



सत्यमेव जयते

REPUBLIC DAY ADDRESS

BY

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HONOURABLE GOVERNOR OF KARNATAKA

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My beloved people of Karnataka, on this auspicious occasion of 70th Republic Day, I extend my Warm Greetings to all of you who have gathered here today. This is a day for all of us to celebrate and honour our Nation and our Sovereignty. This is a day to remember with gratitude the enormous efforts and sacrifice of millions of freedom fighters whose blood and sweat gave us Independence and created our Republic.

Exactly four years ago when I delivered my First Republic day address from the very same dais, I expressed hope that Karnataka would overcome many impediments and challenges and be on the path of progress. On this occasion, I seek to briefly highlight the vision & some of the achievements of the State Government.

The State was confronted with floods and landslides in Kodagu and parts of Malnadu and coastal districts due to high intensity rainfall during August 2018, which caused human and animal loss; severe damage to agriculture, horticulture, coffee and other plantation crops; public and private infrastructure.

The Central as well as State agencies responded to the enormous calamity in Kodagu district promptly, and took up rescue and rehabilitation measures on a war footing. The State has provided timely ex-gratia relief of Rs.7 lakh per family of deceased person and enhanced relief of Rs. 50,000 per family apart from Rs. 3,800 as per norms to the distressed families in Kodagu and elsewhere. 840 houses have been taken up for construction at a cost of Rs.9.85 lakh per house for the affected families in Kodagu. Critical infrastructure such as roads and bridges are being restored on an emergent basis.

A large part of State is facing severe drought at present. 100 talukas during Kharif, 2018 and 156 talukas during Rabi 2018 have been declared as drought affected. Highest priority is being accorded to drought relief, including provision of employment, drinking water supply, improving fodder availability and other mitigation measures.

During 2018-19, 6.05 crore mandays have been generated in the State under Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and an amount of Rs.2,607 crore has been spent. To encourage self employment and increase income of self help groups, a new scheme called "Kayaka" is being implemented to enhance skill development and entrepreneurship quality.

Loan facilities are provided at 0% rate of interest upto Rs. 5.00 lakh and at 4% upto Rs.10.00 lakh. "Badavara Bandu" scheme has

been launched through DCC banks and urban co-operative banks to provide loan facilities to street vendors and small vendors.

After successfully implementing the crop loan waiver scheme announced in July 2017 for loans up to Rs.50,000 in co-operative sector banks, during 2018-19, Government has also started implementation of a new crop loan waiver scheme for outstanding crop loans up to Rs.1,00,000 per family for farmers in co-operative banks and overdue crop loans up to Rs.2,00,000 per family for farmers in commercial banks. As on 11-01-2019, Rs.876 crore has been released towards waiver of 1.1 lakh co-operative bank loans and 58,000 commercial bank loans.

In order to provide pure drinking water to rural areas an amount of Rs.1,143 crore has been spent covering 5,778 habitations during 2018-19. Up to December 2018, 309 piped water supply

schemes have been completed and 15,767 water purification plants have been installed and sufficient quantity of pure drinking water is being provided.

Under Swachh Bharath Mission (Rural), at present 70.26 lakh families have toilets in the State. As on 19th November 2018, rural Karnataka has been declared as "Open Defecation Free". So far, 172 cities have been certified as ODF cities. The State is aiming to declare all the 279 cities of Karnataka as open defecation free by March, 2019.

It is targeted to provide assistance for construction of 20 lakh houses during the next five years. Under the "Chief Minister's one lakh housing scheme", 1014 acres of land has been identified to construct G+14 floor apartment blocks, with a cost of Rs. 8 lakh per dwelling unit.

“Annabhagya” scheme is being successfully implemented to make Karnataka “a hunger free state”.

