

## Government Sponsored Subsidy Schemes

<b>1. National Project on Organic Farming</b>	
Objective	To Promote organic farming in the country by making available the organic inputs such as biofertilizers, biopesticides and fruit and vegetable market waste compost.
	Increase agricultural productivity while maintaining soil health and environmental safety.
	Reduce dependence on chemical fertilisers and pesticides.
	Convert organic waste to plant nutrient resources.
	Prevent pollution and environment degradation by proper conversion and utilisation of organic waste.
Implementing agency	Department of Agriculture and Co-operation through National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF).
a. Eligibility	
i. Biofertilizers and Biopesticides production units	Individuals, Group of farmers/ Growers, Proprietary and Partnership firms, Co-operative, Fertilizer industry, companies, corporations, NGOs
ii. Fruit & Vegetable waste compost Unit	APMCs, Municipalities, NGOs and Private entrepreneurs.
b. Nature of support / assistance	
i. Biofertilizers and Biopesticides production units	25% of TFO subject to a maximum of Rs. 40 lakh per unit, whichever is less.
ii. Fruit & Vegetable waste compost Unit	33% of TFO subject to a maximum of Rs. 63 lakh per unit, whichever is less.
	The original TFO sanctioned by the bank or the actual expenditure incurred by the promoter, whichever is less will be reckoned for subsidy.
<b>2. Central Sector Scheme- Establishing Agri Clinics and Agri Business centers (ACABC)</b>	
Objective	To supplement the efforts of public extension by necessarily providing extension and other services to farmers, to support agriculture development and create gainful self-employment opportunities for unemployed agri-graduates, agriculture diploma holders etc
Implementing agency	Ministry of Agriculture, GOI and NABARD
Eligibility / norms / coverage	All candidates trained under the scheme shall be eligible for subsidy with respect to investments made after July 9, 2006 (applicable to loan amounts sanctioned on/after this date.) The subsidy would be admissible only in respect of agricultural entrepreneurs as per the revised guidelines.

Nature of support / assistance	
	<p>i. Rate of subsidy - 44% of project cost for women &amp; SC/ST, North Eastern, Hilly States and 36% of project cost for all others.</p> <p>ii. Ceiling of Project Cost: Rs..20.00 lakh for individual &amp; Rs.100.00 lakh for a Group project (minimum 5 individuals).</p>
	For details please refer - Compendium of Instructions for implementing the revised ACABC Scheme 2010 available on <a href="http://www.agriclinics.net">www.agriclinics.net</a>
<p align="center"><b>3. Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme</b>  <b>(<a href="http://www.nabard.org">www.nabard.org</a> , <a href="http://www.dahd.nic.in">www.dahd.nic.in</a> )</b></p>	
Objective	<p>To generate self employment and infrastructure for dairy sector.</p> <p>Set up dairy farms and infrastructure for production of clean milk.</p> <p>To bring structural changes in unorganised sector, upgrade traditional technology and handle milk on commercial scale.</p> <p>Value addition of milk through processing and production of milk products.</p>
Implementing agency	Dept. of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, GoI and NABARD
Eligibility	Farmers, Individual Entrepreneurs, Groups of Organized and unorganised sectors, (Organised sector include Self Help Groups, Dairy Co-operative Societies, Milk Unions, Milk Federations, Panchayati Raj Institutions).
Nature of support / assistance	Under the scheme a Subsidy of 25% of the outlay (33.33% for SC/ST entrepreneurs) is being provided to dairy farmers. Margin of 10% shall not be required for loans less than Rs 1.00 lakh or amount specified by RBI.
Small dairy units of 2 to 10 animals	Unit Cost Rs. 7.00 lakh for 10 animal unit. Subsidy ceiling of Rs. 17,500/- per animal (Rs. 23,300/- for SC/ST)
Rearing of Heifer calves - upto 20 calves	Unit Cost Rs. 9.70 lakh for 20 calves. Subsidy ceiling of Rs. 12,100/- per calf (Rs. 16,200/- for SC/ST)
Vermicompost with milch animal unit	Unit Cost Rs. 25,200/- Subsidy ceiling of Rs. 6300 per unit (Rs. 8,400/- for SC/ST)
Milking machines, milk testers, Bulk milk cooling units	Unit Cost Rs. 20 lakh. Subsidy ceiling of Rs. 5.00 lakh (Rs. 6.67 lakh for SC/ST)
Dairy processing equipment	Unit Cost Rs. 13.20 lakh. Subsidy ceiling of Rs. 3.30 lakh (Rs. 4.40 lakh for SC/ST)
Transportation facility and cold storage chain	Unit Cost Rs. 26.50 lakh. Ceiling of Rs. 6.625 lakh (Rs. 8.830 lakh for SC/ST)
Cold storage for milk and milk products	Unit Cost Rs. 33.00 lakh. Subsidy ceiling of Rs. 8.25 lakh (Rs. 11.00 lakh for SC/ST)
Private veterinary clinics	Unit Cost of Rs. 2.60 lakh for mobile clinic and Rs. 2.00 lakh for stationary clinic. Subsidy ceiling of Rs. 65000/- and Rs. 50000/- resp. (Rs. 86600/- and Rs. 66600/- for SC/ST)

