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WELFARE SCHEMES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Reference to Y.S. Jagan's Government

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Abstract

A fundamental feature of the welfare schemes is social insurance, a provision common to most advanced industrialized countries. YSRCP leader YS Jagan Mohan Reddy promised to deliver 'Rajanna Rajyam' (welfare regime of his father Y.S. Rajasekar Reddy in A.P during 2004-09) to the people of Andhra Pradesh. Jagan Mohan Reddy chief of YSRCP has come up with an elaborate model of governance comprised of 9 broad welfare schemes called the 'NAVARATNALU'. Navaratnalalu is a Concept coined by the Government to improve the delivery systems and improve the quality of the Governance in the state. Rythu bharsa is to provide financial assistance to farmer families including the tenant farmers across the state at Rs.12,500/- per farmer per year to support the cultivators in meeting the investment during the crop season. Scholarships are of great importance to students who are unable to pay their fee due to financial burden, so this scheme provides full fee reimbursement benefits to approximately 14 lakh students of the state. AP government provides free treatment for specific illness to the eligible patients in any hospital in the state and the country. The YSRCP promises to put in place a ban on sale of alcohol across the State because Liquor is one of the main reasons for dispute in families due to which human relations are collapsing. YSR Aasara main objective is at empowering women and improving their financial stability. The Navaratnalalu (nine jewels) welfare schemes and a slew of other populist schemes that began during the first year of the YSRCP coming to power have picked up pace during the second year of Y.S. Jagan's rule, the corona virus(Covid-19) pandemic notwithstanding, consolidating his vote bank and fetching him tremendous mileage in the local body elections.

Key Words: YSRCP, Jagan Mohan Reddy, Navaratnalalu, Welfare Scheme, Development,

Introduction

Welfare state, concept of government in which the state or a well-established network of social institutions play a key role in the protection and promotion of the economic and social well-being of citizens. It is based on the principles like equality of opportunity, equitable distribution of wealth, and public responsibility for those unable to avail themselves of the minimal provisions for a good life. The general term may cover a variety of forms of economic and social organization. A fundamental feature of the welfare schemes is social insurance, a provision common to most advanced industrialized countries (e.g., National Insurance in the United Kingdom and Social Security in the United States). Such insurance is usually financed by compulsory contributions and is intended to provide benefits to persons and families during periods of greatest need. It is widely recognized, however, that in practice the cash benefits fall considerably short of the levels intended by the designers of the plans. The welfare state also usually includes public provision of basic education, health services, and housing (in some cases at low cost or without charge). This paper starts out with a brief discussion of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy welfare schemes in Andhra Pradesh and it also summarizes its major achievements in terms of economic efficiency and distribution.

YSRCP leader YS Jagan Mohan Reddy promised to deliver 'Rajanna Rajyam' (welfare regime of his father Y.S. Rajasekar Reddy in A.P during 2004-09) to the people of Andhra Pradesh, subsequently riding to power on this plank with a massive mandate in the 2019 state elections. Jagan Mohan Reddy chief of YSRCP has come up with an elaborate model of governance comprised of 9 broad welfare schemes called the 'NAVARATNALU'. Navaratnaluu is a Concept coined by the Government to improve the delivery systems and improve the quality of the Governance in the state. It is designed to improve the living standards of the people. These nine large welfare programs plan to offer benefits worth a minimum of Rs.1lakh to 5lakh per year to various sections of A.P people like the poor, students, children, women, farmers, laborers, old, disabled, etc. covering various sectors like health, education, agriculture, irrigation, employment and so on. The concept of Navaratnaluu was introduced for building effective social infrastructure which was an imperative for registering consistent progress in strategic development goals. "Nava Ratnaluu (nine jewels) programme taken up by the chief minister was devised to prioritize welfare of all sections of people, particularly the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, BCs, EBCs and minorities to increase their per capita income through these initiatives.

