ANDHRA PRADeSH LEGISLATURE

ADDRESS
BY

Shri S. ABDUL NAZEER
GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADeSH

Phalguna - Bahula 7, 1944
14th March, 2023
1. Hon’ble Chairman, Hon’ble Speaker and Hon’ble Members of the State Legislature, it is a great honour and privilege to address this Joint Session of both houses of Andhra Pradesh State Legislature on the occasion of the Budget Session, 2023-24.

2. It is almost 4 years since the journey to fulfill the hopes of more than 5 crore of the people of this State had begun under the dynamic leadership of our Chief Minister Shri Y S Jaganmohan Reddy. Relentless efforts have been made during all these years in ensuring that governance is more inclusive and transparent. It is indeed heartening to share the way aspirations of the under-privileged, marginalized, and vulnerable groups have been fulfilled through the implementation of several pro-poor initiatives.

**Inclusive model of governance – a saturation approach**

3. Ever since my government was formed in 2019, we have embarked on an inclusive governance model under the broad welfare umbrella of ‘Navaratnalu’. Moving in sync with the global development agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the government has carved the well-knit development
and welfare framework of Navaratnalu implicitly adopting the concept of ‘Leave No One Behind’. Implementation of this integrated welfare programme where all schemes of the government have been mapped with the SDGs, has facilitated direct benefit transfer by click of the button into the bank accounts of the beneficiaries without any leakages or discrimination on any ground whatsoever and with transparency under various schemes.

**New age institutions for effective service delivery**

4. My government has recognized the importance of ensuring timely and transparent public service delivery to various sections of the population which include the hitherto neglected classes of SCs, STs, BCs, minorities, farmers, and women.

5. The **‘Village/Ward Secretariat and Volunteer system’** is an innovative and unique system introduced by my government to facilitate transparency and decentralization of Governance. The 15,004 Village/Ward Sachivalayanas across the State are instrumental in ensuring effective and transparent service delivery. During these 45 months, my government has extended financial assistance of about Rs. 1.97 lakh crores under
various programmes with an aim of improving living standards of the people regardless of caste, creed, religion, gender, and political affiliation under the ambit of NAVARATHNALU. Further, for more effective identification of beneficiaries, my government is conducting mandatory social audit before the launch of any scheme. The village/ward volunteers deployed in rural/urban areas for delivering government services and welfare schemes at the doorsteps of all eligible households have proved extremely effective.

I. Economic Growth

The economy of the State continues its encouraging trend. The advanced estimates for 2022-23 indicate an overall growth of 16.22% at current prices. All the three sectors of the economy, viz., Agriculture & Allied, Industries and Services are projected to show significant growth performance. The industry and services sectors have helped the economy to register higher overall growth. The per capita income of Andhra Pradesh at current prices has moved up from Rs. 1,92,517 in 2021-22 to Rs. 2,19,518 with an impressive growth rate of 14.02%. The effective policy formulation and implementation by my government has ensured a year-on-year GSDP growth rate of 11.43%
in 2021-22, which is the highest amongst all the States.

II. Quality Education – nurturing future generations

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan has said and I quote, "The end-product of education should be a free creative man, who can battle against historical circumstances and adversities of nature". (unquote)

6. Education is the most effective resource to transform the younger generations. My government is utilizing every possible opportunity to develop the future generation to be globally competitive in all aspects. Towards this endeavor, utmost importance is being given to education through several path-breaking interventions. These include strengthening of the existing infrastructure in all government schools, streamlining and upgrading the mid-day meal program, implementing curricular reforms in consonance with the National Education Policy-2020 and setting up of an effective regulatory and monitoring mechanism. I would like to briefly highlight some of the interventions of my government that are contributing to quality learning outcomes.
7. With an objective of modernizing and strengthening infrastructure in schools and thereby making the environment more conducive for learning, my government is implementing MANA BADI- NAADU NEDU initiative since 2020-21. 15,717 schools have been taken up for revamp under phase-1 with a financial outlay of Rs.3,669 Crores. Under this initiative, amenities under 12 categories such as toilets with running water, electrification with fans & tube lights, drinking water supply, furniture for students and staff, etc. are made available in schools. Under the 2nd phase, which is in progress, 22,344 schools are being covered with an outlay of Rs.8,000 Cr. In a span of three years, my government is planning to strengthen infrastructure in 57,189 schools and 3,280 other educational institutions under this initiative with an estimated total cost of Rs.16,021.67 crores.

8. To make sure that poverty of the parents does not come in the way of educating their children, my government has supported 44.49 lakh mothers in sending their 84 lakh children to schools under ‘Jagananna Ammavodi’ programme. My government has so far spent Rs.19,617.60 Crores under this initiative. Out of the amount of Rs. 15000/- being given annually to each mother, Rs.1000 is
earmarked for Toilet Maintenance Fund and another Rs. 1000 for School Maintenance Fund, which is released directly to the parents’ committees in the government schools.

9. Digital learning has been the cornerstone of educational reforms in the State. With an aim to making students from socially deprived backgrounds globally competitive, my government has distributed 5.20 lakh tabs worth Rs. 690 crores. The tabs are preloaded with Byju’s content, and they have been distributed to 4.60 lakh students of 8th class and 60,000 teachers of government and aided schools free of cost. To further bolster up our efforts in this direction, we are planning to introduce interactive flat panels from classes 6 and above. The panels are planned to be installed in 30,213 classrooms in 5,800 schools.

