

## Focus On Educational Schemes Under Navaratnalu In Andhra Pradesh: Transforming The State Education System

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### **Abstract**

The Andhra Pradesh State Government Flagship Programmes named Navaratnalu, an ambitious and comprehensive welfare and development programs that were launched by Andhra Pradesh State Government, India. This Flagship programmes initiative, introduced by the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP) led and founded by present Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, he aims to address multifaceted challenges and also propel the Andhra Pradesh state towards holistic progress and development. The Navaratnalu Flagship programs encompasses almost nine key areas in different fields, each programme targeting a specific aspect of development, empowerment, social justice, and well-being. These nine pillars by the Navaratnalu are envisioned to collectively transform the Andhra Pradesh state by fostering inclusive growth and also ensuring for the upliftment of every section of people in the society. The following Programmes such Amma Vodi, Vidya Deevena, Vasathi Deevena and Nadu Nedu projects are the three Major schemes that are contributing to the School, Intermediate and also Higher Education System in the state of Andhra Pradesh. This research Paper discusses all the educational related schemes that are introduced through Navaratnalu by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

**Key Words:** Navaratnalu, Amma Vodi, Vidya Deevena & Vasathi Deevena and Nadu Nedu.

## Introduction

- 1. Amma Vodi:** This Major Scheme addressing the importance of education among parents as well as students, the Amma Vodi scheme offers financial assistance of 15,000 INR to the mothers or guardians of school-going children who are eligible. This kind of financial support ensures that economic constraints do not hinder children's access to quality education. Without any financial burden parents can freely send their children to school.
- 2. Vidya Deevena & Vasathi Deevena:** Building upon the commitment to education, these two schemes offer monetary support to students who are pursuing higher education and to the students those who are residing in hostels. This financial assistance facilitates and ensures students' pursue their courses and develop skills without any financial constraints.
- 3. Nadu-Nedu:** The Nadu-Nedu program aims to target the transformation of Government schools by improving the all the required infrastructure, sanitation facilities, and also the overall learning environment. This initiative envisions providing the students with modern facilities and conducive learning spaces in schools and colleges.

### **1. Amma Vodi: Empowering Education and Enabling Dreams of Students & Parents**

Education has long been and became as a cornerstone of 21<sup>st</sup> Century societal progress, which equipping individuals with knowledge, skills, and plenty of opportunities in shaping their futures and dreams. Recognizing this pivotal role education that plays in the transforming lives of people, the state government of Andhra Pradesh has introduced Amma Vodi scheme as a flagship programme. This visionary initiative, which aimed at providing the financial support to mothers or guardians of school-going children, which underscores the commitment towards the importance of education, social empowerment, and also inclusivity. This Scheme was launched under the leadership of Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, the Amma Vodi scheme was initially introduced in the month of January 2020 as part of the comprehensive Navaratnalu program. With the allocation of state budget amount of rupees ₹ 6,455.80 crore for the first academic year 2019–20. The

Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme will benefit the students around 43 lakh households. The Second phase of the Amma Vodi scheme was launched on 11th Jan 2021 with a budget allocated amount of rupees ₹6673 crore which in turn benefiting 45 lakh people in the entire state of Andhra Pradesh. Following the three years governance, the budget covers nearly 6000 crores of rupees specifically for this scheme. Over all the total allocation of the Jagananna Amma Vodi from the academic years 2019-2024 duration will be almost 30,000 – 35,000 crore rupees. The primary objective of this scheme is to encourage admissions and attendance rates in schools, especially among economically disadvantaged families. This scheme also benefits by decreasing the school drop outs, as the eligibility for the scheme is set to 75% of student's attendance. By offering the financial assistance directly to the mothers or guardians, this scheme seeks to alleviate the financial barriers that might hinder the children from accessing quality education.

**Key Objectives:**

1. Promoting Education: The primary and predominant aim is to increase the enrolment or the admissions of children in schools and to encourage their regular attendance, thus it enhances a fostering culture of Primary and Secondary Education from a young age.
2. Empowering Women: By providing such financial assistance to mothers or the female guardians of children, this Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme indirectly empowers the women, recognizing their crucial role in children's education and overall nurturing development.
3. Combating the Dropout Rates: This scheme aims to reduce the dropout rate by ensuring that financial constraints do not force the financially background families to withdraw their children from school prematurely.
4. Alleviating Poverty: Education is a pathway out of poverty. This scheme Jagananna Amma Vodi also helps to break the cycle of poverty by equipping the school going children with knowledge and development of skills for a brighter future.

**Eligibility:**

The mother/guardian of the children must be reside in Andhra Pradesh. The child of the mother must attend from 1st to 12th grade.

