

**SPEECH OF SRI THANNERU HARISH RAO,
HONOURABLE FINANCE MINISTER,
GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA WHILE
PRESENTING THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2022-23
TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE ON 7TH MARCH, 2022**

Honourable Speaker Sir:

1. Telangana has become a front runner in all the sectors in a very short period after formation of the State. Honourable Chief Minister Shri Kalvakuntla Chandrasekhar Rao, who is the very symbol of Telangana, has led the movement and the dream of the formation of the State has become a reality.

2. The way the people of Telangana were treated as second class citizens during the rule of combined State and the suffering which they underwent and the way in which KCR was able to awaken the people and organised the movement and achieve a new State formation are all historical.

3. The people of Telangana have elected the leader of the movement, who has a complete understanding of the socio-economic conditions of the State, as the leader of the State. They have put the onus of building the State on his shoulders. Keeping the complete confidence of the people, he is developing the State very fast and with the same zeal and dedication with which he led the movement. The struggle for the new State, the movement

leading to formation of the State and the development of the State as a role model in the country are all historical events which have unfolded and are unfolding in front of our own eyes.

4. Everything has to be defined anew in the newly formed State. Everything has to be built from scratch. People's expectations had to be converted into plans and programmes which are relevant to Telangana.

5. CM KCR told in the very first meeting of the Assembly that “Telangana needs to reinvent and reorient itself”.

6. The wealth of the State has increased in a significant way due to fiscal prudence, due to non-corrupt practices and due to implementation of transparent policies such as TS - iPASS, TS-bPASS, Dharani and direct money transfer through digital means. Many challenges came in the journey. Difficult problems were resolved. With the support of the people, Telangana has become a model State.

Transparent and non-corrupt governance

7. The TRS Government has taken a zero-tolerance approach to corruption. There is not an iota of scope for corruption. Everywhere there is transparency. A lot of belt tightening was resorted to so that the State moves forward. The proof is that - the benefits of every scheme are directly reaching into the accounts of the people.

8. No need to send an application and no need to go around the office- this has been the modus operandi of the Government. In a transparent way, the Government is doing digital money transfer. Be it Aasara pension or Rythu Bandhu or Dalit Bandhu, the moment Principal Finance Secretary clicks the button in Hyderabad, the cell phones of lakhs of beneficiaries receive notification across the State. The notifications inform them that the money is credited to their bank accounts. That is why people of the State have reposed confidence in the leadership of KCR and the Government of TRS. The net result is the tremendous mandate given by the people.

9. Speaker Sir - In this very House, we have fought bitterly against injustices meted out to Telangana by the rulers of the combined State. Even the very thought of those dark days gives shivers. When the State was formed - there was drought, no irrigation, no drinking water, suicides by farmers and weavers, hunger deaths, severe power cuts, power holidays, protests at Indira-park by industrialists - in short Telangana was caught in vicious web of problems. After taking over the reins of administration, we started resolving the knotty problems and made progress by finding solutions to each one of them.

10. Today, Telangana has moved from a drought prone State to one in which irrigation facilities are abundant. It moved from regular power shortages to a state where the power supply is given

24 by 7. From shortages it has moved to a state of golden era in welfare. It has moved from daily insults to its people to a state of self-confidence and self-respect. In democratic India, Telangana is a successful experiment.

11. Today Telangana is a torchbearer. “What Telangana does today, the country will follow tomorrow” - this is the truth. The history of the last seven and a half years is a testament to that. The Budget being presented for the financial year 2022-23 today is a part of the same journey. I thank the Honourable Chief Minister and the Legislature for giving me this opportunity.

12. It is the quality of leadership which ensures that the money is spent meaningfully. The question is not how much money has come into the treasury but whether it has made a difference to the lives of the people or not. The Budget is not a mere aggregation of numbers but is an expression of people's hopes and aspirations.

13. Before I get into the various aspects of the Budget, I would like to mention a bitter truth. The State has suffered discrimination even after formation. In the combined State, we suffered at the hands of the then rulers. And now we suffer a similar discrimination by the Centre.

14. The Centre is creating hurdles in the path of progress of the State. Instead of incentivizing the States which are progressing, the Centre is trying to actively discourage. The discrimination against Telangana started right from the day of the formation of the

State. Much before the celebrations of State formation ended, seven mandals of Khammam District were merged in Andhra Pradesh. In the very first days of the formation of the State, there was a strike which had to be observed against the undemocratic actions of the Centre. Along with the seven mandalas, Telangana also lost the lower Sileru hydroelectric project. Even the division of the High Court was dragged on for a period of 5 years. The promises made in the Reorganisation Act are also not yet fulfilled. As if this was not enough, whenever there is a discussion on the formation of the State of Telangana, it is commented that it is like - “killing the mother for saving the baby”. These comments made by the elders at the Centre are an insult to the people of Telangana.

15. The ITIR project allocated to Telangana was cancelled. This project would have led to further development of the IT sector in the State. Lakhs of people would have got direct and indirect employment. The Centre has denied such an opportunity to the State.

16. The Centre has notified 9 districts of the erstwhile State as backward districts. However, the grant which was supposed to be given to these districts is delayed. On one hand the Centre talks about cooperative federalism, but on the other it acts against the spirit of federalism and is encroaching on the powers of the State.

17. With great hope and expectations, Telangana State submitted a number of proposals to the centre. The Honourable Chief

Minister himself met the Prime Minister personally and handed over these requests. However, no action was taken, and no funds were released. NITI Aayog has recommended that an amount of Rs 24,205 crores be released for Mission Bhagiratha and Mission Kakatiya schemes. The Centre has not even released 24 paise.

18. As per section 94 (1) of AP Reorganisation Act, tax incentives are to be given to attract new industries. However, no significant incentives were given. Bayyaram steel factory, Kazipet coach factory, improving the rail connectivity in the State are some of the issues which are still pending. A nominal amount of Rs 20 crore was provided for the Tribal University. An amount of Rs. 495 crores were inadvertently released to Andhra Pradesh during 2014, under the centrally sponsored schemes. These monies are yet to be received. We can understand the negligent attitude of the Centre by this. An amount of Rs. 500 crore which is due as the Centre's share towards Zaheerabad NIMZ is yet to be released.

19. It is customary for the Centre to accept the recommendations of the Finance Commission. But the present Central Government has not followed that custom. The 15th Finance Commission has recommended that during the year 2020-21, an amount of Rs. 723 crores are to be given to Telangana as a special grant, but the same was disregarded.

20. State specific grants of Rs 2,362 crores and sector specific grants of Rs.3,024 crores were also denied. In all, a sum of Rs.5,386 crores were denied to Telangana by the centre.

21. All of you are aware of the financial crisis which the country faced due to Corona. However no financial assistance was forthcoming from the Centre. Even the money which is customarily due was also not given. The enhanced borrowing under FRBM was linked to reforms in the power sector. Telangana will be deprived of Rs. 25,000 crores over the next five years at the rate of Rs. 5,000 crores per annum. The autocratic attitude of the Centre can be understood from this. For the sake of these Rs 25,000 crores, the State has to implement a series of reforms in the power sector which are particularly against the farming community interests. The State Government is not interested in making the farmers pay for the power which is being provided to them. That is not the policy of Telangana State. The Chief Minister KCR has told Centre that such a policy would not be implemented as long as he is alive. For the sake of four crore people of Telangana, the Government is willing to forego Rs 25,000 crore rupees. This is due to the fact that this Government is for the welfare of the farmers and the leader himself is the son of a farmer.

22. Even in the latest Union Budget, no justice was done to Telangana. No irrigation project was given national status, no money was given to any programme. It was only sweet talk without

the offer of any concrete help. Even the borrowing is now conditional.

23. As per the devolution formula recommended by the Finance Commission, the States are supposed to get 41% of the divisible pool. However, the Centre, by imposition of cesses, is constantly reducing the size of the divisible pool. The cesses that are imposed by the Centre are not a part of the divisible pool. The States are receiving only 29.6%, instead of 41% leading to a shortfall of 11.4%. The same was pointed out adversely by the Fifteenth Finance Commission also. However, the Centre has brushed aside those comments and has not taken any corrective action.

24. In spite of all the adversities and limitations, Telangana has become a financially strong economy. This is due to the visionary leadership of our Chief Minister, non-corrupt administration, and effective fiscal policies. In the 75 years of the history of independent India, Telangana is the only State which has disbursed more than Rs 50,000 crores as investment assistance to the farmers. It is the only State which is implementing a free life insurance scheme of Rs. 5 lakhs for all the farmers of the State. It is the only State which has provided financial assistance to 10 lakh poor women for the conduct of their marriages. Telangana is the only State which has provided KCR kits to 10 lakh mothers. It is the only State which has disbursed Rs 46,650 crore as Aasara pensions. It is the only State which has given purified drinking water to every household

of the State. It is the only State which provides 24 by 7 quality power to agriculture and to all other sectors. It is the only State which has provided a tractor, a trolley, a dump yard and a crematorium for every gram panchayat in the State. Telangana is the only State that has realised the motto of providing welfare to every family and bringing a smile on every face. This is the truth borne out by the 7 years of history of the State. This is the truth which cannot be contradicted by anyone.

25. The State does not believe in the trickledown theory of growth. It does not believe in protecting the interests of the big corporations. The Budget is for transformation of the lives of the poor. The Budget has the mark of KCR all over it.

Telangana on a High Growth Trajectory

26. The GSDP of Telangana in 2013-14, at the time of the formation of the State was Rs 4,51,580 crores. By 2021-22, it has gone up to Rs 11,54,860 crores. State's GSDP growth has consistently been higher than the national GDP growth since 2015-16 and the gap has been widening. At the country level, during 2020-21, there was a negative growth rate of (-)1.4 due to the adverse impact of Corona. Many States have also registered negative growth rates. But Telangana clocked a positive growth rate of (+) 2.2% during 2020-21. This is a matter of great personal satisfaction for me. The fact that Telangana withstood the havoc of the pandemic is a testimony to the strong foundations laid

since the formation of the State for sustained and resilient economy. Among the southern States, Telangana stood first with an average annual growth of 11.7 per cent in current prices during the period 2015-16 to 2020-21.

