



सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

Speech of the Finance Minister of Assam seeking
Vote on Account on the Estimated Expenditure
for the period from 1st April to 30th September
of the Financial Year 2016-2017

SHRI TARUN GOGOI

CHIEF MINISTER, ASSAM

1st February, 2016

PART-A

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

With your kind permission, I rise to present an Interim Statement of the Estimated Receipt & Expenditure of the Government of Assam for the financial year 2016-17.

2. As the Hon'ble Members are aware, election to State Legislative Assembly is expected shortly following completion of the five year term of the present State Government on 15th May, 2016, I propose to seek a Vote on Account on the Demands for Grants for a period of six months from 1st April to 30th September, 2016. I, would, however, like to assure that the development efforts of my Government will not slow down during this interim phase. The vote-on-account budget is prepared with this moto in mind.

3. OUR JOURNEY SO FAR :

Speaker Sir, my Government has completed three terms and the all-round progress and achievements made during these years bears testimony to my Government's firm commitments towards development and welfare for all sections of the society and providing good governance to the people of the State. I expect that the schemes and programme of my Government's budget during all these years have met the aspirations of the people of the State

and also take the State further on the path of accelerated progress. I have formulated several developmental programmes and these have resulted in further development of the State. Emphasis has been given to inclusive growth through the development of backward sections of the State including Schedules Castes and Scheduled Tribes, minorities, women and children. The endeavour of my Government has been all round development of the State.

3.1 When the Government under my leadership came to power in May, 2001, the State Government had been facing unprecedented financial crisis. In 2000-2001 alone, the State was on overdraft for 293 days. The normal Government functioning had been disrupted leading to delay on regular payment of salaries to the State Government employees. The financial crisis prevailing at that time affected even public security because the State Police force could not be adequately equipped and funded.

3.2 The people of my State had voted my Government to power for the third term for development, stability, prosperity, peace and harmony. The people of the State had voted us for change from a state of lawlessness, under development, financial crisis to one of peace and development with prosperity. My Government could bring a turn around and the State is progressing speedily in the path of all round development. However, there is a long way to go before we could make the aspiration of our citizen with regard to development in all respects and I want to assure the people of the State that our efforts will continue to meet this goal. I wish to express my gratitude

to the people of the State for the trust they have reposed on my Government for more than a decade now.

4. Before I lay the Financial Statement before this august House, I would like to apprise the Hon'ble Members about the economic scenario of the State and some of the significant developments relating to State finances.

4.1 The financial position of the State has improved remarkably under the present Government. The present Government has succeeded in overcoming the financial crisis that it had inherited when it came to power in May, 2001.

4.2 All critical fiscal parameters have also improved significantly. Per Capita income of the State has increased 3.8 times from Rs.13,059 in 2001-2002 to Rs.49,480 in 2014-2015. The Debt-GSDP ratio which was 30.54% during 2001-02 has come down to 17.03% during 2014-15 (pre-actuals), which is well within the prescribed limit of AFRBM Act (below 28.5%). Moreover, the per capita debt burden of Assam is Rs. 9380 during 2014-15 (pre-actuals) is the second lowest among all the States in the country. Similarly, the ratio of interest payment to total revenue receipts has come down from 17.80% during 2001-02 to 6.11% in 2014-15 (pre-actuals). The State has also attained Fiscal Deficit-GSDP ratio of 2.95% in 2014-15 (pre-actuals) against the stipulated target of 3% under the AFRBM Act. Growth rate has picked up from 4.07% of GSDP in 2001-02 to 15.26% of GSDP during 2014-15. The internal revenue generation has increased from Rs.2090.18 crore during 2001-02 to Rs.11,862.70 crore during 2014-15.

- 4.3 The Government of Assam initiated the reforms in the area of Public Finance in 2005 under aegis of the ADB funded Assam Governance and Public Resource Management Sector Development Programme with the objective to stabilize and consolidate State Finance and to improve fiscal governance. The State Government is keen to complete the unfinished agenda and undertake further reforms in public financial management system particularly in the areas of Tax Administration and Treasury System reforms using latest Information Technology.
- 4.4 My Government would continue its efforts to promote peace and growth and ensure that the efforts towards changes in the economic and security landscape are sustainable. At the same time, my Government's commitment to provide a transparent and responsive administration would continue. The multi-pronged strategy adopted by my Government under the Unified Command structure has yielded results and this strategy will continue.
- 4.5 In pursuance of the recommendations of 13th Finance Commission, State Government had constituted the 5th Assam State Finance Commission on March 5, 2013. The Commission has already submitted its report on September 12, 2014. However, in view of the change in approach and methodology of devolution of resources by 14th Finance Commission and drastic changes in Union Budget 2015-16, the 5th Assam State Finance Commission has been requested to revisit their report already submitted. The Commission is expected to submit its report on 30th April, 2016.

4.6 In order to boost the investment in the areas of rural connectivity and rural assets, my Government has been proactively taking up with the NABARD to utilize maximum amount of fund under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF). So far the loan assistance of Rs.3796 crore covering 2840 projects has been availed under RIDF. In order to broad base the rural infrastructure to incorporate agriculture and allied sectors, My Government has diversified the projects to also include irrigation, flood protection, soil conservation, bee fisheries, marketing infrastructure (Vegetable processing), rural godowns, animal husbandry & veterinary hospitals and sub-centres, cattle feed plant, modern abattoirs, sericulture, small hydel power projects etc. During 2015-16, hitherto uncovered areas like Panchayat & Rural Development, Karbi-Anglong Autonomous Council, Dima Hasao Autonomous Council, and Bodoland Territorial Council have also been brought within the ambit of RIDF financing. The sectoral allocation of Rs.916.78 crore under RIDF has meanwhile been approved for 2015-16.

4.7 Externally Aided Project (EAP): To ensure targeted development of the critical sectors, 22 numbers of Externally Aided Projects with more than Rs.17,000 crore have been sourced by my Government since 2001. In addition, 6 projects are in the pipeline to the tune of Rs.17,267 crore which are expected to start soon.

5. MAJOR CHALLENGES AHEAD :

The Hon'ble Members are aware that all the States including the State of Assam has to face a formidable situation of plan fund crisis as a result of abrupt change

in policy decisions initiated by the present NDA Government in 2014 including abolition of the Planning Commission.

Earlier the Planning Commission after threadbare discussions with the States had approved the schemes of financing for Annual Plan and provided plan grants to the States like NCA, SPA/SCA etc for preparing the plan budget of the State. Although Planning Commission has been replaced by NITI Aayog, which is stated to be a purely advisory body, it has failed to give clear cut guidelines to the States for preparing its Annual Plan. As a result, special category States like Assam have been facing serious problem of plan fund crisis.

Moreover, Government of India in its 2015-16 Union Budget has announced the following measures which are quite detrimental to the interests of the State's Annual Plan:

- (i) Less Budgetary provision of some CSS (Central Sector Scheme/Centrally Sponsored Scheme) than the preceding year i.e. 2014-15.
- (ii) Delinking of 10 ongoing CSS (Centrally Sponsored Scheme).
- (iii) Discontinued plan grants viz. NCA (Normal Central Assistance) and SPA/SCA etc. (Special Plan Assistance/Special Central Assistance).
- (iv) Changing the funding pattern in some of the CSS from 90:10 to a higher level of State share.

6. UNCERTAINTY IN FLOW OF CENTRAL RESOURCES :

During 2014-15, when UPA Government was in power, State of Assam received an allocation of Rs.18,000 crore only from Government of India out of which Rs.17568.83 crore was Central assistance to State Plan (CASP). Out of this actual, amount released to Assam by NDA Government which had come to power in May 2014 was only Rs.12507.85 crore resulting in the availability of less resources for development to the tune of Rs.5060.98 crore compared to the allocation made by the Centre. In other words various developmental schemes in the State have suffered to this extent because of less release of Plan fund from the Centre. The announcements in the Union Budget for 2015-16 have led to drastic reduction in resources for many important schemes. Twelve programs, which received budgetary support from the Centre till 2014-15, have been completely delinked from Central Support in the Union Budget 2015-16 as a result of which a large number of projects are getting hampered due to abrupt change in policy. Further, there has been a change in the funding pattern of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, like Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) etc. Subsequently, based on the Chief Minister's Committees recommendations, the present Government in the Centre has decided to retain funding pattern in the range of 90:10 in some schemes while changing the same to 80:20 in many schemes.

Further, there has been huge loss of revenue of the State due to payment of oil royalty on crude oil on post subsidized/discounted price as per Central Government's decision. This has resulted in cumulative loss of revenue income of more than Rs.10,000 crore for Assam since 2008-09. As regards Central Sales Tax (CST) compensation, in the post-VAT scenario, the reduction in the Central Sales Tax rate from 4% to 2% has caused substantial loss of revenue for the State.

The middle and top tier of three-tier Panchayat Raj system set up under 73rd Constitutional Amendment are completely ignored while formulating devolution of funds under 14th FC recommendations.

7. My Government took a number of initiatives for fiscal reforms during last couple of years. They include:-

- i) The enactment of the Assam Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2005.
- ii) Introduction of the Value Added Tax with effect from 1st May, 2005 which has resulted in quantum jump in the collection of taxes.
- iii) Computerisation of all the Treasuries in the State under Comprehensive Treasury Management Information System.
- iv) The Construction of the fully computerised state of the art Composite Inter-State Check gate at Srirampur has been completed which has reduced the tax evasion.

8. INSTITUTIONAL FINANCE :

The Bank branch network in the State has increased from 1286 branches in the year 2001 to 2173 as on 30/09/2015. Out of these 2173 bank branches, 1050 branches (48.32%) are in the rural areas.

C.D ratio in Assam which was hovering around 32% during 2001-02 has increased to 49.88% in Sept, 2015 due to our constant effort.

In the year 2001, total deposit were Rs.10,992 crore which has increased to more than 9 times to Rs.100,299 crore in 2015-16 as on 30-09-2015.

Further, the State had achieved 100% saturation with regard to opening of bank account in all the Districts of the State with every household having at least one bank account.

The Government of Assam has amended "The Assam Protection of Interests of Depositors(in Financial Establishments) Act 2000" in 2013 and further in 2015 for compounding of offences and making offences under the Act non-bailable and Rules under the Act has been suitably amended in 2014.

Training programme to field level officers of Civil, Police, Land Revenue, Taxation and Economic Offences wing on unauthorised acceptance of deposits from public by Non-Banking Financial Companies(NBFCs) and other entities for proper disposal of cases have been started in Assam Administrative Staff College. Till October, 2015 a total of 6 (six) training programmes have been organized whereby 126 Officials have been provided training.

The Government of Assam's 2% Interest Subvention Scheme on crop loan to farmers was initiated in 2006-07 and which has been enhanced to 3% from the FY 2009-10 and the limit for interest subvention has been enhanced from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 35,000 from the year 2011-12. Till date a total of 21.57 crore has been released by the Govt. of Assam under the scheme.

The State Level Co-ordination Committee (SLCC) has been reconstituted in 2014 under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary for better monitoring of the activities of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) & Unincorporated Bodies (UIBs).

SDO(Civil), SDO (Sadar) and one ADC in the District Head Quarter in every District has been empowered under Sec 45T of the RBI, Act, 1934 to apply before the competent Court for issue of search warrant for acts in violation of Sec 45S of the RBI Act, 1934.

As per decision of the reconstituted State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC), Director, Institutional Finance has been notified as the 'Nodal Officer' for Finance Department to coordinate with various agencies on the regulation of NBFCs and deposit acceptance activities of Un-Incorporated Bodies etc.

Process of computerization of whole Bakijai system have been started to make the system more transparent & for faster disposal of cases. All the Districts have completed the process of uploading the data on the website developed by NIC.

9. ROAD MAP AHEAD :

The approach of the Government is to provide an opportunity to restructure policies to achieve a new vision of growth that will be faster, broad based, ecologically sustainable and more inclusive. In order to ensure faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth, Government of Assam has committed itself to address all the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals from the year 2015 to 2030. The thrust areas of my Government will always be rural areas and agriculture. Improvement of rural economy encompasses agriculture and allied sectors, small and medium industries, handloom and cottage industries and removal of imbalance in infrastructure availability. Emphasis need to be given for human resource development through up gradation of educational infrastructure for primary and secondary education, development of infrastructure for technical and higher education alongside strengthening of health care facilities, sanitation, drinking water, nutrition and social welfare. The welfare and development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Tea Tribes and Minorities will be my Government's priority. Skill development and creation of employment opportunities and envisaging partnership with private sector to tap their resources and technology in the areas of communication, power, transport and industry will require continued emphasis. Our growth strategy should also lay emphasis on further development of sectors like handloom and textiles, sericulture and tourism where Assam traditionally enjoys comparative advantage and where there is scope of employment and income generation. Flood and erosion

problems must be addressed by adopting latest technologies and scientific flood and erosion management practices. We also need to preserve our rich bio-diversity and environment in the context of global climate change challenges.

10. The law and order situation in the State has witnessed remarkable improvement since 2001. During the period before 2001 when my Government came to power, the State was facing serious law and order situation due to various activities of the extremist groups which had seriously impacted the development of the State. After my Government came to power, I had initiated immediate action and revitalized the Unified Command Structure with focus on counter-insurgency operation, peace initiatives and dialogue with willing militant groups, development initiatives with focus on employment generation and poverty reduction. These have resulted in bringing back the law and order and peace in the State which has led to further development.

10.1 My Government is fully concerned with the all-round development of all the ethnic and other minority groups. My Government has created 19 Development Councils for the development of the people belonging to various ethnic communities namely Development Councils for, Chutias, Bishnupriya Manipuris, Maimal, Moran, Matak, Marias, Gorkhas, Adivasi, Koch-Rajbongshi, Nath Yogis, Tai-Ahom, Mech-Kacharis, Manipuris, Sadharan Jatis, Singphos (Man-Tai etc), Tea and Ex-Tea Garden Tribes, Barak Valley Hills Tribes, Sarania Kacharis, Amri-Karbis. Development Councils for Hindi speaking community,

Bengali speaking community, Madahi, Kumar, Sut, Hajong, Chaodangs communities are being constituted so that these communities can take up development initiatives for all round development of their communities.

10.2 The provisional collection of Sales Tax up to December, 2015 is Rs.6,190.74 crore as against Rs.5,783.87 crore corresponding to the same period of the last year showing an increase of Rs.406.87 crore with 7% growth.

10.3 VAT collection of the Department during 2014-15 was Rs.6859.24 crore as against Rs.6288.54 crore during 2013-14 showing an increase of Rs.570.70 crore.

10.4 The Sales Tax Department has introduced the facility for e-payment of tax by the dealers. Now the taxpayers can also file returns online through departmental website. Online issuance of Tax Clearance Certificates has also been introduced with effect from 02-07-2015. Sales Tax Department is also planning to provide more facilities to the tax payers by implementing online issuance of Delivery Notes, Road Permits, integration with more Banks for e-payment, e-refund, online registration of dealers under Professional Tax, Luxury Tax and Entertainment Tax and up gradation of network to provide more online services etc.

