



**ADDRESS OF
THE GOVERNOR OF KARNATAKA
TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE**

03-07-2023

Monday

**Honourable Chairman, Karnataka Legislative Council,
Honourable Speaker, Karnataka Legislative Assembly,
Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka,
Honourable Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka,
Honourable Leader of the Opposition in Council,
Honourable Leader of the Opposition in Assembly,
Honourable Ministers and
Honourable Members of the Karnataka Legislature,**

1. I extend my warm welcome to all of you, who have arrived with new hopes and new dreams, to this Joint Session of Karnataka Legislature.
2. People have new expectations from a new government. They expect an administration that reflects the change they sought and one that mirrors their aspirations. People have elected this government with a majority unseen in the last thirty-four years. Through their decisive verdict people have made it clear that they expect great things to happen. In order to live up-to their expectations my Government has adopted Basavanna's guiding words of '*do as you speak*' as an anthem.

3. Karnataka is known for many unique and exemplary models of innovative pro-people governance in the past. The same is the command of the mandate that brought this government to power. My government as inheritor of that great legacy aspires to carry forward the innovative and pro-people governance.
4. In the next five years, my Government will place emphasis on people-centric economy. It is the aim of our government to make Karnataka emerge as a socially inclusive and culturally vibrant economic powerhouse.
5. From the beginning this land has stood for the people and against caste & religion based differences. In 'Kaviraja Marga', the first available script of Karnataka, the poet Shri Vijaya has said "*respecting the thoughts, religions and living principles of others is the real golden ornament*". In the same spirit, Kannada adikavi Pampa has said through his famous words that the "*whole human race is one*". We should remember our culture and heritage as defined by the words of our Rashtra kavi Kuvempu, who called this a land of "*Garden of Peace for all the sects*". The people of Karnataka expect the same from the administration of this Government.
6. We will strive for peace and harmony among everyone as enshrined in our Constitution. In the next five years we will make sincere efforts to build an equal society as

dreamed by Buddha, Basava, Narayanaguru, Babasaheb Ambedkar & Kuvempu.

7. Narrow-minds create divisions and differences between men and women and between different communities in the society. The remnants of such mindset still survive at various levels in the society. The Constitution was framed against the same under the leadership of Babasaheb Ambedkar. My government is committed to leading the people of all sections of the society towards development and peace by following the path shown by the Constitution. This Government will take all the steps to build peaceful and loving society.
8. Today the fiscal, administrative and legislative independence of the States needs to be strengthened. This State which once stood tall and contributed immensely to the country, has landed into a state of distress. Bringing out Karnataka from this economic distress shall be the priority of my Government. My Government will showcase new Karnataka governance as a model to the country by balancing both the welfare and the state's economy.
9. The Kannada poet "Sarvagna" has said that "*feeding the needy, telling the truth, treating others as yourself*" is equivalent to *Kailasa* - the eternal heavenly abode. This is what my government seeks to achieve through five

guarantees whose implementation has already started with sincerity and the right earnest.

10. Presently, under Food Security Act each poor household gets 5 KG rice per person per month. In addition to the same, my Government has immediately started to provide an additional 5 KG free rice to each poor household per person per month under Annabhagya Scheme of the State Government. This takes monthly allotment of free rice to each member of every poor household in the State to 10 KG immediately. This is a major step towards hunger free Karnataka by my Government. Under Annabhagya Scheme, the additional 5 KG rice allotment of my Government will be given in the form of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of money @ Rs 34 per KG per person directly into the bank accounts of the poor families each month. This arrangement will continue until the quantum of rice for the additional 5 KG rice to all the poor households is tied up. My Government is ready to make any sacrifice in order to implement this scheme.
11. A Government that fails to feed the hungry is called an anti-people Government. Indira Canteens were established to satisfy the hunger of the poor, workers, migrant labourers, homeless. These canteens have satiated the hunger pangs of millions of people. We will run them even more effectively. My Government will

make the State hunger free through Annabhagya Yojane and Indira Canteens.

12. Under the Yuvanidhi Scheme, Rs.3,000/- per month is given to graduates/post-graduates and Rs. 1,500/- per month to the diploma holders, who passed out in the year 2022-23 but are unemployed even after six months of the passing out; for a period of 24 months or until they get employment or are self-employed productively – whichever is earlier. This provides much-needed support and dignity to young people and their families.
13. Up to 200 units of free electricity under Gruhajyothi Yojana will benefit about 2.14 crore household consumers. It is a matter of satisfaction to my Government that about 98% of consumer households are being covered by this scheme.
14. My Government has promulgated Gruha Lakshmi Yojane for empowerment of women. Under this scheme Rs. 2,000/- per month will be provided to the women in the women headed households. With financial improvement this will bring about economic emancipation of women.
15. Today many countries in the world are advocating people-oriented economy. In this context the concept of Universal Basic Income is gaining support. It narrows

the gap between the haves and have-nots. This economic policy is based on humanism and is pro-development and eliminates concentration of wealth in hands of a few. This brings dignity to people reeling under rising prices and low incomes. My Government is promulgating and implementing new development model through these schemes.