1. YSR Rythu Bharosa

YSR Rythu bharosa, one of the important Navaratnaluu welfare schemes of A.P government provides financial assistance to farmer families including the tenant farmers across the state at Rs.12,500/- per farmer per year to support the cultivators in meeting the investment during the crop season with a view to enable them to timely sourcing of quality inputs and surviving higher crop productivity.

Benefits to the citizens

- Every farmer to be provided Rs 50000 financial assistance. Crop sowing farmers to get Rs 12500 per year.
- Farmers need not worry about crop insurance. Government to pay crop insurance premium on behalf of farmers.
- Interest free Crop loans to be provided to farmers.
- Free bore-wells to be provided to farmers.
- 9 hours Free electricity during day time for agriculture purpose.
- Aqua culture farmers to get electricity @ Rs 1.50 per unit.
- Rs 3000 crores corpus fund allotted to prices stabilization. Rates to be declared before crop sowing.
- Farmers to be assured Minimum support price.
- Rs 4000 crores allotted for Natural disaster Relief fund.
- Every constituency to be provided with cold storages, go-downs. Food processing units to be established where necessary.
- Cooperative sector will be revived during the first year. Every dairy farmer who participates in a cooperative dairy from the second year onwards gets Rs. 4 bonus per liter.
- Toll Tax and Road Tax to be waived off for Agriculture Tractors.
- Rs 7 Lakh YSR Bhima to be provided to the family of farmer for accidental death or suicide. Act will be passed in the assembly to ensure amount does not land into the hands of loaner and government will stand by the deceased farmer family.

In the previous financial year, the government has already deposited Rs. 4.40 lakh crore into 54 lakh farmer's accounts. Other than the financial assistance of Rs 3900 crore spent in the 1st installment, another Rs 2,000 crore is being provided by the government to the farmers. Till now under this scheme Rs, 16983.23 crores have been spent. In 2019-20, 46.69 lakh farmers were benefited and in the year 2020-21, 51.59 lakh farmers were benefited from the YSR Rythu Bharosa scheme. Y.S. Jagan has launched the 'YSR zero percent interest subsidy loan scheme on April 20,2021 where the government has credited Rs.128crore to the accounts of 6.2 lakh farmers who have taken crop loans of upto Rs.1lakh during 2019-20 season and repaid within a year. The scheme was launched to save farmers from debt.

2. Fee Reimbursement

Scholarships are of great importance to those students unable to pay their fee due to financial burden , so this scheme provides full fee reimbursement benefits to approximately 14 lakhs students of the state. Also, tuition fees, mess charges, hostel charges will be exempted from all of the students who excel in the studies as per the reports of their academics which will be provided by their hostels or by their college itself. Education expenditure will be borne for poor. Rs. 20,000 per student per annum to be provided in addition to fees reimbursement, boarding and lodging.

As mentioned above, many incentives are provided to all of the beneficiaries who enrolled themselves in the Jagananna Vidya Deevana Scheme as announced by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh state.

- The students will be given Rs 20,000/- per year.
- Students studying from Welfare hostels will be exempted from mess charges.
- Money incentives are as follows-
 - Rs 15,000 for Polytechnic students
 - Rupee 10,000 for ITI Students
 - Rs 20,000 for Graduate Degree and other courses.

This scheme ensures that no student remains inaccessible to education due to his/her financial status and one benefit that has captured all of the good will of Andhra Pradesh people is the free education being provided to all beneficiaries who pass the eligibility criteria of the scheme. Also, monetary incentives are being provided every year to all the beneficiaries.

The government of Andhra Pradesh has spent Rs.5573 crores since 2019 for the fee reimbursement. On 29 July 2021, the government of Andhra Pradesh released the second instalment of the Jagananna Vidya Deewana scheme. Under the second instalment the amount of Rs.693.81 crores have been directly transferred into the account of the mothers of 10.97 lakh students who are currently pursuing higher education. This scheme has been launched in order to promote education which will help future generations to eradicate poverty. By the implementation of this scheme, education will be easily accessed by all which will create employment opportunities.

