



**GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR**

**BUDGET SPEECH**

**OF**

**SHRI N BIREN SINGH**

**HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER**

**(in-charge Finance)**

**2023-2024**

**21 February, 2023**

Mr. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission, I rise to present the budget for the year 2023-24.

2. It is a great privilege for me to present the Annual Budget for Financial Year 2023-2024 of this Government. It is with the blessings of the people of this State that this Government is able to achieve what it has set out to do. I also thank all the esteemed Members of this House for their continued support towards the development of the State. Our Government is working tirelessly to achieve an inclusive, secure and prosperous Manipur.

## **Section I**

### **Overview**

3. Sir, in our previous term we faced the full brunt of the pandemic which started towards the end of financial year 2019-20. The pandemic disrupted the lives and livelihood of the people and also posed a big challenge to public finances of the State for two consecutive years. We had to meet challenges of the pandemic along with managing the State's finances. The people had approved our handling of the pandemic and had given us another opportunity to serve them.

4. The pandemic was followed by a conflict in Europe which has affected the global economy. The price of fuel, food and other raw materials etc. saw a drastic rise. Despite these challenges, our country's economy remains strong and resilient under the able leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji.

5. India's Presidency of the G 20 gives us a unique opportunity to strengthen India's role in the Global economic order and gives us a key role in international decision making. The theme of our Country's Presidency: "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth, One Family, One Future" highlights our belief for all countries to work together for the common good. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister believes that India's Presidency belongs to the entire nation and is an opportunity to showcase our development, strengths and diversity.

6. The Union Budget for 2023-24 had set out seven priorities:

- (i) Inclusive Development
- (ii) Reaching the last mile
- (iii) Infrastructure and Investment
- (iv) Unleashing the potential
- (v) Green Growth
- (vi) Youth Power

(vii) Financial Sector

7. The Union Budget for 2023-24 was the first Budget in Amrit Kaal, as the country moves towards 100 years of Independence. It lays the foundation for India's economic development for the future and gives the roadmap for growth, development and progress for all sections of society. As partners in the growth and development story of our great nation, Manipur has an important role to play, especially with our access to South-East and East Asia.

8. In the recent Union Budget, the Central Government had made announcements on personal income tax, which will benefit our hard working middle class. Now in the new tax regime, persons with income upto Rs. 7 lakhs will not have to pay any tax. The number of tax slabs have now been reduced from six to five. The benefit of standard deduction under the new tax regime will be extended to the salaried class and pensioners, including family pensioners. The highest surcharge rate in the new tax regime has been reduced from 37 per cent to 25 per cent. All these new announcements will greatly benefit the working middle class of our country.

9. For FY 2023-24, the Central Government is continuing with the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SACI) and the Union Budget has made an allocation of Rs. 1.30 lakh crore for the Scheme. The State Government aims to make use of this special assistance to make capital investment in critical areas. The use of this assistance will be mostly at the discretion of the State Government, but a part of the Scheme will be conditional on the State increasing its actual capital expenditure. Allocations under the Scheme will also be linked to the following purposes:

- (i) Scrapping old government vehicles,
- (ii) Urban planning reforms and actions,
- (iii) Financing reforms in urban local bodies to make them creditworthy for municipal bonds,
- (iv) Housing for police personnel above or as part of police stations,
- (v) Construction of Unity Malls,
- (vi) Children and adolescents' libraries and digital infrastructure, and
- (vii) State Share of Capital Expenditure of Central Schemes.

10. To fund developmental initiatives, the State requires adequate resources. For this, a robust public finances is required where the State's receipts can match its required

expenditure and at the same time ensuring that borrowings of the State are kept within permissible limits.

11. The State Government continues to take steps to mobilize resources to meet our increasing expenditure requirements. We are focusing on improving our own tax revenue, by increasing collection from existing taxes and also exploring new avenues of revenue mobilization. Technology-based analysis and identification is being used by our agencies to improve compliance. Any additional resource mobilized will assist the State to meet its various obligations. Our efforts have borne fruit which can be seen from the growth in State GST by 28 % and in overall State's own tax revenue by 25 % growth in 2021-22 compared to 2020-21. I am confident that this trend will continue in the coming years.

