Chief Minister is the Chief functionary both in the Political and Administrative circles. As Head of the political party that which is holds power, he has got to guide plan and formulate policies in such a manner that his party will have an edge over the political parties. Usually his strength and effectiveness of leadership is assessed through the number of seats that his political party bags either in the local institutions or at the State level for the Assembly and at the centre for Parliament.

Obviously, the base of the political power is the numerical strength of the elected representatives. Thus, his primary function is to strengthen
the party base. Further the high command always looks at the Chief Minister and his role and assesses his performance from time to time and leaves whenever necessary the guidelines to be followed by him. In a sense his role in the party circles assumes paramount importance.

Likewise in the administrative circles being placed at the apex of the entire State administrative system the leadership that he provides to the chosen officials assumes greater importance. For, whatever might be the quality of the decisions that the political parties take or the policies that they formulate shall not bare fruit in the absence of effective implementation which is the primary function of the administrative wing. This wing consists of the entire State administrative machinery having in its hold officers belonging to the All India Services, the State Services and other Sub-ordinate Services. 'Bureaucracy' like any other 'Cracy' is powerful and unless it is guided and controlled, the effective delivery of goods and services to the people may be affected adversely and thereby tornish the image of the
It is needless to state that the Chief Minister who is the Centre of all political and administrative activities has to provide leadership direction and even exercise control whenever necessary to ensure that the administrative machinery functions are carried out effectively and ultimately puts the wheels of the State on the road of prosperity and progress. In other words, the development in all spheres and an all-round development ensuring though not high standards of health and living and at least meeting the basic necessities of teeming millions of people who are below the poverty line.

It is in this background and context an attempt is being made to assess the leadership and direction that this Chief important functionary provides to the political and administrative circle, through not only just issuance of Government order from time to time but making his intention clear both to the administrative machinery and public through the speeches that he gives on different occasions at different places and different subjects
allocated to the care of various Ministers, including himself.

Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy is one of the non-controversial persons in Indian Political scenario. In 1982 when the situation prompted for the selection Chief Ministership of Andhra Pradesh in order to give a tough fight to the challenges of N.T. Rama Rao, the Telugu Desam President at time when the Telugu Desam party wave was at full swing, Indira Gandhi chose K.Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy at the instance of P.V. Narasimha Rao to be a non-controversial candidate for the Chief Ministership of Andhra Pradesh. Then Indira Gandhi made him the leader of the Congress Legislative Party unanimously on September 15, 1982, to enable him to take the position of Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

When his selection was at high level considerations it was felt by some quarters that a competent and strong man had to be selected. And accordingly the selection of K.Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was finalised by the party
circle. This selection was on the ground that he had no shadows chasing him, was reasonable, efficient, generally acceptable and more than anything else, less controversial than most others. These were his main credits to select him as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and for the good and faithful service that he rendered to the Congress Party.

At State Minister in the Kasu Brahmananda Reddy's ministry he proved his mettle and brought new life into the Government by adopting a judicious combination of his tolerance and firmness. When the State of Andhra Pradesh was stratified on lines of caste and Regionalism Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy acted so effectively to integrate the situations.2

Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy was balanced with both his political strength and weaknesses. He was strong because he had been in exile for a long time there was no strong opposition to him from any group in the party, but at the same time it became a weakness because he could not know majority of the Congress (I) MLA's who were elected in 1978.3
On the grounds of his ability non-controversial personality, and considerable administrative experience his selection as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh was widely welcomed. While commenting on Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy the Party President Rajiv Gandhi said that in solving the problems of State he possesses zeal and zest though the time before him was too short.

Since his student life he was greatly influenced by Gandhi's ideas and participated in independent movement. When he vacated the Chief Minister's office he wanted everybody to rededicate themselves for building a new and stronger India of Gandhiji's dreams where all citizens are equal and all have the chance to equally enjoy the fruits of development irrespective of Caste, creed, region or religion.

Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy said when he assumed Chief Minister's office during his second time that he had earned an image as a clean politician during his tenure as M.L.A., M.P., Union Minister and Chief Minister and even Rajiv Gandhi had remarked in a newspaper interview that Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy was among the
honest leaders in his Cabinet and he would live up to that image. 7

VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY'S - PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES
SEPTEMBER 1982 TO JANUARY 1983:

In the wake of the massive mandate given to him by the people of Andhra Pradesh in September 1982 he was unanimously elected the leader of Congress (I) Legislature Party in Andhra Pradesh.

