



Government of West Bengal

Budget Statement

by

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Minister-in-Charge, Finance Department

2021-2022

5th February, 2021

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, with your permission I rise to present the interim Annual Financial Statement and a Vote on Account for the first four months for the financial year 2021-22 to this August house.

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Hon'ble Speaker Sir, today the entire world and our country are passing through a grave crisis due to pandemic and economic depression. During this period West Bengal has also faced the worst cyclone of the country— the Amphan which caused havoc in terms of life and property. Had the Central Government provided some financial relief in this hour of crisis, it would have helped us in meeting the challenges. Instead of standing by this Government, the Central Government deprived the State of its legitimate dues. Despite the deadly virus, devastating natural calamity and the indifferent attitude of the Central Government—we have relentlessly and successfully fought against all these odds during the whole year.

We are proud to say that inspite of this, Bengal did not break down or get disheartened. Bengal fought fervently against the challenges of the pandemic, Amphan and deprivation of the Central Government and remained undaunted and undefeated. Standing against all these odds, we have not only been able to check Covid-19 pandemic but also been able to mitigate the losses arising from Amphan to a great extent and held the glory of Bengal high.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I see a glorious future for the 10 crore population of the State and there is no place for despondency. Bengal is fast emerging as the new **pivot** for the East and South-East Asia and is becoming the

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new place of hope and future. Bengal is becoming the new destination in the world map.

Bengal has become the new destination for the industry, commerce, manufacturing and communication. Deucha-Pachami is the second largest coal block in the world. The new discovery of oil and natural gas in Ashoknagar has kindled new hope of unleashing huge economic opportunities. A new sea port is being built in Tajpur, which will emerge as a new place for huge economic development. The state-aided Andal Airport will become an International Airport, through our constant efforts and support.

Investment is pouring in from different parts of the world in the Silicon Valley project in New Town. Bengal has already attracted a large number of leather units at Bantala and has become leader in leather industry, foundry industry, hosiery industry, handicraft and overall aspects of MSME sector. Bengal is becoming the centre of economic power in East Asia, particularly in South-East Asia, owing to these emerging industries. Swami Vivekananda once said — Now the centre is India. Following him, I will say — Now the centre is Bengal.

Today, I shall speak about hope and not about despair. I shall speak about unleashing new social welfare and development schemes and about new initiatives in infrastructure development.

As it is difficult to speak about all issues, I shall mention only few important schemes.

Bengal today is the leader in many areas — as for example, we are number 1 in 100-days-work, number 1 in MSME, number 1 in construction of rural houses, number 1 in construction of rural roads, number 1 in minority scholarships distribution, number 1 in skill development — an endless list of successes.

Not only this, we have also achieved the number 1 position in eradication of poverty among the big states of the country between 2011-12 and 2017-18.

You are aware, Bengal has again secured number 1 position in the country in 100-days-work programme by providing jobs to 1.1 crore people of the state. Lakhs of migrant workers got the opportunity to work in this scheme.

Under ‘Bangla Awas Yojana’, Bengal has created a new example in the country by constructing 9.23 lakh new pucca houses for the poor people and has secured number 1 position this year.

We have also achieved the number 1 position in the country by constructing 20,000 km roads under ‘Bangla Sadak Nirman Yojana’.

Unprecedented development has been observed in all spheres of the state in 2020 compared to 2011.

- Gross State Domestic Product has increased by 2.7 times,
- State Revenue has increased by 2.9 times,
- State Plan Expenditure has increased by 7.2 times,

- Social Sector Expenditure has increased by 5.6 times,
- Agri and Allied Sector Expenditure has increased by 6.1 times,
- Physical Infrastructure Expenditure has increased by 3.9 times.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, we are committed to the overall development of the state and welfare of the people.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, with your permission I would like to place the allocation of major departments and achievements as mentioned in Part-2 & 3 of the speech which may be considered as read. Sir, I now directly go to the Part-4 of my speech (Page No. 104).

Budget Allocation of Major Departments in the Financial year 2021-22.

1. Agriculture

I propose to allocate Rs. 7,125 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

2. Agriculture Marketing

I propose to allocate Rs. 391.93 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

3. Food and Supplies

I propose to allocate Rs. 9,693.17 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

4. Food Processing Industries and Horticulture

I propose to allocate Rs. 220.89 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

5. Animal Resources Development

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,221.43 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

6. Fisheries

I propose to allocate Rs. 426.58 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

7. Panchayat & Rural Development

I propose to allocate Rs. 23,983.27 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

8. Irrigation and Waterways

I propose to allocate Rs. 3,647.03 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

9. Water Resources Investigation & Development

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,467.29 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

10. Co-operation

I propose to allocate Rs. 516.06 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

11. Forests

I propose to allocate Rs. 901.58 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

12. Health & Family Welfare

I propose to allocate Rs. 12,561.19 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

13. School Education

I propose to allocate Rs. 35,333.53 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

14. Higher Education

I propose to allocate Rs. 4,893.05 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

15. Technical Education & Training and Skill Development

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,284.80 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

16. Youth Services and Sports

I propose to allocate Rs. 727.97 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

17. Information & Cultural Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs. 804.83 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

18. Mass Education Extension and Library Services

I propose to allocate Rs. 381.36 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

19. Public Health Engineering (PHE)

I propose to allocate Rs. 3,579.57 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

20. Transport

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,737.05 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

21. Public Works

I propose to allocate Rs. 6,381.98 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

22. Land & Land Reforms & Refugee Relief and Rehabilitation

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,417.28 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

23. Power

I propose to allocate Rs. 2,598.66 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

24. Urban Development and Municipal Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs. 12,446.22 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

25. Housing

I propose to allocate Rs. 270.31 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

26. Women and Child Development & Social Welfare

I propose to allocate Rs. 6,046.99 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

27. Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education

I propose to allocate Rs. 4,644.17 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

28. Backward Classes Welfare

I propose to allocate Rs. 2,171.78 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

29. Tribal Development

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,068.38 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

30. Labour

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,093.16 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

31. Self Help Group & Self Employment

I propose to allocate Rs. 712.86 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

32. North Bengal Development

I propose to allocate Rs. 776.51 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

33. Sunderban Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs. 573.53 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

34. Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs. 672.21 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

35. Home & Hill Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs. 11,523.45 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

36. Personnel & Administrative Reforms

I propose to allocate Rs. 273.15 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

37. Disaster Management & Civil Defence

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,605.50 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

38. Fire and Emergency Services

I propose to allocate Rs. 435.33 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

39. Correctional Administration

I propose to allocate Rs. 337.34 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

40. Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises and Textiles

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,144.77 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

41. Industry, Commerce & Enterprises

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,291.91 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

42. Public Enterprises & Industrial Reconstruction

I propose to allocate Rs. 48.08 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

43. Tourism

I propose to allocate Rs. 457.38 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

44. Information Technology & Electronics

I propose to allocate Rs. 183.51 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

45. Consumer Affairs

I propose to allocate Rs. 114.15 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

46. Environment

I propose to allocate Rs. 97.46 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

47. Non-conventional & Renewable Energy Sources

I propose to allocate Rs. 73.82 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

48. Science and Technology and Biotechnology

I propose to allocate Rs. 70.11 crore to this department in the year 2021-22.

3

Achievements of major Departments

Agriculture and Rural Economy

3.1 Agriculture

The state was devastated by a severe cyclonic storm ‘AMPHAN’ on 20th May 2020. To rejuvenate the farming activities, financial assistance of Rs. 360.08 crore was provided to 23,31,283 affected farmers in the districts of South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas, Purba Medinipur, Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram, Howrah, Hooghly, Purba Bardhaman and Nadia.

Krishak Bandhu (Assured Income), a unique social security scheme for the farmers was initiated by the Hon’ble Chief Minister on 30th January 2019. Under “Krishak Bandhu (Assured Income)” scheme, an assistance to the tune of Rs. 2,647.89 crore has already been disbursed starting from Rabi season (2018-19) through A/C payee cheques/DBT in farmers’ bank A/C. The number of farmers benefitted are 38.81 lakh during Rabi 2018-19, 44.26 lakh during Kharif 2019 & Rabi 2019-20 seasons and 46.76 lakh during Kharif 2020 season.

Under Krishak Bandhu (Death Benefit) scheme, one time assistance of Rs. 2 lakh is given to the family members of farmers deceased within age of 18-60 years. Family members of 16,563 deceased farmers were provided assistance since inception in the financial year 2018-19. During the current F.Y., 8,010 deceased farmers were provided benefit till 31.12.2020.

Under Farmers' Old Age Pension Scheme, a monthly pension of Rs. 1,000 is being provided to nearly 1 lakh people.

The State has remarkably increased the area and production of Maize, Pulses and Oilseeds. The production of Maize has become more than 2 times during 2018-19 as compared to 2016-17. Similarly the production of pulses and oilseeds has increased by more than 1.3 times.

The State Government has given thrust on farm Mechanization since 2012-13. During 2019-20, Rs. 92.93 crore was disbursed towards subsidy for power driven machinery among 14,068 beneficiaries and establishment of 293 nos. of Custom Hiring Centres (CHC) of farm machinery across the State. A modern Mechanisation Workshop has been established at a cost of more than Rs. 6 crore at Mati Tirtha Krishi Katha, Burdwan for demonstration, training and awareness on modern farm machineries.

A wholly state funded Crop Insurance scheme named Bangla Shasya Bima (BSB) Scheme is being implemented in the state since Kharif 2019 season. Full premium is borne by the State Government for all crops except potato and sugarcane in which each farmer has to pay a nominal premium of 4.85% of the sum insured and the remaining premium is borne by the State Government. During 2020 a technology based “Bangla Shasya Bima Scheme” is being implemented to facilitate faster and more accurate claim assessment and settlement. During Kharif 2020, 64 lakh farmers have been insured under this scheme covering 22.55 lakh Ha.

3.2 Agricultural Marketing

Creation of marketing infrastructures such as Auction Platform, Stalls, Shop-cum-godown, Administrative building, Godown for procurement, Drinking water and Sanitation, etc. is a part and parcel of agricultural marketing activities. Paramount importance has been given in this sector and total cost involvement has gone up from Rs. 91.52 crore in 2011 to Rs. 1,998.89 crore in 2020.

“SUFAL BANGLA” project initiated in 2014, presently operates with 63 mobile vans, 3 Hubs and 331 retail outlets across the state. About 75-80 MT of agricultural produces amounting to Rs. 18 to Rs. 20 lakh are sold

daily through Sufal Bangla outlets to serve 2.00-2.50 lakh consumers daily. In order to promote state level aggregation and marketing of organic produces, West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board has started construction of a STATE OF THE ART organic market at Rajarhat which will be completed by 2021.

Under Onion and Potato Market intervention up to February, 2020, Onion and Potato were sold at subsidised rates to stabilize the price in the 148 market centres.

To prevent post harvest loss and to enhance farm level value addition, One Time Assistance is also provided through “AMAR FASAL AMAR CHATAL” @ Rs. 17,975, for constructing a Farm Family level paddy processing yard (Chatal) for sun drying of par boiled paddy and/or Rs. 5,000 for constructing an improved low cost paddy and grain storage structures. Nearly 53,000 farmers have so far been benefitted under the scheme.

West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board has already introduced online integrated electronic single platform permit (e-Permit) System for fast and hassle-free transactions of agricultural produce in West Bengal. Online procedure for application as well as issuance of Unified License has also been made operational.

Electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which creates a unified online market for agricultural commodities, both at State and National level. In West Bengal, 18 markets from 15 districts have already been integrated with e-NAM and proposal for integration of another 14 markets are being taken up.

There are 515 functioning Cold Storages out of 583 licensed cold storages with the collective storage capacity of 75.48 lakh Metric Ton for storing potato and multipurpose items.

3.3 Food Security : Food & Supplies

The objective of “Khadyasathi” scheme, launched in January, 2016, is to ensure food security to the marginalised and economically weaker sections of the society by providing them earmarked quantity of highly subsidized good quality food grains. The scheme is being implemented through the vast network of about 500 distributors and over 20,000 Fair Price Shops. This widely acclaimed and popular schemes at present provides food security to about 9.98 crore Khadyasathi beneficiaries across the state.

The nationwide Lockdown imposed in view of COVID-19 Pandemic in the month of March-2020 and difficulties in

running of business and loss of employment, earning of people and supply chain of food grains were hampered badly. In order to mitigate the hardships faced by the people, food grain was provided free of cost to all the beneficiaries under Khadyasathi belonging to AAY, PHH, SPHH and RKSU-I categories from April, 2020 and RKSU-II Category from May, 2020. 5 kg food grains per head per month was also provided to the beneficiaries of RKSU-II scheme in place of 2 kg, for a period of 3 months from May, 2020 to July, 2020 during the most difficult times.

Due to lockdown, distribution of Digital Ration Cards was hampered, and in such cases Food Coupons were provided through block and municipalities to enable them receive the food grains till receipt of the Digital Ration Card. 4.85 Lakh Khadyasathi Special Coupons were issued.

The State Government has also issued Temporary Food Coupons to 45.89 lakh migrant and stranded labourers and distributed 45894 MT Rice and 2655 MT of Chana to them at the rate of 10 kg rice per head and 2 kg Chana per family as one time relief.

Special drive was taken proactively to provide Digital Ration Cards and Khadyasathi Special Coupons to sex workers and transgenders.

All the beneficiaries will receive foodgrains free of cost till June, 2021. The State Government has procured 48.58 lakh MT Paddy from 12.43 lakh small and medium farmers in KMS 2019-20 (From 1st October 2019 to 30th September, 2020), which is a record achievement. Paddy has been procured through 349 Government operated Centralised Procurement Centres (CPCs) and 1098 Co-Operative Societies, Food Producers' Organisation and Self Help Groups. For convenience of the farmers the Department has also introduced "Khadyasathi Annadatri" mobile app to facilitate them for registration and express their willingness to sell the paddy.

To ensure adequate storage facility for storing Rice for at least 4 months requirement for PDS, the State Government has created 10 lakh MT storage facilities so far, which was only 63,000 MT in 2011.

3.4. Food Processing Industries & Horticulture

West Bengal has recorded substantial increase in both area and production of horticultural crops, achieving coverage of 14,82,696 hectares since 2011 under fruits, flowers, vegetables, spices and plantation crops.

Financial assistance was extended to the onion growers for construction of one hundred twenty eight (128) Low Cost Onion Storage Structures with storage capacity of 25 MT each.

Green houses / Shade Net houses on more than 85,000 square meters land parcels were constructed in the state for protected cultivation of high value flowers, vegetables and betelvine in the year 2020-21.

Development of “Centre of Excellence for Vegetables” at Chinsurah is underway which is expected to serve as demonstration and training centre as well as source of good quality planting material and vegetable seedlings under protected cultivation.

All the farmers of the state, who suffered crop loss during super cyclone ‘AMPHAN’ have been given total of 9,31,842 seed mini-kits and 125 grams of Amaranthus seeds as interim relief in the affected districts. An amount of Rs. 8129 Lakh was allotted to 9 (Nine) districts viz. South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas, Purba Medinipur, Howrah, Hooghly, Paschim Medinipur, Nadia, Bankura and Malda as grant, for assistance to betel-vine farmers of the said districts.

Cultivation of Cymbidium Orchids through development of facilities like construction of poly houses, providing plantlets of cymbidium, fertilizer etc. in land

of 113 farmers across Darjeeling and Kalimpong District is underway for socio-economic development of the farmers under the State Plan Schemes. A project for “cultivation of Medicinal Plants for employment generation and livelihood security of the farmers of the hill area” has also been sanctioned.

An initiative for setting up of State level Honey Processing Hub at Deganga Kisan Mandi, North 24 Parganas has been undertaken to speed up the growth of beekeeping industry in the State.