10. With an aim to minimize the school dropouts and to improve Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER), my government has distributed student kits well before the reopening of schools under Jagananna Vidya Kanuka. These kits consist of all the required textbooks, uniforms, shoes etc. required for the students. My government has spent Rs.2368 crores since 2020-21, benefiting 47.4 lakh students of
classes I to X in all the government and other
government aided schools in the State.

11. The government has recognized the importance of
nutrition for healthy future of the children. To
address the issue of malnutrition amongst children,
the revamped mid-day meal program, with
additional nutritious food items in the menu, in the
name of Jagananna Gorumudda is being
implemented in the State for the children of classes
I to X covering 43.26 lakh children. The amount
incurred so far on this program by my government
is Rs. 3,239 crores.

12. Realizing the importance/value attached globally for
‘English’ in the modern times and to equip our
students for 21st century skill demands, my
government is actively working to provide quality
English medium education to all and thereby fulfill
the aspirations of the parents from poorer sections.
Bilingual textbooks, English labs have been
introduced to achieve this aim.

13. My government has implemented several curricular
reforms from the academic year 2020-21 with a
greater focus on foundational learning and
numeracy. The textbooks from classes I to VII have
been redesigned with greater focus on an activity-
based curriculum. Affiliation of government schools
to CBSE and capacity building of teachers are some of the other key reforms initiated. Keeping in view of the affiliation of all government schools to CBSE, the textbooks for class VIII have been adopted from NCERT and customized with local content and printed in bilingual, both in Telugu and English.

14. To ensure that all the students passing out of high school continue their education and don't drop out, my government has decided to establish at least two junior colleges per mandal across the State out of which one shall be exclusively for girls.

15. My government is giving utmost importance to higher education. Andhra Pradesh is the only state in the country to take complete responsibility for providing higher education to 100% of its eligible students free of cost without any financial burden on their families. The government has initiated path-breaking reforms to transform the youth of the State into enlightened and employable 'global citizens' ready to tackle future global challenges.

16. With a view to ensuring that higher education is accessible even to children of disadvantaged sections, my government is reimbursing total fees under Jagananna Vidya Deevena. Under the scheme, the amount is transferred directly on a quarterly basis into the accounts of such mothers,
whose children pursue ITI, polytechnic, degree, engineering, B-pharmacy and other courses. So far Rs. 9,249 crores have been reimbursed to 24.75 lakh beneficiaries.

17. Through **Jagananna Vasathi Deevena**, we are providing allowance up to Rs. 20,000 for hostel and mess charges. Under the scheme, amount is credited directly into the accounts of mothers, whose children are pursuing higher education. So far, an amount of Rs. 3,366 crores has been disbursed to 18.77 lakh students under the scheme.

18. Effective implementation of equitable and inclusive schemes like Jagananna Vidya Deevena and Jagananna Vasathi Deevena has resulted in significant improvements in Gross Enrolment Ratio in Andhra Pradesh.

19. The government has also established new higher educational institutions such as Tribal Engineering College at Kurupam, JNTU – Gurajada at Vizianagaram, Andhra Kesari University at Ongole, Dr.YSR Architecture and Fine Arts University at YSR Kadapa, Cluster University at Kurnool and 14 government degree colleges to provide accessible and inclusive higher education.

20. For the first time in the country, my government has created a 50% government quota in medical /
dental courses and a 35% government quota in all other courses in private universities in the state. Meritorious poor students are provided admission to private universities following the rule of reservation.

III. Good Health and Wellbeing – the key pillars of a healthy society

*Denis Waitley had said, and I quote "Time and health are two precious assets that we don’t recognize and appreciate until they have been depleted".* (unquote)

21. Providing access to health facilities for all citizens and achieving universal health coverage is one of the key priorities of my government.

22. My government is providing quality healthcare free of cost for all, through **Dr. YSR Arogyasri scheme**. The scheme covers about 1.41 crore families and this constitutes nearly 95% of the state’s population. The procedures covered under Dr. YSR Aarogyasri program have been increased from 2,446 to 3,255 from October 2022. The scheme coverage now extends outside the State to the cities of Hyderabad, Chennai and Bangalore for 716 super specialty procedures. In a significant move to help the citizens, especially the poor, Covid-19 treatment has been brought under the Arogyasri umbrella.
23. 1.41 Cr. smart health cards with QR code are issued to the eligible beneficiaries under Dr. YSR Arogyasri scheme. Furthermore, under Dr. YSR Arogya Asara scheme, a maximum of Rs. 5000/- per month is provided as financial assistance to patients for post-surgery care recognizing the need to compensate for their lost working ability. So far, an amount of Rs. 971.28 Cr. has been spent benefitting 15.65 lakh persons.

24. As a result of effective implementation of mother and childcare services in the state, there has been a phenomenal decline of 19% in maternal mortality ratio, which has steeply declined to 45. The State stood fourth at the national level as per the latest SRS report and the State has already achieved the SDG target of 70 per 1 lakh live births well before the timeline of year 2030.

