



Government of Kerala

BUDGET SPEECH 2024-2025

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Minister for Finance

5th February, 2024



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

**BUDGET SPEECH
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By

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Part – I

Preface

Sir,

1. I start the Budget speech for this year with the pertinent belief that Kerala is on the cusp of becoming a 'sunrise' economy. The sunrise sectors are defined by futuristic strides in technology, an exponential rise in demand and the resultant economic development. This is unlike the sunset sectors which have weakening demand and are driven by technologies that are destined for obsolescence. No society can advance in the present day without actively encouraging the transition from these sunset sectors to sunrise sectors. In this process of continuous evolution, Kerala's position is at the forefront among Indian states. Our achievements consistently disappoint the nay-sayers who portray our state as a lost cause. I will get into those details shortly. In order to elucidate our state's approach to economic development, I must state certain facts at the outset.
2. The Kerala model of development is known for its commitment to secular ideals, peace, fraternity, social justice and high standard of living of its citizens. However, from its early years, the capacity of this model of

development to sustain itself has always been questioned. These apprehensions were rooted in the backwardness of our domestic economy and low rate of growth. These doubts ceased by the end of the 1980s due to the growth in domestic production. We were subsequently able to strengthen the now-celebrated achievements of the Kerala Model of Development. Kerala is a leader on many fronts, such as the Human Development Index (HDI), Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), poverty eradication initiatives and per capita income. We can safely say that Kerala has retained the top spot, even as it continues to advance its lead. In spite of these glorious achievements, the apprehensions over the weakness of Kerala economy continue to persist. The backwardness in our domestic production and the slow paced development of basic infrastructure were the basis of these concerns. We trailed in the area of basic infrastructure development. Modernization initiatives in agriculture and industries did not rise up to the level expected of them. Knowledge creation and dissemination did not get the attention they deserved.

3. It must be emphasized that the resolution of these issues - which was the primary focus of both terms of the Pinarayi Vijayan-led government-have started yielding

results. It is not the revolutionary changes in basic infrastructure alone, that are worth noting. The joint focus on both basic infrastructure and the knowledge economy and the consequent, unprecedented growth of our sunrise sectors, have given us many reasons for hope and cheer

Sir,

4. The Kerala of today is not the Kerala of eight years ago. Our State is witnessing change at a rapid pace. This budget contains several multi-faceted, comprehensive programmes aimed at accelerating this change.

5. Kerala cannot remain a mute spectator against the hostile approach of the Central government which is pushing the state towards the worst financial crisis in its history. Instead, we should strive forward with the strong sentiment of "*Thakarilla Keralam, Thalarilla Keralam, Thakarkkanavilla Keralathe*" ("Kerala will not be shattered, Kerala will not tire, Kerala cannot be destroyed"). The Government will provide leadership in taking forward our achievements and progress, while ensuring that all Keralites stand united in building a New Keralam (Navakeralam). We need to reclaim our legal

and constitutional rights through strong action by espousing the foundational ideals of cooperative federalism.

6. Instead of waiting for justice from the Central Government, the State Government will utilize all its resources to raise capital investments from private and public sectors, thereby ensuring speedy implementation of all its programmes. Along with strengthening existing models, Out-of-the-Box project implementation models that promote efficiency and innovation, will also be adopted. We intend to formulate short-term projects that can generate employment and income, in addition to medium and long term projects.

7. Programmes are being planned to attract investment to the tune of at least Rs. 3 lakh crore within the next 3 years. The thrust areas shall be the projects in tourism which can be completed in a short span, allied developmental activities in and around Vizhinjam and Cochin Ports, development of industrial corridors of Kochi, Palakkad and Kannur for which land has already been acquired, and IT-IT Enabled Services (ITES). Schemes to attract capital investment in the Education sector will be initiated. Necessary legal amendments will

be made to enable students from outside the state to pursue studies here, including professional courses.

8. Initiatives shall be undertaken for transforming Kerala into a medical hub. Specialized facilities will be provided in the health sector including Government Medical Colleges for the treatment of patients including those from abroad. In addition to this, the Government will encourage the consolidation of fragmented holdings for profitable cultivation of crops. Legal and policy support shall be ensured for the same.
9. Work-near-home ventures, startups and new generation industries growing extensively in small towns of Kerala, will be encouraged and supported through Capital and interest subsidies.
10. In addition to public sector investment, subsidy schemes, new generation investment models like public private partnerships, joint ventures, CIAL model companies, Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT), Real Estate Investment Trusts (REIT), Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) will be explored. Enabling legal and policy decisions will be taken. There are delays in obtaining permission for land for industrial purposes under various land laws. Issuance of long term leases and sanctions as per land

laws etc. will be expedited. Land pooling policies which ensure better land value and subsequent profit to individuals will be issued. To resolve the issue of land scarcity, there will be reforms which ensure speedy issuance of sanctions, without compromising conservation of the climate and environment. An expert committee will be constituted to study these matters and submit a report within three months, based on which further actions will be taken.

Sir,

11. Vizhinjam International Sea Port becomes operational by the month of May 2024. We must not forget the delay of at least 2 decades in the case of Vizhinjam Port, which is expected to redefine the commercial map of South India. The Government is currently coordinating the activities with strong determination that there shall not be any further delay.
12. Three types of activities are progressing at Vizhinjam. Firstly - activities related to port construction. The construction of breakwater, yard, berth, office buildings etc. are progressing rapidly.

13. Secondly-Development of allied infrastructure. All amenities including Road-Rail connectivity, electricity, drinking water have to be ensured. Since the preparations began well before executing the contract for port construction, all activities are progressing at an extraordinary pace. There is also progress in the matter of the railway line as well. The progress in construction of the port and its allied facilities is being reported enthusiastically by the media. It is heartening to see the media have realized that there is an audience for positive news. The aspirations of both Kerala and India are about to come true. The world's largest mother ships will dock in our port. Transshipment activities will follow. The Vizhinjam Port will achieve its targeted capacity in record time.

14. Thirdly – Kerala should be ready to seize the great opportunities thrown open by the international port and utilize them effectively. Sir, Vizhinjam is the development gateway to Kerala of the future. Vizhinjam International Seaport Project is the first deep water transshipment hub and only the second transshipment port in India. When Vizhinjam Port starts functioning at full capacity, infinite developmental opportunities will be opened up in the State.

15. It will be ensured that construction of the proposed Vizhinjam–Navayikulam outer ring road and development corridor in Thiruvananthapuram shall be completed in a timely manner. Required land will be made available. Co-operation and participation of all associated agencies, citizens and entrepreneurs will be ensured.

Sir,

16. Kerala shall adopt the idea of development zones conceived in China during the late 1970s. The government intends to create such Special Development Zones (SDZ) in order to utilize the entire developmental potential of Vizhinjam. Special Development Zones will be created in partnership with the private sector by attracting investment from institutions and individuals including non-resident Keralites.
17. An International Investors Meet will be conducted in 2024-25 itself with an objective of attracting investors who can start enterprises which will harness the potential of the Vizhinjam port. A Maritime Summit will be organized as part of this.

Vizhinjam Port: The gateway to future development

Sir,

18. Vizhinjam is on the cusp of being the central piece of the commercial corridor that will grow around it. There is a need to channel large scale investment to transform Vizhinjam port into an entity which can compete with the other prominent ports around the world. This development can be possible only through a combination of public funding, public-private partnerships as well as private sector investment. There needs to be legislative enactments to facilitate the same. The government is aiming at making Vizhinjam a comprehensive hub encompassing townships, residential areas, commercial centres, warehouses and entertainment zones. For this, there needs to be developmental activities of thousands of crores. It is estimated that there will be a demand for 10,000 acres of land within a radius of 50 km from Vizhinjam to cater to this demand.

Sir,

19. The local population including fishermen of Vizhinjam also deserve the benefits brought about by Vizhinjam Port. Special focus will be given to families found to be

extremely poor in the Vizhinjam area and steps will be taken for their poverty eradication. The land tenure issues of the local residents will be resolved. A five-year action plan will be implemented to eliminate the income vulnerability of fishermen. Skill training will be imparted to the local population to take advantage of the emerging modern employment opportunities in the fisheries sector. Corporate Social Responsibility funds will be used for this and government assistance will also be provided.

20. Vizhinjam Port will significantly increase the export potential of Kerala. This opportunity will be utilized to overcome the problems in the agriculture sector of the state. Supply chains of agricultural products will be planned using the KERA project implemented with the support of the World Bank in the agricultural sector. KERA is a Rs. 2,365 crore scheme. Necessary physical infrastructure will be built, while conferences of supply chain stakeholders will be organized.
21. Three projects having a total outlay of 4000 crore which were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in early January at Kochi also need to be mentioned here. New dry dock at Cochin Shipyard, International Ship Repair Facility and LPG import terminal at Puthuvypin are the above projects. Similar to Vizhinjam, the new projects at

Kochi have the potential of backward and forward linkages. Efforts are to be made to capitalize these opportunities.

22. An amount of ₹ 3000 crore will be expended by the State Government alone for the various projects mentioned here within three years. An amount of ₹ 500 crore is set apart for 2024-25. This amount is in addition to the amount earmarked for major infrastructure development projects.
23. In addition to this, it is expected that Kerala can avail ₹5000 crore of eligible assistance under the scheme for special loan for Capital Investment announced by the Central Government. This amount is essential for Kerala's infrastructure development.
24. The construction of NH 66 is being completed along with the full-fledged operationalization of the International port. Things have progressed in such a way that one can travel from the northern end of Kerala to the southern end within eight hours. Things that we couldn't even dream of ten years ago are happening after the Pinarayi Vijayan led government came to power. Along with National Highway 66, the construction of other National Highways, Coastal Highways and hill highways is progressing

rapidly. In this context, it may be well to recall the strong protests that had to be faced by the State Government regarding these projects. Was any of the many criticisms and flurry of abuse raised against the Chief Minister warranted? A Greenfield Highway from Thiruvananthapuram to Angamaly parallel to MC road is also under the consideration of National Highway Authority.

Sir,

25. In the case of Kochi Metro and Water Metro, things are progressing as planned. The government has decided to go ahead with the Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode metro projects. In the case of Thiruvananthapuram Metro, it is expected that the necessary approvals from the central government will be obtained soon. The money will be allocated from the funds earmarked for major infrastructure projects towards the cost of the above projects.
26. Steps taken in the areas of power generation, distribution, information technology infrastructure, gas pipeline etc. to address the huge shortfall in infrastructure development and its success are well known. We will address the future initiatives in these sectors later.

One area where this level of essential basic infrastructure push has not happened needs to be mentioned here. It is the railway sector. With the advent of Vande Bharat Express, not only the people but also the mainstream media have been convinced of the correctness of the stand taken by the state government. Railway development in Kerala has been neglected in this year's central budget as well. Kerala's rail commuters are in great distress. The freight service is also in a big crisis. Railways cannot keep pace with Kerala's growth. Along with completing the renovation of the existing railway tracks, curve correction and double lining, it is necessary for the new high speed line to come up. The government will continue its efforts to implement the proposed K-Rail project for high-speed rail travel. Consultations are ongoing with the central government in this regard.

27. Let me now come back to the statement I made at the beginning that Kerala is becoming a sunrise economy. The aim was to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the bold and purposeful steps taken by the government to address the deficiency in the basic infrastructure and knowledge economy sector have led to a structural transformation in the economy of the state. The economic growth in Kerala after 1970 was mainly focused on the service sector. Things have changed in

the last ten years. The growth rate of the manufacturing sector is higher than that of the overall domestic economy. The share of the manufacturing sector in total Gross Value added is now close to 15 percent. Sunrise sectors are at the forefront of this growth. Electronic goods, herbal medicines, refined petroleum products, medical devices, chemical industry etc. are driving this transformation.

Sir,

28. Kerala is known as a consumer state. We depend on foreign countries for employment and income. The lion's share of required consumer goods are imported from outside the state. It is indeed a good sign that this situation is changing. Statistics make it clear that as entrepreneurs are flocking to the sunrise sectors and investment is growing, production and employment opportunities are correspondingly increasing. Details regarding this transition are given in the Economic Review Report, which has been laid on the table of the House with this Budget. Within the past decade, the number of workers in sectors such as electronics, medical and dental instruments, and shipbuilding has more than doubled.