The Karnataka State stood first in the country in attracting investments. Under the Industrial Policy 2014-19, approval has been accorded to 1,958 projects with an investment of 3.49 lakh crore, to create employment opportunities to 10.28 lakh people. To increase the production capacity relating to industries the Government is implementing “Compete with China” Scheme. It is developing industrial clusters in nine districts. Action is being taken to create one lakh jobs in each cluster.

Under the Chief Minister Kaushalya Karnataka Yojana (CMKKY) training is being provided to youth through skill development programmes. A mobile app “**Koushalkar**” has been launched to enable unemployed youths,

training providers and training centres to get registered. So far 8,94,001 candidates, 3,922 training centres and 2,344 training providers have registered.

The goal of the State is to get all children of school-going age to the class room, and provide them with quality education. 10,181 from among 14,192 out of school children have been brought to the mainstream in the current year. To provide quality education under one roof, approval has been accorded to start 176 Karnataka Public Schools from standard 1 to 12 by integrating nearby primary, high school and pre-university colleges during 2018-19. Under the Vishvasa Kirana programme, 25 days special remedial classes are being organized in English, Mathematics and Science subjects for students of class ninth and tenth in 549 centres across the State.

For the first time in the Country, a Universal Health Coverage scheme called "Arogya Karnataka" was implemented in the State to provide free three level treatments to all classes of people in all Government and Registered private hospitals. Government of India scheme of "Ayushman Bharath" has been integrated with this scheme and one common co-branded scheme called "Ayushman Bharat - Arogya Karnataka" is being implemented now. Over 73,000 people have benefited so far during the current year. Under this scheme, 100% financial assistance for earmarked treatments has been enhanced to Rs.5.00 lakh for Below Poverty Line families. Above Poverty line families will be entitled to 30% of Government package rates with overall annual limit of Rs.1.5 lakh per annum, per family, on co-payment basis. In order to make tertiary care services accessible to more citizens, Government has taken up construction of super-specialty

hospitals in Belagavi, Mysuru, Kalaburgi and Hassana.

The Government has taken up the ambitious "**Hasiru Karnataka**" programme as a people's movement to increase green cover in the State by taking up planting of trees along the road ways, open places, on the banks of tanks, embankments of the agriculture lands, private and public office premises, colonies in both urban and rural areas. Around 4.65 crore saplings have been already planted in this year. "**A tree to each house, a grove to each village, a small forest to each taluka, a forest to each district**" is the State's motto.

Provision of electricity connection to all households in Karnataka has been completed by 31st December, 2018. 465 MW of capacity is added in 2018-19 from renewable and captive sources of generation.

Mathrushree Yojana for providing cash transfers to pregnant and lactating mothers has been implemented in pilot districts.

Construction of hundred backward classes' hostel buildings is being taken up at a total cost of Rs.280 crore. Rs. 29,000 crore is being spent on various programmes for the socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Under Pragathi Colony Yojana the basic facilities like concrete road, drinking water, electricity, drainage /Under Ground Drainage connected road etc., are provided to the colonies where the SC/ST families are residing in more number. From various development Corporations coming under the Social Welfare Department, loan and subsidy amounts are provided to SC/ST unemployed Youth for self employment through various schemes like 'Samruddi', 'Unnathi', 'Airavatha', 'Prerana' and 'Spoorthy'.

In order to ensure safety of women, Nirbhaya centres are being established in all police commissionerates and 5 women police stations are being upgraded as 'one stop service centres'.

Brothers and Sisters, the Government and the State can forge ahead only with the active cooperation and participation of every citizen of the State. On this joyful and momentous occasion, let us pledge to rededicate ourselves to work hard, selflessly and with utmost sincerity, with true spirit of work ethics and work culture to make Karnataka an ideal and prosperous State of our Country. Let us on this auspicious day, resolve to preserve and strengthen the Unity and Integrity of this great Country.

Once again I convey my best wishes to all of you and to our brothers and sisters in different parts of the State & Country on this auspicious day.

JAI HIND, JAI KARNATAKA

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