3.5 Animal Resources Development

In Amphan affected areas 3739 Special Animal Health Camps were organized where 14.53 lakh livestock and poultry birds were treated and 5.13 lakh livestock and poultry birds vaccinated. Rs. 1,491.84 lakh was paid as compensation for loss of animals to 16,780 beneficiaries. About 11.19 lakh chicks and ducklings have been distributed to about 97,000 beneficiaries in 7 (seven) Amphan affected districts; another about 62,000 beneficiaries will be benefited with 6.07 lakh chicks and ducklings during this year. Up to the month of December, 2020 about 7.42 lakh chicks and ducklings have also been distributed among 14841 SHGs.

The State Incentive Scheme for Commercial Layer Poultry and Poultry Breeding Farm-2017 which expired on 31.08.2020 was extended for another one year w.e.f. 01.09.2020, considering the current COVID situation. 47 Projects for 20.86 lakh layers with an investment of about Rs. 185.61 crore have already been completed leading to production of additional 61 crore eggs annually. Another 45 projects for 18.67 lakh layers with an investment of about Rs. 170.60 crore is under process. After completion of all the projects, additional 115.43 crore eggs will be produced annually. This will hugely reduce our dependence on import of eggs from other States.

The annual egg production will increase from 973.5 crore in 2019-20 to about 1,050 crore in 2020-21, nearly 8% increase over the last year which primarily attributed to a huge distribution of chicks and ducklings to over 10.53 lakh beneficiaries.

During this year, 84,000 goats will be distributed among 4,000 women SHGs.

The animal health is an essential component of the core activities wherein vaccination has been done to over 1.39 crore livestock and poultry population. The artificial insemination for 30.02 lakh for Cattle & Buffalo has already been done and 10.61 lakh calves were born through artificial insemination.

Steady supply of Meat & Meat Products was maintained during the Lockdown due to outbreak of COVID-19 without enhancing the price. The sale of Meat & Meat products is increased by 182.61% over the same period of last year.

Broiler Integration Programme was successfully executed involving Farmers in and around Haringhata and Phansidewa Meat Plant. 362 nos. of farmers are being benefitted. Broiler Breeding Farm in Jatiakali and Jalpaiguri with production capacity of 30 lakhs Broiler chicks per year has started functioning.

Production of eggs at Kalyani Layer Farm at Kalyani, Nadia having layer bird capacity of 1 Lakh has started and 85 thousand eggs are being produced per day. Goat Meat Plant at Haringhata, Nadia with daily meat production of 1.2 MT has started its operation. Duck Breeding Farm at Kalyani, Nadia having layer duck capacity of 5,000 nos. from where 5 Lakh ducklings will be produced annually has also started its operation.

Average milk procurement during 2020-21 (up to November, 2020) was 215.082 TKgPD. During 2020-21 an amount of Rs. 21.03 crore towards Special Incentive @ Rs. 6 per Ltr of milk over and above the procurement price of milk, was released by the State Government and out of which an amount of Rs. 16.45 crore distributed by the Federation among Dairy Co-op farmers through the Dist. Milk Producers Union for procuring milk.

3.6 Fisheries

During 2020-21, 12.90 lakh MT of fish and 24875 million fish seed have been produced in West Bengal up to 30.12.2020.

For increasing fish production, several piscicultural schemes are being implemented by the Department. Under 'Jal Dharo Jal Bharo', 31,517 nos. of ponds (4202.87 ha.) are being covered with fund involvement of Rs. 17.01 crore. Pisciculture is being undertaken in 41,000 small water bodies (5,466.66 ha.) with fund involvement of Rs. 20.91 crore. Production of Big Sized Fish in Big Waterbodies is being implemented in 40 water bodies (40 ha.) with fund involvement of Rs.1.54 crore. Moina Model is being replicated in 17 Government farms (34 ha.) with a project cost of Rs. 2.71 crore. Deshi Magur /Singhi is being nurtured in 1,175 nos. of ponds (156.66 ha.) with fund involvement of Rs. 4.1 crore.

Under Brackishwater pisciculture, "Monoculture of Shrimp", "Polyculture of Shrimp with Mullet" and "Monoculture of Vennamei Shrimp" are being undertaken in 1020 ponds, 810 ponds and 780 ponds with an expenditure of Rs. 2.02 crore, 2.69 crore and 2.76 crore respectively. For development of tribal fishermen, 746 units of "Deshi Magur Culture" and 932 units of "IMC Culture" are being cultivated with fund involvement of Rs. 1.49 crore and Rs. 2.36 crore respectively.

Initiatives have been taken by the Department for introducing Bio-floc and RAS (two recent aquacultural methods) in the State.

Fisherman families affected by super-cyclone “Amphan” have been provided cash compensation through DBT to recover loss due to damage to boats, hundies and nets. More than Rs. 17 crore has been spent for the purpose.

7,836 nos. of bicycles with insulated boxes are being provided to fishermen as livelihood support measure with fund involvement of Rs. 1.70 crore. Rs. 4.9 crore have been provided to 490 nos. of tribal fishermen for construction of dwelling houses @ Rs. 1 lakh per unit. Quota of ‘Old Age Pension’ in fisheries sector has been increased from 8,500 to 20,000.

Four innovative schemes namely “Fish Fry to Fingerling” (fingerlings nurtured by the SHGs will be bought back and distributed to other SHGs for rearing by the Department in the first year for providing assured incremental income to the SHGs), “Fresh Water Giant Prawn Culture” (for utilizing vast stretches of canals excavated under ADMI project in South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas and Purba Medinipur), setting up of “Mini hatcheries for Indigenous Fish Species” and “Mini Feed Mills” have been planned to be implemented by the Fisheries Department with the help of SHGs.

3.7 Panchayat & Rural Development

Under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA (MGNREGA) Scheme, West Bengal could establish itself as a major contributor towards rural employment and social security in the country. In 2020-21 financial year, the State could generate as high as 32.65 crore person-days by 31st December' 2020. In current financial year 73.18 lakhs households and 1.06 crore workers could be provided works, which is all time high. New job cards issued in this financial year is 10.75 lakhs (approx).

In 2020-21 financial year till date 15,597 nos. water conservation and water harvesting structures and 1,587 nos. Anganwadi centres have been completed. In the sector of individual beneficiary scheme 9,97,113 livelihood enhancing assets have been provided.

Under Banglar Awas Yojona, in the current Financial Year, 10,26,196 number of houses have been sanctioned. For the Financial Year 2019-20, West Bengal has completed the highest number of houses and has sanctioned the highest number of houses in the financial year 2020-21. A total of 31,30,824 houses have been sanctioned in the Rural Housing Scheme.

Under the Banglar Gramin Sadak Yojona, 35,611.41 km of road length has been sanctioned involving an amount of Rs. 16,561.62 crore. In 2019-20 a total new road length

of 2,180 km was constructed in the State which is again the highest in achievement against allocation in the Country. Currently during 2020-21 another 750 km of new road length is further constructed and about 1900 km are under various stages of progress and nearing completion. This year road construction Phase-I of BGSY will be completed and BGSY-II is near completion. The total financial outlay of BGSY-II is Rs. 2,094.94 crore The State has now become eligible for BGSY-III.

Under Mission Nirmal Bangla, since 2012-13 total 66,34,834 individual household latrines have been constructed in all Gram Panchayats of the State till 31st December, 2020. All Gram Panchayats have turned ODF within this time. Around 3,452 no. public toilets have also been built.

The State Government has decided to bring all the existing pension schemes (National Social Assistance Programme-NSAP) under one umbrella scheme for pensioners namely Jai Bangla Scheme-2020 and the monthly pension has been increased by the state to a uniform rate of Rs. 1000 per month w.e.f. 01.04.2020. 23,16,058 beneficiaries have been benefitted from this schemes up to 31st December, 2020. Expenditure on this account is Rs. 1,151 crore up to December, 2020.

Under West Bengal State Rural Livelihood Mission (WBSRLM), 90.31 lakh members mobilized into 8.67 lakh all-women Self Help Groups with 37,353 Upa-Sanghas and 3341 Sanghas. 3,298 Sanghas are registered under the West Bengal Cooperative Societies Act.

WBSRLM extended financial support of Rs. 491.36 crore as Revolving Fund to 3,27,571 SHGs till December, 2020. Under Community Investment Fund, 3,267 Sanghas extended Rs. 1125.68 crore loans to 2,16,336 SHGs till December, 2020.

During 2019-20, 5,23,235 SHGs were credit linked for Rs. 11,368.90 crore loan. Till December, 2020, despite of pandemic situation, credit disbursed to the tune of Rs. 5,167.95 crore to 4,68,129 SHGs, making West Bengal fourth largest among all States in the country.

Anandadhara is constantly collaborating with the various line departments of the government. In convergence with School Education Department 32,444 SHGs have done business to the tune of Rs. 383.64 crore in 2019-20 and with Health & Family Welfare Department, 482 SHGs are supplying cooked diet to the Government hospitals. Similarly in convergence with Women & Child Development & Social Welfare Department, 98 SHG institutions are involved in supply of Ready To Eat food to all ICDS centres of the state.

During COVID-19 pandemic, many Sanghas/SHGs produced 1,09,43,330 masks and 1,05,812.5 litres sanitizers till December, 2020. They facilitated quarantine facilities at Sangha Buildings, supplied food to the quarantined people.

The Bangla Sahayata Kendra (BSK) has been introduced in 2020-21 in the State to provide 230 services online to the public through extensive use of Information Technology. 3,438 BSKs have been established and expenditure incurred under this scheme is Rs. 38.63 crore till December, 2020.

3.8 Irrigation & Waterways

As the nodal entity responsible for ensuring development and improvement for irrigation and flood management in the State, the Irrigation & Waterways Department has so far commissioned more than 93 irrigation projects and a robust flood management infrastructure for almost 42% of the geographical area of the State which is flood prone. Proper maintenance, upgradation and modernization of this huge infrastructure, considering that many of them are almost 50-60 years old, has been the major focus of the Department. The Safety Audit of important dams, barrages and bridges, started in 2017 has been completed in this year. Rehabilitation works, emerged from the safety audit

are already being carried out in some areas and the other works will be taken up gradually. As a result of relentless and sustained effort of the Department in taking forward the vision of the State Government to bring maximum area under irrigation and to give relief to the people of critically flood prone areas 113 projects have been completed in 2020-21 (till December, 2020) and the physical progress of ongoing 619 schemes is at par with the target in most of the cases even after suspension of some works in the initial months of spreading of COVID-19 pandemic.

An additional area of 1,32,745 acre of cultivable land has been brought under irrigation during 2020-21 by completing renovation of 24 medium and minor irrigation schemes and partially completing the renovation of Canal system of three major irrigation projects, namely Kangsabati Reservoir Project, Mayurakshi Reservoir Project and Midnapore Main Canal.

The Super Cyclone Storm “Amphan” caused extreme damage to around 156 km of embankments, 36 structures, spreading across 37 blocks of the districts of North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas and Purba Medinipur, when it hit the coastal belt of West Bengal on 20th May, 2020. The State Government has completed renovation of damaged structures including closure of 92 breaches to the embankments on war footing.

During 2020-21, 260 km of flood and river eroding embankments have been improved and 291 km of drainage channels have been excavated. The drainage congestion in Kolkata and its adjoining agglomeration has been significantly improved as a result of up-keep and maintenance of around 1,050 kilometers of drainage channels which also helps in controlling vector borne diseases.

Although there was no funding available from the Government of India for Ghatal Master Plan flood management scheme, resuscitation of 19 km of river has already been completed and that of 84 km has been started out of envisaged 147 km of total river resuscitation in Purba Medinipur and Paschim Medinipur districts.

As a result of dredging of Muriganga River in between Kakdwip and Sagar Island, planned through scientific model study with the help of renowned experts, uninterrupted water transshipment could be achieved for almost 19 hours during the Ganga Sagar Mela-2020.

With a view to modernize the decades old DVC Canal network, so as to maximize the irrigation coverage in the five districts of South Bengal and to address the long pending need of revamping the flood management infrastructure in the Lower Damodar areas in Howrah and Hooghly district, that suffer from perpetual floods,

the Irrigation & Waterways Department has grounded in February, 2020, a major project titled “West Bengal Major Irrigation and Flood Management Project” under World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,015 crore.

3.9 Water Resources Investigation and Development

Irrigation Potential of about 60,000 hectare was planned to be created through various Minor Irrigation Projects under different Programmes. Total 1,741 Minor Irrigation schemes with an irrigation potential 31,952 hectare have already been completed up to 31.12.2020.

Under ‘Jal Dharo-Jal Bharo’ during 2020-21, 20,070 water bodies/water detention structures have been created/renovated out of which 3,932 equivalent standard tanks by WRI&D Department and 16,138 water bodies have been created/renovated in convergence with P&RD Department up to 31.12.2020.

As an important initiative towards transforming rural economy “Matir Shristi” was launched to make productive use of fallow land in 6 (six) western Districts viz. Birbhum, Bankura, Purulia, Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram and Paschim Bardhaman. During this period, Micro planning for 1,942 sites has been completed covering more than 13,000 acre. More than 10.8 lakh saplings of different species have been planted in about 1,500 sites covering 6,773 acre.

Nearly 600 micro irrigation structures have been completed viz. Hapa/pit/tube well etc. 193 sites have been covered under inter-cropping which has already generated income of Rs. 27.36 lakh to Self Help Groups. Fisheries have been taken up in 371 sites. More than 30.5 lakh person-days have been created through different activities under the programme.

Under 'Jalathirtha' Programme for increasing irrigation coverage and rain water conservation in the arid Districts of Birbhum, Bankura, Purulia, Jhargram and Paschim Medinipur, in saline riverine area of North & South 24 Parganas District and in hilly region of Darjeeling & Kalimpong District, Minor Irrigation schemes are being implemented. During this year, up to 31.12.2020, 86 schemes have been completed creating irrigation potential of 2,713 ha. 'Jalathirtha' is also been extended to Paschim Bardhaman District for rainwater conservation, harvesting and utilization.

Under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) with financial assistance from NABARD, 937 Minor Irrigation schemes have been completed in this year up to 31.12.2020 creating irrigation potential of 16,916 ha.

Under West Bengal Accelerated Development of Minor Irrigation Project (WBADMIP), 345 schemes have been completed in this year up to 31.12.2020 creating an

additional irrigation potential of 3,155 hectare. This includes re-excavation of 78.4 km of creeks in coastal saline Districts.

221 Water User Associations (WUAs), comprising 5,005 beneficiary families, have been formed for better Management, Operation and Maintenance of Minor irrigation schemes. Capacity building has been done involving 20,081 trainees through 1,386 training programmes. Further 30,333 demonstration programmes involving 33,275 beneficiary families on Agriculture, Horticulture and Fisheries to introduce modern practices for improving productivity, production and income of the farmers have also been conducted.

In the quest for utilization of renewable resources, 498 Minor Irrigation schemes having Irrigation Potential of 6,331 hectares have been completed with solar power. During the financial year 2020-21, 26 Sprinkler Irrigation Schemes have been completed till 31.12.2020 creating Irrigation Potential of 227 hectares all of which are solar operated.

3.10 Co-operation

With an aim to increase the coverage, 1,37,717 new Farmer Members have been enrolled into different Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS). Crop Loan of Rs. 3103.50 crore has been sanctioned to 11.41 lakh farmer members.

Total 11,06,332 number of Rupay Kisan Cards have been issued till 30.11.2020. 9,254 new SHGs have been formed raising the cumulative number of SHGs to 2,13,626.

During the period 2,94,231 number of SHG Members of 34094 SHGs have been Credit Linked raising the cumulative number to 14,25,519 Credit-linked members. Loan of Rs. 577.47 crore has been issued to 2,94,026 SHG Members and Loan of Rs. 9.82 crore has been issued to 656 beneficiaries under “Karma Sathi” Prakalpa.

Initiative has been taken to establish Customer Service Points (CSP) in 2631 PACS with an aim to provide financial services to the rural people particularly in the unbanked areas of the State. So far, 2230 numbers of PACS have been assisted with Rs. 201.70 crore for the purpose.

Farm Machinery Hubs (Custom Hiring Centre) are being set up in different cooperative societies to increase agricultural yield by farm mechanisation. 379 cooperative societies have been assisted with Rs. 108.70 crore for the purpose.

