

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

1. With your permission, I present the Budget for 2019-20.

2. Bharatiya Janta Party Government assumed office in December, 2017. This brought about a generational change in State politics. This change has brought forth new ideas of governance. Our Government, shunning the politics of revenge and accusations-counter accusations, has brought the agenda of development to centre stage. Our Government has taken several new initiatives in the interest of the people in the last 13 months. This is a prime example of “ईमानदार प्रयास, सब का विकास”.

3. Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi's philosophy of “**Sabka Saath-Sabka Vikas**” is the guiding force for the development policies of the State, whose sole objective is to ensure development of all sections of society. We consider the Drishti Patra of the Bharatiya Janta Party as an important guiding force for the policies of the Government.

4. During this developmental journey, we have established direct contact with the common masses. The common people have found ‘**Jan Manch**’ to be an effective forum for them to directly interact with Ministers and Senior Officers for redressal of their grievances and demands. By

January, 2019, 106 Jan Manch Programmes had been implemented in the State in which 33,966 grievances and demands were settled. The increased participation of the people in these Jan Manch Programmes testifies to the effectiveness of this programme.

5. People of the State have high expectations of a new approach to administration. To come good on these expectations, it was important to establish a direct dialogue with the people so that I could understand their problems and the people could also appreciate my approach to resolving the problems. I have myself visited almost all Vidhan Sabha Constituencies in the last 13 months, as a result of which, I have been able to establish a direct connect with the people and seen their problems and grievances from close quarters.

Here I would like to say:—

*यूँ ही नहीं मिलती राही को मंजिल,
एक जूनून सा दिल में जगाना पड़ता है,
पूछा चिड़िया से कैसे बनाया आशियाना बोली,
“भरनी पड़ती है उड़ान बार-बार,
तिनका-तिनका उठना पड़ता है”*

6. We are aware that consequent to the passing of the **Constitution Amendment**, the Central Government has notified reservation of 10 percent posts and seats in public employment and educational institutions. As a result of this historical decision, the economically weaker sections of the

general categories would be eligible for reservation in public services and educational institutions. This amendment in law has been done without affecting the existing legal provisions of reservation relating to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. This decision is a further step in the Central and State Government's resolve to achieve '**Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas**'. We are of the view that this major initiative will provide an opening to the poor eligible persons of the general category, to aspire for opportunities in higher education and public employment , enabling them to achieve their aspirational goals. I am pleased to announce that our Government has also decided to reserve 10 percent seats in employment and educational institutions for the economically weaker sections of the general category.

7. In the last few years, the Indian Economy has emerged as a leading economy in the world, growing at a very fast rate. In 2017-18, the GDP growth of India was 6.7 percent which is likely to be 7.2 percent in 2018-19 also. The foreign exchange reserves of the country have crossed 40,000 crore US Dollars. Compared to the previous year, in 2018, exports recorded a growth of 13.79 percent between April, 2018 and December, 2018. Inflation rate up to December, 2018 was about 2.19 percent. The prices are under control, which is a major achievement of the Union and the State Government. As per the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report, India jumped to 77th rank in 2018 as against the rank of 100 in 2017.

National
Economy

8. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi's vision of inclusive development has taken the benefits of rapid economic growth to all sections of the society. He has started a large number of programmes to make the growth process inclusive. These programmes include **"PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi"**, **"Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojna"**, **"Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojna"**, **"Soubhagya" Yojna**, **"Ujjwala" Yojna**, **Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Srijan Yojna"**, **"Mudra Yojna"**, **"Jan-Dhan Yojna"**, **"Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna"**, **"Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna-Aayushman Bharat"**, **"Doubling of Farmer's Income by 2022 Programme"**, **"Swachh Bharat Mission"**, the programme for speeding up the pace of construction of National Highways and other Infrastructure. The people of Himachal Pradesh too have benefited from these Central Programmes.

State Economy

9. Speaker Sir, when the BJP Government assumed power, we inherited the legacy of acute shortage of financial resources from the previous Congress Government. Meeting the aspirations of the common people was a huge challenge due to the empty treasury left by the previous Government. It was due to this reason that in 2017-18 and in the previous two years, the State had logged growth rates lower than the Country as a whole. The present Government has taken several initiatives to boost the economy of the State. Our Government has not only made judicious use of the available resources, but has successfully got new schemes and projects sanctioned from the Shri Narendra Modi led Union

Government. We have not allowed the fiscal constraints, a legacy of the previous Government, to constrain our efforts to step up developmental initiatives.

10. As per the advance estimates, State's economy is expected to grow at a rate of 7.3 percent during 2018-19. This growth rate was 6.5 percent during 2017-18. The State Gross Domestic Product (SGDP) is expected to be Rs.1,51,835 crore during 2018-19. This is 11.2 percent higher than what it was during 2017-18.

11. The development policy of an economy needs to be oriented towards inclusiveness and sustainability, to make development a continuous process. Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi had expressed India's commitment to achieve Sustainable Development Goals in a summit held in New York on 25th September, 2015. This commitment has been reiterated during various meetings of G-20. The State Government has also initiated the process of institutionalizing Sustainable Development Goals in its budgetary process. A Vision Document, of Sustainable Development Goals as its centre piece, will be brought out very shortly by the State Government.

Sustainable
Development
Goals and
Policies

12. Speaker Sir, the official time line to achieve Sustainable Development Goals, as finalized by the United Nations in consultation with its Member Countries, is 2030. However, we believe that our State Government will be able to achieve most of these targets by 2022. Speaker Sir, it is a matter of pride that Himachal Pradesh has been ranked as

the top performing State in the report - SDG India Index – Base Line Report, 2018, in making efforts to achieve SDGs in the entire Country. This report had ranked all the States and Union Territories of India, based on 62 priority indicators. The areas where Himachal Pradesh has performed better than other States are Poverty Alleviation, Employment under MGNREGA, availability of Health Facilities, proportion of children attending school, open defecation free Panchayats and Villages, Ground Water Management, Urban Waste Treatment and Management, Electrification, Financial Inclusion and Corruption free Governance.

13. This Budget is a step towards achieving the development goals before the target timeline. This budget focuses on effective implementation of the initiatives announced as part of the last budget, apart from proposing new schemes. This budget lays emphasis on improving Agricultural productivity, Women and Child Health Care, Quality of Education, Women Empowerment, Skill Development and Employment Generation, Infrastructure and Industrial Development and maintaining Law and Order. Speaker Sir, here I would like to say:—

*सफर का एक सिलसिला बनाना है,
अब आसमान तक रास्ता बनाना है।*

Annual Plan

14. An outlay of Rs.7,100 crore has been proposed for the Annual Plan 2019-20 which is 12.7 percent (Rs.800 crore) more than the approved outlay of Rs.6,300 crore for Annual Plan 2018-19. This increase in the Annual Plan outlay

is the highest during the past few years. Out of the proposed outlay of Rs.7,100 crore, Rs.1,788 crore is proposed for Scheduled Caste Sub Component Plan, Rs.639 crore for Tribal Sub Plan and Rs.80 crore for Backward Area Sub Plan.

15. Substantial financial resources are required to give impetus to the pace of growth in Himachal Pradesh. External funding through multilateral and bilateral funding agencies play an important role in mobilizing additional resources. The engagement with external funding agencies also provides an opportunity to replicate the best practices being adopted across the world. Presently, 8 Externally Aided Projects, with a total cost of Rs.7,729 crore, are under implementation in the State. In addition, our Government has succeeded in getting the approval of the Central Government for projects worth Rs.10,330 crore for being posed to external funding agencies. This is a record for any Government in a short tenure of 13 months.

16. Speaker Sir, the pace of implementation of development schemes has picked-up in the last one year. **“Jan Manch”, “Mukhya Mantri Portal”, “Monitoring and Quality Check Cell”** in the office of the Chief Minister etc. are some initiatives which have been instrumental in providing impetus to the development process. These initiatives have also helped in improving service delivery and governance.

17. The Jan Manch has helped in redressing grievances of people living in remote areas of the State. However, district level grievances may not always be redressed during the

Administrative
Reforms

Jan Manch. I am happy to announce that as a next step, Jan Manch will also be organized at district headquarters, which will be chaired by me. Speaker Sir, I would like to say:—

*गरीबी से उठा हूँ, गरीबी जानता हूँ,
आसमान से ज़्यादा, ज़मीन की कदर जानता हूँ।*

18. Hon'ble MLAs had given several suggestions during recent review meetings. One of the suggestions was to set time lines for delivery of public services. The Government of Himachal Pradesh had enacted the Himachal Pradesh Public Services Guarantee Act in 2011. 113 services were brought under this Act. However, presently there is no mechanism to know if citizens are getting these services within the specified time period. Our Government has decided to strictly enforce the provisions of this Act to ensure that services covered under the Act are delivered within the specified time period. This then get services at their door step. Our Government will also ensure that implementation process of schemes and public services is made transparent.

19. Hon'ble MLAs had also suggested to improve implementation process of MLA Priority Schemes. Our Government has decided to review the entire implementation process of MLA Priority Schemes and the process will be made more effective and transparent with the help of Information Technology. Hon'ble MLAs have suggested an enhancement in the Assembly Constituency ceiling of Rs.90 crore for posing MLA Priority Schemes to NABARD. I am happy to announce that the current ceiling of Rs. 90 crore

will be enhanced to Rs.105 crore during the financial year 2019-20.

20. During this meeting, the Hon'ble MLAs had also suggested enhancement of the present limit of Rs.1.25 crore under "**Vidhayak Kashetra Vikas Nidhi Yojna**". I am happy to announce that this limit will be increased to Rs.1.50 crore from the financial year 2019-20. Also the discretionary grant will be enhanced to Rs.8 lakh from the existing limit of Rs.7 lakh per Assembly Constituency from the financial year 2019-20. The existing guidelines for implementation of "**Vidhayak Kashetra Vikas Nidhi Yojna**" have provision for assistance up to Rs.20,000 for purchase of Durries, Furniture and Utensils for registered Mahila Mandals. I am happy to announce an increase in this limit to Rs. 25,000. Hon'ble MLAs have suggested making provision of such grants to Yuvak Mandals also. I am happy to announce that the Hon'ble MLAs will be able to recommend a maximum amount of Rs.25,000 per registered Yuvak Mandal for purchase of Sports materials and sports equipment from 2019-20.

Speaker Sir, I would like to share with the Hon'ble Members of Legislative Assembly:-

*छू न सकूँ आसमां, तो न सही,
आपके दिलों को छू जाऊं, बस इतनी सी तमन्ना है।*

21. Speaker Sir, the arrests made under MISA during emergency were a black chapter in the history of our country. During emergency, a large number of people in Himachal

Pradesh were also arrested without assigning any reason. They were sent to jail and tortured. As a token of our respect for such persons, I announce an annual “**Loktandre Prahari**” Samman Rashi of Rs.11,000 to all such persons.

22. Our Government has been making continuous efforts to encourage use of Information Technology. There are 52 G2C (Government to Citizen) services which are being currently provided through E-district Portal. I propose to bring 136 more such services on the E-district Portal.

23. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce that a State of the art, State level Command and Control Centre will be established during 2019-20. This centre will be known as “**Lok Suraksha Kendra**”. With the establishment of this Centre, a large number of services will be provided, in case of emergency, from a single platform using Information Technology. This Centre will help in surveillance of traffic movement, crowd management, criminal activities, disaster management etc. with the help of CCTV cameras.

24. Our Government is committed to timely redress of public grievances. I announce that a “**Mukhya Mantri Helpline**” shall be set-up to achieve this objective. Any person can register his/her complaint via a telephone call. The complaint will be forwarded to the concerned officers immediately after it is registered. If the concerned officer is not able to redress the complaint within a specified time period, the complaint will be escalated to the next higher officer. The officers will resolve the complaints within a

specified time period. My colleagues in the Cabinet and I myself intend to interact with the complainants over telephone and find out whether a satisfactory resolution has been achieved or not. I am confident that this help line will bring accountability, while dealing with public complaints. For effective engagement with public, **MyGov** Portal will be started. This initiative will enable a dialogue with the citizens and experts while formulating public policies.