25. Under-five child mortality rate too has witnessed a 13% decline and stood at 27 (per 1000 live Births) as per latest SRS report and inching towards the SDG target of 25 per 1000 live births by 2030.

26. My government has formulated the Family Physician program intended to extend the healthcare services at the doorsteps of the community through the medical officers to deliver curative care in addition to prevention of diseases.
Under this program, medical officers will visit Dr. YSR village health clinics twice in a month to deliver the priority medical services along with CHO(s), ANMs, ASHAs and other PHC staff. To achieve the objective under the family physician concept, two doctors are made available in all the PHCs on permanent recruitment with one doctor attending the PHC and the other doctor attending the YSR village health clinic through 104 MMU vehicles on fixed day schedule to provide the healthcare services.

27. My government is committed to reducing the infant mortality rate (IMR) by strengthening the neo-natal care services. To reduce the neo natal mortality, my government is undertaking expansion and strengthening of facilities like special newborn care units (SNCUs), MINI (Tribal) special newborn care units, nutritional rehabilitation centers.

28. Leveraging technology, better health care access is being provided to the citizens in the state through Dr. YSR telemedicine. Total 2.83 crore tele-consultations have been done through telemedicine, which account for 35% of the total consultations in India, the highest done by any state in the country.

29. My government has launched a comprehensive program of Nadu-Nedu for re-modeling
government hospitals, upgradation of infrastructure facilities and health care services across the state in a phased manner over a period of three years. As a part of this initiative, 10,032 YSR village health clinics, 528 urban health clinics, 1124 PHCs, 121 CHCs and 42 area hospitals are being upgraded. My government has already revamped the 108 ambulances and 104 mobile medical units with modern life saving equipment. The village health clinics positioned adjacent to the village/ward secretariats provide primary health care to the needy at the grassroot level. To ensure the best medical care, my government is establishing 17 medical colleges in addition to the existing 11 medical colleges in the state with an outlay of Rs. 8480 crores. Five of these 17 new medical colleges will start functioning from the academic year 2023-24.

30. With the objective of reducing avoidable blindness from 1% to 0.3%, **Dr. YSR Kanti Velugu** scheme is being implemented in the state in 6 phases, targeting specific population in each phase and to screen 5.60 crore population of the State with an estimated outlay of Rs.560.89 crores.

31. To holistically achieve the health objectives, my government has decided to fill up all the vacant posts in health institutions in the State. Towards
this end, in all, 48,639 vacant posts have been filled up. These include 3899 specialists, 2088 medical officers, 5777 staff nurses, 13,540 ANMs, 10,032 mid-level health providers, 13,303 paramedical and support staff.

32. All these efforts will surely minimize the out-of-pocket expenses of the poor and also bring significant improvements in the health parameters.

33. Prioritizing sustainable development goals (SDGs), my government is taking various innovative steps to improve the nutritional status of beneficiaries under anganwadi services. My government has put in place several health and nutrition related schemes to make sure that the state will achieve the global benchmarks and improve the performance under stunting, wasting and malnutrition. Committed to achieving the SDGs well in time, my government has laid special focus on closely monitoring the anaemia and malnutrition related indicators. 4 of the 8 high priority SDG-related indicators being monitored at the highest level on a regular basis, pertain to these key two parameters.

34. My government has introduced **YSR Sampoorna Poshana and YSR Sampoorna Poshana Plus** schemes for supplementary nutrition through anganwadi centres besides the POSHAN Abhiyan
scheme of govt. of India. My government is adopting a convergence approach to improve the nutrition of pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children. Through this holistic supplementary nutrition program, a total of 35.7 lakh beneficiaries have been supported. An amount of Rs. 6,141 crores has been incurred on this program so far.

IV. Reduced Inequalities and Social Security Framework

35. My government is committed to provide permanent houses to all the eligible people by 2024 by providing house sites and houses under *Navaratnalu-Pedalandariki Illu*” programme. Under the programme, 30.65 lakh house site pattas were distributed in the name of women beneficiaries. The value of each such house site is to the tune of Rs. 5-10 lakhs. So far, 21.25 lakh houses have been sanctioned to the beneficiaries, 4.4 lakh have been completed and the remaining houses are at various stages of construction. It is also to be noted that, all YSR Jagananna colonies are being developed by providing all the required infrastructure facilities like water supply, electricity, approach roads, internal roads, drains and welcome arches. Infrastructure works worth Rs. 32,909 crores are being planned in all the layouts.
36. For the first time in India, all types of pensions under YSR Pension Kanuka are being delivered on the 1st of every month at the doorsteps of the beneficiaries through village/ward volunteer network. So far, an expenditure of Rs.66,823.79 crores has been incurred benefiting 64.45 lakh persons every month.

37. Every BPL weaver family who owns a handloom is provided Rs.24,000/- per annum to modernize its equipment under YSR Nethanna Nestham. Rs.788.5crores has been disbursed to 81,783 weaver beneficiaries so far.

38. The Y.S.R. Matsyakara Bharosa stands unique in the country where relief to fishermen is extended during the lean period. The relief provided to marine fishermen families during the ushing ban period has been enhanced from Rs. 4000 to Rs.10000/-and diesel subsidy is also enhanced from Rs 6 to Rs 9 per litre. So far, an amount of Rs.422 crores has been credited to 1.20 lakh eligible beneficiaries. Furthermore, the ex-gratia to family of any fisherman who dies in high seas has been increased from Rs. 5.00 lakhs to Rs. 10.00 lakhs.