29. In addition to the above, the employment opportunities, investment etc. brought about by tourism, IT sector, start-ups etc. should also be taken note of. Tourism, IT, IT-based services and the startup ecosystem are the flag bearers of New Kerala. The tourism sector is on a boom after recovering from the Covid crisis. The existing infrastructure facilities in the sector do not have the capacity to accommodate the influx of domestic and foreign tourists. There is a potential for great development in this sector. The same is true of information technology. Although the government invests heavily in land and built space-both directly and indirectly, it cannot accommodate all willing entrepreneurs. It means that there is a great scope for improvement in this sector as well.
30. These changes are not a mere coincidence. Behind them are the budget announcements of previous years, astute planning, leadership and the political will of the government. The goal of the government is to create Navakeralam.

Sir,

31. While preparing the Budget for 2024-25, two types of uncertainties are to be taken into account. Firstly, the

situation of war prevailing at the international level and the atmosphere of global economic recession. Not only are the wars in Ukraine and Palestine not over, but they are showing signs of spreading to other regions. And there is the threat of a widespread economic recession among the countries of the world. This budget is prepared in the hope that these two situations will not worsen.

32. If the wars and recession worsen as the year progresses, it will also affect Kerala. Our exports and expatriates from Kerala will definitely be impacted. We will have to rely more on domestic production and domestic markets to cope with global uncertainty. Kerala will overcome the crisis by preparing a comprehensive programme based on the experience of floods and covid.
33. The second uncertainty evolves from the Central Government's neglect of the States in general and Kerala in particular. This neglect towards Kerala reached its zenith during the current fiscal (2023-24). We remain hopeful that the legal battle in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the political agitation outside the court will improve matters. Also, there are experts who predict that the Centre will soften its stand after the Lok Sabha elections. This Budget is being prepared in the hopes that things will get better. On the contrary, what if the Central

Government takes measures to centralize the fiscal system? What if the neglect towards Kerala continues? In such a situation, we will definitely have to figure out a Plan B. We are not ready to make any cuts in the benefits provided by the state to its people. There is no turning back at this stage in development activities either.

34. The development and welfare activities should continue at any cost; and they will. There are suggestions and thoughts regarding Plan B as well. In any case, we will find a way to move forward retaining the virtues of the Kerala model of development.

Sir,

35. Before entering into detailed announcements, some general facts about the State's financial position need to be mentioned. The Hon'ble Chief Minister as well as me, in the capacity of Finance Minister have clarified repeatedly before this Legislature that the excessive centralization of resources and discrimination against Kerala by the Central government in violation of the constitutional principles of federalism is the cause of our financial distress. The Government had to air these grievances before the public at Nava Kerala Sadas as the opposition as well as certain media was not convinced of

the reality of Centre's neglect. Now everyone agrees that there is an unjustified neglect on the part of the Centre. Even economists who are critical of the state government agree that there is neglect by the central government. Although they are not ready to join us in the struggle against the Centre, now the opposition also admits that there is neglect. This is welcome. The opposition is also saying that the neglect of Kerala will be raised in the Parliament even if it is late. Seeing that this is a problem that affects the people as a whole, the opposition should be ready to stage protests against the Centre's apathy, even if they're on their own.

36. It has to be reiterated that efforts to deliberately misinterpret the government's statements on financial constraints as evidence of Kerala having come to a standstill or that the State becoming a pauper are attempts at propaganda.

Sir,

37. Treasury is functional round the clock; and also active. What is the measure of the Treasury's performance? Doesn't it need to be seen whether the revenue and the expenditure are rising? The treasury is functioning by breaking all records of revenue and expenditure.

The State's total expenditure for 2020-21 was ₹ 1,38,884 crore. In 2022-23 it increased to ₹ 1,58,738 crore. It is estimated that this will rise to ₹ 1,68,407 Crore by the end of this year. There is an increase of approximately ₹30,000 crore over the last three years. The Government has not curtailed any justifiable expenditure. There will be no financial crisis if there is neither development nor welfare expenditure. Some States act in that manner. The Kerala government's approach is not to run away from its responsibilities.

38. While saying this, the opposition may be ready to criticize the government for squandering money. We are ready for an open discussion on this. The number of ministers, expenditure and foreign travel can be compared with the UDF era and other states. All that is said is that there is no basis for any such allegations. The Reserve Bank reports have indicated that Kerala is on the path of fiscal consolidation and has succeeded in reducing the revenue deficit, fiscal deficit and overall debt. The Accountant General's figures also testify to this.

39. When it comes to tax and non-tax revenue, the State has attained record breaking growth in its own revenue. In 2020-2021, our own tax revenue was ₹ 47,661 crore. It rose to ₹58,341 crore in 2021-22 and to ₹ 71,968 crore

in 2022-23. It is anticipated that it will rise to more than ₹ 78,000 crore in the current fiscal. It is unarguable that the own tax revenue will almost double the figures of 2020-21 by the end of the next fiscal. Should we not see the doubling of tax revenue within just four years as a monumental achievement? Officers of the Taxes Department deserve our felicitations. But the Government is of the opinion that the Tax revenue can be raised further. Tax revenue can be augmented further by undertaking steps which include the resolving of technical issues related to IGST settlement at the Central Government level.

Sir,

40. Then why is there a financial crisis despite this much increase in own tax collection? Our total tax revenue includes Kerala's eligible tax share from the tax collected by the Centre. The details of the same are given in the State Finances Report of Reserve Bank of India. As per the statistics of 2021-23, on national average, the Centre will provide ₹ 35 for every ₹ 65 collected by the respective States. But the Centre provides only ₹ 21 against Kerala's own tax collection of every ₹ 79. That is, only ₹ 21 out of ₹ 100 is the Centre's contribution. Uttar Pradesh gets ₹ 46 out of ₹ 100 from the Centre.

Bihar gets ₹ 70 out of ₹ 100. Do we need any other better proof than the statistics of RBI?

41. In the divisible pool of tax collected by the Centre, which is to be devolved among the States, 3.87% was Kerala's share during the 10th Finance Commission period. This has come down to 2.5% in the 14th Finance Commission and to 1.925% in the 15th Finance Commission. It is now a well-known fact that Kerala has lost tens of thousands of crores as a result of this. We told that to the people. Everyone knows that Kerala is getting punished for its developmental achievements. The people of Kerala are being punished for their high per capita income and controlled population growth. But the Centre is pretending not to see the serious second generation development problems that have arisen as a result of economic growth. This does not take into account the rise in lifestyle diseases and the increasing proportion of elderly people.
42. The neglect towards the State cannot be left unmentioned in the Budget speech at a time when the issue is being protested in Delhi and being argued before the Honorable Supreme Court. Justice is being denied to Kerala not only in taxes. Kerala's borrowing entitlement as per the Centre's own criteria has been denied during

the fiscal year. As per the Centre's own guidelines, Kerala's eligible borrowing limit is ₹ 39,626 crore. The State Budget was prepared considering the same. But Kerala has been allowed to borrow only ₹ 28,830 crore till now. The borrowing limit was cut short during mid-fiscal without any prior notice, based on improper calculation of public account balance.

43. It has already been stated about the curtailment of ₹ 57,400 crore made by the Centre in the State receipts. ₹ 12,000 crore due to the cessation of GST compensation; ₹ 8,400 crore in this year's Revenue Deficit Grant; ₹ 7,000 crore made in the borrowing limit by accounting the borrowings of KIIFB and Pension Company as public debt; ₹ 12,000 crore by considering public account money as public debt; reduction of ₹ 18,000 crore resulted from the decline of State's divisible pool share from 3.87% to 1.925% during the 10th to 15th Finance Commission tenures. This curtailment is still on the rise. States like Karnataka have also pointed out such issues.

44. In fact, a conspiracy is being hatched to destroy the Kerala development model which is based on the concept of the welfare state. It is intended to obstruct the manifold benefits and various welfare activities provided

by the state to the farmers, workers and other common people. It is aimed to turn the people who receive welfare pensions and those who depend on ration shops, government hospitals and Supplyco outlets against the State Government. In reality, an attempt is being made to turn us against ourselves. The beneficiaries of these welfare measures are generally labourers, poor farmers and those belonging to other weaker sections. Most of them are supporters and sustainers of the left front. The goal is to stoke ill-feeling against their own Government.

Sir,

45. I wish to clarify a point here. We stand here not to curtail the benefits but for their periodic enhancement. That is the essence of our politics. It is for this purpose the left democratic front has come to power and is working. The constitutional rights and powers of the State Government are to be safeguarded in order to maintain and enhance these benefits. It is for this cause that protests are organized in Delhi and a legal battle is being fought in the Supreme Court. I request the whole hearted support of all keralites for these two.

46. People who tried to stir up the welfare pension beneficiaries, LIFE Mission beneficiaries, paddy

cultivators, KSRTC pensioners and the PSC rank holders against the State Government are those who can't see the wood for the trees and those who saw off the branch which they are sitting on. Each one of these benefits is a creation of Kerala. They are the contribution of the Left Front. Nothing equivalent to these exists in any other States. The Centre also cannot make any claims to having contributed to these benefits. The act of discomfiting welfare pensioners has in fact provided us with the opportunity to bring the facts before the people. These debates provided an opportunity for those who were not fully aware of the positive aspects of the Kerala model to better understand the same.

47. There is a reason why it said that Kerala will not fall prey to propaganda. The propaganda that Kerala was a land of extreme labor struggles was strong at one time. Studies on labour strikes and the loss of man-days thereon has proved this smear campaign wrong. They've shown that Kerala is the state with the best working environment. Entrepreneurs generally testify to that. But the impression made in the past is still discouraging entrepreneurs from outside the state. That is why it is said that negative narratives cause serious harm. It destroys not only the confidence of the outsiders but also of our own youth.

48. Keraleeyam, which is planned to be conducted annually in association with 'Kerala Piravi', is an antidote to this. Keraleeyam celebrates the goodness of the land. The aim is to honestly present the achievements of Kerala. Along with this, Keraleeyam will also discuss the ways to move forward as we overcome our shortcomings. As part of Keraleeyam, an industrial and trade exhibition will be organized like the international trade fair at Pragathi Maidan, New Delhi. **An amount of ₹ 10 crores is earmarked for the Keraleeyam programme of 2024-25.**
49. Besides, it is intended to institute prizes to encourage those who conduct objective studies, produce features and videos on the merits and virtues of Kerala. **An amount of ₹ 10 lakhs is earmarked for this.**

PART II

Sir,

50. We cannot conclude that Kerala's potential for development can be realized only after the challenges and crises have passed. Therefore, new development models need to be devised with the assistance of the private sector.

51. The particulars regarding the establishment of the first Digital University of India, the first Digital Science Park of Asia and Virology Institute were detailed in the previous budget. **Among the establishments such as the Indian Innovation Centre for Graphene for the research and experiments in the Graphene, Centre of Excellence in Microbiomes, Centre of Excellence in Nutraceuticals and Medical Technology Consortium, a few have started and setting up of others is in progress.** The activities undertaken in Digital University and APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University have garnered the attention of the scientific world.
52. Excerpts from an editorial written by a prominent daily in Kerala praising the development of artificial intelligence processor “Kairali” by Digital University is detailed below. It said that **“such a news is a beacon of hope at a time when the campuses and universities of Kerala are rife with accusations of politicization and overreach. We should not lose sight of the fact that such silent revolutions are taking place in places like CET, Kerala University, Technical University, CUSAT etc.”** The reality is that such a transition is taking place in the entire higher education sector of Kerala. Higher education institutions in the state are slowly transforming to give priority to the application of harnessed knowledge

by going beyond the normal style of academia rooted in knowledge acquisition and its dissemination. It was mentioned at the beginning of this budget speech that it is this transformation which will lead to innovation in the economic systems of Kerala. Campuses in Kerala are not only developing new products and production processes, but are also nurturing enterprises and entrepreneurs. The above editorial also praised the government's support for this change. Government will strive to strengthen this support.

Sir,

53. **The Digital University of Kerala is the first university in India to develop an AI processor.** As of now, 16 patents have been granted to the Digital University. A Brain Computing Lab for promoting research in NeuroSciences has been established in University. It is a great achievement that Sir Andre Geim, Nobel laureate and pioneer in isolating Graphene has joined the Kerala Digital University as visiting professor.
54. The Digital University has been able to mobilize assistance to the tune of ₹ 200 crore from national and international agencies within 3 years of its inception. The Digital University has now become the largest

incubator of hardware products in the country by providing assistance to more than 80 startups.

55. **Developmental activities worth ₹ 250 crore will be implemented in the University.** As an institute which has started generating income from the first year of its inception and is becoming self-sufficient, sanction will be given to the Digital University to avail loans. The Government will provide interest subvention assistance for these loans.