25. An IT Park will be established in Kangra district with the help of Software Technology Park of India (STPI). This will help attract private investment and create additional employment opportunities in the State. The adjoining land will also be developed for IT related facilities. Private investment will be solicited to make the long delayed IT Park in Waknaghat of Solan District functional.

26. Speaker Sir, the Central Government had launched “**Ujjwala Yojna**” to provide Gas connection to the poor people. Nearly 86,000 families in the State have been extended benefits under this scheme thus far. To cater to left out families in the State, the State Government started a new scheme “**Himachal Grihini Suvidha Yojna**” during 2018-19. Under this scheme the beneficiaries are provided assistance worth Rs.3,500 in the shape of Gas Stove, Cylinder, Regulator, Pipe and security. About 49,000 households have already benefited under this State scheme. This scheme has become very popular among the women folk of the State. The reactions received from the women

Food Security
and Public
Distribution
System

during Jan Manch point to the success of this scheme. As a result, women will be able to avoid smoke and related diseases once this scheme achieves saturation. This scheme also contributes to environment conservation. The households without any female member will also be eligible for getting benefit under the scheme, subject to fulfilment of other eligibility criteria of the scheme. I propose to cover all the left out eligible households of the State under this scheme during 2019-20. With this, Himachal Pradesh will become first State of the country with all the households having an LPG connection.

27. I am also happy to announce that our Government will provide Gas Stove, Cylinder and Pipe, out of the State's own resources, for all new beneficiaries under Government of India's "**Ujjwala**" Yojna. I am also happy to announce that in addition to this, all the beneficiaries under "**Himachal Grihini Suvidha Yojna**" and "**Ujjwala**" Yojna will be provided an additional LPG refill free of cost. This will benefit about 2 lakh households in the State. I propose an outlay of Rs.20 crore for this scheme during 2019-20.

Speaker Sir, I would like to say:-

*चिरागों के अपने घर नहीं होते,
जहाँ जलते हैं, वहीं रोशनी बिखेर देते हैं।*

28. Our Government has been paying special attention to ensure quality of pulses, edible oils, salt etc. provided through the ration shops. The procurement of these food

items has been made more competitive and transparent. Rs.230 crore will be spent as subsidy on these items. Speaker Sir, our Government will ensure that the subsidy being provided on the edible items through Public Distribution System reaches the deserving sections of society. Here, I would again like to appeal to all ration card holders who can afford to buy ration from the open market, to surrender this ration subsidy.

29. Speaker Sir, the Central Government in the budget for 2019-20, has made a historical announcement to provide an assured income support to small and marginal farmers with land holding less than 2 hectares, at the rate of Rs.6,000 per annum under the “**Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi**”. Since 90 percent of the farmers in our State are small and marginal, a very large number of our farmers will be benefitted. Our Government will immediately initiate the necessary steps to implement this scheme in the State.

Agriculture and
Irrigation

30. Our Government is committed to double the farmer's income by 2022. In this direction, our Government has started “**Prakritik Kheti Khushhal Kisan Yojna**” in 2018-19. This scheme will continue in 2019-20 also.

31. Full protection to standing crops of the farmers is not always possible, despite continuous watch and despite sterilization of monkeys. To protect standing crops of farmers, subsidy for solar fencing under “**Mukhya Mantri Khet Sanrakshan Yojna**” will continue to be provided to the farmers. Keeping in view the demand of the farmers,

I announce 50 percent subsidy for installing Barbed Wire or Chain Link Fence under this scheme.

32. Speaker Sir, I am happy to inform this August House that our Government will start a new project “**Doubling of Farmer’s Income through Water Conservation and other Activities**” at an estimated cost of Rs.4,751 crore. The Government of India has already recommended Rs.708 crore to the Asian Development Bank for funding the first phase. The implementation of the project will start soon in collaboration with the ADB.

33. Most of the agriculture land in the State is dependent on rains. Farmers’ income can increase only with more irrigation facilities. I am happy to inform that the work of **Nadaun Medium Irrigation Scheme** will be completed and the scheme will be commissioned during 2019-20, leading to irrigation facilities in 2,980 hectare. The pace of execution of **Phina Singh Medium Irrigation Scheme** will also be increased. 4,025 hectare of culturable land will have irrigation facilities once the scheme is commissioned. I propose Rs.84 crore for these schemes in 2019-20.

34. In 2019-20, 111 minor irrigation schemes are expected to be completed with an investment of Rs.338 crore under “**Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna**”. Irrigation facilities will be made available on additional 17,880 hectare land with the completion of these schemes. In addition, 3 more minor irrigation schemes viz Binga & Sandhole in district Mandi and Labrang Garden Colony, Pooh, District

Kinnaur are likely to be completed by March, 2020 at a cost of Rs. 41 crore. These 3 schemes will provide irrigation facilities for 1,685 hectare land.

35. Assured irrigation is an imperative to increase production and productivity in agriculture sector. “**Jal Se Krishi Ko Bal**” scheme was started in 2018-19. Realising the importance of this scheme in enhancing farmers’ income, I propose an outlay of Rs.50 crore for this scheme during 2019-20. The Irrigation and Public Health Department has also prepared a concept note for reviving and reconstructing old irrigation schemes at a cost of Rs.4,070 crore. This will renovate and strengthen the existing irrigation system of the State. This concept note will be sent to the Government of India for its recommendations to an external funding agency. 534 old schemes are proposed to be remodelled and reconstructed under the project once it gets the necessary approvals.

36. I propose an outlay of Rs.30 crore for implementation of “**Saur Sinchai Yojna**” in 2019-20. This scheme was started in 2018-19. Solar Energy is used for pumping and lifting water under the scheme, which helps in reducing input costs in farm operations.

37. Our Government had decided to reduce electricity charges paid by farmers for irrigation from Re.1 to 75 Paise during 2018-19. I am happy to announce that the rate of electricity will be further reduced to 50 paise per unit from 75 paise per unit. This will help in reducing agricultural costs and will benefit farmers of the State.

I would like to share with the farmers of the State that:-

*सारे इत्र की खुशबू, आज मंद पड़ गई,
मिट्टी पर पानी की बूँदें, जो चंद पड़ गईं।*

38. I propose an outlay of Rs. 1,260 crore for implementation of various irrigation schemes during 2019-20.

39. Flood Management Projects have an important role in preventing soil erosion. The Government of India had approved Swan River Flood Management Project Phase-IV with an estimated cost of Rs.923 crore. This included channelization of Swan River and its 55 tributaries from Daulatpur Bridge to Gagret Bridge in Una district. I am happy to inform this August House that our Government has released Rs.107 crore for implementation of the project. An amount of Rs.22 crore has also been released for execution of Chhonch Khad channelization project. Our Government will continue its efforts in this direction and will expedite execution of the Swan River Flood Management project and Chhonch Khad channelization project during 2019-20.

40. In view of the problems of the farmers and other flood affected population, the Government of India has approved and recommended “**Himachal Pradesh Flood and River Management Project**”, for funding by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). The Government of India has recommended schemes worth Rs.1,288 crore in

the first phase while schemes worth Rs.2,062 crore will be taken up in the second phase .

41. Speaker Sir, in addition, I propose other initiatives that will help in reducing input costs and provide protection to the farmers. Small and Marginal farmers, women, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries are being provided tractors, power tillers, weeders and grass cutters at a subsidy of 50 percent under “**Rajya Krishi Yantrikaran Karyakram**”. Interested youth, farmers, group of farmers and cooperative societies will also be eligible for 40 percent subsidy to establish Agricultural Equipment Hiring Centres. These centres will provide agricultural implements, equipment and other tools on rent to farmers, who are not able to procure them from the market. I propose Rs.20 crore for this scheme.

42. “**Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna**” and “**New Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme**” are being implemented in Himachal Pradesh since Kharif-2016 season. I propose to cover new crops like Cauliflower in Lahaul & Spiti, and Potato in Una district under New Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme from the next Kharif-2019 season. In addition, I am also happy to announce enhancement of the insurance benefit from the existing limit of Rs.1.50 lakh to Rs.3 lakh in the event of death and doubling of the existing compensation of Rs.50,000 in case of disability under “**Mukhya Mantri Kisaan Evam Khetihar Majdoor Jeevan Suraksha Yojna**”.

43. Protected cultivation helps in increasing production of cash crops. “**Deendayal Upadhyay Kisaan Bagwan Yojna**”, is in its last year of implementation and will terminate in March, 2019. Hence, I announce a new Rs.150 crore “**Mukhya Mantri Nutan Polyhouse Pariyojna**” during 2019-20. About 5,000 Poly Houses will be constructed by providing 85 percent subsidy. It will be ensured that demand of all the interested farmers is fully met. This project will be phased from 2019-20 to 2022-23, and is expected to provide employment to about 20,000 persons.

44. To diversify agriculture, Coffee plants were distributed on trial basis for cultivation in 30 hectare land spread over 5 districts in 2018-19. These plants have started bearing fruits now. I propose continuation of this scheme in 2019-20 also. If this experiment yields positive results, this can be adopted by the farmers of Kangra, Mandi, Una, Bilaspur and Hamirpur districts, which will help in enhancing their incomes.

45. Proper marketing is crucial for helping farmers get the right price for their produce. Out of 59 Agricultural Markets of the State, 19 have already been linked to E-NAM (Electronic-National Agriculture Market) portal. I propose to link 10 more markets to this portal during 2019-20. In addition, It is proposed to establish value addition chains in 15 E-NAM markets. 6 New Market Yards are also proposed to be established during 2019-20.

46. Speaker Sir, horticulture has an important place in the State's economy and the State has emerged as a leading horticultural State. Our Government will start Rs.423 crore **"Integrated Mushroom Development Project"** with the help of an external funding agency after approval from the Government of India. I am happy to announce that a new **"Mukhyamatri Khumb Vikaas Yojna"** will be started during 2019-20.

47. I propose increasing the outlay for providing Hail Nets on subsidy by 100 percent during 2019-20, in view of increasing popularity and demand for Hail Nets among horticulturists. Rs.20 crore is being budgeted for the purpose. Any additional demand will also be fully met.

48. Our Government has been making efforts to increase productivity of horticulture in the long term. Additional 5,000 hectare will be covered under **"Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project"**, being implemented with a total cost of Rs.1,134 crore, during 2019-20. Our Government is also committed to promote cultivation of sub-tropical fruits in lower hills and plain areas of the State. The State Government has posed **"Himachal Pradesh Sub-tropical Horticulture, Irrigation and Value Addition (SHIVA)"** project with a total cost of Rs.1,688 crore, for funding by Asian Development Bank, after approval from the Government of India. 20,000 hectare will be brought under Sub-tropical Fruits under this project.

49. Speaker Sir, Agriculture and Horticulture Departments have been importing seeds and saplings of

fruit bearing trees from outside the State. Our Government will make efforts to provide training to the farmers and horticulturists of the State and encourage them to produce good quality seeds and saplings within the State. This will not only ensure availability of quality seeds and saplings within the State but will also generate additional employment in the farm sector.

50. While presenting the budget for 2018-19, I had announced a reduction of 20 percent in the freight charges for transportation of flowers in HRTC buses for the benefit of the floriculturists. I am happy to announce that HRTC will further reduce freight charges by 10 percent in the next financial year.

51. I propose Rs. 474 crore for Horticulture sector during the financial year 2019-20.

Animal
Husbandry/
Cow Protection

52. Speaker Sir, Animal Husbandry and Dairying activities help in supplementing farmers' income. The geo climatic conditions prevailing in the State favour Animal Husbandry and Dairying activities. With an objective to enhance farmers' income, I propose the following:—

53. It is proposed to use Embryo Transfer Technology for protecting and promoting Sahiwal and Red Sindhi breeds of cows under "**Rashtriya Gokul Mission**". Rs.2 crore will be spent for this purpose. A breeding farm for Sahiwal and Red Sindhi breeds of cows will be set up at a cost of Rs.11 crore with a view to protect and promote breeding of cows of indigenous breed.

54. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce that a subsidy of 50 percent, with the maximum limit of Rs.25,000 will be provided for purchase of cows of indigenous breed, to those farmers who are engaged in natural farming. This will not only increase the cattle wealth of the farmers but will also help promote natural farming.

55. I also propose to provide 85 percent subsidy to farmers living below poverty line for purchase of goats. Farmers living above poverty line will be provided goats with a subsidy of 60 percent. Rs.6 crore will be spent for this purpose during 2019-20. Rs.5 crore is proposed for providing health care to 6 lakh goats and sheep of Chamba, Kangra, Mandi, Shimla, Bilaspur, Una, Sirmour and Solan Districts. It is also proposed to import improved varieties of sheep at cost of Rs.8 crore under “**Rashtriya Pashu Dhan Mission**” during 2019-20. This will help in getting rid of the problem of inbreeding and will also increase wool productivity.

56. I am happy to share with this August House that a Murrah buffalo farm will be established in the State under “**Rashtriya Gokul Mission**” at an estimated cost of Rs.11 crore. A Gokul Gram will also be established at an estimated cost of Rs.34 crore under this scheme.

57. An additional capacity of 50,000 litres a day will be installed in the Milk Processing Plant in Duttnagar. Additional capacity of 50,000 litres a day will also be created in Milk Processing Plant Chakkar, Mandi. All the Dairy Cooperative Societies will be provided automated milk chilling units

(AMCU) to improve quality of milk and other products. In the first phase, I propose to provide 40 new automated milk chilling units and milk analysers to Cooperative Societies.

58. I am happy to announce an increase in the milk procurement price by Rs.2 per litre during the year 2019-20. This will provide additional support to households engaged in milk production. A grant of Rs. 21 crore will be provided to MILKFED during 2019-20.

Fisheries

59. Speaker Sir, the perennial rivers of Himachal Pradesh provide immense opportunities for trout production and supplementing incomes of the fishermen. I propose construction of 100 additional trout farming units during 2019-20. I also propose construction of ponds in 10 hectare for production of carp fish during 2019-20. This will provide employment to about 550 more people.

60. The fishermen need trout seed for increasing their production. I propose to establish 2 trout hatcheries in collaboration with the private sector. I also wish to inform this August House that our Government will establish a smoked trout and fillet canning centre in Kullu district in partnership with private sector. Three retail outlets, one each in Kangra, Chamba and Shimla district, will also be established in the private sector to ensure appropriate marketing support.

61. Flash floods and heavy rains have caused damage to the trout farming units during past few years. I announce that an insurance scheme for trout farming units of the fishermen will be firmed up in the coming financial year.

62. Speaker Sir, district resource centres will be established in Sirmour and Kinnaur districts during 2019-20 under “**Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan**” with a cost of Rs.2.50 crore each. About 6,000 Gram Sabha Members elected representatives of Panchayats and Panchayat Employees will be provided training related to the functioning of the Panchayats during 2019-20.

63. As per the recommendations of the 5th State Finance Commission, Rs.194 crore were provided to PRIs during 2018-19. I propose to enhance this allocation to Rs.210 crore during 2019-20. In addition, I also propose an outlay of Rs.45 crore for Zila Parishads and Panchayat Samitis during 2019-20. Based on the recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission, I also propose an outlay of Rs.548 crore to PRIs during 2019-20 as against Rs.407 crore for 2018-19.

64. Speaker Sir, the Panchayati Raj representatives have played an important role in the development of the State. In view of ever increasing responsibilities of these representatives, I am happy to announce enhancement in the honorarium being given to the representatives of the PRIs. The meeting fee given to the Members of Gram Panchayat for attending the meetings will be enhanced to Rs.250. The honorarium of Up-Pradhan will be increased from Rs.2,500 to Rs.3,000 and that of Pradhan of the Gram Panchayat will be increased from Rs.4,000 to Rs 4,500. I also announce increase in the honorarium of the Members of the Panchayat Samiti from Rs.4,000 to Rs.4,500, Vice Chairman from

Rs.4,500 to Rs.5,000 and Chairman from Rs.6,500 to Rs.7,000. Honorarium to the Members of Members of Zila Parishad will be increased from Rs.4,500 to Rs.5,000, Vice Chairman from Rs.7,500 to Rs.8,000 and that of Chairman, Zila Parishad will be enhanced from Rs.11,000 per month to Rs.12,000 per month. I also announce an increase in the monthly honorarium of the Panchayat Chowkidar from Rs.4,150 to Rs.4,500.

65. Our Government is upgrading the skills of educated youth of the State under various skill development programmes with the objective of providing employment to them. However, some artisans and craftsmen engaged in traditional arts are not covered under any of the skill development programmes. I am happy to announce a new **“Mukhya Mantri Gram Kaushal Yojna”** which will help in imparting necessary skills to the artisans in traditional arts and help them in having an assured source of income.

66. Our Government had already increased the working days under **“MGNREGA”** from 100 to 120 during the financial year 2018-19. This will continue during 2019-20 also.

67. Speaker Sir, I had announced construction of one Lok Bhawan in each Assembly Constituency during my budget speech for 2018-19. I am happy to share with this August House that the first instalment for construction of 41 Lok Bhawans has already been released. I propose to continue this scheme during 2019-20 also. If any Hon'ble MLA desires construction of an additional Lok Bhawan at a

site of her/his choice in her/his Assembly Constituency, she/he will be required to recommend funds equivalent to 50 percent of the cost out of the Vidhayak Kshetra Vikas Nidhi Yojna. The remaining 50 percent cost will be borne by the Government.

68. Financial assistance of Rs.1.30 lakh is being provided for construction of houses under various housing schemes in the State. I am happy to announce that the State Government shall now provide an additional financial support of Rs.20,000 per beneficiary from its own resources for construction of houses. Hence, the total financial assistance under these housing schemes will be enhanced to Rs.1.50 lakh now. **“Mukhya Mantri Awaas Yojna”** has a provision for assistance up to Rs.25,000 per beneficiary for undertaking repairs in rural areas. I am happy to increase this assistance to Rs.35,000.

Speaker Sir, It would be appropriate to say here:-

*मंज़िल मिलेगी, देर से ही सही,
गुमराह तो वो है, जो घर से निकला ही नहीं।*

69. Speaker Sir, our Government had started 2 schemes viz. **“Samudayik Van Samvardhan Yojna”** and **“Vidyarthi Van Mittar Yojna”** in 2018-19. The objectives of these two schemes were to increase awareness in the society about forest management and conservation, and to help ensure people’s participation in these activities. I propose to continue both these schemes during 2019-20.

Forest
Conservation
and Forest
Based
Livelihoods

Under Samudayik Van Samvardhan Yojna, afforestation and works related to soil and water conservation will be undertaken on 350 hectare land. Under “**Vidyarthi Van Mittar Yojna**”, 150 schools will be selected, and trees will be planted in the notified forest area adjoining these schools.

70. Abundant green forests, clean environment and safe living condition for daughters and women is a sign of a healthy society. To sensitize people about the importance of daughters and forest conservation, I announce the launch of a new “**Ek Buta Beti Ke Naam**” scheme during 2019-20.

71. Land measuring about 2 lakh hectare is affected by Lantana Grass in the State. Lantana not only harms the forest wealth, but it also renders culturable land uncultivable. During 2019-20, Lantana Grass will be removed from 4,000 hectare of land and trees of local species will be planted in the cleared land.

72. Forest fires have caused great loss to the forest wealth and also adjoining habitations over the years. Our Government will start a mass movement to prevent and manage forest fires using satellite based alert SMS service of the Forest Survey of India. People will connect with Rapid Forest Fire Fighting Force through this service, so that information regarding any forest fire is instantly communicated to the concerned officers and fires can be controlled within minimum possible time. Chil forests are highly vulnerable to fire. To address this problem, our Government had announced a scheme in 2018-19 which

envisaged provision of 50 percent subsidy to industries based on pine needles. It is proposed to assist and establish 25 units based on pine needles in 2019-20. This will not only help in preventing fires in Pine forests, but will also provide employment opportunities to local people.

73. I also announce that an assistance up to Rs.15,000 will be provided to forest personnel deputed in 200 very sensitive beats across the State for procuring weapons for their security and also to keep their morale high.

74. Our Government has started silviculture based extraction of forest resources in 3 forest ranges on pilot basis, after approval of the apex Court. During 2019-20, silviculture based harvesting of forest wealth will be undertaken in 1,730 hectare forest land. This will not only improve the quality of forests, but will also add to the income of the State. Further permission of the Supreme Court to undertake Silviculture based exploitation of forest in other forest ranges of the State will depend on the success of this pilot. In addition, a master plan will be prepared for extraction of turpentine and other timber resources. The process for turpentine extraction, tree felling, cutting, transportation and selling will be made more transparent.

75. Forests play an important role in maintaining moisture and enriching existing water resources. Three Externally Aided Projects viz. Himachal Pradesh Forest Eco-System Management and Livelihood Improvement Project, Integrated Development Project for Source Sustainability and

Climate Resilient Rainfed Agriculture and Himachal Pradesh Eco System Climate Proofing Project will be implemented in the State in the next year. The objectives of these projects include improvement in forest cover, providing additional livelihoods to the people dependent on forests, conservation of water resources, water harvesting, Lantana eradication, etc. I propose Rs.121 crore for these projects during 2019-20.

Environment,
Science and
Technology

76. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce a new **“Mukhya Mantri Green Technology Transfer Scheme”** during 2019-20. This scheme aims to provide support for transfer of green technologies to Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Self Help Groups (SHGs), who will be provided financial support to establish their green technology based ventures.

77. Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment at micro watershed level is proposed to be carried out in various Panchayats of Satluj Basin in the districts of Kinnaur, Shimla, Kullu, Solan, Mandi, Una and Bilaspur during 2019-20. A project for **“Securing Rural Livelihoods through Biodiversity Conservation, Landscape Management and Skill Development”**, with an estimated cost of Rs.250 crore has been submitted to the Government of India for its approval to pose it for external funding. The objective of this project is to effectively manage natural resources and biodiversity and to ensure livelihoods to people on sustainable basis.

78. Speaker Sir, new Integrated Cooperative Development Projects will be started in the districts of Una and Chamba during 2019-20. Under these projects, horticulture, agriculture, dairy, irrigation, marketing, processing and packaging, tourism, adventure sports etc. will be encouraged to increase commercial activities of the cooperatives.

Cooperation

79. It is also proposed to empanel 250 Auditors for undertaking audit of the Cooperative Societies during 2019-20. This will provide employment opportunities to eligible youth. This will not only bring transparency in the functioning of cooperatives, but also ensure timely statutory audit of the cooperative societies.

80. Speaker Sir, management of urban waste has become a major challenge for Urban Local Bodies. Urban Local Bodies need to be equipped to deal with the problem. These Local Bodies will be assisted in the construction and management of Solid Waste Management Plants, Bio Mining of waste and accessing modern technology.

Urban
Development

81. There has been an inordinate delay in the implementation of Smart City project in Dharamshala and Shimla. Our Government will provide the desired impetus to the implementation of these projects during 2019-20. The tendering process of approved schemes will be completed at the earliest and early execution of the works will be ensured.

82. Speaker Sir, our Government is aware of the problems related to increasing urbanization the State. I would

like to share with this August House that the criteria for declaring an urban area as Municipal Committee or Municipal Corporation will be reviewed, and the possibility of converting more Urban Local Bodies as Municipal Corporation will be explored.

83. Rs.169 crore have been provided during 2018-19 to the Urban Local Bodies based on the recommendations of the 5th State Finance Commission and the 14th Finance Commission. I propose to enhance this outlay to Rs.197 crore during 2019-20. The ULBs are developing necessary infrastructure and other assets in their domain with the help of these funds. These assets also need periodic maintenance. I propose an outlay of Rs.12 crore during 2019-20 for maintenance of assets created by the ULBs.