Dairy Marketing Outlets/ dairy Parlours	Unit Cost Rs. 3.00 lakh. Subsidy ceiling of Rs. 75000/- (Rs. 100000/- for SC/ST)
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#### 4. National Livestock Mission

National Livestock Mission is an initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. The mission, which commenced from 2014-15, has been designed with the objective of sustainable development of the livestock sector. NABARD is the subsidy channelizing agency under Entrepreneurship Development & Employment Generation (EDEG) component of National Livestock Mission. This includes –

- Poultry Venture Capital Fund (PVCF)
- Integrated Development of Small Ruminants and Rabbit (IDSRR)
- Pig Development (PD)
- Salvaging and Rearing of Male Buffalo Calves (SRMBC)

#### Who can benefit from the scheme?

Farmers, individual entrepreneurs, NGOs, Companies, Cooperatives, Groups of organized and unorganized sector which include SHGs and Joint Liability Groups

#### Eligible financial institutions:

Commercial Banks,  
Regional Rural Banks,  
State Cooperative Banks,  
State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks,  
Other institutions eligible for refinance from NABARD

Sr No	Scheme component	Subsidy ceiling @ 25% (Rs.)
1	Breeding farms for low input tech birds other than fowls like emu, turkey, quails etc.	7,50,000
2	Central grower units maximum 16,000 layer chicks/batch – Maximum 03 batches/year	10,00,000
3	Hybrid layer units – up to 20,000 layer	2,00,000 (for 2,000 layers)
4	Hybrid broiler units – up to 20,000 birds	56,000 for 1,000 birds
5	Rearing other species of poultry	5,00,000 – varies with species
6	Feed Mixing Unit – 1.0 ton/hr and Disease Investig. Lab	4,00,000

7	Transport vehicles –open type	2,00,000
8	Transported vehicle - refrigerated	3,75,000
9	Retail outlets – dressing units	2,50,000
10	Retail outlets – marketing units	3,75,000
11	Mobile marketing units	2,50,000
12	Cold storage for poultry products	5,00,000
13	Eggs / broiler carts	3,750
14	Large processing units : 2,000 – 4,000 birds/hr	125,00,000
15	Emu processing units	250,00,000
16	Feather processing / litter management	125,00,000
17	Tech innovation/waste disposal/egg vending machines etc.	125,00,000

Proportion of subsidy for various areas and various categories

i) Normal arears:

Category	Back ended subsidy	Credit	Beneficiary Share / Margin Money
BPL/SC/ST	33.33%	56.67%	10%
APL	25%	65%	10%

ii) North east region / hilly areas / LWE affected districts

Category	Back ended subsidy	Credit	Beneficiary Share / Margin Money
BPL/SC/ST	50%	40%	10%
APL	35%	55%	10%

Note: Users are advised to refer Government of India's /NABARD's website regarding continuation of the schemes/details indicated above and be guided accordingly.

## State Initiatives - Telangana

### I. Telangana State Budget 2018-19 - Highlights

i. **GSDP:** The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Telangana for 2018-19 (at current prices) is approximately Rs 8,42,631 crore. This is 15 per cent higher than the revised estimate for 2017-18. The State has been performing fairly well since its inception, registering y-o-y growth of more than 6 per cent on an average. The rate of growth in GSDP is expected at 10.4 per cent for the year 2017-18.

ii. **Sectoral Share:** The sectoral composition of GSDP reveals dominance of services sector which contributes 66 per cent, followed by agriculture and allied activities (18%) and industries (16%). The y-o-y growth in services sector was 11 per cent whereas the same for agriculture & allied activities and industries was 6 per cent each.