The school of the child is admitted must be a Government Accredited School, or a Supported and registered Private

School, Jr. College or boarding school/Jr.College in Andhra Pradesh.

The program runs from the academic years 2019-2024. Total household income must be less than ₹10,000 per month for rural areas; and ₹12,000/- per month for urban areas (BPL).

No member of the child's family must be a state/central government employee or government retiree. (except for family of medical staff). The Applicant's family must not own a four- wheeled vehicle (except taxis, tractors and cabs). The monthly power consumption of the applicant's family (own /rent) must be less than 300 units (at average six months).

No member of the applicant's family must be a taxpayer to the government. The land below the municipality must be less than 1,000 square feet. School attendance of the student should be at least 75%.

#### **Key Features and Benefits:**

The Amma Vodi scheme is boasting the several distinctive features that are contributing to its success are the following:

1. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT): Under this scheme, the eligible beneficiaries will receive a fixed amount which is directly credited into their bank accounts. This will provide flexibility to utilize the funds for various educational expenses and others.
2. Inclusive Approach: This scheme will cover all the students that are studying in government schools, government-aided schools, and also even those students who are pursuing education in private schools.
3. Financial Assistance: The financial aid is provided through the scheme which in turn helps the families that cover expenses such as uniforms, textbooks, stationery, and also the other educational necessities of the students.
4. Incentivizing Attendance: The scheme encourages regular attendance by linking the financial assistance to the child's school attendance, ensuring the intended impact on education is achieved.
5. Impact on Girl Child Education: By involving mothers or female guardians, this scheme is indirectly empowers women, contributing to the gender equality and women's empowerment.

#### **Impact and Way Forward:**

The Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme has been generating a substantial attention for its potential in reshaping the frame of educational landscape of Andhra Pradesh. It has not only increased school enrolment and attendance rates but also

elevated the importance of school education within communities. The scheme's impact has been extends beyond the immediate beneficiaries, reshaping a generation of learners who are better most equipped to contribute positively to the society. To ensure the sustained success of the Amma Vodi scheme, the governments continued and consistent commitment in monitoring and the scheme implementation, addressing any challenges and issues that will arise. Additionally, promoting the awareness about the scheme's benefits, especially among the marginalized sector of communities, and fostering with the collaborations between educational institutions and public can further enhance its effectiveness. In conclusion, the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme exemplifies the government's dedication towards the promotion of school education, women's empowerment, and also the social progress. By providing financial support to mothers or guardians, the scheme is not only breaking down the financial barriers but also lays the foundation for a brighter and more equitable future for children in the state of Andhra Pradesh. As an investment in human capital, the Amma Vodi scheme is symbolizes the transformative power of education in shaping the individuals, communities, and societies at larger pace.

**Vidya Deevena and Vasathi Deevena: Catalyzing the Education and Accommodation for Students:**

Education and housing are termed as two the pillars that lays the foundation for individual and also for the societal progress. Acknowledging the significance of the schemes, the government of Andhra Pradesh has introduced this scheme Jagananna Vidya Deevena and Jagananna Vasathi Deevena as integral components of its comprehensive Navaratnalu program. Under the visionary leadership of Andhra Pradesh State Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, these initiatives programs will aim to alleviate the financial barriers of education and accommodation, which empower the financially backward students and also enabling them to pursue their aspirations and educational dreams without any issues and constraints. Launched as part of the Navaratnalu program in the year 2019, Vidya Deevena and Vasathi Deevena schemes will address the financial challenges faced by students pursuing higher education and those residing in hostels. With a state budget amount of INR 3,400 crores per year the scheme will benefit almost 11,87,904 students from the financially low background families in the state. Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy

officially launched the Vidya Deevena and Vasathi Deevena scheme on the date of 24 February 2020. For the academic year of 2020–21, rupees

₹671.45 crores were already deposited in the accounts of 10,88,439 beneficiaries in the first instalment and ₹693.81 crores rupees were deposited in the second instalment which benefiting almost 10.97 lakh students. As of April 2021, the total sum of ₹4,879 crores were spent especially for the Vidya Deevena scheme and Vasathi Deevena scheme. The schemes will provide abundant access to education and appropriate accommodation for the students that are essential for nurturing a skilled and empowered workforce in the corporate world, thus these schemes are contributing to the socio-economic development of the state.

