional outlay of Rs 120 crore. More than 12,500 MT of rice is being distributed for the purpose.

# **Strengthening Security Apparatus**

With the security and safety as the most important for the citizens of the state and to safeguard and secure the lives of its citizens, the Telangana Government sanctioned an amount of Rs. 271 crore for the purchase of 4,433 vehicles for Hyderabad and Cyberabad Police. Out of these, 3,883 vehicles equipped with modern technology have already been purchased. The number of new vehicles provided to the remaining nine districts in the State is 550. Additionally, 1500 motor cycles have been provided to Cyberabad Police to respond within 10 minutes of receiving a complaint or call. State government has allocated a monthly amount of Rs.75,000, Rs.50,000 and Rs.25,000 to each police station in the city, district headquarters and

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villages, respectively. A central command and control room is set up for this purpose. The Government has taken up CCTV project under which one lakh CCTV cameras are planned to be installed in 2015-16 in Hyderabad city. All these cameras will be connected to the proposed Command and Control Centre.

#### SHE Teams

With the Mahatma Gandhi's view about women's safety and also keeping rising incidents of crime against women in mind, the Telangana government has constituted a seven member committee headed by IAS officer Poonam Malakondaiah to advise it on the measures to be taken for the safety and security of women and girls. The committee submitted its report with 77 recommendations. Forming SHE teams is one of them. The teams keep tab on the eve-teasers and stalkers in crowded places. Initially set up in Hyderabad and Cyberabad police Commissionrates, they were expanded to all the Telangana districts on 1 April following the encouraging results.

#### **Conclusions**

The TRS Government is taking all such measures and introducing those schemes that are well needed for the building of a pro-people state and those schemes are really meant for the development of the people, that is the real purpose of any government formation. The schemes and development activities that KCR Government is taking is forming a role model for other states, which is a good sign for India, setting bench mark. Many such welfare schemes are initiated for the welfare of the poor will definitely put India in Super Power list of countries.

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