During KMS-2019-20, 11.46 lakh MT paddy was procured through cooperative societies of which BENFED and CONFED procured 5.58 lakh MT through 646 cooperative societies from 2.07 lakh farmers.

Construction of 100 Rural Godowns with a capacity of 9,650 MT in different cooperatives involving Rs. 13.69 crore has been completed during current year under RKVY. Besides, construction of 20 Storage Godowns, each having capacity of 10,000 MT, involving Rs. 208.87 crore was taken up during last financial year under RIDF/WIF which is likely to be completed by June, 2021. Construction of another three Storage Godowns, each having capacity of 10,000 MT has been taken up during current financial year.

3.11 Forest

West Bengal has given high priority to the development of the State Economy so as to raise social productivity, enhance living standard of the people keeping the environmental balance, conservation of Forests and Biodiversity in the forefront of development.

Plantation of 5 crore mangrove propagules have been taken up in the Sundarbans over 2,500 hectares, of which 500 hectares has been taken up in forest area, while the remaining 2,000 hectares has been taken up for plantation in non-forest areas in South 24 Parganas. 1.0 crore saplings have been distributed up to December 2020, and 7299.5 hectares of plantation have been raised in the state during 2020-21 under State Plan.

Under “Sabujshree” scheme, inspired by the vision of Hon’ble Chief Minister, since its inception in 2017 a total of 38,11,215 number of seedlings have been distributed to the mothers of newly born children till November, 2020.

Control of human-wildlife conflicts related to elephants, leopards, tigers, gaurs and other animals is a big challenge. Steps have been taken for protection of crops and human-wild life conflict in the villages through formation of anti-depredation teams—wild life squads, special vehicle ‘Airawat’ and establishment of watch towers and power fencing at strategic locations. The State Government has paid compensations of Rs. 596.30 lakhs during 2020-21 for depredation caused by wild animals.

Estimation of tiger population in Sundarbans landscape, the world’s largest mangrove delta, is under progress and will be completed by February, 2021. Presently, the tiger population in Sundarban is 96 as per 2019-20 tiger census. During 2020-21 more than 1,000 camera traps have been installed for the purpose of identification of individual tigers through their strip-patterns.

Conservation breeding programme of Batagur baska, a rare river terrapin, and conservation breeding of salt water crocodile has been successfully taken up in Sunderban area.

Under “Jalathirtha” scheme launched in 2015-16 in the high water deficient districts of Purulia, Bankura, Birbhum, Jhargram and Paschim Midnapore, Check dams are being constructed on major river catchment areas like Kangsabati, Damodar, Mayurakhshi, etc. to check runoff velocity, erosion of top soil, and stabilization of downstream areas. Till November, 2020, ninety nine (99) projects in forest areas have been completed creating culturable command area over more than 2012 hectare of area.

Under the JICA assisted West Bengal forest and Biodiversity conservation Project (WBFBCP), Quality Planting Materials with output of 79 lakhs seedlings from 40 central nurseries were created under the project. In last two years benefit has been extended in the form of microcredit to 11,180 families.

WB Forest Development Corporation Ltd. (WBFDC) has started e-auction for disposal of forest produce. 877 e-auctions have been conducted and 28,474 lots of harvested timber have been sold with value of Rs. 147.45 crore. WBFDC Ltd. has procured approx. 20.00 MT of honey during 2020-21. WBFDC is running 18 Eco-Tourism Centres, 12 in North Bengal & 6 in South Bengal at present.

Social Infrastructure

3.12 Health & Family Welfare

The State Government has handled the COVID-19 pandemic in the State most ably with sustained and strategic initiatives.

For ensuring proper treatment to Covid patients with moderate and severe symptoms-the state has created 102 dedicated Covid hospitals with 13,588 oxygen beds and 2,523 CCU/HDU beds and also requisitioned 57 private hospitals. Every district in the state has at least one dedicated Covid hospitals. Treatment is totally free in government Covid hospitals including those requisitioned by the State Government.

For ensuring proper isolation/treatment of mild cases 200 safe homes were created with 11,507 beds. Every covid patient in the state is monitored by online Covid Patient Management System.

The State has developed 20 plasma banks for ensuring availability of plasma for covid treatment.

Twenty (20) Blood Component Separation Units (BCSU) to facilitate the treatment of moderately ill Covid-19 patients have been set up. Additional 5 Regional Blood Transfusion Centre (RBTC), 29 BCSUs and 6 Blood Banks will be set up soon.

State has maintained testing at higher levels of 35,000-40,000 per day with nearly 55% RTPCR Tests. Today in West Bengal, every big district has its own RTPCR lab. There are 99 labs in the state providing covid testing.

“Swasthya Sathi” scheme has been made universal covering entire population of the State with 1,585 empanelled Hospitals. Swasthya Sathi card has been issued to 1.94 crore families. During **Duare Sarkar** more than 50 lakh health cards have been issued.

Several Public Health programmes like Health Care for mother & child, Dengue Control management, Malaria, Leprosy, Tuberculosis control programme and special programme for COVID-19 management have been successfully undertaken.

Early detection of Diabetes, Hypertension and three common cancers–Oral, Breast and Cervical, as part of Population Based Screening (PBS) are being done for all persons above 30 years through Suswasthya Kendra.

41 Super Speciality Hospitals (SSH) are presently functional and another 1 at Belda under Paschim Medinipur district is expected to be completed by August, 2021. Delivery of services have been improved through implementation of online OPD booking, online lab booking, e-prescription, online centralized Covid patient management system and setting up of Integrated Call Centre etc.

Skill development Trainings have been undertaken for Nursing Personnel. 6 new Additional Nursing Hostel buildings at Basirhat DH, Ghatal SDH, Jangipur SDH, College of Medicine & Sagar Dutta Hospital ,Uluberia SDH & Jhargram DH are coming up.

Several projects under AYUSH have been considered for implementation such as setting up of ‘AYUSH Suswasthya Kendra Health and Welfare Centre (HWC)’, ‘Model AYUSH OPD’, 50-bedded Integrated AYUSH Hospital in Paschim Medinipur, Ladies hostel at Patipukur for UG & PG students of Ayurveda, and construction of Yoga and Naturopathy Degree College at Belur.

3.13 School Education

Since 2011, more than 7,000 new school buildings and 2,02,000 additional classrooms have been constructed to accommodate the growing number of students. In addition, 40,372 girls toilet, 23,751 boys toilet and 7,191 CWSN (Children With Special Need) toilets have been constructed. During the last nine and half years, the Department has provided free school uniforms to more than 8.12 crore school children.

The drop-out rates of students have reduced from 3.45% in 2011 to (-2.20%) in 2019-20 for the Primary level, from 5.30% in 2011 to 1.35% during the same time

for Upper primary level, from 17.50% to 7.34% for Secondary level and from 17.48% to 9% for Higher Secondary level, as per the latest U-DISE (Unified District Information System for Education) Report.

Under the cooked Mid-day-Meal program, 100% Government and Government Aided/Sponsored schools in the State have been covered. Currently about 113 lakh students are under its coverage. 7,590 Dining Halls have been constructed so far.

121 English Medium schools have been sanctioned under the Government sector. Library grant has been given to 382 schools and laboratory grant has been sanctioned to 151 schools, and composite school grant to 82,253 schools.

With the aim to bring all Secondary and Higher Secondary schools under the ICT@School Programme, 3,719 schools are being taken up in addition to the existing 5,591 schools.

More than 11,000 Braille Books (for blind students) and large font books (for low vision students) have been distributed. A completely new e-Portal of the School Education Department named “Banglar Siksha” has been launched which is functioning successfully.

Given the fact that schools could not be run after March, 2020 owing to the pandemic situation, other modes of learning have been adopted. These are Learning through activity task, e-learning, Banglar Shiksha classroom (through television), Programme video, Model question papers, and Banglar Shiksha durabhase (through toll-free telephones).

A one-time grant of Rs. 10,000 has been provided to each student of class XII of the Govt./Aided/Sponsored schools and Madrasahs for purchasing Tabs/Smartphone for accessing to the e-learning mode.

61,414 Teachers have been trained through online mode during 2020-21.

3.14 Higher Education

There has been a consistent effort for overall improvement in infrastructure, human resources and quality of education in Higher Education sector. Fund allocation in Plan Budget for Higher Education has been increased almost six-folds in last 9 years from 120 crore in 2010-11 to Rs. 700 crore during 2020-21. The outcome of such increased allocation is visible from the fact that the number of Universities in the State has been increased from 12 to 42 in last nine years out of which, 20 are

functional State Aided Universities, 11 are functional Private Universities, 5 are about to function from this academic session and remaining 6 State aided Universities are up-coming.

50 new Colleges have been established in last 9 years resulting increase of Enrolment in Higher Education from 13.24 lakhs during 2010-2011 to 21.60 lakhs during 2019-20 academic session.

Under Swami Vivekananda Merit cum Means Scholarship Scheme, 1,35,589 needy meritorious students have been financially supported to pursue their higher studies during 2019-20 in comparison to 7,423 numbers in 2010-11.

Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) has been introduced effectively in Colleges and Universities which offered more flexibility to students to study subjects of their choice.

3.15 Technical Education Training and Skill Development

Since 2011 the total number of Government and Government sponsored Polytechnics has increased to 76 from 40. During 2019-20 self-financed 6 new institutes have started diploma education with the affiliation of the Council in total of 182 institutes including two centrally sponsored institutes as compared to 65 in 2011.

The approved intake capacity of polytechnics has gone up to 39,835 in 2020-21 including students under Lateral Entry Scheme compared to a total approved intake capacity of 17,185 before 2011.

A project named “Improving teaching and learning of English and communication skills in West Bengal Polytechnics” is being undertaken in collaboration with the British Council.

Construction works of 4 new Govt. polytechnics at Mirik, Alipurduar, Dasnagar under State Plan and Uluberia under MSDP are going on.

Under Short-Term Vocational Training for VIII+ Level (6 months duration), 1,12,173 students have already been awarded Skill Certificate in the Academic session 2019-20. In Higher Secondary Vocational Education Programme, 26,444 students have passed in the year 2020.

At present about 1 lakh students are pursuing Vocational Education in School Education System under CSS-VSE from Class-IX to Class-XII in 676 Schools in collaboration with School Education Department, West Bengal. In the Academic Session, 2019-20, about 19,745 students have been awarded Skill Certificate for Madhyamik Examination and 4,948 students for Higher Secondary Examination, 2020.

“Utkarsh Bangla” Scheme has a target to train 6 lakhs candidates per year. Till date, since inception, more than 20 lakh candidates have been trained under the scheme. Under Paschim Banga Society for Skill Development (PBSSD) more than 9 lakh candidates have been trained under the ambit of Short-Term Skill Development Interventions.

Under complete State funding skilling programme, there are 1893 training providers imparting trainings in more than 500 active job roles at 2,300 centers covering all the 23 districts of the state.

Under DDU-GKY, there are 62 Project Implementing Agencies with 70 approved centres providing training in 23 skill sectors. Till date, 34,858 candidates have been provided training in various skills. In the year 2019-20 total 10,756 candidates were enrolled for such training.

Two instructors of ITI Tollygunge and Women ITI Kolkata received the prestigious “Kaushalacharya Award” from DGT, MSDE, Govt. of India for their contributions in the training programme.

Initiatives are being taken to start different courses on New Age Technologies like Solar Technician in different Govt. ITIs of the State.

Construction work for 3 storied Alo Hub building at Chandannagar, Hooghly has almost been completed and training on traditional decorative lighting of Chandannagar will be started shortly.

The focus in this Pandemic situation was completely on the e-learning deliveries and methodologies. Around 4,000⁺ study materials have been uploaded in the Council's website with 90,000⁺ responses received for the uploaded study materials. Presently 691 E-Learning Materials have been developed for different sectors, out of which 361 ELMs have been uploaded in the dedicated YouTube Channel (WBDVET) whereas 251 ELMs are being uploaded in the Departmental E-Learning Portals. Students participation as on date is 1,28,199 daily.

3.16 Youth Services and Sports

State Government has given continued importance on development of sports infrastructure and established Sports Academies for Archery, Football, Tennis, Table Tennis etc. and also set up Stadium, Swimming Pool, Multigym, Mini Indoor Games/Recreation Complex, Play Ground, etc.

In order to provide opportunities to budding talents in the sphere of science and culture, Student Youth Science Fair and Student-Youth Festival are organised every year with the participant from all over the state.

Upgradation work of Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, Netaji Indoor Stadium, Rabindra Sarovar Stadium and Kishore Bharati Stadium has been taken up by the State Government.

The Bengal Table Tennis Academy has been operationalised. Various grants have been provided to individuals and organizations for encouragement of sports. The Annual Club Grant, Khel Samman as well as Grant to Coaching Camps is organised under the “Khelashree Scheme”.

3.17 Information and Cultural Affairs

Under the State-funded Flagship Programme Lok Prasar Prakalpa (LPP) more than 1.90 lakh folk artists are enrolled. All enlisted Folk Artists are getting the financial benefits through Jai Bangla portal.

Recently State Government has introduced monthly Financial Assistance @ Rs. 1,000 for poor purohits and poor priests of other communities like Christians, Jains, Buddhists and Parsis including Tribals under ‘Jai Bangla’ Scheme on 24.08.2020. So far 11,481 beneficiaries have been benefited through this scheme.

Under “West Bengal Pension Scheme for the Journalists, 2018”, 94 retired journalists are receiving the monthly pension @ Rs. 2,500.

MAAVOI- (West Bengal Health Scheme for Journalists, 2016) a health insurance and personal accident coverage scheme for accredited journalists and their dependent family members was started in 2016. So far, 940 accredited journalists have been enrolled under the scheme, with the total number of 1889 beneficiaries. So far 195 journalists have been provided medical assistance.

Under Medical Benefit Scheme for the Cinema and Television Artistes/Technicians/Workers, State Government pays full premium for extending Group Health Insurance coverage, covering more than 6,000 primary members. The total numbers of beneficiaries are around 43,000. The State Government has enhanced the limit under this scheme from Rs. 1.5 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs during 2018-19 so as to cover critical illnesses also. The scheme also provides Personal Accident coverage of Rs. 1 lakh for the primary members.

Under the Literary and Cultural Pension Scheme, so far 220 eminent Jatra artists have been benefited during this year and one-time financial assistance has been provided to 3,096 Jatra artists in recognition of their contribution to the Jatra genre.

Financial assistance to Theatre Groups has been extended to more than 1,200 theatre groups & 800 individual theatre personalities.

During 2020-21, Paschimbanga Dalit Sahitya Akademi has been constituted and Paschimbanga Hindi Akademi has been reconstituted. Ten (10) Academies have been set up to nurture and preserve the rich cultural heritage of Bengal during 2011 to 2020.

Chalachitra Satabarsha Bhaban (Cinema Centenary Building), a Film Vault, a Film Preservation and Digitization Laboratory are envisaged to be set up at Tollygange. The existing Preview Theatre (Radha Studio) has also been renovated to start regular film shows.

Construction of the West Bengal Tele Akademi Complex at Baruipur has been taken up at a cost of Rs. 137 crore. This is a state-of-the-art infrastructure which will aid in the all-round development of the State's television industry.

The 26th edition of Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) was held between 8th and 15th January, 2021, observing COVID protocol. It witnessed 132 films including 37 foreign films from 45 countries.

Bangla Sangeet Mela was held between 23rd to 31st December, 2020 simultaneously in 10 venues located in various places of Kolkata with a participation of about 4,500 Artists, Musicians and Anchors from Bengal. 22 eminent Artists were awarded 'Bishesh Sangeet Mahasamman', 'Sangeet Mahasamman' and 'Sangeet Samman'.

3.18 Mass Education Extension & Library Services

Scholarship in class IX onwards has been awarded to the specially abled students who have scored 40% marks in the last annual examination in the year 2020. Total Rs 4.10 Crore was disbursed towards scholarship of 2826 specially abled students.