56. The Digital University of Kerala has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with University of Oxford for academic cooperation. The University of Oxford has announced that state specific scholarships will be introduced for the students from Kerala for conducting research in the University. The students who complete post-graduation at Digital University of Kerala can join for Ph.D at the University of Oxford provided that upon completion of Ph.D, they will have to return to Kerala and contribute towards the development of the state for the next three years. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for this scholarship fund.**

57. Three regional centres of the Digital University of Kerala will be started at the north, east, and central zones of the state.
58. **Three centres of excellence will be started under the aegis of A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Technological University. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for this.** The University's building will be constructed on the land acquired for the University expending an amount of Rs.71 crore.
59. The Government has been able to create the most industry friendly environment in the state. Large multinational companies are coming to set up their manufacturing units in Kerala. The heads of these companies themselves are ruling out the malicious propaganda that Kerala is not conducive for industrial development.

Private Industrial Parks

60. Sir, Government has already issued development permit to 16 private industrial parks in the state. 8 applications are currently under consideration of the Government. The speciality of the private industrial parks having land area upto 10 acres is that the Government gives a

subsidy upto 3 crore for providing infrastructure facilities like drinking water, road and electricity. Huge response is being received from entrepreneurs and industrialists for this scheme. It is expected that Government will be in a position to provide permit to around 25 new private investment parks in the coming year.

Sir,

61. The State Government observed 2022-23 financial year as 'The Year of Entrepreneurship'. Out of the 1,39,840 enterprises that began operations, 21,528 enterprises (15%) were related to the food processing sector. More facilities will be provided in this sector.

Kerala Startup Mission

62. **The Startup ecosystem in Kerala is the best in the country.** Kerala has bagged the 'Best Performer' award of 2022 based on the national startup ranking jointly constituted by the Department of Commerce and Startup India. Kerala had received the 'Top Performer' award for the last three years also. The Startup Mission was able to generate 50,000 job opportunities in the state and raise

₹ 5,500 crore as investments to startups via venture capital funding. The number of startups already registered in the state has crossed the 5000 mark.

63. Work Near Home Centres offering co-working spaces for 100 to 150 persons are functioning in some small towns and villages of Kerala. Such LEAP centres are functioning in Kasaragod, Kottarakkara, Kannur, Kochi, Kozhikode, Palakkad and Thiruvananthapuram. There are IT centres with 100 to 200 employees at Alappuzha, Manjeri, Sulthan Bathery, Chalakkudi etc. This shows the success of 'Work Near Home' scheme announced in the earlier Budget. It is decided to established the second residential campus of the International company Zoho Corporation, at Kottarakkara. Hundreds of people will get employment through this. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for the project of extending LEAP centres all over the state.
64. Kerala Startup Mission will set up work pods so that persons who possess entrepreneurial ideas at the global level to come, stay and work in the scenic locations of Kerala.

Tourism

Sir,

65. Tourism is one sector which is capable of bringing huge change in Kerala's economy. After Covid, changes have taken place across the world in the perception of people towards life and in the manner of spending money. There has been a significant increase in the number of people interested in travelling and spending holidays in scenic and tranquil places. Tourism is one of the sectors which has witnessed consistent development in the world during post Covid times. Though, in the past, youth formed the major share of tourists, now a days, retired persons, senior citizens and the family as a whole have also been travelling frequently. Tourists choose places having better climate, hygiene and standard infrastructure facilities for holiday. Tourists take into consideration the law and order situation of the place, behaviour of the local people as well as local cuisine before embarking on holiday. For these reasons, Kerala can be the most sought after tourist destination in India. **Time magazine has selected Kerala as one among the 50 must see beautiful places in the world.** Several people native to the state and from other states of India reach the tourist centres of Kerala. Sea, backwaters, hills,

forest and climate are the unique treasures of Kerala. We must utilize their tourism potential effectively.

66. There are several places in Kerala which can be developed into eco-tourism centres. These can be developed into attractive tourism destinations through the co-ordinated efforts of Forest, Tourism and Culture Departments. **The Government will take initiatives to develop these local tourism centres with private participation.**

67. Steps will be taken to develop advanced convention centres that are capable of hosting big events of National–International standards. Policy needed for starting large convention centres which require huge capital investment and for ensuring facilities to the international tourists will be formulated. Studies show that there will be an additional requirement for 10,000 hotel rooms within the next three years. Government is contemplating a low interest bearing loan scheme in collaboration with Kerala Financial Corporation and banks for promoting capital investment in Kerala. It is expected that investment worth ₹ 5000 crore would be possible within one year in this sector. A special scheme will be prepared coordinating the efforts of Government, Local self-institutions and private sector so as to enable more than 500 people to come

together and stay in atleast 20 selected destinations. In the first phase these facilities will be provided in Varkala, Kollam, Munroe Thuruth, Alappuzha, Munnar, Fort Kochi, Ponnani, Beypore, Kozhikkode, Kannur and Bekal. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is set apart for this.

Special Developmental facilities package for Local Self Governments

68. There are opportunities for Local Self Government Institutions to undertake various development activities by purchasing lands as per the price prescribed by the Revenue Department following simple procedures. That will be helpful for schemes capable for creating income and employment opportunities on commercial basis. Complexity and delay in land acquisition can be avoided through this. Instead of doing things using the meagre fund received each year, funds can be pooled together for expediting the implementation of the schemes. Fund can be mobilized through loans from financial institutions and municipal bonds. Government will take steps to provide assistance to the schemes spearheaded by local self-institutions such as industrial parks, public enterprises and commercial centres. **An amount of ₹ 100 crore is earmarked this year for assisting such schemes.**

Care Economy

69. An important fact due to the migration of youngsters abroad for seeking job and education is the reduction in the number of people in the productive age group for the protection of the aged. In the near future, 20% of the population of Kerala will cross the age of 60 years. The sad reality is that in majority of the houses there are none including children to lend them support. In this circumstance, support has to be provided to the senior citizens and to those who need the help of others to lead a happy and healthy life. Kerala is fortunate to have the largest number of expert health workers and nurses. There are several places in Kerala with peaceful, scenic as well as good climatic conditions. A scheme will be formulated to set up 'Care Centres' in these places for providing health care and protection. Care will also be given to foreigners and people from outside the state in these centres. This initiative, by which Care Centre can be developed into international standards with the participation of private sector, will become state's important scheme. If Kerala becomes a care hub of people coming from different parts of the world for retired life and care, it will be a major asset to the economy. This was a demand repeatedly raised in the Loka Kerala Sabha.

Higher Education Sector

Sir,

70. In the last two budget speeches, I had given emphasis to the developments of Higher Education and Science and Technology sector. It was announced that several new important institutions would be started in these sectors. This included Centre of Excellence for Micro Biome, Centre of Excellence for Nutraceuticals, Translational Research Centres of Universities, Science Parks in three universities and new buildings for universities. I am glad to inform that some of these have already started functioning and others are in various stages of development.

71. Transforming Kerala into the higher education hub of the country will be a prime objective. There has been a significant increase in the number of students going abroad for educational purposes. In 2022, this number increased to 13.2 lakh. It is estimated that 4% of the total Indian students going abroad are from Kerala. Demands have been raised for establishing world class institutions in the state. This demand was also clearly echoed in the suggestions received from several people in Nava Kerala Sadases led by the Honorable Chief Minister.

72. This year, the State Government intends to formulate comprehensive policies and associated programmes including changes required in the structure of Kerala's higher education. The objective is to follow the roadmap to attain excellence laid out by the Commission established by this Government in 2022 for reforms in higher education sector.
73. Efforts shall be taken to integrate expatriate academic experts and utilize their expertise. A task force of academic experts will be formed for this. It is intended to conduct four regional conclaves during the months of May-June 2024 in Europe, USA, Gulf countries and Singapore on this front. In continuation of this, Higher Education Transformation Initiative–Global Conclave will be conducted in the state in August 2024. Kerala State Higher Education Council will be entrusted with this responsibility. The objectives of this initiative includes the formulation of a higher education investment policy. This policy will also include special incentives and packages to attract investments for establishing new higher education institutions in Kerala having international standards in partnership with reputed national and international educational institutions.

74. Opportunities for establishing foreign university campuses will be examined in accordance with the new UGC guidelines without compromising on the principles of transparency and equality. Components such as single window clearance for all required recognitions, relaxation in stamp duty/transfer duty/registration charges, subsidized rates for water and electricity, tax relaxation and investment subsidy on capital will be part of this investment policy.
75. Many foreign students are coming to various universities of Kerala for higher education now. More foreign students can be attracted to the state through the above mentioned steps. Steps will be taken to establish private Universities as well.

Retail Trade Sector

Sir,

76. The retail Sector is facing a big crisis across the world. The trading community of Kerala is also facing big challenges. Emergence of big retail chains, shopping malls and online marketplaces are the reasons for this crisis. The traders had raised this issue in Nava Kerala Sadas and had taken up the same directly with the

Honorable Chief Minister also. The bigger players mentioned above utilize the newest technologies and also have the benefit of economies of scale, both of which are not enjoyed by the smaller brick and mortar shops which are running trade through traditional means. Providing these benefits and facilities to our trading community is the solution for this problem. Economy of scale can be enjoyed by the traders through the formation of groups and by standing united. Purchasing commodities together on a large scale from manufacturers, Supply chain management systems like logistics, inventory management etc., all of them have to be taken up collectively. Digital technology, modern management techniques and artificial intelligence have to be utilised so as to support the same. Our universities and management institutions will be able to formulate the required technical framework. **An amount of ₹ 300 lakh is earmarked for initial expenses.** An expert committee will be constituted to study and submit report regarding retail trade sector.

Sports Economy

77. Along with the sustainable development of the sports sector, the new sports policy aims to transform the sports sector into one that contributes to the state's economy.

Investment offers to the tune of ₹ 5000 crore which was received through the first ever sports summit organized in the country is a great achievement. Investments will be in sectors such as infrastructure facilities, sports-associated industries, new leagues, sports startups and academies. More than 10,000 job opportunities will be created through this avenue.

Part – III

Agriculture

Sir,

78. Various schemes are being implemented by the Government for the expansion of agriculture and for ensuring better income to farmers. **A total number of 2,36,344 employment opportunities have been created in the Agriculture sector, since this Government has come to power. A total outlay of ₹ 1698.30 crore is earmarked for the annual scheme in 2024-25 for the agriculture sector.**

Kerala Climate Resilient Agri Value Chain Modernization Project (KERA)

79. A new externally aided project “Kerala Climate Resilient Agri Value Chain Modernization Project–KERA” will be launched in 2024-25 with the assistance of World Bank. The objective of the project is to enhance resilient commercialization of food and agricultural sector in Kerala compatible to climate, for small holder farmers, agri based Micro, Small, Medium Enterprises, Farmer Producer Organizations and Startups thereby invigorating local economic development. **An amount of ₹ 2365 crore will be expended through the project within the next five years.** The components of the project include climate resilience and mitigation in Agriculture, small holder commercialization for Contingent Emergency Response Component and Potential Climate Financing. The value addition components of the project will be implemented with the active participation of Industries Department. **An amount of ₹ 100 crore, including state share is earmarked for the scheme in 2024-25.**
80. **An amount of ₹535.90 crore is set apart for Crop Husbandry Sector.**

81. The seven rice growing Agro Ecological Units functioning in the State will focus on the augmentation of rice productivity. **An amount of ₹ 93.60 crore is earmarked for the implementation of the scheme.**

82. **An amount of ₹ 78.45 crore is set apart for the safe and non-toxic Vegetable Cultivation Development Programme.**

83. Government gives special emphasis for the development of coconut cultivation. In the previous Budget, the then existing Minimum Support Price for coconut was enhanced from ₹ 32 to ₹ 34 per kilogram. **An amount of ₹ 65 crore is earmarked for the Coconut Development Programme.**

84. An amount of ₹ 4.60 crore is earmarked for the promotion of spice cultivation in the State.

85. **A total amount of ₹ 18.92 crore is set apart for the expansion of area under Pomiculture. One fourth of the beneficiaries under the scheme will be women.**

Institute of Advanced Crop Breeding

86. There is an extreme necessity in the State to enhance the productivity of the crops. It is essential to transform crops into productive as well as resistant to climate change and pests. To utilize new insights and to conduct researches in this sector, Institute of Advanced Crop Breeding will be established under Kerala State Council for Science Technology and Environment. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is set apart for this.
87. **An amount of ₹ 13 crore is earmarked for Crop Health Management Programmes.**
88. **An amount of ₹ 16.95 crore is set apart for the farm mechanization support scheme.**
89. **An amount of ₹ 36 crore is allocated for the scheme of installation of Vertical Aerial Flow Pump instead of the conventional 'Petti and Para' system of Kuttanad and for the infrastructure development of padasekharams.**
90. **An amount of ₹ 77 crore is earmarked as state share for the various schemes under "Krishi Unnathi Yojana".**