While addressing newsmen Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy who took over as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh announced a series of Welfare Programmes for the welfare of the people of Andhra Pradesh. He stated that "His Government would seek more funds from the Centre for implementing welfare schemes aimed at developing the rural economy and to setup various social and administrative programmes to the people". 7 He promised to lead the weaker sections towards new frontiers of progress. He provided a new thrust to the basic philosophy of welfare and laid a firm foundation to elevate the lives of 40% of population above the poverty line.
In 1982 when he was elected as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, he had designed plans and programmes to suit the requirements of people and aimed at a practical shape to be given in a new dimension to the State.

These programmes have been acclaimed as a 'new Deal' for the weaker sections and a comprehensive 'Charter of Action' in key areas of development. The major objectives of these programmes were:

1. Better living conditions to the weaker sections and the downtrodden.
2. To provide for the basic human needs of subsistence such as food and nutrition, shelter, water, clothing, education, health-care and slum clearance and so on.
3. To regulate industrial policies.
4. To help the formers, rural artisans, toddy tappers, weavers and fishermen etc.
5. To provide an efficient and clean administration to the people of Andhra Pradesh.
6. To strengthen action against socio-economic offences.
These programmes had a predominant rural bias. As many as are directly or indirectly for the rural sector. These are significant for the forntal attack on the citadels of poverty in rural Andhra. These programmes focusses more sharply and directly on the amelioration of the living conditions of weaker sections such as the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes, small and marginal farmers, bonded labourers, agricultural labours, artisans, women and Children.

In the following pages the details of the programmes are presented and the progress in terms of implementation are discussed.

**MIDDAY MEAL (NOON MEAL) SCHEME**

The Special nutritions programme was originally launched by the Congress Government in 1971. It aimed at providing supplementary nutritious food to children and inturn enabling of all the children in the age group of 6-11 years. Universalisation of elementary education, improving and regulating the attendance, preventing dropouts of children in classes
I to V were who attached to this programme. This resulted in considerable increase in enrolment in all schools was launched by the Chief Minister K. Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy on November 14th 1982 to synchronise the anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. This could cost the State exchequer Rs.34 crores for the Scheme for covering 53 lakh school children particularly belonging to weaker sections who were studying in about 45,000 primary schools in Andhra Pradesh.

This resulted in considerable increase in enrolment among Scheduled Castes. The recorded rise was eighty per cent and among Scheduled Tribes it was five per cent. The Midday Meal was consisting of 100 grams of rice, 15 grams of Dhal and 5 grams of oil having 450 calories. Each meal was estimated at a cost of paise 0.65. The scheme would operate for 220 days in an academic year and no income restrictions were placed.

The Midday Meal Scheme was effectively launched by the Chief Minister Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy
and it was continued till he vacated his office. But the Telugu Desam Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao in 1983 had temporarily suspended this noon-meal scheme for obvious reasons. The Municipalities and Panchayats who were carrying on the Scheme could not play a dynamic role in implementing it. Moreover, the Central Government failed to supply the necessary quality of rice to continue this scheme.

PROGRAMME OF INTEGRATED EDUCATION SYSTEM :

In 1982, Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy stressed the role of integrated educational system and vocational training in equipping the disabled for employment suited to their abilities. This integrated education system providing education to all the disabled, particularly the blind in normal schools along with others would help to forge closer understanding between the disabled and the rest of the society. He also comeout with non-commercialisation of educational institutions.

PROGRAMME OF DRINKING WATER FOR ALL :

The Congress (I) Government is bent upon
providing basic needs to the people particularly the weaker sections in the society. Since times immemorial Rayalaseema has been suffering with lack of sufficient water facilities. Same is the case in Telangana region. The summer months are literally a curse to the people of these regions. In accordance with the national policy of supplying drinking water to all the regions of Andhra Pradesh the Government is trying its best to provide adequate drinking water supply to all these regions. The water survey department is engaged in finding water resources, tapping ground water, planning water storage, refining river waters etc., to meet the dire need to the people of Andhra Pradesh. The administrative machinery has been geared up to provide at least one source of drinking water to a population of hundred inhabitants.