State Level Sports and Cultural Meet, 2020, for the inmates of 50 units of Educational Welfare Homes under this Department was organized in the year, 2020. Total 712 (Boys-524, Girls-188) inmates across the state participated in this event.

372 students passed Madhyamik Examination, amongst them 128 are specially abled students and 244 are inmates of Educational Welfare Homes. Total 112 students passed Higher Secondary examination, amongst them total 47 are specially abled students and 65 are inmates of Educational Welfare Homes.

Construction of a two storied new hostel building of State Welfare Home for boys at Suri, Birbhum, with 100 beds has been completed in the year 2020.

International Literacy Day was observed on 8th September, 2020, at the State level maintaining the Covid-19 pandemic protocols.

Physical Infrastructure

3.19 Public Health Engineering & Drinking Water (PHE)

State Government launched “JAL SWAPNO” in July 2020 with an objective of providing functional water tap connection in each household in next five years.

Water Supply Project for Purulia (Phase-I) is being implemented with external funding of JICA, Japan at a sanctioned cost of Rs. 1,296.25 crore covering a population of 6.32 lakh in 5 blocks of Purulia and 1.85 Lakh of Purulia Municipality.

3 projects have been taken up under ADB funding, at a total sanctioned cost of Rs. 2,268.50 crore, which include : Piped Water Supply Schemes (PWSS) for Bankura district (Phase-II) covering 4 blocks Mejia, Gangajalghati, Indpur and Taldangra to benefit a population of 11.03 lakh; Surface water based PWSS for Arsenic affected areas of Haroa & Rajarhat and Bhangar II to benefit a total population of 5.26 lakh; Surface water based PWSS for saline affected areas of Nandakumar, Chandipur, Nandigram - I & II to benefit a population of 7.82 lakh.

As a part of relief and reconstruction work in AMPHAN affected area, PHED provided 1.51 crore water pouches, 4.80 crore litres of purified drinking water through more

than 41,000 water tankers. 3,800 nos. of new tubewells have been installed in AMPHAN affected areas of South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas and Purba Medinipur Districts.

The development of sewerage system in & around Tarapith Temple in Birbhum district to improve environment in the surrounding locality has been taken up. Constructions of OHR, laying of pipelines and other appurtenances for rural Piped Water Supply Schemes (PWSS) have also been taken up.

Like previous years for Gangasagar Mela, PHED provided temporary accommodation, safe drinking water supply facilities, fire fighting arrangements, sanitation, waste water and solid waste disposal at the main Mela Ground and also at 6 (six) transit points.

3.20 Transport

Massive transport arrangements were made during the period of lock-down for movement of lakhs of migrant workers/labourers. Huge number of State Transport Undertaking (STU) buses was deployed for running essential services, for movement of health workers, police and others during the lock-down period.

Upto December 2020, infrastructure development work of Kudghat, Ariadaha, Baruipur & Tikiapara terminus (phase-II) have been completed by WBTC. Training Centre at Digha, workshop of Haldia depot and crew rest room at Bankura & Suri depot have been completed by SBSTC. Further, Itahar Bus Terminus in Uttar Dinajpur, Gadiara and Tikiapara Bus Terminus in Howrah, Khirpai Bus Terminus in Paschim Medinipur, Rampurhat Bus Terminus in Birbhum, Katwa Bus stand in Purba Burdwan have been completed. Also, initiatives have been taken for construction/modernization of additional 20 bus stands/depots & one truck terminus.

In water transport sector of West Bengal, up-gradation and modernization of ferry-ghats, implementation of SOP and other projects have been taken up. Under “Jaladhara” Scheme 544 Jalasathi have been engaged in 481 ferry-ghats.

In 2020-21 up to December 2020, gangway cum pontoon jetty at Dhamakhali, Sandeshkhali, Tushkhali, Dulduli in North 24 Parganas have been completed by WBTIDCL & One LCT vessel has been constructed by WBTC. Further, Nungi jetty at Budge Budge and Sarenga Jetty in Howrah have been completed. Also, construction /modernization of more than 12 ferryghats/jetties have been started.

World Bank assisted West Bengal Inland Water Transport, Logistics and Spatial Development Project having a State share of USD 45 million (approx. Rs. 328 crore) and World Bank funding of USD 105 million (approx. Rs. 772 crore.) has been utilised which will help to facilitate passenger and freight movement across the Hooghly river; construction of 29 modern jetties, electronic smart gates in 40 locations, 22 improved steel vessels for safe and efficient passenger movement for improvement of overall transport potential and capacity of Kolkata Metropolitan Area.

‘Road Safety’ has become of paramount importance in the transport sector. In 2020-21 up to December, Rs. 20.30 crore has been released for road safety purpose to Police and other authorities for procurement of road safety equipment like wrecker van, high mast light, CCTV camera, commissioning of traffic signals and for general awareness of the commuters, etc. Numbers of road accidents, deaths and injuries have been diminished by way of introducing ‘Safe Drive Save Life’ campaign.

The self-employment scheme “GATIDHARA” is continuing successfully. Up to December 2020, 2473 applications have been sanctioned for benefit under Gatidhara in this Financial Year.

3.21 Road Infrastructure (PWD)

For improvement of road connectivity, during the current financial year upto 31st December, 2020, PWD has widened & strengthened 141 km of roads to 2 lane with carriageway width of 10 Meter, 183 kms of road to 2 lane carriageway width of 7 Meter, 140 kms of road to intermediate lane of 5.50 Meter carriageway width and strengthened 674 kms of road in different districts.

PWD completed construction of 4-Lane JAI HIND (Majerhat) Bridge (ROB) adjacent to Majerhat Railway Station at 5.80 km on Diamond Harbour Road at a cost of Rs. 311.76 crore within 1 year 11 months applying new technology. New bridge length is 636 Meter and load carrying capacity is 385 MT compared with the earlier length and load carrying capacity of 628 Meter and 155 MT respectively.

Construction of Long Span High Level JOYEE Bridge over river Teesta with approaches near Haldibari connecting Sub-divisional Head Quarter at Mekhliganj along Mekhliganj/Haldibari in the district of Coochbehar has been completed. Gajoldoba ROB on Fulbari-Gajoldoba Canal Road in the district of Jalpaiguri and Kamarkundu ROB in the district of Hooghly has been completed. Bridge over river Cheriganga at 5th km of Bethuadahari-Agradwip Ferryghat Road is also on the verge of completion.

PWD has completed construction of 4 more electric crematoria for urban areas and 77 cremation grounds for rural areas under “Baitarani” Project upto 31st December during the current financial year taking the total to 20 and 532 respectively.

3.22 Land & Land Reforms and Refugee Relief & Rehabilitation

The State Government is persistently trying to address the issues relating to land settlement of people who are occupying government land, including refugee colonies for last many decades without formal land documents. As a humanitarian initiative the government has taken an important decision to regularize all refugee establishments and colonies, settlements on Khas Mahal or vested land and provide land possession deed or Land Pattas to the residents on as is where is basis. As of now, 244 refugee colonies have been regularized and similarly land settlement process in other government land parcels has also been initiated.

So far nearly 30,000 deeds and pattas have been provided in last one year after a detailed survey and more such areas have been identified where residents will be provided land deed or land patta in phases which will greatly help to dispel apprehensions and uncertainty of the residents of these colonies and their future generations.

During last financial year, the State Government has harmonized and consolidated processes relating to settlement of land to ensure ease of doing business. Procedures for mutation of land records and conversion of classification of land have been simplified, automated and made time bound. In order to promote manufacturing industries including agro industry & ICT and allied businesses in unused land of erstwhile mill, factory and workshop, provisions have been streamlined and made attractive by rationalizing salami payable for settlement on long-term lease.

As a measure to give financial relief to the people for nonpayment of land revenue due to COVID pandemic, interest payable on the arrear land revenue @ 6.25% has been waived for the year 1426 BS, if paid by 30.06.2021.

For citizen centric services, the State Government has made remarkable progress during last few years. The e-Bhuchitra application has found immense utility amongst the user groups and is one of the most popular and accessed portal.

3.23 Power

“Hasir Alo” was launched in the Current Financial Year 2020-21 to provide free electricity including meter rent to the consumers of CESC & WBSEDCL having monthly

consumption of 25 units/quarterly consumption of 75 units with a connected load of 0.3 KWH. On an average, the scheme covers 16.5 lakh beneficiaries per month [WBSEDCL -15 lakh + CESC-1.5 lakh] and cumulative release till 31st Dec, 2020 is Rs.108.18 crore for WBSEDCL and Rs. 6.55 crore for CESC.

2,38,677 nos. of new service connections have been provided during the F.Y. 2020-21. All 37,960 numbers of villages of the State have already been electrified. To meet the rapid growth of demand in West Bengal and to provide uninterrupted 24×7 quality power supply to all consumers, 8 number of new 33/11 KV sub-stations under different schemes have been completed during F.Y. 2020-21.

To ensure better reliability of power, 13.5 KM underground (UG) cabling (11 KV) from Rudranagar 33/11 KV sub-station to Gangasagar Mela ground has been completed in F.Y. 2020-21.

3 nos 132/33 KV GIS sub-station have been commissioned, one at Harischandrapur, Malda, one at Debra, Paschim Midnapore and other at Salar, Murshidabad. Consumers of entire State specially in Malda, Paschim Midnapore and Murshidabad districts and adjoining areas will be benefited from these sub-stations.

The colossal damage to electrical distribution infrastructure due to the very severe cyclone “AMPHAN” on 20.05.2020 was salvaged by WBSEDCL in a record time despite the pandemic Covid-19.

Electrification of 14 un-electrified and 59 partially-electrified villages in Sundarban area of South 24 Parganas District have been completed including service connections to 7,264 households. Electrification of 75 villages where habitations are less than 100 household (HH) in Coochbehar district have been completed with service connections to 7,700 households.

Indigenous Mobile Application based GIS (Geographic Information System) named “Vidyut Manchitra” for Electrical Network Survey and thereafter plotting of the assets and other related information in Google Map and other Digital Maps has been introduced.

For proper Reactive Power Management in the State Transmission System, WBSETCL has already commissioned 40 MVAR Reactor of 33 KV Capacitor Bank. Work for Sagardighi Unit no. 5 [Super-critical/660 MW] has been started under capacity addition programme.

5 MW Floating Solar Project at Sagardighi has been commissioned.

7 Coal Blocks viz Pachhwara [N], Barjore [N], Barjore, Gangaramchak & Gangaramchak-Bhadulia, Tara [East & West], Kasta & Deucha-Pachami have been allotted to WBPDCCL. Coal production has already started from Pachhwara [N], Barjore [N], Barjore and Gangaramchak-Bhadulia.

3.24 Urban Development and Municipal Affairs

The Department has taken up initiative on a large scale for solid and liquid waste management in urban areas. Till date seven major projects of solid waste management and five projects of liquid management with a project cost of Rs. 737 crore have been approved.

Green City Mission Cell has come into force in 2016-2017 to build environment friendly, sustainable, energy positive, IT friendly and safe city. Till date 3,977 schemes have been sanctioned. One city namely, New Town, Kolkata has been considered under the Green Smart City Mission.

Marking the bicentennial of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar's birth, Birsingha Development Board has been formed for the betterment of urban and peri-urban areas.

In 55 AMRUT towns of West Bengal, 42 Water Supply projects, 3 sewerage and septage management projects, 7 storm water drainage and 2 non-motorized Urban Transport projects are under implementation. 422 Green Space Development projects were taken up under this programme. Out of this programme 7 water supply projects, 1 sewerage and septage management project, 1 storm water drainage, 2 non-motorized Urban Transport projects and 337 Green Space Development Projects have already been completed.

Construction of 49,705 numbers of Dwelling Units (DUs) has been completed and rest of 2,245 numbers of DUs are in progress under Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). Under Bangla Awas Yojna, 1,31,663 Dwelling Units (DUs) have been completed and 67,566 are in progress.

Under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Town (UIDSSMT), a total of 42 Projects have been sanctioned across 40 ULBs in the State, of which 37 projects are commissioned and 5 projects are in progress.

3,50,600 women are linked with formal bank loan for meeting working capital requirement for their micro enterprise either through SHGs or as individual. 1,16,865 urban youths have received skill development training and they are successfully engaged either as wage employment or as self employment. 36 Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH) are functional out of 67 SUH. 1,50,000 beneficiaries have received benefit @ Rs. 2000 under State Sponsored 'Hawker Support Scheme-2020'.

40 ULBs have been declared as Open Defecation Free (ODF). Construction of 2,58,381 Individual Household Latrines, 1,716 Community Toilets and 215 Public Toilets were completed benefiting total 15,68,515 urban population. In Solid Waste Management, Door to Door Collection systems of Solid Waste have been established in 95% wards whereas segregated waste is being collected from 25% wards of these 40 ULBs.

For Urban Health, besides regular service on reproductive and child health care under Prevention & Control of Vector Borne Disease activities, intensive cleaning programme "DENGUE BIJOY ABHIYAN" in all wards of the ULBs have been organized on regular basis. 28 rounds of VCT activities and 8 rounds of House to House activities have been completed in all the ULBs.

Under 'Jai Bangla' scheme, pension is being directly sent to the bank account of the respective beneficiaries through DBT mode from the Month of June, 2020. Altogether 5,63,262 beneficiaries are getting benefits.

3.25 Housing

The Housing Department has introduced a new Housing Scheme namely "CHAA SUNDARI" to provide pucca house to the permanent tea garden workers who do not possess a pucca house. In 1st phase construction of 4,600 houses have been taken up.

'SNEHALAYA' Housing Scheme is aimed for providing pucca dwelling housing units to the poor people not owning pucca house in his or her name or in the name of any family member in West Bengal.

The "NIJASHREE" Housing Scheme aims to provide housing among the families belonging to Lower Income Group (LIG) and Middle Income Group (MIG) categories. Work is going on in 8 sites.

13 Night Shelters for patient parties in District and Sub-Divisional Hospitals have been completed earlier and construction of 07 Night Shelters are in progress.

The State Government provides flats to the Government Employees under RHE scheme all over the State. Presently, 35 RHEs in Kolkata and 88 RHEs in different districts

comprising of 3,957 flats in Kolkata and 9,750 flats in districts are functional. 3 RHEs comprising of 34 flats have been completed during the year 2020. Construction works of 8 more RHEs in new District and Sub-Divisional Headquarters like: (1) Karnojora RHE, Dakshin Dinajpur-12 flats (2) Diamond Harbour RHE-16 flats Type-III, (3) Buniadpur-12 flats (4) Kalimpong-8 flats (5) Bachurdoba, Jhargram -72 flats (6) Nimtouri, Purba Medinipur - 96 flats (7) Ranchi Road, Purulia - 32 flats, and (8) Contai, Purba Medinipur-48 flats are going on.

14 Working Women's Hostel named 'Karmanjali' are operational at present out of which 2 Karmanjali (WWH) have been completed in this financial year. Construction of 3 Working Women Hostels at (1) Sagar, South 24 Pgs (60 bedded), (2) Contai (70 bedded), (3) Medinipur (48 bedded) is going on.

For the benefit of common people travelling by road, especially for the women, 70 "PATHASATHI"s are operational at present.

Presently construction of 10,672 flats are going on for Rehabilitation of Fire & Subsidence affected People of Raniganj Coalfield Area by providing residential flats under the Raniganj Coal Field Area Development Scheme.

The State Government has taken up construction work of 9,696 flats on clear land sites made available at four locations namely Bijohnagar, Andal, Daskeary JL 02 and Daskeary JL 03. Construction of 3,583 flats has been completed as on 31.12.2020. Structural brickworks of 5,472 number of flats completed. As such, it is expected that remaining flats are likely to be completed in phases within this financial year.

“Akanksha” Housing Scheme is being implemented at New Town, Rajarhat. 576 flats of different categories have been constructed. Possession letter of flats will be issued shortly.