11. **WOMEN & CHILDREN :**

11.1 My Government is committed to contribute towards overall development of Women and Children, as these groups need special care & intervention for their growth and development.

- 11.2 Social Welfare Department has implemented schemes for empowerment of Adolescent Girls (Rajib Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls) SABLA in 8 Districts, Mukhya Mantrir Mahila Samridhi Achoni, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence, Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahayog Yojana (IGMSY in the 2 Districts).
- 11.3 The Guidelines have been framed for One Stop Centre sponsored by the Central Govt. for Rescue and Rehabilitation of Women in Distress. Land has been identified at Beltola, Guwahati for construction of One Stop Centre through National Building Construction Corporation for which fund has been sanctioned and released by Govt. of India.
- 11.4 Besides these, I have announced some important schemes which include Children Home for Orphanage, Financial Assistance for marriage of unmarried girls of BPL families for 7,000 beneficiaries, Financial support of Rs.10,000/- each to unmarried women between 40-60 years of age (Baideo) for 250 beneficiaries in each LAC, Financial support of Rs.10,000/- each to 200 poor widows in each LAC to give succor to them (Nabau).
- 11.5 For women empowerment, distribution of Sewing Machine, Training in Hairdressing, Spa and Wellness etc. is continuing.
- 11.6 During 2015-16, my Government has taken up Skill Development Scheme under Sati Radhika Women Empowerment (IBS) and the scheme for Working Women Hostel for SC women.

- 11.7 My Government has also taken up construction of Girl's Common Room cum Toilet, Girls Hostels in minority dominated rural areas.
- 11.8 The academic session of the Women University, Jorhat has commenced and necessary land and fund for development of infrastructure has been provided.
- 11.9 My Government had launched the Randhanjyoti Scheme in the year 2003. Under the scheme, total number of 1,79,530 families have been benefitted belonging to the BPL women of the prioritized groups of widows, women members of Self Help Groups and any other female members of the BPL families. Under this scheme, single stove/burner, regulator, one filled cylinder and connecting tube were given to the selected beneficiaries under the earlier guidelines. As per revised guidelines of 2015-16, the numbers of cylinders have been increased from one to two cylinders with accessories as provided earlier.
- 11.10 The weaving sector in Assam employs about 25 lakh weavers and allied workers. It is revealed from the National Handloom Census 2009-10 that the weaver population in Assam has increased when it has decreased in all other States. It is the result of various handloom development programmes implemented by my Government.
- 11.11 During 2001-2002 to 2015-2016 we have distributed free yarn to 24,65,886 weavers and free blankets to 28,65,325 poor families. Free shuttle frame looms and accessories have been distributed to 37,116 weavers including jacquard and accessories to 6011 weavers. 66,281 weavers have been trained during these years. My

Government has covered 27,80,717 weavers under Health Insurance and 3,14,027 weavers have been insured under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana. Recapitalization assistance provided to 1402 Weavers Cooperative Societies under Revival Reform & Restructuring Package for Handloom Sector. 51 Cluster Approach Projects implemented covering 16,000 weavers and 95 Group Approach Project implemented covering 1900 weavers. 401 Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana implemented covering 39,400 weavers. 92 Cluster Development Projects under NERTPS have been implemented covering 19,449 weavers. Marketing Incentives have been provided to 2273 Weavers' Cooperative Societies. My Government has also set up 10 yarn banks.

11.12 For empowerment of women, emphasis will be given to distribute two cross bred heifers to 200 women beneficiary of women Dairy Cooperative Societies for livelihood avenues in Nagaon, Kamrup and Darrang districts at the cost of Rs.100.00 lakh.

11.13 Under the 'Women Empowerment-Heifer Rearing Scheme', a total of 100 women dairy farmers of Uma Mahila Dairy Cooperative Society of Hajo, Kamrup have been benefitted.

11.14 The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) of the State has reduced from 68 (SRS, 2005) to 54 (SRS, 2013), whereas the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) of Assam has reduced from 480 (2004-06) to 300 (SRS 2011-13). While the MMR has rapidly fallen by 180 points, it continues to be a concern and all efforts are being made by Government

for further decreasing the MMR in a mission mode manner.

11.15 Immunisation is an important activity in the State undertaken by my Government on a continuous basis under various programmes like Routine Immunisation, Pulse Polio Immunization programme etc. The Mission Indradhanush programme is being implemented in the State in order to vaccinate the left out or missed out and partially vaccinated children during the Routine Immunisation programmes. In order to immunise the children and adults from Japanese Encephalitis (J.E.), the J. E vaccination for children of 1-15 years and adults have been undertaken in selected Districts. Pentavalent vaccine which provides immunity against five diseases namely Diphtheria - Pertussis, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Haemophilus Influenza type B (HIB) antigen has been launched in Assam. This is expected to bring down the infant mortality rate.

11.16 The Government will enhance the nutritional support to pregnant woman through the Mamoni Scheme from the present Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 2000/-.

11.17 Under Chief Minister's Special Package, financial assistance to 1000 women SHGs per LAC @ Rs.5000/- have been granted.

12. OLD AGE PEOPLE :

12.1 Under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme more than 7.78 lakh beneficiaries are provided monthly pension.

- 12.2 Financial assistance for implementation of Special Old Age Pension Scheme @Rs.200/- per month per person for 1,87,500 persons under Chief Minister's Special Package.
- 12.3 For Welfare of Senior Citizens of the State, schemes like Health Care for the Aged, Setting up of Old Age Home, implementation of Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizen Act, 2007 are implemented by my Government.
- 12.4 Dharmajyoti scheme was introduced in 2004-05 to encourage the Pilgrims, elderly persons to visit religious and historical places both within and outside the State. During the period from 2004-05 to 2014-15, 2,67,634 beneficiaries have been covered under this scheme.
- 12.5 For the elderly and lone persons, an Old Age Home has been established at Bamunigaon, Boko and another at Sonapur is under construction.

13. TARGETED SUPPORT TO POOR FAMILIES :

- 13.1 Financial assistance for providing support & employment to the poor families by providing loans, accessories, blankets, yarns, marketing support.
- 13.2 Marketing incentive provided to 2,273 Weavers' Cooperative Societies. My Government has also set up 10 yarn banks.
- 13.3 Electricity connections to 12,14,398 BPL households free of cost have been completed.

13.4 In order to provide free Health Care to BPL students below 18 years, the Government has launched an ambitious scheme - Nehru Arogya Shri. The Government has also introduced health cards for school children.

13.5 My Government has assisted 2,00,655 nos. of S.C. BPL families under Family Oriented Income Generating Scheme (FOIGS) for up-liftment of their economic conditions. 889 Computer Sets have been distributed free of cost to 889 successful Computer Trainees.

13.6 Financial Assistance@ Rs.10,000 each to Physically Challenged persons for skill development (295 persons per LAC), Financial Assistance of Rs.2000 each for 1000 persons per LAC for health care of aged people of age in between 60 to 80 years.

14. ARTISAN & PETTY TRADERS :

14.1 Financial assistance to 1000 Artisans and petty traders @5000/- per LAC is being provided.

15. STUDENTS & EDUCATION :

15.1 My Government has introduced the Gyanjyoti scheme in 2004-05 to provide awareness through educational excursion in different places both inside and outside of Assam among the school students of Class VIII to XII. An amount of Rs.1409.62 lakh has been sanctioned during 2007-08 to 2014-2015 and an amount of Rs. 1391.37 lakh has been utilized covering 24,709 beneficiaries. An amount of Rs. 3.00 crore has been allotted during the year 2015-16.

- 15.2 1,600 S.C. Girl Students who have secured 60% or above marks in H.S.L.C. and H.S. examination have been provided financial incentive @Rs.10,000.00 each to pursue further education. 3 Girls Hostels have been constructed.
- 15.3 During 2001-02 to 2015-16, 7,14,286 S.C. Students were awarded Pre-Matric Scholarship and 2,66,259 S.C. Students were awarded Post-Matric Scholarship.
- 15.4 47,206 S.C. Students whose parents are engaged in cleaning related occupation having health hazard have been awarded Pre-Matric Scholarship. Hostel facility has been provided to needy tea tribe students in 22 hostels set-up in different Districts and Sub-divisional head quarters.
- 15.5 To encourage students in the matters of science and technology, 219 Aryabhatta Science Centres have been set up in all the development blocks in the state, which are functioning as Centre of science and technology at grass root level.
- 15.6 Two Mobile Science Laboratory have been designed and developed for science practical classes in the schools of Assam in collaboration with Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhijan (RMSA) and UNICEF.
- 15.7 Under the 'National Green Crops Programme', as many as 5207 Eco-Clubs in different schools across the state have already been established and efforts are being made to increase such Eco-Clubs in the coming years.
- 15.8 6,754 sets of solar lanterns were provided to the meritorious students of the State to facilitate lights during

study hours and to popularize the use of non-conventional sources of energy. Out of 6,754 solar lanterns distributed to meritorious students 500 solar lanterns have been distributed to girls belonging to underprivileged communities.

- 15.9 My Government has engaged 104 Science & Mathematics facilitators in schools for teaching Science and Mathematics.
- 15.10 4,83,256 students have been awarded Pre-Matric & Post-Matric Scholarship. Financial grants have been provided to 3206 Non-Govt. Educational Institutions in which enrollment of Tea Tribes students is more than 50 percent. Financial assistance has been awarded to 11,500 students for pursuing higher studies including studies in foreign countries. It is proposed to cover about 2000 student beneficiaries for financial assistance during current year 2015-16.
- 15.11 Similarly, during 2015-16, an amount of Rs.750.00 lakh has been allocated for SC, ST, OBC Boys and Girls Hostels.
- 15.12 Special mention may be made that 41,726 separate Girl's toilets have been constructed in the elementary schools.
- 15.13 For girl students, free ladies bicycles have been distributed to 2,85,203 girls students up to class-X. 1,97,000 beneficiaries are targeted during 2015-16.
- 15.14 6 (Six) Girls hostels will be operationalized under RMSA during the year 2016.

15.15 51 Skill Development Training Centres have since started functioning in phased manner under PPP mode, 1425 youths have been awarded placement & 4800 trainees are undergoing training in these Skill Development Training Centres (SKDCs).

15.16 Under the scheme "Students Science Project", Financial assistance have been provided to 34 student science projects of Cotton College, Cotton College State University, Jorhat Engineering College, Assam Engineering College and Gauhati University.

15.17 Under another innovative scheme, "Nirmala Achoni", funds have been sanctioned for distribution of sanitary Napkins among 4.76 lakh school going girls from Class X to XII.

16. EMPLOYMENT, YOUTH WELFARE AND SPORTS:

16.1 Promotion of sports, games and youth welfare has been one of the priorities of my Government. Various schemes have been taken up by my Government in the field of sports and games to make the future citizen of the State physically and mentally strong, healthy and disciplined.

16.2 A State Vivekananda Youth Development Centre has already been proposed to be established in the State with a purpose for holistic development of youth to help them build up value system, train and motivate them to work for the welfare of the society. The Centre will start functioning from Rudra Singha Sports Complex, Dispur, Guwahati from 2016.

- 16.3 The NCC Academy has been proposed to be established at Jorhat and same will be completed in 2016-17. It will involve the youth of the state to develop positive bent of mind and to be patriotic.
- 16.4 Youth Welfare Activities like holding of Camps for Skill Development, Coaching Programme for preparation of Civil Services Examination, Coaching Camps for Self-Defence of Girls, Vocational Training Camps/Career Oriented Training, Coaching for Engineering and Medical Examination, Office Automation Course, Career Counseling Programme, State Help Line for Students and Youths etc. will be taken-up by State Level Advisory Committee (SLAC) for Students & Youth Welfare, Assam, which is being re-named as Student & Youth Development Council, Assam.
- 16.5 5173 new AB constables have been appointed in Assam Police with additional 64 numbers of appointments on compassionate ground. Further, recruitment process has already been started for selection of 346 posts of Sub-Inspector (UB) for Assam Police, 27 posts of Asstt. Jailors and 2,564 posts of additional constable. During the year 2015, a total of 3,203 officers and other personnel attended various courses inside as well as outside the State.
- 16.6 Recruitment process for appointment of 114 Firemen and 120 Emergency Rescuers has been started.
- 16.7 Government is considering for filling up 299 posts of Home Guards constables in Assam Special Reserve Force under Director General of Civil Defence & Commandant General of Home Guards.

16.8 The 'Assam Skill Development Mission' has been constituted recently to increase the capability of the system to deliver quality skill training, leading to meaningful employment (both in terms of wage employment and self employment).

16.9 'Employment Generation Mission' has employed 34,729 youths till date through Skill Development followed by assured placement, entrepreneurship development and livelihood activities.

16.10 The quantum of assistance to the candidates who passed the Preliminary Examination of Central Civil Services conducted by the UPSC has now been enhanced to Rs.1.00 lakh from Rs.50,000/-.

17. CITIZEN SERVICES DELIVERY :

17.1 Presently, 55 services encompassing 14 Departments have been notified under the provisions of Assam Right to Public Services Act, 2012 which is a unique Act which ensures (1) Transparency (2) Accountability & (3) Time bound public service delivery. Steps are being taken to include the Sixth Scheduled Areas also under the purview of the ARTPS Act. In order to implement the ARTPS Act vigorously, State Government has taken up a World Bank aided Project namely "Assam Citizen Centric Service Delivery Project" which has initially taken up 12 services of the ARTPS Act.

17.2 The Rajjor Padulit Rajjor Sarkar (RPRS) Programme was initiated to bring the Government closer to the people and also to create awareness among the people about

various schemes. During, 2014-15, three rounds of RPRS programme have been completed. More than 3.4 lakh petitions were received and most of them have been disposed after taking necessary action.

18. WELFARE OF ETHNIC GROUPS AND SCHEDULED CASTES :

18.1 My Government has been implementing various welfare schemes/projects for the upliftment of SC, ST(P) and OBC communities of the State. Several schemes have been taken up for Employment, Education, Health Care, Infrastructure development and socio-economic empowerment of SC, ST and OBC people. During 2015-16, a total of Rs.634.00 lakh have been allocated for Pre-matric scholarships and Rs.10,550.00 lakh for Post-matric Scholarships to SC, ST and OBC students for development of the education among backward sections of the state.

18.2 Various programmes for skill development in order to ensure self-employment are being imparted to the unemployed youths of backward class communities.

18.3 For specific development of various ethnic communities under the aegis of 6 (six) Autonomous Councils (Mising Autonomous Council, Rava Hasong Autonomous Council, Tiwa Autonomous Council, Sonowal Kachari Autonomous Council, Thengal Kachari Autonomous Council and Deori Autonomous Council) Rs.23,627.00 lakh have been allocated during 2015-16. Similarly, an amount of Rs.12,000.00 lakh has been allocated to twenty Development Councils during 2015-16. Further, initiative

has been taken for creation of new Autonomous Councils and Development Councils during 2015-16.

18.4 SC Development Council has already been constituted. As I have already mentioned, Development Councils for Chaodang, Kumar, Hajong, Sut, Madahi, Hindi Speaking and Bengali Speaking people are being created. Autonomous Council for Garo community is under consideration.