#### **Key Objectives:**

The Vidya Deevena and Vasathi Deevena schemes are determined to set of key objectives:

1. Promoting Higher Education: Vidya Deevena aims to ensure that any financial constraints and objections do not hinder students from pursuing the desired higher education, thereby promoting skill development and knowledge acquisition to every individual.
2. Hostel Accommodation: Vasathi Deevena mainly focuses on providing the financial assistance to students who are living in hostels, relieving them from the financial burden of accommodation expenses and others.
3. Empowering Students: Both schemes will contribute to the empowering students by reducing their financial burden and allowing them to concentrate on their studies, skills development and personal growth.

#### **Key Features and Benefits:**

Vidya Deevena and Vasathi Deevena offer several notable features that are contributing to the transformative impact on students education:

1. Financial Assistance: Under Vidya Deevena, all the eligible students will receive a financial assistance to cover their tuition fees along with certain exam fees. Vasathi Deevena scheme provides a financial aid to students for hostel accommodation and mess charges subsequently.
2. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT): The schemes will operate on the direct benefit transfer model, ensuring that the financial aid or assistance is transferred directly in to the

beneficiaries' bank accounts only.

3. Inclusive Approach: The initiatives will cover a wide spectrum of students who are financially backward, including those pursuing undergraduate, postgraduate, and also professional courses like B.Tech, MBBS, etc., as well as students living in government, private, and aided hostels.
4. Community Participation: Vidya Deevena and Vasathi Deevena schemes will incorporate the community participation in identifying the eligible beneficiaries, which ensuring that those in need are prioritized.

#### **Impact and Way Forward:**

Since the launch, Vidya Deevena and Vasathi Deevena schemes have made a significant contributions to the higher education access and also for the purpose of accommodation facilities for students in Andhra Pradesh state. These schemes have not only reduce the financial burden on students and their families but have also fostered a positive educational environment, encouraging more students and individuals to pursue higher education. To sustain and enhance the impact of these schemes, the government should continue to streamline the implementation, address the impact challenges, and also adapt the different strategies as needed. Furthermore, these schemes are creating the awareness about the benefits of these initiatives among students, ensuring timely disbursement of funds to the beneficiaries, and leveraging technology and ensure the realistic inputs were considered to improve the efficiency of the schemes will contribute to their continued success of the schemes. Vidya Deevena and Vasathi Deevena exemplify the government's commitment to education and empowerment through the proper delivery mechanism. By alleviating financial barriers to higher education and accommodation, these schemes enable students to embark on a desired journey of personal growth and contribute for the socio-economic development of Andhra Pradesh in a long way. These initiatives stand still as a symbol of how targeted policy interventions can uplift the every individuals and propel the targeted communities towards the progress and prosperity.

#### **Nadu-Nedu: Transforming Government Schools for Quality Education:**

Education serves as the foundation stone for a nation's progress, empowering the individuals with adequate knowledge and professional skills that shape their personal and professional lives. Recognizing the pivotal role of

education in societal development and professional improvement, the state government of Andhra Pradesh prestigiously launched the Nadu-Neduprogram for the welfare of the people. This transformative initiative which was led by Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, is committed to rejuvenating the government schools by enhancing modern infrastructure, improving different facilities, and fostering a conducive learning environment among the students. Nadu-Nedu scheme, which translates to then and now, was introduced in the year 2019 as a part of the Navaratnalu program. The program seeks to revamp the infrastructure of the government schools, which often face several issues related to inadequate infrastructure, lack of basic amenities like washrooms, drinking water facilities, and suboptimal learning environments. The overarching goal is to provide every student with access to high-quality education, bridging the gap between government and private schools.

The state Government Scheme Mana Badi – Nadu Nedu is to strengthen the infrastructure of the buildings and also to transform the existing infrastructure of the government schools over a period of three years, starting from the year 2019-20. Under Mana Badi – Nadu Nedu program, these are the following nine infrastructure components that have been taken up in consideration: Toilets with running water facility, Purified Drinking water supply, Major and minor repairs of the buildings, Electrification with fans and tube lights, Furniture for students like benches and tables and chairs for staff, Green chalk boards, Painting to schools, English communication labs, Compound walls around the school, Additional Class Rooms if required.

**Key Objectives:**

The Nadu-Nedu program is driven by a set of key objectives:

1. Infrastructure Enhancement: The program aims to transform the whole physical infrastructure of government schools by providing modern facilities, amenities in the classrooms, and other facilities.
2. Learning Environment: Nadu-Nedu envisions creating a conducive learning environment for the students that stimulates curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking among students.
3. Quality Education: By focusing on infrastructure and facilities, the Nadu – Nedu program aims to improve the overall quality of education that is to be delivered and



promote better learning outcomes from the students.

4. Inclusion: Nadu-Nedu prioritizes inclusion by ensuring that children from the marginalized groups and economically disadvantaged backgrounds also benefit from the improved educational facilities through the scheme.