Empowering the Disadvantaged

3.26 Woman and Child Development & Social Welfare

‘Kanyashree’ Prakalpa, the state’s flagship scheme for adolescent girls has, since its inception in 2013, covered 67,96,966 beneficiaries. The scheme’s objectives are to incentivize the education and empowerment of girls between the age of 13 to 19 through cash transfers. Under ‘Swapno Bhor’, conducted in collaboration with the Dept. of Technical Education, Training & Skill Development, Kanyashree Girls above 18 years can avail free skill development in a course of their own choice.

Rupashree' Prakalpa, launched in April 2018, has covered 8,49,138 beneficiaries since its inception. 'Rupashree' gives every indigent woman a one-time grant of Rs. 25,000 towards expenses for her first marriage.

The Anganwadi Services have improved the nutrition status of children. Due to the COVID pandemic, Anganwadi centres have remained closed since mid-March 2020. However, supplementary nutrition services are continued to be delivered to beneficiaries in the form of dry rations at their homes. Around 73.18 lakh children under 6 years and 15.76 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers are receiving such services every month regularly.

53,894 Shishu Aloy Centres (Anganwadi Centres providing quality Early Childhood Care and Education) are operational across the state. During the COVID lockdown, the Department's innovative Home -based Early Childhood Care & Education outreach programme ensured continuity of pre-school education services to approximately 22.28 lakh home-bound children aged 3-6 years each month. This outreach initiative received the "Gold" Skoch Smart Governance Award 2020.

Under, Integrated Child Protection Scheme 3,890 children were restored to their families/Homes, and 51 children were repatriated to their native countries during this year. 122 in-country and 11 inter-country

adoptions took place while 700 children were provided Preventive Sponsorship and 193 children received Rehabilitative Sponsorship support. A significant step in 2020 was, the identification and training of Support Persons under the POCSO Act.

Since its inception in April 2018, the **Manabik** Pension Scheme provides Rs. 1,000 per month to persons with disability and so far 4,08,881 persons have been covered. From 01.04.2020, the scheme's eligibility criteria were relaxed to make the benefits more accessible. The percentage of disability required was reduced from 50% to 40%, and the income ceiling has been removed.

The quota for the Old Age Pension has been substantially increased from 83,738 to 4,49,657 and the quota for the Widow's Pension Scheme has been increased from 49,687 to 2,60,564. With effect from 01.04.2020, the pension benefit under both the schemes has been increased from Rs. 750 to Rs. 1,000 per month.

3.27 Minority Affairs & Madrasah Education

With a view to impart Madrasah education through a modern and updated mode of teaching, 600 Smart Class-rooms have been set up and e-books have been made available in 300 Madrasahs in two phases. Computer Laboratories are being set up in 115 Madrasahs to improve

the students' computer skills and to render them more employment opportunities. Free books are provided to all the students of Government aided Madrasahs, MSKs and SSKs. Besides, School Dress, Bag and Shoes are provided to all students of Class I to VIII of all Government aided Madrasahs, MSKs and SSKs.

The 'Aikyashree' scholarship scheme was launched in the year 2019-20. In the inaugural year scholarships amounting to more than Rs. 600 crore were disbursed to 37 lakh students. During this financial year 2020-21, around 42 lakh students are expected to receive benefits under this scheme.

With a view to providing opportunities for self-employment, Term Loan and DLS (Micro Finance) are being provided to individual entrepreneurs and Self Help Groups; Soft Loans were sanctioned to around 32,000 beneficiaries during the current year.

For various Schemes of Infrastructure Development in Minority Concentrated Areas Rs. 194.93 crore have been utilised.

Urdu Academy has published more than 30 books this year. This includes re-print of rare books like Diwan-e-Ghalib, Kamni, Salas-e-Ghassala, etc. This is the first time that Urdu Academy has published so many titles in a year.

For the educational upliftment of minority communities, 527 hostels for Minority Students are being set up. Of this, 424 have already been operationalised. A maintenance grant of Rs. 10,000 per annum per student is also being provided.

Construction of 315 Karmatirthas (Marketing Hub) for providing marketing facilities for artisans and cultivators, for improving self-employment opportunity for Minority youths and SHG members, have been taken up in minority concentrated areas. 191 Karmatirthas have been operationalised and another 64 will be operationalised by March, 2021. Rest 60 are in different stages of construction.

Apart from these schemes, construction works of Aliah University, Minority Bhavans, a third Haj House at New Town, Boundary Walls around Graveyards, English medium madrasahs etc. and miscellaneous schemes like Loans to minority students, vocational/skill development training, scheme for financial assistance to reputed N.G.O.s for infrastructure development, housing for destitute women etc. are the major State Development Schemes which have been taken up by the State Government.

3.28 Backward Classes Welfare

Two new Developments Boards, namely-Bauri Development Board & Bagdi Development Board have been constituted, for focused development of these communities.

In the current financial year, 19,24,523 Caste Certificates have been issued, out of which 16,93,553 certificates were issued under the 'Duare Sarkar' initiative.

'Toposili Bandhu', a novel social pension scheme targeting all the 60 years and above persons of SC community has been initiated this year where the beneficiaries receive a monthly pension @ Rs. 1,000. The pension is paid in advance. Under this scheme 9,77,276 persons are getting monthly pension with a financial involvement of Rs. 977.276 crore.

Scholarship of Rs. 800 under Sikshashree is disbursed in the DBT mode to SC students of Class-V-VIII since 2014-15. 8,90,841 SC students of Class V-VIII have got scholarship during the same period with an involvement of Rs. 71.44 crore. Further, 4,25,178 SC students have applied for pre (IX-X) and post matric (XI-Ph.D. level) scholarships having an involvement of Rs. 157.47 crore.

For Pre-Matric & Post-Matric OBC Scholarship, 4,10,865 students have applied during this period and the total involvement till date is Rs. 67.18 crore. Further, 14,643 students are getting Hostel Grants and Merit Scholarships.

Two “Dr. B. R. Ambedkar” Residential Schools have been completed in Jalpaiguri and North 24 Parganas district to ensure quality education to SC students. One hostel for SC Girls and two hostels, one each for OBC girls and boys have also been completed in Malda to accommodate outstation students.

Since 2015-16 eligible students of Government Aided Schools and Madrasahs are getting bicycles under “Sabooj Sathi” scheme for increased access to high school education. During the current financial year around 12 lakh students of class IX will be getting the benefit of Sabooj Sathi scheme in academic year 2020. During 2020 “Sabooj Sathi Online 3.0” has been selected ‘Winner’ in category ICT applications benefits in all aspects of life-E-Government by “World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2020” (WSIS).

3.29 Tribal Development

Six nos. of Development and Cultural Boards are functioning in the state for ensuring sustainable Development including preservation and promotion of

traditional culture for Hill tribes and other STs of the State requiring special intervention. During 2020-21, Rs. 22.50 crore has so far been released for various purposes like construction of houses, community halls, youth hostels, drinking water sources, holding of cultural festival etc.

The State Government has received applications for “Sikshashree” Scholarship from 1,96,135 ST students of Class V-VIII. It is anticipated that more than 2.04 lakhs students will be covered under the scheme during 2020-21 with an expenditure of Rs. 16.31 crore. 29,009 ST students have already applied for Pre-Matric Scholarship of Class IX & X. 73,702 applications have been received so far for Post-Matric Scholarship during 2020-21.

Rs. 1,000 per month is provided to the poor ST persons with age of 60 years or above through ‘Jai Johar’ Old Age Pension Scheme which was rolled out from 01.04.2020. It is a universal scheme. In 2020-21, 2,49,202 beneficiaries got registered so far, for which Rs. 250 crore have been utilized till date.

Around 35,000 ST persons have been registered under the Scheme ‘Kendu Leaves Collectors Social Security Scheme 2015’. One-time assistance on attaining 60 years of age, accidental death, injury, maternity benefit, medical assistance are provided to the registered collectors. Total 561 families have received the benefits.

232 Jaher Thans (Place of Worship) have been fenced at a cost of Rs. 1.16 crore and grants have been provided to 103 Majhi Thans utilizing Rs. 51.50 lakhs.

In convergence with WCD & SW Department the Tribal Development Department has constructed 409 ICDS Centres in the ST dominated areas, having no structured premises.

Coaching is provided for JEE (Main), NEET, WBJEE exams through 36 centres across the State to the poor ST students. Annual intake is 1,440 students. Students are qualifying for admission in IIT, Medical and Government Engineering Colleges through this Coaching facility.

3.30 Labour

To assist the enrolled beneficiaries further, under the “Bina Mulya Samajik Suraksha Yojana” (BMSSY), the State Government has decided to waive off the beneficiary contribution of Rs. 25 per month as their subscription towards provident fund. It has now been decided that State Government shall make full contribution of Rs. 55 per month for the beneficiaries from 1st April 2020. Under BMSSY, any enrolled unorganized worker can avail all the available benefits without spending a single rupee. Total number of registration and benefit for the year 2020-2021 till 31st December, 2020 is 7,28,639 and 63,937 respectively.

A new Scheme named 'Prachesta' was introduced on 10th April 2020, to provide one time exgratia assistance of Rs. 1,000 to assist unorganised sector worker who had lost his job due to the COVID Pandemic. This remained effective from 15th April 2020 to 15th May 2020. Rs. 22.35 crore expenditure was incurred covering 2,23,500 numbers of beneficiaries.

Over 35 lakh jobseekers and 742 employers of the State are enrolled in the Employment Bank which is an interactive job-site of Government of West Bengal where Jobseekers and Employers meet.

Under "Yuvasree", the State Government arranged unemployment assistance for one lakh jobseekers through the Employment Bank since 2013, so that they can increase their employability or become suitable to set up self-employment ventures by upgrading their skills. Each of the one lakh selected jobseekers is paid allowance @ Rs. 1500 per month. Total 1,81,477 no. of jobseekers have been given the benefit of 'Yuvasree' till now.

In the ESI Hospitals, the number of Insured Persons (IP) in West Bengal has increased to 19,52,270 upto 31.12.2020. In February 2020, Manicktala ESIS Hospital has received the First Prize in the Category of 300-500 beds and Sealdah ESIS Hospital has received First Prize in 100-300 beds from ESI Corporation.

3.31 Self Help Groups & Self Employment

West Bengal Swarojgar Sahayak Prokolpo (WBSSP), provides interest subvention to the loans received by the SHGs with the primary objective of keeping the interest burden of the SHG to a meager 2 per cent. During F.Y. 2020-21, subvention benefits to the tune of Rs. 19.99 crore have been provided to 1,18,175 beneficiaries through concerned Nodal Banks.

Under 'Jaago', a total of 8,82,827 Women SHGs have been provided with an appreciation grant @ Rs. 5,000 per SHG, with a total outlay of Rs. 441.41 crore as a commendation for the vibrant Women SHG members who have rendered remarkable services during awareness generation on COVID-19 pandemic, managing isolation camps and post Amphan devastation management.

497 SHGs and 249 unemployed youths could be provided with livelihood generation by taking up 186 Micro Projects in convergence with MGNREGS and Fishery/Animal Resources Development/Horticulture/Agriculture with the total outlay of Rs. 12.41 crore where the Department contributed Rs. 3.93 crore.

Five Karmatirthas have been completed within this financial year with an outlay of Rs. 2.29 crore. A Training-cum-Marketing Center has been funded with Rs. 47.68 lakh to promote market linkages to the SHGs and entrepreneurs at Dakshin Chatra, North 24 Parganas.

To provide market linkage to the SHGs and Entrepreneurs, 35 District/Sub District level Sabala Melas and a State Sabala Mela have been organised.

Under Samajsathi, total 12 SHG members who were victims of accidents covered with wage loss and critical support with a total outlay of more than Rs. 23.6 lakh.

172 SHG members and unemployed youths got training in small batches.

3.32 North Bengal Development

The Department even in the pandemic situation could complete some of the notable project such as Falakata Stadium Gallery-phase-I, Sports Auditoria in rural areas such as Sitalkuchi, Sitai, Malbazar, Alipurduar etc. It also undertook and completed some innovative schemes under RIDF-XXIV such as solar power irrigation in more than 250 locations and are running successfully at present.

Further, the Department could complete 16 nos. of composite bridges, 6 nos. of paver block road of approximately 25 km. The Department also undertook various infrastructure projects in the institutions of Higher Education.

Two electric crematoria in Dhupguri and Islampur were completed. Community Bhawan for Adivasi and Gorkhas of Terai-Dooars region and Market complexes in Maynaguri, Belacopa, Deocharaihat and Dhupguri were also built.

Development of eco-tourism resort at Lataguri in collaboration with Tourism Department was also completed.

Most notable bridge construction by the Department is Fulahar Bridge at Bhutnichar, Malda.

3.33 Sundarban Development Affairs

The State Government has accorded top priority for development of infrastructure in remote and inaccessible regions of Sundarbans. As a part of that, construction of R.C.C. Bridge over river Chunkuri near Durganagar Flood Centre Rail Foot Bridge at Mouza - Durganagar, GP - Narayanpur, PS - Kakdwip, Block - Namkhana in the District of South-24 Parganas has been completed. The project cost is Rs. 322 crore.

During 2020-21, construction of 324.82 km road, 1 no. Jetty (over Karjan Creek at Kayaler bazar keyaghat in G.P. Sridharnagar, Block Patharpratima in South-24 Parganas district), have been completed. Works of 16 numbers of Bridges are also going on.

The State Government has also accorded approval for 263 schemes (which include 185.591 km different types of roads along with other civil works schemes) as restoration and renovation works, which were damaged in cyclone Amphan, out of which 224 nos. of works (which include 144.445 km road) have been completed till 31.12.2020.

Agricultural inputs and small implements have been provided to 95,500 nos. of small and marginal farmers within this financial year. Fish fingerling (IMC) and floating fish feed have been distributed to 27,060 nos. of beneficiaries. Financial assistance has been provided to 41 nos. of different institutions including community centres.

3.34 Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs

The jurisdiction of Paschimanchal Unnayan Affairs Department covers 7 Districts in the Western part of the State spreading over 12,558 numbers of villages in 74 Blocks and 648 Gram Panchayats covering an area of about 22.28 lakh hectares.

The State Government has strengthened its efforts in the upliftment of the people living in the Paschimanchal predominantly inhabited by SC & ST population by way of implementing infrastructure development projects, including livelihood projects as well as organizing cultural events like Jungle Mahal Utsav.

The State Government has given emphasis on implementation of projects involving development of rural infrastructure with focus on Water Management and Livelihood projects in convergence with Primary Line Departments like Agriculture, PHE and Forest. This has been named as 'Paschimanchal Jal Sampad O Unnayan Prakalpa'. Implementation of Jungle Mahal Action Package is in 34 Blocks covering 5 JAP districts.

Governance

3.35 Home & Hill Affairs

During the COVID-19 crises, police administration has not only played a pivotal role in management as frontline warriors but also peacefully maintained the law and order scenario. Due to the relentless efforts of the State Government machinery including Police administration, the fight against the pandemic is being carried out successfully. During the period 14,931 Police personnel and their supporting volunteers got infected and 75 died but Police administration is still continuing to fight with this invisible enemy.

For better management of Police administration, 15 new Police Sub-divisions have been created in Islampore, Raiganj, Barasat, Bangaon, Jangipur, Basirhat, Jhargram, Murshidabad and Sundarban Police Districts

during 2020-21 (upto December 2020). Not only that, 5 new Police Circles have also been created namely Pathar Pratima Circle, Namkhana Circle, Sagar Circle, Bhagwangola Circle and Beldanga Circle.

During 2020-21 (upto December 2020) 2 new Police Stations have been set up at Rahara Police Station by bifurcating Khardah Police Station and Kalitala Asuti Police Station under Diamond Harbour Police District, South 24 Parganas.

Moreover, 3 new State Armed Police Battalions namely Narayani Battalion, Gorkha Battalion and Jangalmahal Battalion with headquarters at Coochbehar District, Naxalbari under Darjeeling District and Jhargram District respectively have been created. Sanction has also been accorded for setting up of a separate Traffic Police Wing under West Bengal Police.