27. As per the Advance Estimates, Telangana continued to maintain higher growth in the GSDP in 2021-22 too at 11.2 per cent at constant prices as compared with the national GDP growth of 8.9 per cent. At current prices, GSDP growth is estimated at 19.1 per cent as compared with the estimated GDP growth of 19.4 per cent. Thus, Telangana recovered much faster following the aftermath of the covid pandemic.

28. With such a sterling performance, the contribution of Telangana to the country's GDP improved from 4.06 per cent in 2014-15 to 4.97 per cent in 2021-22. During the last seven years, Telangana is the only State in the country whose contribution in the national economy has grown by almost 1%.

29. The growth of Telangana has become much more broad-based. Industry and services sectors recorded impressive growth over 2020-21. The secondary sector consisting of manufacturing and construction recorded an impressive growth of 21.5 per cent in current prices over contraction of 0.3 per cent in 2020-21.

30. The services sector too improved its performance significantly to 18.3 per cent in the current year over the previous year's growth of 0.9 per cent.

Per Capita Income

31. In terms of growth of per capita income, a very broad measure of economic development and average living standards, Telangana's performance has been spectacular. In 2014-15, the per capita income of Telangana at Rs.1,24,104 was higher than the national per capita income of Rs.86,647 by 1.43 times. By 2021-22, the per capita income of the State at Rs.2,78,833 exceeded the national average of Rs.1,49,848 by 1.86 times. The per capita income of Telangana is increasing at a faster pace day by day.

32. Telangana recorded a higher growth of 18.8 per cent in per capita income in 2021-22 as compared with the national growth of 18.1 per cent. In 2020-21, Telangana is a top-ranking state in per capita income among all the southern States. This is the achievement of the people of Telangana.

33. From this, it is evident that Telangana maintained its growth momentum even in adverse situations and that it has emerged as an economic powerhouse and as one of the fastest growing States in the country within a short period.

Welfare and Development Programmes

34. Our Government's policy, as articulated by the Honourable Chief Minister, has been that mere growth has no meaning and even legitimacy if the poor are denied its benefits. Telangana has proven beyond any doubt that welfare and development

complement each other. In people's welfare, Telangana stands first in the country.

Telangana Dalit Bandhu:

35. This year we are celebrating the 75th year of independence of India. Even after such a long period of time the empowerment of the Dalit community is still a pipe dream. Even though a number of schemes were formulated earlier, they have not yielded the desired results. The real development is not visible in the lives of the dalits. Reservations in education and employment have certainly benefited some members of the dalit community. Still there is poverty amongst the dalits. It is a bitter truth that they are still dependent on their manual labour for their livelihood.

36. Ever since the formation of Telangana, a number of measures were taken for the welfare and development of dalits. A special Act, known as SC / ST Special Development Fund Act was enacted. Funds as per their population proportion or even more are allotted for their development. There is provision for non-lapsing of these funds on a year-by-year basis. Telangana is the first State to have such a provision. We are handing over the details of Special Development Fund expenditure details as usual in a pen drive to all the Honourable Members.

37. Inspired by Bharat Ratna, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, with the aim of economic development of dalits, CM KCR has introduced a revolutionary scheme known as "Dalit Bandhu". This programme

is aimed at eradication of not only poverty but also to put an end to social discrimination. I do not have any doubt in saying that this programme would be a torchbearer for the rest of the country.

38. Dalit Bandhu is not just a scheme. It is an attitude which will provide employment, self-respect and development. It is an effective policy. It is the beginning of a complete transformation. Once economic development is achieved, social discrimination will also subside. Human relationships will become more equal and flourish.

39. Every dalit family of the State will get a financial assistance of Rs. 10 lakhs as part of Dalit Bandhu. In the entire country, assistance on such a scale to a beneficiary has never been provided. It is a historic scheme providing the highest amount of assistance directly to the beneficiary.

40. Previous Governments linked the schemes with bank loans and collateral security. That is the reason why they never achieved the desired results. There is no bank linkage for Dalit Bandhu. No collateral security. The beneficiary has complete freedom to select any business / activity, he / she is good at. The complete financial assistance is in the shape of grants which need not be repaid. This is the greatness of Telangana Dalit Bandhu Scheme.

Dalit Rakshana Nidhi

41. To ensure that a Dalit Bandhu beneficiary family which faces an unfortunate event does not suffer financially, the Dalit Rakshana Nidhi is established. In times of need, money can be spent from this Fund so that the beneficiaries' family can be protected.

Reservations for Dalits in businesses and licences:

42. Telangana is the first State to have reservations in market committees. Due to this, a number of dalits, members of weaker sections and women got an opportunity to become market committee chairpersons. Government has made provision for special reservations in the issue of various business licences to benefit the dalit community.

43. Towards this end, reservations are being provided in businesses such as wine and beer shops and contracts. In the recently auctioned 2,616 wine shops of the State, 261 were allocated to dalits. The families which got these licences never even dreamt that such a thing was possible.

44. By the end of March this year, approximately a total number of 40,000 families are going to be benefited by Dalit Bandhu at a cost of Rs.4,000 crore. The scheme would be implemented in the saturation mode in Huzurabad Assembly segment and four more mandals - Chintakani, Tirumalagiri,

Nizamsagar and Charagonda. Apart from that, in all the 118 Assembly segments of the State, 11,800 families would get the benefit at the rate of 100 families per Assembly segment. By the end of next financial year, the programme would cover two lakh families. The Government is determined to cover all the dalit families in the State in a phased manner. In the Budget of 2022-23, an outlay of Rs. 17,700 crore is proposed.

Palle Pragathi and Pattana Pragathi

45. The Government of Telangana has made all the villages clean and green and has provided the basic infrastructure. When we compare the progress achieved in these villages with any other State in the country, no State is even anywhere close. We are thankful to the Honourable Chief Minister who has inspired us to make such a qualitative transformation of the State.

46. The Government of Telangana is achieving wonderful results in the area of comprehensive development of rural areas. A special programme known as “Palle Pragathi” is being implemented. The previous Panchayat Raj Act of 1994 was found to have a lot of deficiencies and was incomplete. Chief Minister felt that a new Panchayat Raj Act is required. A new Panchayat Raj Act was enacted in the year 2018 and is currently under implementation. The new Telangana Panchayat Raj Act very clearly defines and provides for the funds, functions and responsibilities of the functionaries.

Appointment of Junior Panchayat Secretaries

47. Telangana increased the number of gram panchayats to 12,769 as per the requirements of the population. To ensure effective administration, one post of Panchayat Secretary was created in each gram Panchayat. In all, 9,355 new posts were created and filled up. In Panchayati Raj department all vacancies were filled up from the village to the highest level. To oversee the Palle Pragathi and Patna Pragathi programme in a regular manner, IAS officers were posted as Additional Collectors of local bodies.

48. Mahatma Gandhi said that cleanliness is next to godliness. Previously in the villages they used to be dirt everywhere, debris, old and abandoned houses, wells which are not safe and puddles of water which used to breed mosquitoes. There were never enough resources to take care of sanitation. The Government of Telangana has completely transformed the face of villages. On a war footing basic infrastructure was provided. To take care of sanitation and solid waste, every village has been provided with a dump yard. With an expenditure of Rs.330 crores, new electric poles were provided in the villages. LED lights were provided for street lighting. In every village, for providing greenery and plantation, nurseries were established. The village gardens and parks known as “Palle Prakruthi Vanams” were also developed.

49. Previously there were only 84 tractors for sanitation purpose across the state. Today their number is 12,769. Every village has

now a tractor, trolley and a tanker. With improvement in sanitation, there is an improvement in public health. Mosquito menace has come down and incidence of malaria has also decreased.

50. The Government has constructed Vaikunta Dhamams in all the villages with an outlay of Rs.1,547 crores. These dhamams are facilitating respectful disposal of the dead bodies. Every month, an amount of Rs.227.5 crores is released to the Gram Panchayats.

51. Under the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, Government of India has declared the top 10 ranks. Out of these, seven were bagged by the gram panchayats of Telangana. This is an excellent indicator of development happening in the villages. In Gandagi Mukh Bharat awards, Telangana stood first in the country in terms of the maximum amount of shramdan. In Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Sashaktikaran awards, along with Sanga Reddy Zilla Parishad, Koratla and Dharmapuri mandals and 6 gram panchayats won awards.

52. Corona has hit employment opportunities across the country. It is imperative that the Government of India provides new employment opportunities. However, in the recently introduced Budget, there has been a reduction in the allocation for MGNREGA programme by Rs.25,000 crores. This will have an adverse impact on the provision of rural employment. Hence, it is requested that the Centre may increase the allocation.

In this Budget and allocation of Rs 3330 crores is proposed for the Palle Pragathi programme.

Pattana Pragati

53. Telangana is a fast-urbanising State. In this context, the Government of Telangana has recognised that the cities of the State have to be developed in a planned manner. Keeping in view the present and future needs of the urban areas, a new Municipal Act was brought in. In the urban areas, for the development of the cities, a programme called “Pattana Pragati” was launched. All the municipalities are being provided financial assistance every month. To provide safe drinking water, Urban Mission Bhagiratha programme is undertaken. To enhance the green cover, all the municipalities and corporations have to spend 10% of their Budget towards green initiatives.

54. After the introduction of TS- bPASS, getting building permissions has become easy. If the area is up to 75 square yards, no building permission is required. For areas which are up to 500 square metres, one can get building permissions online with self-certification through a single window.

55. Across the State, construction of integrated veg and non-veg markets in the cities is going on at a brisk pace. To create infrastructure in the towns, an amount of Rs.3,000 crores is being spent through TUFIDC. To convert the legacy waste into fertiliser, a programme of bio mining is being taken up in 123 municipalities

with an outlay of Rs.276 crores. Similar to rural areas, even in towns, Vaikunta dhamams are being constructed.

56. In 141 municipalities of the State, to increase the green cover 1,602 nurseries are established. LED Street lights are also provided in all the municipalities. In the year 2021, the Government of India gave Swachh Sarvekshan awards. In these awards, Telangana municipalities bagged 12 awards in different categories. An amount of Rs.1394 crores are proposed under Pattana Pragathi programme.

