

VILLAGES WEAR A NEW LOOK

with Indiramma

Andhra Pradesh government has taken a step forward in the right direction to improve amenities in rural areas aimed at an integrated growth. The two-and-a-half year old government headed by Dr YS Rajasekhara Reddy had the vision for uplift of rural areas to improve the standard of living of villagers.

Thus took shape the INDIRAMMA scheme (Integrated Development In Rural Areas and Model Municipal Areas) which involves all villagers and aims at integrated rural development covering the various facets of the main stream development process by providing basic infrastructure.

Bringing various welfare schemes like housing, drinking water, link roads, medical care, primary education. Nutrition and old age pensions under one roof is the main objective of the INDIRAMMA scheme

The uniqueness of this scheme lies in the reach it has to individuals as well as groups. An estimated RS 7,725 crore was earmarked for the scheme of which Rs 6,207 crore was set aside for individual beneficiaries and rest to groups.

Indiramma Houses: The government has come up with an innovative plan to build cozy and modern looking houses with all basic facilities and in rural and urban areas and plans to build about 20.12 lakh cozy houses (17.67 in rural areas and 2.45 lakh in urban areas) this year.

Of the beneficiaries in rural areas, Scheduled Castes were allotted 3.48 lakh houses, Scheduled Tribes (2.04 lakh), Weaker Sections (7.39 lakh) and others (3.29 lakh)

Better Management: Unlike in the past the beneficiaries are being selected in a more scientific and more appropriate methodology under INDIRAMMA scheme.

Setting aside the previous practice of selecting the beneficiaries in the district development board meeting with local representatives on caste basis, the new scheme selects the beneficiaries not on caste basis but on their socio-economic status which has proved to be more scientific.

The cozy look and vivid colours of the Indiramma houses has been an attraction in rural areas people were staring at it in disbelief as they could not expect pucca houses to be so attractive in elevation besides structural quality.

COSTING

In a bid to provide a complete and wholesome feel of a new house the government is spending Rs 30,000 per house. This includes Rs 25,000 allotted for the house besides allotting Rs 2,750 for building toilets and releasing Rs 3,200 under national rural employment scheme for laying foundation which provides employment and satisfaction to the beneficiaries for building their own houses.

In urban areas the amount earmarked is Rs 42,750 which includes Rs 2,750 for building toilets and Rs 40,000 for construction of house.

DUAL BENEFIT

Getting employment under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme on one hand and having the opportunity to build their own houses has been a point of great satisfaction to the rural people as they can start building their houses after ten days after the allotment.

Funds would come in four installments. First during laying foundation, second before laying of roof, third after the roof is laid and last one after completion of the house. Additional expenditure should be borne by the beneficiary and toilet is a must in every house.

Repayment of loan could be done in 120 to 180 easy installments and the construction should be taken up by a qualified mason. Indiramma houses are been seen as a major leap towards Andhra Pradesh government has taken a step forward in the right direction to improve amenities in rural areas aimed at an integrated growth. The two-and-a-half year old government headed by Dr YS Rajasekhara Reddy had the vision for uplift of rural areas to improve the standard of living of villagers.

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SCHEME FOR INDIVIDUALS

Pensions: Government plans to release about 9.03 lakh pension of which 8.86 were already cleared. Pensions for Widows, Handicapped persons and Weavers were distributed in Nellore, Chittoor, Medak, Adilabad, Karimnagar Khammam districts through the mandal level bodies of the respective organizations while the rest would be distributed through mandal offices.

Toilets: The state aims to build every house with a toilet and aims to build 16.32 lakh toilets and work is in good progress in this regard.

House sites: Under Indiramma scheme about 5.14 lakh house sites would be released of which 3.09 lakhs sites are in rural areas while 86,478 are in urban areas.

Electrification: The government has set target of providing electricity to 11.89 lakh houses and so far 3,82,155 connections were issued target this year.

SOCIAL AMENITIES

The state has undertaken various welfare measures under Indiramma scheme with an estimated cost of Rs. 1,523 crore to improve social amenities.

Drinking Water: To provide drinking water to 11,140 households, would be provided in the state. So far 5,136 works have been started.

Roads: Link roads connecting villages has been the motive of this scheme and construction of roads to pave way for buses to ply in 757 villages was identified of work was taken up in 559 places. The scheme would be implemented in 151 areas have 500 and above population.

Additional Classrooms: Steps were taken to build 12,000 additional class rooms across the state and 11,371 class rooms works would be completed here soon.

Drinking Water: Indiramma scheme also provides drinking water along with primary education in 13,669 schools and anganwadis in the state. So far 6,905 works have been grounded and 1,542 works were completed.

Sanitation: Sanitation has been a prime concern and is being taught in all school and anganwadi centres from an early age. Total 32,840 units were sanctioned. Sofar 9,090 units here been grounded and 1074 units were completed.

Apart from these, the scheme also provides medicare, birth certificates, pregnant and children health care.

Majority of the beneficiaries are from weaker sections and Indiramma scheme has been widely well received in rural areas and villagers see the scheme as role model for development.

The scheme has become a synonym to development.