The Congress (I) Government is committed to provide water to all villages. The Chief Minister Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy announced an among Rs.1 crore for each district on an average for providing drinking water facility to all villages.\textsuperscript{12}
SUPPLY OF RICE AT Rs. 1.90 PER KILO:

Andhra Pradesh is traditionally called the grannery of the South. Inspite of it, the people of Andhra Pradesh have to purchase rice in the open market at a higher rate. This makes the poor at large suffer much and they cannot have even two square meals a day. Immediately on assuming the position Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy announced a historical Scheme of providing rice to Rs.1.90 per Kilo to the weak.

PROGRAMMES TO DEVELOP SCS, STS AND BCs:

Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy after taking over the Charge as Chief Minister announced that he would implement more schemes for developing the weaker sections of the society and rural economy. He made provisions of Housing for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes. By eliminating the intermediaries he made it possible to give house sites to needy and necessary ones. He had initiated the housing programme for the weaker sections with 14 crores loan from the Life Insurance Corporation of India even when he was the Finance Minister of
Andhra Pradesh.

IRRIGATION AND RURAL ELECTRIFICATION SCHEMES:

Immediately after assuming office he started touring the drought hit Rayalaseema and announced waiving of penal interest on agricultural loans and also reschedule of loans. He also helped to secure subsidised fertilisers, seeds and financial assistance. He focussed on building checkdams and percolation tanks which would mitigate drought distress in future. He announced to provide assistance to small farmers owning less than 2 hectares of land to enable to replant their crops. The quantum of loan would be of Rs.1250/- per an acre in case of line garden and Rs.5000/- per acre for betelvines. He facilitated to sell some of the commodities of the farmers through co-operative for giving a better deal both to the producers and purchasers and to avoid middlemen.

Chief Minister taken a 'Momentous decision' for the benefit of small and medium farmers in the State to adopt a flat rate of Rs.50/- per Horse power for supplying power to agricultural pumpsets. This
programme came into force from November 1st 1982. This was introduced in the present system in which tariff is based on meter reading and the consumers are required to pay Rs.120/- per horse power per annum.13

**SCHOOL BUILDINGS PROGRAMME:**

The Chief Minister Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy who expressed the view that the future of the nation lies on primary education. As a part of encouraging the Primary education, he announced Pucca School Buildings to Primary Schools in the villages. Preference was given to the areas where Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes were inhabited and where no school building exists. Each building would be build at a cost of Rs.20,000/- and as many as 4,500 buildings could be earmarked with an amount of Rs.9 crores during the year 1982-83.14

**THE PROGRAMME AND POLICIES FROM OCTOBER 1992 ONWARDS**

**DRINKING WATER SCHEME:**

Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for the Second time has the determination in providing minimum needs to the people of
Andhra Pradesh. Acute scarcity of drinking water is one of the problems in the state, especially drought stricken Rayalaseema area. To solve this problem he geared the administration and the Irrigation Development Corporation to take up more drinking water bore wells at places where there is a problem. He also arranged mobile vans to tour the villages and repair the failed wells. He also increased maintenance grant from Rs.360 to Rs.426 per each handpump, per annum, which would cost about Rs.1.5 crores. For solving drinking water problem during summer, Rs.24 crores have been sanctioned on an average of Rs.1 crore for each district with a view to enable the district administration to take up precautionary measures to meet the situation. Rs.9 crores towards augmenting drinking water supplies in rural areas and Rs.3.10 crores in municipal areas were sanctioned. Rs.5.48 crores were released to the four Rayalaseema districts to help them to take up drinking water schemes in rural areas. In this context he stated that 'providing funds is not the constraint for the purpose.'
DEFLORIDATION OF DRINKING WATER:

In most of the districts in Andhra Pradesh have more content of fluoride in drinking water, which results to cause bone diseases, and formation of gum on teeth etc. To avoid fluoride from the drinking water, 201 villages in 6 districts were taken up deflouradation schemes with foreign aid. Under these, 3 schemes were started and for Andhra Pradesh Scheme I, Rs.18.91 crores were spent for the purpose. Under Andhra Pradesh Scheme II, Rs.48.30 crores were spent under to Medak, Kurnool, Mahaboobnagar and Prakasam districts. Besides the above 10,000 lift irrigation schemes (in Mahaboobnagar district) covering 6.48 lakh inhabitants of 234 villages would benefit with this programme. Under Andhra Pradesh Scheme III, 226 villages in Nalgonda district were benefitted with the Programme of deflouridation of drinking water.16