Education

57. Education is a powerful weapon which can change the world. It is not merely for getting some marks in the exams but also for basic changes in the society. This is the firm belief of the Government of Telangana. During the movement, KCR was particular that there should be free education in Telangana from KG to PG. As the Chief Minister of the State, he has taken steps towards the same. To start with, focus has been placed on residential education.

58. During the six-decade rule of the combined State, there were only a few residential schools. These schools had minimal facilities. After the formation of the State, the Government has improved the infrastructure in existing schools and started a large number of new schools. Today, we have 973 residential schools across the State,

with excellent infrastructure providing high quality education to the students.

59. Our Chief Minister, KCR believes that when we educate a woman, we educate the entire nation. Especially the focus should be on educating dalit and tribal girls so that they do not drop out of the education system. Towards that end, the Telangana Government has started 46 women residential degree colleges. In 5 residential colleges, postgraduate courses are also introduced. Nowhere in the country, residential institutions for women were started on such a large scale. This effort was lauded by the 15th Finance Commission.

60. The Government of Telangana provides good quality food with fine rice and nutritious meals. Uniforms, books and other amenities are also provided free.

61. Telangana leads the country in terms of the number of residential educational institutions. These schools are set up with international standards. The students who have passed out of these institutions are now studying not only in premier institutions of India but also abroad. They are getting admissions into prestigious institutions such as IITs and IIMs.

Mana Ooru - Mana Badi / Mana Basti - Mana Badi

62. In the initial stages, the Government's focus was on residential education. During the next phase, we are now focusing on improving the other schools. For this a new scheme called "Mana Ooru Mana Badi" is launched. The Government has initiated measures to introduce English medium in all the schools. The poor students who study predominantly in Government schools also should also have the benefit of studying in English. These students also get opportunities on par with others. That is why the Government is introducing English as the medium of instruction.

63. As per the requirements of the modern era, the Government is providing infrastructure in the schools in a big way. "Future of the country is decided in classrooms" said the Kothari Commission. The State Government wants to link the classrooms with the wider world and is investing in digital education.

64. Across the State, to develop the schools in a huge way, a programme with an outlay of Rs 7,289 crores is being launched. This programme is known as "Mana Ooru Mana Badi" in rural areas and as "Mana Basti Mana Badi" in urban areas. In Phase 1 of the program, a mandal is taken as a unit, and works in 9,123 schools within an outlay of Rs 3,497 crores are going to be grounded. These works are being taken up in those schools which have higher enrolment. The Government is not going to

discriminate based on whether an Assembly seat is held by the ruling party or by the opposition party. This programme will be taken up in all the mandals across the State.

65. In all, 12 different types of works are being proposed. These are, 1. Digital Education 2. Electrification 3. Drinking Water. 4. Adequate Furniture 5. School Repairs 6. Painting of the Schools 7. Green Chalk Boards 8. Kitchen Sheds 9. Compound Walls 10. Additional Classrooms 11. Dining Halls in High Schools and 12. Toilets with water facility. Along with this, there would be focus on children's learning outcomes also. All the schools of the State would have facilities which are on par with corporate schools.

66. The Government of Telangana believes that women have to be at the forefront in higher education also. To achieve this, I am proud to announce to this August House that the first women University of the State of Telangana is going to be established. An outlay of Rs 100 crores is proposed towards the same. When the State was formed, there was not a single forest college. To plug the gap, the Government started a forest college at Mulugu. Now, it is decided that this college would be upgraded and made into a Forest University. An outlay of Rs 100 crore is proposed towards the same.

Healthcare and Medical Sectors

Super speciality hospitals on four sides of Hyderabad

67. To expand the medical facilities in Hyderabad, the Government has decided that there would be super specialty hospitals in all the four sides of the city. These institutions will be collectively known as Telangana Institutions of Medical Sciences (TIMS). These hospitals will be established at Gachibowli, LB Nagar, Alwal and Erragadda. With each of these super speciality hospitals having 1000 beds, the poor people need not look at corporate hospitals for their healthcare needs. Similarly, there is an addition of 2,000 beds that is being planned at NIMS. With this, the total number of beds in NIMS would increase to 3,489.

Health city in Warangal

68. Government has decided to establish a “Health City” in Warangal. Already Kaloji Narayana Rao Health University is established at Warangal. A new super speciality hospital with 2,000 beds is going to be constructed. The Honourable CM has already laid the foundation for this hospital. With an outlay of Rs 1,100 crores, this hospital will function in a building with 24 floors and with 35 super specialities. This will have facilities for transplantation of kidneys, liver and other organs. Modern cancer treatment facilities such as chemotherapy and radiation would also be made available.

Medical College for every district

69. There were only three Government medical colleges which were established in the Telangana region during the 60 years rule of the combined State. Osmania, Gandhi hospitals were established even before the combined State. TRS Government has established twelve new medical colleges in the last 7 1/2 years. The total number of medical colleges today in the State is 17. I respectfully submit to this House that such a large increase in the medical colleges was only possible because of the formation of Telangana which in turn was only possible because of the leadership of KCR.

70. As soon as the State was formed, four new medical colleges were established in Mahabubnagar, Nalgonda, Suryapet and Siddipet. These colleges are functioning well. The PG courses are also going to be taught in these institutions. Another eight medical colleges are sanctioned at Mancherial, Ramagundam, Jagtial, Wanaparthy, Nagarkurnool, Mahabubabad, Kothagudem, and Sangareddy. All steps are being taken to ensure that these colleges start functioning from the next academic year. The building construction is going on rapidly and the staff is also being recruited.

71. I am sharing another good news with the people of the State. The Honourable CM has decided that all the districts of the State will have Government medical colleges. These would be established over the next two years. This calendar year, we are going to start eight new medical colleges at Asifabad, Bhupalpally,

Vikarabad, Sircila, Janagaon, Kamareddy, Karimnagar and Khammam. During 2023, new medical colleges would be established in the balance eight districts namely - Medak, Medchal, Ranga Reddy, Mulugu, Warangal, Narayanpet, Gadwal and Yadadri. The Government is proposing an outlay of Rs 1,000 crores towards the establishment of new medical colleges.

Basti Dawakhanas

72. Earlier, there were no medical facilities in bastis of Hyderabad. Poor people had to go to private hospitals as there were no alternatives. To change this situation, Honourable CM has decided that there should be 350 basti dawakhanas in Hyderabad. At present, 256 basti dawakhanas are functioning. These facilities are providing free medical care as well as 57 different types of tests. Free medicines are also being distributed.

People of Hyderabad have expressed their happiness with these basti dawakhanas as they no longer have to go to private hospitals. The Government has started the work to establish 94 basti dawakhanas in HMDA area. Encouraged by this response, the Government has now decided to open another 60 basti dawakhanas across the municipal corporations and municipalities. The 15th Finance Commission has praised the functioning of these basti dawakhanas and has recommended that the other States also should establish similar facilities.

73. Recently in Rajya Sabha even the Government of India appreciated the work being done by the State in the healthcare sector. Telangana stands number three in the country in terms of per capita Government expenditure on healthcare. This was revealed in the statistics provided by the Government of India. The per capita expenditure of Telangana stands at Rs.1,698.

Infrastructure improvement in Hospitals

74. The Telangana Government is improving the infrastructure on a large-scale in all the hospitals. A large number of equipment and medical devices were procured. Drugs and other facilities are also improved. Telangana diagnostic centres are established in all the district headquarters. These centres are providing excellent quality services to the people. They do more than 57 different kinds of tests for free. For the benefit of kidney patients there are 42 free dialysis centres working in the State. In these centres, services are provided through 313 dialysis machines. The Government has decided to establish more such centres and to increase the number of machines as per the requirement. Free bus pass facility is being provided to the patients who visit the dialysis centres. In the Government hospitals in the State, CT scan, MRI test are made available at 14 places. Along with Hyderabad, Cath lab facilities are made available at Khammam, Warangal and Adilabad. In these facilities, heart related surgeries are being performed.

75. Patients need good food along with medical care in hospitals. Government has decided that the patients will be provided with nutritious food. For this, the diet charges are being doubled. For patients who are suffering with TB and cancer, the diet charges are being increased from Rs.56 per bed to Rs.112. Similarly for other patients, the diet charges are being increased from Rs.40 to Rs.80. An outlay of Rs.43.5 crores is proposed in the Budget.

76. In Hyderabad there are 18 major hospitals. In these hospitals apart from the patients there would also be other family members who attend to them. It has been decided that these attendants also will be provided subsidised food. It is expected that daily 18,600 people would get this benefit. An outlay of Rs.38.66 crores is proposed for the same.

77. To improve the sanitation in the hospitals Honourable Chief Minister has decided to increase the wages which are being paid to sanitary workers and others. For this, the sanitation expenditure per bed is being enhanced from Rs.5,000 to Rs.7,500. An outlay of Rs.338 crores is proposed in the Budget. All the above decisions are clear indications that Honourable CM always is in favour of taking care of the poor people's needs from a humane perspective.

Modernisation of Mortuaries

78. The mortuaries in the State are in a pitiable condition. To modernise 61 mortuaries across the State, Government has sanctioned an amount of Rs.32.5 crores.

79. The ceiling on Arogyasri was Rs.2 lakhs earlier. Now this is being enhanced to Rs.5 lakhs. For heart, liver and bone marrow transplantations, assistance up to Rs.10 lakhs will be provided. These measures will benefit the poor.

80. Across the State, the Government established 22 new MCH hospitals with an outlay of Rs. 407 crores. The labour rooms in these hospitals are modernised as per UNICEF standards.

81. There are 300 Amma Vodi vehicles which transport pregnant women to the hospital. Telangana stands number one in the country in the identification of high-risk pregnancies and increasing the number of institutional deliveries in Government hospitals. Even in the matter of reduction of maternal mortality rate, Telangana is amongst the top States.

Effective control of Corona

82. The Government has taken effective measures to control Corona. All precautionary measures were taken to face any eventuality. In a recent observation, the Honourable High Court of Telangana has also appreciated the efforts made to control Corona virus. All the beds in the hospitals were converted into oxygen

beds. Paediatric ICUs were established. Steps have been taken to increase supply capacity of oxygen from 135 tons per day to 550 tons.