iii. **PCI:** The Per Capita Income (PCI) of Telangana in 2017-18 (at current prices) was Rs. 1,75,534, which was more than the average national per capita income of Rs. 1,12,764.

iv. **Receipts :** The total receipts (excluding borrowings) for 2018-19 are estimated to be Rs 1,41,282 crore, an increase of 22.8% as compared to the revised estimates of 2017-18. The total revenue receipts for 2018-19 are estimated to be Rs. 1,30,975 crore, an increase of 21% over the revised estimates of 2017-18. Of this, Rs. 82,726 crore will be raised by the state through its own resources (63% of the revenue receipts), and Rs. 48,249 crore will be devolved by the centre in the form of grants and the state's share in taxes (37% of the revenue receipts). Non Tax Revenue: Telangana has estimated to generate Rs. 8,974 crore through non-tax sources in 2018-19. This is an increase of 36% over the revised estimates of 2017-18. Revenue surplus for the next financial year is targeted at Rs. 5,520 crore, 0.7 per cent of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP).

v. **Expenditure :** The total expenditure in 2018-19 is targeted at Rs. 1,74,454 crore. This is 22% higher than the revised estimates of 2017-18. This expenditure is proposed to be met through receipts (other than borrowings) of Rs. 1,41,282 crore, and borrowings of Rs. 33,200 crore. Capital expenditure for 2018-19 is proposed to be Rs. 48.99 crore, which is an increase of 36.5% over the revised estimates of 2017-18. This includes expenditure which affects the assets and liabilities of the state, and leads to creation of assets (such as bridges and hospitals), and repayment of loans, among others. Revenue expenditure for 2018-19 is proposed to be Rs. 1,25,455 crore, which is an increase of 17.7% over revised estimates of 2017-18. This expenditure includes payment of salaries, maintenance, etc. Fiscal deficit is targeted at Rs. 29,077 crore (3.5% of GSDP).

#### vi. Budgetary allocations

The state has allocated 10.9% of its total budget towards agriculture and allied activities. Rural development with 4.6% allocation, education with 8.2% and health with 4.7% are the other key social sectors which have received sizable allocations in the budget. On irrigation front, the focus is on integrating Kaleswaram project with Mallannasagar and mid-Manair. A total of 23 major and 13 medium irrigation projects are being constructed on Godavari and Krishna rivers. Palamuru project is also being completed at a rapid pace. It is expected that Kaleswaram Project with reservoirs and canals would be completed in two years which would be very beneficial for the districts of Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Medak, Warangal and Nalgonda, undivided districts.

## **II. Policy Highlights**

### **A. Agriculture related**

#### **1. Agriculture Investment Support Scheme (Rythu Bandhu)**

Govt. of Telangana introduced 'Agriculture Investment Support Scheme', popularly known as 'Rythu Bandhu Scheme' to enhance agriculture productivity and enhance income of the farmers besides breaking the vicious cycle of rural indebtedness. The scheme was introduced from 2018-19 Kharif season to take care of initial investment needs of every farmer. The Govt. has made a budgetary provision of Rs. 12,000 crore for the scheme for the year 2018-19. Support for agriculture and horticulture crops is being provided by way of grant of Rs. 4,000/- per acre per farmer for each season (Kharif and Rabi) for purchase of inputs like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, labour and other investments. The support was extended through cheque and farmers were handed over cheques in the gram sabhas. As per State Govt. sources, a total of around Rs. 5000 crore was distributed through cheques to 47.50 lakh land holding farmers in the state during the Kharif season.

#### **2. Rythu Bima Pathakam**

Telangana Govt. introduced Group Life insurance scheme for all the farmers in the State of Telangana on 15 August 2018. All the holders of Pattadar Pass Books issued after the recently concluded Land Records updation programme will be eligible for enrolment in this scheme. The farmers in the age group of 18–59 as on 15.8.2018 would be covered under this Scheme and the sum assured of Rs.5.00 lakhs would be paid on death, due to any cause, to the nominee of that enrolled farmer, declared by him/her. The main objective of the scheme is to provide financial relief and security to the family members/dependents of the deceased farmer (Pattadar) in case of his/her death. The scheme is being implemented through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India. The entire premium amount is to be borne by Government and Rs. 500 crore is allocated for this purpose for the year 2018-19.

