



REPUBLIC DAY ADDRESS



BY

HONOURABLE

SRI THAAWARCHAND GEHLOT

GOVERNOR OF KARNATAKA

26TH JANUARY 2023

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I extend my greetings to the people of Karnataka on the occasion of the 74th Republic Day.

This is an occasion to reaffirm our commitment to strive hard for the development of our country. It is also an opportune time, especially in the context of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava, an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements.

Karnataka, being one of the progressive States in the Country, is implementing many schemes and programmes on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The State had announced 14 Amrit Mahotsav programs including Amrit Schools scheme, Amrit Health Infrastructure upgradation scheme, Amrit Skill Development Training scheme, Amrit Self Help Groups scheme, Amrit Start-ups scheme, Amrit Kreedha Dattu scheme etc., have been implemented successfully at various stages in the State.

As per the latest SDG India Index report 2020-21, Karnataka State stands in the 4th position.

The 11th Agricultural Census work has been commenced from 01.10.2022 to

identify small, marginal, medium and large land holders in the State.

Under MGNREGS, 52.71 lakh people from 29.03 families have been provided employment in all the months during 2022 by creating 13.47 crores person days at a total cost of 6478.76 crores. An amount of Rs.4110 crores of wages were paid directly into the accounts of the labourers. Till the end of December 2022, 13.35 lakh Functional Household Tap Connections have been provided at the cost of Rs.2314.34 crores.

Once again Karnataka State has won 1st prize in "**Swachhata Hi Seva 2022**" and under "**Sujalam 2.0**" organized by Jal Shakti Mantralaya, Government of India and has won 2nd rank in the declaration of aspiring

villages in the country under **Swacch Bharath** in the country.

During the year 2022-23, under Agricultural Crop Loan disbursement up to 31-12-2022, Rs.15,066 crores have been lent to 20.19 lakhs farmers. Loans up to Rs.5 lakhs have been disbursed to **women self-help groups** at 0% interest rate. A total of 32.32 lakh members have been registered till 17-01-2023 under **Yeshasvini Cooperative Members' Health Care Trust Scheme**.

Karnataka State is awarded with the "**Best Horticulture State**" by 'Agriculture Today magazine' during **13th Agriculture Leadership Conclave and Awards 2022** for promoting horticultural development and production. The department has

covered 4663 hectares under modern farming, 26.21 lakh hectares of horticultural area is brought under irrigation, of which 953 hectares is covered by green houses/poly houses. The farming community has been catered with 60 lakh quality seedlings and grafts, 400 tonnes of Bio fertilizers and 23,000 litres of Arka Microbial Consortium.

The Government has constructed 1,57,244 houses under various housing schemes, at a cost of Rs.2098.85 crores. Under **One lakh multi-storied project**, a total of 59,476 multi-storied houses are being constructed. Under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Housing for all 44,452 houses have been completed at an expenditure of Rs. 2804.01 crore. In a historical decision by the Government, an order is passed to give land

ownership 'Hakku Patra' to 3.36 lakh families living in Government-owned slums. So far 1,14,604 families have been given Hakku Patras.

In order to assist the children from weaker sections of the society, the government had launched **Raita Vidya Nidhi scheme** last year. So far total Rs.483.62 crore scholarship has been disbursed to farmers' children. The scheme has been extended to various categories like fishermen, weavers, farm labourers, taxi drivers etc., covering large number of beneficiaries.

Grants have been released for construction of total 978 Anganwadi buildings and 8101 classrooms in the government schools and colleges. In order

to increase the coverage of children in the state, the government has sanctioned 4244 new Anganwadi centers. Keeping in mind Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Minorities, 24 hostels for working women have been started in 6 cities.

Under **National Health Mission** launched by my Government Maternal Mortality Rate in the State has reduced from 83 to 69. 438 '**Namma Clinics**', 128 **Women wellness clinic** and **polyclinics** are in the process of being setup in urban areas. 100 high load primary health centres are being upgraded to 30-bed model community health centres at a total cost of Rs.1000.00 crores in 2 years. 1.22 crore beneficiaries have been registered for Ayushman Bharat Pradhana Mantri Janarogya - Arogya

Karnataka cards which will provide Rs.5.00 lakh medical coverage for BPL families.

The Government is implementing various Social Security schemes by providing financial assistance to deprived citizens, under which 75.76 lakh beneficiaries are availing pension. Under **"Mane Bagilige Maasashana"** campaign, 65351 beneficiaries have been given pension on entitlement basis.

I am happy to state that, Karnataka retains its position as the most innovative state and has been ranked no.1 in the India Innovation Index by Niti Aayog. Karnataka State has been declared as the Best Performing State under the Start-up Ranking of the States by Government of India.

The revised Karnataka Start-up Policy 2022-27 and the State's first Karnataka R&D

Policy 2022 and Karnataka Data Center Policy 2022 have been announced.

Karnataka has emerged as the "top achiever" in the ranking list of "Ease of Doing Business" released by the Department of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) of the Central Government. In terms of merchandise exports, the state contributed USD 25.87 billion in financial year 2022 to India's exports, its highest ever tally. It is a significant milestone as the state is among the top four exporting states.

Invest Karnataka 2022, the flagship global event of Government of Karnataka was held from 2nd to 4th November, 2022. Total investment of Rs.9,81,784 crores has been attracted.

The State Government has announced the Karnataka Aerospace & Defence Policy 2022-27. With the increased focus on EV manufacturing in the state, Government amended the Karnataka Electric Vehicle & Energy Storage Policy, 2017 and updated the incentives in line with investor expectations and to accelerate the adoption of EV uptake in Karnataka.