91. **An amount of ₹ 8 crore is set apart for post-harvest management and value addition.**
92. **An amount of ₹ 43.90 crore is set apart for the programme which ensures efficient marketing of agricultural produce.**
93. **An amount of ₹ 75 crore including ₹ 42 crore for research projects, is allocated to Kerala Agricultural University.**

Soil and Water Conservation

94. **An amount of ₹ 83.99 crore is set apart for various project activities in Soil and Water Conservation Sector.**

Animal Husbandry

95. **An amount of ₹ 277.14 crore is earmarked for the Animal Husbandry sector in the financial year 2024-25. Out of this ₹ 82.50 crore is earmarked for the public sector undertakings in Animal Husbandry sector and ₹ 57 crore is for Kerala Veterinary & Animal Science University.**

96. **An amount of ₹ 32.18 crore is earmarked for strengthening veterinary services and ₹ 42.50 crore for Special Livestock Development Programme.**
97. **An amount of ₹ 16.20 crore is earmarked as financial assistance to 'Kerala Feeds Limited'.**
98. **An amount of ₹ 17 crore is set apart for the scheme "Doorstep and Domiciliary Veterinary Services".**
99. **An amount of ₹ 17.14 crore is provided as assistance to Meat Products of India Limited. This is ₹ 3.64 crore more than the allocation of previous year.**

Dairy Development

100. **An amount of ₹ 109.25 crore is earmarked for Dairy Development sector. Out of this, ₹ 11.40 crore is for the scheme 'Rural Dairy Extension and Farm Advisory Service' and ₹ 22.55 crore is for Dairy Co-operative Societies.**

Fisheries

Sir,

101. **Government is taking appropriate steps after examining the suggestions and opinions received through**

'Theerasadas' organised in coastal constituencies to study the problems and grievances of coastal communities. Government is giving special consideration for the development of infrastructure facilities of the fisheries sector. An amount of ₹ 227.12 crore is allocated for the fisheries sector.

102. **An amount of ₹ 9 crore is set apart for the project of conservation and management of fish resources including hiring of 20 boats for patrolling.**
103. **Saving Cum Relief Scheme is a project which provides relief to the fishermen in lean months. As the Central Government has not allocated proportionate funds under this scheme, a peculiar situation has arisen in which the State Government has to provide that also. An amount of ₹ 22 crore is earmarked as State share for this scheme.**
104. **An amount of ₹ 80.91 crore is set apart for inland fisheries in 7 schemes. Out of this, ₹ 67.50 crore is for the project 'Aquaculture Development'.**
105. **An amount of ₹ 18 crore is earmarked for the scheme 'Fish Farms, Nurseries and Hatcheries'.**

106. **A common effluent treatment plant need to be installed for the proper functioning of fishing industry sector in Aroor-Chandiroor area. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for setting up a common effluent treatment plant.**

Coastal Area Development

107. **An amount of ₹ 136.98 crore is earmarked for coastal area development.**
108. **An amount of ₹ 60 crore is earmarked for the project ensuring basic infrastructure and human resource development of fishermen. Out of this, ₹ 15 crore is for education/coaching programmes, ₹ 5 crore for social mobilization programmes and ₹ 17 crore for the alternative livelihood for fisherwomen.**
109. **An amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked for the activities of Matsyafed. An additional amount of ₹ 5 crore is allocated for the new net factory of Matsyafed at Neendakara.**
110. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for the rehabilitation of fishermen by providing land and**

house and an amount of ₹ 10 crore is allocated for providing coastal infrastructure facilities.

111. **An amount of ₹ 40 crore is provided for the “Punargeham project”, which is being implemented with the objective of rehabilitating all families residing within 50 meters from the areas which are under constant threat of coastal erosion to safer locations. The provision earmarked is double than that of the previous year. Since the financial year 2021-22, an amount of ₹ 226.80 crore has been expended for Punargeham project.**
112. **An amount of ₹ 9.50 crore is earmarked for the repairs, maintenance and dredging of fishing harbours.**
113. **An amount of ₹ 11.18 crore is earmarked for the group insurance scheme for providing compensation of ₹ 10 lakhs for accidental death/missing/permanent disabilities and ₹ 5 lakhs for partial disabilities of fishermen and allied workers who are members of Kerala Fishermen Welfare Fund Board. It is estimated that around 2.5 lakhs fishermen and 80,000 allied workers will be covered under this insurance scheme.**

114. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked as State share for various activities including renovation of Muthalapozhi fishing harbour. Including this, an amount of ₹ 13.31 crore is set apart for development of fishing harbours.**

115. **Demand has been arised for the construction of fishing harbour in pozhiyoor. An initial amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for this.**

Forestry and Wild Life Conservation

116. **Focus will be given on subjects such as mitigating human animal conflicts, protecting the lives and livelihoods of forest dependent communities and utilization of forest as a safe guard against climate change. Of the 4797 complaints received through “Vana Sauhridha Sadhas”, the outreach programme conducted across the state, 4311 complaints have been settled and compensation was awarded to the victims of human-animal conflicts. After obtaining favourable verdict from the Hon’ble Supreme Court, residential areas were excluded from areas declared as eco sensitive zones. Under ‘Navakiranam’ Project, 780 non-tribal families were relocated from forest areas by disbursing ₹ 93.60 crore. With this, a long prevailing problem related to this sector has been successfully resolved.**

Promotion of Sandalwood Cultivation

117. Government will promote sandalwood cultivation and help for sandalwood conservation. For this timely changes will be made in the acts and rules related to sandalwood. It is envisaged to convert more forest depots across the state into sandalwood collection centres for the collection of sandalwood trees cut down from private land, and constitute a revolving fund for providing 50% of the value of sandalwood assessed by the government in advance to the owners.

Eco-tourism Authority

118. Kerala Forest Eco-tourism Development Authority will be set up to effectively utilize the prospects of eco-tourism.
119. **An amount of ₹232.59 crore is earmarked for Forestry and Wild life sector for the financial year 2024-25.**

Sir,

120. **For the first time in India, 500 tribal youths who were fully dependent on forest were appointed as Beat Forest Officers through special recruitment by PSC.**

121. **An amount of ₹ 5.97 crore is earmarked for the conservation of bio-diversity.**

Resource Planning and Research

122. **An amount of ₹ 50.30 crore is set apart in Rural Infrastructure Development Fund for improving the environmental restoration activities in 2024-25.**

Man-Animal Conflict Mitigation Measures

123. **Provision was enhanced to mitigate man-animal conflicts during the last year also. An amount of ₹ 48.85 crore is earmarked in the year 2024-25 for this purpose.**
124. **An amount of ₹ 204.25 crore, including fund from KIIFB has already been expended with an objective of upgrading the Zoological Park located at Puthur in Thrissur district to international standards. An amount of ₹ 6 crore is set apart for Zoological Park.**
125. **A full-fledged Safari park will be established at Nadukani in Thaliparambu constituency. 300 acres of land has been identified for this park, having a museum, zoo and biodiversity park. This will be developed as a joint venture**

of public, cooperative and private sectors. As per the initial estimate, investment of ₹ 300 crore is required for this project. This will become prime tourist destination in Malabar region. An amount of **₹ 2 crore** is earmarked for initial expenses.

Tiger Safari Park

126. Tiger Safari Park will be setup in a land area of 120 hectares at Mudukad in Peruvannamoozhi Range of Kozhikode Forest Division. This centre will be developed into one having much potential in the tourism sector.

Local Governance

127. **The plan outlay for the local bodies is enhanced to 28.09 % of the State Plan Outlay. An amount of ₹ 8532 crore is earmarked as plan share. This includes an amount of ₹ 180 crore for Solid Waste Management Project implemented in municipalities and corporations. Apart from this an amount of ₹ 4131.19 crore as Maintenance Fund and ₹ 2542.27 crore as General Purpose Fund are set apart.**

Constitution Literacy

128. By January 26, 2025, when our country celebrates the 75th anniversary of becoming a republic, the plan to

achieve constitutional literacy for the entire population of Kerala will be implemented through local self-government bodies

129. **The Government and the Corporation successfully resolved the long term issue of flood and water logging in Ernakulam city through the scheme 'Operation Break Through'. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for the subsequent activities of this scheme.**
130. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for the development of Sakthan Thampuran bus stand in Thrissur.**

Rural Development

131. **A total amount of ₹ 1768.32 crore is earmarked for rural development sector as plan share.**
132. **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is one of the important schemes implemented in association with the Central Government. The Central Government has been reluctant to provide adequate funds for the scheme for the last few years. However, the State**

Government has taken steps to create maximum job opportunities under the scheme. A total number of 9,65,76,000 man days have been created in the year 2022-23 under this scheme. It is aimed to provide ₹ 3496.50 crores as wages through the creation of 10.50 crore man-days. Although the scheme envisages one third of its beneficiaries to be women, in Kerala, it is above 90%.

133. **An amount of ₹ 230.10 crore is set apart as State share for the scheme. An amount of ₹ 4459.71 crore is expected as Central share.**
134. **An amount of ₹ 84.68 crore is provided as State share for the scheme Pradhan-Manthri Gram Sadak Yojana (PM-GSY). An amount of ₹ 127.02 crore is expected as central share.**
135. **State Government has started a scheme to eradicate extreme poverty. 64006 extremely poor families were identified in the survey conducted by Local Self Government Department. Through the first phase of the Extreme Poverty Eradication Programme, 47.9% of these families have been liberated from extreme poverty. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is earmarked for extreme poverty eradication in the financial year**

2024-25. By November 2025, all such families are expected to be uplifted from the state of extreme poverty.

136. **An amount of ₹ 20 crore is earmarked for various literacy programmes.**

Kudumbasree

137. Kudumbasree, the poverty eradication mission established by the states Government with the aim of women empowerment under the aegis of Local Self Government Department has successfully completed its 25 years. Kudumbasree created revolutionary changes in the social, cultural and economic sectors of Kerala. **'Kudumbasree Neighbouring Groups' organize a massive campaign namely "Return to School" in 2023-24 fiscal with the participation of 38.7 lakh people for making the organizational set up of kudumbasree more effective and dynamic. Capturing energy from this campaign, a separate lively hood project will be organized, in the name K-LIFT (Kubumbasree Livelihood Initiative for Transformation) in 2024-25 under the leadership of Kudumbasree, with the aim of increasing income of women by ensuring livelihood of 3 lakh women.**

This aims livelihood programmes worth an approximate amount of ₹ 430 crore including provision earmarked in the State Budget, Share from various centrally sponsored schemes, CSR fund from Public Private Institution and various loan schemes. The scheme is envisioned with a suitable manner for leading the Kudumbasree to a new perspective and creating a new model of women empowerment of Kerala.

138. **An amount of ₹ 265 crore is earmarked for Kudumbasree in the year 2024-25. This amount is ₹ 5 crore more than that of the previous year.**
139. **An amount of ₹ 7.50 crore is earmarked for Swachh Bharath Mission (Gramin) programme as State share. An amount of ₹ 11.25 crore is expected as central share.**
140. Suchitwa Mission is functioning to ensure total sanitation including Solid-Liquid waste management. **An amount of ₹ 25 crore is earmarked for Suchitwa Mission.**
141. **An amount of ₹ 65 crore is earmarked for Deen Dayal Andhyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) as State share. An amount of ₹ 97.50 crore is expected as Central share.**

142. **An amount of ₹ 8 crore is earmarked as State share for Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA).**

Total housing scheme (LIFE)

143. **LIFE is the housing scheme initiated by State Government with a vision to provide houses to all homeless families. Under the scheme, a total number of 1,51,073 houses have been sanctioned for construction in 2023-24, till date. Out of this, construction of 31,386 houses has already been completed. Construction of 1,19,687 houses is in progress. Construction of 3,71,934 houses has so far been completed under LIFE Scheme. Government aims to complete the construction of 4,25,000 houses by 31st March 2024 and take the total number of families who benefit from LIFE Scheme to Five lakh in the year 2024-25.**

Sir,

144. **A total amount of ₹ 17,104.87 crore has been expended for LIFE housing scheme till date after this government come to power. An amount of ₹ 1,966.36 crore has been expended so far in 2023-24. An**

amount of ₹ 1,132 crore is earmarked for this scheme in the year 2024-25.