83. The fever survey conducted in the State has given good results. The Government staff went from House to House and conducted tests for Corona. All the people who were tested positive were provided with Corona kits. Patients who needed better care were shifted to hospitals. Niti Aayog has identified the fever survey as one of the best practices in its report. It has Stated that - "... this is an effective measure to arrest the spread of virus in the preliminary stages itself. Further, this has also reduced the pressure on the hospitals".

84. The Economic Survey has identified Telangana as the third best State in the country in implementing an effective plan against the spread of Corona. Even on the vaccination front, Telangana is ahead of the national average.

With Agriculture Development, the State is now Annapurna

85. With the effort made by the Telangana Government the State has seen unprecedented progress in the agriculture sector. The State is now abundant with agriculture produce. The total amount of production has gone up enormously.

86. There is so much agriculture produce that there are not enough labour to carry it. There are not enough scales to weigh it. Mountains of grain are now coming to the markets.

87. In the combined State, the total amount of money spent by the Agriculture Department in the Telangana area in a decade was Rs.7,994 crores only. After the formation of the State, so far the Government has spent through the Agriculture Department an amount of Rs.83,989 crores. This enormous increase in expenditure by the Agriculture Department has been possible only due to the formation of the new State and due to the TRS Government.

88. During 2014–15, the total cultivated area in Telangana was 1.31 crore acres. By 2020–21 it has increased to 2.09 crore acres. Similarly, the production of paddy in 2014–15 was 68.17 lakh metric tonnes. By 2020–21, the production has increased to 218.51 lakh metric tonnes. Today, Telangana has proudly become the Annapurna - provider of food for the rest of the country.

Rythubandhu

89. The scheme which nobody dreamt about, which is beyond anybody's imagination, which nobody has applied for, which nobody did a Dharna and demanded for and which was not part of any election manifesto – is Rythu Bandhu, which KCR as a farmer and as a son of a farmer has thought about, conceived and introduced in Telangana. The scheme has become the mother of all welfare schemes in the country. Several State Governments – West

Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand had taken inspiration from this. Even the Government of India got inspired by this program.

90. The United Nations has also praised the scheme. Noted Economists, Dr. Arvind Subramanian and Dr. Ashok Gulati have also praised the scheme.

91. The Government is providing investment support of Rs.10,000 per acre per year to all the farmers. With this, farmers are now able to cultivate their lands without any worries. The farmers have come out of the debt trap. So far through Rythu Bandhu in the past eight seasons, the Government has deposited Rs 50,448 crores into the accounts of 63 lakh farmers. In history, no Government has ever given so much assistance to the farming community. When the amount distributed through Rythu Bandhu crossed Rs.50,000 crores, farmers across the State celebrated the event as Rythu Bandhu Varotsavalu.

Rythu Bima

92. The Government of Telangana, apart from taking care of the welfare of the farmers is also working hard to take care of their families. Due to any unforeseen reason if a farmer dies the family should not be put to hardship. With this objective in mind, Rythu Bima scheme was introduced. Even if a farmer has half gunta of land, he is eligible to get five lakh rupees as insurance. The entire premium amount is being borne by the Government.

93. The previous Governments used to pay a paltry amount towards farmers who have committed suicide. Even to get that amount, farmers' families had to undergo lot of difficulties. With tears in their eyes and with an application in their hand along with the small kids, the farmers used to go around the offices often in vain. As an MLA, I have seen these sufferings from very close quarters.

94. The situation has dramatically changed after the introduction of Rythu Bima. The family members do not even have to go out of their house. There is no need for an application. Within the mourning period itself, the insured amount of Rs.5 lakhs is reaching the family. So far 75,501 families were given a benefit of Rs.3,775 crores. The scheme is the hallmark of the humane approach of KCR.

95. During 2013–14, the growth of agriculture and allied sectors in Telangana was only 4.0% at constant prices. Due to the proactive measures taken by the Telangana Government this growth has increased to 29.0% by 2019–20. Farming, which was looked down upon during the combined State rule is seen as a boon today.

96. The cotton production has increased significantly in the State. When the State was formed the total amount of cotton produced was 18.45 lakh tonnes. Today it has increased to 31.60 lakh tonnes. As the cotton produced in Telangana is of good

quality, there is an excellent demand in the international market for the same.

97. When we recall the difficulties faced by the farmers for seeds and fertilisers in the combined States, we feel like crying. The fertilisers were distributed from the police stations. The farmers used to keep their slippers in the line for days together to get fertiliser. Police lathi charge was a common occurrence in the places where fertiliser was being distributed. As an MLA, even I have myself clashed with the then Governments regarding these issues.

98. The farmers were demanding five hours of quality power supply in the combined State's rule. The then Governments were not able to meet even this dire need. Apart from power cuts, there was an increase in electricity charges which had a negative impact on the farming sector. The protesting farmers were shot at and killed. The movement for separate State of Telangana was borne out of the suffering of the farmers. Day by day, it gathered momentum and the combined State's rule had to be ended due to the enormous agitation.

99. As soon as Telangana was formed, the Government took steps to strengthen the Agriculture Department. The State was divided into agriculture clusters and for every cluster, one agriculture extension officer was appointed. In all 2601 AEOs are now working.

Loan Waiver

100. After the formation of the State, an amount of Rs.16,144 crores of outstanding loans of 35.32 lakh farmers were waived off by the Government. In the second round of loan waiver, the Government has waived off loans of 5.12 lakh farmers. Loans upto Rs 50,000 would be waived off by the end of March this year. Further, during the next financial year, loans upto Rs 75,000 would be waived off.

Oil Palm Cultivation

101. There is a lot of demand for palm oil. India imports Rs 80,000 crores worth of palm oil annually. After availability of water from irrigation projects, the lands of Telangana have become suitable for oil palm cultivation. It is easy to cultivate palm oil. There is no pest attack. No menace from monkeys and wild boars. The farmer is getting a good income from cultivation of oil palm. Hence, the Government of Telangana is promoting the cultivation of oil palm in a big way.

102. During 2022-23 the target for cultivation of oil palm is 2.5 lakh acres. The outlay for the same is Rs 1,000 crore. Telangana is the only State in the country to encourage oil palm cultivation on such a large scale. The farmers of Telangana are requested to utilise this scheme in a big way and to take up the cultivation of oil palm.

103. For organising farmers' meetings, Telangana Government has constructed 2,601 Rythu Vedikas with an expenditure of Rs 572 crores. Facility of this type is not available anywhere else in the country.

104. There is a lot of opposition to the policies of the Centre in the agriculture sector across the country. Farmers of the country have agitated in a big way against the so-called reforms which the Centre has introduced in the agriculture sector. The farmers are claiming that in reality these laws favour big corporations. Demanding the repeal of the farm laws, lakhs of farmers have agitated for more than one and a half year on the outskirts of Delhi, braving the elements of hot summer and cold winter. Yielding to the demands of the farmers, the Centre had to take back the farm laws and also had to apologise to the farmers.

105. In spite of all this, the Centre has not changed its stance. In the recently introduced Union Budget, there is a reduction in the fertiliser subsidy by Rs.35,000 crores. Due to this, there is likelihood of an increase in the price of certain fertilisers. As there is an increase in the price of petrol and diesel, farmers across India are already agitated. On top of this, if the fertiliser prices also go up this would be an unbearable burden on the farming community.

106. Even though the Centre's attitude is against the farming community, Telangana Government is not compromising as far as the farmers interests are concerned. With the effort made by the

Government which has led to the development of the agriculture sector, there is a dramatic transformation in the rural areas. Migration for work has stopped. In fact, labour from other States are coming to Telangana to work in the farms.

107. As the farmers are able to grow 2 to 3 crops in a year, there is a boost in their confidence. It also enhanced their purchasing capacity. Farming and allied sectors have taken a new shape. Employment opportunities have increased. We see a large number of tractors, combined harvesters, JCBs and dozers in the villages. With agriculture development, the rural economy has become strong. In the State GSDP more than 20% is now contributed by the primary sector. This is a clear indication of the change in Telangana rural areas. In the Budget, an amount of Rs. 24254 crores is proposed for agriculture and allied sectors.

Irrigation

108. The lifeline for a farm or a tree or a man is water. In the combined State, the difficulties faced by Telangana in irrigation sector cannot be described in words. The tagline for the moment for a separate Telangana State was : “Water – Funds – Jobs” . Chief Minister KCR undertook the development of the irrigation sector like a penance. In the last 7 1/2 years, there is wonderful development in this sector. A new chapter is written in the history of irrigation.

109. In 2014 water was available only for 20 lakh acres in Telangana. By 2021, this has increased to 85.89 lakh acres. With determination and commitment everything can be achieved. This is amply demonstrated by the development of the irrigation sector in Telangana.

110. All the different sectors and schemes in irrigation such as – projects, canals, tanks, check dams, small and big lift irrigation schemes were all brought under a single umbrella by the Honourable Chief Minister and the Irrigation Department was reorganised accordingly. As the projects are about to be completed, the focus of the Government is now shifting towards their operation and maintenance.

Mission Kakatiya

111. For centuries Telangana's agriculture was dependent upon irrigation tanks. Government took up the tank rejuvenation programme under Mission Kakatiya in a very big way. All the tanks of the State and also the check dams were repaired and rejuvenated with an outlay of Rs.5,350 crores. With this, an ayacut of 15.05 lakh acres of area was stabilised. The storage capacity of the tanks has increased. This has given a fillip to fish production. The Government has linked all these tanks with the canals of irrigation projects in the State.

112. With an outlay of Rs.3,825 crores, the Government has taken up construction of 1,200 check dams across rivers and streams. In

the first phase, the construction of 650 check dams is about to be completed. The balance check dams would be completed during the next financial year.

113. Kalwakurthy, Nettempadu, Bheema, Koil Sagar, YellamPalli, mid Manair, and Devadula are some of the pending projects which have been completed on a fast track mode and have become operational. With these projects, an area of 16 lakh acres is being irrigated. With the completion of these projects, several drought prone areas such as Palamuru have become green. Labour migration has stopped.