12. Fiscal consolidation is a top priority of this Government. Like I mentioned before, a robust and stable public finances is important for the State to grow and develop. We will continue to focus on increasing our revenue receipts and concurrent reduction of our debt stock.

13. Sir, I now move to some achievements of our Government, our focus areas and sector-specific allocations that we have made in this Budget.

## **Section II**

### **Achievements, focus areas and Sectoral allocations**

#### **Education**

14. Speaker Sir, Education continues to remain a priority for this Government. In our previous term, we had launched the flagship 'School Fagathansi Mission' which brought a positive change in the Education Sector. We are planning to strengthen 120 High and Higher Secondary schools across the State by tying up with the Ministry of DoNER under NESIDS.

15. Higher Education is a critical sector. After leaving school, our youth need to have access to good colleges within the state. To improve the infrastructure of the Government Colleges, we are launching the '**College Fagathansi Mission**'. We will be leveraging the Scheme for Capital Investment (SACI) to meet the infrastructure gaps in our Government Colleges. Under the Mission, we are planning capital investment of at least Rs. 60 crores in the next financial year. To meet requirements of Revenue expenditure, we are providing Rs. 10 crores in the Budget for this Mission.

16. Sir, Students from economically weaker sections find it difficult to get admission to technical courses, including Engineering, Medicine, Information Technology, etc. mainly on

account of lack of necessary financial support. Support systems exist for these students once they enter the respective field of study. However, support system during the pre-entry years does not exist. This affects their opportunity to get into these professional fields. In order to alleviate this gap, we are launching the 'Chief Minister's Scheme for Support to EWS students for pursuing Professional Courses' with an allocation of Rs. 4 crore. This scheme will help the students by providing coaching classes, guidance, study materials etc. among others to help them achieve their aspirations.

17. The gap in teachers is also being met phase-wise. We had recently declared the results for recruitment of **1429** teachers, including Arts Graduate, Science Graduate, Hindi Graduate and Hindi Primary Teachers. We will be prioritising the needs of the education sector in terms of teachers. Overall we are providing Rs. **3292** crore for the education sector in the budget.

### Health

18. Sir, the Government's role is important for the development of the health sector. The 'Chief Minister's Hakshelgi Tengbang' scheme has reduced the out-of-pocket expenses, especially by the poorer sections of the society. Till date about 6.83 lakh beneficiaries have enrolled under CMHT. For those enrolled, the State Government has spent more Rs. 153 crore on their medical treatment. This Government had increased the limit of assistance from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs in the last year. The allocation for this scheme has now increased doubled from Rs. 20 crore to Rs. 40 crore in the budget. This will be a huge relief to poor families in need of medical treatment.

19. The 'Chief Minister's Health for All (CMHFA) scheme' was launched in October, 2021 with the aim to provide door-to-door healthcare services and complete primary health checkup for all the people in Manipur. Under this scheme 14 diseases are now screened. Till date 1207 villages have been covered and more than 3.3 lakh people have been screened. We aim to scale up this scheme. An allocation of Rs. 5 crore for this scheme has been provided in this budget.

20. We had initiated works to start the first session of the Churachandpur Medical College in 2020. In just a span of 2 years, on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 we had actually started the first session for MBBS students. This is a major achievement of our Government and is proof of our desire to bring all round development across the State and to build up the Health sector. The number of MBBS seats in JNIMS has also increased from 100 to 150 in the last year. This will enable the Medical College to produce more trained doctors every year to meet any existing gap.

21. The 'CM's Menstrual Hygiene Scheme' was launched to provide school going adolescent girls with sanitary napkins. This scheme aims to increase awareness among adolescent girls on menstrual hygiene, build their self-esteem and empower them. Safe disposal of sanitary napkins in an environment friendly manner will also be ensured. In the first phase 38 Government and Government Aided schools developed under the School Fagathansi Mission, with high girl students enrolment, will be covered. For this an allocation of Rs. 78 lakhs has been provided in the budget.