84. In view of the manifold responsibilities of elected representatives of Urban Local Bodies, I am happy to announce an increase in honorarium of Chairman of Nagar Panchayat from Rs.5,000 to Rs.5,500 per month; that of Vice Chairman from Rs.3,500 to Rs.4,000 and the Members from Rs.2,000 to Rs.2,500. The honorarium of Chairman of the Nagar Parishad will be increased from Rs.6,000 to Rs.6,500 per month; that of Vice Chairman from Rs.5,000 to Rs.5,500, and Members from Rs.2,200 to Rs.2,500 per month. The honorarium of Mayors of Municipal Corporation Dharamshala and Shimla will be increased from Rs.11,000 to Rs.12,000; that of Deputy Mayor from Rs.8,000 to Rs.8,500 and Councillors from Rs.5,000 to Rs.5,500 per month.

85. Land Pooling Scheme for Rampur Ghat of Paonta Sahib will soon be given final shape for planned development of the area. This will be replicated in other parts of the State, after its successful implementation in Paonta Sahib.

Town &
Country
Planning

86. Speaker Sir, our Government has started implementation of “**Digital India Land Record Modernization Programme**” to simplify services related to revenue records and other services, and to ensure service delivery within the specified time period. Mussavis of 5 districts have already been digitized and linked with Jamabandis under this programme. Mussavis of remaining 7 districts will be digitized and linked with Jamabandis during 2019-20. With the completion of digitization of all land records, these can be retrieved online by the citizens.

Revenue and
Disaster
Management

87. The State Government has started updating settlement land records in three tehsils of Sirmour and Solan districts using Global Positioning System and Electronic Total Station Systems. Use of these modern tools has made settlement operations more accurate and transparent. These tools will be used in other districts also in 2019-20 while carrying out settlement operations.

88. Speaker Sir, I am pleased to announce that the honorarium being given to Revenue Chowkidars will be enhanced from Rs.3,000 to Rs.3,500 during 2019-20.

89. An outlay of Rs.287 crore is proposed for disaster management during 2019-20. The State and district level

centres will be strengthened so that the emergency communication network becomes more effective and the risks are mitigated in the event of a natural calamity. On behalf of this August House and the people of Himachal Pradesh, I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi for announcing the setting-up of one Battalion of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) in the State. I also propose that the State too shall establish its own State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) to enable the State Government to respond effectively in case of any calamity. I would further like to share with this August House that a Rs.2,420 crore **Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness Project** has been submitted to the Government of India for funding through an external funding agency.

Water Supply

90. Speaker Sir, our Government has been making sincere efforts to provide potable water to the people. We have targeted to provide clean drinking water to 500 new habitations during 2019-20. The State Government had sent an ambitious proposal of Rs.3,267 crore to the Government of India, envisaging provision of drinking water in the partially covered habitations. Government of India has recommended Rs.700 crore in phase-I of this project to New Development Bank for funding. This will cover 2,427 habitations in 943 villages of the State. Under the second phase of this project, it is proposed to take up 61 drinking water supply schemes in 49 Legislative Assembly Constituencies at a cost of Rs.2,567 crore for execution.

91. Our Government has prepared another project to revive and remodel old Rural Water Supply Schemes constructed before 1st January, 2000. The Government of India has approved this project, which envisages remodelling and revival of 562 old Rural Water Supply at a cost of Rs.798 crore. This project will be taken up with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank. The project will cover 7,217 habitations, benefitting about 10 lakh people.

92. A large number of people have been requesting to provide water connections in their houses during Jan Manch. Women have to spend lot of time to fetch water from water sources, far away from their houses. To alleviate their drudgery, I am happy to announce a new **“Mukhya Mantri Swajal Yojna”**. Households belonging to economically weaker sections will be provided pipe length up to 50 meters at a subsidy of 50 percent under the scheme to supply tap water within the house.

93. I am also pleased to announce an increase in the honorarium of Water Guards deployed in the Panchayats/ Irrigation and Public Health Department, from Rs.2,100 to Rs.3,000 from 2019-20. Similarly, the honorarium to the Para Fitters and Pump Operators will also be increased from Rs.3,000 to Rs.4,000 per month. Speaker Sir, our Government is aware of the problems being faced in the maintenance and operation of various water supply schemes due to shortage of trained manpower. I am happy to announce that our Government will take steps to provide necessary

manpower for maintenance and operation of the these schemes.

94. I propose Rs. 1,948 crore for Water Supply during 2019-20.

Industries/
Private Investment

95. Speaker Sir, industrial development in Himachal Pradesh has been a priority with our Government. Our Government is making efforts to promote local resource based industries. We propose to bring out a new **Micro, Small and Medium Industrial Policy** to promote Small and Medium Enterprises with special emphasis on encouraging women entrepreneurs, local youth and to establish manufacturing and service based enterprises. Our Government will also encourage investment in Medium and Large Scale Industries, provided they employ more than 300 Himachali youth. Our Government will develop new Industrial Areas in Channour in Kangra, Gehrwin in Bilaspur and Basouli Bangarh in Una district.

96. I take pride in informing this August House that the Ministry of Food Processing, Government of India has included Pandoga industrial area in Una, Kandrouri industrial area in Kangra and Aduwal industrial area in Solan, in the list of approved food parks. Enterprises establishing Food Processing Units in these areas will be eligible to get loans at concessional terms. The Food Processing Units established in these parks will also be eligible for 50 percent subsidy on additional investment under “**Kisan Sampada Yojna**” of the Government of India.

97. Our Government gives highest priority to ease of doing business in the State. All the departments have been impressed upon to provide online services within the specified time period as per the Rules/Acts and Public Services Guarantee Act, so that the investors do not have to face any difficulties while seeking necessary clearances.

98. Our Government will hold a '**Global Investors Summit**' in Dharamshala in 2019 to attract investment in the State on a sustainable basis. I am of the firm belief that this Summit will lead to creation of additional employment opportunities for the youth of the State, and Himachal Pradesh will emerge as the most favoured destination for private investment.

Speaker Sir, reiterating our Government's commitment to promote industrial development in the State, I would like to say:-

*जो मंजिलों को पाने की चाहत रखते हैं,
वो समन्दरों पर भी पत्थरों के पुल बना देते हैं।*

99. "**Mukhya Mantri Swablamban Yojna**" was started in 2018-19 to encourage local youth to establish their own enterprises. In view of suggestions received from the public, I am happy to announce that the guidelines for implementation of this scheme will be amended suitably. The maximum age limit for applying under the scheme will be increased from 35 years to 45 years, and the project cost limit (including working capital) will be increased from Rs.40

lakh to Rs.60 lakh. The fee currently being charged under Credit Guarantee Trust Fund, will now be borne by the State Government. The term capital investment will now also include buildings and other assets necessary for establishing the unit under the scheme up to a pre-specified limit.

Speaker Sir, I would like to exhort the youth by saying:-

*यूँ ही नहीं होती, हाथ की लकीरों से आगे ऊँगलियाँ,
रब ने भी किस्मत से, पहले मेहनत लिखी है।*

100. Large number of artisans and craftsmen are engaged in traditional arts. These artisans have to purchase new tools from time to time. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce a new “**Mukhya Mantri Dastkar Sahayata Yojna**” for the benefit of such artisans. Rural artisans living below poverty line will be provided a subsidy of 75 percent on the purchase of tools up to a cost of Rs.30,000.

101. High quality physical infrastructure is a pre-requisite for attracting and retaining private industrial investment for a long period. Speaker Sir, Baddi – Barotiwala - Nalagarh Industrial area is the main industrial hub of the State. The main roads falling in this industrial area will be upgraded as part of the World Bank funded Road Infrastructure Project during 2019-20.

102. Our Government is committed to manage mining and exploitation of other natural resources in a scientific and transparent manner, for faster development of the areas rich

in these resources. The minerals will now only be transported with **'transit passes'** issued through an online portal. The applications for mining lease and stone crushers are also being accepted online only. Our Government will use modern technology to prevent illegal mining in the State. An online Geo-Portal will also be developed to keep a close watch on illegal mining activities and better management of mining leases. The auction of lime stone mines through **'E-auction Web Portal'** has already been started by our Government.

103. Speaker Sir, Hydel Power has been an important source of revenue for the State Government. However, this sector has stagnated during the last few years. Our Government has taken some important policy initiatives to revive this sector, which have been appreciated in almost all quarters. Hydel projects with installed capacity of about 500 MW are expected to be commissioned during 2019-20. These include 100 MW Uhl-III being executed by Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd. and 111 MW Sawara-Kuddu project being executed by Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited. These two projects will generate additional 700 m units of power per year.

MPP and
Power

104. I am pleased to inform that Renuka Ji Dam project has been declared as a project of national importance by Government of India. The interstate MoU in this regard has been signed recently. The State will get additional 200 m units of power after commissioning of this project. Chanju-III (48 MW) and Deothal Chanju (30 MW) in Chamba district

have already been recommended in principle by the Government of India for Rs.650 crore funding from an external funding agency. It is proposed to start execution of these projects soon.

105. A robust transmission system is required to harness the hydel potential. The projects under Green Energy Corridor and the Tranche-II of the Asian Development Bank will be completed by the Himachal Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation during 2019-20. These projects include 400 KV Lahal Sub-Station in Chamba district, 220 KV Charor and 33 KV Sub-Station in Palchan, Kullu district, 220 KV Sundha Sub-Station in Shimla and 66 KV Urni Sub-Station in Kinnaur district. In addition, augmentation of 6 power Sub-Stations and completion of 10 High voltage transmission lines is also proposed during 2019-20. As a result, it would be possible to transmit 921 MW additional power.

106. The Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd. has prepared a Rs.3,200 crore project for funding through an external agency. This project envisages strengthening of the existing distribution network, automation and modernization of the entire system to ensure reliable and quality power supply to the consumers. This project has been sent to Government of India for its recommendations for external funding.

107. Speaker Sir, 850 new distribution sub-centres will be established by Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd. to provide new connections and to improve voltage. To

improve the reliability of supply, it is also proposed to replace 26,000 old wooden electricity poles with new steel poles during 2019-20. Presently, about 5 lakh consumers still have old mechanical energy meters. It is proposed to replace 4 lakh of these old meters with new electronic meters during 2019-20.

108. Our Government is taking all necessary steps to promote non-conventional sources of energy. It is proposed to commission a 2 MW solar power plant in Kaza through Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board during 2019-20. It is also proposed to install grid connected solar roof-top power plants with a total capacity of 10 MW through HIM URJA during 2019-20. I also announce that the installation of domestic, Rooftop Solar Plants connected to grid through net metering will be subsidised, to help consumers reduce their energy bills.

109. I am also happy to announce a new “**Mukhya Mantri Roshni Yojna**” for poor families during 2019-20. The poor households will not have to pay any service connection charges for a new energy connection. I propose an outlay of Rs.475 crore to provide power to domestic and agriculture consumers at subsidised rates.

Speaker Sir, here I would like to say that:-

*चिराग सी तासीर रखिए,
सोचिए मत कि घर किसका रोशन हुआ।*

110. I propose an outlay of Rs.1,208 crore for Power Department and various power projects.

Tourism

111. Speaker Sir, there is vast scope of expanding tourism sector in the State. There is good potential for generating employment and income opportunities in this sector. The State Government will prepare a New Tourism Policy for holistic development of tourism in the State. The State also has immense Eco-Tourism potential. Therefore, to encourage Eco-Tourism, experts will be consulted to prepare a Master Plan, wherein provisions for encouraging private investors will be incorporated. I am also pleased to announce that “**Pong Area Development Board**” will be constituted for the integrated and planned development of the area. This Board shall draw up policies and plans to promote tourism and culture in the area, and also help generate employment opportunities.

112. Currently, there are approximately 1,300 Home Stay Units in the State. I firmly believe that there is a vast potential for Home Stay in the State. Not only do such Home Stays promote tourism, they also provide respectable employment opportunities to our young people. To promote Home Stays, our Government will increase the limit of rooms for Home Stays from 3 to 4. The Tourism department will provide assistance to all such Home Stay owners who wish come on a common booking platform. Arrangements will also be made to train the Home Stay owners on all aspects of the scheme.