39. Through Jagananna Chedodu a financial assistance of Rs.10,000/- is given to the eligible washermen, nayee brahmins, and tailors who have
registered permanent or mobile establishments. An amount of Rs.927.49 crores has been directly credited into the accounts 3.30 lakh beneficiaries under the scheme.

40. Social security insurance cover is being provided to unorganized sector workers of age group 18-70 years through **YSR Bima** programme for accidental deaths, natural deaths, and full & partial disability incidents. So far, claims to a tune of Rs.512 crores have been disbursed during the last two years.

41. An annual cash incentive of Rs.10,000/- under **YSR Vahana Mitra** scheme is provided to all eligible driver cum owners of autos, taxis, and maxi-cabs to meet maintenance expenses. During the last 4 years, an amount of Rs.1,041 crores was distributed to 2.74 lakh beneficiaries.

42. Through **YSR Law Nestham**, my government is providing a half yearly stipend of Rs.30,000/- to eligible junior advocates. An amount of Rs.35.4 crores was distributed to 4248 eligible junior advocates so far.

43. To help street vendors in their effort to access working capital at affordable rates, my government is providing Rs.10,000/-loan amount with zero interest under **Jagananna Thodu** scheme. Under
the scheme, so far Rs. 2,470.3 crores was disbursed to 15.31 lakh beneficiaries and the interest amount was also reimbursed.

V. Women Empowerment

44. My government has laid utmost emphasis on the empowerment and welfare of women. Recognizing the need for political empowerment of women, my government has provided 50% reservation for women in all the local bodies. Further, by way of an Act, women have been provided with 50% reservation in all nominated posts and nominated works.

45. Under the YSR Asara, my government has helped the SHG women of rural and urban areas who had availed bank finance to meet their financial needs by reimbursing the entire loan amount outstanding as on 11.04.2019 in (4) installments. An amount of Rs. 12,758 crores was released in two installments to 78.74 lakh SHG women in both rural and urban areas.

46. To absolve the women of the debt trap and free them from the financial burden, my government has introduced the ‘YSR Sunna Vaddi’ scheme, through which the interest amount on the loan will be reimbursed directly to the account of the SHG.
So far, an amount of Rs. 3,615 crores was paid to 1.02 crore SHG women.

47. Through YSR Cheyutha scheme, a financial assistance of Rs.75,000/- is provided in four phases to all eligible women belonging to SC, ST, BC, and minorities in the age group of 45 to 60 years @ Rs.18,750/ per year. An amount of Rs.14,129 crores was disbursed in 3 instalments to 26.7 lakh women members under the scheme.

48. My government has devised a new scheme ‘YSR EBC Nestham’ to extend financial assistance to women belonging to economically backward classes (EBC). Under the scheme, my government will provide financial assistance of Rs. 45,000 to each woman beneficiary aged between 45–60 years @ Rs. 15,000 per annum for three years. So far, an amount of Rs.595.86 crores has been credited directly into the accounts of 3.94 lakh women.

49. Under YSR Kapu Nestham, my government is providing financial assistance of Rs 75,000 in five phases to women who are in the age group of 45 to 60 years belonging to Kapu, Telaga, Ontari and Baliya castes@ Rs.15,000/- per year. So far, an amount of Rs. 1518 crores was paid to 3.56 lakh women.
50. To financially empower the eligible brides and their families, the government has significantly enhanced the incentive and introduced the **YSR Kalyanamasthu** for SC/ST/BC/ minorities other than Muslims/differently abled & **YSR Shaadi Tohfa** for Muslim minorities. The scheme is implemented on saturation basis, in a transparent manner through the grama/ward sachivalayams.

51. To ensure that poverty does not come in the way of education, mothers who send their children to schools and educational institutions are supported by providing financial assistance in the form of various schemes like Amma Vodi, Jagananna Vidya Deevena and Jagananna Vasati Deevena. Also, all the house site pattas were given in the name of women beneficiaries and distributed to women beneficiaries only.

52. My government has launched **YSR Swechha** scheme on International Women’s Day, 2021 with an aim to ensure accessibility to good health and hygiene among adolescent girls and women. So far, an amount of Rs. 25.33 crores has been spent on this program.

53. To help women in distress, **Disha app** was launched by our government. Any woman in distress can either call police or by simply shaking the mobile,
the police will come to her rescue within minutes. This app has received tremendous response with over 1.36 crores downloads till date and 1.11 crore registered users.

54. As a comprehensive measure to address the issues that directly or indirectly concern women and girl child, for the first time my government has presented gender budget during budget sessions 2021-22.

VI. Social Justice

55. Recognising that social justice cannot be attained without political empowerment, my government has taken several measures to empower economically and socially deprived sections of the society. Within the Council of Ministers, 56% of posts in the 1st round and 70% of the posts in the 2nd round were given to SC/ST/BC and minorities. Furthermore, out of 5 Deputy CM posts, 4 posts (80%) were given to SC/ST/BC/minorities.