During the year 2020, total 1,088 nos. of Sub-Inspector of Police and 2,309 nos. of Constables have been recruited. During the same period, 1,275 nos. of Home Guard Volunteers have also been enrolled on special dispensation including 917 nos. from the ex-KLO activists/linkmen, ex-maoists/linkmen or from the family of the civilians killed/kidnapped/injured by Maoists.

Directorate of Economic Offences has initiated 32 (thirty two) cases against defaulting Financial Establishment/Companies in West Bengal. Out of which, 9 (nine) cases have already been charge-sheeted. A fair number of properties have been seized/blocked/attached and process is going on for the attachment disposal of the seized properties. 656 depositors have received payment.

Kolkata Police has installed Smart Variable Message Sign with a view to provide smoother traffic movement, provide real time information to the road users, facilitate unobtrusive and round the clock enforcement, improve road safety and help in reduction of road traffic accidents and/or traffic related disruptive activities. Due to strict enforcement of traffic rules and effective night policing in the city, number of fatal traffic accidents have been reduced. The Government has approved setting up of Cyber-Forensic & Digital Evidence Examiners' Laboratory at CID, WB.

Like previous years, development activities namely renovation and repair of roads, drinking water supply projects, jhora improvement, different construction works etc. in the hill areas are being implemented by the GTA with support from State Government for which a fund of Rs. 175 crore in 2020-21 has been sanctioned.

To achieve speedy investigation and disposal of cases in North Bengal districts, Regional Forensic Science Laboratory at Jalpaiguri has further been upgraded. Toxicology section and Serology Section in Regional Forensic Science Laboratory, Jalpaiguri, have been made functional. Moreover, Ballistic Laboratory and Narcotics Laboratory at Forensic Science Laboratory, Kolkata have been modernised.

3.36 Personnel & Administrative Reforms

New Integrated Administrative Complex has been completed at Nimtouri, Purba Medinipur along with residential bungalows for the District Magistrate, 4 Additional District Magistrates and SDO Sadar in October, 2020 (Project cost Rs. 112 crore approx). Construction of New Office Building cum Residence of Divisional Commissioner, Medinipur Division has been completed at a project cost Rs. 7.34 crore.

Construction of Integrated Administrative Complex, Jhargram and residential accommodation for officers has been completed at a project cost Rs. 61 crore.

Construction of one (G+4) storied building for accommodation of WBCS (Exe) officers of District Administration has been completed at Suri in the district of Birbhum at a project cost Rs. 4 crore.

Construction of Administrative Building for SDO at Malbazar, Jalpaiguri has been completed.

Construction of New SDO Office Building (G+2) & SDO Bungalow (G+1) including allied works has been started at Jhalda and Manbazar in the district of Purulia.

Due to indiscriminate spread of COVID 19 pandemic Online Training Programmes are being conducted for the Government officials at ATI, Kolkata. This includes training on RTI Act, 2005, Court Cases, Disciplinary Proceedings, Skill and Conflict Resolution, Personality Development, e-Office apart from the regular training schedules.

West Bengal Group D Recruitment Board has been reconstituted with appointment of new Chairperson and four new members.

3.37 Disaster Management and Civil Defence

The State Government has conducted extensive awareness programme on COVID-19 and other natural disasters in all districts and also run safe shelters during migrant workers movement from different state to their home districts. The departmental officials worked round the clock even during the lockdown period to provide relief and assistance to public.

During the COVID-19 pandemic 3,851 Civil Defence Volunteers have been deployed across the state for enforcing social distancing norms and other protocols. The State Government proactively implemented 'Sneher Paras', a Special financial assistance of one-time ex-gratia payment to migrant workers of West Bengal stranded at different part of the country due to COVID-19 restriction. More than Rs. 44 crore has been released to the Bank Account of 4,40,029 stranded migrant workers.

The super cyclone Amphan made landfall near Sagar Islands on 20th May 2020 affecting 60% of the State's population and leaving behind massive damage and destruction of infrastructure and loss of 99 precious lives. The department supervised massive evacuation as more than 10.7 lakh people were evacuated before the Super Cyclone Amphan made landfall and thus lakhs of lives were saved. Post Amphan restoration work was done quickly and the State Government provided Rs. 2.47 crore as ex-gratia to family of 99 persons who died in Super Cyclone Amphan. Rs. 1954.73 crore as House Building Grant was provided to more than 21.36 lakh families. More than 19.40 lakh Tarpaulins, 4.48 lakh Sarees, 3.32 lakh Dhuti, 1.73 lakh Blankets and 2.18 lakh Children Garments were distributed to the affected people.

Massive rescue operation involved in deployment of 56 motorised boats, 30 Civil Defence Rescue Vehicles, 11 officers, 78 Agrabamis and 1,580 trained Civil Defence Volunteers. 78 teams worked round- the-clock for clearing Kolkata and its surrounding districts post Amphan. Total amount of Rs. 11.795 crore was provided as ex-gratia to 831 cases during this financial year.

In January, 2021 the smooth conduct of Gangasagar Mela was a priority and was successfully achieved.

Civil Defence Wing has been equipped with 44 Quick Response Team (QRT) with rescue vehicles, 96 speed boats and having 66,534 trained Civil Defence Volunteers. 50 Inflatable boats and 25 Bullet Chain Saws have been procured during the year 2020-21.

Disaster Management and Civil Defence Units with men and machinery are deployed and put on alert in various districts and in Kolkata to provide required services during Monsoon period from June to October 2020, during festivals, Durga Puja immersion, Chhat Puja etc.

At present, the state has a total 446 flood shelters and 268 Relief Godowns. Besides, construction of 221 multi-purpose Cyclone Shelters (MPCS) under the ICZMP, NCRMP-II and PMNRF Schemes, in the coastal districts of Purba Medinipur, North 24 Parganas and South 24 Parganas is completed.

3.38 Fire & Emergency Services

During COVID-19 Fire Department played a vital role where in more than 5,000 sanitization drive has been done throughout the State covering Government Offices, Medical Colleges and Hospitals, Railway Stations, Local Self Government. Offices, Quarantine Centre, Community Halls, Containment Buildings, Puja Pandals, Markets, Schools, Colleges and other similar places.

During devastating cyclone Amphan in May, 2020 all the Fire Officers and Personnel started rescue operation on war footing basis and total 39 teams worked round a clock throughout the State and the process of rescue operation continued for 15 days on 24×7 emergency basis.

Online system in respect of issuance and renewal of Fire License, Fire Safety Recommendation and Fire Safety Certificate etc. has been started in e-District platform in place of SSDG platform and integrated with Shilpasathi as per EODB mandate functioning properly.

Construction of total of 9 new fire stations viz Pujali (Budge Budge), Sainthia, Goalpokher, Boxirhat, Jaigaon, Fulbari, Gangasagar, Beldanga and new building, Cossipore (Fire Station) have been commissioned and functioning.

Besides, construction of total 7 nos. of new Fire Stations and 2 new buildings for existing Fire Stations are going on.

As a part of modernisation, 4 Robotic Fire Fighters have been procured and in addition NBC Canister Mask (1000 nos.), Completely Fabricated Mini Water Tender (10 nos.), Portable High Capacity Emergency Lighting System 50,000 Lumen (5 nos.), Hammer Drill (20 nos.), Loud Hailer (10 nos.), Motor Cycle (Royal Enfield - 100 nos.), Water Mist CAF Fire Extinguisher HP Motor Cycle Mounted (100 nos.) and some other equipments have been added to Fire Fighting equipments.

3.39 Correctional Administration

Construction of Phase-II of new Baruipur Central Correctional Home and a new Correctional Home at Baruipur for shifting inmates of Presidency Correctional Home has been initiated at a total project cost of more than Rs. 177 crore.

The construction of a new District Correctional Home at Nimtouri, Purba Medinipore and a Subsidiary Correctional Home at Chanchal, Malda has been initiated at a total project cost of more than Rs. 27 crore.

Video Surveillance System has been installed in different Central Correction Homes (CCH) and District Correction Homes (DCH).

Constructional work of 2 storied building for the accommodation of 150 Nos. of inmates in Krishnanagar District Correctional Home and Female Warders' Barrack within the campus of Midnapore Central Correctional Home is in progress.

The e-Prisons Suite which has been successfully implemented at all Correctional Homes of West Bengal had helped considerably during the present Pandemic situation of COVID-19.

Video Conferencing System under e-Prisons Suite has been implemented through which it was possible to produce the inmates before the Ld. Courts vide 'e-Court Module'.

'E-Mulaqaat' (an online interviewing system) has also been started in all Correctional Homes.

Industry : Small, Medium & Large

3.40 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises & Textiles

Nearly 1.36 crore people are employed under MSME sector which has grown remarkably over the last nine & half years and has contributed significantly in terms of industrial output and export. As per published report in our state MSMEs have grown @ 11% CAGR in last 9 years.

The timely intervention of State Government in a major section of Bengal's MSME & T sector has successfully averted the unprecedented crisis due to COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent lockdown.

The State Government has launched a subsidy linked self-employment scheme named 'Karmasathi Prakalpa' to facilitate creation of employment and income generation among the people of the state including migrant workers, The State Government also introduced 'interest subvention scheme' for the handloom weavers of the State so that they can avail working capital loan from Banks by bearing a minimum interest rate of only 2%.

An incentive scheme named 'Banglashree' for state's MSMEs units has been notified by the State Government in order to promote and facilitate setting up MSMEs across the state and for expansion of new ventures with provision of incentives on various items.

The 'Scheme of Approved Industrial Park' has been extended for further 5 years with some additional benefits and notified for encouraging private developers to set up industrial parks on their own land with back end incentives from the State government.

The State Government has taken initiative for setting up an Agro Industrial Park at Singur on 11-acre land focusing on the State's Agri related activities. Khasjungal Industrial Estate in Medinipur has been developed. The

State Government has signed an agreement with UNESCO under Rural Craft & Cultural Hub programme aiming at improving the livelihood of about 50,000 more artists and preserving the tradition and heritage of Bengal's craft & culture.

MSME & T Department has also played a crucial role in coordinating production and supply of safety items/kits like face masks, PPE kits, coveralls, hand sanitizer, face shield etc. for Covid warriors. Tantuja supplied 3.3 crore 3-layer disposable masks, 25 lakh PPE kits, 3 lakh N-95 masks, 3.5 lakh face shield, 3 lakh goggles, 4 lakh disposable bed sheet and 0.8 lakh wrappers for Asha workers and WBSIDCL supplied 3.5 lakh liters of hand sanitizer for different Departments. For its spirited efforts towards fighting Covid pandemic, Tantuja has bagged the highest Platinum Award 2020 from the SKOCH Group.

Under a special initiative, Government of West Bengal is rejuvenating the CLC in a planned approach by converting it to a Mega Leather Cluster. Several steps have been taken up for sustainable development of leather industries in an efficient and eco-friendly manner. The State Government has already constructed four new Common Effluent Treatment Plants, Common Facility Centre, Modernising Leather Scrap Burner and Art Design Centre. Land has been allotted to 187 new tanners.

3.41 Industry, Commerce & Enterprises

The West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Limited (WBIDCL) has allotted land to 13 industrial units during the financial year 2020-2021 involving proposed investment & employment of Rs. 548.35 crore and 2904 persons respectively. Modular space has also been allotted to 05 industrial units by WBIDCL in its module based industrial parks involving proposed investment of Rs.11.12 crore and proposed employment of 1301 persons respectively.

About 1.61 lakh sqft of space has been allotted to 33 companies in the Gems & Jewellery Park at Ankurhati with a proposed investment of Rs. 94 crore & proposed employment of 1960 people.

19.058 acres has been allotted to 8 units of the Rishi Bankim Silpa Udyan by WBIDCL with proposed investment of Rs. 165 crore and proposed employment of 901 people. 70 acres was allotted to the West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation (WBEIDC) for EMC (Electronics Manufacturing Cluster). The project is expected to generate employment for 5000 people with investments to the tune of Rs. 250 crore.

WBIDC had developed Food Park in Howrah in two phases so far, Sudharas in Phase-I and Kandua in Phase-II. Now WBIDC is developing Phase-III at Sankrail.

Instakart Logistics project over 107.35 acres with an investment of Rs. 991 crore and proposed employment of 18310 (direct and indirect) is coming up at Haringhata Industrial Park. The Flipkart Group company is coming up with the biggest state of the art green logistic park in the Eastern region of India. A total space area of about 35 lakh sqft has been allotted to the company (Ph-I-16 lakh sqft and Ph-II-19 lakh sqft).

WBIDC is developing 7.6 lakh sqft of space over an area of 9.85 acres of land at Budge Budge for Garment Park.

2483 acres of land has been delineated from existing industrial land of WBIDC for development of Industrial Manufacturing Cluster (IMC) under the Amritsar Kolkata Industrial Corridor Project. Master plan has been prepared and a SPV between WBIDC & NICDIT (National Industrial Corridor Development & Implementation Trust) in the form of an authority is being formed for development of the project area.

Industrial Parks viz. Vidyasagar Industrial Park, Panagarh Industrial Park, Plasto Steel Park at Barjora, Haldia Industrial Parks have been strengthened with further infrastructural development.

Invitation of Expression of Interest for proposed seaport Tajpur has been floated in Dec 2020, through West Bengal Maritime Board.

Work related to ease of doing business for improvements towards business reforms action plan under Silpasathi single window services act were taken up on priority basis. Land allotment and building plan sanction are online and integrated through www.silpasathi.in.

Skill Development cum Training Centre have been created at Raninagar Industrial Park and Kharagpur Industrial Park in the district of Jalpaiguri and Paschim Medinipur respectively. During the current financial year, out of total area of 2110 acres of land 1623 acres have been allotted/assigned to 489 nos. of Industrial units in different Parks with investment including projected investment of Rs. 3519 crore and employment of 44,512 persons.

WBIIDC has taken up physical infrastructure development work at Sector V of Falta Industrial Park in the district of South 24 Parganas, at an expense of around Rs. 17 crore over 100 acres of land.

The Ministry of Coal, Government of India, has allotted Gourangdih ABC Coal Mine in Paschim Bardhaman

district to WBMDTCL. The mine has an extractable coal deposit of about 62 Million Tonne which will be mined over 27 years with a peak capacity of 2.5 Million Tonne per year.

Substantial progress has been made in connection with Mokdamnagar & Tentulberia China Clay & Fire Clay Project.

The Web-Portal for online mineral administration (Integrated Mineral Administration System, West Bengal) under Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) system is on the verge of completion.

A Joint Venture Agreement was signed between the Greater Calcutta Gas Supply Corporation Limited and the GAIL (India) Ltd. for supplying clean fuel to Kolkata and 5 adjoining districts. As a part of the City Gas Distribution (CGD) network. Accordingly, “BENGAL GAS COMPANY LIMITED” (BGCL) was formed and it is planning for commencement of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) at the earliest. As an initial share contribution, Rs. 25 crore for the period of 2019-2020 had already been disbursed to BGCL. In addition to this, Rs. 34.07 crore would be paid to BGCL for 2020-2021.

3.42 Public Enterprises & Industrial Reconstruction

PE & IR department focusses on resuscitation of industrial units and restructuring of public undertaking. One of the important institution under this department is Saraswaty Press Limited.

Saraswaty Press Limited (SPL), an ISO 9001:2015 company is the leader in Eastern India for security & confidential printing as well as for printing of Daily Lottery Tickets, holograms and school text books. Also empanelled with Indian Bank Association as a security printer, the company operates from five locations. Its subsidiary, the West Bengal Text Book Corporation Ltd. (WBTBCL) prints more than 10 crore Text Books and 4 crore exercise books each year involving approximately 400 different titles in six languages. These are delivered to more than 2000 locations throughout West Bengal.

The Services Sector

3.43 Tourism

To promote heritage and cultural tourism an unique initiative named “Kolkata Connect-2020” flagged off two modern double-decker buses from the State Secretariat in October, 2020. These buses would cover Victoria Memorial, Fort William, St. John’s Church, Old Currency Building, Dalhousie Square, GPO, Great Eastern Hotel, Eden Gardens and Princep Ghat among others.