- 145. Sir, it is aimed to complete constructions worth ₹ 10,000 crore as part of LIFE scheme, within the next two years. The Government and the local bodies will jointly expedite the completion of constructions by using long term loan scheme, in addition to the current Budget provision.**
- 146. ₹ 1.20 lakh is the total cost fixed for each house by the Central Government under the centrally sponsored scheme PMAY-Gramin. Sixty percent of this, which is ₹ 72,000, is central share. But, the state government has fixed ₹ 4 lakh as cost for each house and provides the remaining amount of ₹ 3,28,000 additionally. An amount of ₹ 207.92 crore is earmarked as State share for this scheme in 2024-25.**
- 147. The Central Government has fixed ₹ 2.50 lakh as financial assistance to a house under the project 'Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-(PMAY-Urban). However in Kerala, the State Government provides ₹ 4 lakh per house including Central share of ₹ 1.50 lakh. A total number of 1,31,757 dwelling units are under the**

scheme. Of this, 48,640 houses are under various stages of construction. An amount of ₹ 133 crore is earmarked as state share for the various activities under PMAY-Urban. ₹ 399 crore is expected as central share.

148. **Since the Central Government's instruction regarding branding of the schemes PMAY-Gramin and PMAY-Urban would cause indignity to the beneficiaries, the State Government has denied this. In this circumstance, the Central Government has withdrawn from providing the eligible central share. This has led to the situation where the State Government has to provide the Central share as well. The State Government is not willing to accept any policies which harm the dignity of beneficiaries.**

149. Kerala Urban and Rural Development Finance Corporation provides financial assistance to LIFE Mission by availing loans from **HUDCO on Government Guarantee. An amount of ₹ 305.68 crore is provided as assistance to KURDFC for settlement of claims of HUDCO loans.**

Housing

150. **An amount of ₹ 57.62 crore is earmarked for the Housing Sector.** This includes ₹ 39.56 crore for Kerala State Housing Board and ₹ 1.06 crore for Housing Department.
151. An amount of ₹ 6 crore is set apart for the EWS/LIG Housing scheme to provide loan linked subsidy to low income group.
152. **A new scheme 'Vardhakya Sauhridha Bhavanam' is announced for senior citizens. For this ₹ 2 crore from the allocation of Kerala State Housing Board is set apart.**

M. N. Laksham Veedu Punar Nirmana Padhati

153. 9004 houses constructed under M. N. Laksham veedu scheme are in uninhabitable condition. **For the reconstruction of M. N. Laksham Veedu, two new projects; namely 'Suvarna Bhavanam' and 'Navayuga' have been envisaged.** An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for these two schemes.

154. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for Kerala State Nirmithi Kendra for its various activities.**
155. An amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked for the Lauri Baker International School of Habitat Studies (LaBISHas).

Commercial-residential complex at Marine drive

156. The Housing Board in association with National Building Construction Corporation Limited will construct an International commercial-residential complex at marine drive Kochi, at a cost of ₹ 2,150 crore which comprises of a 3,59,000 sq. ft. commercial complex, 35,24,337 sq. ft. residential complex, environment friendly parks and 19,42,000 sq. ft. parking facility.

Special Scheme for Local Area Development

157. **An amount of ₹ 252.60 crore is earmarked for the special packages implemented by the State Government.**
158. **An amount of ₹ 75 crore each is allocated for the development packages for Kasaragod, Idukki and Wayanad districts. This earmarked amount is**

in-addition to the large scale development programmes being implemented in these districts.

159. **An amount of ₹ 27.60 crore is earmarked for meeting the expenses of Sabarimala Master Plan.**

Co-operation

160. Co-operative sector plays a significant role in the socio-economic life of Kerala. Thousands of co-operative institutions, which are functioning as the backbone of rural economy, are the pride of Kerala. However, there are frequent overt and covert interventions on the part of the Union Government which are not conducive the Co-operative sector. Existence of this sector is essential for the economic development of the state. **Government is committed to protect the co-operative sector which fulfil the economic needs of common people including farmers. An amount of ₹ 134.42 crore is set apart for the Co-operative sector.**
161. **An amount of ₹ 15 crore is provided for primary agricultural credit co-operative societies.**

162. **An amount of ₹ 6.05 crore is earmarked for the institutions under Co-operative Academy for Professional Education.**
163. **An amount of ₹ 18 crore is earmarked for providing loan, share capital, working grant and subsidy to various co-operative institutions implementing vocational programmes.**
164. **An amount of ₹ 7 crore is set apart for the various development projects of Scheduled Caste-Scheduled Tribe co-operatives.**
165. An amount of ₹ 2.50 crore is provided as assistance to Vanitha co-operatives and Vanithafed.
166. An amount of ₹ 30 crore is earmarked for the scheme Co-operative's Initiative in Technology-driven Agriculture (CITA).
167. **An amount of ₹ 7.25 crore is set apart as assistance to the co-operatives engaged in activities such as production, procurement, processing, grading and marketing of agricultural produces.**

168. **An amount of ₹ 11.15 crore is earmarked for Kerala Sahakarana Samrakshana Nidhi Project.**
169. **An amount of ₹ 28.10 crore is provided as NCDC assistance to Primary Societies, Consumerfed and Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies.**

Irrigation & Flood control

170. **An amount of ₹ 588.85 crore is earmarked for Irrigation, Flood Control and Coastal Zone Management. This provision is ₹ 63.40 crore more than that of the last year.**

Major and Medium Irrigation

171. **Amount allocated for Idamalayar Irrigation Project is enhanced from last year's provision of ₹ 10 crore to ₹ 35 crore.**
172. **Including RIDF loan, an amount of ₹ 12 crore is set apart for Moovattupuzha Valley Irrigation Project; ₹ 32 crore for Karappuzha Project; ₹ 25 crore for Banasura Sagar Project.**

173. **An amount of ₹ 14 crore is earmarked for the reconstruction of Pattissery Dam and canal system which is a part of Chengalar Project in Pambar river basin.**
174. **A new scheme is being announced for the construction of weir and forebay tank at Thalachoorkadavu and diversion of Chengalar Project from Thalachoorkadavu to Pattisseri Dam and construction of ring road including fencing work at Pattissery Dam. For this, ₹ 10 crore is earmarked.**
175. **An amount of ₹ 11.10 crore is set apart for the renovation of channels of Chittoor puzha, Malampuzha, Mangalam, Pothundy, Kuttyadi, Gayathri and Valayar projects under the scheme 'Modernisation of field channels and drains of CADA canals'.**
176. **An amount of ₹ 15 crore is allocated for the renovation of main canal, branch canal and distribution system of Pazhassi Irrigation Project.**
177. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked towards the maintenance and renovation of Kanjirapuzha Irrigation Project.**

178. **An amount of ₹ 12 crore is set apart for the renovation and modernization of canals under Chittoorpuzha Project. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is also earmarked for the maintenance works of Kallada Irrigation Project.**
179. **An amount of ₹ 5 crore is allocated towards the flood relief activities in Kuttanadu region and Thottappally Spillway, by including it in the second Kuttanadu package.**
180. **An amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked towards the construction of mini dam with Regulator-cum-Bridge at Arunapuram across Meenachil river.**
181. **₹ 30 crore is allocated for 15 dams in the State under the IInd phase of 'Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project-DRIP'. In addition, ₹ 15 crore is allocated for the renovation works of dams undertaken by KSEB.**
182. **An amount of ₹ 22 crore is set apart for the scheme aimed at evaluation of ground water resources and for providing infrastructure facilities for the development of ground water resources of the State.**

183. **An amount of ₹ 17 crore is allocated towards the lift irrigation schemes. Out of this ₹ 15 crore will be used for new lift irrigation projects.**
184. **An amount of ₹ 75.10 crore for minor irrigation-class I projects and ₹ 22.50 crore for minor irrigation–class II projects are set apart.**
185. **An amount of ₹ 7.50 crore is allocated for the renovation and conservation of tanks and ponds through Haritha Keralam Mission.**
186. **An amount of ₹ 100 crore is set apart for the NABARD–RIDF project to carry out the infrastructure development in Kuttanadu region.**
187. **An amount of ₹ 57 crore is provisioned towards flood mitigation activities in the various Padasekharams of Alappuzha and Kottayam districts.**
188. **An amount of ₹ 15 crore is allocated for coastal protection activities.**

Energy

189. **The total allocation for Energy sector for the year 2024-25 is ₹ 1150.76 crore. This includes the**

allocation of ₹ 6.60 crore for Energy Management Center and ₹ 5.16 crore for Electrical Inspectorate Department.

190. **Our State moves towards the target of attaining 50% of energy requirement from renewable energy sources by 2027. Since this Government has come to power, a total of 654.5 MW of electricity has been generated additionally, including 610 MW of solar energy and 44.5 MW of Hydro Electricity. Government aims to achieve 1000 MW installed capacity through solar energy in 2024-25.**

191. **Kerala has secured second position in the National Energy Efficiency Performance Award 2023 based on National Energy Efficiency Index.**

192. **An amount of ₹ 8 crore is set apart for the new 40 MW Hydro Electric Project in Mankulam Grama Panchayath.**

193. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for 76.45 MU Chinnar Small Hydro Electric Project.**

194. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for Pazhassi Sagar Hydro Electric Project.**

195. **A Tourism Project including the magnificent laser light and sound show by using outer surface of the Idukki dam as a screen will be implemented. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked as financial assistance for the preparation of a detailed project**
196. An amount of ₹ 7 crore is allocated for Kuttiyadi Additional Extension scheme at Chakkittappara in Kozhikkode district.
197. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided for Small Hydro Electric Projects.
198. **An amount of ₹ 15 crore is set apart for investigation works and DPR preparation of new Hydro Electric Projects.**
199. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is set apart for the adequate renovation activities and modernization in 35 - 40 years old Hydro Electric Projects, in order to improve their performance and extend useful life.
200. **In the backdrop of the huge loss meted out to the KSEB assets on account of 2018 and 2019 floods, an amount of ₹ 18.18 crore is set apart for the**

flood resilient construction works in generation, transmission and distribution fronts.

- 201. An amount of ₹ 400 crore is set apart for 'Dyuthi Project'. The provision is ₹ 24 crore more than that of the previous year.**
- 202. An amount of ₹ 7.40 crore is provided to KSEB Ltd, the nodal agency for e-Vehicle charging stations to establish new charging stations in all districts.**
- 203. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is provided for the compensation package of Edamon-Kochi and Pugalur-Madakkathara High Tension Lines.**
- 204. An amount of ₹ 31.62 crore is set apart as state share towards the Viability Gap Fund (VGF) of the Innovation Fund and ESCOT startup project established in the Energy sector.**

Non-Conventional and Renewable Energy Resources

- 205. An amount of ₹ 50.20 crore is set apart for various activities of ANERT.**

206. **An amount of ₹ 37.30 is allocated for the implementation of various programmes on renewable energy such as solar thermal applications and e-mobility. Out of this, ₹ 3.50 crore will be utilized for solar electrification of un-electrified remote tribal areas.**

Industries and Minerals

207. **Kerala's Industrial Sector is moving forward with new vigour. In the previous year alone around 1,40,000 enterprises started functioning in the State as part of "Samrambrakha Varsham Scheme". It was able to provide employment to more than three lakh people. The Make-in-Kerala Initiative envisages to increase investment, renovation and production in 22 sectors with high growth potential. The business friendly environment in Kerala is getting better. We see news regarding major international firms reaching out to Kerala. An amount of ₹ 1729.13 crore is earmarked for Industry and Minerals Sector. An amount of ₹ 773.09 is earmarked in 2024-25 for Medium/Large industries.**

208. The expert committee which studied the scope of manufacturing and exporting foreign liquor to other states and abroad has reported that there are enough

possibilities for the same in Kerala. The committee has put forward suggestions to resolve the existing difficulties related to export including that of Kerala Brand products. Steps will be taken to examine and practically implement these suggestions and prepare projects for giving assistance for the same.

Village and Small Industries

209. **An amount of ₹ 215.64 crore is allocated for various Village and Small Industries schemes envisaged through MSMEs, targeting groups such as Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, women, youth and the differently abled. This includes an amount of ₹ 204.94 crore for small scale industries, ₹ 6.50 crore for Commerce sector and ₹ 4.20 crore for Handicraft sector.**
210. **An amount of ₹ 58.50 crore is earmarked for Entrepreneur Support Scheme integrating all self-employment schemes. The scheme aims 2000 units.**
211. **An amount of ₹ 17.06 crore is earmarked for the scheme that provides Margin Money Grant to loan**

linked projects of the deserving entrepreneurs in order to promote setting up of nano enterprises in the State.