56. Within the Zilla Parishad Chairman posts, 9 posts (70%) out of 13 were given to SC/ST/BC and minorities. Furthermore, my government has ensured that among nominated posts and nominated works, 50% be reserved to SC/ST/BC and minorities and an Act has been brought to this
effect. Accordingly, out of 137 various corporation chairmen posts, 58% were given to SC/ST/BC and minorities.

57. To look after the welfare of the backward classes and to implement the government schemes designed for BCs, 56 new BC corporations have been established duly covering 139 castes. Three corporations were formed for SCs and one corporation has been formed for STs to effectively implement the programs of government for these sections of the society.

58. My government is implementing various other schemes that directly promote improvement and wellbeing of the under-privileged and vulnerable classes. These include providing free power to 15.14 lakh SC and 4.5 lakh ST households up to 200 units per month under the Jagjeevan Jyothi scheme.

59. I feel very happy to mention that my government during the past 45 months has implemented several schemes in a transparent manner by transferring an amount of Rs. 1.97 lakh crores through DBT mode directly into the bank accounts of the needy and intended beneficiaries.

VII. Sustainable Agriculture Production and Consumption
Paul Chatfield had said and I quote, "Agriculture is the noblest of all alchemy; for it turns earth, and even manure, into gold, conferring upon its cultivator the additional reward of health." (unquote)

60. Dear members, a resilient farming sector remained as the mainstay for the state economy during the Covid times. My government will leave no stone unturned in making agriculture viable and profitable. Let me briefly highlight some of the schemes implemented by the State for the wellbeing of the farmers in the State.

61. Establishment of 10,778 Rythu Bharosa Kendralu (RBKs) turned out to be a one-stop solution to all the agricultural needs along with e-crop booking facility that range from providing quality certified key farm inputs to enabling sale of end produce. One RBK is established in every village secretariat with agriculture (or) horticulture (or) fisheries graduate.

62. Further, with an objective of monitoring the prices of commodities daily at RBK level and prioritizing procurements wherever and whenever necessary, my government is leveraging digital technologies through the usage of CMAPP (Continuous Monitoring of Agriculture Prices and Procurement),
and entire procurement process was re-engineered and digitalized.

63. The E-crop booking put in place at the RBK level itself is acting as a single source for effective policy formulation and implementation of programs such as universal free crop insurance, input subsidy, interest free crop loans, and procurement of agricultural produce at MSP along with area specific guidance for farmers. Further, KIOSKs are made available at the RBKs so that farmers can now place orders for farm inputs online for delivery at their doorstep. An integrated call center with agri-scientists in place is made available to advice the farmers on various crop related issues.

64. With all these initiatives and RBKs playing a central role with community hiring centers coming up at the RBK level itself, promotion of crop diversification, migration to millets production and switching over to organic farming gradually, have all resulted in the sector demonstrating commendable performance.

65. Under the “YSR Rythu Bharosa - PM Kisan” financial assistance of Rs.13,500/- is extended to the farmer in three installments per year for a period of five years amounting Rs. 67,500/- as an input support and my government is the only one to
extend the scheme to landless tenant farmers, ROFR cultivators and cultivators of endowment lands. So far under this scheme, 52.38 lakh farmer families were benefitted with an amount of Rs. 27,063 crores.

66. To protect all farmers cultivating agriculture & horticulture crops, Universal Crop Insurance is implemented wherein farmer’s share of premium is paid by the State government for all crops notified under the **YSR Free Crop Insurance** scheme. An amount of Rs. 6,872 crores crop insurance claim was paid to 44.55 lakh farmers so far. NITI Aayog has recognized Dr. YSR free crop insurance implementation as role model for other states to emulate.

67. **147 YSR Agri Testing Labs** are being established at the constituency level, 11 labs at district level, 4 regional coding centers at zonal level. With **YSR Polambadi** programmes being organised for farmers’ empowerment, the agriculture supply chain is all set to undergo massive transformation.

68. Under **YSR – Sunna Vaddi Panta Runalu** scheme, interest subsidy for crop loans up to Rs.1.00 lakh is transferred directly to the accounts of farmers who adhere to loan repayment timelines. So far,
Rs.1,834.55 crores interest subsidy, including the past dues, was extended to 73.88 lakh farmers.

69. An amount of Rs. 1911.78 crores has been compensated by my government to 22.22 lakh farmers towards crop loss incurred due to natural disasters by way of input subsidy as immediate relief in the same season.

70. To reduce post-harvest losses and improve quality of output, 1492 post-harvest infrastructure like integrated pack houses, cold storages, minimal processing units, ripening chambers are being established with a capacity of 6.50 lakh metric tons.

71. Recognizing the need to support families who lost their bread earning farmers due to distress, ex-gratia to family of any farmer who commits suicide has been enhanced to Rs. 7 lakhs.

72. Under **YSR Jala Kala**, two lakh free bore wells are planned to be drilled in a span of four years with a financial outlay of Rs. 2,340 crores, benefiting more than 18 lakh farmers. During the FY 2022-23, so far 6,931 bore wells were drilled with an expenditure of Rs.188.84 crores and 9,629 beneficiaries were benefitted.

73. Nine hours of quality electricity is being provided for agriculture free of cost. Under the scheme, an
amount of Rs. 27,800 crores have been given as subsidy so far. Government is also providing electricity on subsidized cost to aqua farmers up to 10 acres. So far, an expenditure of Rs. 2,647 crores has been paid as subsidy to aqua farmers.