HOUSING SCHEME:

Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy Contemplated
programme of House construction for weaker sections and to be given a big thrust in 1992-93. For this he wanted to take up rural housing programme and cover a large number of rural people. In constructing the house cost effective Technology and innovative techniques could be used to ensure good construction with quality and proper design. He committed to give high importance to implementation of housing programme for the benefit of weaker sections and give a big hand to the construction of houses for weaker sections. He stated that "to provide atleast a house with minimum facilities to each family in the State". The State Government has proposed to build 1.45 lakh houses under the rural housing programme in 1993-94 with an outlay of Rs.25 crores. Chief Minister has succeeded in sanctioning Rs.22.50 crores for the current year for the rural housing programme in the State from the Union Ministry of Rural Development.

In 1992-93 the State Government has estimated to construct 1.80 lakh houses in the State the District Housing Corporation and Integrated Tribal Development Agency together identified the house construction areas
and the needy. The idea was at least 20 houses are to be constructed at one place to promote co-operation and fraternity among the beneficiaries. During 1992-93, Rs.88.89 crores had to be spent for the construction of 1,13,060 houses to weaker sections in the society.²⁰

CARROT AND STICK APPROACH - REHABILITATION OF NAXALITES

Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy as Chief Minister stated that this Government would get tough with naxalites but decided to give top priority to rehabilitation of those who eschewed violence and returned to mainstream. He started a programme of effective anti-extremist drive and rehabilitation of persons for whom who came out of the extremist fold voluntarily.

The Government launched a new policy for rehabilitation known as comprehensive Rehabilitation policy of naxalites who had given up violence and joined the mainstream as part of a multi-pronged strategy to root out extremism. Under this programme the Government provides an assistance of Rs.2 lakhs to each of the changed extremists according to their rank and to setup their own enterprises or to do farming. The
loan amount will be increased in exceptional cases depending upon the merit of the scheme.

The Chief Minister announced this comprehensive Rehabilitation Policy in the presence of surrendered naxalite leaders. More than 12 thousands of various cadres have been rehabilitated under this policy and who gave up violence and joined the mainstream and leading normal life. The Government has adopted our 'opendoor policy' of facilitating the willing extremists to give up violence and naxalism.

The Comprehensive Rehabilitation Policy also include constitution of District-level Committee comprising of the District Collector, Superintendent of Police and Project Directors of I.T.D.A., and the D.R.D.A. to receive the application, screen and recommend for the rehabilitation of these people according to their rank. The scheme will be decided by taking into account the aptitude, capacity and requisite qualifications of the individual and overall viability of the scheme. The entire procedure will be completed within 3 months.
POWER GENERATION PROGRAMME:

The Government had identified the need of power in the present day life. For everything needs electricity. It is no exaggeration to say that man cannot survive without power. The Development and economic growth of the State depend on power generation. To run any industry power is needed. Industrial growth depend on supply of power.

The Chief Minister Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy identified the power need and give more importance to produce in the State. Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy said his priority is to stepup power generation which is essential to attract new industries to the State. The Government attended to expand power generation and started streamlining its distribution. He has the zeal to bring the lost glory of Andhra Pradesh on the power front. He is striving for making the State a front ranking one in agriculture production, irrigation and export promotion. He attached importance to power projects because there are chances of more industries coming up in the State, and creating more employment.
opportunities.

Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy, as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh stated that there will not be power shortage in the State after 2 years and the ongoing and proposed power projects will be executed expeditiously. The Government had decided to put power generation high on its agenda as it was the only way to develop the State.

The Chief Minister Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy with the aim of improving power generation took up some fresh projects and started additional units in existing stations, increasing the capacity of stations, installation of new thermal stations in different parts of the State.

To develop the power generation upto 2000 M.W. in next 5 years Chief Minister has taken up the following measures.