113. Himachal is widely known as Dev Bhumi. I announce that a “**Shiv Dham**” in Mandi district will be established with the dual objectives of promoting tourism and conserving religious heritage of the State. Replicas of 12 Jyotirlingas will be established at this site to attract tourists. Speaker Sir, I also announce that a “**Light and Sound Show**” at two sites in Shimla will be started soon. We will also endeavour to start another one in Kullu district, which will project the Dev Sanskriti of the State. This will encourage more tourists to visit the State and to learn about the local culture .

Here, I would like to say:-

***You don't get what you wish for,
You get what you work for.***

114. It is proposed to start restoration of Bantony Castle in Shimla, Aarti on the banks of river Beas in Mandi on the pattern of the Aarti performed in Varanasi, and construction of a cultural centre in Janjhehli during 2019-20. Tattapani is also proposed to be developed and promoted as a religious tourism and water sports destination.

115. Our Government started a new scheme “**Nai Rahen – Nai Manzilen**” during 2018-19 to promote tourism in the State. An outlay of Rs. 50 crore was kept for this scheme. I propose to continue this scheme during 2019-20 with an outlay of Rs.50 crore.

116. The world heritage sites like the Great Himalayan National Park, and Ramsar Sites of Pong Dam, Renuka Ji

and Chandertaal are famous for wild life and biodiversity in the Western Himalayas. Our Government will develop attractive and informative facilitation centres in these areas to attract more international and national tourists.

117. Government of India has recommended our Rs.1,892 crore Tourism Infrastructure Development Project for funding by Asian Development Bank. Our Government will endeavour to improve infrastructure in towns, preserve and restore historic buildings of the State, promote eco-tourism and adventure tourism, skill development, capacity building and encourage community based activities under the project.

118. Our Government has also sent a proposal to the Government of India for starting water transport and other activities in Chamera, Kol Dam, Larji and Gobindsagar Lake. This will not only promote water transport and water sports in the State, but also create employment opportunities for the local youth. 3,000 youth will be trained in various tourism related activities during 2019-20.

119. Our Government is making efforts to establish an international airport in the State. Nagchala in Mandi district has been found to be a suitable site for construction of such an international level airport. The Obstacle Limitation Survey for this site has been completed.

120. Many people availed the Heli-Taxi service from Jubbarhatti to Chandigarh up to October, 2018. Efforts will

be made to start such services from other tourist destinations also in a phased manner. I propose to connect the 3 airports of the State with one Helipad each in Mandi, Kullu and Solan districts and three helipads of Shimla district under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – Udaan-II. In addition, it is also proposed to start Heli-Taxi services from Chandigarh to Shimla, Shimla to Kullu and Shimla to Dharamshala during 2019-20. It will be our Government's endeavour to ensure each Legislative Assembly Constituency has at least one helipad. This will be achieved in a phased manner.

121. It is important to upgrade skills of the youth to provide more employment opportunities in an increasingly competitive environment at National and State level. I propose an outlay of Rs.100 crore for “**Kaushal Vikas Bhatta Yojna**” during 2019-20. About 1 lakh youth will be provided Skill Development Allowance under this scheme. I also propose to undertake a third party evaluation of the Skill Development Centres to ensure quality.

Labour and
Employment.

122. The Labour & Employment department will organize 9 Rojgar Melas and 120 campus interviews which are expected to provide employment opportunities to about 10,000 unemployed youth.

123. Speaker Sir, roads are the primary mode of transport in Himachal Pradesh. Himachal Pradesh Road Transport Corporation has been providing transport facility even in the remotest areas of the State. The working of the Corporation shall be modernized to improve the quality of services given

Transport

by it. I propose to introduce modern Integrated Public Transport Management System (IPTMS), with an aim to make the journey of the commuters comfortable. The commuters will be able to make cashless transactions during their journey, see the bus time table online and the exact location of the vehicle will be known using GPS, once this system is established. It is proposed to provide assistance of Rs. 297 crore to Himachal Pradesh Road Transport Corporation during 2019-20.

124. Our Government has established the Ropeway and Rapid Transport System Development Corporation (RRTDC) in the Transport department of the State. The RRTDC will get a prefeasibility study conducted to establish overhead mass rapid transportation system in Shimla and Manali Towns. The RRTDC will also explore the possibility of developing ropeway and other alternate modes of transportation in partnership with the private sector. I propose to initiate necessary formalities for construction of ropeways to Bagla Mukhi Temple in Mandi district and Neugal in Palampur during 2019-20.

125. Speaker Sir, the construction work of Bus Stands in Karsog, Barchhwar (Sarkaghat), Theog and Paonta Sahib will be completed on priority during 2019-20.

126. Our Government will bring out a new Electric Vehicle Policy for enabling provision of safe, environment friendly, contemporary and sustainable transport facilities.

127. It is proposed to establish state of the art driving test tracks in Baddi and Jasoor, to fully automate driving tests before a driving licence is issued. This will reduce manual interface and will also be useful in improving road safety. I am also happy to announce that authorized mobile testing centres will be established during 2019-20 in partnership with private sector for inspection of the vehicles. These mobile testing centres will be authorized to issue fitness certificate for vehicles, using state of art modern equipment.

128. My Government will come out with a policy which will ensure coordination between transport department, public works department and police department to work jointly to prevent road accidents. The transport department will be the nodal department for overall coordination of these activities. I propose an outlay of Rs.50 crore for road safety during 2019-20. The expenditure will be incurred on the recommendations of the Road Safety Committee.

129. In the event of death of an individual in road accident, Ex-Gratia Grant of Rs.1 lakh is provided to the dependents of the deceased person under the “**Himachal Pradesh Yatri Anugrah Purvak Anudaan Yojna**” as per the current provisions. Presently, the Ex-Gratia Grant given in case of a child, less than 12 years of age, is Rs.50,000. I announce that equal Ex-gratia Grant of Rs.1 lakh will be provided to all, irrespective of age.

130. Speaker Sir, roads are the lifeline for people of Himachal Pradesh in the absence of adequate means of rail

Roads

and water transport. Our Government is giving top priority to this sector. The guiding principles for the Government are quality and value for money. A Quality Monitoring Cell has been established in the office of the Chief Minister to ensure quality of the assets constructed by various departments. This cell will be further strengthened. I also propose the use of India Road Congress (IRC) approved non-conventional materials and new techniques for constructing roads on pilot basis with the objective to improve the quality of roads and to speed up the process of construction. These techniques include hot asphalt mixture, micro surfacing fog seal spray in bituminous works and pre-fabricated slabs and culverts.

131. 3,128 Panchayats out of 3,226 Panchayats have already been connected with motorable roads. The construction work of roads to connect 59 out of the remaining 98 Panchayats is in progress. Efforts are being made to resolve problems being faced in connecting the remaining 39 Panchayats, so that they too are connected with motorable roads at the earliest. I make an appeal to the people of the State to come forward and provide private land wherever required, to increase the pace of construction of roads.

132. “**Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojna**” has helped the State in expanding and strengthening its road network. It is propose to construct 500 kilometres of new roads connecting new habitations and undertake metalling and tarring of 1,000 kilometres of roads under PMGSY during 2019-20. I propose an outlay of Rs. 600 crore under “**Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna**”.

133. The use of environment friendly green technology is important in road construction. The Public Works Department, in consultation with the Urban Development Department, is in the process of identifying such roads, which can be tarred using plastic waste of low density.

134. The Government has taken a decision to undertake 3rd party inspection of main bridges in the State to assess their safety. It is proposed to complete these inspections during 2019-20. I also propose to start e-Project Management System for online monitoring of road projects in the State and also to implement software based road management system for maintenance of roads in the State during 2019-20.

135. We have targeted construction of 750 kilometres of new motorable roads, tarring of 1,500 kilometres roads, construction of small bridges/culverts over 850 kilometres road length and 50 bridges. 50 villages will be connected with roads during 2019-20.

136. I propose Rs. 3,921 crore for construction and maintenance of roads during 2019-20.

137. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce an increase in the annual turnover limit from Rs.20 lakh to Rs.40 lakh for GST registration, for the convenience and benefit of small traders. In addition, the existing limit for composition will be enhanced from a total turnover of Rs.75 lakh to Rs.1.50 crore.

Excise and
Taxation

138. I also announce that a new app will be launched during 2019-20 enabling traders and transporters to deposit the Certain Goods Carried by Road Tax (CGCR), Passenger and Good Tax (PGT) and Additional Goods Tax (AGT) online. I am also happy to announce that the existing tax barriers will be replaced with Tax Facilitation Centres in the next two years. It is also proposed to establish booths equipped with internet and other IT enabled equipment in the offices of the Excise and Taxation Department at the State and District level. These booths will facilitate online submission of GST returns.

Quality Education **139. Speaker Sir, I would like to share with the August House** what our ex-President Dr. Abdul Kalam had said on education:—

*शिक्षा इंसान की गरिमा को बढ़ाती है और
उसके स्वाभिमान में वृद्धि करती है।*

140. Himachal Pradesh has 10,657 Elementary Schools, 1,996 Middle Schools, 922 High Schools and 1,836 Sr. Secondary Schools. In addition, the State has 137 Colleges and 1 B.Ed. College. One Central University and 7 other Universities in the public sector are also functional in the State. All these institutions are in the Government sector. 3,252 private educational institutions are supplementing the efforts of the Government in providing education.

141. Our Government is committed to provide quality education in the Schools and Colleges of the State. The Government will provide appropriate facilities in these institutions to meet this objective. I propose to strengthen

the existing infrastructure of ICT labs of schools by establishing video conferencing rooms in a phased manner, enabling these institutions to start online learning courses.

142. Speaker Sir, our Government had started “**Atal Aadarsh Vidya Kendra Yojna**” during 2018-19 to improve the quality of education in the State. I announce that 15 new **Atal Aadarsh Vidya Kendras** will be established in 2019-20.

143. Virtual Class Rooms can be instrumental in improving the quality of education in remote areas of the State, where geographical conditions are difficult. I am happy to announce a new “**C.V. Raman Virtual Classroom Yojna**” in the year 2019-20. In the 1st phase, Virtual Classrooms will be established in 10 colleges located in remote areas of the State.

144. The State Government is imparting vocational training to the students in 873 schools in 11 trades under National Skill Qualification Framework with the objective of providing improved opportunities. I am happy to announce that 80 more schools will be brought under this programme, and additional trades like electronics, apparel, furnishing, beauty and cosmetics, plumbing etc. will also be introduced. I propose to start Bachelor of Vocational Studies (B.VoC) in 6 new colleges and to introduce two new trades of Information Technology and Banking, Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI) during 2019-20. 4,000 students will be able to enrol for B.Voc courses during 2019-20. Employment fairs will be

organized in the colleges of the State, enabling students to get gainful employment.

145. I propose to establish language labs in 50 more schools and 50 colleges during 2019-20. These labs will also have facilities to learn and speak Sanskrit in addition to other languages. The education department will start remedial classes for improvement in the educational level of educationally weak children. The existing Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation System will be made more effective by taking inputs from the parents of the students.

146. Speaker Sir, our Government is alive to the importance of cleanliness in creating a conducive environment for education. In this context, I am happy to announce a new “**Atal Nirmal Jal Yojna**” during 2019-20. All the Government schools in the State will be provided Water Filters in a phased manner, so that clean drinking water is made available to the students of the State. We also propose to launch “**Khel Se Swasthya Yojna**” in 2019-20 to encourage participation of schools and college students in sports. In the first phase, Kabaddi Mats, Judo Mats and Wrestling Mats shall be provided in 50 schools and colleges. In other selected educational institutions, Track & Field, Boxing Rings, Weight Lifting equipment shall be provided.

147. Adequate number of well qualified and trained teachers are necessary to ensure quality of education imparted in Government educational institutions. We will ensure that all vacant functional posts of teachers will be filled up on priority.

148. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce that the honorarium given to Mid-Day workers will be increased to Rs.2,000. The honorarium to Water Carriers in schools will be increased to Rs.2,400. About 1,000 vacant posts of Part time Water Carriers, Lab Staff and other class-IV employees will also be filled up.