22. Overall, we have allocated Rs. **1919** crore for the health sector.

### **Sports**

23. Sir, Manipur is recognised as the 'powerhouse of sports' in the country. This Government recognises the need for investments in our sports infrastructure so that we continue to remain a powerhouse

24. The Khuman Lampak Sports Complex needs massive investments for expansion, renovation and maintenance. We are exploring various areas to bring in the necessary funds for this purpose. We will be bringing in new ideas and techniques to train our sportspersons by engaging Foreign Coaches, for which an allocation of Rs. 1.5 crore has been provided.

25. Our State is recognised for its contribution to various sports, especially football. We had hosted the qualifying rounds of the Durand Cup and the response of the people was tremendous. In recognition of the love for football by the people of Manipur, the All India Football Federation is hosting the 'FIFA Tri Nation Friendly Tournament' in Manipur in March, 2023. This will be the first time that the Indian Senior Men's Team will be playing in the State.

26. To bring up, nurture and develop young talent of the State for the International stage in Football, we are setting up the 'Manipur State Football Academy'. We plan to tie up with various bodies in the field of football especially the All India Football Federation to run this Academy. The infrastructure will be funded from the Scheme for Capital Investment (SACI). For its operation we have allocated an amount of Rs.2 crore in the budget.

27. Although 'artificial turf' football is a trend nowadays, football played on 'natural grass' is still the standard and the most popular. To protect our playgrounds and also provide infrastructure for the development of football in the State, we aim to develop 'natural grass' football grounds in 10 locations with an approximate cost of about Rs. 8 crore per ground, across the State under the 'Scheme for Capital Investment' in 2 years. These football grounds will also have a gallery for the public to enjoy matches at the local level.

28. Mirabai Chanu's continued success in the field of Weightlifting continue to bring laurels to our Country and State. She is an inspiration to us and especially the youth. In recognition of her achievements we are setting up the 'Saikhom Mirabai Chanu Fitness Centre' at Nongpok Kakching and for this we are allocating Rs. 2 crore in this budget.

29. We had started the construction of the 'Manipur Olympian Park' to honour our sportspersons who have brought laurels to our State. The Hon'ble Union Home Minister had inaugurated it on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 exactly one year after the foundation stone was laid. This 'Park' will surely be a source of inspiration and encouragement to our sportspersons. A 'Sports Digital Experience Centre' is being set up in this park which will provide a unique experience to the visitors to this park. The Olympian Park's 'Centre of Excellence' will aim to achieve success in the field of sports, with special emphasis on excellence in Olympics.

30. Speaker Sir, even in a modern world we must never forget our roots and our culture. Our culture and tradition are in no way less than any other in this world. We gave the world the modern game of Polo and we are known across the globe for this achievement. We have taken steps to ensure that our indigenous games are preserved and promoted. In the recently concluded Sangai Festival we had launched the First edition of the 'Chief Minister's Sagol Kangjei Championship' to promote our traditional game. It received an enthusiastic response from the public and tourists. We had also hosted traditional wrestling games in the Sangai Festival.

31. To promote our indigenous games, works have started on an 'Indigenous Sports Complex' in Senapati under the Scheme for Capital Investment with an allocation of Rs. 7.2 crore this year. To develop our indigenous games we have increased its budgetary allocation to Rs. 3 crore in this budget.

### **Entrepreneurship and Start-ups**

32. Speaker Sir, in our previous term we had started the 'Manipur Start Up Scheme', which has provided tremendous support to the Start Ups in the State. Support has been provided to about 5800 Start Ups with project costs of about Rs. 110 crore. To give a boost to the 'Start Up' environment we had allocated Rs. 100 crore in the previous budget. Our efforts have been recognized by the Central Government and DPIIT in its States' StartUp Ranking 2021 had recognized Manipur as an "Aspiring Leader" in developing a strong Start Up Ecosystem in the State.

33. We had launched a 'Venture Fund' on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2022 with NEDFi to increase the availability of funding avenues for Start Ups in the State. The State Government will provide a

corpus of Rs. 15 crore, with NEDFi raising another Rs. 15 crore. This Venture Fund will identify Start Ups with long term growth potential and provide necessary support.