#### **3. The Panchayat Raj Bill, 2018**

Telangana Govt. introduced a new Panchayat Raj Bill in March 2018 for comprehensive development of villages and to strengthen the Panchayat system. The new Bill proposes the formation of 4,389 new Panchayats which will take the total Gram Panchayats in Telangana State to 12,741. The new Bill nullifies the old Panchayat Raj Act 1994. It also provides for conversion of Tandas into full-fledged Gram Panchayats which would be reserved for Scheduled Tribes. Further for strengthening the rural local bodies, Rs. 1500 crore and for urban bodies local bodies, an amount of Rs.1000 crore was proposed in the Budget 2018-19.

#### **4. Rythu Samanvaya Samithis**

Formation of Rythu Samanvaya Samithis (Farmer Coordination Committees) has been launched by Agriculture Dept., Govt. of Telangana in order to look into the problems of the farmer at various levels. Farmer Coordination committees with 1,61,000 farmer members across the state have been formed. Farmer Committees are constituted at village level with 15 members, at mandal and district levels with 24 members each and at the State level with 42 members. The State level committee will have representatives of farmers, agricultural officers, scientists and experts as members. This Committee will function as a link between farmers and Government. The mandate of the farmers' committee is to create a sense of mutual co-operation among farmers, bring awareness and enlighten farmers to resolve the problems of the sector and to ensure minimum support price to the produce of the farmers. Telangana Govt. has established a new Corporation under the title 'Telangana Rashtra Rythu Samanvaya

Samithi' in February 2018. The broad objective of the Samithi is to plan for the welfare of the farming community in the state by increasing production and productivity of various crops and ensuring better prices to the farmers. The specific objective is to promote procurement, storage, processing and marketing of agriculture and horticultural crops and their products with the objective of ensuring remunerative prices or better prices to the farmers.

## **5. Farm Mechanisation**

Farm mechanisation reduces drudgery and costs in addition to timely completion of agricultural activities. Telangana Govt. is promoting extensive mechanisation of agriculture by providing incentives. Government is supplying machinery and spare parts at a subsidised price. So far, 13,934 tractors, 31,274 farm equipment, 4,71,000 tarpaulins, and 26,179 sprayers were distributed at a subsidy ranging from 50% to 95% to the farmers in Telangana. For promotion of farm mechanisation an amount of Rs. 522 crore was proposed in the Budget 2018-19.

## **6. Drip Irrigation**

Telangana Govt. is providing 100% subsidy to SCs /STs, 90% subsidy to small and marginal farmers and BCs, and 80% subsidy to others for purchase of micro irrigation equipment. At present, the Govt. is giving subsidy for a maximum of 12.5 acres and up to Rs.6.25 lakh. For promoting of micro irrigation, a sum of Rs. 127 crore was proposed in the Budget 2018-19.

## **7. Polyhouses and Greenhouses**

Telangana Govt. is giving a subsidy of 75% to small and marginal farmers for establishing polyhouses and green houses. An amount of Rs. 120 crore was proposed in the Budget 2018-19 towards polyhouse and greenhouse cultivation.

## **8. Development of Marketing Facilities**

Telangana Govt. has taken up a number of initiatives to strengthen the agricultural marketing in the State. Some of the major initiatives include establishment of procurement centres as per the requirement/demand, exclusive market yards for vegetables, fruits, integrated markets for the convenience of consumers, etc. Emphasis is given on construction of Rythu Bazaars with all modern facilities and development of roadside vegetable markets with all facilities for the benefit of street vegetable vendors.

## **9. Construction of Godowns**

Over the last 3 and half years, Telangana Govt. has constructed 356 new godowns which has enhanced the storage capacity to 22.47 lakh tonnes. The Govt. proposes to construct at least one godown in every mandal. The Government is also taking up measures to augment the cold storage facility during 2018-19.

## **10. Sheep Breeding**

In order to improve the living standards of Gollas and Kurumas in the State, Telangana Govt. has decided to develop sheep breeding as an industry and started distributing sheep in a big way. In the first phase, it was proposed in the Budget 2017-18 to distribute 84 lakh sheep to 4 lakh families. More than 50 lakh sheep were distributed at 75% subsidy to around 2.35 lakh families during the year. These sheep gave birth to 17 lakh lamb babies resulting in an addition of 67 lakhs sheep stock in the State. For implementing the sheep breeding scheme in the first phase, an amount of Rs. 5,000 crore was provided. This scheme is being implemented not only with budgetary allocations but also off budget borrowings from financial institutions.

Government has decided to encourage meat processing units to process the meat and export it to national and international markets.