212. An amount of ₹ 8 crore is provided as State share for the project, P.M Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) to which ₹ 12 crore is anticipated as central share.
213. An amount of ₹ 18.02 crore is earmarked for the special package for providing assistance to functional MSMEs and for scaling up of existing enterprises from micro to small; small to medium.
214. **An amount of ₹ 43 crore is allocated to facilitate the setting up of new enterprises** across the State. 20% of the beneficiaries under this scheme will be women.

Cashew sector

215. Cashew sector, which is a major traditional industry is under a crisis. The schemes in the cashew sector are intended to address this issue. **An amount of ₹ 53.36 crore is allocated for the Cashew sector** for 2024-25 fiscal.

216. **An amount of ₹ 30 crore is earmarked for the special 'Cashew Rejuvenation Project' for helping the cashew industry and its workers.**
217. An amount of ₹ 6.50 crore is provided for various activities of Kerala State Agency for the expansion of Cashew Cultivation (KSACC) aiming to increase the indigenous production of raw nuts.
218. Since this Government came into power, ₹ 166.70 crore has been provided to Kerala Cashew Board, a Special Purpose Vehicle constituted for the procurement of raw nuts from within and outside the country to distribute across the Cashew sector in the State. An amount of ₹ 40.81 crore is provided as revolving fund for Kerala Cashew Board.
219. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is provided for the revival of small and medium scale cashew factory units and rebuilding lost livelihood.

Handloom and Powerloom Industries

220. **An amount of ₹ 51.89 crore is allocated for Handloom & Powerloom sector.**

221. An amount of ₹ 5.29 crore is earmarked for providing share participation to Handloom Co-operative Societies, HANTEX and HANVEEV. Out of this, ₹ 4.40 crore allocated for HANTEX and HANVEEV.
222. An amount of ₹ 4.50 crore is set apart for the motivation programme aimed to boost the productivity of weavers and allied workers.
223. An amount of ₹ 4 crore is allocated for the establishment of Handloom Villages.
224. An amount of ₹ 9 crore is earmarked as capital assistance for setting up a Dyeing and Printing unit at Kannur Nadukani KINFRA Textile Centre.
225. An amount of ₹ 9.85 crore is set apart for Co-operative spinning mills under TEXFED for various activities including one time assistance for fulfilling their working capital requirements.

Coir Industry

226. **An amount of ₹ 107.64 crore is set apart for various schemes under Coir industry.**

227. An amount of ₹ 32 crore is earmarked for the rejuvenation and modernization of Public Sector Undertakings, Co-operative Societies and Private Enterprises in the Coir sector.
228. An amount of ₹ 7 crore is allocated as assistance for the Research and Development projects of Coir sector.
229. An amount of ₹ 38 crore is set apart for the project of procurement of coir and coir products through agencies like COIRFED, thereby ensuring their price stability.

Khadi–Village Industries

230. An amount of ₹ 14.80 crore is earmarked for the various activities related to Khadi and Village industries, the traditional industry which provides direct employment to around 14,000 people in weaving and spinning sectors.

Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC)

231. **An amount of ₹ 127.50 crore is earmarked for Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation in 2024-25 Budget with the objective of promoting industries and facilitating investments.**

232. An amount of ₹ 22 crore is earmarked for attracting various investment promotion activities.
233. An amount of ₹ 6 crore is earmarked for “Innovation Acceleration Scheme” for the startup support initiatives.
234. An amount of ₹ 9 crore is provided as interest subvention for the Chief Minister’s Special Assistance scheme which provides financial assistance ranging from ₹ 1 crore to ₹ 5 crore with an interest rate of 5%, to MSMEs/ Startups/Enterprises of non-resident Keralites.
235. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is set apart towards various incentives such as fixed capital investment subsidy, electricity duty exemption, waiver of stamp duty/ registration charges, etc. to entrepreneurs as part of Kerala Industrial and Commercial Policy.
236. **An amount of ₹ 35 crore is earmarked for Life Science Park, Thiruvananthapuram. This includes ₹ 15 crore for various construction activities and ₹ 20 crore for Medical Devices Park.**
237. An amount of ₹ 14 crore is allocated for “KSIDC Industrial Parks”.

Kerala Rubber Limited

238. It is proposed to establish a Rubber Industrial Complex under the aegis of Kerala Rubber Limited with an estimate of ₹ 250 crore, at the land provided by Hindustan News Print Limited, Velloor, Kottayam. ₹ 9 crore is set apart for Kerala Rubber Limited promoting value added industries in Rubber sector.
239. Sir, Kerala is the only government which is intervening to resolve the crisis faced by rubber farmers. The Center is adopting a policy that favors the large scale rubber industry by promoting increased imports, as evidenced by the judgment passed by the Competition Commission against tyre companies. Currently, Kerala provides a support price of Rs 170 per kilogram of rubber. Although a request has been made to the central government to increase this amount to Rs 250, there has been no positive response so far. **Despite financial constraints, Kerala has decided to raise the support price of rubber to Rs 180 in this case.**

Plantation sector

240. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for projects aimed at the renovation of Layams of plantation labourers.

241. **An amount of ₹ 324.31 crore is set apart for KINFRA for carrying out various activities in 2024-25.**
242. An amount of ₹ 12.50 crore is set apart for the second phase construction of KINFRA Film and Video Park.
243. An extent of 600 acre land has been identified for Petrochemical Park, adjoining BPCL, Kochi. In this, 481 acres has been transferred to KINFRA and the registration process has been completed and 170 acres of land has already been allotted to BPCL. An amount of ₹ 13 crore is set apart for various infrastructure development activities of Petrochemical Park.
244. National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT) has approved “Kochi-Palakkad High-Tech Industrial Corridor” under Kochi-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor. Maximum growth in the economic and employment sectors can be achieved with the realization of Kochi-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor. An amount of ₹ 200 crore is earmarked for the scheme.
245. An amount of ₹ 12.50 crore is set apart for the establishment of KINFRA Exhibition Centre, Kakkanad, Kochi with modern facilities.

246. **An amount of ₹ 30.60 crore is earmarked for the infrastructure upgradation of 11 industrial parks.**
247. An amount of ₹ 17 crore is allocated for the infrastructure development of Kerala Integrated Industrial & Textile Park, Palakkad (Phase-II), Perumbavoor, Ramanattukara Industrial parks and KINFRA Export Promotion Industrial Park, Kochi.
248. A package will be implemented for the rejuvenation and revival of PSUs having operational potential under Industries Department, including textile sector. An amount of ₹ 279.10 crore is set apart for the completion of projects initiated from 2017-18 to 2021-22 which are left unfinished and for new complementary projects, as part of this scheme.
249. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is earmarked for Electronic Package Testing facility.

Minerals

250. An amount of ₹ 5.57 crore is earmarked for various activities under Mineral-Mining sector. This includes ₹1.50 crore for mineral investigation and ₹ 2.02 crore for the modernization of Mining & Geology Department.

Information & Technology

251. The IT policy announced by Government in 2017 intends to transform Kerala into a leading IT hub by providing infrastructure facilities and better employment opportunities. **An amount of ₹ 507.14 crore is set apart for IT sector. An amount of ₹ 52.50 crore including NABARD loan is earmarked for various activities of Kerala Space Park.**

AVGC Industry

252. The State Government has formulated a policy to attract new entrepreneurs in the fields of digital entertainment including Animation, Visual effects, Gaming, and Comics. The Government will provide assistance to entrepreneurs in this sector including support in areas such as infrastructure.

AI Conclave

253. The State Government will organize an International AI Conclave in July 2024 in collaboration with IBM, aiming to establish Kerala as a hub for artificial intelligence.

Robotics Hub

254. A round table will be organized in August 2024 to prepare an action plan to make Kerala a Robotics Hub with the help of top research institutes and robotics companies.
255. **An amount of ₹ 117.18 crore is earmarked for the various activities of Kerala State Information Technology Mission (KSITM).**

State Data Centre

256. **An amount of ₹ 47 crore is provided for various activities of Data Centers.**
257. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is set apart for the activities of KSWAN.
258. **2000 Wi-Fi hotspots will be setup more across the State. An amount of ₹ 25 crore is allocated for this scheme.**

Kerala Digital University

259. An amount of ₹ 23.51 crore is set apart for the activities of Kerala Digital University and ₹ 18.95 crore for the activities of IITMK.

260. Vigorous steps are being taken to establish the India Innovation Center for Graphene at Kochi, with the assistance from the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and Tata Steel, under the leadership of the State Government, with an investment of ₹ 86 crore. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart as State share for this project.
261. A large scale pre-production center for the development of Graphene based products will be established at Ottappalam, in co-operation with Carborundum Universal Limited, at a cost of ₹ 260 crore.
262. **An amount of ₹ 27.47 crore is set apart for the development activities of Technopark.**
263. **An amount of ₹ 26.70 crore is provided for the activities of Infopark and ₹ 12.80 crore for Cyberpark.**
264. An amount of ₹ 119.91 crore is provided for the activities of Kerala State Information Technology Infrastructure Limited which is working for the infrastructure development of IT sector in the State.

Kerala Startup Mission

265. The number of registered startups in the State has already crossed 5000. **An amount of ₹ 90.52 crore is**

set apart for the various activities of Startup Mission.

Out of this, ₹ 20 crore is allocated for the establishment of Technology Innovation Zone in Kalamasseri KINFRA Hi-Tech Park and ₹ 70.52 crore for youth entrepreneurship development programmes.

Fund of Funds

266. ₹ 46.10 crore has already been invested through Fund of Funds system formulated by the State Government to accelerate the startup investments in Kerala. The investment value has grown 3.9 times as per the current market value. Considering the potential of this type of investment, ₹ 20 crore is earmarked in budget as Fund of Funds. Potential for share investments in startup enterprises will also be explored.

Transport and Communication

267. An amount of ₹ 1976.04 crore is allocated for major development projects in the Transportation sector.
268. With the enactment of the Kerala Maritime Board Act in 2017, the administration and development activities of all non-major ports are vested with Kerala Maritime Board. An amount of ₹ 73.72 crore is earmarked for ports, light houses and shipping.

Ports

Azhikkal Port

269. In order to ensure the seamless movement of cargo transport to the northern districts of Kerala, Government intends to implement the comprehensive development of Azhikkal Port through increasing the depth, providing more infrastructure facilities and enhancing the capacity of the port.

Kollam Port

270. The importance of Kollam Port, which is one of the oldest port in Kerala, will increase with the completion of Vizhinjam Port. The Kollam port has already attained ICPS Code Certification mandated by The International Maritime Organization. The procedures for obtaining customs clearance and immigration check-point status are in the final stage. The government aims to develop the Kollam Port which has a natural depth of 7.3 m into the most important non-major port by increasing its depth, constructing new wharves and other related infrastructure facilities.

271. **An amount of ₹ 39.20 crore is earmarked for the comprehensive infrastructure development of**

Azhikkal, Beypore, Kollam, Alappuzha and Ponnani ports giving emphasis to cargo, passenger transportation and tourism.

272. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart for the infrastructure development of non-major ports namely Neendakara, Valiyathura, Kayamkulam, Manakkodam, Munambam-Kodungallur, Thalassery, Kozhikkode, Kannur, Cheruvathur-Neeleswaram, Kasaragod and Manjeshwar.
273. An amount of ₹ 9.65 crore is earmarked for activities such as land acquisition, rehabilitation, breakwater construction, utility charges and consultancy-Project management of Green field International Port (Malabar International Port & SEZ Ltd) constituted to benefit northern Kerala and southern Karnataka regions.

Roads & Bridges

274. **In order to revitalize the construction sector in the state, Government will be undertaking construction works to the tune of ₹ 1000 crore. The details will be released by the Finance Department.**

275. An amount of ₹ 75 crore is earmarked for the development and maintenance of State Highways that link important cities and District headquarters within the State and connect them with major roads.
276. An amount of ₹ 288.27 crore is earmarked for the development and maintenance of Major District Roads in view of the rising transport demands.
277. **An amount of ₹ 100 crore is earmarked for Kerala State Transport Project (KSTP) for the execution of second phase activities after the exhaustion of loan from The World Bank.**
278. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is set apart for the construction and maintenance of bridges and culverts in State Highways under PWD, ₹ 95 crore for the completion of construction and renovation of bridges with NABARD assistance, ₹ 66 crore for the bridges & culverts of Major District Roads and ₹ 25 crore for protection and reconstruction of existing bridges.
279. Renovation of 37 roads having a total length of 517.45 km is in progress through the Central Road Fund. An amount of ₹ 61.85 crore is allocated for this scheme.