34. The State Government in collaboration with the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) have launched the '**Manipur Credit Guarantee Scheme (MCGS)**' which became effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023. This scheme will increase the guaranteed coverage of loans given to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) and Start Ups. A corpus fund of Rs. 10 crore will be provided initially by the State Government. With this corpus, CGTMSE targets to create a portfolio size of Rs. 700 crore to provide support to about 14,000 MSEs and StartUps.

35. The '**Chief Ministers' Entrepreneurship Support Scheme (CMESS)**' was launched to support small enterprises with the objective of 'one family one livelihood' with investments up to Rs. 10 lakhs per beneficiary with 30% subsidy by the State Government and 65% collateral-free loan by partner bank.

36. The '**Manipur Start Up 2.0 Policy**' was revised to strengthen the existing environment and eco-system for further growth of Start Ups in the State. Support will be provided to Start Ups with innovative and scalable business ideas under three categories, with financial support up to a maximum limit of Rs. 1 crore including 30% grant from Start Up Manipur. Business incubators and accelerators will also be provided support under this revised policy.

37. We will continue our support to the Start Up Ecosystem in the State and Rs. 100 crore is being provided in this budget.

### **Tourism & Culture**

38. Sir, I have always mentioned that Tourism is the sector with the highest potential. It can provide massive employment, bring investment and also contribute to the economic growth of the State.

39. It is important that we continue to preserve and promote our unique folk and traditional art forms. This year we plan to complete the '**Multipurpose Cultural Complex**' at the Manipur State Kala Academy for which we are providing Rs. 2 crore in this Budget. We also plan to support various organizations who are working in the field of preserving folk and traditional art forms with necessary infrastructure and recurring support in the form of grants.

40. The Heritage site at the INA Headquarters, Moirang was built to remember our freedom fighters. It reminds us of the sacrifice and the blood shed by our freedom fighters to free us from the bondage of colonial rule. At this site, the Tricolour was hoisted for the first time on



the Indian Subcontinent on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1944. At present, this heritage site has the tallest National Flag within the North East. Along with this, we are also taking up upgradation works in the nearby INA Museum at Moirang. The present auditorium is no longer able to meet present requirements. To upgrade this auditorium we are providing Rs. 3.5 crore in the budget.

41. The Femina Miss India 2023 Finale is being held in Manipur in 2023. Such a major event coming to the State is a result of years of peace, security and development under our Government. It is a matter of pride for the State that we are given an opportunity to host such a major event.

42. This year we had inaugurated the Marjing Polo Statue at Marjing Hill, which is considered to be the abode of Lord Marjing, a deity closely associated with 'Sagol Kangjei'. If I am not wrong this is the largest Polo Statue in the world, with its height at 122 feet. We have restarted the International Polo Tournaments in Mapal Kangjeibung after a gap of two years due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Apart from developing the sports, such tournaments and iconic sites can make Manipur an inseparable part of international 'Polo Tourism'.

43. The Sangai Festival is one of the most important tourism festivals of the State. In the last edition in 2022 we had hosted the inaugural function in the Sangai Ethnic Park in Moirang Khunou, which is fitting considering it is the home of the 'Sangai'. For the first time the festival was celebrated across the length and breadth of the State at multiple locations including Mao, Makhel, Behiang, Geljang, Marjing etc. bringing life to the theme of the festival – "Festival of Oneness". For this festival we have enhanced the allocation to Rs. 15 crore in this budget. Similarly, funding is provided for the Shirui Lily Festival, Barak Festival and Orange Festival, among others, in the budget.

44. We are planning to expand the Sangai Ethnic Park so that it can become an integrated centre for this festival and also a venue that can host international events. We are working with the Ministry of Tourism for this expansion plan and an amount of Rs. 25.50 crore has been allocated from the State's own funds for this purpose. The Union Budget had indicated that States will be encouraged to set up 'Unity Malls' for the promotion and sale of own ODOPs (One District One Product), GI products and other handicraft products, and for providing space for such products of all other States. Such 'Unity Malls' will be supported under the Scheme for Capital Investment. We are planning to accommodate this 'Unity Mall' within the campus of the 'Sangai Ethnic Park'.