Clearance to 1000 M.W. (2 x 500 MW) thermal station and supply of coal to thermal station from Orissa and Kakinada Station.
- 1000 M.W. Thermal Station to be setup at Krishna Patnam in Nellore District.
- Coal supply to Muddanur Rayalaseema Thermal Power Project of 420 M.W., agreement reached to supply coal.
- Enhance 420 M.W. of power in Kothagudem and Ramagundam thermal stations.
- Vijayawada Thermal Station 3rd stage (2 x 210 M.W.) will be completed by 1993-94.
- Srisailam Left Branch Canal Station (6 x 150 MW.)
- High level Sileru 2nd stage (2 x 600 M.W.).
- Gas based Station at Jegurupadu (400 M.W.).
- 2 x 30 M.W. Station at Balinela and
- Penna Ahobilam Balancing Reservoir Power Station (2 x 10 M.W.) to be completed by VIII Plan end.

The Chief Minister put proposal laying Gas pipe line from Bombay high to South India. He said Southern Gas grid is the only way to meet the requirements of the power demand.²¹

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES:

Education is the key for the development of
Backward areas and uplift of poor people in the society. Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy stated that, Universal Primary Education Programme to be made a success elementary education has to be given relatively high-priority. He was doubtful that universalisation of primary education can be achieved even by the end of this century, unless the Central Government comes forward to help the States in a big way.

Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy described expenditure on education as a long-term investment having an impact on very aspect of human progress and economic development and it cannot be treated as callously as in the past. On higher education the Chief Minister felt that therein as urgent need for major revision in curriculum to solve the problem of making higher education relevant to the needs of society. He advocated that "returns must be proportionate to investment". To improve standards in schools he suggested that time has come to coordinate the activities of the Government, local bodies and private schools and improve standards in schools.
Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy recollecting back his memories of his Chairmanship of Kurnool Zilla Parishad there were 36 High Schools in the District. In about 4 years of his Chairmanship the number of schools in the district rose to fifteen hundreds.

**POLICY OF PROHIBITION**:

A Movement started by women at Dubagunta village in Nellore district spread to entire State, that made a demand for banning the Sale of Arrack. It became a grave problem to State Government. An stated by Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy on ongoing agitation, "the Congress (I) Government would give due attention to the demands of the agitators and do not presume that the arrack sale fully will be abolished". Congress (I) had all along been against the drinking evil and that it respected the sentiments of the women agitating for prohibition. After discussing all pros and cons, the Government would take a decision.

He also said that he would take a decision which is practical in implementation and would benefit
the poor people. He wanted to discuss this matter with the party members and opposition members and other organisations before taking a decision on prohibition. "I do not want to earn the bad name that I am an unsuccessful Chief Minister who has failed in the implementation of prohibition".

Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy, had appointed cabinet Subcommittee to study the ban on sale of arrack. This 'four members Committee' visited Gujarat and Tamilnadu States, where prohibition is in practice and submitted a report, recommending the ban on sale of arrack. Keeping in view the history, in which during Rajaji's Government in erstwhile Madras State, Prakasam's Government in Andhra failed in successful implementation of prohibition in arrack. Even in USA it has failed. He commented on prohibition that, he had no intention of being branded as the Chief Minister who had introduced prohibition, but failed. He also told to the All India Prohibition Council Delegation that the Government was in favour of educating the people about the ill-effects of Liquor.
On April 15, 1993 Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy announced in Cabinet meeting, to prohibit the sale of arrack in the entire state with effect from October 1, 1993 the commencement of the new excise year. The sale is banned in Nellore district with immediate effect. Announcing the excise policy, Chief Minister said the ultimate aim of the Government was to introduce total prohibition. The distribution and wholesale trade in I.M.F.L. (Indian Made Foreign Liquor) would be taken over by the Government with effect from October 1, 1993.

For the successful implementation of the prohibition he decided to constitute a committee as State, District and Mandal levels to educate the people on the evils of drinking.

Describing the new policy as a bold-one Chief Minister's said the decisions were taken after considering the pros and cons. Ultimate policy was total prohibition and money was not the criterion. It was important that people must get away from the drinking habit. To improve the economy of the poor, steps would be taken to see that the ban was strictly enforced.
The decision to improve the economic condition of the poor, their health and create peace to their homes and the society at large.

The Government framed the publicity Campaign Committee headed by Vavilala Gopala Krishnaiah and eminent people from all walks of life. Those members have to educate the people on the evils of drinking. The Committee members would go round the State explaining the evils of arrack and appealing to the people to give up the drinking habit. He called upon women to launch a movement to generate awareness among the people regarding the need for prohibition. For strict enforcement, Excise department will be strengthened and special police battalions deployed to prevent illicit distillation of arrack in the State.