149. Speaker Sir, PTA/Para Teachers have rendered useful services in imparting education. However, due to legal hurdles, their regularization has not been possible. Our Government is aware of the financial problems faced by these Teachers. I am happy to announce that such teachers, who have completed three years of service as on 1st October, 2018 on Government contract, will be paid an amount equal to minimum of pay band plus grade pay and DA. The remuneration of teachers engaged by the School Management Committees on period basis will be enhanced by 20 percent.

150. I propose an outlay of Rs. 7,598 crore on Education during 2019-20.

151. Presently 149 Technical Education institutions, including 127 ITIs, are imparting vocational and technical education in the Government sector. There are 5 Government Engineering colleges in the State. In the private sector, there are 195 such technical institutes, which includes 147 ITIs and 14 Engineering Colleges.

152. Speaker Sir, our Government has taken a decision to start classes from the academic session 2019-20 in

Technical
Education
and Skill
Development

Government Pharmacy Colleges in Rakkar, district Kangra and Seraj in district Mandi. Degree course in electrical engineering will be started in Atal Vihari Vajpayee Government Engineering College Pragtinagar and diploma courses in electrical and automobile engineering will be started in the Government Polytechnic, Paonta Sahib. 5 new ITIs, one each in Bhanjradu and Salooni in Chamba district, Amboya and Sataun in Sirmour district and Ladbharol in Mandi district will be started. New trades will be started in Chopal and Kumarsain ITIs. In addition, two new Polytechnic Institutes will be opened in Karsog and Dalash.

153. About 32,000 Himachali youth will be provided National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) based training in various trades under Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Project during 2019-20. Our Government will start a new “**NAVDHARNA**” scheme. This scheme will provide assistance to the disabled youth for undertaking various skill development programmes, thereby enabling them to find employment. 300 such youth are proposed to be provided training in retail trade, hospitality, agriculture and food processing during 2019-20.

154. To increase employability of students studying in final year of the graduate courses, a graduate, add-on training programme will be started in Banking Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI), Electronics, IT, Beauty and Wellness and Apparel trades in 10 selected Government colleges of the State. 1,500 students will be imparted training during

2019-20 under the scheme. The Himachal Pradesh Kaushal Vikas Nigam will engage with the Industry and other industrial organizations to provide employment to these trained students.

155. There is a good potential of generating employment in handicrafts and handloom sector in Himachal Pradesh. Our Government has taken a decision to train 5,000 youth in 8 selected handicraft arts under “Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna”. The services of empanelled artisans will be taken as master trainers to train these students. The trainee artisans will be assisted in training, designing and marketing under the scheme.

I would like to say the following to the artisans of the State:-

*कामयाबी के दरवाजे, उन्हीं के खुलते हैं,
जो उन्हें अटखटाने की ताकत रखते हैं।*

156. It is proposed to upgrade 23 trades, in 50 ITIs, from State Council for Vocational Training (SCVT) standard to National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) standard, under the Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Programme (HPSDP). About 2,300 students are expected to benefit from this initiative. 29 trades in 47 ITIs will be modernized by providing new equipment and by renovating their laboratories. These initiatives will help increase the student enrolment by 5,400 in these ITIs.

157. Sanskrit is the mother of many Indian languages and part of our cultural heritage. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce that Sanskrit language will be declared as the 2nd official language of Himachal Pradesh. An amendment Bill to make necessary changes in the Official Language Act will be introduced in the ongoing budget session of Vidhan Sabha.

158. Recently, some evidence has been found which indicates existence of historical remains of Archaeological value in Spiti area of Lahaul & Spiti District and Sirmour district. It is proposed to start archaeological excavation at these two sites.

159. I consider sports as an important medium of education that promotes discipline and increases self-confidence. Encouraging youth of the State to participate in sports will help in keeping them away from evils like intoxication etc. Our Government will announce a new sports policy, which will encourage participation of youth in sports activities.

160. Our Government has taken a decision to construct at least two big multipurpose playgrounds in each Assembly Constituency of the State under “**Mukhya Mantri Yuva Nirman Yojna**” in a phased manner. These playgrounds ideally would have the dimensions of a football field wherever land is available, with a facility of Gym. I am to happy to announce that the State Government will contribute Rs.15 lakh per ground. For any expenditure over and above Rs.15

lakh, I propose convergence with MNREGA, Vidhayak Kshetra Vikas Nidhi Yojna, MPLADS and 14th Finance Commission Grants. This will help to engage the youth in socially and physically productive endeavours.

161. It is also proposed to start a new “**Khel Kud Pratibha Khoj Karyakram**” during 2019-20. This scheme will enable identification of talent during various sports events organized the State. Such talent will be further trained to prepare them for participation in the events at National and International levels.

162. I am happy to announce that the award money given to the winners of senior national, junior national, national, school games and inter universities sports events, will be doubled to promote the local sports talent.

163. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce a new scheme “**Kalakar Protsahan Yojna**” to encourage talented children and youth of the State, who join various courses in performing arts and other courses related to Performing Arts in reputed institutes of the country. One time grant of Rs.75,000 will be provided to such children and youth selected for studying in these institutes.

Information and
Public Relation

164. Press plays a very important role in disseminating information relating to welfare schemes and other activities of the Government to the general public. The journalists have to work very hard in collecting, collating and sending this information. I am happy to announce that all the accredited

correspondents at the State and district level will be provided a Lap-Top, enabling them to reduce time taken in collecting and collating the information. I also propose to increase the financial assistance being given under “**Patarkar Kalyan Yojna**” in the event of death of a serving journalist from Rs.2 lakh to Rs.4 lakh and for retired journalist from Rs.50,000 to Rs.1 lakh.

Health and
Medical Education

165. Speaker Sir, a robust network of health institutions is important to provide health services. There are about 4,320 health institutions in the Government sector including hospitals, dispensaries, medical education institutes and ayurvedic institutions in the State. The private sector has also marked its presence in providing health services over the last few years. There are about 258 health institutions including medical education institutions, in the private sector.

166. In addition, an All India Institute of Medical Sciences is also being established in district Bilaspur with the assistance of Government of India. The ground breaking ceremony for this institute was done recently by the Hon’ble Union Health Minister Sh. Jagat Parkash Nadda and me. I sincerely wish to thank Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi and Union Health Minister Sh. Jagat Parkash Nadda for granting this prestigious institution to the State. The people of the State will have access to modern health services within the State after this institution become functional.

167. Our Government has been making efforts to provide timely health care services to the people of the State. It is

proposed to upgrade the primary health centres and health sub-centres to Health and Wellness Centres with the assistance of Government of India, in a phased manner. I propose to upgrade 500 health sub-centres and 125 primary health centres to Health and Wellness Centres during 2019-20. The necessary facilities with regard to child delivery and mother care, child health, child and adolescent health care, family planning and management of communicable diseases etc. will be provided in these upgraded centres.

168. The patient turnover in medical colleges of the State is very high as all health care services are not available in other health institutions of the State. I am happy to announce that our Government will start “**Sampuran Swashthya Yojna**” in the State. In the first phase of this scheme, 12 medical institutions including some district hospitals will be upgraded to Sampuran Hospitals. All the necessary facilities will be made available in these Sampuran Hospitals. In addition, a mechanism will be devised to ensure online monitoring of all referral cases at tertiary health centres.

169. The facilities in the medical colleges of the State also need up-gradation. I propose that Cath Labs be established in partnership with the private sector in Lal Bahadur Shastri Medical College Mandi and Dr. Y.S. Parmar Government Medical College, Nahan in 2019-20, providing necessary facilities to treat heart related ailments.

170. I also announce that a State of Art Digital Subtraction Angiography Machine will be established in Indira Gandhi

Medical College Shimla which will help in early diagnosis of ailments related to brain, cancer, lungs, intestine, uterus and kidneys etc. A mother and child care wing, with a capacity of 100 beds, will also be established in Jawahar Lal Nehru Government Medical College and Hospital Chamba. This will enable provision of services to the people living in remote areas of Chamba at the district headquarter. I also announce the provision of one modern ambulance equipped with emergency equipment and ventilator at all the Government Medical Colleges in the State.

171. Our Government has decided to establish a mechanism to provide cochlear implants for such identified children who are deaf by birth under “**Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram**”. Cochlear implant centres will be set up in Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla, Dr. Rajinder Prashad Medical College, Tanda and Lal Bahadur Shastri Medical College, Nerchowk. In addition, adequate resources will be provided in all district hospitals to screen children for deafness.

172. Speaker Sir, persons suffering from serious ailments such as Parkinson’s, Cancer, Paralysis, Muscular Dystrophy, Haemophilia, Thalassemia, Renal failure etc. require constant and continuous care. I announce a new “**Sahara**” scheme to provide financial support at the rate of Rs.2,000 per month to such ailing persons who belong, to economically weaker sections.

173. The State has about 4,200 persons of all ages who are infected with HIV/AIDS. These infected persons are being provided diet allowance ranging from Rs.300 to Rs.800 per month depending on their age. I announce an increase in this allowance to Rs.1,500 per month to all the infected patients, irrespective of their age. These infected persons will also be provided treatment free of cost.

174. The traffic in the industrial areas of Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh has increased manifold and this has resulted in increase in the incidence of road accidents also. To facilitate immediate medical care to the persons injured in accidents, a Trauma Centre will be established in Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh industrial area. Another Trauma Centre will be established along the National Highway between Kalka and Shimla. Red Cross Society in every district will be provided one Moksh (dead body) van.

175. To encourage institutional deliveries, I am happy to announce that the grant being given to the mothers belonging to the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and BPL families during delivery under “**Janani Suraksha Yojna**” will be enhanced from Rs.600 in rural areas and Rs.700 hundred in urban area, to a uniform grant of Rs.1,100 in both the areas.

176. The State has witnessed an increase in occurrence of breast and cervical cancer among women during the last few years. I announce the provision of Mobile Diagnostic Vans for early detection and prevention of breast and cervical cancer. These mobile vans will function in close coordination with the Medical Colleges in the State.

177. Our Government has started “**HIM CARE Yojna**” for families not covered under “**Ayushman Bharat**” by providing health insurance cover up to Rs. 5 lakh. I am happy to announce that families of persons, who work for more than 50 days under MNREGA during the year, will be provided health insurance cover of Rs.5 lakh, without any insurance premium. This insurance cover shall be extended to all outsourced employees for a meagre sum of Re.1 per day.

178. ASHA workers have been making an important contribution in improving mother and child health care services. I am happy to announce an increase in the State share of their honorarium, from Rs.1,250 to Rs.1,500.

179. I propose an outlay of Rs. 2,482 crore for providing quality health services in the State.

Ayurveda

180. Ayurveda has an important role to play in the provision of health services. The State has 3 Government run Ayurvedic Pharmacies in Majra, Paprola and Jogindernagar. It is proposed to explore the possibility of upgrading the plant and machinery of these pharmacies in collaboration with the private sector to enhance productivity of these pharmacies.

181. Ayurveda Department has adopted 1,712 schools for educating children regarding health and sanitation related issues. Information related to personal hygiene, healthy lifestyle, nutrition and common remedies is shared with the children of these schools. It is proposed that the children of these schools will also be educated about the ill effects of consuming drugs and intoxicants.

182. The Ayurveda department has taken the initiative to make Banjar Block in Kullu, Baijnath Block in Kangra and Basantpur block in Shimla, anaemia free. These efforts would be continued during 2019-20, and it is also proposed to cover three more development blocks under the initiative.

183. I propose Rs.288 crore for Ayurveda during 2019-20.

184. Speaker Sir, our Government is sensitive to the weak and vulnerable sections of the society and is committed to serve their needs.

Women and
Child
Development

185. Young widows face many difficulties in earning their livelihoods. The scope of self-employment is also limited for them due to absence of necessary skills. I announce that eligible widows, less than 45 years age, will be provided reservation in Nursing Institutions and ITIs for admission. This will equip them with the necessary skills to take up employment. All such widows in this age group, who are either illiterate or are educationally less qualified, will be provided skill training under various schemes being run through Himachal Pradesh Kaushal Vikas Nigam and Labour and Employment Department. Appropriate financial assistance will also be provided to them.