### **11. Fish Farming (Pisciculture)**

Telangana has sizeable fish population which can be utilised to the benefit of its fisherman communities like Ganagputra, Mudiraj, Boya and bantu communities. To augment the already existing reservoirs, Telangana Govt. has taken massive projects such as Mission Kakatiya, wherein thousands of tanks are being revived. These measures are expected to make thousands of TMC of storage capacity of water resources available. The Government has developed an action plan to produce 3,20,000 tonnes of fish every year. For this purpose, fish seed is being distributed free of cost. The fishing rights have been completely granted to the fishermen. To provide marketing facilities to these fishermen, 31 wholesale fish market at a rate of one market per district and 200 retail markets are being established. To supplement the budgetary allocations to this scheme, funds are being provided through off budget borrowings from the financial institutions.

### **12. Poultry Farming**

Telangana ranks number one in chicks & feed and second in chicken meat production in the country; Hence it is known as the “Egg basket of India. Directly and indirectly lakhs of people are dependent on this sector. For the development of poultry sector, an amount of Rs. 109 crore is proposed in the Budget 2018-19.

### **13. Land Records Up-dation and Purification (LRUP)**

Telangana Govt. had undertaken the massive exercise of for Land Records Up-dation and Purification (LRUP) in the year 2017. The basic objective was to cleanse, update and simplify land records in the State. The aim was not only to purify and update existing land records, but also to ensure transparency in future land transactions, purchases, registrations, inheritance rights and mutation processes. The LRUP programme in 2017 covered all the 10,885 villages in the State in two phases for a period of almost 100 days. The first phase addressed issues such as correction of names, including surnames, extent of land, khata number, clubbing two khata numbers into one and deleting portion of land already sold. In the second phase, the drive covered lands under litigation with pending court cases to come up with some concrete solution. To oversee the cleansing and updation exercise, the State Government had constituted a special set up with a budget of Rs 10 crore and a separate cell under the Mission Director as its head with task force and survey teams.

After completion of the purification of land records and their digitisation, the farmers were given electronic title deed-cum-pattadar passbooks with high security features like water and tamper-proof. The Revenue Department charged a nominal Rs 160 per e-pattadar passbook supplied online. The updated and purified land record data base in the form of LRUP formed the basis for implementing the Investment Support Scheme (Rythu Bandhu Scheme)

## **B. Flagship Schemes**

### **1. Mission Kakatiya**

The flagship programme of Telangana Govt. aimed at restoring around 46,000 tanks in five years to provide irrigation source to about 25 lakh acres spending Rs. 22,000 crore. As part of the Mission, activities like desiltation, repairing damaged sluices and weirs, restoring dilapidated tank bunds, stone revetments and plugging seepages are carried out. Mission Kakatiya aims at improving the ground water table, reducing the power consumption by farm



sector, getting higher yields, spurring the growth of livestock and rejuvenating rural economy on a whole.

## **2. Mission Bhagiratha**

The flagship programme aiming to provide piped drinking water to every household in the State over a period of four years (2015-16 to 2018-19) continues to be the major agenda of the Govt. Taken up with an estimated cost of ₹ 35,000 crore, the Mission is conceived to provide 100 litres per capita per day (LPCD) treated and piped water to every household in rural areas, 135 LPCD in municipalities and 150 LPCD in municipal corporations. The project is divided into 26 segments. The project is divided into 26 segments and water will be supplied through 67 intake wells, 153 water filter plants, 1,69,705 km of pipelines and 35,514 overhead reservoirs. The benefits of Mission Bhagiratha have already reached households in 5,752 rural hamlets, 2,900 villages and 15 towns by March 2018. Budgetary allocation of Rs. 1801 crore has been made for the year 2018-19 for the programme. This pioneering scheme has been commended by the Government of India for other States to emulate.

## **3. Haritha Haram**

The programme to increase green cover in the state from 24 per cent to 33 per cent over a period of four years (2015-16 to 2019-20) through plantation of 230 crore trees is another major initiative of the State Govt. About 40 crore of seedlings are proposed to be planted both inside and outside the forest areas. As against the target of plantation of 230 crore plants, 81 crore plants have already been planted. In 2018-19, arrangement are made for planting another 40 crore plants. A total of 4,000 nurseries have been established. Haritha Haram programme is being implemented successfully with people's participation. The State has so far spent Rs. 1166 crore on the scheme.