The state government is continuously working towards improving literacy rate in the state and implementing schemes like Jagananna Amma vodi, Goru Mudha, Vidya Kanuka, Vasati Deewana so that no one sees education as a financial burden. Till now the government has spent Rs.26,677 crore on the education sector.

3. Arogyasri

AP government provides free treatment for specific illness to the eligible patients in any hospital in the state and the country. If the hospital bill is more than Rs.1000, the eligible arogyasri card holders can avail their free medical services. The objective of the scheme is to provide good quality medical treatment to BPL People for specific diseases from the renowned hospitals. All the BPL families identified by BPL ration card issued by Civil Supplies Department are eligible. All the people whose photo and name appear on Health Card / BPL (White, Annapurna and Anthyodaya Anna Yojana, RAP and TAP) ration card and suffering from identified diseases are eligible for availing treatment under the scheme.

Benefits of AP Arogyasri Scheme

- Health Coverage of Rs 2.5 Lakh will be provided
- It is a cashless treatment Scheme
- It will reduce death ratio from the state
- 1040 type of diseases will be covered
- It is a 100% government-funded scheme
- 24 hours call centre facility under the scheme (Toll-Free 104)

The Govt. of Andhra Pradesh had given top priority to public health. The annual family income to get the benefit of YSR Arogyasri was pegged at Rs. 5 lakh and the number of treatments covered under it was increased to 2450. As promised, the government had introduced YSR Bima under which poor families will get the insurance benefit if they lose the breadwinner. An insurance amount of Rs. 1 lakh will be paid if the beneficiary aged between 18 and 50 years dies of natural causes. A sum of Rs. 5 lakhs will be paid if the beneficiary in the age group of 18 to 70 years dies in an accident. The Govt. of Andhra Pradesh allocated Rs. 750 crores for 2021-2022 for implementation of the scheme covering 1.32 crore poor families in the state. In the last two years, it had spent Rs. 1307 crore on implementing YSR Bima.

Over one lakh Covid-19 patients have availed of free treatment in private hospitals under the YSR Arogyasri Scheme in the last one year. The State government has spent Rs 309 crore for extending the Arogyasri benefit to the Covid-19 patients. The medical bills paid by the government were more than the annual family income of the beneficiaries in some cases. As on today, a total of 1,00,033 Covid-19 patients have received free treatment in various private hospitals across the State under Arogyasri. Free treatment is being extended in all government hospitals and private hospitals taken over by the government, whether or not the Covid patient is eligible under Arogyasri. The numbers stated here are only pertaining to Arogyasri beneficiaries who chose to get treatment in private hospitals. If the number of Covid patients availing treatment in government hospitals is also taken into consideration, the total number will be more than double.

Impact on Health Scenario in the State

- Early Recognition of Diseases: As the scheme progressed the pre-existing load of diseases is coming down, particularly in relation to the high-end diseases in cardiology, neurosurgery, gynaecology and obstetrics etc.,
- Improvement in documentation and regulatory effect on Hospitals: The emplacement procedure, defined diagnostic and treatment protocols, capturing of admission notes, daily clinical notes, operation notes, discharge summary and uploading of diagnostic reports including films, WebEx recording of Angio and Laparoscopic procedures and other photographic evidences have resulted in profound improvement of medical documentation in the State and regulatory effect on the hospitals.
- Improvement in quality of services: Continued monitoring of the services both online and in the field by the elaborated field mechanism coupled with disciplinary action against erring hospitals is greatly contributing to the quality of treatment under the scheme.

- **Employment Generation:** The scheme generated indirect employment potential as the insurance company, network hospital and other stake holders have to employ number of people in different cadres such as Vaidyamithra, MEDCO, VMCCO, duty doctors, para medical technicians, staff nurses etc.,
- **Health Awareness:** Since implementation of the scheme Health camps held in rural areas not only screened people but also played key role in bringing health awareness among the population, the people are motivated to approach network hospitals as and when suspected of suffering from identified diseases.