45. One major achievement of our Government has been the opening of the 'Kangla Nongpok Thong'. The Eastern Bridge over the Imphal River was reconstructed and inaugurated

last month. It is believed that this re-opening will bring back peace, prosperity and unity in our State.

### **Connectivity**

46. Connectivity is an important prime moving force in the development of the State. In November, 2022 the Union Minister for MoRTH, Shri Nitin Gadkari ji had announced projects under National Highways for Manipur amounting to Rs. 15,499 crore. Some of the projects included in the announcement are (i) Elevated Corridor throughout Imphal City (ii) Road from Shangshak to Tengnoupal (iii) Road from Ukhrul to Tadubi through Tolo (iv) 4-lane Imphal to Moirang etc. These projects will drastically improve the road sector within the State.

47. Combining all sources of funding, with the exception of projects implemented by Central Government Agencies, the Capital Outlay on Roads and Bridges in FY 2023-24 is about Rs. 3,200 crore. Under the 100 days programme we had taken up the work of improving 97 roads from all divisions with funding of Rs. 77 crore under the Scheme for Capital Investment (SACI). A Third-party Monitoring Team was constituted under the Chairmanship of a Secretary to the State Government. This team visited the roads taken up under 100 days program and ensured quality of works. We will continue to provide adequate support to improve the road sector in the State.

48. The Imphal-Kangchup-Tamenglong road taken up with funding from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), with a cost of Rs. 1437 crore, is progressing well and has reached 78% physical progress as on date. The revised target date for completion is December, 2023 and once completed this road will reduce the travel time from Imphal to Tamenglong from 6 hours to 3 hours. This project upon completion will benefit 32 villages out of which 19 are interior villages. For this, an amount of Rs. 419 crore has been provided in the budget.

49. The Imphal Ring Road to be taken up with funding from ADB, for a cost of Rs. 1660 crore, has been in development for some time and implementation is delayed due to cost changes. Implementation of the Project is likely to start from FY 2023-24. This project will reduce the acute traffic congestion that is faced in Imphal City from time to time and improve ease of living considerably. For this, an amount of Rs. 350 crore has been provided.

50. Sir, in the previous budget the project of providing concrete roads in Imphal City was highlighted. The project is being finalized and cost is estimated at Rs. 3565 crore. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is funding this project and the project has been approved by AIIB's Screening Committee. This project will cover 522 kms of roads within Greater Imphal. This project will provide a sustainable, maintenance free and improved

disaster resilient road with a minimum lifespan of 30 years. The savings from the reduced maintenance cost of these roads will free up resources to invest in roads in other parts of the State. Implementation is targeted to start before the end of this calendar year 2023. For this, an amount of Rs. 466 crore has been provided.

### **Agriculture and its associated sectors**

51. Speaker Sir, Agriculture is an important sector of the State's economy. Strengthening the Sector will provide a strong foundation for the economic growth of the State.

52. As the world faces challenges to feed an ever-growing population, millets provide an affordable and nutritious option. Millets can empower smallholder farmers, achieve sustainable development, adapt to climate change and promote biodiversity. Due to this the year 2023 has been declared by the United Nations as the 'International Year of the Millet'. Our State has a huge potential for the cultivation of millets. We are providing a special allocation of Rs. 2 crore for the 'Promotion of millets' in the State, in addition to funding provided under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

53. Use of alternative fertilizers and balanced use of chemical fertilizers is essential for a sustainable agriculture sector. The Union Budget had announced the PM PRANAM (PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth) to incentivize States for promotion of alternative fertilizers and balanced use of chemical fertilizers. In addition, 'Natural Farming' is another area which we are exploring. It is a chemical-free farming system which is diversified and integrates crops, trees and livestock with functional biodiversity. For the promotion of Natural Farming we have provided Rs. 2 crore in the budget.

