Press Release

Sri Eatala Rajender, Minister for Finance Releases Telangana Social Development Report 2017

Sri Eatala Rajender, Minister for Finance released the first ever Telangana Social Development Report 2017, prepared by Southern Regional Centre, Council for Social Development (SRC, CSD) and sponsored by Department of Planning, in a function held at Dr. MCR HRD Institute of Telangana. The report presents a statistical profile of social sector in Telangana State drawing on various rounds of NSSO supplemented by Census data.

Sri Eatala Rajender said that the Government of Telangana is committed to the amelioration of the lot of weaker sections of society both in the urban and rural areas of the State. However, he added, achieving this cherished goal in the absence of authentic data is a difficult proposition. “The SKS data and the Telangana Social Development Report will be of great help in understanding the problems of poor in their true and total frame of reference and in finding enduring solutions to them”, he said and added that the innovative welfare schemes conceptualized and launched by the Government for different target groups will enrich the social fabric of the society.

Sri B P Acharya, IAS, Special Chief Secretary, Planning and Director General, Dr. MCR HRD Institute of Telangana said that Government of Telangana is overhauling the policies and programs to address the felt needs of the people of Telangana which have been deliberately ignored in the combined State of AP “The dream of Bangaru Telangana” will be realized only when genuine issues relating to social well-being of people are identified scientifically and addressed professionally and added that the Telangana SKS data and Social Development Report will be of great help in this exercise.

Professor Muchkund Dubey, former Foreign Secretary, Govt. of India and President, CSD said that the basic thrust of the Telangana Social Development Report is to understand the problems of weaker sections of society and provide policy inputs for their multifaceted development. He called upon all the States from across the country to prepare Social Development Reports for their respective States.
Dr. J Jeyaranjan, one of the editors of the report, said that institutional sources such as commercial banks and cooperative societies reach only 16 and 9.3 per cent of households respectively leaving them at the mercy of money lenders in addressing their credit needs. “A staggering 96 percent of the youth do not receive technical education, thereby making a strong case for skilling of this cohort”, he said and added that only one tenth of the households in the State has computers which make digitalizing various activities and services a challenging proposition for the Governments at Centre and State.

Dr. Kalpana Kannabiran, Director, (SRC, CSD) called for immediate State action on innumerable fronts considering declining child sex ratio, decreasing age at marriage, increase in the number of slums, high proportion of widowed women, incidence of disability above national average, insufficient availability of such basic facilities as bathrooms and toilets in houses, high levels of indebtedness among people, small livestock base among all social groups, inadequate facilities of drinking water, etc.

The program was attended by a large number of eminent persons from different walks of life, including Sri A K Goel, IAS (Retd.), Advisor to Govt. for Planning & Energy, Dr. G R Reddy, IES (Retd.), Advisor to Government for Finance, Sri T L Shankar, IAS (Retd.), etc.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------