Telangana: Ushering in the New Era

Vaibhav Purandare

Telangana, the youngest State, started its progressive journey on 02 June 2014. The geographically unified Andhra Pradesh included three distinct regions, i.e., coastal Andhra, Rayalaseema and Telangana. Telangana has secured statehood through the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 after a prolonged struggle against the unjust, deliberate neglect, discriminatory resource allocation, etc., with an overarching aim to ensure the pace of development and expansion of employment opportunities in Telangana.

The citizens of Telangana have genuine aspirations of development of their lives as well as the State's progress towards Bangaru Telangana. Citizens also aspire to see their State emerge peacefully/socially cohesive, culturally strong, economically ahead and ready to engage economy. with the global Keeping these aspirations in the Government has mind, embarked on a mission to overcome the legacy of deliberate neglect and create an enabling political, social, and economic environment, which promotes growth and overall human development.



At the time of State formation, Telangana inherited an awry economy with a very modest growth rate of 3-5%. Manufacturing sector even reeling under negative growth. There was acute power shortage – be it agriculture, industry or domestic. Even though the State started its journey under such circumstances, it was able to turn around the situation within short span.

Steps in right direction started yielding results from the very first year with significant growth of 12.0% (@ current prices). It continued to be pioneer in subsequent years and registered an impressive growth of 14.1% in 2017-18. The economic growth trajectory of State has surpassed the national growth of 11.0% in 2014-15 and maintained the same pace.



The Government is giving equal focus to the social sectors and is committed to the goal of inclusive development of all citizens. Based on the inputs received through Samagra Kutumba Survey, the Government has introduced various infrastructure, welfare and development-oriented reforms and measures/programmes/missions with adequate resources and flexibility to adopt better practices.

Some of the key policy decisions and flagship programmes of the Government, which are taking Telangana forward rapidly and making it frontrunner in development, are listed below with achievements. The policy prescriptions are derived from **Inclusive Development Model of Telangana** and might help other States to emulate the same.

Transformative Reforms/ Programmes	Main Objectives*	Achievements/Key Outcomes	Policy Prescriptions			
Governance						
District Reorganisation	 Achieving citizen-centric governance by bringing it closer to people Reducing average size and population per District 	 Average size = 3,608 Sq.Km; Average population = 10.61 Lakhs Enhanced access to officials/administration Increased efficiency of programmes leading to universal coverage 	leaving little scope for local			
Telangana Panchayati Raj Act, 2018 and revision in Municipal Acts (in process)	• Achieving impactful Local Self- Governance (LSG) at grassroot	-	LSG should be endowed with adequate devolution of 3Fs (Funds, Functions and Functionaries)			
Agriculture & Rural Sector						
Rayathu Bandhu	 Reducing burden of cultivators through input purchase assistance 	 50 Lakh+ cultivators received support 	Efficient way of supporting farming community instead of loan-waiver trap benefiting mostly rich farmers and discouraging honest repayment			
Rayathu Bima	Ensuring financial security	• 10,000+ families benefited	Tremendous impact on the lives of bereaved families and helping their livelihoods			

Table: Reforms/Programmes with Achievements of Telangana

Transformative Reforms/ Programmes	Main Objectives*	Achievements/Key Outcomes	Policy Prescriptions
Mission Kakatiya	 Restoring minor irrigation sources/tank restoration 	 Four phases 27,742 tanks taken-up 17,859 tanks completed 12.47 Lakh acres of ayacut stabilised 	To be planned combinedly for optimum utilisation of available
Irrigation (Kaleshwaram and Other Projects)	 Increasing Irrigation Potential (IP) 	 50.80 Lakh acres of IP to be created at completion of all projects benefiting 20 Districts 	resources – first attempting for low hanging fruits
Free 24X7 Power Supply	 Ensuring continuous power supply 	 Extended crucial support to farmers dependent on groundwater for irrigation 	
		Health	
KCR Kit	 Reduce Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) while encouraging institutional deliveries 		Quality kit for new-born with financial support to mother goes a long way
Kanti Velugu	 Achieving "avoidable blindness free" status 	 Three Lakh+ people screened 35,000+ given spectacles 51,000+ referred for further check-ups 	Word "Avoidable" is significant as many economically marginalised people tend to ignore early signs

Transformative Reforms/ Programmes	Main Objectives*	Achievements/Key	y Outcomes	Policy Prescriptions		
Aarogyasri	Improve access of BPL families to quality medical care	 Assisted 24.54 patients and 15. patients 	Lakh+ out- 14 Lakh+ in-	Expansion of infrastructure with competent manpower		
Infrastructure						
Mission Bhagiratha	 Provision of safe drinking water to all 	 Covers 2.72 crore Lakh households) 98% of trans distribution syste gravity 	mission and	Water grid (combining maximum habitations) with shared infrastructure for optimum utilisation of surface water		
2 ВНК	 Providing dignity to poor by providing 100% subsidised housing 	Particulars	Units	Rationale land-use policy, land		
		Administrative sanctions	2.29 Lakh	Rationale land-use policy, land pooling, Corporate Social		
		Tender finalised	1.62 Lakh	Responsibility, etc., can give boost to construction		
		Grounded Completed	1.23 Lakh 4.200+			
Strategic Road Development Project & Hyderabad Metro Rail	 Access to safe and speedy urban transportation 	 2,000 Kms. of road skyways, 11 major 50 grid separators Three corridors (with 65 stations) Lakh+ passengers 	ds consisting 5 r corridors and (total 72 Kms) catering 15	Integrated planning for all mode of transportation leads towards efficiency		
Economy						
TS-iPass	Creating investor friendly environment	 Secured top ran Doing Business (E 	oDB)-2016	Use of Information Technology, Business Process Reengineering,		
		72.04% application	ons approved	scrapping outdated laws/rules and		

Transformative Reforms/ Programmes	Main Objectives*	Achievements/Key Outcomes	Policy Prescriptions		
		 within timeline from total 20,982 since Apr-2016 Attracted 1 Lakh Crore+ investment 	mainly trusting entrepreneurs		
T-Hub	 Pioneering innovation ecosystem powering next- generation products and business models 	 Provided 1100+ national and international start-ups with access to better technology, talent, investors, customers 			
Environment and Culture					
Telangana Ku Haritha Haram	Achieve 33% of green cover	Planted 62.63 Crore plants till Jul-2017	Creating a people's movement		
Celebrating Festivals	Promoting indigenous culture	Sense of pride among citizens	Retaining cultural identity is the core of development		

* = Stated objectives are rephrased based on understanding for this paper

Source/Reference: Official websites of Government of Telangana/ Government Departments and respective programmes/schemes.