74. My government has devised several crop diversification plans from paddy and other cereals to millets with a specific calendar of events marking the UNO's declaration of 2023 as the International Year of Millets.

75. My government has identified horticulture, livestock and fisheries sectors as growth engines that are driving the agriculture economy of the State. The State ranks 1st in the productivity of oil palm, papaya, lime, cocoa, tomato, coconut and chillies, 2nd in mango, sweet orange & turmeric in India and stood 3rd in implementation of micro-irrigation at the national level. In area coverage, out of top 10 districts in the country, two districts are from Andhra Pradesh.

76. Another sector allied to agriculture and contributing largely to the state economy is the livestock sector. My government has taken initiatives to increase the income of farmers through productivity enhancement of animals, ensuring remunerative prices to the livestock products and making the
fodder resources available to the farmers. The State continues to be the best performer in the country in the production of egg, meat and milk. The State stands at 1st in egg production (2645 crore eggs), 2nd in meat production (10.26 lakh MT) and 5th in milk production (154.03 lakh MT) in the country.

77. The services of Dr. YSR Sanchaara Pasu Arogya Seva (Dr YSR SPAS) with 340 mobile veterinary clinics (vehicles) were launched in two phases with an outlay of Rs.252.91 crores. Through Dr. YSR SPAS, the government is providing emergency veterinary care services. The veterinary services are being provided to the livestock farmers at their doorsteps, immediately on receiving a call to 1962.

78. Dairy development is accorded priority through schemes like Jagananna -Palavelluva. For revival of milk cooperatives to strengthen the dairy sector in the State, GoAP-Amul Project, with a total outlay of Rs.1,362 crores is provided as dairy infrastructure development fund loan through NCDC.

79. Under the YSR – CHEYUTA/ASARA scheme, my government is providing financial assistance of Rs.75,000/- to each SC/ST/BC woman beneficiary who has procured milch animals / sheep & goat
units. About 2.49 lakh women of 45-56 years of age are being provided financial assistance under the **Jagananna Jeeva Kranthi Padhakam** implemented with a project cost of Rs.1,868.63 crores.

80. Fisheries sector in Andhra Pradesh with abundant scope for value addition and export potential has been given a greater attention by my government. The fisheries sector providing livelihood to 26.5 lakh population in the state accounts for nearly 30% of the total fish production in the country. 35% of the total national sea food exports amounting to Rs.20,020 crore is contributed by Andhra Pradesh State.

81. **It’s a matter of pride that Andhra Pradesh Government stood 1st in Good Governance Index (GGI) for the year 2020-21 announced recently by Government of India, for agriculture & allied sectors for achieving a phenomenal growth rate of 11.3% in agriculture sector, 12.3% in horticulture, 11.7% in animal husbandry & 10.3% in meat production.**

82. My Government envisages to improve the green cover to 33% from the current 26% of the geographical area in conformity with the National
Forest Policy, 1988 to create a sustainable living space for the citizens of the State.

83. Massive plantation under Jagananna Pachha Thoranam was carried out during 2022-23 by planting 3.05 crore seedlings involving all line departments, people from all walks of life and by converging funds under various schemes. **Due to these efforts, Andhra Pradesh State, as per ISFR-2021 (India State of Forest Report) stood first in terms of increasing the forest cover by 646.9 sq.km.**

84. To develop climate resilient cities by managing and expanding urban lung spaces in urban and peri-urban areas for smart, clean and healthy cities, **Nagarvanam** scheme is being implemented. Under the scheme during 2023-24, it is proposed to develop nagarvanams / temple eco parks at 23 places.

**VIII. Clean Water and Sanitation**

85. Water is fundamental to life, livelihood, food security and sustainable development. The irrigation projects taken up under **Jalayagnam Programme** are under progress and programmed to be completed on priority to irrigate cultivable lands, provide drinking water, and cater to industrial needs.
86. The works on Polavaram, Poola Subbaiah Veligonda projects, Rayalaseema drought mitigation project and other ongoing projects are under progress. Out of 54 Jalayagnam irrigation projects, 14 projects have been completed and 2 projects are partially completed. The remaining projects are under progress. An action plan is chalked out for completion of these projects in a phased manner in the next 4 years. In the Governing Council meeting of the NITI Aayog held recently, my government has sought support for a quick approval of the revised cost estimates and timely completion of the Polavaram Irrigation Project, which was declared as a national project. Overall execution of works component is already completed up to 79.07% of the main dam including canal works and 22.16% of LA & RR works are completed. Under the Polavaram project, 7.2 lakh acres of new ayacut would be created and 23.5 lakh acres ayacut would be stabilized, along with 960 MW hydro power (12x80 MW) generation facility.

87. My government is committed to providing every person in the rural areas with adequate safe drinking water on a sustainable basis and ensuring that every rural person has access to 70 LPCD by 2024 in convergence with Jal Jeevan Mission.
88. Plans have been devised to ensure that safe and piped water is available at required LPCD in urban areas also.