## **C. Handloom Industry**

In a bid to address the issues in the handloom sector, Telangana Govt. has taken the decision in the year 2018 to waive loans (upto Rs. 1.00 lakh) of handloom weavers, the detailed modalities of which are being worked out. With regards to power looms, the Govt. is providing inputs like yarn, chemicals, etc., at 50% subsidy and power is also supplied at subsidy. The Govt has also decided to provide full scale subsidy for modernisation of power looms. Warangal district is being promoted as the 'Textile City' and the Hon'ble Chief Minister has laid the foundation stone for Kakatiya Mega Textile Park in the district. Once completed, it would be the biggest Textile Park in the country with an employment potential of 60,000 to 80,000. For Handloom and Textiles, an amount of Rs. 1,200 crore was proposed in the Budget 2018-19

## **D. Welfare initiatives**

### **1. Aasara pensions scheme**

The Asara pension scheme has been supporting the destitute and helpless with a monthly pension at a rate of Rs 1,000 to the aged, widows, toddy tappers, weavers, aids patients, beedi workers, and single women. Pensions at the rate of Rs 1,500 per month are given to differently abled persons and old age artists. The government is spending Rs 5,300 crore per year for 41.78 lakh people through the scheme.

### **2. Housing for the poor**

This hallmark initiative of the Telangana Government is intended to provide quality and respectable housing to the poor. For construction of double bed room houses, an amount of

Rs. 2,643 crore was allocated in Budget 2018-19. To support the budgetary allocations, funds are also being sourced through off budget borrowings from financial institutions and banks.

## **E. Schemes for Scheduled Tribe (ST)**

### **1. Land distribution to Dalits**

Another significant welfare scheme of the government that provides 3 acres of agricultural land to landless SC women, along with the provision for creation of irrigation facilities, land development and other agricultural inputs for their sustained livelihood. For this scheme, an amount of Rs. 1469 crore is proposed.

### **2. T-Pride**

To promote, enthusiastic SC, ST entrepreneurs, the Government is implementing a new programme called Telangana State Programme for Rapid Incubation of Dalit Entrepreneurs (T - PRIDE). Incentives are being provided to those who set up new industries and also for expanding the existing industries. Under the investment scheme, 35 per cent of total investment as subsidy is being provided to SCs, STs for establishing industrial units and for SC, ST women entrepreneurs the subsidy is 45 per cent

### **3. Provisions specific to ST**

Telangana Govt. has given priority for the education of children of Scheduled Tribes with the setting up of Ashramas, gurukulams, etc. Under economic support scheme, 20,000 beneficiaries would be provided with assistance in the ensuing financial year (2018-19). Under land development scheme, 5,000 ST beneficiaries would be provided with the irrigation facility. BT roads are being proposed in various tribal hamlets of the state. Government is also going to recognise tandas and adivasi hamlets as Gram Panchayats. For Tribal Welfare department, an amount of Rs. 8,063 crore was proposed in the Budget 2018-19.

## **F. Health**

### **Improvements in Government Hospitals**

Telangana Government has established 34 Dialysis centres in Government hospitals throughout the State and Intensive Care Unit's (ICU's) in 22 Government hospitals. A total of 12 cancer diagnostic centres established in the state are helpful in providing treatment to save lives of patients. Government is conducting free medical tests to all people for prevention of diseases.

A sum of Rs. 7,375 crore was allocated to Medical and Health sector in Budget 2018-19.

### **Kanti Velugu**

The State Government has also aimed at "avoidable blindness-free" status by conducting a Comprehensive and Universal Eye Screening for the entire population of the State under the title 'Kanti Velugu'. The Programme launched on 15th August, 2018.

### **KCR Kit**

The state government has launched KCR Kit Scheme for pregnant women. Pregnant women can utilize this scheme for maximum 2 deliveries at a government hospital. The main aim of this scheme is to provide all the necessary items for pregnant women and the newborn baby.

Under this scheme, pregnant women will be provided with financial assistance of Rs. 12,000 in three phases. In case of a baby girl, an additional Rs. 1000 will be given by the government. KCR Kit contains items useful for child and mother.

### **G. Education**

Telangana Govt. has allocated 8.2% of its total budget on education in 2018-19. This is almost half of the average expenditure share allocated to education by 18 other states (using 2017-18 BE). Between 2016-17 and 2018-19, there is a gradual decrease in the spending on education from 10.6% to 8.2%. The major thrust under education include providing infrastructure in schools, recruitment of teachers and implementation of mid-day meal schemes for primary and secondary education. Establishment of residential schools and colleges especially for girls in tribal areas is the focus of the Govt. In addition, improvement of infrastructure in engineering and polytechnic colleges are given importance by the Govt.