18.5 Government has been paying special attention for development of Tribal areas under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and providing benefits to the Scheduled Caste people through Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP). During 2015-16, Rs.9,833.00 lakh and Rs.25,287.00 lakh has been allocated for special development programme under TSP and SCSP respectively.

18.6 As mentioned earlier, during 2015-16, my Government has taken up Skill Development scheme under Sati Radhika women Empowerment (IBS), Distribution of Solar Lanterns to SC students, Working women Hostel for SC women, Self Help Scheme for SC unemployed youths for economic upliftment and Distribution of yarn to progressive SC weavers.

18.7 8 Boys Hostels and 3 Girls Hostels have been constructed for welfare of ethnic groups & Scheduled Castes.

19. HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE :

19.1 As stated earlier, in spite of severe constraints of professionals, State Government has been able to reduce IMR & MMR considerably. However, our concern remain

to bring down the indicators further for which we have set up goals for ourselves.

19.2 In order to augment the manpower pool of health care professionals, my Government has given special emphasis to Medical Education in the State. Many new Medical Colleges have been set up during last few years. The 6th Medical College & Hospital of Assam namely, Tezpur Medical College & Hospital has started functioning. The construction of Diphu Medical College and Hospital is in progress. Further, the State Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Government of India for establishing three more new Medical Colleges at Nagaon, North Lakhimpur and Dhubri. Due to the efforts of the State Government, the number of MBBS seats have increased from 391 to 726 and the Post Graduation seats have increased from 246 to 339 in the State. DM / M. Ch. Course for super specialty subjects have also been started at Guwahati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) in 9 subjects. M. Sc. Nursing course has been introduced at Regional Nursing College (RNC), Guwahati. A Medical Institute for 3 years diploma course in Rural Health Care has been established in 2005-06 at Jorhat and the course has been renamed as B.Sc. (Community Health) course. Steps have been taken for establishment of a Dental College at Barpeta, establishment of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Institute at Jorhat and B. Sc. Nursing College at Barpeta.

19.3 Establishment of an advanced Health institution along the lines of AIIMS, Delhi is on the anvil and the site is expected to be finalised soon by Govt. of India.

- 19.4 As the incidence of cancer is high in this region, during 2015-16, initiative has been taken for the establishment of 50 bedded Cancer Wings in all Medical Colleges.
- 19.5 The GMCH, Guwahati and Assam Medical College and Hospital (AMCH) Dibrugarh, have state of the art model blood banks with Blood Component Separation Units (BCSUs). The State Reference Laboratory (SRL) at AMCH Dibrugarh and Silchar Medical College and Hospital (SMCH) have received National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accreditation during the year 2014-15. Another SRL is located at GMCH.
- 19.6 My Government has recruited 2028 regular employees and 1390 contractual employees during 2015-16 which include doctors, nurses, para-medics etc.
- 19.7 The Government is committed to provide free and quality essential medicines for the poor and needy segments. Essential medicines, as per the Essential Drug List (EDL) are being provided free of cost in health institutions to needy patients.
- 19.8 In order to streamline the procurement of drugs and surgical items, the Government has approved the creation of Assam Medical Services Corporation which is expected to start functioning shortly.
- 19.9 Funds have been earmarked for strengthening of the existing ANM and GNM training centres so that they can function at full capacity in a phased manner. This will help in reducing the shortage of nurses and thereby aid patient care.

- 19.10 Food Safety Authority is proposed to be geared up by up-gradation of laboratory and regulatory infrastructure.
- 19.11 In order to strengthen the AYUSH facilities, the National AYUSH Mission has been launched and funds have been allocated.

20. RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION :

- 20.1 Providing safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities to the rural areas of Assam has been the priority of my Government. My Government envisages a clean and healthy Assam, where everyone, individually and collectively owns and takes up the responsibility to ensure good quality of life through safe water supply, adequate sanitation facilities and best hygiene practices.
- 20.2 Since 2001-02, a total of 14,772 uncovered habitations have been provided with safe drinking water facilities and 23,441 quality affected habitations are provided with safe drinking water facilities through alternative sources. We have provided safe drinking water facilities to 25,640 rural primary schools and 5075 Anganwadi centres. The Titabor Zone I & II piped Water Supply Schemes covering 506 habitations and 1.40 lakh of population in 17 GPs has been completed. We have also completed the Katlicherra piped Water Supply Scheme covering 49 habitations and 36,000 populations.
- 20.3 50 spot sources per LAC are being installed under CM's Special package at a cost of Rs 25.72 crore during 2015-16. 3000 Tara hand pumps under Flexi Fund & 2271 Tara hand pumps and Singur hand pumps under

State Plan are being installed at a cost of Rs.16.25 crore to cater to the water supply needs of people living in Char areas during 2015-16. Seven mega multi village schemes in select areas of sixteen Development Blocks under seven Districts of Assam are undertaken under World Bank assisted RWSS - LIS Projects.

20.4 Under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) till 31st December, 2015 a total of 27,66,863 families have been provided with sanitary toilets, out of which 19,36,095 are BPL families and 8,30,768 are APL families.

20.5 During this year, 152 villages in 12 GPs have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF). Tea garden sanitation has been prioritized under this programme. In the current financial year 14,129 household toilets have been constructed for tea garden workers.

20.6 5381 Piped Water Supply Scheme (PWSS) have been completed.

20.7 1,63,408 Spot Sources have been installed.

21. WELFARE OF MINORITIES :

21.1 My Government has taken up number of initiatives for education and socio-economic development of minority community. For facilitating the Haj pilgrims my Government have taken steps for construction of Haj Bhawan at North Jalukbari.

21.2 For the benefit of people living in the char areas, the Minorities Welfare Department has taken up the scheme of distribution of TATA Sumo, Tractor and Auto Van and distribution of Pump Sets to poor minority cultivators.

- 21.3 My Government has also taken up construction of Girl's Common Room cum Toilets, Girls Hostels in minority dominated rural areas. Drinking water facilities have been provided for the people living in the char areas.
- 21.4 For skill development of minority communities, training on ANM and Health Workers, GNM Nursing, B.Sc. Nursing, Dental Technician, Physiotherapy Technician etc. have been imparted.
- 21.5 For the poor minority people in rural areas, solar home lights and water pure filters have been distributed.
- 21.6 Government has so far disbursed scholarship to more than 9 (nine) lakh meritorious minority students with an expenditure of Rs.283 crore.
- 21.7 15 new ITIs and one Polytechnic are being set up in minority concentrated areas. Moreover, 25 lakh minority beneficiaries have been covered under various regular and special schemes of the State Government.

22. EX-TEA AND TEA TRIBES WELFARE :

- 22.1 My Government is fully committed to the welfare of Tea & Ex-Tea Tribes communities and various developmental schemes have been taken up for the all round development of these communities. Under Family Oriented Income Generating Scheme, 2, 00,329 beneficiaries have been provided with grants.
- 22.2 Hostel facilities have been provided to needy students in 22 hostels set-up in different District and Sub-Divisional head quarters.

- 22.3 We have provided 3,82,000 individual electric meters for installation in the Tea Worker's quarters. Rs.1000.00 lakh have been provided to ASEB for electrification of Tea Worker's quarters.
- 22.4 Financial subsidy has been awarded to 700 youths for purchase of Taxi-cab against bank loan for self employment. A total of 3,015 patients have been granted financial assistance for treatment of T.B., Cancer and other critical diseases to needy patients.
- 22.5 My Government has taken up talent hunt coaching including supply of sports goods, exposure to National/Regional level youth exchange programme for promotion of Sports and Youth Welfare activities.
- 22.6 More than 28,000 low cost sanitary latrines and 376 water supply sources have been provided in tea gardens. 15 ATC run tea gardens have also been included under this programme.
- 22.7 10 out of the targeted 100 unit of Handloom & Handicrafts Production Centres brought up for the benefit of women community in tea garden areas.
- 22.8 We have created 15 Library-cum-Cultural Centres (LAC-wise) in the tea tribes dominated LACs with the objective to inculcate reading habit among youths belonging to the tea tribes in the tea garden areas. A Tea Tribes Museum at Guwahati and a modern Auditorium at Lahowal in Dibrugarh district have been brought up.
- 22.9 My Government has decided to revise of the wages of the ordinary daily rated workers in all the tea gardens

under Assam Tea Corporation to Rs.177.19 per day from next month.

23. EMPLOYEES :

23.1 The pay of the employees has been fixed along with increments at rate of 3% of Basic Pay, Dearness Allowances, etc. with effect from 01.01.2006. Arrear amount with effect from 01.04.2009 have been released in a single installment through bank accounts of the employees.

23.2 Later on in pursuance of Govt. resolution, arrear on account of pay and pension revision for 6 (six) months from 01.10.2008 to 31.03.2009, has been released to the employees and the pensioners.

23.3 Additionally, arrear on account of pay and pension revision for another 6 (six) months from 01.04.2008 to 30.09.2008 has been released to the employees and the pensioners.

23.4 My Government has announced release of arrear pay salaries for six months to the State Government employees.

23.5 Performance based incentives to the employees of profit making PSUs has been given in order to encourage competitiveness and enhance the efficiency of the PSUs.

24. WATER RESOURCES :

24.1 Till the end of XIth Five Year plan, my Government has been able to provide reasonable protection to 16.50 lakh hectares of land out of 31.05 lakh hectares of flood prone area in the State as identified by Rashtriya Barh Ayog

through construction of 4473.82 km embankments, 911 anti-erosion and town protection works, 874.97 km drainage channels, 94 major sluices and 545 minor sluices.

24.2 During the XIth Five Year Plan, my Government has physically completed 96 schemes under Flood Management Programme (FMP) and 4 schemes are nearing completion. 2 schemes costing Rs.1271.09 lakh with benefitted area 1315 hectares under NLCPR have been taken up and now physically completed.

24.3 During 2014-15 & 2015-16, 3 schemes amounting to Rs.2233.00 lakh has been included under SPA. The works of all the schemes are completed. 44 schemes with a view to benefit area of about 1,97,300 hectare costing Rs.282.50 crore have already been sanctioned under NABARD (RIDF-XX) for execution. Works for the schemes are being started. 13 schemes costing Rs.7203.241 lakh have been taken up in the year 2014-15 as State Specific Scheme and the works have been completed.

24.4 8 schemes have been taken up as Chief Minister's Special Package in Barak Valley (Phase-I) for execution during 2013-14. The works are in progress. Again, 10 schemes have been sanctioned under Chief Minister's Special Package in Barak Valley Phase-II for execution during 2014-15 and the works are in progress. Another 4 schemes costing Rs.1750 lakh have now been proposed during 2015-16.

24.5 My Government has taken up projects to be funded by the Asian Development Bank and two sub-projects under

the nomenclature 'Assam Integrated Flood and River Bank Erosion Risk Management Project' at Dibrugarh and Palasbari area has been taken up.

24.6 My Government has already set up 'Brahmaputra Gallery' at Assam Water Research and Management Institute, Basistha, Guwahati in association with National Academy of Sciences, India, which is the second of such kind in the country.

25. MINES AND MINERALS :

25.1 For exploration and establishment of minerals as well as ground water resources in the State, we have been carrying on extensive geological investigation programmes. Production of major minerals like crude oil, natural gas, coal and limestone contributes to non tax revenue in terms of royalty.

25.2 During the period from 2001-02 to 2015-16, my Government has granted Petroleum Exploration Licence (PEL) to 13 (thirteen) blocks covering 10053.00 sq. k.m. and 1 (One) block covering 113.00 sq. k.m. for exploration of coal bed methane in search of alternate source of Hydrocarbon. Petroleum Mining Lease (PML) has been granted to 34 (thirty four) blocks covering 5686.00 sq. k.m.

25.3 The Assam Hydrocarbon and Energy Company Ltd. has been incorporated on 5th September, 2006 with an objective of development of hydrocarbon. Assam Mineral Development Corporation (AMDC) Ltd. became debt free and has become a profit making enterprise.

25.4 My Government has framed the Assam Minor Mineral Concession Rules (AMMCR), 2013 on 16th March, 2013. Collection of royalty on Petroleum and other major minerals has increased up to Rs. 1138.10 crore till November in 2015-16.

26. IRRIGATION :

26.1 In order to boost up agricultural production in the State, my Government has laid emphasis on creation of irrigation potential. 7.57 lakh hectare Irrigation Potential has been created up to March, 2015.

26.2 In Major/Medium Irrigation sector, work of ongoing Dhansiri Major Irrigation Project and Borolia Medium Irrigation Project are proposed to be taken up to achieve 35,270 hectare of irrigation facilities. Preliminary investigation works of New Projects (Puthimari Major Irrigation Project, Burisuti Medium Irrigation Project, Buroi Medium Irrigation Project & Dikhow Medium Irrigation Project) are nearing completion & preparation of DPR is being taken up after completion of field investigation work.

26.3 In Minor Irrigation Sector, work of 278 Minor Irrigation Schemes are proposed for implementation to achieve 1,37,125 hectare Irrigation Potential under AIBP, SCSP, TSP, NABARD & NLCPR .

26.4 Under Command Area Development and Water Management Programme, Bor-dikorai Irrigation Project, Pahumara Irrigation Project, Dhansiri Irrigation Project, Maloibari Lift Irrigation Scheme (Minor) along with new

schemes are proposed for implementation to cover 12,000 hectare of Command Area.

27. ENVIRONMENT & FOREST :

27.1 My Government has laid maximum thrust to the afforestation as it is one of the important factors to ameliorate the forests. Accordingly, 120577.30 hectare of plantation was created under various afforestation programme during the period from 2001-02 to 2014-15.

27.2 The census of wild animals in Assam has shown an increasing trend of population of flagship species in the State. According to estimation, Rhinos have increased to 2624 from 1672 in 1999, Elephants have increased from 5246 to 5620 in 1999, Tigers have increased from 72 to 167.

27.3 For conservation and protection of Forest and Wildlife, the basic infrastructure development is very vital. During the period from 2001 to 2015, infrastructure has been improved which include renovation and repairing of forest roads of 1435 km., improvement of 458 bridges and culverts, construction of 585 new buildings, 105 forest camp huts under various schemes and projects.

27.4 My Government has been taking initiative to provide more sophisticated arms to equip the forest personnel and accordingly proposal has been sent to Government of India to allow procurement of 200 SLRs, 200 Wireless sets, 368 small arms, Rifles of both AK-47 and AK-56 series, ammunitions and other automatic weapons to counter the threat from the poachers and smugglers.

27.5 My Government has notified State Bio-diversity Rules, 2010 and Assam Biodiversity Board has been constituted by the Government of Assam on 29.09.2010 so that the Biodiversity Act, 2002 is implemented in the State smoothly.

27.6 The ex-gratia amount for loss of human lives caused by wild animals enhanced from Rs.40,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/-.

27.7 My Government has raised a 2nd Assam Forest Protection Force Battalion in 2011 with total strength of 998 Force personnel with Head Quarter at Seconee in Nagaon District to protect wildlife and forests in the State of Assam.