**IX. Swachh Bharat Mission**

89. The State is now moving towards implementation of ODF Plus activities as per the SBM(G) Phase-II guidelines with an objective of transforming all the villages into clean &model villages. Under the Clean Andhra Pradesh (CLAP) Project, AP State is moving ahead with an aim of achieving “litter free – garbage free – visually clean” villages and promoting sustainable sanitary practices in rural Andhra Pradesh. To achieve this objective Rs. 220.82 crores was incurred during 2022-23. Solid and liquid waste management is a major component in the SBM(G) Phase-II program to keep the villages clean and improve the health & wealth conditions in the rural areas.

90. 70% of door-to-door garbage collection is taking place & 10,443 solid waste processing centers are functioning in the villages. For effective implementation of solid waste management activities, Rs. 417.76 crores is proposed for setting up of plastic waste management units (one in each mandal) and related procurements.
91. **Andhra Pradesh has been ranked 7th in the Swachh Survekshan, 2022.** At the national level, in the above 1 lakh population category, 3 cities (GVMC, Vijayawada and Tirupati) ranked in the top 10. Vijayawada Municipal Corporation is awarded as the “Cleanest State/National Capital”. Visakhapatnam is awarded as “Clean Big City” in the 10 – 40 lakh population category. Pulivendula is awarded for 'Innovation & Best Practices' under South Zone (50,000 to 1 Lakh Population) category. Vishakhapatnam is awarded as the “Top impact Creator” city in the Million Plus City category.

**X. Affordable and Clean Energy**

92. In the power sector, our endeavor should be to reduce the cost of power and encourage renewable energy. We have recognized that improvement of financial and operational health of the distribution utilities is essential for the sustainability of the sector. My government has recently entered an arrangement with SECI for supply of power from 7000 MW facility making available 17,000 MU per annum at a very attractive rate of Rs. 2.49 per kWh. The power from this source is envisaged for the supply of power to agriculture during daytime. Further, I am happy to draw the attention of this House to the commencement of operations of 800 MW of Sri
Damodaram Sanjeeviah Thermal Power Station at Krishnapatnam, and completion of 800 MW of Narla Tata Rao Thermal Power Station in Vijayawada. My government has formulated a pro-active policy with respect to reverse-pumping technology, which enables natural energy storage, and which supports in mitigating the intermittency associated with renewable energy.

93. With the twin objective of safeguarding the distribution utilities and ensuring that free power is made available to the farmers in a hassle-free manner, my government is installing smart meters for agriculture connections and is also finalizing plans for providing agriculture subsidy through DBT mode directly to farmers.

XI. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

94. It’s a moment of pride that my government successfully organized Global Investor’s Summit at Visakhapatnam on 3rd-4th March 2023. The International congregation has highlighted the best efforts of the government to attract the investors. The two-day event demonstrated not only the credibility of the government but also the faith reposed by national/international investors in the State leadership. The
phenomenal response of the investors from 25 countries and from 30 corporate giants as well as a host of others to invest in the State, itself is a testimony for the conducive business friendly environment in the State.

95. In all, 378 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed during the Summit with a total commitment of Rs. 13.42 lakh crores and generation of over 6 lakh jobs across 16 key sectors. A significant investment commitment of Rs. 9,57,112 crores with a potential employment generation to 1.80 lakh persons was in the renewable energy sector. The other major promising sectors include petro-chemicals, IT and IT-enabled sectors, mining industries and others.

96. My government is committed to capitalize on the natural and human resources available in the State and make the city of Visakhapatnam as an industrial hub of the State. The advantages that Andhra Pradesh has showcased are the availability of robust infrastructure, skilled manpower, inherent advantages such as 974-km long coastline, abundant mineral resources and so forth.

97. To achieve rapid industrialization of the State through competitive industrial policies, my government has introduced the AP Industrial
Development Policy 2020-2023, identifying 10 thrust areas to propel economic growth, with manufacturing as the high priority sector that would create large scale employment.

98. 69 large and mega industries are under active implementation with an investment of Rs. 1.35 lakh crores and to provide employment to 1.5 lakh persons. Most of the units are likely to commence production in the very near future.

99. My government is granting all permissions through the single desk system within 21 days for establishment and running of industries. The proactive policies have resulted in Andhra Pradesh securing 1st position consecutively for 3 years in the Ease of Doing Business rankings. I also wish to emphasize that the rankings were based on feedback from the stakeholders.

100. To nurture the growth of MSMEs, my government has decided to support and monitor the implementation of One-Time Restructuring of MSME loans scheme under an umbrella program "Dr Y.S.R Navodayam". MSME cluster development programme is facilitating the creation of state-of-art infrastructure facilities. In MSME sector, 1.52 lakh units have been established with
an investment of Rs. 19,115 crores providing employment to over 13.63 lakh persons. Under MSME Restart program, Rs 2,086 crores worth incentives were given to 23,236 MSMEs so far.

101. Andhra Pradesh has improved its exports performance from Rank # 7 in 2019-20 to Rank # 4 in 2020-21 with an increase in exports to USD 16.8 Bn in the FY 2020-21. The State contributes 5.8% to national exports and we aspire to double our exports by 2030, increasing our share to 10%.

XII. Strategic Infrastructure

102. My government is planning to develop Andhra Pradesh as a logistic hub and gateway to Southeast Asia. The State is keen to leapfrog economic development by encouraging industries in the vicinity of ports and harbours. We have 6 operational ports and we are also developing 4 more ports at Ramayapatnam, Bhavanapadu, Kakinada and Machilipatnam and also constructing nine fishing harbours across the State in two phases.