54. Double Cropping would not only increase the productive use of available farmland but also increase the income of our farmers. We have been promoting double cropping and will continue to do so. We are also exploring the use of drones in agriculture for surveys and spraying of fertilizers and pesticides. Additionally, Agriculture Start Ups will be supported through our Start Up scheme. Overall, for the Agriculture and allied sectors we have allocated Rs. 586 crore in the budget.

### **Security, Policing**

55. Speaker Sir, maintaining law and order and instilling a sense of security among the public continues to be a priority for this Government. We had started the process of upgradation of equipment, vehicles, arms & ammunition of our Police from the previous budget. This upgradation is being taken up in phases over the course of five years. This will

adequately equip our police force to perform their duty effectively. In this budget an amount of about Rs. 40 crore has been provided.

56. Ensuring a strong police presence is essential along the international border to check illegal and anti-state activities. The State Government is constructing 34 (thirty-four) police outposts in the districts along the international border and 6 (six) police outposts along Imphal-Jiribam National Highway at a cost of Rs. 80 crore under the Scheme for Capital Investment. We plan to complete them shortly and also provide the necessary manpower and equipment to these outposts, which will greatly improve the security in the border areas.

57. Housing for Police personnel is important. It is also important to ensure that the housing provided to our Police personnel is close to their place of posting. From this year we will start constructing Police Stations with housing facilities either above the Police Station or within the same campus. The funds will be provided from the Scheme for Capital Investment.

58. Speaker Sir, this Government has worked tirelessly to bring about a peaceful atmosphere in the State. Cadres from different banned organisations have returned, ready to join the mainstream. This sense of security and improvement of Law & Order is important for the State's economy. Setting up of Highway Patrol along the National Highways in the State, Launching of Tourist Police, Launching of Mounted or Sagol Police, use of Women Commandos for special duties etc. are some of the security related initiatives that we have taken up.

59. Sir, while speaking on security and policing it will be incomplete without mentioning this Government's strong action against illegal drugs. Since the start of our second term we have intensified our fight against illegal drugs. Our seizures of illegal drugs, destruction of poppy plantations, arrest of perpetrators and drug traders etc. continues unabated. The people, from all places and different communities have come out in support of the Government's fight. I must place on record my appreciation for the recent resolution adopted by the Hill Area Committee, fully supporting the Government's 'War on Drugs'.

60. This 'war on drugs' is not only about arrests and punishment. We had started a scheme for 'Alternative Livelihoods' for farmers of affected areas. We are working with the Ministry of DoNER to expand this project to all affected areas in the State. In addition, we are taking up a complementary scheme from this year to focus not only on alternative livelihoods but also protection and rejuvenation of the degraded areas. For this year an amount of Rs. 12 crore has been provided in the budget. For the rehabilitation of persons who have fallen victim to drug abuse we had established a 'Drug De-addiction Centre'. We plan to set up two additional centres and for which an amount of Rs. 2 crore has been provided in this budget.

## **Welfare**

61. Speaker Sir, our Government's support for the differently abled, senior citizens and widows remains strong. The allocation under Chief Minister's Shotharabasinggi Tengbang (CMST) which provides care giver allowances, scholarships etc. has increased significantly from Rs. 10 crore in BE 2023-23 to about Rs. 19 crore in this budget. This scheme presently benefits more than 7000 persons.

62. The National Social Assistance Program (NSAP) provides pension to senior citizens, widows and differently abled with funding from Government of India. The State Government provides top up to these schemes while at the same time providing pension to Widows and the Old Aged under the Chief Minister's Widow Pension Scheme and the Manipur Old Age Pension Scheme to about 92,000 persons. For the top up and the State schemes an amount of Rs. 30 crore has been provided in this budget.

## **Drinking water and sanitation**

63. Sir, there are two major projects taken up by the State Government for provision of piped water supply within the State. One of them is the Jal Jeevan Mission, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and the other is the New Development Bank funded 'Manipur Water Supply Project'. Despite various challenges, the implementation of these projects are underway in full swing. For water supply we have allocated an amount of Rs. 1592 crore in the budget.