28. LAND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT :

28.1 The Assam Agriculture Land (Regulation of Reclassification and Transfer for non-Agriculture purpose) Act, 2015 has been enacted to regulate the reclassification and transfer of Agriculture land for intended non-agriculture purpose.

28.2 For smooth maintenance of Land Records and other revenue matters, Assam Land and Revenue Service has been created.

28.3 For effective citizen engagement in Revenue Administration, Village Land Management and Conservation Committee (VLMCC) have been constituted for Revenue Villages.

28.4 199 Non Cadastral villages have been taken up for detailed field survey in the District of the Dhemaji, Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Kamrup, Kamrup(M), Nalbari, Barpeta & Goalpara.

- 28.5 Gaonburha system has been newly introduced in 8 (eight) Districts of Assam namely - Goalpara, Dhubri, Cachar, Kokrajhar Karimganj, Hailakandi, Bongaigaon and Chirang.
- 28.6 For better record keeping and reporting, online Management Information System has been introduced in the Revenue Department.
- 28.7 Projects for the digitization of village maps, integration of maps with record of right through the software Bhu-Naksha and upgradation of Dharitree and E-Panjiyan has been taken up for implementation.
- 28.8 Modern Survey equipment like ETS, DGPS have been procured for modernizing the land Survey Operations.
- 28.9 Assam Land Management and Information Society has been constituted for effective implementation of National Land Records Modernization Programme in the state.

29. AGRICULTURE :

- 29.1 My Government has been putting in all out efforts to boost up production & productivity of rice and it has produced 52.23 Lakh MT rice during 2014-15 with a surplus of 3.81 Lakh MT. Agriculture sector in the State has made considerable progress since 2001-02. 40% increase in contribution of Agriculture to GDP has been achieved up to 2014-15. Special State Funded Programme like 'Mission Double Cropping' and 'Krishok Bandhu Momai Tamuli Barbaruah Achan' have been implemented since 2011-12 to motivate farmers towards multiple cropping. As a result, an additional 70,000 hectare area

has been brought under multiple cropping, thereby increasing cropping intensity during the year 2011-12.

29.2 Being deficit in production of Pulses and Oilseeds, my Government has given thrust on Pulse, Oilseeds production through State Plan, National Food Security Mission, National Oilseeds and Oil Palm programmes. The State has produced 1.11 Lakh MT Pulses and 2.06 lakh MT Oilseeds during 2014-15 meeting the requirement of 39% in total Pulses and 54% in total Oilseeds. I am happy to announce that the State could be able to retain National recognition in production & productivity of Pulses with "Krishi Karman Award" at National Level from 2011-12 to 2013-14.

29.3 During the last fifteen years, irrigation facilities have been provided in 7.23 Lakh hectare with 3,77,506 Low Lift Pumps/Shallow Tube Wells. Thrust is also being given on self-employment and 2,19,060 beneficiaries have been provided with self employment avenues during this period. Similarly, agricultural loan to the tune of 6,346.86 crore have been provided through 16.79 Lakh Kisan Credit Cards.

29.4 My Government has been giving due importance to major infrastructures. Constructions of 16 District Krishi Bhawans and Training Centers have already been completed during the last 15 years.

29.5 Government of Assam has so far provided 584 market infrastructure facilities which include auction platforms, market sheds and selling complexes. Besides, steps have been taken to develop 219 Agriculture Service Centres

covering all block headquarters for easy access to information pertaining to new technology & departmental programmes to the farming community.

29.6 We have been taking compensatory programme to provide assistance in terms of inputs like seeds, fertilizers, machineries etc to the farmers affected by natural calamities. During the last four years, assistance to 6.74 Lakh farm families has been provided with inputs involving Rs. 3341.27 lakh.

29.7 My Government is launching a massive special programme for assistance to Small & Marginal farmers to provide cash assistance @Rs.5000/- each covering 1000 farmers per LAC. Programme for distribution of 20 power tillers and 10 tractors per LAC is being undertaken during the current financial year.

29.8 My Government is also giving thrust on Horticulture Sector. Centre of Excellence on vegetables and flower has been setup at Khetri with an aim to disseminate recent technologies to the growers in respective sectors. One 'V' type Automated Nursery has been setup at Ulubari, Guwahati with an aim to produce 50.00 lakh planting materials annually. Establishment works of a Horticulture College at Dharmapur, Nalbari have been started at initial cost of Rs.871.05 lakh. A well equipped 'Farmers' Training Centre' has been established at Byrnihat along with hostel facility. To boost up mushroom to a commercial venture, a State of the Art Mushroom Spawn Production Laboratory has been set up at Khanapara, which is expected to be started functioning very soon. To overcome drawback in respect of availability of quality seed of potato,

certified seed production programme has been taken up during the year for the first time in the State. My Government also proposes to establish one Centre of Excellence (CoE) of citrus crops of Assam.

29.9 My Government has been implementing various Soil and Water Conservation related schemes to enhance cropping intensity as well as crop productivity in Assam.

29.10 From 2001-02 to 2015-16, my Government has developed 18208.05 hectare of land and made it suitable for cultivation on a sustained basis with a financial involvement of Rs.1318.20 lakh.

29.11 To stop further advancement of gully heads along with improvement of in situ moisture content in the cultivable areas, Gully Control Project has been constructed benefiting about 10981.60 hectare of agricultural land with expenditure of Rs.1111.63 lakh from 2001-02 to 2015-16.

29.12 From 2001-02 to 2015-16 my Government has reclaimed 19515.69 hectare of unproductive agricultural land under the component of land reclamation.

29.13 From 2001-02 to 2015-16 the Department has created protective afforestation of 2423.42 hectare of land.

30. LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY DEVELOPMENT :

30.1 Under Cattle Development (Breed up-gradation) programme, 21,65,364 artificial inseminations have been carried out during 2001-02 to 2014-15. Ten Frozen Semen Banks have been established at Khanapara, Howly,

Ghungoor, Baghchung, Nagaon, Tinsukia, Tezpur, Lakhimpur, Kokrajhar, & Manja. Similarly, during this period, the number of Artificial Insemination Centers have increased from 553 to 1275. Up gradation process of Institute of Veterinary Biological (IVB) to ISO standard with GMP certification is under way.

30.2 The NERDDL (North Eastern Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory) has been established which is the only of its kind in the entire North-East Region with the mobile BSL-III Laboratory.

30.3 Strengthening and renovations of 16 Disease Diagnostic Laboratories at Dibrugarh, Sivasagar, Jorhat, Lakhimpur, Golaghat, Tezpur, Nagaon, Diphu, Nalbari, Barpeta, Goalpara, Dhubri, Silchar, Karimganj, Guwahati and Morigaon have been completed.

30.4 50 Multi Utility Ambulatory Vans have been distributed to the Districts and Sub-Divisions.

30.5 70 Pig Villages have been formed through SHGs under RKVY. 100 Pilot Pig SHGs have been formed covering 1,000 women including formation of 50 Pig Rearers Groups.

30.6 Government duck Farm at Hajo has been revamped, State Central Duck Breeding Farm cum Research Station at Koliabar has been revamped, 156 dilapidated hospitals and dispensaries have been reconstructed. Further, 75 dilapidated Veterinary Sub-Centres have been reconstructed. For the benefit of cattle farmers, Go-Dhan Niwas, an Animal Hostel at Jagial in Nagaon District as a pilot project has been constructed.

- 30.7 524 Dairy Cooperative Societies have been organized covering 15,720 dairy farmers. 21 entrepreneurs have been assisted for establishment of commercial dairy farms under the 'Women Empowerment-Heifer Rearing Scheme'.
- 30.8 Three Milk Unions have been formed one each in the District of Barpeta, Jorhat and Golaghat.
- 30.9 Cattle feeds have been distributed to Dairy Cooperative Societies and Milk Producers Institutions, benefitting 7927 such societies, institutions and individuals.
- 30.10 56 Milk Collection Centers have been established in the State. 1544 SC & ST beneficiaries have been benefitted under Milk Village Scheme under TSP & SCSP.
- 30.11 Bokakhat and Nagaon milk processing plants are upgraded from 2000 liters to 5000 liters per day. Silchar, Dibrugarh, Lakhimpur and Khanapara Milk Processing Plants are made functional. 55 Bulk Cooling Centers in the State have been established. The new milk processing plant at Dhemaji is on the verge of completion. The Central Milk Testing Laboratory has been established at Khanapara.

31. FISHERIES :

- 31.1 Fisheries sector is emerging as one of the most potential sectors in the state with its rich water resources in the form of ponds and tanks, wetlands, low-lying and derelict water bodies which are most potential for fish production. Fish production has increased from 1.61 lakh MT in 2001-02 to 2.82 lakh MT in 2014-15. More than 15,620 hectare water areas have been developed for scientific

fish farming benefitting more than 1,02,180 individual farmers including 7260 women through different Government schemes. Besides, 2421 SHGs/communities have been supported for fish production and related activities.

- 31.2 World Bank rated the performance of the Department best among all on-going World Bank programmes in South Asia during 2011-12. State Fisheries Department recognized and declared as best performing Fishery Department in the country for the year 2008 by the Indian Fisheries Association and Central Institute of Fisheries Education.
- 31.3 My Government has established three fresh water prawn hatchery for the first time in Kamrup, Cachar and Dhubri districts with scope for introduction of prawn farming. Modular cage culture for farming of Indian major carps and pangasius fish farming are initiated at Molanhalitooop beel in Golaghat District. One time financial assistance have been provided to 8850 fishermen family as means of sustenance during the fishing restriction period.
- 31.4 Construction of Modern Hygienic Fish Markets have been completed at Sulung (Nagaon), Adabari (Nalbari), Nalbari (Municipal Area), Karimganj and Silchar (Fatak Bazar); Construction work of Hygienic Fish Markets at Jorhat, Lakhimpur, Morigaon, Goalpara, Barpeta, Dhubri and Hailakandi, Mangaldoi and Tezpur are going on and are likely to be completed during this financial year.
- 31.5 Assistance in kind i.e. Bicycle with hundi, cast net and drag net have been provided to 7703 fish vendors,

fishermen, SHG and Fishery Co-operative Societies. Over 53,333 fishermen have been insured against death and disabilities under centrally sponsored National Welfare Fund for Fishermen through FISHCOPFED.

32. COOPERATION :

32.1 In a bid towards re-organization of Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) in the State, my Government has already registered 2172 Gaon Panchayat Level Multipurpose Samabai Samitis (GPSS). Moreover, 77 Large Area Multipurpose Cooperative Societies (LAMPS) in the Hill Districts and 196 Village Council Multipurpose Cooperative Societies in Bodoland Territorial Council areas have been registered till date.

32.2 The infrastructure development of the Assam Rajiv Gandhi University of Cooperative Management (ARGUCOM) has also been identified as an important programme under the Chief Minister's Special Scheme for the year 2015-16. My Government has also implemented the Assam Dairy Development Plan through the West Assam Milk Producers' Cooperative Union Ltd. (WAMUL) funded by the World Bank with an additional financing for an amount of Rs.3,384.00 lakh out of which an amount of Rs.1,182.00 lakh had been sanctioned and released in the year 2014-15 to WAMUL under the Externally Aided Project. In the year 2015-16, the project of up-gradation and refurbishment of plant and machineries of Cattle Feed Plant at Changsari in Kamrup District to be implemented by WAMUL involving an amount of Rs.498.41 lakh has been taken up under the RIDF scheme.

33. PUBLIC WORKS :

- 33.1 My Government has given due emphasis for integrated development of Highway Network in the State which will boost the development of other sectors like Agriculture, Tourism, Health, Education etc. as well as materialization of Act East Policy of Govt. of India.
- 33.2 670 km of National Highway (NH) are being converted to 4-lane East West Corridor under NHAI. Proper development of NH has started in the State in 2006-07 and till 2015-16, 1129 km of NH has been developed including 4-laning of NH-37 from LGBI Airport to Jalukbari.
- 33.3 During the period, nearly 200 km single & intermediate lane has been developed to 2 lanes with paved boulders and construction of 57 RCC Bridges has been completed.
- 33.4 For improving communication infrastructure, 13 new National Highways have been declared in the State. Moreover, to avoid traffic congestion, the works of 9 Bypasses/realignments at various places are in progress.
- 33.5 Around 166 km of NH are being developed to 4-lane from Nagaon Bypass to Hologngi with an additional bridge over river Brahmaputra near Kaliabhomora under newly constituted Central Govt. agency National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL). 4-Laning of NH-37 from Numaligarh to Dibrugarh (Length = 179 km) has also been started by NHIDCL.

- 33.6 Public Works Building & NH Department has initiated the process of introduction of energy efficient Green Building concept in all ongoing and future Major building projects. The Department has emphasized for environment friendly construction for which one MoU has also been signed by the Government with 'The Energy and Resources Institute' (TERI). Some of the Major ongoing Building projects targeted to be completed next year include Women University at Garmur, Jorhat, National Law University and Judicial Academy at Amingaon.
- 33.7 The road network is one of the key components for development of a State. Since 2001, my Government has given priority for improvement of the Road Connectivity. My Government has given special emphasis to give connectivity to the Rural areas, interstate Border areas, Barak Valley, flood effected areas of Dhemaji-Lakhimpur District, Majuli and improvement of State Highways and Major District Roads.
- 33.8 Construction of 24,179 Km of blacktopped road and 4061 RCC bridges have already been completed during the period 2001 to 2015 and total Road network increased to 55,784 Km. Moreover, construction of 5000 Km blacktopped road and 1000 RCC bridges are going on.
- 33.9 Further, in the year 2015, my Government has launched 'Fakhrudin Ali Ahmed Scheme' and 'Swahid Kushal Kowar Paki Path Nirman Achani' with the aim to construct interlocking concrete 'paver block' road in each constituency. Schemes have also been taken to provide road connectivity to the Majuli river island from North Lakhimpur.

- 33.10 For superlative performance in infrastructure development, Assam has been adjudged the Best Infrastructure Development State in the big State category in the 13th States Conclave by India Today group in New Delhi. It has registered 17 per cent increase in the length of pucca road from 2011 to 2014, whereas the national average for the same period was 4 percent.
- 33.11 Under Mukhyomantrir Paki Path Nirman Achoni (MPNA), 1094 km of road works and 3 RCC bridges have been completed.
- 33.12 25 RCC bridges have been completed under CM's Special Package.
- 33.13 Moreover, under CM's Special Package for Special Focus on construction of Boarder Areas Road & Bridges, 158 km of road works have been completed.
- 33.14 Similarly, 248 km of road works have been completed under CM's Special Package for Barak Valley.