4. YSR Jalayagnam

Jalayagnam or Jala Yagnam, (water worship), is a water management program in India. It has been implemented by Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, India, Dr. Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy as an election promise to the farmers of the state to bring 8.2 million acres (8.2 million acres) under irrigation in five years. The concept of Jalayagnam was aimed at providing a permanent solution to drought and floods. The Government always feels that if the farmer is happy then the State will flourish. This project has the capacity to redraw the contours of the State itself. Under this scheme, lakhs of families would be benefited by the irrigation projects. Completion of Polavaram project on a war footing is promised.

With the inspiration of his father Y.S.R., Jagan Mohan Reddy promised to the people of Andhra Pradesh, he wants to re-introduce the Jalayagnam Scheme in Andhra Pradesh. Under Navaratnalu, "Jala Kala - Free Borewells" is aimed at utilizing the available groundwater Resources for the improvement of livelihoods of the farmers and thereby improve the GSDP under primary sector.

The scheme is providing free of cost borewells for all of the ranches of the Andhra Pradesh state. A lot of farmers highly depend upon the natural water resources for their irrigation of the field but because there are high draught statistics it is not possible for the farmers to use the natural groundwater resources for their irrigation. Borewells will provide to all of the farmers free of cost so that they can continue their practices and their income is also increase because of the large crop.

On 28 September 2020 the Government of Andhra Pradesh had launched the YSR Jala Kala Scheme for farmers. Under this scheme, the government has promised to drill 2 lakh bore wells free of cost for farmers so that they will get irrigation facilities.

From 10th November 2020, the work for drilling the borewell had started by the government. Around three lakh ranchers is profited by YSR Jala Kala, which is assessed to cost Rs 2,340 crore in four years. The administration intends to penetrate around two lakh bore wells to empower groundwater water systems to the upland ranchers and those in parched territories relying upon the accessibility and the degree of the water

table. A rancher or gathering of ranchers with a landholding of 2.5 to 5 sections of land can apply for the plan. The ranchers also get instant messages in their enrolled cell phone numbers on the status of their applications at each stage. Around 3 lakh farmers are getting benefit from the scheme. Irrigation water in the scheme will provide 5 lakh acres of land and 2 lakh bore wells will dig up free of cost.

5. *Ban on Alcohol*

The YSRCP promises to put in place a ban on sale of alcohol across the State because Liquor is one of the main reasons for dispute in families due to which human relations are collapsing. Sale of alcohol will be banned in 3 stages and availability of alcohol use to be limited to 5-star hotels only. The plan is to ban its sales totally, but in a phased manner. If all goes to plan, the state should be liquor-free by 2024, well in time for the next legislative assembly election. Andhra Pradesh will join only four other Indian states-Gujarat, Mizoram, Bihar and Nagaland- in banning the bottle.

Phases of Ban

- Jagan Reddy's plan is to introduce prohibition in a phased manner. In the first step, the Andhra Pradesh government has taken over retail sales, reduced the number of liquor vendors from 4,380 to 3,500 across the state and made the state-owned AP State Beverages Corporation the sole supplier from October.
- To gradually cut availability and consumption, liquor shops will stay open from 10 am to 9 pm only, which will be reduced progressively to just a few hours a day. Official estimates of consumption suggest that liquor sales in the state is already down 18 per cent since Reddy came to power in May end.
- A new bar licensing policy is to come into force from when their number will come down from the current 798--excluding those in star hotels and the micro- breweries. The bars will be allowed to stay open from 11 am and 7 pm. Apart from reducing business hours, the license fee will also see a big hike.

The sale of liquor from April to December 2019 was 239.56 lakh cases as compared to 126.55 lakh cases in 2020. This meant a drop of 47.17 per cent. Sale of beer for the same period in 2019 was 186.36 lakh cases and it was 126.55 lakh cases in 2020, showing an 80.91 per cent dip. The number of liquor shops was reduced by 33 per cent from 4,380 to 2,934 shops and 43,000 belt shops were closed. This action yielded good results. The consumption rate has reduced now compared to previous years.