186. I am happy to announce that all widows who are getting social security pension will be eligible for health health insurance coverage of Rs. 5 lakh under HIM CARE health insurance scheme of the State, without payment of any

premium. Our Government had announced increase in the financial assistance of Rs.4,000 per child, per year, given to deserted women/widows, for up to two children, to Rs.5,000. I am happy to announce a further increase in this amount to Rs.6,000 per child.

Here I would like to say that:-

*हमने रोती आँखों को हंसाया है सदा,
इससे बेहतर इबादत तो नहीं होगी हमसे।*

187. Children living in Bal/Balika Ashrams of the State have to leave these ashrams after attaining the age of 18 years. These children are still in their teens and are suddenly rendered shelter less. I propose the setting up of '**After Care Homes**' for such children, at Mashobra (Shimla) for girls and at Tutikandi (Shimla) and Arki in Solan, for boys. I also announce an annual grant of Rs.10,000 to all such children of Children Homes registered under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children), Act 2015, who score more than 60 percent marks in 8th, 10th and 10+2 standard exams.

188. There are about 1,600 children in children homes across the State. Most do not have any employment opportunities after the age of 18 years. It is proposed to provide training under Flexi ITI Scheme to such children who complete the age of 18 years in these Homes. The department will engage with the industry to ensure that these children are provided on the job training and are absorbed in the industry.

189. I would like to thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister on behalf of all the residents of the State for extending **POSHAN** Abhiyan in all districts of the State.

190. I am happy to announce an increase from Rs.50,000 to Rs.1 lakh in the income limit (from all sources) of a family to be eligible for loans from the Mahila Vikas Nigam. This will provide an opportunity to more women to avail loans from the Nigam and take up self employment activities.

191. The Central Government has recently revised the rates of honorarium for Anganwari Workers from Rs. 3,000 per month to Rs.4,500 per month. I am happy to announce that they will now get a monthly honorarium of Rs.6,300 per month after including the State contribution. The monthly honorarium to Anganwari Helpers and Mini Anganwari Workers has also been increased from Rs.1,500 to Rs.2,250, and from Rs.2,250 to 3,500, respectively. After including the State contribution, an Anganwari Helper will now get a monthly honorarium of Rs.3,200 while the Mini Anganwari Worker will get Rs. 4,600.

192. I propose an outlay of Rs. 534 crore for Women and Child Department during 2019-20.

193. Speaker Sir, our Government has been providing Social Security Pension to more than 5 lakh pensioners in the State. I am happy to announce an increase in the pension amount of all such pensioners, presently getting Rs.750 per month, to Rs.850 per month, and to Rs.1,500 per month for

Welfare of the
Weaker Section/
Social Security
Pensions

all such pensioners who are presently getting a pension of Rs.1,300 per month. I propose an outlay of Rs.642 crore for Social Security Pension schemes during 2019-20.

Speaker Sir, may I say the following:-

*आसान नहीं होता,
किसी ताले की चाबी होना।
गहराई में समाकर,
दिल जीतना पड़ता है।।*

194. I propose the setting up of one shelter home with the help of non-Government organizations, for mentally ill persons who have been rehabilitated. This home will provide shelter, food, health services, safe environment and all other basic services necessary for healthy life to such people. The Government will also seek assistance of the private sector as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility for this noble cause.

195. I propose an outlay of Rs. 2,543 crore for Social Justice and Empowerment during 2019-20.

Tribal
Development

196. Speaker Sir, our Government has always given priority to balanced development of the tribal areas and welfare of the tribal population of the State.

197. It is proposed to skill tribal youth and artisans under “**Border Area Development Programme**”. Under the Special Central Assistance, the tribal youth and artisans will be provided training in handloom and handicrafts, computer skills etc.

198. I propose Rs. 1,564 crore for Tribal Development during 2019-20.

199. Speaker Sir, the State has contributed a very large number of brave soldiers to the armed forces of the country. These soldiers have served the armed forces with dedication and distinction. To honour the martyrs and soldiers, the construction of War Memorial in Nurpur will be started during 2019-20. I also announce an increase in the annuity for Kirti Chakra winners from Rs.1.50 lakh to Rs.2 lakh. I am further happy to announce an increase from Rs. 6,000 to Rs.12,000 in the allowance given to children, who undergo SSB coaching to join armed forces as an officer.

Welfare of
Ex-Servicemen
and Freedom
Fighters

200. Speaker Sir, the law and order situation has remained peaceful during the tenure of our Government. All the functional posts in the Police department are being filled-up on priority. Recently, our Government has approved filling up of 1,063 posts of Constables. Our Government has also been stressing upon the modernization of Police force. I am happy to announce an increase in honorarium of SPOs deployed along the border with Jammu & Kashmir from Rs.6,000 to Rs.7,000.

Home/
Law and Order

201. I propose to reform and strengthen the present policing system in the State. Presently, the first information report (FIR) can only be registered in a Police Thana. People living in remote areas have to travel long distances to get FIR registered. They have to incur additional costs in terms of money and time to travel the distance. It is proposed to

designate 100 police chowkis in the State in 2019-20, where an FIR can be registered. This will enable people living in remote areas to register their complaints conveniently.

202. Under the Himachal Pradesh Excise Act, 2011, Police Officers of the rank of ASI and above are authorized to investigate offences related to Excise. It is proposed to amend this Act and authorize Head Constables also to inquire into Excise related crimes. In addition, I also propose to authorize all Constables, who are graduates, to investigate crimes, where punishment involved is 3 years or less. These provisions will enable officers of the police department to have more time to investigate into crimes of a more serious nature and will also boost the morale of these Constables.

203. The increasing use of narcotics and drugs is a matter of concern for all. This is in fact a national and global problem. In the last one year, our Government has taken a number of steps to tackle the drug trafficking menace and in the field of de-addiction and rehabilitation of drug victims. The law has been amended and made more stringent. Speaker Sir, we took an initiative to coordinate with the Governments of the neighbouring States, and decided that the State DGPs will devise a proper information sharing protocol. In addition, a State wide peoples movement has been started to fight this menace.

204. Speaker Sir, many departments viz Social Welfare, Police, Youth Services and Sports, Health and Excise and Taxation are working in this direction. I am of the firm opinion

that these departments need to work in a close coordinated manner and work out a well thought out strategy. Community participation is also very important in the whole endeavour. I therefore announce setting up of a “**Yuva Navjeevan Board**” to be chaired by the Chief Minister. Concerned Administrative Secretaries, experts from the concerned field, elected representatives and civil society will be associated with this Board. This Board will formulate effective strategies to prevent trafficking and consumption of narcotics, and for rehabilitation and de-addiction. The Board will also monitor the implementation of these policies and strategies. I sincerely hope that this Board will be instrumental in saving our youth from the ill effect of narcotics. I also announce that 5 de-addiction and rehabilitation centres will also be established in the State during 2019-20. These centres will have facilities for treatment and counselling of the affected people.

Here, it will not be out of context to say :

*यकीन हो तो कोई रास्ता निकलता है
हवा की ओट लेकर भी चिराग जलता है*

205. I also propose the formation of a State level Special Task Force under Inspector General of Police rank officer, which will work in close coordination with the police of the neighbouring States. This will strengthen the efforts of Government in fighting the drug menace. Wherever necessary, the laws will be made even more stringent.

206. The Forensic service network will be improved . One District Mobile Forensic Unit each will be established in Nurpur, in the Northern Range and in Police district Baddi, in the Southern Range.

207. I also propose the installation of 150 IP enabled high resolution CCTV Cameras at extremely sensitive spots to keep a vigil on narcotic smuggling, forest smuggling and other illegal activities along the 941 kilometre boundary with the neighbouring States. A technical cell will also be established in all the 13 Police districts to further strengthen the efforts of the Government in the prevention of drug trafficking and other crimes. State of art equipment will be installed in these technical cells.

208. I propose a total budget outlay of Rs. 1,609 crore for the department of Home i.e. Police, Home Guards, Fire Services and Prisons.

209. I also announce the setting up of 3 family court in the State for early resolution of family disputes.

Employees
Welfare

210. Speaker Sir, our Government has been sensitive to the welfare of the employees. Our Government is committed to fill all the functional posts at the earliest. During the last one year, the Cabinet has approved filling up of vacant functional posts in various departments in almost all its meetings. Our Government proposes to fill nearly 20,000 functional posts during 2019-20. These include 8,000 posts of teachers, 300 posts of doctors, 3,000 posts of para

medical staff and nurses, 1,000 posts of junior office assistants (IT)/clerks, 400 patwaris, 1,400 constables, 200 posts of forest guards, 200 posts of junior engineers and 50 posts of assistant engineers. In addition, 800 posts of various categories in HRTC, 1,000 posts in HPSEB and 3,500 posts in other departments are also likely to be filled-up.

211. Our Government is committed to notify new pay scales after Punjab Pay Commission gives its recommendations.

212. I am happy to announce that the contribution of the State Government under the New Pension Scheme will be increased to 14 percent from the existing 10 percent. This will benefit about 80,000 employees. The Government will incur an additional liability of Rs.175 crore per annum on this account.

213. I am also happy to announce that Dearness Allowance to the employees and Dearness relief to the Pensioners of the State Government at the rate of 4 percent will be provided from 1st July, 2018. The contract employees are currently getting emoluments equal to Basic Pay plus Grade Pay plus 100 percent of Grade Pay. I am happy to announce that in the next financial year, the contract employees shall be paid emoluments equal to Basic Pay plus Grade Pay plus 125 percent of Grade Pay.

214. Our Government is in favour of making necessary changes in the present policy for providing appointments on

compassionate grounds. As per the existing provisions, only a dependent of the employee who dies in harness before attaining the age of 50 years, is eligible for compassionate employment. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce that this age limit will be increased up to retirement age. The income criteria for determining eligibility will also be enhanced appropriately.

215. Speaker Sir, I am happy to announce that class-IV employees in the State in the pay band of 5910-20200 and Grade Pay of Rs.1900 and who have completed 20 years of service, will now be eligible to get an additional increment in the pay. I also announce an increase in minimum daily wages from Rs.225 to Rs.250 per day. The hourly rate for part time worker will also be suitably increased.

Budget Estimates

216. Speaker Sir, now I present the revised estimates for 2018-19 and budget estimates for 2019-20. As per the revised estimates for 2018-19, total revenue receipts are expected to be Rs. 31 thousand, 189 crore against the budget estimates of Rs. 30 thousand, 400 crore. Total revenue expenditure as per revised estimates for 2018-19 is expected to be Rs. 33 thousand, 408 crore against the budget estimates of Rs. 33 thousand, 568 crore. Thus the total revenue deficit is expected to be Rs. 2 thousand, 219 crore as per revised estimates, which is Rs. 949 crore less than the budget estimates for 2018-19. The fiscal deficit is expected to be Rs. 7 thousand, 786 crore as per the revised estimates for 2018-19 which is 5.14 percent of the Gross

State Domestic Product. The fiscal deficit as percentage of GSDP was estimated at 5.16 percent in the budget estimates for 2018-19.

217. This deficit is expected to be covered by net borrowings of Rs. 4 thousand, 546 crore during 2018-19, which will be within the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (FRBM) approved limit.

218. During 2019-20, total revenue receipts are estimated at Rs. 33 thousand, 747 crore, whereas total revenue expenditure is estimated to be Rs. 36 thousand, 089 crore. Thus total revenue deficit is estimated at Rs. 2 thousand, 342 crore. Fiscal deficit is estimated to be Rs. 7 thousand, 352 crore which is 4.35 percent of the Gross State Domestic Product. The difference between the receipts and the expenditure will be made good through net borrowings, which are estimated at Rs. 5 thousand and 69 crore during 2019-20. These borrowings will be in accordance with the obligations under the FRBM Act.

219. Speaker Sir, no new taxes have been proposed in the budget estimates for the year 2019-20. It will be a challenge for our Government to mobilize the necessary resources required for implementation of newly proposed and ongoing development and welfare schemes. I believe that our Government will be able to mobilize required resources through more effective tax administration, continued support of Government of India, exploring alternative funding mechanisms and prudent fiscal management.