34. POWER :

- 34.1 My Government has taken up a number of initiatives over and above the flagship programme of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) and other on-going works on all fronts including programme under generation, transmission and distribution. Under RGGVY, electrification works of 8,348 un-electrified villages have been completed. 12,841 partially electrified villages have been completed. Further, Government of India has sanctioned 11 Districts for electrification of 602 un-electrified villages and 37 'Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana'

- (SAGY) villages under 'Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana'. The total project cost sanctioned is Rs.317.86 crore out of which 75 un-electrified (UE) villages have already been electrified.
- 34.2 Improvement of electricity infrastructure in 67 towns in addition to 5 towns with Government of Assam funding has been taken up under 'Re-structured Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programmes' at a cost of Rs.850 crore. Works in 61 towns are completed and functioning with all systems and the remaining work is expected to be completed by March, 2016. Customer Care Centre is expected to be operationalised soon.
- 34.3 For immediate replacement of damaged transformers and installation of new transformers, associated lines & fittings, replacement of equipment amounting to Rs.27.50 crore has been proposed under Annual Plan 2015-16. Rs.5.00 crore has been proposed under Annual Plan 2015-16 to maintain a buffer stock of Distribution Transformer (DTR) to be replaced in important places like hospitals, water supply schemes, educational institutions etc.
- 34.4 3 MW Stage-II of Myntriang Small Hydro Electric Project has been commissioned in March, 2014. 10.50MW (Stage-I:3x3MW & Stage-II;1x1.50MW) are likely to be commissioned in April, 2016. Further 100 MW Namrup Replacement Power Project is expected to be commissioned in March, 2016.
- 34.5 Project works of 70 MW Lakwa Replacement Power Project is expected to commence from March, 2016.

- 34.6 My Government has completed the 100-MW Karbi Langpi Hydel Project and 38 MW Lakwa Waste Heat Project.
- 34.7 Due to my Government's efforts, the State's own generation of power has increased from 935 Million Units in 2001 to 1895 Million Units at present. Similarly, per capita availability of power has increased from 83 Units in 2001 to 232 Units and the numbers of consumers have increased from 9 lakh to 33 lakh now.
- 34.8 More than 24,000 villages have so far been electrified as against 12,800 in 2001. Similarly, 19.24 lakh rural households have electricity connectivity now as compared to 6.98 lakh in 2001.

35. INDUSTRY :

- 35.1 The Industries & Commerce Department plays important role for economic growth of the State. For balanced economic development of the State and in order to achieve the desired Industrial Growth, my Government proposes to implement the following projects/schemes:
- 35.2 For generation of employment through setting up of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) in the state, 'Assam Industrial & Investment Policy' 2014 has been implemented w.e.f 1st March, 2014 and an amount of Rs.1500.00 Lakh has been proposed for disbursement of incentives under State Industrial Policy.
- 35.3 For imparting skill development training for creation of job opportunities based on locally available resources, 'Multi Disciplinary Skill Development' (MDSD) scheme has been launched to impart training on employable trades.

- 35.4 For Skill development, an amount of Rs.3100.00 Lakh has been proposed, out of which, Rs.2000.00 Lakh is proposed for setting up/completion of ongoing Multi Disciplinary Skill Development Centres, Rs.1000.00 Lakh is proposed for Multi Disciplinary Skill Development for imparting training and an amount of Rs.100.00 Lakh has been proposed for Training of Women Entrepreneurs.
- 35.5 As larger tracts of land are not available for creating Industrial Infrastructure, my Government has laid emphasis on creation of smaller industrial pockets across the State.
- 35.6 Rs.3100.00 Lakh has been proposed for Plastic Park as State Share during the year 2016-17.
- 35.7 The Assistance to State for development of Export Infrastructure (ASIDE) has been de-linked by Government of India; my Government has decided to provide Rs.4884.00 lakh from the State Plan.
- 35.8 Second Phase of development of Maniram Dewan Trade Centre, Guwahati at a cost of Rs.1000.00 lakh is proposed for 2016-17. Construction of Handicraft Development Centre (Khadi Plaza), Ambari has been targeted to be completed during 2016-17.
- 35.9 An amount of Rs.1727.77 lakhs has been proposed for providing Marketing Support to Industries, out of which Rs.1068.90 lakh is for setting up of Rural Marketing Infrastructure under RIDF, Rs.160.00 lakh for India International Trade Fair, Rs.300.00 lakh for Zonal Exhibition and Rs.200.00 lakh has been proposed for Exhibition at District/Sub-Divisional level. -

35.10 An amount of Rs.589.25 lakh has been proposed for setting up of Quality Testing Laboratory at Tinsukia & Cachar, a new scheme Gem Testing Centre at a cost of Rs.36.00 lakh and On-site Testing Facility with a cost of Rs.45.00 lakh is proposed for 2016-17. A Common Facility Centre for Assamese jewellery at a cost of Rs.816.81 lakh has been proposed.

35.11 The Public Investment Board has approved the expansion programme of the Assam Petrochemicals Ltd. (APL) for an investment of Rs.1028.00 crore. Government of Assam will provide equity support to APL during 2016-17.

35.12 A new scheme has been proposed for setting up of alternative industries based on Coconut/Jute at the site of Ashok Paper Mill (APM) apart from cost of defrays statutory expenses at a cost of Rs.169.64 lakh during 2016-17.

35.13 A new scheme to promote innovation has been proposed during the year 2016-17 and incentives will be provided to innovators.

35.14 Digitization of office system for Ease of Doing Business will be taken up during the financial year 2016-17.

35.15 Solar based power energy system will be initiated during 2016-17 in all the offices of the Department.

36. HANDLOOM, TEXTILES AND SERICULTURE :

36.1 Sericulture, Handloom & Textiles is one of the largest unorganized economic activities after Agriculture in the State. While numbers of weavers are reducing in rest of

the country, it is encouraging to see that in Assam, numbers of weavers are increasing year after year. My Government has been giving priority to this Sector. In order to make the State of Assam world leader in Muga and Eri Silk, we have envisaged an integrated project to be taken up in mission mode. Accordingly, Assam Silk Outreach Mission at an estimated cost of Rs 2400 crore will be taken up from 2016 with a Project period of 10 years. The requisite resources will be pooled from different agencies including Externally Aided Projects.

36.2 Marketing Incentives provided to 2273 Weavers' Cooperative Societies. My Government has also set up 10 yarn banks.

36.3 In the field of sericulture, efforts are now underway to transform this household occupation into a vibrant commercial activity. Integrated Sericulture Development Project (ISDP) is being implemented in 7 Districts (Out of which 4 Districts for Muga and 3 Districts for Eri) for production of quality silk through 1,200 beneficiaries and 600 beneficiaries respectively and will be continued up to 2016-17.

36.4 39,400 weavers have been assisted, imparted training, looms and accessories, jacquard, dobby etc. have been installed by the co-operative societies during 2002-03 to 2008-09.

36.5 6,814 work sheds have been constructed for weavers during 2004-05 to 2008-09.

37. HOME & POLITICAL :

37.1 NRC updation process in Assam has started with publication of Legacy Data, i.e. NRC 1951 & Electoral Rolls up to 1971, in NRC Seva Kendras from 27th February, 2015. In order to facilitate easy search of entries, online search, and download was made available in the website of NRC Assam. As on date, a total of 2,496 NRC Seva Kendras are in operation. To ensure successful roll out of NRC updation process in the State, all preparatory works were completed on time. The organizational structure for implementation of NRC updation was put in place by mobilizing the entire State Government machinery at various levels i.e., Village, Circle, District and State, and also by engaging and training a pool of project professionals hired on contractual basis for the project. Field verification by visiting house to house is going on across the State. 77.50 % of households have been verified through field verification as on date.

37.2 Assam has been fighting insurgency for more than three decades. The multi dimensional strategy adopted by the Government under Unified Command Structure in the form of sustained counter-insurgency operation against active militant groups, peace overtures for groups willing for negotiated settlement and rehabilitation of misguided youths has paid rich dividends which has been reflected in the suspension of operation agreements with as many as 13 (thirteen) extremist outfits. The Government is hopeful that Paresh Barua led ULFA (I) and the NDFB (Songbijit) will also come forward to solve their problems through negotiation by shunning the path of violence.

37.3 During the year 2015, Security Forces had apprehended 1449 cadres of different militant groups. The security forces also recovered 577 assorted arms, 15,515 rounds of live ammunition, 58 IEDs, 307 grenades, 143.84 kgs. of explosives, 2979 detonators and cash amounting to Rs.29,85,510/- from different extremist elements. During this period, total of 58 militants and 10 civilians were killed in encounters and 49 persons were kidnapped in extremist-related incidents.

37.4 One major achievement of 2013 in the Law & Order front is the signing of Suspension of Operation (SoO) Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Assam and the Ranjan Doimary-led NDFB on 29/11/13. At present there are 13 militant outfits in peace process. Discussion with all these groups is progressing. These include (1) NDFB (P) (National Democratic Front of Bodoland) (Progressive) (2) ULFA (PT) (United Liberation Front of Assam) (Pro-talk) (3) KLNLF (Karbi Longri N.C. Hills Liberation Front) (4) NDFB (R) (National Democratic Front of Bodoland-Ranjan group) (5) ACMA (Adivasi Cobra Military of Assam) (6) BCF (Birsa Commando Force) (7) KRA (Revolutionary Govt.of Kukigam (RGoK)/Kuki Revolutionary Army) (8) UKDA (United Kukigam Defence Army) (9) KLO/KLA (Kuki Liberation Organisation/Kuki Liberation Army) (10) HPC(D)(Hmar People's Convention (Democratic) (11) APA (Adivasi People's Army) (12) AANLA (All Adivasi National Liberation Army) and (13) STF (Santhal Tiger Force). Another remarkable achievement is the signing of MoS with DHD (Nunisa) and DHD (Jewel) on 08-10-2012.

37.5 Following the mayhem by NDFB(S) in Sonitpur and BTAD areas against the Adivasis where 78 people (Bodo-13, Adivasis-63, Bengali-2) were killed, a major crackdown was launched against the NDFB(S) outfit that led to elimination of 24 (twenty four) NDFB(S) cadre including 3(three) Battalion Commanders and several hardcore cadres and the arrest of 576 NDFB(S) cadres and linkmen (cadre-319, linkmen-257) that included 1(one) Dy. C-in-C, 1(one) Council member on Military Intelligence, 1(one) Asstt. Finance Secretary 1(one) Asstt. Organizing Secretary, 1(one) Asstt. Forest Secretary, 2 (two) Battalion Commander, 1(one) Acctt. of Central Command in course of CI operation against NDFB(S) outfit and recovery of Arms=212, Ammn=5523, Grenade=231, IEDs=7, Detonators=46, Explosives=57.5 kg since 23-12-2014.

37.6 Several hardcore cadres of the NDFB(S) outfit viz. Tamaram Basumatary @ B. Thajjou, Uttam Swargiary @ Ulafat, Meghnath Mushahary @ Megra, C.Rwikha @ Rajib Champramary, Asst. Finance Secretary & Dy. Chief of Iragdao brigade, Junu Brahma @ B. Sijou (25) (SS Dy. Commandant 14 Bn.), Praneswar Narzary @ Daukumwi, SS Commander, B. Sohaisula @ Sanatan Basumatary, SS Dy. Commander were killed in encounter with police, carried cash reward declared by Assam Police.

37.7 Identification of one module of JMB (Jammat-ul-Mujahideen, Bangladesh) in the State in the wake of incident of the blast in Khagragarh, Burdwan dist, West Bengal, led to arrest of 30 (thirty) members of the module from Barpeta, Nalbari and Chirang districts of Assam and recovery of 10 bombs. 5 (five) of the arrested members

were found to have undergone training in Mukimnagar and Simulia Madrassa of West Bengal, whereas others were helpers. Effort is on to apprehend remaining members of the module.

37.8 The CPI (Maoist), though trying to spread its tentacles, had recently suffered serious jolt when one important leader viz. Aditya Bora was arrested by Golaghat Police. He played a key role in forming of Upper Assam Leading Committee (UALC) of the CPI (Maoist). Followed by his arrest another important cadre of UALC viz. Pallab Charingia Phukan was also arrested. Of late, the UALC's activities have been contained to extortion only. One Bipul Chakraborty i/c of Assam under Eastern Regional Bureau (ERB) of CPI (Maoist) had tasked a couple viz. Amiruddin Ahmed @ Sunil @ Rana Choudhury & Nirmala Biswas to proliferate the activity through ideological motivation. Arrest of the latter was a jolt to the outfit. Their arrest was followed by arrest of six (6) local Adivasi conduits who provided all sorts of logistic support to these outsiders.

37.9 On October, 12, 2015 Police/CRPF (210 Bn.) during a search operation in Manja area (Manja PS, Karbi Anglong dist) apprehended the SS Chairman of Jadi Naiso Bojom (JNB) Mukesh Parbosa @ Maisa.

37.10 On October 19, 2015 SS Finance Secretary Terasen Rieng of UDLF was arrested while he was attempting to demand money at Joynagar under Dholai PS of Hailakandi District.

37.11 On 08/01/15 in an encounter between Police and a group of ULFA extremists at Chapling Kata (Borjhar) under

Agia PS one ULFA cadre namely Nirदेश Asom @ Kanak Rava @ Barman Sir died on the spot. He was instrumental in extortion and kidnapping in lower Assam Districts.

37.12 My Government has taken steps to support the law and order enforcing agencies by providing reliable, secure and high speed communication towards effective maintenance of law and order, prevention and detection of crimes and criminals and also to provide communication anywhere in the state in matters of public importance and during natural calamities like earthquake, flood, cyclone, etc. A digital UHF Band Radio Network has been installed for Wireless Communication of City Police Commissionerate of Guwahati. Migration of APROs from Analogue to Digital Communication Technology has been done for the first time in our state. Fail-Safe Communication Network has been implemented for the top level civil & Police officials for Guwahati city including Chief Minister's office and residence.

37.13 131 various types of security equipment have been procured for Assam Police and its various organizations during the financial year 2014-15 under Modernization of Police Force (MPF) schemes amounting to Rs.84,53,144/-.

37.14 The State is currently implementing Crime & Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS) application across 312 Police Stations and 154 Higher Police Offices like S.P., SDPO and C.I. office. The Police Stations have started generating GD/FIRs through the application. It will also enable E-mail service for all Police Stations and higher offices for faster communication.

- 37.15 A Cyber Forensic Training Laboratory has been setup by C-DAC, Kolkata in CID Headquarter, Assam, Guwahati with 10 clients and one server machine to impart Cyber Forensic Training with the facilities of Digital Smart Board and LCD Projector.
- 37.16 My Government has already notified 36 new Fire & Emergency Service Stations and out of these, 16 (sixteen) new Fire & Emergency Stations will be established during the current financial year, 2015-16.
- 37.17 Further, the State Government has procured the essential fire fighting equipments and appliances viz: 8 (eight) Advance Rescue Tender, 1 (one) High Pressure Breathing Air Compressor machine, 2 (two) Foam Tender, 4 (four) Quick Response Tender and 25 (twenty five) GPS tracking system. In last year the Fire & Emergency Services was successful in saving the lives of 182 persons as well as property worth many crore of rupees.
- 37.18 During the year 2014-15, the Directorate of Forensic Science, Assam has reported 4,268 cases with an analysis of 45,700 exhibits. Concerned scientists have attended 39 scene of crime to assist the investigating agencies and 295 courts to depose as expert. To modernize the laboratory five major equipments like speaker identification system, video identification system, Automated DNA extraction system, Flashpoint Analyzer and Server for LAN system have been purchased by utilizing Rs.105.00 Lakh sanctioned under Plan Fund.
- 37.19 At present there are 14(fourteen) District Home Guards unit offices with 10(ten) districts and 5 (five) district towns

as separate urban wing Home Guards establishments with authorized strength of 23,907 Home Guards volunteers. The Government has requested Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India to revise the strength of Home Guards personnel from 23,907 to 44,600.