Tourism Department has recently introduced cultural performance in 14 no. WBTDCL tourist lodges by Lok Prasar Prakalpa (LPP) artists, which would help the tourists to have a first-hand experience of local folk and other cultural forms. It would also revive economic conditions of the local folk and cultural artists.

In 2020-21 till mid November 2020 Rs. 36 lakh was sanctioned under home stay incentive. The total registered home stay owners under this policy is 296 till now.

The State Government has taken effective steps to promote the Durga Puja as a landmark event for international and national tourism. In recognition of such vigorous promotional campaigns, India Today group has awarded Durga Puja as the winner under the “Festival Destination” of India Today Tourism Survey and Awards, 2020.

Aahoran is first ever state owned hospitality management centre and has already started its 3rd academic sessions, with an enhanced intake capacity from 60 to 180.

3.44 Information Technology and Electronics

Right after the nationwide lockdown was announced on 24th March 2020, DoIT & E launched a 24×7 dedicated COVID-19 helpline on 25th March 2020 and assisted 80+ IT/ITeS companies operating in the state in their

Business Continuity by providing advisory support and liaising with law enforcing departments of the State Government.

DoIT & E launched Karmobhumi for capturing the skills of the retrenched and/or repatriated professionals of IT/ITeS sectors from the State to provide opportunities for upskilling through certification courses at no cost and facilitate in connecting them with potential employers. Till now, the portal has nearly 42,950 registrations boasting top-rated skills such as AI-ML, Block-chain, Cyber-Security etc. and 370 registered Employers. More than 8000 applicants have received job offers.

9 Workshops, 5 Webinars and number of Training programmes have been conducted through online event management with registrations of more than 8000 attendees.

“Self Scan”, a scanning app launched by DoIT & E, stores data within the device. Till now 1.2 lakh + downloads have taken place from various app stores viz. Google Play, iOS and Amazon Play.

Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CS-CoE) has been strengthened.

In the month of December 2020, DoIT & E bagged Best Security Practices in Government Sector DSCI Excellence Award 2020 under Raising Security Awareness category.

The total export from the IT Software & IT Services Industries of the State is Rs. 26,800 crore in 2019-20 as compared to Rs. 8,335 crore in 2010-11 showing a growth of about 221% in nine years.

About 100 acres of land plots in Bengal Silicon Valley have been allotted to more than 20 organizations including Reliance Corporate IT Park, Tata Consultancy Services, First-source Solutions Ltd., Indo-Japan Horological Pvt. Ltd., Vikram Solar, Airtel, etc. Going forward, Bengal Silicon Valley is expected to garner Rs. 4,000 crore investment in 5 years generating more than 50000 IT/ITeS jobs.

Other initiatives like Webel fujisoft Vara Centre of Excellence, Nasscom 10K Startup, Webel - BCC&I Tech Incubation Centre continues to promote emerging technologies and start-ups through dedicated training programmes and incubation support.

3.45 Consumer Affairs

More than 3600 consumer awareness programmes have been executed through Camps, Seminars, Street Drama, Talking Doll Show, Magic Show. For awareness

of WBRTPS Act, 2013 consumer counselling are being conducted through Directorate Headquarter and Regional Offices as well as State Consumer Helpline. 840 Consumer Clubs have been set up to strengthen the movement on Consumer Rights in the State.

To generate Consumer Awareness, Kreta Suraksha Mela, 2020-21 was organized at Park Circus Maidan in January 2021. Legal Metrology Wing carried out enforcement activities for ensuring compliances and 84 Raids and 31 Seizures have been made. The Grievance Redressal Cell and Regional offices have disposed 2069 complaints.

Kreta Suraksha Bhavan- Integrated Offices including District Offices, Legal Metrology Lab and Consumer Fora have been completed in Paschim Medinipore, Uttar Dinajpur and North 24 Parganas (Rajarhat). Construction of new buildings in Bankura and Murshidabad is in progress while for Malda, Nadia, Dakshin Dinajpur, Birbhum, and Purulia is under planning stage.

At present 5 Benches of West Bengal State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission are functioning with 3 in Kolkata and one each at Siliguri and Asansol.

During this financial year, 2020-21 the State Commission has disposed of 1,63,584 no. of cases out of the total cases filed 1,82,553 till date.

Supporting the Sustainable Economy

3.46 Environment

West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) has taken a commendable initiative of greening of Kolkata after devastating effect of cyclone ‘Amphan’ that has resulted in a rampant and large destruction of trees in the city. The work of plantation of 10,000 seedlings at different places has been completed. Further project of plantation of 4,000 saplings have been undertaken at the Newtown-Rajarhat Satellite Township.

WBPCB has take initiative for replacing wood and coal based chullah with LPG ovens. LPG cylinders and stoves/ovens are being distributed to the owners of road side eateries situated within Kolkata and Howrah.

Under the World Bank funded “Capacity Building for Industrial Pollution Management” project, the WBPCB has undertaken remediation project of the Dhapa Municipal waste dump site which was completed by March 2020.

To mitigate air pollution caused by vehicular movement, the WBPCB has engaged around 40 dedicated water sprinkling vehicles for water sprinkling on busy roads of Kolkata, Howrah, Bidhannagar, South Dum Dum, Barrackpore Commissionerate and Siliguri Municipal areas

for road dust suppression. Similar sprinkler arrangement with fire tenders have been made for Dhapa and Promodnagar Municipal Solid waste dump sites to prevent air pollution due to burning of waste.

Ambient air quality is regularly monitored in 79 locations in West Bengal. Surface water quality is being monitored in 137 different locations of West Bengal.

Under implementation of the “Jal Dharo, Jal Bharo” initiative of the Government of West Bengal, 25 rain water harvesting structures have been constructed in different schools in Bankura, Purulia, West Medinipur, Birbhum and Jhargram.

As a part of promotion of non-conventional energy, 211 nos. grid connected rooftop solar photo voltaic power plants have been installed in different schools/institutions all across the state.

West Bengal Biodiversity Board (WBBB) facilitated constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in all the local bodies (Gram Panchayats/ Panchayat Samities/Zilla Parishad and Urban bodies) of West Bengal. More than 90% BMCs have prepared the People’s Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) (total 3566 PBRs) upto November, 2020.

Baneswar Shiva Dighi in Cooch Behar, which is a habitat of Black Softshell Turtle, is being declared a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS).

Under the aegis of the State Coastal Zone Management Authority, Institute of Environmental Studies and Wetland Management has prepared the Coastal Regulation Zone and Land Use, Land Covers maps for the Coastal Zone Management Plan of the State. After the Coastal Zone Management Plan has been approved by MOEF & CC, Government of India in July 2020, IESWM had initiated the updation of CZMP based on CRZ Notification 2019. The New Management Plan of East Kolkata Wetlands for 2021-2026 has also been prepared.

The State Government has taken an initiative to develop biodiversity parks throughout the state. In F.Y 2020-21 the Department has developed 12 Biodiversity parks in the state.

3.47 Non-conventional & Renewable Energy Sources

This is a new administrative department. WBREDA, the main implementing agency, earlier working under the administrative control of the Power & NES Department has taken up a number of Projects. Major achievement of

WBREDA lies in providing grid connected Solar Photo Voltaic [PV] systems at government aided/sponsored schools. So far, 1700 schools in the State have been provided with grid connected Solar PV systems.

The West Bengal Green Energy Development Corporation Limited [WBGEDCL], jointly with the West Bengal Pollution Control Board [WBPCB] has done installation of 140 nos. of 5KWP Roof Top Grid Connected Solar Power Plant at schools.

3.48 Science and Technology & Biotechnology

Over 500 Research & Development (R&D) projects are currently being supported by the Department in addition to 48 projects funded during the year 2020 to various Government aided institutions across the State to promote scientific research. Focus areas of research include agriculture, chemical sciences, animal & fishery sciences, physical sciences, medical sciences, environment, engineering & technology, etc.

For enhancing ease of access, procedural transparency and better management/monitoring of scientific schemes, 'Vigyansathi', an online portal has been launched.

Kolkata Biotech Park has been set up to promote setting up of industrial biotechnology ventures, support start-up for incubation and development of innovation, attract investment and creation of employment. The total scheme involves an investment of Rs. 46.43 crore over a five year period.

Spatial Data Support through Geo-informatics and Remote Sensing is being provided to State Governments projects, namely (1) “Targeting Rice Fallow Areas (TRFA) using high resolution Satellite data of the state of West Bengal” of the Agriculture Department, (2) “GIS Mapping of Police Station and other Police Jurisdiction, West Bengal” of the Home and Hill Affairs Department, and (3) a project on “Area Estimation of Groundnut in Rabi Season for West Bengal” (4) “Mangrove Community Zonation and Biophysical Characterization for coast of West Bengal” and (5) “National Mission for sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem.”

In the Patent Information Centre (PIC), patentability assessment of 40 documents, facilitating filing of 29 Patents which include 9 patents on COVID-19 issues and also facilitating filing of 5 copyright and 3 Trademarks have been done.

Welfare Schemes : New Directions

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, My proposals —

1. Opening of 100 new English medium schools for Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and poor people

To promote holistic educational development, the State Government has decided to launch 100 English medium schools especially in areas dominated by scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and poor in the next 3 years.

I propose to allocate Rs. 50 crore for the next financial year.

2. Opening of 500 new schools and engagement of 1500 para teachers in Alchiki Language

Many people of the State use Alchiki language. I am happy to announce that to extend educational facilities in Alchiki language for these people, 500 new schools will be opened and 1500 para-teachers will be employed in Alchiki language in the next 5 years.

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

3. Opening of 100 new schools for Nepali, Hindi, Urdu, Kamtapuri and Kurmali language

There are many people in the State who speak Nepali, Hindi, Kamtapuri, Urdu and Kurmali language. To ensure educational upliftment of such people, 100 new schools

will be opened in these languages in the next 5 years and 300 para-teachers will be engaged in these languages.

I propose to allocate Rs. 50 crore for the next financial year.

4. Opening of 100 new schools for Sadri language in Tea gardens

A good number of the labourers engaged in these tea-gardens use Sadri language. To extend educational facilities in this language the State Government will open 100 schools in Sadri language in tea gardens in the next 5 years. 300 para-teachers will be engaged to teach this language in these schools.

I propose to allocate Rs. 50 crore for the next financial year.

5. Government approval of 200 schools of Rajbangshi language

Currently education is being provided in Rajbangshi language in nearly 200 schools in the State. We have decided to recognise all these schools and also provide financial aid.

I propose to allocate Rs. 50 crore for the next financial year.

6. Grant of Government aid to Madrasas

In our State many boys and girls of minority community are studying in different Madrasas. There are some Madrasas which are Government recognised but un-aided. We shall provide financial aid to such recognised un-aided Madrasas.

I propose to allocate Rs. 50 crore for the next financial year.

7. Construction of 20 lakh houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Our Government has already constructed pucca houses for many homeless scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

Another **20 lakh new pucca houses will be built for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the next 5 years.** The mud houses will be taken up on priority for conversion to pucca houses.

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,500 crore for the next financial year.

8. Enhancement of financial aid from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000 and minimum aid from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 for farmers

Under the '**Krishak Bandhu**' scheme, **financial aid will be enhanced to all farmers** and registered *Bargadar* from the current amount of **Rs. 5,000 per acre to Rs. 6,000 per acre** from the ensuing **Kharif season starting from June 2021.**

Also the current **minimum assistance to farmers** and registered *Bargadar* **irrespective** of quantum of land will be **enhanced from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000.**

We have again requested the Central Government to immediately release and distribute the financial assistance

under the Kissan Nidhi Samman Yojana to all the farmers of the State and also to include all the *Bargadars* in this scheme.

I propose to allocate Rs. 500 crore for the next financial year.

9. Formation of 10 lakh new Self Help Groups and arrangement of loan of Rs. 25,000 crore

I am happy to announce launch of a new scheme, ‘**Matri Bandana**’ under which **10 lakh new SHGs** will be formed with poor women of the society. **Rs. 25,000 crore loan will be provided to these SHGs in the next 5 years from banks— mainly through co-operative banks.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 150 crore for the next financial year.

10. Financial aid to construction workers and workers connected with transport

Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the labourers in the construction and transport industry were badly affected. I am happy to announce that under ‘**Binamulye Samajik Suraksha Yojana**’ **one time grant of Rs. 1,000 will be given to nearly 45 lakh such labourers.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 450 crore for the next financial year.

11. Rehabilitation of refugees

Our Government in the last 10 years has implemented various schemes for the refugees. The residents in different

colonies in the State who did not have land documents have been provided with deeds/pattas. In the 1st phase more than 30,000 deeds/pattas have been distributed and the work is in progress. Survey work has also been taken up in areas around Kolkata including Tollygunge, Jadavpur, Behala, Mukundpur etc. which were not covered so far. **Deeds will be given to nearly 1.5 lakh refugees in phases. For improvement of basic infrastructure and services, internal roads, parks, sewerage, lights etc. are being provided in the colonies.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

12. Chaa Sundari project

We have more than 3 lakh permanent workers in tea gardens of our State. Our government is providing pucca houses to these workers under '**Chaa Sundari**' scheme. Work has already started on 200 acres of land. Allotment letters have already been handed over to 4,600 tea garden workers. **We shall complete the project in next 2 years after arranging for vacant land in the Tea gardens.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 150 crore for the next financial year.

13. Erection of Azad Hind Monument in respect of National Leader Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

This year the 125th Birth Anniversary of our beloved leader Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is being celebrated in our state. No befitting monument has ever been created in our state by any Government in honour of the great

leader Netaji. **I am proposing to construct a Azad-Hind Monument in New Town**, on behalf of the people of Bengal as our respect to Netaji in his 125th Birth Anniversary.

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

14. Construction of Jai Hind Bhaban in each district

In addition, to commemorate Netaji's 'Jai-Hind' slogan, we are proposing to construct one **Jai-Hind Bhaban** in each district, which will motivate younger generation to build their life based on the inspiration from Netaji's life. These Bhabans will also be used for education, sports, culture and various social services.

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

15. Formation of 'Netaji Battalion' in Kolkata police

You are aware that many battalions have been created in the Kolkata and district police. I am proposing to raise '**Netaji battalion**', a **Kolkata police battalion, in memory of Netaji.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 10 crore for the next financial year.

16. Netaji State Planning Commission

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was first to give the idea of National Planning in India. Unfortunately, the present Central Government abolished the Planning Commission.

In memory of the contribution of Netaji, the **State Government will form the State Planning Commission and name it as the 'Netaji State Planning Commission'.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 5 crore for the next financial year.

17. Continuation of free Ration

Keeping in mind the distress of the people due to COVID-19 pandemic, we are already providing free rations upto 30th June 2021. **I am happy to announce that the free ration will continue even after June, 2021.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,500 crore for the next financial year.

18. Common Kitchen under 'Maa' scheme (Cooked food)

In addition, to ensure that poor people get two square meals a day, **a new scheme called 'Maa' will be launched under which common kitchen will be opened at different places from where cooked food at nominal price will be served.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

19. Continuation of 'Swasthyasathi' scheme

West Bengal is the only State **where comprehensive health coverage has been provided to 10 crore people under 'Swasthyasathi' and other health benefit schemes.** Under the scheme, a family can get free and cashless medical benefit upto Rs. 5 lakh in various Government and private medical hospitals.

I am happy to announce that this scheme will continue throughout the year and persons willing to join this scheme will be allowed to join at any time. The Swasthyasathi Card can be renewed every 3 years.

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,500 crore for the next financial year.

20. 'Duare Sarkar' and 'Paray Samadhan' to be held twice a year

This Government has held nearly 500 administrative meetings in different districts to ensure that the various schemes of the Government reach the common people. We have introduced two novel schemes named '**Duare Sarkar**' and '**Paray Samadhan**' to ensure such benefits reach the doorsteps to the people. You are all aware about the success of these campaigns.