#### **Key Features and Benefits:**

Nadu-Nedu boasts several key features that are contributing to its transformative impact:

1. Comprehensive Approach: The program will encompass a wide range of improvements, including classroom renovations, provision of furniture, modernization of toilets, and more.
2. Funds Allocation: Adequate funds are being allocated to each and every school to ensure the effective implementation of infrastructure upgrades and developments.
3. Community Participation: Community involvement is also encouraged in this scheme, allowing local stakeholders to contribute to decision-making and monitoring the progress of the infrastructure development. The contracts were given to the parents committee members.
4. Timely Implementation: The program focuses on timely execution of projects and development of the infrastructure, ensuring that schools benefit from the upgrades within a specific timeframe.

#### **Impact and Way Forward:**

The Nadu-Nedu program has brought about the remarkable transformations in government schools across the state of Andhra Pradesh. It has not only improved the physical infrastructure of the school buildings but has also revitalized the learning atmosphere, motivating every student to engage actively in their period of education and skills development. By reducing the disparity between government and private schools, Nadu-Nedu scheme has also elevated the reputation of government schools and through this impact the scheme enhanced access to quality education for all students. To ensure the sustained success of the Nadu –Nedu program, the government officials must continue to allocate funds, monitor progress, and address any challenges that arise during the program implementation. Additionally, promoting awareness about the benefits of the program among the local communities, encouraging parent and teacher engagement - participation, and maintaining a focus on long-term maintenance goals and

sustainability will contribute to the continued impact on the schools infrastructure. Nadu-Nedu scheme represents a paradigm shift in the entire department of education policy by recognizing the importance of quality infrastructure in enhancing learning outcomes from students. By transforming the government schools into vibrant centers of education, the program also equips students with the tools and necessary aids they need to succeed and contribute to the progress of Andhra Pradesh. Nadu-Nedu exemplifies how strategic investments in education can create a ripple effect that extends far beyond the classroom studies, shaping the empowered futures and continuing a fostering a more prosperous society.

Jagananna Vidya Kanuka is another program launched to upgrade the educational stability for the students of Andhra Pradesh on the day of 16th Aug, 2021. This scheme benefits the schoolchildren a lot. In this scheme, all the government school students from Class I to X are provided with a kit that consists of: Three pairs of school uniforms, Textbooks, Notebooks, English - Telugu Oxford dictionary, School bag, Belt, Pair of shoes, Two pairs of socks.

**Conclusion:** In conclusion, the education supporting schemes that are delivered in Andhra Pradesh state plays a pivotal role in fostering an inclusive growth and accessible learning environment for the students. These initiatives that are being provided are ranging from scholarships and financial aid to the technological advancements like communication labs and tabs in education, have significantly contributed to improving the overall educational landscape in the state. By addressing the several economic barriers and promoting the skill development, these schemes aim to empower the school going students and ensure that quality education is available within reach for all. However, continuous evaluation, adaptation, and equitable distribution and close monitoring of the government schemes delivery mechanism of these schemes remain essential to sustain the positive impact on the students education and pave the way for a more educated and prosperous Andhra Pradesh. Amma Vodi scheme in Andhra Pradesh stands as a transformative initiative which stands as an exemplary with the potential to reshape the educational landscape of the state. By providing direct financial assistance to mothers or guardians of school-going children, the program not only addresses economic barriers and problems to education but also emphasizes the crucial role of mothers in

ensuring their children's regular attendance and participation in school.

The schemes are intended to reduce the dropout rates and enhance enrolment rates has shown promising results, illustrating its impact on increasing access to school education. As the program evolves and expands, continuous monitoring, transparency, monitoring and effective implementation will be essential to realize the scheme's full potential in uplifting families, strengthening educational outcomes, and fostering a more educated and empowered society in Andhra Pradesh. In conclusion, the Nadu-Nedu scheme initiative in Andhra Pradesh marks a significant stride towards revitalizing the state's public education infrastructure. By focusing on comprehensive reforms, school transformation schemes and infrastructural enhancements in government schools, the program aims to create a conducive learning environment that fosters student engagement, participation and achievement. The ambitious effort that is being implemented by the state government through educational schemes to modernize the facilities, ensuring the access to clean water and sanitation, and provide all essential digital resources to showcases the government's commitment to improving the quality of education to the students. As Nadu-Nedu continues to be implemented and refined, sustained monitoring, community involvement, and transparent allocation of resources will be pivotal in realizing the initiative's vision of delivering quality education to students and equipping students with the skills they need to thrive in the modern world.

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