Road Transport

280. Government has implemented comprehensive reforms in Transportation Sector. There has been a huge increase in the financial aid provided to KSRTC after this government came into power. As compared to ₹ 1463.86 crore allocated to KSRTC during the period of UDF Government in 2011-16, **an amount of ₹ 5002.13 crore has been allocated by the LDF Government during 2016-21, and ₹ 4917.92 crore has already been provided within the three year time period of 2nd Pinarayi Government as assistance to KSRTC.**
281. **An amount of ₹ 128.54 crore is earmarked as plan fund for the various activities of KSRTC.**
282. It is necessary to introduce more new buses on road in place of old ones. An amount of ₹ 92 crore is provided to KSRTC for purchasing BS-VI standard diesel buses which are more eco-friendly.
283. An amount of ₹ 35.52 crore is set apart for Motor Vehicles Department. An amount of ₹ 5.28 crore is earmarked as financial assistance to transform Sree Chithira Tirunal Engineering College into a front line research centre.

284. An amount of ₹ 2.50 crore is earmarked for the modernization of motor vehicle check posts.

Inland Water Transport

285. **A total amount of ₹ 130.32 crore is set apart for Inland Water Transport sector.**

286. Of the outlay earmarked for Water Transport Department, ₹ 22.30 crore is the share for procurement of new transport vessels with higher safety and fuel efficiency and for the improvement of ferry services. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart for procuring two solar boats for the Kollam-Ashtamudi and Alappuzha- Vembanad Backwater Tourism Projects.

287. An amount of ₹ 3 crore is set apart for the construction of new cruise vessel under KSINC.

288. An amount of ₹ 23 crore is allocated for the NABARD assisted project for construction of feeder canals connecting National Waterway III.

Kochi Metro Rail

289. Government intends to implement the IInd phase of Kochi Metro Rail project with the external loan

assistance. In 2024-25 an amount of ₹ 239 crore is set apart for this.

290. Government aims to implement an Integrated Water Transport System in Kochi with the external loan assistance. An amount of ₹ 150 crore is earmarked for this.
291. For setting up airstrips, an amount of ₹ 1.96 crore for Idukki, ₹ 1.17 crore for Wayanad and ₹ 1.10 crore for Kasaragod districts are earmarked.
292. An amount of ₹ 1.85 crore is set apart for initiating the feasibility study, preparation of DPR and related works of Sabarimala Greenfield Airport.
293. Non-motorised Transport Project, with the objective of providing easy access to the commuters to the metro stations through safe walkways, cycle tracks and docking facilities, will be implemented with the external loan assistance. In 2024-25, an amount of ₹91 crore is set apart.

Tourism

294. The Tourism Industry in the State is on the path of resurgence from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

A total amount of ₹ 351.42 crore is earmarked for the Tourism sector.

295. **An amount of ₹ 12 crore is earmarked for the various activities of Kerala Tourism Development Corporation.**
296. An amount of ₹ 17.15 crore is set apart for the project creating skilled and quality manpower in the Tourism sector.
297. **An amount of ₹ 78.17 crore is earmarked for tourism marketing schemes envisaged to become the focus of National and International markets through various activities.**
298. An amount of ₹ 24 crore is earmarked for the project of various activities ensuring the conservation, preservation and promotion of heritage, environment and culture of the State.
299. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is earmarked for the project ensuring infrastructure development and availability of tourism products through the promotion of private investments in the tourism sector by providing subsidies and incentives.

300. Government intends to provide a world class experience to tourists by providing better infrastructure facilities and improving the standard of tourist centers. Through this, income and job opportunities to the local population can be ensured. An amount of ₹ 136 crore is set apart for various activities related to this area.
301. Mini marinas and yacht hubs which comprise of tourism facilitation centres to the four destinations namely Kochi, Alappuzha, Bepore and Kollam, resting centres, restaurants, places for minor entertainment activities and also motels will be developed.
302. Travel lounge with facilities such as resting places, refreshment facilities, information kiosks and toilets which cater to the needs of travellers will be constructed on the sides of roads under the control of National Highway Authority and Public Works Department.
303. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is earmarked for the existing 24 Guest Houses, 4 Yatri Nivas and 2 Kerala Houses in the State.
304. An amount of ₹ 1.90 crore is provided for the strengthening of Eco-tourism Sector and ₹ 15 crore is provided for Responsible Tourism Sector. An amount of

₹ 2 crore is additionally earmarked for Thenmala Eco-tourism Project.

305. An amount of ₹ 14 crore is earmarked for the implementation of Muziris Heritage and Spice route, River cruise Heritage and Spice route projects.
306. An amount of ₹ 9.96 crore is set apart for the Champions Boat League organized with the objective of conservation and promotion of Kerala's traditional festivals, showcasing the back waters to the world and transforming 'Vallamkali' (Snake boat races) into a world class sporting event.

Science, Technology & Environment

307. **A total of ₹ 235.55 crore is set apart for Science, Technology and Environment sector.**

Scientific Services and Research

308. **An amount of ₹ 87.23 crore is earmarked for the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, a key institution under Science & Technology sector.** This includes an amount of ₹ 8 crore for the various activities of Kerala School of

Mathematics, ₹ 6 crore for activities of National Transportation Planning & Research Centre (NATPAC), ₹ 12.90 crore for activities of Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanical Garden & Research institute and ₹ 22.82 crore for the implementation of various schemes of Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment.

309. **An amount of ₹ 50 crore is earmarked for Institute of Advanced Virology and ₹ 73 crore for Regional Cancer Centre.**

Ecology & Environment

310. A total of ₹ 25.32 crore is earmarked for various activities related to Ecology and Environment.
311. An amount of ₹ 10.50 crore is earmarked for bio-diversity conservation activities.
312. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for 'Kerala State Climate Change Adaptation Mission' constituted in August 2023 under the Environment Department and chaired by Hon'ble Chief Minister, with the objective of facing various problems related to climate change.

General Education

313. **An amount of ₹ 1032.62 crore is earmarked for General Education Sector.**
314. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for making schools friendly for the differently abled. An amount of ₹ 27.50 crore is earmarked for various schemes to help students in attaining higher academic excellence and skills in accordance with the ever changing scientific and technological world.
315. An amount of ₹ 5.15 crore is earmarked for the project for ensuring education to students from marginalized communities with the collaboration of various departments.
316. An amount of ₹ 14.80 crore is set apart for the scheme which provides financial assistance for the educational needs of children who require special care and consideration and to bring them into the main stream.
317. An amount of ₹ 33 crore is set apart for various schemes intended for the modernization of schools.

318. Various projects will be prepared to improve the academic standard of schools. **In the first phase, one school each in all districts of the State will be upgraded to Model School.** Grading system will be implemented on the basis of performance of schools. Residential training will be provided to teachers once in 6 months. Performance of DD, DEO, AEO and teachers of General Education Department will be evaluated.
319. Kerala was the first State in the country to recognize the challenge posed by fake news. It responded by conducting statewide media and information literacy programme for students through its public schools. Artificial Intelligence and deep fake technology has further complicated our information landscape. We will set apart ₹ 1 crore for the Department of Education to continue the training and prepare the next generation of Keralites to meet the challenges that AI and its allied technologies pose to our polity and society.
320. **An amount of ₹ 155.34 crore is set apart for providing free uniforms to school children. This outlay is 15.34 crore more than that of the previous year.**
321. **An amount of ₹ 50 crore is set apart for the new scheme giving financial assistance to institutions**

providing care for the intellectually challenged children.

322. An amount of ₹ 38.50 crore is set apart for the various activities of Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education–KITE (IT@SCHOOL).
323. For various schemes under Higher Secondary Education Sector, ₹ 75.20 crore is provided. Out of this, ₹ 52 crore is for the infrastructure development of Government Higher Secondary Schools. ₹ 13 crore is earmarked for Vocational Higher Secondary Sector.
324. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for the activities of C.H. Mohammad Koya Memorial Institute, a charitable society for the mentally challenged.
325. An amount of ₹ 21 crore is set apart for various activities of SCERT for the year 2024-25.
326. An amount of ₹ 55 crore is provided as state share for the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme. ₹ 340 crore will be jointly utilized by the State Government and the Local-Self Governments for the Scheme. An amount of ₹ 510 crore is expected as central share. ₹ 14 crore is

earmarked as state assistance to the State Project Directorate of Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan.

327. **An amount of ₹ 382.14 crore is set apart for the Mid-day meal scheme which ensures availability of mid-day meal to the children in the age group of 6 to 14. Out of this, ₹ 150 crore is the proportionate state share to the central share and ₹ 232.14 crore is the amount set apart by the State Government for providing milk and egg. ₹ 225 crore is expected as Central share for the scheme.**

Education Promotion Fund

328. The amount spent by the Government to teach a student up to the post graduate level nearly comes to ₹ 25 lakh. This general education helps to earn better employments and acquire jobs including the ones in abroad. At least, a few people approach the authorities including the government expressing their willingness to provide assistance to the educational institutions where they have studied. Government welcomes those who are willing to return the assistance to the educational institutions where they have studied. It is expected that this will become a fund, helped by all and secures our achievements. Online payment system will be provided

for this. Detailed blueprint will be formulated for the fund management. A specific proposal to make use of this possibility will be prepared. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked as Seed Fund for this.

Higher Education

329. **A total amount of ₹ 456.71 crore is set apart for Higher education sector.**
330. An amount of ₹ 16.50 crore is set apart for State Higher Education Council.
331. An amount of ₹ 13.40 crore is set apart for Kerala Enterprises Resource Planning Solutions (K-REAP) and centres of excellences in the Higher education sector.
332. An amount of ₹ 35.10 crore is provided to ASAP for implementing various projects ensuring skill development.
333. An amount of ₹ 15.70 crore is set apart for various activities to ensure students' wellbeing, mental health, skill development and special facilities to the differently abled students.

334. An amount of ₹ 30 crore is set apart as state share under Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) Scheme for infrastructure development, research and other activities in the Higher Education Sector. ₹ 45 crore is expected as central share.
335. **In connection with diamond jubilee of school of management studies in CUSAT, one of the oldest business schools in India, an amount of ₹ 1 crore is provided as special assistance.**
336. **In the wake of celebration of 125th anniversary of Government College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram, an amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for enhancing the facilities including library.**
337. **An amount of ₹ 3 crore is set apart for CPAS institute under the M.G University for its infrastructure development and various activities in nursing education sector.**

Multi-Disciplinary Museum at Calicut University

338. **A museum of eminence named 'Shika' will be established at Calicut University by linking Kerala's**

biodiversity, history, folklore heritage and parlance. It can function as a knowledge centre depicting the peculiarities of all these four sectors.

Technical Education

339. **An amount of ₹ 247.30 crore is earmarked for Technical Education Sector.**
340. **Inter Disciplinary Research Centers will be set up in 9 Government Engineering Colleges of the State integrating different branches at the graduate - post graduate level to promote research activities.** As in General Education sector, a scheme for mobilizing fund through voluntary contributions with popular support will be implemented in the Higher Education sector.

Art and Culture

341. **₹ 170.49 crore is earmarked for the developmental activities related to Art and Culture Sector during the year 2024-25.**
342. Government intends to implement a comprehensive plan for the renovation and rearrangement of museums all over Kerala. **An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for**

this scheme, which is aimed at the renovation of galleries and display techniques, security measures, development of premises and improvement of visitors' amenities.

343. **An amount of ₹ 5 crore is set apart for setting up Archaeology/Heritage museums in all districts.**
344. **An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the construction of Museum/ Cultural complex at Kochi.**

Regional Museums

345. Local museums, that import the history and past experience of the land, exists many countries in the world. A special scheme will be developed in our states, with the co-operation of Local Self Institutions for giving more attention to this sector and developing such centres. Government will provide a part of the assistance. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for this.
346. An amount of ₹ 9 crore is set apart for the protection and renovation of museums and galleries and development of museum campuses.

347. An amount of ₹ 7.50 crore is set apart for the renovation of zoos in Thiruvanthapuram and Thrissur.
348. An amount of ₹ 3.75 crore is provided for the setting up of a personalia museum depicting the life and time of A.K.G, who has been described as “The Crusader of the Downtrodden”.
349. **An amount of ₹ 18 crore is earmarked for the various activities of Kerala State Film Development Corporation.**
350. An amount of ₹ 3.20 crore is earmarked for the activities of Kerala Sahithya Academy, ₹ 7.50 crore for Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Academy, ₹ 5.50 crore for Kerala Lalitha Kala Academy, ₹ 3.10 crore for Kerala Folklore Academy.
351. An amount of ₹ 14 crore is provided for the activities of Kerala State Chalachitra Academy. Of this, an amount of ₹ 1.30 crore is expected to be for women centric activities.
352. An amount of ₹ 2 crore is set apart for the activities of Jawahar Bala Bhavans.