37.20 The State Government has taken adequate steps for improvement of infrastructure facilities required for effective functioning of jails. Expansion of District jail Abhayapuri is going on and expected to be completed during the year 2016-17.

37.21 Efforts have been made to provide Vocational Training to the Jail inmates so that the prisoners can lead a respectable life after they are discharged from the jails on completion of their sentences. The prisoners are given on the job training in the manufacturing unit of the jails. A training programme on repairing of electrical implements and solar energy panel has been launched at the district Jail, Tinsukia under the aegis of 'ART OF LIVING', an NGO of Tinsukia, in collaboration with "Schneider".

37.22 Steps have been taken for installation of CCTV at all the jails in the State for ensuring rights of jail inmates and to prevent untoward incidents.

37.23 Anti Human Trafficking Units have been setup and have already started operating in 14 districts. Due to the hard work, dedication and sincerity of the officers associated with Anti Human Trafficking Units' cell of CID, Assam, 111 victims were recovered, 143 persons were arrested and 126 cases were registered in 2015.

37.24 For expeditious detection and deportation of foreigners in the State, 64 (sixty four) new Foreigner's Tribunals have been established thereby increasing the number of Foreigner's Tribunals to 100. Member, Foreigner's Tribunals have been appointed in all the 100 Foreigner's Tribunals and these Foreigner's Tribunals have also been provided with necessary infrastructure and staff. The works of NRC updation process is going on and is likely to be completed very soon.

37.25 Under this scheme, the State Govt. has taken necessary action for payment of compensation to the victims/Next of Kin of victims in respect of 79 cases since 2014. An amount of Rs.63,20,000/- has been disbursed as compensation under the scheme.

37.26 My Government with funding from 'Assam Infrastructure Financing Authority' (AIFA) has taken up construction of 200 Pre-engineered Barracks (PEB) for accommodation of Police personnel at various places across the State.

38. TRANSPORT AND ROAD SAFETY :

38.1 My Government has been implementing the Road safety measures through enforcement of laws and promotion of Road Safety Awareness and Education programmes etc. Like previous years, this year to the Transport Department is going to observe the 27th Road Safety week across the State from 10th January, 2016 to 16th January, 2016. To curb the menace of drunken driving, rash driving, over speeding and violation of M V Laws etc, 65 Breath Analyser and 10 Traffic Interceptor has been procured & allotted to the District offices for utilization. The

E-Transport project mainly software-"Sarathi" (for Driving License) and "Vahan" (for Registration of vehicle) is under implementation in all District Transport Offices of Assam. Proposal for BSNL leased line connection in all districts of Assam for implementation of online registration of vehicles, online licensing of drivers and conductors, online payment of taxes is under consideration.

38.2 It is worth mentioning here that due to the special attention of my Government, the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India has finally accorded concurrence for World Bank funding for development of IWT, Assam and recommended Phase -I of the project of Rs.1000.00 Crore.

38.3 Assam State Transport Corporation is operating 1154 own buses and 1946 private owned buses in all over the State. The revenue of ASTC has increased from Rs.991.49 lakh in 2000-01 to Rs.6814.90 lakh in 2014-15, plus Rs.735.53 lakh of from share money of private buses operated under ASTC. To make the bus services available all over the state including remote and backward arrears, against financial support of the State Government during 2010-11 to 2014-15 an amount of Rs.262.86 crore was provided to ASTC.

39. ART & CULTURAL AND INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS :

39.1 The Cultural Policy of the State was announced in 2006. My Government is always committed to preserve, promote and propagate the State's varied Art & Culture and its rich traditions and cultural heritage. Towards this

objective, my Government has taken up important projects namely construction of Chandra Nath Sarma Memorial Auditorium Hall at Pithakhowa in Sonitpur district, construction of Auditorium of Purba Bharati, Nalbari, Tinsukia Sanskritik Samanya Kshetra, Sui Ka-Pha Samannay Khetra in Jorhat, Jyoti Bishnu Sanskritik Prakalpa in the Block Head Quarters of the State, Sarat Chandra Singha Memorial Cultural complex at Chapor, Dhubri, Sri Sri Madhabdev Kalakshetra at Narayanpur and Sati Sadhini Cultural complex at Golaghat, establishment of Modern Art Gallery at Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra Society, Panjabari, Film City in Jyoti Chitraban Film Studio, N.E Tribal Museum and Cultural Complex at Sonapur, institution of National and State level awards to honour eminent personalities etc.

39.2 My Government has been encouraging the Ras and Bhaona Utsav which is the rich heritage of Majuli and also promoting Satriya dance and other forms of dances and dramas of the State.

39.3 The interior work of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Memorial at Jalukbari is in progress. The Majuli Cultural Landscape Region Act was legislated in 2006 for preservation of cultural heritage along with all round development of Sattras in Majuli.

39.4 Steps have been taken to enhance of the Corpus Fund of 'Journalist Medical Welfare Scheme' up to 10 crore. The State Government has already included the dependent family members of the Accredited and Recognized journalists in the 'Journalist Medical Welfare Scheme'. Under this scheme Rs.24.65 lakh has been provided to 48 ailing journalists till date.

- 39.5 Process is going on to implement 'Journalists' Family Benefit Fund' for providing financial assistance to bereaved families of the deceased journalists who die while in service.
- 39.6 Under 'Mukhyamantrir Shabdajyoti Achoni', a complete Kit of Public Address System has been provided to 373 Government and provincialised Higher Secondary Schools since 2013-14.
- 39.7 Under Rural Awareness Programme, Fixed Loud Speaker System have been installed at 1292 Gaon Panchayats. The schemes will also continue during 2016-17.
- 39.8 Process is going on for implementation of the scheme "E-Book Assam" for preservation and wide circulation of Government publications.
- 39.9 For Lakshminath Bazbaruah Institute of Mass Communication and Printing Technology and Research, my Government has already allotted 30 Bighas of land at Amingaon.

40. FREEDOM FIGHTERS :

- 40.1 State Freedom Fighters' Pension has been enhanced from existing Rs.15,000/- to Rs.20,000/- per month w.e.f. 1st January. This enhancement is also applicable to widows & unmarried daughters of Freedom Fighters who are drawing State Freedom Fighters Pension from State Revenue.

41. URBAN & GUWAHATI DEVELOPMENT :

- 41.1 The Urban Development Department provides assistance to 96 Urban Local Bodies (77 ULBs in General Areas & 19 in Sixth schedule areas) and 24 Development Authorities of the State through various schemes under State Plan and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.
- 41.2 29 Final and Draft Master Plans have already been prepared by the Directorate of Town & Country Planning.
- 41.3 133.58 Km Storm Water Drainage have been constructed by utilizing Rs.7833.31 lakhs under 'Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Town' (UIDSSMT) of 'Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission' (JnNURM) in 15 Towns.
- 41.4 2988 houses have been constructed for the benefit of urban poor including infrastructure facilities in 16 towns by utilizing Rs.3488.88 lakhs under Integrated Housing Slum Development Program of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission.
- 41.5 12.45 Km of road network have been constructed by utilizing Rs.448.94 lakhs under NLCPR at Jorhat town.
- 41.6 8 market Buildings have been constructed by utilizing Rs.3070.17 lakhs under 10 percent Central Pool fund.
- 41.7 48.88 Km Storm Water Drainage have been constructed by utilizing Rs.2736.35 lakhs under 10% Central Pool fund.
- 41.8 Total nos. of beneficiaries assisted under SCSP/TSP for construction of lost cost sanitary latrines belonging to the SC/ST communities-13126.

- 41.9 Provided 57 Tractor with Trailers, 11 Backhoe loaders, 31 Skid steer loaders and Rs.4.00 Crores for purchasing of 47 TATA 407 LPK Tipper under Assam Bikash Yojona / State Specific Scheme.
- 41.10 236 units of public toilets have been provided in 88 Urban Local Bodies under Assam Bikash Yojona.
- 41.11 Funds of Rs.108.74 crores have been provided for construction of Markets, Business Centre, Office Complex, development of roads, drains etc. under Entry Tax Grant.
- 41.12 Funds of Rs.9884.29 lakhs have been provided under 13th Finance Commission for service delivery of the Urban Local Bodies like water supply, storm water drainage, sewerage, solid waste management, road, drains etc.
- 41.13 My Government has provided devolution of fund and grants-in-aid for Rs.58312.82 lakh for infrastructure development of the Urban Local Bodies in general area like salary of employees, road, drains, park, parking, markets, office building etc. from 2008-09 to 2014-15 under the award of 3rd and 4th Finance Commission.
- 41.14 Guwahati has been selected as the Smart City amongst 20 cities in India after 2nd stage of competition conducted by the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India. GMC has proposed to construct modern public convenience centre's consisting of modern toilets, bathrooms, e-toilet and portable toilets at various locations in Guwahati City.

- 41.15 Rail Based Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) project for Guwahati city has been approved by the Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India. M/S RITES Ltd. has been engaged as Consultant to carry out the Feasibility Study and Detail Project Report preparation for which AIFA has already released an amount of Rs.2.5 crore.
- 41.16 For infrastructure development in Guwahati city, a Land Pooling Policy is being initiated to cope up with the shortage of availability of land wherein the land owner(s) shall participate in the development process as partners.
- 41.17 Affordable Housing scheme has been taken up with an estimated cost of Rs.500.00 crore to provide housing to cope up with the increased population which will bring down the cost of Economically Weaker Section & Low Income Group categories housing in the city.
- 41.18 A Biomethanation Plant for converting waste to energy has been taken up under GMC to be used for Street Lighting. A proposal for Organic Waste Converter is also under process under GMC to take up decentralized composting plant by using Organic Waste Converter machine for converting Organic Waste into Organic manure.
- 41.19 To address Infrastructural challenges and improving the quality of services in both the cities of Guwahati & Dibrugarh, Govt. of Assam has taken initiatives in the sector of Water Supply, Drainage and Solid Waste Management with financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank. The program will be implemented in

two Tranches - First Tranche is being implemented from March, 2012 till June, 2018 and second Tranche will be from 2016 to 2020.

41.20 It is also proposed to have a hygienic environment with proper sewerage disposal network in Guwahati City with the assistance from JICA and shall be completed by 2022.

41.21 In addition, several measures such as de-siltation of drains, procurement of machineries for dredging of natural channels, drains etc. have been initiated to mitigate the water logging and artificial flood of Guwahati City.

42. JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE :

42.1 To achieve the goal and objectives of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, the authority undertook various programmes like providing legal aid to the targeted beneficiaries, holding Lok Adalats, Permanent Lok Adalats, Legal Awareness Camps, Meetings, Seminars, Micro Legal Awareness programmes etc. During 2015-16, 26 Lok Adalats were held in different Districts of Assam and 61,271 cases were disposed. A total of 176 Legal Awareness Camps were held during the year from January to December, 2015. The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Centres under 13th Finance Commission Award are under construction in 6 various Districts of Assam and 3 Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre are already completed for functioning and in the other remaining Districts the process of construction are going on and in some are about to start and once the Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres become fully functional the common people will be able to approach

the Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres for all the Alternatives Dispute Resolution Mechanism.

42.2 My Government and Hon'ble Gauhati High Court have decided to set up 37 (thirty seven) additional Courts at District and Sub-divisional level under the award 14th Finance Commission in order to the ensure quick disposal of long pending cases i.e. cases pending for years or more and involving under trial prisoners etc.

42.3 My Government has already accorded Administrative Approval for an amount of Rs.180.00 crore against the project for "Construction of new Court buildings" in eight Districts and Sub-Divisional Court Buildings at Bokakhat in Golaghat District including construction of new residential buildings at Barpeta, Bokakhat in Golaghat District, Rangia in Kamrup (R) District, Baksa , Morigaon, Jorhat, Dhemaji, Hojai in Nagaon District and Kokrajhar.

43. PUBLIC ENTERPRISE :

43.1 My Government has been monitoring the performance of the PSUs and taking policy initiation for development of the State PSUs. Around 25 Training Programmes/ Seminars/Workshops have been conducted under Capacity Building Programme for State PSU, members of Board of Directors in institutions like IIM, IPE, COD Hyderabad, IIBM, Guwahati, NIFM, Faridabad, etc. 10 Managing Directors/Senior Officers were sent to USA for training on Corporate Governance, Fiscal Management Technology, Public sector Management etc. at Harvard Business School and IP3. Corporate Governance guidelines framed and issued to all the State PSUs for

compliance to improve Corporate Governance practices in the PSUs. In order to infuse competitiveness and enhance the efficiency of State PSUs through motivation Performance Based Incentive @3% of net profit allowed to employees of profit making PSUs having no accumulated loss.

44. LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT :

44.1 In recent years, my Government has been actively involved in conferment of welfare benefits to working class. The Assam Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board has been constituted under the provision of the Building & Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, with a view to regulate the employment and condition of service and to provide for safety, health, social security & welfare measures to the vulnerable segments of the unorganized Building & Other Construction Workers. My Government has already registered 68,436 construction workers as beneficiary during the year 2014-2015.

44.2 The Assam Skill Development Mission has been constituted recently to increase the capability of the system to deliver quality skill training, leading to meaningful employment both in terms of wage employment and self employment.

44.3 A Coaching Institute to give guidance to Civil Services/ Other Central Government Services aspirants is being set up with collaboration of Assam Administrative Staff College.

44.4 In respect of other unorganized workers, my Government has constituted District Boards with a view to monitor the progress of implementation of the Unorganized Social Security Act, 2008.

45. PENSION & PUBLIC GRIEVANCES :

45.1 We have issued notification for revision of Special Family Pension as per ROP, 2010 so as to allow the benefit of revision of pension to the Special Family Pension holders in the light of the recommendation of the 6th Pay Commission in the appropriate grade and pay scales.

45.2 The rate of interest on GPF has been enhanced from the existing 8% to 8.6% w.e.f. 01-12-2011 to 31-03-2012 and 8.8% for the financial year 2012-2013 and 8.7% for the financial year 2013-2014 in conformity with the rate fixed by the Govt. of India.

45.3 My Government has allowed opening of joint Bank Account operated by a pensioner with his/her spouse through public sector banks. At present, a total of 9 (nine) Nationalized Banks are authorized for payment of pension to the Govt. pensioners.

45.4 My Government has decided to issue Identity Cards to all the retired State Government Employees. We have also issued order empowering Administrative Department/ Heads of Department and Heads of Offices of Districts to issue Provisional Pension/Provisional Family Pension and DCRG to all retired Government employees of the State Government as admissible soon after their retirement till the final PPO is issued by the Accountant General (A&E), Assam and the Director of Pension, Assam.