64. With the growing demands of an increasing population and increasing urbanisation, it is essential to upgrade or develop our water sources. The Government is working on a project as an add-on to the 'Manipur Water Supply Project' to ensure that we have adequate sources of water from multiple sources to meet our present and future needs.

65. Sanitation is another important area. The Swachh Bharat Mission aims to provide Individual Household Toilets and interventions for safe management of solid and liquid waste in both urban and rural areas. The Imphal Sewerage Project Phase-I was taken up in the past to provide sewerage service to a few areas within Imphal City. The project was commissioned in 2017 but the provision of household sewerage connection was not part of the project. In the past year funds were provided under the Scheme for Capital Investment to provide household sewerage connections under Phase-I. We had also taken up maintenance and repairing of sewer line, manholes and collection chambers constructed under the Phase-I project.

66. To provide sewerage services within the Imphal area, the Imphal Sewerage System Phase-II was approved as an Externally Aided Project. The works have now been awarded and

the loan negotiation process with the funding Multilateral Bank is expected to begin shortly. We are also preparing a project to take up Phase-III of the Sewerage system to cover the Greater Imphal and adjoining areas keeping in mind the increasing population and urbanization. For sewerage and sanitation we are allocating an amount of Rs. 466 crore.

### **Inclusive Development and Public Administration**

67. Speaker Sir, in the previous year this Government had set up a Special Development Fund for Border and Under-developed Districts in the State. For this an allocation of Rs. 21 crores was made. This fund was meant for meeting development gaps for which no specific funding is available. We are continuing with this funding in this budget so that any identified gaps can be met further.

68. Manipur is rightly called a 'Mini-India' with a multitude of varied communities, dialects and cultures. In the Sangai Ethnic Park at Moirang Khunou we had provided each community with a 'hut' to showcase their unique culture. It may also be recalled that we had taken up the construction of 'Tribal Museums' for the different tribes in the State in 2020-21. It is necessary to protect and preserve the identity and culture of the smaller tribes in our State, whose populations are small. With this in mind we have provided an amount of Rs. 4 crore for the 'Welfare of smaller tribes' in the budget. This will protect and preserve their unique culture, tradition, stories etc.

69. Speaker Sir, we continue to prioritise development in the minority concentrated areas of the State, especially the hill districts. To cite an example, under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK), since the inception of the scheme, 17,441 number of projects have been completed amounting to Rs. 552 crore and another 358 number of projects amounting to Rs. 631 crore are underway. Some of the major infrastructure projects taken up in the hill districts under this scheme include (i) Infrastructure Development of Tamenglong College amounting to Rs. 15 crore (ii) Infrastructure Development of Pettigrew College amounting to Rs. 39 crore (iii) Model Residential Schools at Kamjong, Kangpokpi, Senapati, Tamenglong, Ukhrul, Chandel, Churachandpur and Tengnoupal with a cost of Rs. 202 crores. Recently, some of these projects were inaugurated. For this scheme we are allocating an amount of Rs. 540 crore in the budget.

70. We had taken up the construction of Ima Markets in various District Headquarters in the previous term. Under the Scheme for Capital Investment we had taken up construction of such markets in Kamjong, Noney, Pherzawl and Tengnoupal with a total cost of Rs. 16 crore for which the works are underway. Under the same scheme we had taken up the construction

of Amusement-cum-children parks in Churachandpur, Senapati, Tamenglong, Ukhrul, Chandel and Kangpokpi with a total cost of Rs. 29 crore. We will continue to identify infrastructure and development gaps in the hill districts and provide necessary funding to meet such gaps.

71. Meeyamgi Numit was a forum for the public to meet the Chief Minister and other officials to voice their grievance and get them redressed. This forum is being institutionalized through the District Administration. District Meeyamgi Numit is now being held every month in the districts under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioners. This will improve the quality of public service delivery.

72. Mobility of our field functionaries, especially the SDOs and BDOs is important. This becomes more important in far and difficult terrain where a lot of travel is necessary to deliver services to the public. We aim to ensure that no SDO and BDO is without a functioning and good condition official vehicle. For this we are providing an amount of Rs. 8 crore in the budget.