114. To provide irrigation facilities to Palamuru and Rangareddy districts, the Government has taken up Palamuru Rangareddy lift irrigation scheme with an outlay of Rs.35,200 crores. More than 70% of the works are completed. To ensure availability of funds, the project is linked to Kaleshwaram Corporation. So far, an amount of Rs.18,500 crores has already been spent. As part of the project, works relating to reservoirs and pump houses are going on at a brisk pace at Narlapoor, Yedula, Vattam, Karivena, Uddandapoor. Overcoming all the hurdles, the project is going to irrigate 7 lakh acres in the erstwhile Mahbubnagar district and five lakh acres in the erstwhile Rangareddy district and 30,000 acres in the erstwhile Nalgonda District. Thus, an area of 12.30 lakh acres will receive irrigation water from this project. In addition, drinking water will be provided to more than 1,000 villages along the way.

To provide irrigation facilities to the drought prone areas of Munugode, Devarakonda, Achampet and Kalwakurthy areas of Nalgonda district, R. Vidyasagar Rao – Dindi project is taken up with an outlay of Rs.6,190 crores. This will irrigate 3.41 lakh acres. There is temporary interruption to the work due to certain elements who have approached the courts. Overcoming these hurdles, the Government is determined to complete Palamuru Rangareddy and Dindi projects during the next financial year.

115. Works relating to Devadula, Sitarama, Seethamma Sagar, Chanaka Kornata projects are going on at brisk pace. Further the Government is in the process of calling for tenders and entrustment of the works for the following projects – Wardha barrage, Kupti, Chennuru lift irrigation, Nalgonda lift irrigation, Gattu lift irrigation scheme of Gadwal district, and Vikarabad Ranga Reddy lift irrigation scheme.

116. Sammakka Saarakka barrage is ready for inauguration. With this, the erstwhile Warangal district will have abundant supply of irrigation and drinking water through Devadula.

117. The construction of Kaleshwaram is a historical event. Annapurna, Ranganayaka Sagar, Konda Pochamma Sagar reservoirs which are part of Kaleshwaram project have been completed and are operational. Normally reservoirs are built where the river flows. Against this, Mallanna Sagar is built at a place

where there is no river or a stream. A reservoir of such a magnitude has never been built in such a location and this is a miracle in itself.

118. The largest reservoir of a lift irrigation scheme anywhere in the country is Mallanna Sagar. On 23rd February, 2022 Honourable Chief Minister inaugurated this. With a capacity of 50 TMC, this is the largest reservoir in the Godavari basin after Sriram Sagar. There were several obstacles which were created to stall the construction of the project. There were several nay sayers. More than 350 cases were filed in the courts. Before the steely determination of the Chief Minister, none of these obstacles could stand. Godavari rivers have now entered Mallanna Sagar. Honourable Chief Minister himself has washed the feet of Komuravelli Mallanna with Godavari waters taken from Mallanna Sagar.

119. Government has recently laid the foundations for Sangameswara and Basaveshwara projects. These projects would provide irrigation to 3.9 lakh acres in Sangareddy district. With these projects, the severely drought prone areas of Narayankhed, Zahirabad, Sangareddy and Andol constituencies will become green.

120. Along with Sangameswara and Basaveshwara projects, the Government is ensuring that the balance packages of Kaleshwaram projects related to Nirmal, Nizamabad, Kamareddy, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Medak and Sangareddy districts are also being expedited.

121. There is no assistance provided from the Centre for irrigation projects of the State. Not a single project is given the national project status. Recently, in the Union Budget the Centre has provided the national project status to Ken Betwa project in Bundelkhand region. In Karnataka, Centre is in favour of giving a similar status to Upper Bhadra project. However, no such status is being extended to any project in Telangana. There is no response from the Centre in the matter of referring the issue of determining the share of Telangana in the river Krishna. under section 3 of Inter State Water Disputes Act. There is no response despite repeated requests. The share of Telangana in Krishna water is not being determined, however all the Telangana projects are brought under Krishna River Management Board. This clearly shows that the Centre would not do anything which favours the State and on the contrary would actively pursue those issues which are against the interests of the State.

122. It has been five months since the submission of DPRs related to Godavari projects to the Central Water Commission. No clearances are forthcoming. I urge and make an earnest appeal to the Centre to grant clearances expeditiously through this Assembly. There are no clearances for Godavari projects but however it is surprising to see that the linking of Godavari with Kaveri River is being prominently mentioned in the Union Budget. This is clearly against the interest of Telangana State.

123. Whatever may be the obstacles, they do not deter our Honourable Chief minister. Already one crore acres of the land of Telangana is getting irrigation water. We will continue to work with the same zeal and this is an assurance that this Government is making to this House.

Electricity

124. Telangana made history by putting an end to the woes in the electricity sector. We are the only State which supplies quality power of 24 hours to all the sectors. There were only power cuts in the combined State, but today there is only light everywhere. There have been a number of Chief Ministers who wielded power but none of them could solve the problems of the electricity sector. This is only possible to our Honourable Chief Minister KCR as he is not only the son of a farmer but also firmly favours the farmers.

125. The State has made enormous progress in electricity generation, transmission and distribution since 2014. When the State was formed the installed capacity of power was 7,778 MW. Due to the efforts made by the State, today it has reached 17,305 MW.

126. We are leading the country in terms of per capita consumption of power. In 2014, the per capita consumption was 1,110 units. By 2021, it has reached 2,012 units. Compared to the national average, our consumption is higher by 73%. This is a very good indicator of the progress that the State has made.

127. The State used to generate 74 MW of solar power in 2014. Today we are generating 4,431 MW. In the ensuing two years, this is likely to go up to 7,000 MW.

128. Telangana Government has completed Bhadradi thermal power plant and has started power generation. The four units of the plant are fully operational with 1080 MW capacity.

129. In Nalgonda district, the Yadadri ultra-mega power plant works are going on rapidly. By 2023, this project would be completed and Telangana would become a power surplus State.

130. In the month of March last year, the electricity demand in the State touched a peak of 13,688 MW. The State has created infrastructure for supply and distribution even if the peak demand goes up to 17,000 MW. An amount of Rs.34,970 crores has been spent so far to strengthen the distribution and transmission network.

131. There were power cuts and power holidays to the industry and manufacturing sector earlier. Today, we are able to supply power for 24 hours and the manufacturing units are working in three shifts. The labour is able to get uninterrupted work.

132. As per the instructions of the Honourable CM to ensure uninterrupted power supply to greater Hyderabad, the transmission and distribution network at 400 KV and 220 KV level has been

strengthened. This has ensured that there is no power cut even for a second in the capital region.

Mission Bhagiratha

133. Chief Minister KCR took a vow that unless the drinking water problem in the State is solved in five years, he is not going to ask for votes. He designed the Mission Bhagiratha project and ensured that all habitations and households of the State get safe treated drinking water.

134. There is no longer a fluoride problem in the State. In the 70 year history of the State, no party leader has been able to resolve the fluoride problem. The Government of India has made a declaration in the Parliament that there have been no new cases of fluorosis in Telangana.

135. With Mission Bhagiratha, there are no longer street fights for water. There is no longer a demonstration of empty vessels. There are no longer arguments in the Assembly about the drinking water problem. The prestigious Mission Bhagiratha was complimented by Niti Aayog. However, no financial assistance has come from the Government of India. Taking inspiration from Mission Bhagiratha, the Centre has introduced a flagship programme known as Har Ghar Jal. Resources are being spent from the Central Budget on this programme. The State has stood as a role model but is not getting any funds.

Telangana ku Haritha Haram

136. Ecological balance is only possible when there is 33% tree cover. Telangana Ku Haritha Haram is one of the largest efforts anywhere in the world to increase the green cover. As part of this programme, the Government has planted between 2015 and 2022, a total of 243 crore plants. It is not only about planting but also ensuring that they survive and grow.

137. Rejuvenation of the forest area is being taken up by the Forest Department in a big way. So far an amount of Rs.8,511 crores has been spent. From 2015, when the Haritha Haram programme started in the State, an area of 9.65 lakh acres of forest land has been rejuvenated. With the inspiration of Honourable CM, the programme is being taken up in a mission mode.

138. Urban Forests are being developed in cities and towns. So far 109 urban forests have been developed. Wherever you look in Telangana, there is greenery. Forest Survey of India has declared that the forest cover in the State of Telangana has increased by 7.7% from 2014 onwards, when the State was formed.

139. The Chief Minister, who is a nature lover has introduced a unique concept known as Haritha Nidhi. This kind of Fund is not constituted anywhere in the world. Telangana is the first State to establish Haritha Nidhi. To give a sense of participation for everyone, the Government has requested that people from different walks of life such as, elected representatives, Government officials

and others to make a contribution to this Fund. The objective of the Fund is to give a stake to every citizen in the protection of the environment. An amount of Rs. 932 crores is proposed in the Budget for Haritha Haram.

Welfare in Telangana

140. A lion's share of the Budget is being spent on welfare activities. The welfare programmes being implemented in Telangana are role models for the rest of the country. It is no exaggeration to say that the golden age of welfare is ushered in by the TRS Government.

Aasara Pensions

141. Telangana Government increased the quantum of pension being given to the poor people. The pension to old age people, widows, AIDS patients, handloom workers, toddy tappers is increased from Rs.200 per month to Rs.2,016 per month. The pension to differently abled is increased from Rs.500 to Rs.3,016. In no other State, the differently abled people get such a large pension. The credit completely goes to Telangana. Even single women, beedi workers, and filaria patients also get a pension of Rs.2,016 per month.

142. During 2014, the total number of Aasara pensioners was 29,21,828 only. Today the total number of beneficiaries who get a pension is 38,41,000. During the last 7 1/2 years, the Telangana

Government has spent an amount of Rs.46,650 crores towards Aasara. This clearly reflects the humane approach of our Government towards the poor.

143. The Government has reduced the age limit for Aasara pensions from 65 to 57. There is a delay in implementation due to Corona. It is decided that the reduced age limit will be made operational from the next financial year. For Aasara pensions in the Budget of 2022-23, the Government is proposing an outlay of Rs.11,728 crores.

Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak

144. The only Government in the country which has conducted 10,00,000 marriages of poor girls is the Telangana Government. This is a record in the welfare sector. For the conduct of marriage of the daughter, the Government gives a financial assistance of Rs.1,00,116 to her mother. The beneficiaries of Kalyani Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak and their families are thankful to the Government for the assistance. The blessings of these families are the source of eternal strength.