These two novel schemes will be conducted twice every year— once in August-September and another in December-January.

21. Special Training Centre for IAS and IPS examinations

To enhance success of our boys and girls in IAS, IPS examinations, we propose to introduce a special residential training at the Administrative Training Institute (ATI). **One hundred students will be imparted such training and will be given lodging, food and training expenses free of cost. These students will also be given a monthly stipend.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 10 crore for the next financial year.

22. Facility of Internship for 10,000 students every 3 years

The State Government will introduce a new scheme called '**Yubashakti**' for employment of youths. Under this scheme **10,000 students will be selected every 3 years and will get the opportunity to work as Intern in different departments of the Government After Internship, they will be given preference in different Government jobs.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 20 crore for the next financial year.

23. Granting of Tab to 9 lakh students of Class XII under 'Taruner Swapno' scheme

You are aware that the current system of education depends much on the use of computer and internet. The State Government has already given Rs. 10,000 each to more than 9 lakh students to buy Tab, smart phone etc. I propose that from the **next financial year, every year one tab will be given to 9 lakh students of class XII. The scheme has been named 'Taruner Swapno'.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 900 crore for the next financial year.

24. Enhancement of Remuneration of Para Teachers and grant of retirement benefit of Rs. 3 lakh

Acknowledging the contribution of the para teachers, *sahayak*, *shiksha bandhu*, contractual teachers and special teachers who are providing significant contribution in the existing educational system, we have already enhanced their remuneration by 40% in 2018.

I propose that from the **next financial year, para-teachers will be given an annual increment of 3%. In addition, they will be given a one time ex-gratia of Rs. 3 lakhs as retiral benefit after completing 60 years.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

25. Old age pension for all people above 60 years and all widows above 18 years

Pension is being provided to all old aged persons of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe under '**Jai Johar**' and '**Tapsili Bandhu**' schemes. In addition, differently abled persons have also been brought under the '**Manabik**' pension scheme. We are already providing social pension to around 60 lakh old, widow and differently abled people. This is not there in any State of our country.

I propose that all **old people (above 60 years) and widow (above 18 years) in the State will be brought under pension scheme.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 1,000 crore for the next financial year.

26. Special Financial Grant to performers of various devotional places

To preserve the cultural heritage we have taken up many projects for maintainance and security of religious places of various groups. For extension of such cultural heritage all Purohits including scheduled caste and tribal Purohits are already receiving monthly assistance.

Now, **I propose that poor priests of Jaher Than and Majhi Than will also receive Rs. 1,000 per month from the next year.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

New proposals for Infrastructure Development

27. Construction of 46,000 km new rural roads under 'Pathasree' scheme

You are aware that since independence only 29,706 km road was constructed in our state upto 2011. Our government since 2011 has constructed 89,574 km of new rural roads within the few years. **We shall construct 46,000 km new rural roads in the next 5 years, within which 10,000 km new rural roads will be constructed and repaired in the next year under 'Pathasree' scheme.**

We shall **connect all rural roads with State Highways in the next 5 years.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 500 crore for the next financial year.

28. Road Connectivity

To give emphasis on infrastructure development of the State, I am proposing a large number of new schemes. The main purpose is to connect all rural roads with the State highways and to improve the urban connectivity. The schemes are –

- **A connecting bridge between Nandigram and Haldia on Haldi river**
- **Four lane connectivity between Kolkata and Basanti**

- Widening road connectivity from **Pragoti Maidan Fire Station to Bantala** and from **Bantala to Ghoshpur** near **Ghatakpukur**
- A **six lane 5 km flyover** will be constructed between **Tala and Dunlop on B.T. Road**
- A **flyover** will be constructed to connect **Air port Gate and Jessore Road on NH 34 and V.I.P. Road**
- **3 km connecting corridor** will be constructed between **Ultadanga and Bangur Avenue**
- **The 4 lane road on Ghatpukur on Kolkata Basanti Highway (NH 117) will be developed further from Baruipur to Amtala**
- **One 9.5 km long two lane bridge** will be constructed **on Raidak-1 river on Baxirhat Jorai Road in Coochbehar district**
- **One bridge will be constructed on Balason river near Dhudhiya on State Highway 12** in place of the old bridge connecting **Siliguri and Darjeeling via Mirik**
- The **Changrabanda - Jamaldaha - Mathabangha-Coochbehar road on State Highway 16** will be **extended by 75 km**
- The **60 km long road connecting Batalbari and Dhantala on NH-31** will be widened to a two lane road
- The **Ruby - Kalikapur flyover** will be constructed with the **facility of skywalk** for the pedestrians
- **One flyover will be constructed from Maa flyover on Syed Amir Ali Avenue upto Gurusaday Dutta Road**

- **A new bridge** will be constructed in **Kidderpore** replacing the 75 years **old iron bridge**
- **A flyover** will be constructed from **Sonarpur Bantala Road to Sonarpur - Chakraberia Road**
- **One flyover will be connected from EM Bypass to New Town**

In addition **feasibility survey** will be done in the following projects and the **projects will be executed** if they are found to be technically feasible;

- **One flyover along Prince Anwar Shah Road from Jibananda Setu to Deshopran Sasmal Road** crossing near **Tipu Sultan Masjid**
- **Flyover from Ultadanga to Posta Bazar**
- **Flyover from Paikpara to Sealdah Station**
- **Flyover along Raja Subodh Chandra Mallick Road from Garia to Jadavpur**
- **One Skywalk for the pedestrians in Park Circus connector.**
- **Flyover from Majherhat to Tollygunge upto Jadavpur-Garia**

I propose to allocate Rs. 2,475 crore for the next financial year.

29. Constitution of West Bengal Highway and Bridge Corporation

I propose to reconstitute West Bengal Highway Corporation as West Bengal Highway and Bridge Corporation.

Apart from construction of road it will also be entrusted with the construction and maintenance of new bridges/ flyovers.

30. Irrigation and Water transport

The state will **build new concrete bridges instead of wooden bridges** over **373 old** irrigation and drainage canals.

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

31. Special Financial Assistance for Tourism Industry and Interest Waiver

The tourism and hospitality industry has been very badly affected during COVID-19 pandemic. You are aware that many people and companies are connected with this industry. To support this industry, the State Government has launched a new tourism support scheme. Various organizations associated with tourism (such as resorts, hotel, home-stay, tourism ancilliary companies etc.) will come under the purview of this scheme. **Under this scheme loan will be provided from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 10 lakh through banks and the State Government will bear 50% of the interest in the first year.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 10 crore for the next financial year.

Apart from this I want to inform you that 'The West Bengal Incentive Scheme, 2015' for tourism sector ended on 31st December, 2020. To incentivise this sector further, I announce to introduce a **new incentive scheme for a period of 5 years** with effect from the next financial year.

32. Waiver of Road Tax in Transport

The COVID-19 epidemic has caused huge losses in transport sector. We have already waived the fine for late permit renewal, fitness certificate and driver's license renewal. To further extend a helping hand, **I propose to waive the road tax on all passenger transport vehicles from 1st January 2021 to 30th June 2021 (two quarters).**

33. Regional Connectivity

Due to our continuous efforts from 2011 to 2020 number of flight passengers have increased by almost 66% in Kolkata, 350% in Bagdogra and 1412% in Andal. Number of flights have increased by 110% in Kolkata, 186% in Bagdogra and 200% in Andal. **In the coming days, in the interest of regional flight connectivity we will make efforts to start flights from Balurghat, Malda and Coochbehar.**

I propose to allocate Rs. 50 crore for the next financial year.

34. Special projects for industrialization

We have undertaken special programs for rapid industrialization.

Sea port in Tajpur : A deep sea port is being set up at Tajpur, in East Midnapore in the interest of industrial development, export and transportation in Eastern part of India. The project will cost around Rs 7,000 crore for infrastructure development. **This will create employment opportunities for thousands of people.**

35. Gas exploration in Ashoknagar

You all are aware that, ONGC has discovered a huge oil and natural gas reserve in Ashoknagar, North 24 Parganas. This will also result in various ancilliary industries based on oil and natural gas and will provide huge opportunity for employment. With the discovery of oil and natural gas, the State will soon make a mark in the global map of oil and natural gas industry.

36. Coal exploration from Deucha-Pachami

You are aware that, a huge coal block has been found at Deucha-Pachami in Birbhum district, the extraction of which will start very soon. It is the second largest coal block in the world. **In first two years work will only commence on government land and no one will be evicted from their land.**

This project will directly and indirectly provide employment opportunities to thousands of skilled and unskilled workers. This will speed up the economic development not only in Birbhum district but also in its adjoining districts namely Bankura, Purulia, Purba and Paschim Bardhaman, Hooghly, Murshidabad and other districts. This will create huge employment opportunities **In cases where land acquisition will be required, the land compensation will be determined based on consultation with the land owners and additional incentive alongwith rehabilitation package will be suitably provided. Besides, government job will also be provided.**

37. Raghunathpur, Purulia : Industrial Township :

Special industrial corridors are being planned from Dunkuni to Asansol via Burdwan-Durgapur on one side and Barjora-Bankura to Raghunathpur in Purulia district on the other side. **The first industrial township in the state will be built on 2,483 acres of WBIDC land at Rahunathpur in Purulia district. The township has been named as ‘Jangal Sundari Karmanagari’.**

The development of this project will create huge employment opportunities.

I propose to allocate Rs. 100 crore for the next financial year.

38. Andal Airport

Keeping in mind the significant increase in number of flights in the recent time in Kolkata Airport there is an urgent need to develop a second Airport in our State. With this view in mind, **I am happy to announce that the Andal Airport will be upgraded to international aviation standard within the next 2 years.**

This will result in huge investment in the *Paschimanchal* districts and will generate huge employment.

I propose to allocate Rs. 150 crore for the next financial year.

39. Bengal Silicon Valley & Financial Hub

The Bengal Silicon Valley project was launched on **200 acres** of land at Newtown. 79 acres of land have been allotted to 24 IT companies, which will attract investment of around Rs. 11,317 crore and provide huge employment opportunity. Corporates like Tata

Consultancy Services (TCS), First Source Solutions Ltd. have already started operations. In addition to Silicon Valley, various IT companies such as Infosys, Wipro, etc., have already been given land in Rajarhat, Financial Hub and other places. Apart from this we have already developed Fintech Hub in New Town. **We will expand the Silicon Valley and Financial Hub in phases so that new investments flow to the State.**

40. Special initiative to fillup vacant posts

A huge number of posts were lying vacant in administration and police set-up when we came to power in 2011. Our government has been able to fill up more than 4 lakh posts. Presently 50,000 posts are lying vacant in different departments and 60,291 in the police set-up.

I propose to take Special Drive to fill up all the vacant posts in different departments and police administration in the next 3 years.

41. Employment

The economic slowdown all over the world including our country is unprecedented. In this time of crisis, our state has been creating new employment opportunities with great success. As a result of development of infrastructure in various industrial projects, such as ONGC's oil and natural gas reserve at Ashoknagar, Deucha-Pachami coal mining and extraction, Special Industrial Corridors, IT and telecom companies in Silicon Valley, Tajpur seaport, Singur Agro Industrial Park, Hasimara Industrial Park and other industrial and MSME parks etc. there will be creation of large number of direct and indirect jobs in the State.

‘Matir Sristi’ is an unique employment generation programme in the Paschimanchal area to make arable the barren lands with agriculture, horticulture, pisciculture, animal husbandry etc. Last year, the project was launched on 13,000 acre land in 1,942 sites. **In the next year also, it has been planned on another 14,000 acre land, which will create huge employment opportunity.**

In the last 10 years, we have been able to provide 100 days work to 7.24 crore rural people.

This year in 100 days work programme, we have again attained 1st position in the country by providing employment to 1.1 crore rural people. This is an exemplary feat.

I am happy to announce that **in the last 10 years our government has been able to create 1 crore 12.5 lakh employment.**

You will be happy to hear that with the planned development of huge industrial centres and infrastructure, **we will be able to create 1.5 crore new employment opportunities in the next 5 years at the government, semi-government and non-government levels and through self-employment.**

Rs. 12,030 crore has been earmarked in the next financial year for implementing the above new schemes.

Conclusion

Hon'ble Speaker Sir,

In spite of COVID-19 pandemic, huge destruction due to Amphan and continuous deprivation of the Central Government, the State Government has continued its various developmental programmes for all round betterment of the people of the State.

With the permission of the Hon'ble Speaker, I propose a budget of Rs. 2,99,688 crore (net) for the year 2021-22 on behalf of the State Government.

In the conclusion, I like to quote one of Netaji's immortal message which is my inspiration and it is Netaji in whose memory we shall erect a monument, we shall undertake a programme named 'Taruner Swapno' and reconstitute the State Planning Commission.

It is he who while addressing our countrymen said, "Give me blood, I shall give you freedom." In most humble pursuance of this ever-memorable saying I like to address the people of my state, "Keep faith in me, I shall give you unconditional and selfless service with utmost dedication."

Let me conclude with the words of Kabiguru, Hey Bangalakshmi I bow down under your honoured feet...

আরো আলো আরো আলো
এই নয়নে, প্রভু ঢালো ।
সুরে সুরে বাঁশি পুরে
তুমি আরো আরো আরো দাও তান ।
আরো বেদনা আরো বেদনা
প্রভু দাও মোরে আরো চেতনা ।
দ্বার ছুটায় বাধা টুটায়
মোরে কর ত্রাণ মোরে কর ত্রাণ ।

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 2021-2022

WEST BENGAL ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 2021–2022

(Rupees in Crores)

	Actuals, 2019–2020	Budget, 2020–2021	Revised, 2020–2021	Budget, 2021–2022
Receipts				
1. Opening Balance	(–)5.45	(–)2.00	(–)20.08	(–)3.00
2. Revenue Receipts	142914.21	179398.00	144941.30	194034.88
3. Capital Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4. Receipts from Debt Heads—				
(i) Public Debt	75698.69	79465.00	93678.52	99281.92
(ii) Loans	66.67	507.00	165.61	139.31
5. Receipts from Contingency Fund and Public Account	661560.23	755567.73	676336.05	730524.55
Total	880234.35	1014935.73	915101.40	1023977.66
Expenditure				
6. Revenue Expenditure	162575.12	179398.00	179286.32	206008.43
7. Capital Expenditure	15970.52	31047.00	14518.11	31179.78
8. Expenditure on Debt Heads—				
(i) Public Debt	40413.02	44289.00	48327.45	61042.64
(ii) Loans	1266.30	943.00	3652.49	1456.96
9. Expenditure on Contingency Fund and Public Account	660029.47	759266.73	669320.03	724294.85
10. Closing Balance	(–)20.08	(–)8.00	(–)3.00	(–)5.00
Total	880234.35	1014935.73	915101.40	1023977.66

(Rupees in Crores)

	Actuals, 2019–2020	Budget, 2020–2021	Revised, 2020–2021	Budget, 2021–2022
Net Results—				
Surplus (+) / Deficit (–)				
(a) On Revenue Account	(–)19660.91	0.00	(–)34345.02	(–)11973.55
(b) Outside Revenue Account	19646.28	(–)6.00	34362.10	11971.55
(c) Net, excluding Opening Balance	(–)14.63	(–)6.00	17.08	(–)2.00
(d) Net, including Opening Balance	(–)20.08	(–)8.00	(–)3.00	(–)5.00
(e) Expenditure for New Programmes/Additional Outlays				
(i) On Revenue Account	..	..	..	..
(ii) Outside Revenue Account	..	..	..	..
(f) Resource out of entitlement under 15th Finance Commission’s recommendation	..	..	..	..
(g) Additional Resource Mobilisation under Tax Revenue	..	..	..	..
(h) Loss due to waiver of taxes	..	..	..	(–)45.00
(i) Net Revenue Deficit	(–)19660.91	0.00	(–)34345.02	(–)12018.55
(j) Net Surplus/Deficit	(–)20.08	(–)8.00	(–)3.00	(–)50.00

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