

**CHIEF MINISTER'S OFFICE
GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA**

PRESS RELEASE

07th January, 2017

Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri K. Chandrashekar Rao's statement on 'Monthly Rs. 1000 Pension Scheme to Single Woman' in Legislative Assembly on Friday.

Telangana government is resolved to render justice to all sections of the people and want every sociological group in the State to live with financial support, dignity and self-respect. For this, the Telangana government is working to strengthen and protect the lives of the people. This is precisely the reason; the government in all its policies and programmes is giving a human touch. The state government has allocated a lion's share in the State's Annual Budget for the welfare programmes and activities. People in the State have already realised that this government is on the side of the poor. This is the reason why people are standing solidly behind the government.

Generally, political parties to a greater extent try to implement the programmes and schemes that they have promised in their respective election manifestos. But our government has gone a step ahead and taking measures to render justice to the poor whenever it came across any problem.

As promised in our manifesto, we are giving pensions to the aged people, differently abled persons, and widows under Asara Scheme. In some places in the State, women are eking out a living by making Beedis and thus supporting their families and their livelihood. But whatever hard work they are doing, they are not earning the amount that would sustain their families.

Understanding their plight, the government has sanctioned Rs. 1000 per month per woman as pension. The women Beedi workers are happy that the government has given them the financial support. "Though in the past we have agitated for the same, it was not given. But now, without even asking for it, we got the financial help," they remarked.

Understanding the problems faced by the poor in performing their daughters' marriage, the State government has launched Kalyana Laxmi and Shaadi Mubarak schemes. Under these innovative programmes, thousands of families in the State are getting Rs. 51,000

financial assistance at the time of marriage of the girl. Like these two programmes, we are announcing another scheme in this House, on under humanitarian grounds.

It was brought to our notice the dire straits faced by single woman in the society. We have realised the government should offer some financial help to these single women. We thought we would take a call on the matter only after examining the financial status of the State and pros and cons. Poverty inflicts more misery among women than men. Hence, we have decided to give Rs. 1000 per month per person pension to these helpless, single women thereby offering some financial protection to them. We are issuing orders in this regard forthwith. We will also allocate funds for this Scheme in the ensuing Annual Budget to be introduced in this House in March.

“Rs. 1000 per month pension for single woman scheme” will come into effect from the coming financial year. We are instructing district collectors to start registering details of single women in the district. We are also appealing to the eligible women to get their names registered under the Scheme. We are also requesting all the legislators to take responsibility in getting the eligible women enrolled under the Scheme.

I hope this House will unanimously welcome this decision, which is taken not withstanding financial burden on the Exchequer.

CPRO to CM