145. As the age limit for the Kalyani Lakshmi programme is 18 years, this has also prevented child marriages. The same is confirmed in the research work done by the NGOs. An outlay of Rs. 2750 crores is being proposed towards Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak.

Food Security

146. A society can progress when there is food security. That is why Mahakavi Gurazada has said that “Tindi Kaligithe Kanda Kaladoyi “. In the combined State, every white ration card holder used to get four kgs of rice per person per month. There was a limit of 20 kgs of rice on the entire card irrespective of the number of family members. The Telangana Government has removed this limit. Now every member of the family is entitled to get six kgs of rice per person and there is no limit per card.

Dignity Housing to the Poor - 2 BHK Scheme

147. Telangana Government, with an objective of providing a dignified dwelling of decent size, is implementing the 2BHK programme. Under this programme, houses are constructed with hundred percent subsidy. So far, the Government has sanctioned 2,91,000 houses. Out of these 1,70,000 houses are completed. The balance houses are at various stages of construction.

148. The previous Governments used to give a very small amount of money towards the construction of houses. Even this amount was paid in instalments. As this was not sufficient for the construction of a house, the poor people used to raise loans for the same. In contrast, the Telangana Government is constructing houses completely free without any burden on the beneficiary.

149. There were several representations made by the people's representatives to the Chief Minister that financial assistance be provided even to those poor people who want to construct houses in their own plots. In this context, the Chief Minister has decided to launch a two-bedroom housing scheme for those people who have their own plots with a unit cost of Rs.3,00,000 per house.

150. In the coming financial year, the Government has decided that across the State four lakh beneficiaries will be provided assistance to construct houses with a unit cost of Rs.3 lakhs. For each of the Assembly segments of the State, 3,000 houses are going to be taken up. With this, a total number of 3,57,000 houses will be taken up in the MLA Assembly segments. Further, a total of 43,000 houses would be available for allocation by the Chief Minister in special circumstances such as, for displaced people and those affected by natural calamities. The 2BHK scheme is a role model for the rest of the country. No other Government in the country has taken up such a scheme. In the Budget, an allocation of Rs.12,000 crores is proposed for the 2BHK programme.

Tribal Tandas and Hamlets as Gram Panchayats

151. The scheduled tribe community has struggled for a long period of time to have their own rule in their tandas and gudems. The previous Governments never paid heed to the struggle. The TRS Government has responded and fulfilled the long-standing demands of the ST community. All the gudems and tandas have

now become gram panchayats. With this, across the State 3,146 STs have now become sarpanches.

152. The Government has decided to construct Gram Panchayat buildings in these tribal and adivasi panchayats. With a unit cost of Rs.25 lakhs, these buildings would be taken up with a total outlay of Rs. 600 crores. The tribals are having self-rule within their areas. In a parliamentary system like ours, this is a very landmark achievement. With the timely release of funds, even the small tandas and hamlets are developing in a wonderful manner.

153. The Government has taken up electrification works in these tribal and adivasi villages which are in interior areas. To provide three-phase electricity for agricultural requirements, a programme is underway with an outlay of Rs.215 crores. This programme is likely to be completed in the next 2 to 3 months.

154. For the domestic use of scheduled tribe communities, free power up to hundred units is being provided.

155. To improve the connectivity, it is now proposed to take up construction of roads to the ST habitation with an outlay of Rs.1,000 crores from STSDF in the Budget.

Adivasi and Banjara Bhavans

156. The Government has allocated very costly lands in Hyderabad to construct Adivasi and Banjara Bhavans. These buildings are taken up with an outlay of Rs.72 crores and are ready

for inauguration. Across the State, 32 Bhavans for adivasis girijans are also under construction.

Tribal and Adivasi festivals are now Government Festivals

157. The hero of Adivasis, Komaram Bheem's Jayanti and the God of Banjaras Seva Lal Maharaj's Jayanti are now celebrated as State festivals. Sammakka Sarakka Jatara is also being celebrated as a State Jatara. During the current year, an allocation of Rs.75 crores is made for the Sammakka Sarakka Jatara. Nagoba Jatara, Baurampur Jatara and Gangubai Jatara are also being celebrated by the Government every year.

For the welfare of the scheduled tribe community, an allocation of Rs. 12565 crores is proposed in the 2022-23 Budget.

Welfare of BCs

158. The TRS Government is implementing several innovative schemes for the development and welfare of the weaker sections and backward classes. Financial assistance is provided to these committees. Huge outlays and expenditures are incurred on these programmes.

Welfare of Golla Kuruma and Fisherman

159. The Government has taken up a massive sheep distribution programme to Golla and Kuruma communities who depend on sheep rearing for their livelihood. With a total outlay of Rs.11,000 crores and with the physical target of distribution of 7.3 lakh units

of sheep, this massive programme is taken up. In the Budget an allocation of Rs.1,000 crores is proposed for this programme.

160. The Government has taken a programme of free distribution of fish and prawn seed in the different reservoirs of the State. Further, the Gangaputra and the Mudiraj communities have been provided with fishing rights in these reservoirs. The size of the fisheries sector in 2014 was Rs.2,637 crores. Due to the proactive measures taken by the Government, today the size of the sector has increased to Rs.5,229 crores.

Welfare of Textile Workers

161. After the formation of the State, Government has taken measures to provide work to handloom as well as powerloom weavers. The work of producing Bathukamma sarees was given to them. It was ensured that they get work throughout the year. There is a subsidy of 50% provided on chemicals which are used in production.

162. It is proposed to start an insurance scheme for all the handloom and power loom workers on similar lines of Rythu Bhima with a sum assured of Rs.5 lakhs during the next financial year.

Welfare of Toddy Tappers

163. The Government of Telangana has taken several measures for the welfare of toddy tappers. The cess on Toddy trees has been

removed. Apart from that, the accumulated cess of Rs.7.98 crores is also waived off. The toddy tappers are also being provided Aasara pensions.

164. Previously, the toddy tappers used to get an ex-gratia of only Rs.2 lakhs in case of accidental death. The Government has now increased the same to Rs.5 lakhs. Previously, the relief given to people who became permanently disabled was only Rs.50,000. This also was increased to Rs.5 lakhs by Telangana Government. A historic decision was taken to allocate and reserve 15% of wine shops to Goud community. With this decision, about 393 wine shops are now allocated to people from the Goud community. The country liquor shops which were closed in Hyderabad in the combined state, are now reopened. With this 2,963 people have benefited.

165. The Government has brought a policy of marketing Neera as a soft drink. It is proposed that an amount of Rs.20 crore would be used for production and distribution of Neera. In Nandanam village near Bhuvanagiri, Nira processing unit works are going on at a brisk pace. The Nira cafe on necklace road is also going to start soon.

166. For the welfare of the toddy tappers, it is proposed to start a special scheme with an outlay of Rs.100 crores.

BC Residential Schools

167. In the combined State, 19 BC residential schools were functioning with an annual outlay of Rs.35 crores. The total number of students in these schools was only 7,000. After the formation of Telangana the total number of BC residential schools is now 281. A total number of 1,32,440 students are now getting high-quality education with excellent facilities. The Government is spending an amount of Rs.620 crores on an annual basis on the BC residential schools.

Mahatma Jyothi Bai Phule Vidya Nidhi

168. The Government is providing to each student who is studying in an overseas institution an amount of Rs.20 lakhs as scholarship under Mahatma Jyothi Bhai Phule Vidya Nidhi scheme. There is no other State in the country which provides scholarships on such a large scale to BC students.

BC Community Halls

169. The Government has provided an extent of 87.3 acres of land for the construction of 41 BC community halls in the State capital. These buildings are being taken up with an outlay of Rs.95.25 crores . Presently, the construction work is underway. For the welfare of the BC communities an amount of Rs. 5698 crores is proposed in the Budget.

Welfare of Brahmins

170. The Brahmin Samkshema Parishad was established by the Government on 28 January 2017. There are a number of schemes which are being implemented for providing livelihood to Brahmins. A Brahmin Sadan is being constructed in Hyderabad in an area of 6 acres, with an outlay of Rs.10 crores.

Welfare of Archakas

171. During the regime of the previous Governments, temple priests and other staff used to get a salary which was dependent on the income of the temple and was also very meagre. Even those salaries used to be paid once in every 3 to 4 months. The Government of Telangana has considered the problems of the priests sympathetically. Now there is no linkage between the salaries of the priests and the temple's income. To provide salaries on a regular basis to priests and other staff of the temples, a grant-in-aid of Rs.138 crores is being provided to these institutions. This decision of the Telangana Government has restored the respect and pride of the temple staff and priests.

172. Under the scheme of Dhoopa Deepa Naivedyam, 3,645 temples of the State get a grant of Rs.6,000 per temple per month to conduct pujas in the temple.

173. It is now decided by the Government to extend the scheme of Dhoopa Deepa Naivedyam to 1,736 temples with in Hyderabad.

For this, an amount of Rs.12.5 crores is being provided for in the Budget.

For the welfare of the Brahmin community a total amount of Rs. 177 crores is proposed in the Budget.

10% reservations to EWS communities

174. Telangana Government has now made a provision to provide 10% of reservation to economically weaker sections and communities in Government jobs as well as admissions to educational institutions.

Welfare of Minorities

175. People of all religions and cultures live in Telangana. That is the reason why Mahatma Gandhi described the culture of this area as “Ganga Jamuna tehzeeb”. Telangana Government treats all communities and religions equally and respects them. The Government is working tirelessly for the welfare of these communities. During the last seven years, an amount of Rs.6,644 crores was spent for the welfare of the minority communities.

176. By the time Telangana was formed, there were only 12 residential schools for the minority community. The TRS Government established 192 new residential schools for minorities. The Government firmly believes that the girls of minority communities should be in the forefront of education. That is why 50% of these institutions are specially established for girls. There is

a huge response from the community to these residential schools. The total number of minority residential schools in the State is now 204 and in these institutions 1,14,000 boys and girls are studying.