All India Kannada Literary Conference was successfully conducted at Haveri from 6th to 8th of January 2023. 67 achievers of the state have been honoured with **“Rajyotsava Award-2022”** and 10 organizations who have done outstanding social work have been honoured with **“Amrita Mahotsava State Award-2022”**. In the year 2022, the

Karnataka State's highest civilian award "**Karnataka Ratna**" was awarded posthumously to Dr. Puneeth Rajkumar.

Under **Stree Samarthya Scheme**, 50,000 women SHGs are being given seed money of Rs.1.5 lakh each aiming to support more than 5 lakh women. With the objective of preventing child marriage, the "Spoorthi" project successfully implemented in the Koppal district is being extended to 11 taluks of Bagalkote, Vijayapur, Raichur, Belagavi and Kalaburagi districts at a cost of Rs. 12.51 crores.

The Government is committed to develop good roadnetwork in the State to ensure safe and easy movement of the vehicles by taking up improvements of State Highways and

Major District roads through Public Works Department through different schemes and programs. Government is constructing roads and bridges costing Rs.5140.00 crore. Construction of 1411 foot bridges has been taken up under "Gramabhandhu Sethu" scheme to provide connectivity to the people of remote coastal and malnad areas. Construction of 135 bridges has been completed with an expenditure of Rs.90.00 crore. Road safety works to the tune of Rs.165 crore has been taken up under "Road Safety program".

26th National Youth festival was successfully organized in Hubballi-Dharwad from 12-01-2023 to 16-01-2023. Hon'ble Prime Minister of India inaugurated the event. Over 7500 youth delegates participated from

28 states and 8 UTs. Youth Policy has been launched with the aim of **'Youth development and Youth for development'**. Swamy Vivekananda Yuvashakti Sangha program has been launched to support micro-enterprises in rural areas. Around 5 lakh youth are expected to be benefitted.

Additional grants of Rs.857.75 crore have been allocated to 19 various corporations under the Departments of Backward Class Welfare, Social Welfare, Scheduled Tribe Welfare and Minorities Welfare. This will help more youth in their education and employment.

Free electricity facilities up to 75 units per month with effect from Date: 01-05-2022 are being provided to household electricity users of Scheduled Caste and

Scheduled Tribe category families having BPL card under **Amrita Jyoti Yojana**. Electricity charges for irrigation electric pumpset plants up to 10 HP of small and medium coffee growers are being reimbursed to the beneficiaries under the DBT system.

The State Government under Minimum Support Price Scheme during the year 2021-22, purchased 2.1 lakh MTs of paddy, 4.4 lakh Mts of Ragi and 1 lakh Mt of Jowar from the famers, were distributed to the beneficiaries of PHH and AAY ration card holders. In a continuous drive conducted during 2022-23, to find out the PHH/AAY card possessed by ineligible families, the State Government cancelled 2.76 lakh un-authorised cards and issued 4.31 lakhs new authorised PHH ration cards.

Minor Irrigation department is implementing several works aimed towards improving the water availability in the state. Major works include filling 97 Tanks in Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Tumkur and Chikkaballapur districts using the secondary treated water of Rishbhavathi valley. Five barrages are being implemented by lifting water from Ghataprabha river.

Karnataka is the First state in the country to implement National Education Policy. We are in the process of establishing seven new affiliating universities in the state including Chamaraj Nagar, Kodagu, Bidar, Haveri, Koppala, Bagalkote and Hassan. Steps have been taken to upgrade seven engineering colleges as Karnataka Institute of Technology based on the IIT model.

A Government order has been issued in respect of reservation in appointments and promotion in State services for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and been ordered to increase reservation from 15 to 17 percent and from 3 to 7 percent respectively.

Steps are being taken to reserve 25% for SC/ST women in the self-employment and other programs of all development corporations coming under the Social Welfare Department. During the current year admission is given to 1.89 lakh students in Pre-metric and post metric student hostels coming under Social Welfare department.

To create a good atmosphere for the students of all the communities, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Souhardha Hostels

with a capacity of 1,000 students each are being constructed in all five academic centers of the State. Action has been taken to construct 100 Ambedkar Hostels for Scheduled Caste students and 50 Kanakadasa Hostels for the Backward Classes.

The unit cost for the **"Bhu Odetana Scheme"** to provide land to poor SC/ST families has been increased from Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs per Acre.

Under the self-employment scheme for SC/ST, the assistance amount has been increased to Rs. one lakh.

The subsidy given under various housing schemes for the SC/ST has been increased to Rs. 2 lakh.

Meeting the long pending demand of pourakarmikas, services of more than 11,133 pourakarmikas on direct payment in the urban local bodies are being brought into municipal services.

Grama One Project is envisaged to be a single point assistance center for all citizen centric activities at village level centers have been set up in 31 districts. Seva Sindhu Project provides 850 Government services of 80 departments. Seva Sindhu has been rewarded with the prestigious PRIME MINISTER'S AWARD for Excellence in Public Administration, e-Saala project of FRUITs (Farmers Registration and Unified Beneficiary Information system) is simplifying the process of agriculture lending, has been

recognized and is recommended for implementation in other states. Kutumba project has been recognized with silver award in the National Conference on e-Governance held in 2022.

In the next 25 years of golden period of Amrithkal, it is our duty to construct a respectable and developed India, which will make our nation as crown of the whole world.

I have faith that, all of you will not only take active role in the public life, but also encourage everyone to tender their contribution towards the progress of our nation.

Come, let's unite and make the Karnataka State healthy and prosperous and let's make

the resolution of strengthening the sovereignty, unity and prosperity of our nation and move forward.

Jai Hind! Jai Karnataka!