

1.3. Objectives and strategies

The Annual Plan 2009-10 is formulated on the broad objective of the Eleventh Plan of achieving steady and sustainable growth of the economy, coupled with social justice. The plan also proposes to safeguard the livelihood of the people by providing adequate educational and employment opportunities, upgrading the quality of life of the urban and rural population by providing essential infrastructure, thereby ensuring and enhancing the delivery of basic civic services such as water supply and sanitation.

It is proposed to achieve the objective of the plan in the Agriculture sector by emphasising dry land agriculture with crop diversification and introduction of improved crop varieties. Bringing Wasteland under cultivation and reducing the yield gap is another strategy contemplated to improve the overall agricultural production in the State. In order to incentivise and encourage the farmers for continuing the farming activity their access to affordable and timely inputs and credit will be improved. Farmers will be motivated to use new technologies, which involve lower water utilization, and to improve the irrigation management. Farmers' access to markets is also proposed to be improved by enhancing market linkages and strengthening storage and marketing infrastructure. As the Animal Husbandry and Fisheries sectors contribute significantly to the overall development of agriculture the plan proposes to expand the activities in these sectors as an additional means of income for small and marginal farmers.

The steady and sustainable growth in the Industries sector is proposed to be achieved by upgrading of infrastructure facilities such as roads, power etc. Simplification of Government procedures for industrial clearance is another strategy to be followed for facilitating investment. To have an all round development of industry sector it is necessary to see that the growth triggers proportionate employment. Supporting and strengthening small and rural industries to improve employment generation and development of appropriate training and skill development programme to meet the demand of the growing Industries are other strategies during the Annual Plan 2009-2010.

Human Development is the end of all developmental activities. It is proposed to improve human development by upgrading the health infrastructure & services, reducing IMR, MMR and strengthening public health infrastructure in urban areas. Emphasising quality of education at all levels and universalizing the secondary education are the strategies to be followed to reinforce the improvement of human development. Providing adequate attention to safeguard and to provide social security to the vulnerable sections of the society contributes immensely to the objective of social justice. This is proposed to be achieved by enhancing educational standards and employment opportunities of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe, Backward and Most Backward Class students, eradicating malnutrition in the state with emphasis on expectant mothers, children, adolescent girls and ensuring the availability of quality rice at an affordable cost through the Public Distribution System.

As contemplated in the Eleventh Plan for rural development, this plan too proposes to enhance the quality of living of the rural poor through creating adequate and appropriate infrastructure in the rural areas and providing equitable access to them. In order to empower women and youth and to provide increased livelihood opportunities in the rural areas, the Self Help Group movement will be strengthened. To bring in an overall development to the Villages, the plan continues to give emphasis on the improvements in infrastructure facilities in all the Village Panchayats in the state through Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam.

In order to improve the quality of life and to provide basic services to the urban poor, the Annual Plan 2009-10 proposes to develop and maintain urban infrastructure. The plan also pays definite attention to the environmental aspects and strategies to achieve all plan targets in an environmentally sustainable manner.