220. Out of every hundred rupees to be spent by the Government, Rs. 27.84 will be spent on salaries, Rs. 15 on pension, Rs.10.25 on interest payment, Rs. 7.35 on loan repayment and Rs.39.56 will be spent on development works and other activities. The detailed budget estimates for the financial year 2019-20 are contained in the budget documents which are being presented to this August House.

221. These budget estimates indicate the difficulties in terms of resource constraints and limited sources of income. However, our Government is determined take the State to new heights of development where no one is left behind.

I would like to share a few lines written by our beloved Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji:—

*विपदाएं आती हैं आएँ,
हम न रुकेंगे, हम न रुकेंगे।
आघातों की क्या चिंता है ?
हम न झुकेंगे, हम न झुकेंगे।*

222. Speaker Sir, Now I would like to summarise highlights of the budget:—

- The last one year of our Government is a live example of “ईमानदार प्रयास सबका विकास”. Hon’ble Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi’s guiding Development Goal of “सबका साथ सबका विकास” is the focus of our development policy.
- 10 percent reservation will be provided to the general category in employment and educational institutions.

- Many targets under the Sustainable Development Goals will be achieved by 2022 instead of 2030.
- Himachal Pradesh has got first rank in the ranking done by the NITI Aayog in the efforts being made to achieve Sustainable Development Goals.
- The outlay for the Annual Plan 2019-20 will be Rs.7,100 crore.
- The Government managed to get necessary approvals and recommendations for projects worth Rs.10,300 crore from Government of India for external assistance.
- The limit for posing projects to NABARD for funding MLA Priority Schemes will be increased to Rs.105 crore per Assembly Constituency.
- Outlay under Vidhayak Kshetra Vikas Nidhi Yojna will be increased to Rs.1.50 crore per Assembly Constituency.
- The Discretionary Grant per MLA will be increased to Rs.8 lakh.
- Hon'ble MLAs will be able to recommend sports material and equipment worth Rs.25,000 per registered Yuvak Mandal out of Vidhayak Kshetra Vikas Nidhi Yojna. This grant for Mahila Mandals will also be increased to Rs.25,000.
- An annual Loktantre Prehari Samman Rashi of Rs.11,000 will be given to the persons arrested under MISA during emergency.

- Additional 136 G2C Services will be automated and linked with e-District Portal.
- State of Art Command and Control Centre will be set-up in the State. Mukhya Mantri Help Line will be established. MyGov portal will be started to establish contact between the Government and public.
- The State Government will supplement the Central Government's "Ujjwala" Yojna by providing one free cylinder, gas stove and pipe from its own resources.
- One additional LPG refill cylinder will be provided free to the beneficiaries of Himachal Grihani Suvidha Yojna and Ujjwala Yojna. This will benefit 2 lakh families.
- Barbed Wire and Chain Link will be provided at 50 percent subsidy under Mukhya Mantri Khet Sanrakshan Yojna.
- 50 percent subsidy will be provided for purchasing Cows of indigenous breed to promote natural farming.
- Electricity charges being paid by farmers for irrigation will be reduced to 50 paisa per unit.
- A scheme "Doubling of Farmers' Income through Water Conservation and other Activities" will be started with the assistance of Asian Development Bank.
- Nadaun Medium Irrigation Scheme will be completed and commissioned. Pace will be provided to execution

of Phina Singh Medium Irrigation Scheme. The execution of Swan River Flood Management Project and Chhonch Khad Channelization Project will be speeded up.

- A scheme “Himachal Pradesh Flood and River Management Project” with the first phase costing Rs.1,235 crore and second phase costing Rs.1,850 crore will be started with external assistance.
- The compensation under “Mukhya Mantri Kisan Avam Khetihar Majdoor Jeevan Suraksha Yojna” will be doubled.
- A new “Mukhya Mantri Nutan Poly House Project” with a total cost of Rs.150 crore will be started.
- The outlay for Anti Hail Nets will be doubled to Rs.20 crore.
- “Mukhya Mantri Khumb Vikas Yojna” will be started.
- “Himachal Pradesh Sub Tropical Horticulture, Irrigation and Value Addition (SHIVA)” project with a total cost of Rs.1,688 will be started with external assistance.
- Breeding farm for Sahiwal and Red Sindhi Cows will be established with a total cost of Rs.11 crore and Embryo Transfer Technology will be used for their breeding.
- Goats will be provided at a subsidy of 85 percent to the farmers living below poverty line. Sheep of improved breeds will be imported. A farm for Murrah buffaloes and Gokul Gram will be set-up.
- Additional processing capacity of 50,000 litre per day will be installed in Duttnagar and Chakkar Milk Processing Plant.

- Milk procurement price will be enhanced by Rs.2 per litre.
- 100 Trout Units and Carp Fish Ponds in 10 hectare, will be constructed. Retail fish outlets will be established in Kangra, Chamba and Shimla and Insurance cover will be provided to Trout units.
- Honorarium of elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions will be increased. Honorarium of Panchayat Chowkidar will be increased to Rs.4,500.
- Mukhya Mantri Gram Kaushal Yojna will be started.
- The State Government will provide uniform financial assistance of Rs.20,000 for house construction for the poor out of its own resources, in addition to assistance currently being provided, both in rural and urban areas. The subsidy for repair of houses under “Mukhya Mantri Aawas Yojna” will be increased.
- A new scheme “Ek Buta Beti Ke Naam” will be started.
- SMS based alert system will be started to fight forest fires. 25 Small Scale Industries will be established using pine needles as raw material.
- A new “Mukhya Mantri Green Technology Transfer Scheme” will be started.
- Integrated Cooperative Development Project will be started in Una and Chamba Districts. 250 Auditors will

be empanelled for undertaking audit of the Cooperative Societies.

- A grant of Rs.15,000 will be provided to the forest personnel in 200 sensitive beats for procuring arms.
- The honorarium to elected Members of the Urban Local Bodies will be increased.
- State Disaster Response Force will be setup.
- 500 habitations will be provided with safe drinking water supply.
- “Mukhya Mantri Swajal Yojna” will be started to provide up to 50 metre of pipe at a subsidy of 50 percent to the weaker sections of the society.
- The honorarium of the Water Guards, Pump Fitters and Para Fitters in Irrigation and Public Health Department will be increased. Functional posts in the department will be filled up on need basis.
- The Government will bring out a new Micro Small and Medium Industrial Policies.
- Global Investors Summit will be held in Dharamshala.
- The age limit and investment limit under “Mukhya Mantri Swablamban Yojna” will be increased.
- A new “Mukhya Mantri Dastkar Sahayata Yojna” will be started.

- Industrial areas in Channour, Gehrwin and Basouli Bangarh will be set-up.
- Hydel Projects with an installed capacity of 500 MW will be commissioned. Execution of Chanju-3 and Deothal Chanju projects will be commenced.
- A new “Mukhya Mantri Roshni Yojna” will be started to help poor families getting electricity connection without payment of service charges.
- A subsidy of Rs.475 crore will be provided to HPSEB Ltd.
- A new tourism policy will be brought out and Master Plan for promoting Eco-Tourism will be prepared.
- Pong Area Development Board will be set up.
- “Shiv Dham” will be established in Mandi district to attract tourists.
- Tourism Infrastructure Development Project with a cost of Rs.1,892 crore will be started with the assistance of an external funding agency.
- Rs.100 crore will be provided for “Kaushal Vikas Bhatta Yojna”.
- Integrated Public Transport Management System will be introduced in HRTC.
- A new electric vehicle policy will be brought out.

- Non-conventional material and new technique approved by the Indian Road Congress will be used for construction and maintenance of roads on pilot basis.
- 750 kilometres new roads, culverts/small bridges on 850 kilometres of road length, 1,500 kilometres of tarred roads and 50 bridges will be constructed which will connect 50 new villages.
- Annual turnover limit for GST registration will be increased to Rs.40 lakh and composition turnover limit will be increased to Rs.1.50 crore.
- A mobile App and an online facility will be introduced to deposit CGCR, PGT and AGT.
- Video conference facility will be setup in schools.
- 15 new Atal Aadarsh Vidya Kendras will be started in various Assembly Constituencies.
- A new CV Raman Virtual Classrooms Yojna will be started.
- A new “Khel Se Swasthya” Yojna will be started in educational institutions.
- A new “Atal Nirmal Jal Yojna” will be started to provide water filters in schools.
- Skill Development assistance will be provided to disabled persons under a new scheme “Navdharana”.

- 50 ITIs will be modernized which will enable intake of 5,500 additional students.
- Two large playgrounds with Gym facilities per Assembly Constituency to be constructed under 'Mukhya Mantri Yuva Nirman Yojna'.
- A new "Khel Kood Pratibha Khoj Karyakram" will be started.
- A new "Mukhya Mantri Kalakar Protsahan Yojna" will be started.
- Free Lap-Tops to be provided to State and district level accredited journalists.
- The financial assistance under "Patrakaar Kalyan Yojna" will be doubled.
- 500 Health Sub Centres and 125 Primary Health Centres will be upgraded to Health and Wellness Centres.
- 12 Health Institutions will be upgraded under "Sampuran Swasthya Yojna".
- Cath Lab will be established in Lal Bahadur Shastri Medical College Mandi and Dr. Y.S. Parma Medical College, Nahan.
- Digital Subtraction Angiography Machine will be setup in IGMC, Shimla

- New SAHARA scheme to provide financial assistance to patients belonging to weaker sections of the society and suffering from serious ailments requiring prolonged treatment and after care.
- The diet allowance to the HIV-AIDS infected persons will be increased to Rs.1,500 per month.
- The assistance under “Janani Suraksha Yojna” will be increased to Rs.1,100.
- Mobile Diagnostic Vans will be introduced to diagnose and prevent breast and cervical cancer.
- Honorarium of ASHA workers will be increased.
- Free Health Insurance cover under HIMCARE for MGNREGA workers, who have completed atleast 50 days of wage employment, and widows drawing social security pension. Subsidised health insurance cover for outsourced employees.
- Widows less than 45 years of age will be assisted in upgrading their skills and getting employment. Reservation in admissions in ITIs and Nursing Institutions will be provided to them.
- After Care Homes will be established for the orphans completing the age of 18 years. They will also be provided training.
- Honorarium of the Anganwari workers, Mini Anganwari Workers and Anganwari helpers will be increased.

- The social security pension of more than 5 lakh pensioners of the State will be increased.
- War Memorial will be constructed in Nurpur.
- The financial assistance for undergoing SSB coaching will be increased to Rs.12,000.
- 100 police chowkis of the State will be designated as Reporting Police Chowkis so that FIRs can be registered in them. Head Constables will be authorized to investigate Excise Crime. Graduate Police Constable will also be authorized to investigate certain offences.
- “Yuva Navjeevan Board” will be setup to develop a coordinated strategy to deal with trafficking and consumption of narcotics. Five de-addiction and rehabilitation centres will also be established.
- Nearly 20,000 functional posts will be filled-up.
- New pay-scales will be granted after recommendations of the Punjab Pay Commission.
- The State Government’s contribution of 10 percent under NPS will be increased to 14 percent.
- Necessary changes will be made in the policy for giving employment on compassionate grounds.
- DA to employees and DR to pensioners at the rate of 4 percent will be given from 1st July, 2018.

- Class-IV employees who have completed 20 years of service and are already getting a grade pay of Rs.1,900 will be eligible for another increment.

223. Speaker Sir, these budget estimates have been presented keeping in view the welfare of all sections of society. The implementation of ongoing schemes as well as new schemes will be strengthened. The initiatives in almost all sectors will create new employment opportunities for the youth. It is also proposed to upgrade the skills of youth to ensure their eligibility for better employment opportunities. The social security for women, old age pensioners and weaker sections of the society has been strengthened. We have established a direct dialogue with the common people to ensure their participation in the development process of the State.

Speaker Sir, I would like to commend this budget to this August House with the following lines:—

*मेरे जुनून का नतीजा जरूर निकलेगा,
इसी सियाह समंदर से बूर निकलेगा।*

Jai Hind – Jai Himachal