103. My government is striving to operationalise three major industrial corridors viz., Vizag- Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC), Chennai Bangalore Industrial Corridor (CBIC) and Hyderabad and
Banglore Industrial Corridor (HBIC). The Corridors development will strengthen connectivity to the existing industries and facilitate setting up of new ones.

XIII. Rural and Urban connectivity

104. My government is committed to ensuring connectivity to all unconnected habitations through AP Rural Road Project with an estimated cost of Rs. 4,994 crores. 992 kms of BT roads were laid at a cost of Rs. 502 crores under PMGSY during the last one year. My government is planning to complete 174 roads and 21 bridges of length 1,236 kms during this year.

105. Roads & Buildings department has taken up 5,181 kms length of road works which comprises of new connectivity, improvement, repairs pertaining to all categories of roads with an expenditure of Rs. 2,173 crores. Further, with assistance from New Development Bank (NDB), 1,260 kms of roads have been taken up with an estimated cost of Rs. 3,013 crores to provide double lane connectivity from district headquarters to mandal headquarters and mandal headquarters to adjoining mandal headquarters from the existing single lane/intermediate lane roads which are having a traffic
intensity of more than 2000 PCU (Passenger Carrying Units).

XIV. Skilling and Employment

106. Emphasizing on the importance of employment generation, my government developed a system to meet the occupational needs of the public and private sectors as well. The government has passed a legislation reserving 75% of employment for locals in the industries and factories that are setup in the state. Further, in the last 45 months, my government has provided 2.13 lakh permanent jobs, 45,871 contract jobs and 3,72 lakh outsourcing/other jobs – a total of 6,31 lakh jobs. The salaries of 3,08 lakh outsourcing/honorarium-based employees were enhanced. All contractual employees were also provided with Minimum Time Scale.

107. For enhancing the employability skills of students to make them job ready, placement-linked and industry relevant short term skill development courses are offered. The key target is providing training under skill development for students and unemployed with substantial enhancing of the placement rate. Towards this direction, in order to design the courses as per demand and to ensure 75% of placements, my government has proposed to establish a Skill University & 25 world class
multi-skill centers in 25 parliamentary constituencies as **YSR Multi Skill Development Centres (MSDC)** in two phases.

108. For creation of rural employment, 69.90 lakh wage seekers belonging to 42.66 lakh households were provided wage employment incurring an expenditure of Rs. 6,315.13 crores under MGNREGS. Of this, an amount of Rs. 3,869.51 crores was towards unskilled wage component and Rs. 2,312.09 crores was towards skilled wages & material components. 73,725 households completed 100 days of wage employment during financial year 2022-23.

**XV. Resurvey**

109. Andhra Pradesh is the first state in the country which has undertaken a comprehensive resurvey after 100 years using the most modern and advanced survey technologies in 17,584 villages. Through **the YSR Jagananna Saswatha Bhu Hakku Mariyu Bhu Raksha Pathakam** landowners’ title security is ensured by providing “Bhu Hakku Pathram” and securing boundaries by planting “Bhu Raksha survey stones,” free of cost. My government is committed to complete the project by December 2023. So far, “Saswatha Bhu Hakku Pathraalu” were distributed to 4,38,899
property owners in 2,000 villages. This admirable initiative has received wide acclaim from NITI Aayog.

XVI. Stability and Good Governance

110. Marching ahead with the policy of decentralization, my government has taken up a historical move through restructuring of districts, increasing the number of districts to 26, the revenue divisions to 76 and the police divisions to 108. This has made the administration more accessible to the common man. This massive transformative initiative has been conceptualized for the first time since 1956. This district re-organization move has started showing dividends and evoked satisfaction amongst all sections of the society across the State.

111. With a genuine intention to help people, my government has been implementing SPANDANA program to redress the public grievances with highpriority and more importantly with a humane face. There is positive feedback in the way the citizens’ grievances are being redressed and this program is widely acclaimed with accolades from NITI Aayog.

112. With an aim to create awareness among the public on various welfare schemes being implemented by
the government, my government initiated **Gadapa Gadapaku Mana Prabuthvam** programme. Under this programme, MLAs and public representatives visit every household across the State in their respective jurisdiction. The issues identified at the village level during their visit are being addressed at village and ward secretariat level on priority and a separate fund of Rs 3,000 crores has been earmarked for the purpose.

113. Ensuring even faster and effective service delivery at the doorstep of the households, we have recently initiated home delivery of essential commodities to all the ration card holders through 9,260 mobile units.

114. It is a matter of pride that Andhra Pradesh has made improvement in the recent past in controlling the crime rate, reducing violence, and thereby maintaining harmony among all sections of the population. Innovative policing measures have primarily contributed to this peaceful environment.

115. My government is committed to ensure safety and security of women in the State. As a landmark initiative, Disha Bill has been brought out to take quick and stringent action against those involved in the crime against women.
XVII Conclusion:

116. I wish to conclude by expressing my happiness with the impactful interventions and the good governance practices under implementation by my government yielding commendable results. Inclusiveness and sustainability of the State’s progress will continue to be the top priorities of my government and we will continue to strive hard to make the State more robust, resilient and fulfill the aspirations of the people.

JAI HIND