CLEARANCE TO PROJECTS:

Government realised the importance of irrigation projects which are key source to enhance the agriculture development and giving more importance to timely completion of pending projects and new ones. As part of this programme Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy has
assured the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalitha, that the Telugu Ganga Project would be completed as per schedule and that drinking water would be provided to Madras State and create irrigation facilities for 60,000 acres in Rayalaseema, by June 1995. Gorkallu Reservoir has been included in Telugu Ganga Project, which would cost Rs.260 crores and provide water to agriculture purpose to around 77 thousand hectares in drought prone Rayalaseema area. World Bank had agreed to fund the Second stage of Sriramsagar Project following Prime Minister's talk with World Bank President.

The Government has decided to go ahead with the execution of works with the Rs.1060 crore expenditure and to divert Krishna water to Nalgonda district through a tunnel of 300 metres below the surface, which would be completed by three and half years. Srisailam Left Bank Canal Scheme envisages irrigating in 3 lakh acres in 212 villages lying in 21 Mandals of Nalgonda district, besides supply of drinking water to Nalgonda town and fluoride affected villages enroute.
Government sanctioned Rs.147.30 crores for the first phase of flood canal of the SriramSagar Project. It will irrigate 2.20 lakh acres in Karimnagar, Warangal and Nalgonda districts. Centre has given hydrological clearance for 196.1 TMC/Ft of water which will be sufficient to cover SriramSagar Project Stage II and II. Stage II envisaging irrigation of 6.36 thousand acres in Adilabad, Warangal and Nalgonda districts.

In view of the importance given to the backward areas of Telangana Region, the Government decided to give administrative sanction on March, 20, 1993, for the first phase pending with Central approval, which comprises a head regulator and excavation of a flood flow canal from SriramSagar Project. Reservoir upto the storage reservoir across the Peddavagu.

**FARMERS WELFARE PROGRAMMES :**

India gets nearly seventy per cent of its income from agriculture. One should keep in mind and take measures not to affect its economy. Farmer is
the backbone of Indian economy. Realising this, Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy said his Government would give top priority in solving the problems of farmers and uplift the economically disadvantaged sections of the people. Chief Minister has been taken several farmers welfare measures after his assumption of office.

He also announced the reduction of slab rate for agricultural connections for farmers to Rs.75/- per horse power per year upto 5 HP from the existing Rs.100/- a HP a year. Nearly there are 12 lakh agricultural connections in the State of which 1.16 lakh connections belong to the farmers owning 5 HP Motors, which burdens on State exchequors which would go upto Rs.10 crores.

A survey would be taken up to identify dark areas where ground water level sunk by a considerable rate. Policy regarding sand would be taken up. 5,200 agricultural connections would be given in Nizamabad district. Government legitimise the most of the illegal connections to help the farmers. He appealed
farmers to go in for more borewells, and he would instruct the banks to provide loans for this purpose. Funds would be earmarked for providing drinking water and irrigation facilities. In order to provide the farmers minimum support price to paddy, he asked Food Corporation of India to open Paddy purchase centres.

Chief Minister even before the new procurement policy decided millers were talking about a ban on rice exports to other States and making it a pretext to lower Paddy prices in the market. The minimum support would be maintained at any cost. For this step would be taken to seal the borders to prevent smuggling to other States.

Lok Adalat would be setup to expeditiously dispose of the pending cases of compensation to farmers whose lands were submerged by the Srisailam Project in 1971 and compensation would be paid in 3 months instalments beginning from April 1993 onwards benefiting 38,000 farmers.

The State Government had posed a comprehensive
agricultural development programme costing about Rs. 1796 crores with World Bank assistance, which includes development of backward areas. He also sanctioned an Irrigation tank near Laxmipuram to benefit the tailend farmers under the Tungabhadra low level canal.

Chief Minister made efforts to step up Andhra Tobacco exports to Russia with the help of Central Government. He called Tobacco farmers not to panic as the State Government had made arrangements to buy tobacco through the State Trading Corporation. Through Marketing Federation Centre agreed to export 30,000 bales of Cotton and he made a for minimum support price for cotton, from the Centre.

He also referred the matter to purchase chillies through NAFED (National Agriculture Marketing Federation) with Union Government.