### **Forest and Environment**

73. Speaker Sir, this Government is committed to protecting our forests and our environment. Without our forests we have no future. For the first time, strong action has been taken to protect the boundaries of our 'Reserved' and 'Protected' Forests. Joint surveys have been undertaken by the Forest and Revenue Departments, with follow up action. The support and cooperation of the public is essential to make this exercise a success.

74. To tackle the problem of degradation of forests, we are taking up plantation drives, providing alternative livelihoods etc. We are also exploring the option of using drones for afforestation in heavily degraded areas. Overall, for the forest sector an amount of Rs. 377 crore has been provided in the budget.

75. The Loktak Lake is an integral part of the history, culture and life in Manipur. It is important to restore and preserve the ecosystem of this lake. An 'Empowered Committee' has been set up by the State Government to demarcate the boundary of the Loktak Lake, which will aid in its preservation. We are in discussion with the Asian Development Bank to take up a project for 'Sustainable Loktak Lake Ecosystem Restoration, Eco Tourism and Livelihood Improvement'. Initially, a detailed study will be carried out to study the present issues from all angles which will be followed by interventions to tackle the challenges identified. From the side of the State Government an allocation of Rs. 30 crore has been provided in the budget.

76. Speaker Sir, I have highlighted various priorities of this Government. There are many important areas which could not be mentioned due to time constraints. This Government will ensure all round development of every section of society and every sector in the State.

### Section III

#### Revised Estimates 2022-23 & Budget Estimates 2023-24

##### Revised Estimates 2022-23

77. In the Budget Estimate 2022-23, total expenditure estimated was **Rs. 34930 crores**. The total expenditure during RE 2022-23 has been revised to **Rs. 35882 crores**.

78. Revenue receipts and capital receipts were estimated at **Rs. 24448 crores** and **Rs. 9252 crores** respectively in Budget Estimates 2022-23. This has now been revised to **Rs. 25601 crores** and **Rs. 9836 crores** in RE 2022-23 respectively. All overall receipts and expenditure figures are inclusive of Ways and Means Advances and Repayments.

79. Taking into account all receipts and expenditures, the current year is expected to have a budgetary deficit of **Rs. 445 crores** in RE 2022-23 as against the deficit of **Rs. 1230 crores** in BE 2022-23. The fiscal deficit for 2022-23 (RE) is projected at **Rs. 2550 crores**, which is **6.8 %** of GSDP.

##### Budget Estimates 2023-24

80. Sir, let me turn to the Budget Estimates for the year 2023-24.

81. The total receipts are estimated at **Rs. 34131 crores**. The revenue receipts are estimated at **Rs. 27547 crores** and capital receipts at **Rs. 6584 crores**. Total estimates of State's own tax and non-tax receipts are **Rs. 3200 crores** and **Rs. 400 crores** respectively.

82. For the year 2023-24, I am proposing a total expenditure of **Rs. 35022 crores** out of the Consolidated Fund of the State. Sir, total Revenue Expenditure is estimated at **Rs. 20292 crores**. Capital outlay is estimated at **Rs. 10013 crores**.

83. Sir, at the end, let me sum up by highlighting the likely fiscal position during the year. Budget deficit is estimated at **Rs. 891 crore**, which is a reduction from last year's budget deficit of **Rs. 1230 crore**. We will continue to consolidate our finances. Fiscal deficit is estimated at **Rs. 2760 crores**. This is **6.1 %** of the GSDP. During 2023-24, the total outstanding debt as a percentage of GSDP is projected at **39.93 %**.

84. The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) for 2023-24 is estimated at **Rs. 45145 crores**.

##### Concluding remarks

85. Speaker Sir, we had introduced an e-budget during the Vote-on-account in March, 2022 and again in the full budget presentation in July, 2022. We are continuing with our presentation



of the budget in an electronic form. The budget application can be accessed at [ebudgetmanipur.mn.gov.in](http://ebudgetmanipur.mn.gov.in). In addition, the budget is also uploaded on the Manipur Government Website.

86. With this, Mr. Speaker Sir, I present the Budget Estimates for 2023-24, with the hope that the same will receive the approval of this August house.