16. My Government is working towards giving people a share in the wealth created by them. By this the Government is also indirectly implementing Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in the Articles 38, 39 (a), (b) & (c) of the Constitution. These principles need to be kept in mind for the Governments to govern and enact laws. According to Babasaheb Ambedkar the day these Directive Principles become the rights of the people, there would be solace to the citizens. These words are the guiding light for my Government.
17. Corruption has become so entrenched in our system that for many reasons it has become almost institutionalized. Eradicating it is a major challenge. I seek your cooperation to meet this challenge and root out corruption. The government will take all necessary administrative and legislative measures in this regard.
18. My Government considers governance as a sacred duty and it stands with the poor and socially & economically

backward. It is the goal of my Government that all castes, religions and sects get their fair share.

19. While a large part of the population is becoming well-educated and the advanced technology is sweeping the entire world; at the same time the evil thoughts of a few people who aim to disturb the harmony in the society have come to the fore. For more than thousand years people of multiple cultures have been living in harmony in Karnataka which is its true core. This time the people of Karnataka have stood in favour of Karnataka's proud culture of love and togetherness. My Government is committed to fulfill these aspirations of the people. In order to do this, noble ideals & thoughts will be adopted and all efforts to bring people together will be taken.
20. My Government intends to build a modern Karnataka by treating agriculture, industry and the service sector as equal priorities.
21. School Education is recognized as the foundation of the society. My Government is committed to protecting the fundamental right of every child. In order to do so my Government will formulate and implement special schemes. We are guided by the understanding that every child is also nation's wealth. In addition to education, the health of our children is also the responsibility and priority of my Government.

22. Along with the learned Professors in our Colleges and Universities, the participation of the farmers, artisans and the local stalwarts from various fields, who are the repository of local wisdom, is necessary. My Government will create the education framework for the same.

23. We need to build a system of education where compassion, intelligence and skills are unified. My Government is going to create a system to form a comprehensive education system that includes skills learnt through one's own hands and limbs, compassion & intelligence through heart and brain. In order for this to happen, my Government will create a system where experts, thinkers, intellectuals fully participate in an atmosphere that is fearless, open, liberal, rational and scientific.

24. My Government is ready to build an excellent Higher Education system. My Government will give full attention to the growth and development of our children in a harmonious atmosphere in the colleges and universities.

25. Necessary amendments will be made to the PTCL Act in relation to the protection of lands belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

My Government will take all measures to empower the youth of the oppressed communities by providing them with skill training so that they can get jobs and become self-reliant.

26. My Government will also take up the welfare of all sections including civic workers, drivers, street vendors, garment workers, construction workers, unorganized and gig workers, senior citizens, persons with special needs, devadasis, sexual minorities. Further, my Government will actively formulate and implement many schemes to provide education, hostel, housing and employment opportunities to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes and Minorities.

27. My Government is committed to providing important goal of Health-for-All. Existing institutional infrastructure will be improved and people friendly system will be created.

28. Literature, music, art and culture are the means for shaping the healthy minds in the society. These have been nurtured by our elders for thousands of years. Especially the culture of Karnataka is distinguished by its rich & special heritage. My Government is aware that we need to allocate resources for the development of literature, music, art and culture at par with those given

to science-technology and commerce. My Government will take all necessary initiatives for the same.

29. Providing housing to all the below poverty line families is the top priority of my Government. My Government is committed to provide all assistance to all the homeless in the State to enable them to construct pucca houses in the next five years.

30. My Government is committed to formulate and implement a clear plan to overcome regional disparities & imbalances in development. By providing necessary economic and administrative support, especially to districts in Kalyan Karnataka, in the fields of health, education and essential services, all steps will be taken to remove the disparities.

31. Krishi Bhagya Yojane launched in 2014 has been evaluated by the Karnataka Monitoring and Evaluation Authority. It has been reported that the farmers in the rain-fed areas of the state have been able to earn more income from agriculture using agricultural pits, poly houses and shade-net farming implemented under Krishi Bhagya Yojane. The said scheme will be further expanded to improve the lives of the farmers. My Government will strengthen and expand this scheme.

32. Our state has the maximum dry-land area after Rajasthan. Irrigation is at the root and foundation of

rural development. Therefore, in the next 5 years, my Government is committed to take all the irrigation projects that have been pending for a long time in our state to their logical end. Along with the implementation of large irrigation projects; lakes, small and traditional irrigation systems will also be developed with the participation of farmers.

33. Karnataka Evaluation Authority has reported that there was an increase in the family income of the beneficiaries who got cow and buffalos under Pashu Bhagya scheme implemented by the then Government from 2013 to 2018. The said scheme will be strengthened in order to augment the income of farmers.