He also succeeded in releasing an amount of Rs. 20 crores to Andhra Pradesh for pumpsets
and energisation programme under Rural Electrification Corporation in the State.

He has initiated a new agriculture policy which clearly shows that the remunerative procurement prices would be fixed well in advance to all crops. The farmers could know easily which is beneficial to them, and they could cultivate that crop. Apart from this policy, he announced procurement prices for the produce in the State for the next coming season.

**ANDHRA PRADESH POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMME**:  

Chief Minister Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy has been interested to develop all the regions in the State. For this, he proposed 'Andhra Pradesh Poverty Alleviation Programme' with a cost of Rs.149 crores, has been approved by the World Bank, which helps to execute the programme. This programme covers financially backward areas located in 668 mandals in four areas, and improve living standards of the people below the poverty line.

The programme includes two short-term
Immediate schemes. In the first scheme, 43 lakh acres of land could be irrigated for the land belonging to 18 lakh Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward classes who got the land under land ceiling. In the second scheme, it includes education, health, training facilities to backward people. Under this the following works are to be taken up.

- 3 lakh hectares of dry land to be developed under Dryland Development Project with Rs.56.13 crores cost.
- 21,000 hectares of unfertile land to be developed into fertile land. With Rs.54 crores.
- In 1154 hectares forest land would be developed with Rs.1.15 crores.
- In 12,000 hectares parks would be developed with 16 crores.
- In 2,789 hectares sericulture and 1789 fish industry units could be developed with Rs.16.40 crores.
- 25,500 hectares of land will be developed (Land could be purchased to landless and bring barren land under cultivation).
- 3,225 schools to be started where no school exists and 2,562 schools to be upgraded.
- 125 crores will be spent for this programme besides starting 44 residential schools.
- For child and women development Rs.61.45 crores were earmarked. Under this programme 6,109 Anganwadi Centres have to be opened and 6,109 schools and to be strengthened and 7,654 thirst societies for women are to be started.
- With Rs.50.22 crores health services, child health programmes and public latrines are to be improved.
- 240 hostel buildings are to be constructed for Scheduled Castes and Tribe students.
- Laying of approach roads for Scheduled Caste and Tribe colonies and inhabitant areas and drinking water facility for these areas with an estimated cost of Rs.215.43 crores.

**INDUSTRIES**

Industries play a major role in solving the unemployment problems and strengthening the State's
economy. For the development of industries more natural resources, power, infrastructure and other facilities are to be needed. In our State though we have natural resources, due to power-cut most of the entrepreneurs are not showing interest to invest in the State.

Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy assumed office of the Chief Minister and identified the problem of power generation for industrial development. He is giving more importance to enhance the State's power generation. Apart from getting clearance several new projects, additional units were to be taken up in present generation projects. In this way he tried to attract the entrepreneurs.

He submitted a proposal to the Centre involving an investment of Rs.13,000 crores for annual industrial investment. A number of plants such as naptha crackers, Linear alkyl benzene, ethylene propylene, oxe-alcohol and butyl rubber were likely to come up in Visakhapatnam.

In Andhra Pradesh nearly there are 822 large
and medium scale industries with an investment of Rs.11,773 crores and are providing employment to about five lakh persons. The Centre had issued 216 proposals with an investment of Rs.1780 crores and employment potential for about 34,000 persons.  

**PROGRAMMES FOR THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES DEVELOPMENT:**

Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy has been taken numerous welfare programmes to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

He took initiative to fullup the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes accounting to nearly 8039 posts in all Government Departments.

He also took measures to improve and provide educational facilities for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Health Care, distribution of House sites, improving drinking water facilities in the areas,
construction of houses and taking sanitary measures in their habitation and other Programmes taken up by him.

He also took steps to improve agriculture facilities, Animal Husbandry and to improve their economy by giving loans and other infrastructural facilities to them to run cottage and small scale industries.

Sanctioning of Social Welfare Pension and other Social Security Schemes for these weaker sections was also launched by him.

These schemes were formulated somewhere by the departments and were sanctioned by the Secretariat, and the works are to be executed at the lower levels. When the people feel that all these schemes are for their own good they must extend their participation and co-operation for the success of that schemes to bear fruits and bring prosperity to the people. The success of the implementation of the programme thus depends on the co-operation of the officials and the people at large.
REFERENCES