177. To tackle the problem of dropout of girl children after they finish the 10th class the Government has upgraded 121 minority residential schools into residential junior colleges. The enrollment of minority girls was previously at 18%, which has now gone up to 42%. It is heartening to see such a massive increase. As far as minority girls education is concerned, I am very proud to say that Telangana stands number one in the country.

178. Across the State, 54 minority residential school buildings are under construction. In Hyderabad in consultation with the Wakf Board, land has been procured for the construction of 29 colleges. The Government has completed the reconstruction of Anees Ul Gurba orphanage in Nampally with an outlay of Rs.40 crores. And now this building is ready for inauguration.

179. The Government is providing Rs.5,000 per month for imams and moujans who conduct prayers in Masjids. The Government is celebrating the main festivals of the minority community such as Christmas and Ramzan as State festivals. On this occasion, the poor people are given new clothes. Further, funds are also being provided for the upkeep of the religious institutions such as Churches and Masjids.

Women and Child welfare

180. I wish all the women of Telangana, a very happy international women's day in advance. There is no sector in which women are not playing a major role today. In the development of society women play a key part. The Government is implementing a number of welfare schemes targeted at women.

Aarogya Lakshmi

181. The Government has introduced Aarogya Lakshmi scheme to provide nutritional security for poor women. Through this scheme, pregnant women are provided nutritious food in Anganwadis. Till, 2014 only 56% of Anganwadis used to provide such nutritious food. Now in Telangana, the TRS Government has ensured that not only hundred percent of Anganwadis provide the nutritious food but also has improved the menu with the inclusion of milk and eggs.

KCR Kits

182. The Telangana Government has introduced a new programme known as KCR kits to provide for the welfare of mother and child. This programme is being implemented with the funds of the State. If a boy is born, an amount of Rs.12,000 is given to the mother and if a girls is born, then the amount is enhanced to Rs.13,000. For the benefit of the mother and the newly born child, there is a kit with 16 different items which is distributed. With the

introduction of the scheme, the number of institutional deliveries in Government hospitals has increased from 30.5% to 56%. So far the Government has distributed 10,85,462 KCR kits.

KCR Nutrition Kits

183. The Government has identified that in nine districts of the State namely, Adilabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Bhadrachalam Kothagudem, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Kamareddy, Vikarabad, Mulugu, Jogulamba Gadwal and Nagarkurnool, the problem of anaemia is acute amongst pregnant woman and lactating mothers. To overcome this problem, the Government has decided to distribute a kit known as “ KCR nutrition kit” which would have all the necessary supplementary nutrition required. It is expected that every year around one lakh twenty five thousand women would get benefited through this programme.

Health and Hygiene Kits

184. The Government has decided to distribute health and hygiene kits to all the girls who are studying in Government schools and Government junior colleges from class seven upwards. The scheme is expected to benefit seven lakh girls across the State.

Batukamma Sarees

185. Women of Telangana celebrate Bathukamma festival in a big way. After the formation of the State, Government is celebrating

Bathukamma as a State festival. On the occasion of Bathukamma, the Government as a mark of respect to the women is distributing sarees. On the occasion of Ramzan and Christmas, the minority women are also given sarees. Recently, the Government distributed Pochampally sarees to the Anganwadi workers. With all these schemes, the handloom and power loom workers are getting enough work.

186. When Telangana was formed, Anganwadi workers' salary was Rs.4,200. When there was an agitation by the workers to enhance the salaries during the rule of combined State, the then rulers crushed the agitation by deploying mounted policemen. The TRS Government has understood the problems of Anganwadi workers sympathetically. At present, the salary is enhanced to Rs.13,650. Similarly the salary of mini Anganwadi teachers is enhanced to Rs.7,800 and to Anganwadi helpers it is enhanced to Rs.7,800. There was a reduction in the Government of India contribution towards the salaries. Even then, bearing the additional expenditure, the Government of Telangana has increased the salaries by more than three times. Telangana today is among the top States where the Anganwadi workers get the highest salaries.

Bharosa Centers

187. The State Government has established Bharosa centres across the State. These centers provide protection and immediate relief and legal and medical aid to the women who are subjected to

domestic violence. The Government has also established POCSO courts to try the cases related to sexual abuse against the children. Necessary funds for functioning of these courts are provided for. To control the menace of child trafficking in all the 33 districts of the State, special Bala Rakshaka vehicles are provided for.

Lawyers' Welfare

188. The Government of Telangana has provided an amount of Rs. 100 crores for the welfare of lawyers. No other State has such a fund. The management of this fund is done by the Advocates Welfare Trust. So far 22,000 advocates have been given insurance policies. Apart from that, during the period of Corona, the Government has provided relief of Rs.25 crores to more than 15,000 advocates and their clerks.

Journalists' Welfare

189. Government has established a fund with Rs. 100 crores for the benefit of journalists. So far, an amount of Rs.52 crores is given to the Press Academy. From this fund, financial assistance of one lakh rupees is given in case of the death of any journalist. In case of permanent disability, an amount of Rs. 50,000 is given as relief. There is also a pension of Rs.3,000 per month, for a period of five years, given to the family of the deceased journalist. In case the deceased journalist has children an additional amount of Rs.1,000 per month is also provided.

190. An amount of not less than Rs.10,000 per journalist was provided to 4000 beneficiaries who were affected by Corona. An amount of Rs.5.68 crores was spent on this so far. The families of 75 journalists who died due to Corona were given an assistance of Rs. 2 lakh each.

Assistance to Private School Teachers During Lockdown

191. The teachers working in the private schools faced problems during the lockdown as the schools were closed. After observing their plight, the Government has provided relief for a period of two months in the shape of 20 kgs of rice and a financial assistance of Rs.2,000. This benefit was given to 2,04,743 teachers and staff of private schools. The Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 120 crores for the same.

Welfare during Covid

192. The Government has extended its helping hand to the people who have lost their livelihood during the lockdown imposed to control Corona. To provide food security, 20 kgs of rice was distributed freely through the ration shops. Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 2,290 crores towards the same.

Employees' Welfare

193. To benefit the employees who have actively participated in the movement for the formation of the State, the Government gave a special increment. A historic 43% fitment was given. In spite of

the heavy hit on the State finances due to Corona, the Government has always taken measures aimed at employee welfare. As per the expectations of the employees, the Government has given a fitment of 30% under the new PRC and has implemented the new pay scales.

194. I am proud to announce that today, the employees of Telangana are amongst the highest paid in the country. Along with the State Government employees, the Government has given 30% enhancement to all the contract and outsourcing staff also. Even home guards, Anganwadi workers, Asha workers and other staff were also given a big hike of 30%. Further, I am proud to say that Telangana is the only State where such enhancement is given not only to the Government employees but also to all the other categories of staff also. The family pension scheme is now extended to those employees who die and who are currently under CPS.

Welfare of Labour

195. The Government is announcing a new scheme for the benefit of building and other construction workers. In the first phase, it is decided by Honourable Chief Minister KCR, that one lakh beneficiaries would be given motorcycles on subsidy. Guidelines of this scheme would soon to be formulated by the Government.

Welfare of Singareni Employees and Profit Sharing

196. Post formation of Telangana State, the profit share given to the employees of Singareni has increased from 18% to 29%. Due to this from 2014 to 2020, a total benefit of Rs.1,546.59 crores has accrued to the workers. The retirement age for the workers too is enhanced to 61 years by the Government. Due to simplification of the dependent employment scheme, a total number of 11,888 employees have been benefited . Singareni has introduced a scheme to provide an interest free loan of Rs.10 lakhs to its employees.

GHMC Development

197. After the formation of the State, the infrastructure development within the GHMC area is taken up in a big way. In the city, Nala development works are undertaken with an outlay of Rs.858 crores. Around the Outer Ring Road, the service roads are being expanded with an outlay of Rs.387 crores.

198. Gandipeta reservoir used to provide drinking water to Hyderabad city. The reservoir was built almost hundred years ago and the Government has taken up beautification and improvement works with an outlay of Rs.36.5 crores.

199. To augment the drinking water facilities of Hyderabad, Sunkisala project on Krishna waters, is taken up with an outlay of Rs.1,450 crores. A provision of Rs. 725 crores is proposed in the

Budget for the same. To treat sewerage of Hyderabad, an amount of Rs.3,866 crores is going to be spent. Hyderabad is the first city in south India where energy is being produced from waste.

200. Like a green garland around Hyderabad, urban forests in an area of 1,66,000 acres are being developed. The World Bank has recognised Hyderabad as a ODF plus plus city. Similarly, it is also recognised as a water plus city.

201. Under the SRDP programme, 18 important roads and flyovers were completed. Under the CRMP programme, a total extent of 530 kms in five routes was developed. Recently, new flyovers were constructed near Owaisi junction and also at Shaikpet. In the ensuing financial year I am glad to announce that LB Nagar underpass, Tukaram Gate RUB, Bahadurpura flyover and another 30 flyovers and 18 foot overbridges would be completed.

202. The Hyderabad Road Development Corporation has taken up construction of 39 link roads to connect ORR with the different parts of the city. Out of these, 22 are completed.

203. To connect the last 5.5 kms in the old city with the Metro Rail Project, there were a number of obstacles. As there were heritage buildings and places of worship, the work could not be taken up. By the time these issues were resolved, the Metro rail project was in severe loss due to the lock down imposed because of COVID-19.

The Government is taking all steps for the extension of the Metro in consultation with the concessionaire.

204. The Government is spending an amount of Rs.1,200 crores to provide drinking water to all the habitations within the ORR.

Administrative Reforms - Construction of New Buildings

205. After the formation of the State, the Government has taken up a number of administrative reforms in tune with the needs of the State. As a result, the development and welfare programmes are being implemented in a more effective manner. Government has reorganised the State into 33 new districts and has also formed new revenue divisions, corporations, municipalities and gram panchayats. This has led to ease of governance.

206. As the land disputes were becoming a big problem, the Government has brought in a number of reforms in the administration of lands. A massive land records upgradation and purification programme was taken up after which farmers were given new passbooks. To bring transparency in land records matters, Dharani portal was started. This portal is the beginning of a new era in effective land administration. Due to the new registration system, the process has become simple, fast, transparent and corruption free.