34. In case of death of sheep, goat, cow, buffalo etc. due to accidental and other causes, excluding deaths due to natural calamities, the people who bred these animals suffer heavy losses. A scheme called Anugraha was implemented in the State with a view to alleviate this. But the said scheme has not been active in the last few years. Hence, my Government will implement the Anugraha Yojana effectively from this year.

35. A significant share of our farmers' income comes from animal husbandry. So there is a need to encourage animal husbandry. Therefore, my Government is committed to increase the necessary financial loans, assistance etc. to the shepherds and bring vitality to

rural economy. Also, my Government is committed to enact a separate law for the protection of nomadic shepherds. In economy of rural Karnataka, dairy farming is one of its main constituent. Dairy producing is the main economic pillar of the farmers' life. My Government will ensure self-sufficiency in milk through our own dairy farmers.

36. Farmers are our Annadathas. My Government will take all necessary steps to improve their lives by providing timely and adequate supply of fertilizers, seeds, medicines and other facilities required by them.

37. My Government wants to advance agriculture system through a holistic approach. We want to create a system where traditional knowledge of our farmers and modern scientific methods are integrated. My Government will rebuild the markets required by the farmers to sell their agricultural produce. APMCs will be further improved to make them farmer friendly.

38. My Government wants to create a people-centric economy. It aims to set up industries that create more local jobs. My Government has realized that it is inevitable that we have to compete not only with neighboring states in our production, distribution and marketing system, but also with distant countries like China; we will formulate plans towards this goal and implement them.

39. My Government will promote people-friendly and eco-friendly tourism industry and create at least 5 lakh employment opportunities. My Government will take all necessary measures to create awareness among the tourists for respecting the environment and the cultural sensitivity of the tourist places in the State.

40. Artificial Intelligence is a new technology. While it opens up unparalleled opportunities, it also creates an atmosphere of fear. Any technology can be used for the benefit of mankind but at the same time it can also be misused. Therefore, many countries have understood the need to regulate Artificial Intelligence. My Government will take appropriate measures to ensure only positive people-oriented use of Artificial Intelligence.

41. Karnataka has been a leader and pioneer in local empowerment, Local Self Government and Panchayat Raj. My Government is committed to fully implement the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments in letter and spirit. My Government is committed to strengthening the pro-people programmes like Mahatma Gandhi NREGA and the *Right to Information Act*. Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is one of the world's largest programmes among the programmes for the economic empowerment of the rural poor. We will implement it even more effectively in the State.

42. My Government is making all sincere efforts to create a sustainable and people-friendly Rural and Urban Local Self-Government. It is our goal to create healthy and developed cities and villages with the cooperation of the people.

43. The citizen's access to safe drinking and potable water in the State is regarded as a part of the Fundamental Rights under the Constitution. Hence, my Government is creating and implementing schemes for making available safe, clean drinking water to every household in rural and urban areas.

44. People-friendly and impartial police plays a very important role in proper maintenance of law and order. Hence, my Government is committed to create effective police system. Also, my Government attaches great importance to the safety and well-being of our women and children. Hence, it is my Government's priority to make the Police Department women and child friendly.

45. Karnataka is known for its regional diversity. Kalyana, Kittur, Coastal, Malenadu, Mysore and Bengaluru are maintaining the cultural, economic, educational, social and cultural diversity. They have their own status in the fields of agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, education, tourism, industry, health. My

Government will create and implement caring schemes to bring about development of all these areas.

46. We will endeavour to make our Bengaluru, which is giving a lion's share to the development of the both country's and Karnataka's economy, a cynosure of the world. My Government will properly plan and create all the necessary civic systems including roads, rain water drains, parks, playgrounds, public transport, libraries, excellent colleges, eco-friendly development activities, housing, drinking water, public health and public education. My Government is committed to make Bengaluru a healthy, sustainably developed city by solving the problem of traffic congestion to the extent possible.

47. My Government has a blueprint of Governance along with the heart and will to implement the same. This is a Government formed with a blend of experience and youth. My Government considers people's welfare as the *raison d'etre* for its existence. We are committed to building a peaceful, prosperous, harmonious "*Garden of Peace*" for everyone. It is my Government's responsibility to realize the dream of our forefathers of living together with harmony and brotherhood.

48. My Government aims to create holistic model of development inspired by the vision of our saints, social reformers, freedom fighters and poets to create

people-centered economy, people-centered culture. Hence, Karnataka has promulgated and is implementing the necessary schemes to prove a model to the country. All your cooperation and advice is needed for this great campaign. Let us all come together, let us build a prosperous and harmonious State.

Jai Hind
Jai Karnataka

14A. My Government is proud to say that Shakti Yojana, which provides free bus travel to women, is already serving around 50 lakh women every day. This is a step to ensure greater participation of women in the economic sectors of the society.