6. Amma Vodi

Government of A.P has announced “Amma Vodi” for providing financial assistance to each mother who is below poverty line household , irrespective of any differences to enable her to educate her children from class I to XII in all recognized schools/junior colleges. Under this scheme financial assistance of Rs. 15,000/- given to mothers for children education annually. With a view to encourage the families with school-going children and to reduce the dropout ratio in schools, the government promises to provide Rs 15,000 towards assistance to all the mothers who send their children to school. Student enrolment has increased by 30% in the 2019-2020 academic year after the announcement of the scheme.

The initial rule of 75% mandatory attendance has been waived to encourage mothers to send their children to school. Orphans and street children studying in schools through voluntary organisations have been covered under the scheme and the money will be given to the organisations. The promised aid of ₹15000 is directly deposited in the beneficiaries’ savings bank accounts in January every year until the child completes class 12.

Last year around 42 lakh beneficiaries have got the benefit of Amma Vodi scheme and this year the number has increased to 44.48 lakh. In the fiscal budget, the state government has allocated Rs 22,604 crore to the education sector out of Rs 2,24,789.18 crore. In the year 2020 budget, the government has sanctioned Rs 17,971 crore to the education sector has been increased in the budget for 2021. Out of this amount Rs. 6,107 crores have sanctioned for the Amma Vodi scheme. The second phase under the Amma Vodi scheme has launched on 11 January 2021 by the chief Minister YSR Jagan Mohan Reddy from Nellore. Under the second phase of Amma Vodi Scheme around 44 lakhs, women received Rs 6400 crore on this scheme.

The Amma Vodi Free Laptop Yojana 2021 is also called the Jagananna Amma Vodi Laptop Scheme 2021 which was launched by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, as a part of ‘Navaratnalu’. AP Free Laptop Yojana 2021 is launched to provide financial assistance to each mother/ guardian of the below poverty line families, regardless of the creed, caste, region, and religion to enable her to educate the children from Class 1 to 12. All government, private aided schools, and private unaided schools, junior colleges including the residential schools in Andhra Pradesh are part of the Amma Vodi Free Laptop Scheme 2021. The distribution of laptops for classes IX to XII in lieu of Direct Benefit Transfer under the scheme. Next academic session onwards, the mothers of these children could opt for laptops in place of DBT from 1st February 2021.

7. YSR Asara

YSR Asara main objective is at empowering women and improving their financial stability. Under this scheme, the government will provide financial help to DWCRA women. YSR Asara scheme will increase the women empowerment rate by providing loans to women cooperative societies at zero interest rate. Aiming at strengthening the poor, backward class and downtrodden women thereby making them economically and socially capable. The government aims to provide financial assistance of ₹ 18,750 per year for the consecutive 4 years through the scheme.

AP YSR Cheyutha Scheme being execute under Women government assistance leading body of Andhra Pradesh. Any denied network ladies belonging to these communities of SC, ST, OBC, or Minority and whose age is between 45 to 60 years may profit from the advantages of the AP YSR Cheyutha Scheme. This will be a great initiative for all of the women belonging to the minority community

Features Of YSR Asara Scheme

- By the implementation of this scheme financial help will be provided to needy women who are living in Andhra Pradesh.
- The Government of Andhra Pradesh is going to give SHG loan to women who belong to the minority community.
- The Government of Andhra Pradesh have decided to spend 25,383 crore for this scheme in the next four years.
- Around 900000 beneficiaries will get benefit from this scheme
- YSR Cheyutha to be provided to BC, SC, ST, Minority women.
- Rs. 75000 to be granted after first year to women above 45 years age of BC, SC, ST and minorities through various corporations as YSR Cheyutha.

