Telangana’s Palle Pragathi programme was a roaring success

With a view to spurring inclusive growth in its villages, the State Government of Telangana had implemented the Palle Pragathi Special Programme from 6th September to 5th October, 2019. During the 30 day period, districts across the state set up plant nurseries, cremation grounds and dump yards, among others to improve greenery and cleanliness of the villages.

In a press release issued on 10th October, 2019, the Chief Minister Sri K Chandrashekhar Rao congratulated the districts for their outstanding work and advised districts that had not identified sites for setting up of nurseries, etc., to complete their work at the earliest, even using unused government land for the purpose.

The CM clarified that the government was committed to releasing Rs 339 crore per month for the village development. He also advised districts to take up works in accordance with the Green Plan and provide regular allowances to the DPO, DPLO and MPO who supervise the development work of villages. Further, every Gram Panchayat (GP) should buy a tractor with tanker, trolley and front blade to supply water to the plants and to lift debris. Also, plant nurseries are to be set up in every village, each fenced well to prevent goats and other animals from eating them.

Work done during the 30-day period:

- Padayatra were conducted in 12,748 villages to identify problems and issues, to facilitate preparation of village annual plans. Annual plans are yet to be framed in three villages
- Gram Sabhas were conducted and Standing Committees were formed. As many as 8,20,727 members were elected for these committees, of which 4,03,758 were women
- 1,24,837 areas were identified for removal of debris and garbage and work was carried out in 1,09,784 areas
- 2,77,657 areas were identified with unwanted trees, thorny bushes, of which work was completed in 2,67,535 places
- 1,07,288 places were identified for sanitation work of which work was done at 99,770 places
- 22,167 unused wells were identified of which 22,167 were filled up; and 11,065 unused borewells were identified of which 9,888 were closed
- 68, 862 low lying areas were identified in the villages, of which 64,540 places were leveled
- 62,723 places with water logging on roads and pits were identified and repairs were done at 58,856 places
- 1,30,775 unclean places were identified, of which, at 1,25,791 places bleaching powder and lime were sprinkled
• Of the 82,804 government offices, market yards, hospitals and anganwadi centres that were found unclean, 80,420 places were cleaned
• As many as 29,25,390 people participated in the shramdan programme
• There is a need for setting up of cremation and burial grounds in 10,870 GPs, and sites are yet to be identified in 1881 villages
• Sites have been identified for setting up of dump yards in 11,211 villages; and sites are yet to be identified in 1,540 villages
• 12,751 villages have prepared Haritha Haram plans of which plan nurseries have been set up in 12,292 gram panchayats
• As many as 7.32 crore saplings were planted in GPs during the 30-day programme
• 80.88 Lakh saplings were planted across 24,244 kms stretch comprising of village centres, avenues, and village roads
• In open spaces of villages, saplings were planted across a 40,522 kms stretch and around 226.62 lakh saplings were distributed to households to plant near their homes.

**Afforestation:** The CM said that Haritha Haram programme aimed at increasing green cover of the State should be given increased focus, particularly in the districts of Karimnagar, Jangaon, Yadadri, Suryapet, Warangal Urban, Gadwal and Narayanpet that lack green cover.

**Plastic ban in the State:** The CM has decided to ban the manufacture and sale of plastics, which are harm the environment, while threatening the very existence of life. He asked officials to prepare guidelines for the same.

Clearly, Palle Pragathi programme has evoked good results while promoting awareness among people to keep their villages clean and green.