Roads and Buildings

207. When the State was formed, the total length of roads under R&B was 24,245 km. Of this, the share of double lanes and slightly wider roads was only 27.9%. The Government has taken up double laning of 1835 kms of road length.. Out of this, already 1,651 kms of double laning has been completed. As a policy, all the routes connecting mandal/district to State capital are being upgraded from single lane to double lane roads. Out of a total length of 5,574 kms which was taken up already, 4,380 kms of construction is completed. 510 bridges are being upgraded in a phased manner. Out of this 430 are already completed. The proposed outlay for maintenance of roads, renewals with BT in the Budget is Rs. 1542 crores.

Regional Ring Road

208. As Hyderabad city is expanding very rapidly the Government has proposed that there should be a Regional Ring Road (RRR), in addition to the Outer Ring Road. Apart from easing the traffic congestion, RRR would reduce the time taken to travel from the districts to Hyderabad. The proposed regional Ring Road would be built beyond 30 KMs from the ORR, over a length of 340 km. This RRR road would certainly give a fillip to the development of the State. The land acquisition works in the Northern part of the Regional Ring Road have already commenced.

209. The Government has started construction of the new Secretariat building in tune with the stature of the State. This is being built over seven floors and would be spread over seven lakh square feet. It is being designed such that the Ministers, Secretaries and all the staff of the Departments would be together. The Secretariat is a modern building with state of the art facilities. There would be sufficient amenities for the people who come, employees and public representatives. This would certainly improve the speed and quality of governance. Services to the people would also be improved. The new Secretariat is going to be completed in the current year and will start functioning.

210. The Government is constructing modern, integrated Collectorate complexes in 30 districts. Out of these, 14 are completed and six are already under occupation. Another eight are ready for inauguration shortly. These buildings are better than some of the Secretariat buildings of other States. Such are the compliments that we are receiving. Nowhere in the country, there are offices for MLAs. The Government has constructed camp offices for MLAs and enhanced their prestige.

211. On the banks of Hussain Sagar a 125 feet statue of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar is going to be installed. This is the homage that is being paid by the Government to the father of the Constitution of independent India, and who has laid the path of development for the country.

212. In memory of the people who have lost their lives during the Telangana movement and have become martyrs, a memorial near Lumbini Park, opposite the State Secretariat is under construction. The works are in brisk progress.

Yadadri as Divya Kshetram

213. Our Chief Minister KCR not only follows Sanatana Vaidika Dharma but also is firmly determined to bring back its glory. Under his leadership, the Government is working to showcase the Telangana's spiritual greatness to the world.

214. Yadadri is one of the five Narasimha kshetras. As a boon to the penance of Yada Rishi, Lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy manifested himself at this holy land. The temples of Telangana, including Yadadri were neglected in the combined state.

215. The Honourable Chief Minister took on the task of developing the Yadadri temple as soon as he took the reins of the State. Taking advice from famous Vaishnava Pandits and based on their directions, the development of the temple at Yadadri was taken up at a brisk pace. The Chief Minister himself is personally supervising the construction and development of the temple on a regular basis. The temple pillars, mandapas, and the sanctum sanctorum are all adorned with beautiful sculptures by Sthapatis. Not only the temple, the entire city surrounding is being developed in a glorious manner.

216. The development works of the Yadadri Temple city in an area of 1,000 acres are going on at a brisk pace. To do gold plating of the main temple Gopuram, the devotees are giving donations. After Maha Kumbh Samproksanam, Lord Narasimha Swamy will start giving Divya Darshanam. In a similar manner, it is proposed to develop other temples of the State also.

217. More than 2,000 acres of land belonging to the temples and endowment was under encroachment . The Telangana Government took up these issues legally and resolved them and has taken over the position of these lands. This is a clear indication of the sincere attitude of the Government in this matter.

Tourism

218. There are a number of famous tourist places in Telangana. A study was conducted after formation of the State to identify potential tourist places for development. The study has identified 479 places. This includes places which have spiritual, religious, historical and scientific significance. The Government is developing these tourist places in a systematic manner. The facilities which are required for the tourists are being provided.

219. International Kite Festival, sweet festival, Buddha Jayanti and international tourist day are some of the events which are being celebrated in a grand manner.

220. All the new reservoirs which were constructed in the State are in places with abundant natural beauty. The Government is determined to develop these reservoirs as tourist places. Facilities which are required for the visitors are going to be provided. Honourable Chief Minister has recently announced that the Kaleshwaram tourist circuit would be developed with an outlay of Rs.1,500 crores.

IT and Industry

221. The brand image of Hyderabad has improved after the formation of Telangana State. There is a steady flow of investments into the State due to good and stable governance and an excellent law and order situation. The State is a frontrunner in attracting investments from within the country and outside also. The TS-iPASS Act which was enacted in November 2015 has made the process of clearances very easy. Under this Act a total number of 17,921 industries have taken clearances. Out of this, 13,631 industries have commenced their activities. They have provided employment to 8.17 lakh people and have brought in an investment of Rs.1.07 lakh crores. Another 4,982 industries are going to commence their operations shortly.

222. The Government has announced Telangana electric vehicles policy recently. Already investments worth Rs.10,000 crores have come to the State. It is expected that these investments would result in the creation of about 29,000 jobs.

223. Telangana is making excellent progress in the IT sector. There are more than 1,500 small and big IT companies in Hyderabad. Major companies such as, Microsoft, Google, Apple, IBM, Amazon , Oracle and Cognizant have their offices and conduct business out of Hyderabad.

224. There were 3.23 lakh people who were employed directly in the IT sector in the State when it was formed. Due to the proactive measures taken by the TRS Government, today there are 6.29 lakh employees. The indirect employment opportunities have also increased.

225. Even though many sectors were adversely affected due to Covid the IT exports from Telangana clocked a growth of 12.98 percent. The total exports from Telangana IT sector were valued at Rs 1,45,522 crores in 2021.

226. In association with NASSCOM, the Government has set up a Centre of excellence in artificial intelligence so as to make Hyderabad a hub for AI. The Government is constantly on the lookout for the cutting-edge technology. To improve the services of Government, technology is being used extensively. As part of this, a pilot project is on to supply medicines to remote and agency areas through drones.

227. T – Hub, which was started with a slogan of “ come with an idea and go back with an innovation” has become a big boon for

start-ups. Similarly the Government has started We- HUB exclusively for women startups.

228. Today Telangana is a role model in the IT development sector. Three out of 10 jobs created in the IT sector in the country are in Telangana. In the good governance index published by the Department of Administrative reforms of Government of India, Telangana State stood number one in the industry and commerce sector.

Law and Order

229. In the matter of law and order the Chief Minister believes in only one theory - that is “if innocent are to be protected, the guilty are to be punished.” Due to his determination and steadfastness, there is no spurious liquor, there are no gambling clubs, the business of drugs is coming down and there are no communal clashes. The Government comes down with all its might on the law breakers and there is no compromise in these matters. Due to the effective functioning of the Police Department, there is peace and security for everyone in the State. This has enhanced the brand image of Telangana. This has also led to the flow of national and international investments.

230. As soon as the State was formed, the Police Department was strengthened. They have started using the latest technology in their work. A large number of modern vehicles were provided. The concept of friendly policing, where the police mingle with the

public and provide services was introduced. Administrative reforms were undertaken and seven new Police Commissionerates, 10 new police districts, 25 new police sub divisions and 31 circles were created. An amount of Rs.75,000 per police station per month is being given towards sundry expenditure in Hyderabad. During the last six years, a total number of 28,288 posts were filled up in the Police Department. There is a reservation of 33% for women in these jobs. Telangana is the only State in the country, where a pollution allowance of 30% is being paid to the traffic constables.

231. To strengthen the surveillance and to help solve the crimes in a scientific manner, a total number of 8.8 lakhs CC cameras were installed in the State. Telangana is the only State where such a large number of CC cameras have been installed and Telangana takes the credit for this unique initiative. The prestigious Command and Control Centre of Hyderabad city Police, which is being constructed as a 20 storied building, is ready for inauguration. To catch the criminals within 24 hours of crime being committed Telangana police is using the latest technology. With this the crime rate has come down significantly. With emergence of new offences, such as, cybercrime, the Department has strengthened the wings and institutions dealing with them.

232. The Police Department is taking tough measures to control the transport and distribution of narcotic drugs. Plans are afoot to eliminate the production and transportation of the same. To ensure

that innocent youth do not spoil their lives by being victims of drugs, the Government is taking all necessary measures. There is no compromise in taking action against the people who are involved in transportation and trade of narcotic drugs. The number of police check posts on State borders is being increased. The intelligence is being beefed up. The spurious liquor and gambling have been controlled in the State. Even against the traders for selling spurious seeds, the Government is taking tough action by using the preventive detention laws.

233. Due to the effective measures taken by the Police Department, there are no communal clashes. Even though some antisocial elements tried to instigate and disturb communal harmony, the police is ensuring that no such thing happens. In the entire State due to the effective measures taken by the Police Department, the people are able to live peacefully. An amount of Rs. 9315 crores is proposed for the Home Department.

234. 2022-23 Budget Estimates

For the financial year 2022-23, I am proposing a total expenditure of Rs.2,56,958.51 crores. Out of this, revenue expenditure is Rs.1,89,274.82 crores and capital expenditure is Rs.29,728.44 crore.

Closing Remarks

235. As the Shloka in Anushasanika Parva of Mahabharata says “People’s work is the rulers work, people’s happiness is the rulers happiness, people’s likes are the rulers likes and people’s welfare is rulers welfare”. The only thought which occupies the Chief Minister’s mind always is the welfare and development of the State of Telangana and there is nothing else. Under his leadership, the Government is seen as a Government of the people, of the poor, of the Dalits, of the backward communities. Let us continue the same spirit. We can achieve any tough targets. Self-confidence and courage are our strengths.

236. Even though the obstructive forces create hurdles, the Government has the capacity to overcome them. Our belief is only in the people. We will work through our thoughts, speech and deeds only for the welfare of the people.

237. I humbly submit that - let us dedicate ourselves for the development of the State of Telangana and through that for the building of the nation. This is the culture, the Telangana movement has taught us. And we will continue the same going forward also.

With this I commend this Budget to the House, Mr Speaker Sir.

Jai Hind Jai Telangana