The budget of this scheme is 17000 crore and this year the government had earmarked Rs 4,687 crore. The amount would be directly transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiary of the scheme. Through the YSR Cheyutha scheme, 23.14 lakh women belonging to 45 to 60 years of age will get the benefit for 4 years. Under the first phase of the YSR Cheyutha Scheme, the government has provided financial assistance of Rs 18,750 to 21,00,189 beneficiaries which amount to 3,937.90 crore. Till now through the first and second instalment of this scheme, the government has spent Rs 8943 crore. Andhra Pradesh Government has also provided buffaloes, cows and goats to 1,90,517 people. On 22nd June 2021, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, YSR Jagan Mohan Reddy, has deposited ₹ 4339.39 crores into 23,14,342 beneficiaries' bank account.

8. *Paydalandariki Illu (Housing for all poor people)*

Pedhalandariki Illu (Housing for all poor people) scheme aims to provide the houses to the poor people. Under this scheme, the AP Government of the state has vowed to provide financial help to the weaker section for the construction of the house. In five years, the Government has agreed to build 25 Lakh houses. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy has also highlighted the fact that for building these housing colonies 30 categories of craftsmen like carpenters, masons, painters, plumbers, etc will get employment.

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's padayatra promise of providing pucca houses to the poor. The Chief Minister has started the construction of Pedalandariki Illu at Komaragiri layout of U Kothapalli mandal in East Godavari district on 25th December, 2020. On this programme state government takes initiative to commencement of construction of 15.60 lakh houses in the first phase. In addition to these, the government also distributes sale agreements for 2.60 lakh TIDCO houses.

For the first time in the country, a house site patta is being given for just one rupee and government takes initiative to registered in the name of a woman member of the household. The beneficiaries is given 1.5 cents in rural areas or one cent in urban areas.

So far 30,75,755 beneficiaries have been identified for the scheme, of which 23,37,067 will be given houses in over 17,000 developed 'YSR Jagananna Colonies'. About 4,86,820 people who are already living in unauthorized sites, being legalized and the remaining 2,51,868 will be allocated TIDCO houses.

The state government had acquired 68,361 acres of land worth `23,535 crore. Of these 25,120.33 acres belongs to the government, which is valued at about `8,000 crore and 25,359.31 acres were purchased at a cost of Rs 10,150 crore. Also, 4,457.05 acres was acquired under land pooling scheme in Visakhapatnam, 1,074.18 acres owned by AMRDA in Amaravati, 2,550.96 acres was acquired for TIDCO housing, and another 9,800 acres for those living in occupied lands have also been acquired.

15.60 lakh houses to be constructed in first phase

The government has proposed to construct 28.30 lakh houses at an estimated cost of 50,944 crore. Out of these, 15.60 lakh houses will be taken up in the first phase at a cost of 28,084 crore and the remaining 12.70 lakh houses will be taken up in the second phase at a cost of `22,860 crore. The first phase works will commence on Friday, where 15.60 lakh houses will be constructed in 8,929 layouts in 175 constituencies, while in the second phase, 12.70 lakh houses will be constructed in 7,141 layouts in all constituencies.

The government has decided to have the quality of houses inspected by experts from IITs and NIT. Each house will consist of one bedroom, living room, kitchen, toilet and veranda, with a total plinth area of 340 sq.ft. and will be provided with basic facilities like lights, fans, overhead tank and water connection. AP

Tidco has already undertaken the construction of 2,62,216 houses across the state. The houses are being constructed on three floors with an area of 300, 365, 430 sq. ft.

In an innovative act, the State government is only charging one rupee for a 300 sq ft house. The sale agreement would be issued on the occasion. Similarly, the beneficiary of a 365 sq ft house has to pay Rs 50,000 as his share and the beneficiary of a 430 sq ft house has to pay Rs one lakh but the government has also announced a 50 percent subsidy for them. To that extent, the beneficiary of a 365 sq ft house will have to pay only Rs 25,000 and the beneficiary of a 430 sq ft house will have to pay only Rs 50,000.