46. PANCHAYAT & RURAL DEVELOPMENT :

- 46.1 For sustainable and inclusive growth of rural Assam, my Government has undertaken a multi-dimensional strategy for eradication of poverty by increasing livelihood opportunities, providing social safety net and developing infrastructure for growth. During the current year more than 43.67 lakh (cumulative) rural households have been provided job cards under MGNREGA and over 278.77 lakh person days have been generated.
- 46.2 Under Chief Minister's Dream Project, 219 Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Mukali Manch area Uddyan, 219 Sports Complex and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Gramin Krida Prakalpa, 219 Swargadew Rudra Singha Pukhuri and over 500 concrete block paver roads under Indira Gandhi Adarsha Gramin Paki Path have been constructed in convergence with various line Departments.
- 46.3 Moreover, the State has been able to put in place few initiatives during the current year like-100% payment of wages under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has been made through e-FMS and using Digital Signature, Mobile based monitoring system has been introduced, E-Muster Roll has been rolled out in the entire state for improved transparency, wage rate has been enhanced from Rs.167.00 to Rs.179.00 per day for unskilled labourer during the current year, National record under Limca Book of Record has been created under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act by planting 22,084 road side saplings on either side of the 56.3 km. Road on 7th July, 2015 in Dibrugarh.

- 46.4 Under Indira Awas Yojana, more than 84,000 IAY houses have already been sanctioned in the current year.
- 46.5 Under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme more than 7.78 lakh beneficiaries are provided monthly pension.
- 46.6 Under Chief Minister's Special Package, few ambitious schemes are taken up for implementation to support poor families in the State viz. financial assistance to 1000 women Self Help Groups per LAC @Rs.5000/-, financial assistance for construction of dwelling houses for homeless people @Rs.25,000/- each for 1000 houses in each LAC, financial assistance for implementation of Special Old Age Pension Scheme @Rs.200/- per month per person for 1,87,500 persons, Rs.12.00 crore for the Barak Valley District and the same package for the Dhakuakhana Sub-division.
- 46.7 One Bolero Vehicle to each of 219 Block Development Officers has been provided to improve their mobility and supervision in the field. Under e-Panchayat Puraskar, Assam has been adjudged the First Prize winner in the category during 2013-14 by Government of India, National Award has been received by Morigaon District for effective implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in the country, one time financial Assistant to the National Family Benefit Scheme beneficiaries have been given.
- 46.8 Under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, a total of 965886 Self Help Groups and 55824 individual beneficiaries have been assisted with total utilization of funds of Rs.1,63,815.82 lakh.

46.9 The pension under National Social Assistance Programme transferred directly to the beneficiaries' Bank Accounts through RTGS/ECS/NEFT for increasing transparency.

47. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY :

47.1 The Patent Information Centre (PIC) which is the only PIC in the State is in public domain and generating awareness on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for common people. The State got registered as Muga Silk of Assam as the first GI (Geographical Indication) in the year 2006 and the GI Logo for the same in 2012. The centre has been upgraded to "A grade" by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi. The centre has helped 34 innovators for using patent certificate.

47.2 A major initiative has been taken by the Science & Technology Department, Government of Assam to set up a Science City at Guwahati. 249 bighas of land has been provided by Government for Science City at Tepesia, Sonapur. The MoU between Government of Assam and National Council of Science Museums for construction of the Science City project has been signed on 10.12.2014. The project has been approved by the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India with Rs.110 crore of capital cost out of which 10% is state share. Possession of 250 bighas of land foreign reiters taken over at Tepesia NC village in Sonapur.

47.3 Administration of Radioactive Substances Advisory Committee Division of Assam Science Technology and Environment Council has completed digitization of 23000 cadastral map sheets which will be integrated in GIS with

thematic resource map generated on 1:10K scale for planning and development. These GIS database will be disseminated to Panchayat Raj Institutions. Various resource maps generated under National Mission are uploaded in BHUVAN portal developed by NRSC, ISRO.

47.4 "Innovation, Technology Generation and Awareness" programme has been initiated with the aim to promote and generate technology in the areas of traditional technology, agriculture, transportation, housing, medical, education, tourism, food processing, information technology and any other field of Science & Technology etc. for the benefits of the society.

47.5 44 Bigha 1 Katha and 11 Lessa of the erstwhile STATFED land has been settled in favour of Guwahati Biotech Park Society. An additional land of 20 Bigha in proximity to the STATFED land has also been allotted to Guwahati Biotech Park. The registration of Guwahati Biotech Park Incubation Centre (GBPIC) is also under process. The construction of GBPIC is proposed to be started shortly.

47.6 Solar Electrification of 757 villages under Remote Village Electrification Programme covering 35,568 households has been completed.

47.7 Rs.300.00lakh has been sanctioned and released in the Financial year 2014-15 for the proposed TERI University Campus. Govt. land measuring 6-Bigha 0-Katha 5-Lessa covered by Dag No.7 at Villa Sila Grant under Sila Sinduri Ghopa Mouza of North Guwahati Revenue Circle has been allotted in favour of TERI for setting up of the proposed TERI University Campus.

- 47.8 The first ever Hybrid Telescope in Assam was purchased by Guwahati Planetarium for an amount of Rs. 18.86 lakh during 2014-15. An Astronomy & Space Science Gallery and an Astronomical Observatory is conceptualised for the next financial year.
- 47.9 Jorhat Science Centre and Planetarium has been completed and inaugurated by Hon'ble CM and Union Minister of Culture in 2013. Kokrajhar Planetarium nearing completion. Civil construction of both the Nalbari and North Lakhimpur Planetariums and Science Centres nearing completion.
- 47.10 Guwahati Biotech Park has participated in 102nd Science Congress in January, 2015 in Mumbai and has been awarded Best State Stall Award.
- 47.11 Guwahati Biotech Park has participated in 'India Bio, 2014' held in Bangaluru and has been awarded Best Exhibitor in the category of Bio-Content and Information.

48. ASSAM ACCORD IMPLEMENTATION :

- 48.1 My Government is committed to the implementation of the Assam Accord. It was at the initiative of my Government that tripartite meeting at the level of Prime Minister in 2005 during which our commitment to solve the foreigners' issue on the basis of the Assam Accord was reiterated. Further, due to initiatives taken by my Government, number of Foreigners' Tribunals has now been increased from 36 to 100. Operationalization of these Foreigners' Tribunals will definitely expedite the redressal of cases relating to D-voters.

49. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION :

- 49.1 Construction of Assam House at Stoneyland at Shillong has been completed.
- 49.2 The construction of Assam Bhawan at Bangaluru is progressing with 42% works of the main building has been completed. We have also started the construction of Assam Bhawan at Kolkata where 37% physical progress has been made. Similarly, the construction of Assam Bhawan at Vellore has been taken up and 65% of the physical progress has been made.
- 49.3 Construction 2nd, 3rd floor & 4th Floor of Assam Bhawan at Mumbai has been completed. The extension of the Circuit House at Tezpur has also been completed.
- 49.4 Construction of Office Building of Rajyik Sainik Board and Sainik Rest House, Guwahati has been completed.
- 49.5 Administrative approval has been accorded for reconstruction of Assam House, New Delhi.
- 49.6 Construction of an integrated Office Complex at Titabor has been executed by the Public Works Department (Building) under GAD for an estimated cost of Rs.5.00 crore in two phases. The Building was inaugurated and dedicated to public on 15-02-2011, subsequently handed over to Titabor Civil Administration. District Integrated Office Complex for DC, Kamrup at Amingaon is under construction. At present, construction of Integrated District Administration Project in other District is under initiation. DCs have been asked to (a) finalize the area/land required for the envisaged project and its immediate

acquisition, (b) prepare the Concept Papers/Plan & Estimate of the conceived Integrated District Administration Project (IDAP) in consultation with the P.W.D.

50. FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS :

50.1 All the eligible beneficiaries under PDS and TPDS i.e, AAY, BPL, APL and Mukhya Mantrir Anna Suraksha Scheme have been covered under National Food Security Act, 2013 as AAY household and Priority household.

50.2 From December, 2015 onwards, Government has started to provide rice to the selected National Food Security Act beneficiaries belonging to the AAY Household and Priority Household. Antyodaya Anna Yojana, National Food Security Act (NFSA) ration card holders are being provided subsidized rice @35 Kg per families per month and priority household @ of 5 Kg per head per month @ of Rs. 3.00 per Kg. However, Government of Assam has decided to provide NFSA rice @Rs.2.00 per Kg by payment of subsidy of Rs.1.00 per Kg of rice from the State Ex-chequer.

50.3 To streamline the Public Distribution System, conduct of effective procurement of paddy and restore the distribution of sugar under PDS, the Government of Assam has created the "Assam Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd." under "Company Act, 2013". About 2.52 crore population of the State will be covered under National Food Security Act, 2013. 5 kg of rice per person and 35 kg of rice per family would be provided to the priority households and

Antyodaya Anna Yojana households per month respectively @Rs. 3.00 per Kg. As already mentioned, Government of Assam has decided to provide NFSA rice @Rs.2.00 per Kg by payment of subsidy of Rs.1.00 per Kg of rice from the State Ex-chequer.

50.4 At present 2814 AAMAR DUKAN shops have been functioning throughout the State providing 23 essential non PDS MRP based food items to the consumers, at much lesser cost compared to the printed MRP. All consumers are eligible to avail the benefits under the scheme. Under Antyodaya Anna Yojana Scheme, 7,04,000 beneficiaries have been benefited up to October, 2015 during 2015-16. Under Mukhya Mantrir Anna Suraksha Yojana, 19,73,425 beneficiaries have been benefited.

50.5 My Government has launched the National Food Security Act w.e.f. December, 2015 to ensure food security to the poor families of the State.

51. TOURISM :

51.1 My Government has undertaken various infrastructure developmental projects for promotion of Tourism in the State with the financial assistance from Government of India as well as from its own resources. We will continue to focus on the creation of tourism infrastructure in all the tourist spots and put emphasis on the need of sustainable marketing and promotion of Assam Tourism.

51.2 The project "Development of Heritage and Eco-Tourism Resort at Majuli" and "Integrated Complex at Agartoli

Range, Kaziranga have been completed. The projects namely "Development in and around Kamakhya Temple at Guwahati"; "Development of Tourist Arrival cum Reception Centre, Guwahati"; "Integrated Development of Dhubri-Goalpara-Guwahati-Silchar-Karimganj Tourism Circuit in Assam", "Destination Development of Brahmaputra River Front and Cruise Vessel on Brahmaputra" and construction of 'Food Craft Institute' building, Samaguri, Nagaon have also been completed. Moreover, the project "Development of Sarthebari-Barpta-Pastbaosi-Konora-Baghor-Sorbhog Circuit in Assam is nearing completion.

- 51.3 The Construction of Luxury Cruise Vessel M V Mahabahu has been commercially commissioned in October, 2012 successfully.
- 51.4 Tourism Department, Government of Assam had participated in the different national and international fairs and festivals successfully. During the year 2011-12, Tourism Department had participated in the Surajkund Mela organized by Haryana Tourism as theme State.
- 51.5 During the year 2012-13, International Tourism Mart was hosted for the first time at Sarusajai Stadium in Guwahati with an endeavour to showcase the North East India and promote the region as a complete destination in the International Tourism Mart.
- 51.6 The inflow of tourists both domestic as well as international has increased manifold due to the gradual improvement of law and order situation in the State.

51.7 Our Government proposes to hold more road shows to be organized in National and International level and participate in National and International fairs. We also propose to establish a Tea Museum at Dibrugarh.

52. BORDER AREAS :

52.1 Assam has approximately 2743.1 Km long Inter-state boundary and 533.30 Km long International boundary. My Government is fully concerned with the special development needs of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas situated near the International and Inter-State Border.

52.2 In the year 2014-15, Rs.286.88 lakh was released against the schemes out of the budgeted amount of Rs.500.00 lakh under Border Development Activities.

52.3 During the period from 2001-02 to 2015-16, 735 Roads, 308 Bridges, 142 School Buildings, 116 water Supply Schemes, 276 Community Halls, 11 Sport Complexes, 22 Electrification schemes, 22 Health related schemes and 161 security related schemes have been completed.

52.4 484 youths have already completed their training under 'Skill Development and Capacity Building Programme' under Border Areas Development Programme (Special Central Assistance).

52.5 During the year 2014-15, Outreach Programme has been organized in the Inter-State Border Areas of Assam in seven districts with the counterpart of their neighbouring States through sports and cultural activities. Under

Decentralized Planning (DCP), Rs.42.78 lakh has been released to 7 Deputy Commissioners to implement the Outreach Programme.

52.6 During the Financial Year 2014-15, construction of 7 new BOPs along the Inter-State Boundary has been taken up by the Border Areas Department at Ukium (Kamrup), Golacherra (Hailakandi), Kanubari (Sivasagar), Huloongguri (Jorhat), Laisong(Dima Hasao), Toraibari (Karbi Anglong) and Durgapur (Golaghat).

52.7 During the current Financial Year, initiatives for construction of 27 new BOPs along the Inter-State Boundary have been taken by the Border Areas Development Department.

53. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY :

53.1 Considerable stress has been given by our Government for the growth of Information and Communication Technology in the State. Since inception of the Information Technology Department in the year 2004-05, a number of Information Technology (IT) projects have been initiated.

53.2 The Assam e-District project 'SUGAM' was launched on 21st September 2015 with 42 citizen centric services in all the 27 Districts. "SUGAM" has 212 Public Facilitation Centres (PFCs) built in the DC, SDO and Circle Offices to receive applications from citizens.

53.3 3187 Arunoday Common Service Centres (CSCs) are active out of the 4011 CSCs rolled out for providing Government to Citizen (G2C) and Business to Citizen

(B2C) services. 350 CSCs are providing Banking Correspondent services for State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank etc. in the non-banking villages since 2011-12. On an average more than 5000 banking transactions are done by these CSCs every month.

53.4 My Government has launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Tathya Prajukti Prashikshan Aru Niyog Achoni' in the year 2005-06 with an aim of providing requisite training to the educated unemployed youth in the market oriented skills and job opportunities in the best of the ITs/ITeS companies in the country. Till now 2128 unemployed educated youths of the State have been trained on IT skill development through the reputed training institutes of the country. After successful completion of the training, 1222 youths got employment opportunity in the various ITs/ITeS industries of the country so far.

53.5 Special emphasis will be given to connect all Government offices through Wi-Fi and we propose to make the entire Assam Secretariat campus Wi-Fi enabled.

53.6 Under the Horizontal Connectivity project, the IT Department will horizontally connect the Directorates of all Departments located in Guwahati through high speed wireless links providing a minimum bandwidth of 10 mbps to enable all Government offices access to internet and make transaction of workflow online.

54. HILL AREAS :

54.1 My Government is firmly committed to both the Autonomous Councils areas. The persistent efforts have brought all round development activities in the area.

Planning and implementation of various schemes under Plan are being undertaken by the Autonomous Councils. Memorandum of Settlements has been signed among Government of India, Govt. of Assam and different militants groups to restore permanent peace to the Hill Areas of Assam. Major achievements of my Government include:

54.2 Construction works of Assam Hills Medical College and Research Institute at Diphu in Karbi Anglong District is going on.