The subsidy will be borne by the government. For TIDCO houses, 1,43,600 beneficiaries have been identified for 300 sq ft houses, 44,304 for 365 sq ft houses and 74,312 beneficiaries for 430 sq ft houses. They will also be given sale agreements from Friday.

9. Pensionla Pempu (Enhancement of Pensions)

The Government of Andhra Pradesh is committed to the Welfare and Development of all segments of the society. As part of the Navarathnalu, enhancement of pension amount and reduction in the age criteria for old age pension is a major welfare measure to ameliorate the hardships of the poor and vulnerable sections of the society particularly the old and infirm, widows, and persons with disability to secure a dignified life.

Door delivery of pensions under the YSR Pension Kanuka scheme one of the major initiatives of the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. The idea of delivering pensions at the doorstep of beneficiaries through the village and ward volunteers was mooted by Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. This is another step in the implementation of the Navaratnalu, which were part of the YSRC election manifesto.

Instead of the beneficiaries going to the pension disbursement offices, the volunteers visit the beneficiaries and complete the formalities. The pension has been increased to Rs 2,250 from Rs 1,000 and the volunteers have been equipped with smartphones with biometric information of the beneficiaries to deliver the pension at their doorstep without any hassle. While the government has earmarked Rs 15,675.20 crore for the year towards the programme,

The existing eligibility criteria for sanction of pensions under the scheme is

- A monthly pension of Rs.2250/- is provided to Toddy Tappers, weavers, Single women, Fishermen, ART (PLHIV) Persons. Traditional Cobblers
- Disabled persons, Transgender and Dappu Artists receive a monthly pension of Rs.3,000/-
- People affected with chronic kidney disease who are undergoing Dialysis in both Government and network hospitals receive Rs.10,000/- per month.
- The enhanced scale of pension came into effect from June, 2019 payable from 1st July, 2019 onwards.

Rs.17,000 crore has been allocated to YSR pension kanuka scheme in the recent fiscal budget. At present, around 3.2 lakh senior citizens are availing the benefits of social security pension scheme. Around 44,000 new beneficiaries aged above 60 years are expected to be added to YSR pension kanuka scheme. As per suggestions from CM Jagan, the district administrations are gearing up to identify new beneficiaries by conducting gram sabhas in mandals. The panchayat raj and rural development officers have been instructed to receive applications from beneficiaries belonging to several categories including widows, fishermen, widows' toddy tappers, single women, traditional cobblers and others seeking benefit of 2,250 monthly pension

Conclusion:

The Navaratnalu (nine jewels) welfare schemes and a slew of other populist schemes that began during the first year of the YSRCP coming to power have picked up pace during the second year of Y.S. Jagan's rule, the corona-virus (Covid-19) pandemic notwithstanding, consolidating his vote bank and fetching him tremendous mileage in the local body elections. Apart from direct benefit transfer (DBT) schemes like Amma Vodi (cash incentive to women who send their children to schools), enhanced pensions, fee reimbursement scheme, YSR Zero Interest Scheme, etc. that were introduced in the first year, Reddy came up with a calendar of various other welfare schemes for farmers, weavers, lawyers, autorickshaw drivers, hawkers, fishermen etc., covering every section of the population, to increase the YSRCP's vote bank.

The distribution of 2,500,000 housing sites for economically weaker sections of the population on December 25, 2020, brought Y.S. Jagan massive goodwill. It was a sort of social engineering by Y.S. Jagan's, who ensured that not a single section of people is left out in the implementation of welfare schemes. He even covered upper castes like Brahmins, Kapus and Reddys, besides minorities. The establishment of village and ward secretariats to bring the administration to the villages and towns firmly entrenched the YSRCP at the grassroots level. Over 300,000 village and ward volunteers, who were appointed to deliver the benefits of various government schemes, be it pensions or ration, directly to the beneficiaries at their doorsteps, proved a masterstroke for him. The two-year rule of Y.S. Jagan's government, fulfil over 90% promises he had made in the party manifesto.

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