54.2 The construction of Joising Doloi Auditorium Hall at Diphu has already been completed under NLCPR.

54.3 The construction of RCC Bridges on DLHS Road, CPDMDK Road and BBDC Road in Karbi Anglong District has been completed under NLCPR.

54.4 Borjan Composite Irrigation scheme and Phumen Phangcho Irrigation Schemes in Karbi Anglong district under NLCPR has been completed.

55. EXCISE :

55.1 During the current financial year 2015-16 (up to the month of November, 2015), the Department have collected a sum of Rs.463.66 crore as excise revenue, in addition to Rs.275.45 crore collected as VAT on liquor during the same period. Excise revenue collection during the year 2015-16 (up to November, 2015) has increased by 13.84% due to increase of revenue collection to the tune of Rs.56.40 crore as compared to corresponding month of

previous year. During the period from 2001-02 to 2015-16 (up to November, 2015) total collection of excise revenue is Rs.4,650.84 crore.

55.2 The Department have reduced the working hours of various IMFL retail "OFF" and "ON" licenses including Club licenses from 12 hours in a day to 8 hours and declared 23 additional Dry Days in a year with effect from 1st January, 2015, thus upholding the interest of the society as a whole. During 2009-10 excise levy has been converted into Advalorem levy and during 2015-16 Advalorem levy on liquor for civil market is restructured and licence fee/renewal licence fee of various excise licences have increased.

55.3 The Excise Department has been included in the Assam Public Finance Management Strengthening Project of the World Bank for introducing e-governance in the Department.

56. SOCIAL WELFARE :

56.1 Over the years, my Government has undertaken several programmes/schemes to strengthen the standard of life of these groups of people covering all sections of society & the State as a whole.

56.2 Process is initiated for implementation of Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) in Mission Mode.

56.3 Allowances are provided to unemployed Disabled Persons and family with disabled Children, Scholarship,

Rehabilitation Grant etc. and running special school for disabled persons, vocational training schemes are included in this sector.

56.4 Night Shelter Homes for shelter less persons, Mukhya Mantrir Jiban Jyoti Bima Achoni, Aam Admi Bima Yojana and other welfare schemes are implemented by the Social Welfare Department. My Government has set up 34 Night Shelter Homes in partnership with reputed notified NGOs in 21 Districts/Towns with all basic facilities.

57. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT :

57.1 Kalpataru scheme was introduced in 2003-04 to provide self-employment to the unemployed youths belonging to BPL families of the State. During the period from 2003-04 to 2014-15, 3,31,288 beneficiaries have been covered under this scheme. For 2015-16, we have made a budget provision of Rs.1550.00 lakh.

57.2 Under MLA Area Development Scheme which was introduced in 1994-95 to up-grade the infrastructure of each MLA Constituency of the State, an amount of Rs.89,460.00 lakh was sanctioned during the period from 2001-02 to 2015-16. In 2015-16 an amount of Rs.6300.00 lakh has already been released as 1st installment and release of Rs.6300.00 lakh as 2nd installment is under process.

57.3 Under Untied Fund, special attention has been given for selective infrastructural development of most needy areas of the district. During 2007-08 to 2014-2015 Rs.27006.76 lakh has been utilized for implementation of 1632

schemes. For the current year, a budget provision of Rs.50.00 crore has been made out of which an amount of Rs.300.00 lakh has already been sanctioned.

58. ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND TRAINING :

58.1 All administrative Departments have framed their Result Frame work Documents. This has helped the Departments to identify their prioritized targets and implement the same within the specified time ensuring the best of their performances.

58.2 The Assam Administrative Staff College (AASC) has been conferred with functional autonomy status by the Government. This will go a long way in realizing the objectives of independent functioning of the College like the other premier Institutions of India. The Institution has recently been certified as an ISO 9001/2008 quality Management system.

58.3 In order to enhance their capacity building, the State Government has deputed Secretariat officials to Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM), New Delhi and the State Civil Services Officers in groups to the premier institutions.

59. PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT :

59.1 Cadre Review of Assam Civil Service has been made by increasing posts at various higher levels. Twenty one posts of ACS Senior Grade-I and ACS Senior Grade-II in the rank of Joint Secretary and District Development Commissioner have been created and the officers have been posted as District Development Commissioners for

effective ground level supervision of developmental activities.

59.2 Provision has been made for women employees having minor children for grant of Child Care Leave of a maximum of two years during their entire service for taking care of up to two children.

59.2 87 Officers have been newly recruited in Assam Civil Service during 2015.

60. My dream has always been to create a vibrant and resurgent Assam. The focus of my Government in the coming years therefore will be for faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth with equity and to ensure that the three will be no person in the state living below poverty line by the end of 2021. I realize that inclusive growth should result in lower incidence of poverty, significant improvement in health standards, universal access to education and better opportunities for wage employment. This growth envisages sustainable income generation accompanied by more opportunities for a better quality of life with inclusion of provisions of basic amenities like drinking water, electricity, roads, sanitation and housing. This should translate with focus on marginalized population and on sections with disadvantages such as Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, Tea tribes and people belonging to minority community.

My Government will achieve these objectives by adopting an action plan, based on definitive goals. The approach of my Government during coming years

therefore will be improving the rural economy which encompasses agriculture and allied sectors, small and medium industries, removal of imbalances and provision of basic amenities. A key area of focus would be Human resource development and economic empowerment for all sections of people through a skill development mission to provide employable youths with vocational skills and ensuring gainful employment alongside focusing on up-gradation of the entire educational infrastructure. With this view, I have announced a slew of schemes for development and progress of the State on several occasions. I reiterate my commitment to fulfill them in a time bound manner.

- 60.1 We propose to earmark a package of Rs.1,000.00 crore for up-liftment of tribal communities, people living in char and chaparis, tea tribes and other economically, educationally and socially backward communities.
- 60.2 In addition, another amount of Rs 1000 crore under Assam Vikash Yojana for economic empowerment of all BPL families with special focus on women and youth of the State by adopting highly focused target oriented approach.
- 60.3 Three new schemes for the tea garden workers to be implemented in time bound manner :
- (a) Chief Minister's Bagan Ghar Scheme whereby every tea garden worker family will be provided land and financial assistance for construction of dwelling houses.
 - (b) The Chief Minister's Bagan Jal Scheme for providing drinking water for the worker's of tea gardens.

- (c) Chief Minister's Bagan Bus Scheme to provide public bus service facilities for garden workers.
- 60.4 Assam Silk Outreach Mission will be taken up at an estimated cost of Rs 2400 crore with a Project period of 10 years. The requisite resources will be pooled from different agencies including Externally Aided Projects.
- 60.5 Government will give special thrust on setting up skill development centers in the char areas for up gradation of skill of the educated unemployed youth. We are also proposing to provide solar light in the char areas, construction of hostels in semi urban and urban areas for the students to facilitate avenues for higher education and river connectivity in the Char areas.
- 60.6 Women empowerment has been a priority for all along. Schemes for empowerment of women have been taken up during these years. Our efforts in this direction will continue. For holistic development of women, a Women Development Council will be set up.
- 60.7 Special emphasis will be given to sustain the growth of the rural economy by giving thrust in agriculture and allied economic activities.
- 60.8 A new Smart Village programme will be launched.
- 60.9 Special package will be taken up for local artisan for quality up gradation and market linkage of their products.
- 60.10 Focus will be for setting up small and medium industries using local materials and resources.

- 60.11 Thrust on vocational education and skill development and the same to be linked to employment generation. Stress will be accorded to implement such skill up gradation in the PPP mode.
- 60.12 For scaling up efforts by Government Departments in income generating employment avenues for the meaningful employment of local youths in a time bound manner, an Employment Generation Authority will be set up.
- 60.13 A Youth Council also will be set up for holistic development of youths of the State.
- 60.14 In next five years, pure drinking water free from arsenic and fluoride contamination will be provided to all.
- 60.15 In next five years, all uncovered roads and bridges will be converted to pucca roads and concrete bridges throughout the State.
- 60.16 Hygienic sanitation facilities will be provided for benefit of all citizens in the State.
- 60.17 All rural households will be covered by providing electricity in phased manner.
- 60.18 Free medicines to BPL patients in addition to existing 176 free medicines.
- 60.19 Rice will be made available at Rs.2/- per kg instead of present rate of Rs.3/- under NFSA. State Government will bear the cost of Rs.1/- per kg.

- 60.20 Milk will be provided in the Anganwadi centers and Schools under Supplementary Nutrition Programme and Mid Day Meal Programme at least once a week.
- 60.21 Nutritional support to pregnant women through Mamoni will be increased to Rs.2000/- from existing Rs.1000/-.
- 60.22 For inclusive growth emphasis will be given for extending assistance to the specially abled persons to make them self reliant and to enable them to contribute positively to the Society.
- 60.23 Development Council will be set up for Persons with Disabilities.
- 60.24 With the advances in Medical Sciences, the population of senior citizens has increased and, therefore, welfare of senior citizens has always been priority of our Government and Government will take up steps for improved health of the senior citizens and also to empower them economically.
- 60.25 Old age pension will be extended to include all BPL citizens above 60 year of age.
- 60.26 Mukhyamantri Sunali Saishab Package-Surakhit Sishu Surakhit Axom", a State Government plan of action for child welfare has been launched in December, 2015 for elimination of child labour and also for the benefit of all under privileged children. The goal is to be attained by 2021.
- 60.27 A women market will be set up for the benefit of women entrepreneurs for both individuals and SHGs with all modern facilities.

- 60.28 A Kisan Guest House and a Kisan Hut to be set up in Guwahati.
- 60.29 Seventy five thousand new posts will be filled up in the Government sector including 18,000 in the Panchayat & Rural Development Department.
- 60.30 10% reservation for 5 years for over-age candidates in Government job will be made.
- 60.31 The reservation of women in Government Job will be increased to 50%.
- 60.32 Model School scheme which has benefited hundreds of students in the State has suddenly been discontinued by Government of India. Our Government is committed to ensure all round development of our children. Therefore, we have decided to finance the Model School scheme through State's own resources.
- 60.33 Coaching Centre at District Headquarters for different examinations will be set up.
- 60.34 Special financial assistance schemes for poor students will be launched.
- 60.35 Uniform to School going students up to class X will be provided.
- 60.36 All colleges will be covered by Wi-Fi internet connectivity.
- 60.37 Development Council will be set up for Kalita and Brahmin of Assam.
- 60.38 Development Council will be set up for Jolha.

- 60.39 Mahapurush Srimanta Shankardev Sahitya-Sanskriti Unnayan Parishad will be set up.
- 60.40 Bodo Kachari Autonomous Council for the Bodo Kachari people living outside BTC area will be set up .
- 60.41 Development Council will be set up for Karbi people living outside Karbi Anglong.
- 60.42 Create two new Districts namely South Kamrup and East Kamrup Districts.
- 60.43 New Civil Sub-divisions in Bihpuriya-Narayanpur, Naharkatiya, Ramkrishna Nagar, Howraghat, Diyungbra, Dakhin Kamrup, Mukalmua, Kalgachia, Moran, Patharkandi, Katigorah, Merapani, Tihu, Sarukhetri, Manikpur, Katlichera, Lakhipur, Dhekiajuli and Sorbhog.
- 60.44 Up gradation of 5 Revenue Circles of Sonapur, Dispur, Guwahati, Azara and Chandrapur in Kamrup (Metro) District to Civil Sub-Divisions.
- 60.45 Reorganization of Development Blocks will be taken up with a criteria to have at least two Blocks per LAC.
- 60.46 Increase the number of Revenue Circles and Revenue Lots.
- 60.47 Wage of Tea workers under ATC gardens is considered for enhancement to Rs.177 per day from 1st February 2016. The Tea Associations who have filed a Court case against the wage enhancement notification of the State Government will also be requested to agree to the revised rate in their respective tea gardens in the interest of tea garden workers.

- 60.48 New Pension Scheme for the Anganwadi workers & Helpers, ASHA workers, Home Guards and Gaonburas.
- 60.49 My Government has notified State Bio-Diversity Rules, 2010 and Assam Biodiversity Board has been constituted by the Government of Assam on 29.09.2010 so that the Biodiversity Act, 2002 is implemented in the State.
- 60.50 With an objective of sustainable development and economic well being of every citizen of the State and also for conservation and preservation of State's unique biodiversity, a Chief Minister's Vision Plan 2030 will be conceptualized.
- 60.51 Crèche at Secretariat and every District and Sub-Divisional Headquarters.
- 60.52 Freedom Fighter Memorial will be set up.
- 60.53 Work is in progress for a correct and updated NRC. We will take up with the Government of India to see that every Indian citizen is included.
- 60.54 Flood and erosion are major challenges for the State. We have already set up the Assam Water Mission to address these issues. Assam Water Mission will be strengthened to tackle the problem of flood and erosion more effectively.
- 60.55 Every year large portion of our landmass is eroded by the floods in Brahmaputra and Barak rivers and their tributaries. We have decided to set up Brahmaputra and Barak Land Reclamation Authority to reclaim the lost land in a time bound manner through a scientific management mechanism.

- 60.56 Guwahati city is the gateway to the North East. However, the river front of the city requires improvement which will improve not only the scenic beauty of the city but will also open up the possibility of commercial exploitation of the river front. To achieve this, we have decided to set up Guwahati River Front Authority which will be a dedicated agency for improvement of river front in the city.
- 60.57 Cities have appeared to grow lopsidedly at the expense of small towns. Therefore, a special scheme will be taken up for improving infrastructural facilities and helping in the creation of durable public assets in Towns and Municipalities for transforming them as centers of economic growth and employment.

PART-B

Our Government firmly believes that there is no alternative to all round and inclusive development which can be achieved only with the cooperation of the people of Assam. Members of this August house have played their role towards this. Our Government is committed to sustainable development of all sectors of the State's economy and to the all round development of all sections of the society.

Speaker Sir, Hon'ble Members of this House will agree that the development of a geographically disadvantaged resource-poor State like Assam must also be facilitated by the Central Government in the true spirit of cooperative federalism. We hope and expect that our State will get

the much needed support from the Central Government in this regard. Before I conclude, I would like to thank Hon'ble Members of this August House, Officers and Employees of the State Government for their untiring efforts and above all to the people of Assam for their unflinching support and co-operation to me and my Government in realizing our common vision of bringing peace, harmony and prosperity to our State.

Before I present the interim Budget, I would like to mention that the various Statements that are required to be submitted along with the budget as laid down in the Assam Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2005 will be submitted along with the regular and detailed budget which is expected to be presented well before 30th September, 2016.

With these words, Sir, I place the Interim Annual Financial Statement and Demand for Grants for the year 2016-17 before this August House. The interim budget shows expenditure up to minor head level. To defray the obligatory and other necessary expenses, I seek Vote-on-Account on the Demand for Grants for an aggregate amount of **Rs.3368743.21 lakh (Rupees thirty three thousand six hundred eighty seven crore forty three lakh and twenty one thousand)** for the period from 1st of April, 2016 to 30th September, 2016.

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