353. An amount of ₹ 70 lakhs is set apart for the various activities of Kumaranasan National Institute of Culture at Thonnakkal in Thiruvananthapuram.
354. An amount of ₹ 19.50 crore is earmarked for the various art-academic activities of Kerala Kala Mandalam
355. An amount of ₹ 4.60 crore is set apart for giving assistance to the memorials of eminent personalities of art and literature and to provide financial assistance to persons distinguished in art and literature in needy situations and other activities.
356. An amount of ₹ 13 crore is set apart for the scheme providing 1000 Diamond Jubilee fellowships to young artists graduating from recognized institutions of the State.

Sports and Youth Affairs

357. **An amount of ₹ 127.39 crore is earmarked for the Sports and Youth Affairs sector.**
358. An amount of ₹ 8.54 crore is earmarked for Sports Development Fund constituted with the aim of mobilizing

resources from private sector in addition to government funding.

359. An amount of ₹ 17.50 crore is set apart for the infrastructure development of Sports sector.
360. An amount of ₹ 7 is earmarked for constructing synthetic track at Pala Municipal Stadium.
361. An amount of ₹ 6.50 crore is set apart for the implementation and development of facilities of 'Healthy kids-Play for Health' project.
362. An amount of ₹ 8 crore is earmarked for the development of rural play grounds. Funds will be utilized through Sports Kerala Foundation for achieving the objective of "One sport facility/play ground in each Grama Panchayat".
363. An amount of ₹ 50 lakhs is earmarked for the implementation of Sports Knowledge Repository scheme with the aim of establishing archive of Kerala Sports, sports museum, virtual gallery, sports library and sports research reference cell.

364. **An amount of ₹ 34 crore is set apart for the various activities of Kerala State Sports Council.**
365. **An amount of ₹ 17 crore is earmarked for the activities of Kerala State Youth Welfare Board.**

Medical & Public Health

366. **An amount of ₹ 2052.23 crore is earmarked for the Medical and Public Health sector.**
367. An amount of ₹ 6.60 crore is allocated for the development of mental health centres functioning in Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur and Kozhikode districts.
368. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is earmarked for the control of communicable diseases.
369. An amount of ₹ 11.93 crore is earmarked for the prevention of non-communicable diseases.
370. An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for improving the health infrastructure and setting up of de-addiction centres in tribal and coastal areas.

371. **An amount of ₹ 80 crore is set apart for the functioning of 315 advanced life support ambulances under 'Kaniv' Scheme.**
372. **An amount of ₹ 24.88 crore is earmarked for the various activities of 'Ar dram Mission'.**

Health Care Fund

373. There has been a huge leap in the Public Health Sector of Kerala. Unprecedented infrastructure development has occurred in government hospitals. Construction works worth thousand crores of rupees have been made possible through KIIFB. Complex surgeries including liver transplantation and heart transplantation are being performed quite normally even at district hospitals. Dialysis system has become quite common even in Taluk Hospitals. Those with income also make use of these facilities of government hospitals. They get huge financial gain when compared to private hospitals. Many are willing to donate an amount to the government hospital, that too with pleasure. This may be viewed as a Cross Subsidy. However, a government system to donate amounts in such a way does not prevail in the health sector at present. **A government remittance**

account for those who are ready to donate amounts related to hospitals will be arranged.

374. An amount of ₹ 9.88 crore is set apart for setting up of new dialysis units and for providing facilities including emergency medicines in the major hospitals of the state.
375. **A new scheme 'School Health and Wellness Programme' under 'Ayushman Bharat' scheme is announced.** It is aimed to conduct health checkup of around 60 lakh students in 16240 L.P./ U.P./ H.S./ H.S.S. in Kerala under the aegis of public health centres, preparation of its electronic data base and impart training on first aid. An amount of ₹3.10 crore is earmarked for the School Health and Wellness Programme, which will be implemented under the aegis of National Health Mission in 50% L.P.Schools and in other schools with classes upto 12th standard, by utilizing state plan fund.

National Health Mission

376. **An amount of ₹ 465.20 crore is earmarked as state share for National Health Mission Scheme.** ₹ 697.80 crore is expected as central share for the scheme.

377. In addition to impose restrictions in availing the Open Market Borrowing, the Government of India has curbed transfer of Central grants in a few schemes for not fulfilling the so-called branding requirements. The Government of India has not yet accepted the State's request to co-brand even those schemes where the state bears 40% of the project cost. Despite taking up the matter at various levels, Central assistance under the National Health Mission and Special Assistance for Capital Investment has not been released so far, further damaging the fiscal situation of the State.
378. An amount of ₹ 25 crore is earmarked as state share for PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission. ₹37.50 crore is the central share for this scheme which includes major components such as construction of 100 and 50 bedded blocks each in district hospitals and 50 bedded blocks in Government Medical Colleges.
379. An amount of ₹ 27.60 crore is earmarked for 'e-health programme' implemented in the health sector utilizing Information and Communication Technology.

Karunya Arogya Suraksha Padhathi

380. A total of 566 hospitals including 202 Government hospitals and 364 private hospital have been empanelled currently under the Karunya Arogya Suraksha Scheme.

Through this scheme the health care of 42.45 lakh poor families including differently-abled and transgenders are ensured. The central share is only for providing service to 22.22 lakh families. This is only 10% of the total expenditure of the scheme. The total expenditure for PM-JAY/KASP scheme for the previous year was ₹ 1692.37 crore, but National Health Authority provided only ₹ 151.34 crore.

381. Sir, an amount of ₹ 2545.89 crore was expended for Karunya Scheme by this government till now. **An amount of ₹ 678.54 crore is set apart for the implementation of Karunya Arogya Suraksha Padhathi in 2024-25.** An amount of ₹ 198 crore is expected as central share during 2024-25.
382. An amount of ₹ 7 crore is earmarked for the renovation and purchase of new equipments for Government Analyst Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram, Regional Laboratories at Kannur, Ernakulum and Kozhikode and District Laboratory, Pathanamthitta.
383. An amount of ₹ 5.52 crore is earmarked for Drugs Control Department.

Medical Education

384. There are 11 Medical Colleges under Directorate of Medical Education and another 2 medical colleges are under construction. Five new Nursing Colleges, in addition to the 9 existing Nursing Colleges, will be established at Kasaragod, Idukki, Wayanad, Palakkad and Pathanamthitta districts. **An amount of ₹ 401.24 crore is allocated for the overall development of the Medical Education sector of the state.**
385. **An amount of ₹ 217.40 crore is earmarked for the comprehensive development of Medical Colleges, Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Thiruvananthapuram and College of Pharmaceutical Science, Thiruvananthapuram.**
386. **An amount of ₹ 29 crore is earmarked for a new scheme to install surgical robot at Thiruvananthapuram Medical College.**
387. An amount of ₹ 22.79 crore is earmarked for the development of the 6 Dental Colleges and ₹ 13.78 crore for nursing colleges of the state.

388. An amount of ₹ 13 crore is earmarked for solid waste management scheme for Medical College Hospitals.
389. An amount of ₹ 14 crore is provided for purchase of cancer treatment equipments as a part of strengthening the oncology departments at Kottayam, Thrissur and Kozhikkode Medical Colleges.
390. An amount of ₹ 25.70 crore is earmarked for AMC expenses of equipments in Medical Colleges.
391. An amount of ₹ 3.50 crore is provided for setting up of stroke centres in Thrissur, Kottayam and Thiruvananthapuram Medical colleges.
392. It is imperative to start stem cell/bone marrow transplantation treatment in the Government sector. An amount of ₹ 1.50 crore is earmarked to Kottayam Medical College for this new scheme.
393. An amount of ₹ 1 crore is earmarked for the new scheme for establishing sports injury treatment division and sports performance improvement division at Kozhikkode and Thiruvananthapuram Medical Colleges.

394. An amount of ₹ 2.58 crore is earmarked for the various activities of Child Development Centre.
395. **An amount of ₹ 28 crore is set apart for Malabar Cancer Centre. ₹ 14.50 crore is earmarked for Cochin Cancer Research Centre, the cancer speciality hospital in central Kerala.**
396. An amount of ₹ 11.50 crore is earmarked for various activities of Kerala University of Health Sciences.
397. An amount of ₹ 3.60 crore is earmarked for various activities of Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Kozhikkode.

AYUSH

398. **An amount of ₹ 21.08 crore is earmarked for the upgradation, strengthening and modernization of institutions under the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine.**
399. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is earmarked as state share for the National Mission on AYUSH (including medicinal plants) scheme.

400. An amount of ₹ 6.89 crore is earmarked for comprehensive scheme intended to improve homeopathic health care services and upgradation of clinical and non-clinical facilities in the homeo hospitals and dispensaries in a phased manner.

Water supply and Sewerage

401. **An amount of ₹ 907.10 crore is allocated for clean water supply and sewerage treatment.**
402. An amount of ₹ 550 crore is earmarked as 25% state share for 'Jal Jeevan Mission', the scheme for providing adequate quantity of clean drinking water to every household. Local Self Government Institutions and the beneficiaries concerned will bear 15% and 10% of the plan expenditure respectively. An amount of ₹ 1100 crore is expected as 50% central share.

Urban development

403. **An amount of ₹ 961.14 crore is earmarked for urban development programmes of the State.**
404. **The outlay for the Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme which aims to address**

unemployment and under employment in urban areas is enhanced to ₹ 165 crore. The project is expected to generate 60 lakh man-days in the year 2024-25. The scheme is envisaged in such a way that 50% of the beneficiaries shall be women.

405. **An amount of ₹ 17 crore is set apart for “Suchitwa Keralam-Waste Management Scheme for Urban areas”.**
406. **An amount of ₹ 120 crore is set apart for various activities including setting up of regional solid waste management facilities as a part of the Kerala Solid Waste Management Project implemented with World Bank loan.**
407. **An amount of ₹ 4 crore is earmarked as grant to Thiruvananthapuram Development Authority (TRIDA).**
408. **An amount of ₹ 3 crore is set apart for Greater Cochin Development Authority.**
409. **An amount of ₹ 100 crore is earmarked as state share for the implementation of Smart City Mission Scheme.**

410. **An amount of ₹ 134.94 crore is earmarked as state share for “Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT-2.0)” Scheme, which has been launched for ensuring ‘water security’ and providing drinking water connections to all households. An equal outlay is expected as central share.**
411. **An amount of ₹ 34.50 crore is earmarked as state share for “Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana”.**

Information and Publicity

412. **A total outlay of ₹ 37.20 crore is earmarked for Information & Publicity sector.** This includes ₹ 3.59 crore for Press Information Services, ₹ 4.21 crore for online publicity, IT and IEC services, 9 crores for visual communication activities and ₹ 8.30 crore for field publicity.
413. Provision towards health insurance scheme for journalists is enhanced from ₹ 50 lakhs to ₹ 75 lakhs.

Labour and Labour Welfare

414. **An amount of ₹ 464.44 crore is earmarked for various departments and institutions in Labour and Labour Welfare sector.**

415. **An amount of ₹ 112.95 crore is earmarked for Labour Commissionerate, ₹ 95.95 crore for Industrial Training Department, ₹ 30.23 crore for National Employment Service (Kerala), ₹ 3 crore for Kerala Institute of Labour and Employment and ₹ 4.50 crore for Factories and Boilers Department are earmarked in 2024-25.**
416. An amount of ₹ 1.10 crore is set apart for Estate Workers Distress Relief Fund.
417. **A total amount of ₹ 8 crore is earmarked for the scheme “Social Protection for Un-organized Sector Workers”.** Out of this, ₹ 6 crore is for providing maternity allowance to the women workers in un-organized sector.
418. **An amount of ₹ 90 crore is provided for the scheme providing financial support of ₹ 1250/- to workers in the traditional sectors such as Beedi, Khadi, Bamboo, Rattan, Fishing and Fish Processing, Cashew, Coir, Pandanus and Handicrafts.**
419. Taking into account the welfare and grievance redressal needs of workers, a labour complex will be constructed in Munnar for bringing the offices of Labour and Plantation sectors, which are currently functioning in rented

buildings, under a single roof. For this, an amount of ₹ 60 lakh is set apart in 2024-25.

420. **An amount of ₹ 1.25 crore is earmarked for AAWAZ scheme which ensures health insurance of ₹ 25,000/-, accidental death insurance of ₹ 2 lakh and disability insurance upto ₹ 1 Lakh to the migrant workers.**
421. **An amount of ₹ 33 crore is set apart for various action plans of Kerala Academy for Skills Excellence (KASE) setup to implement skill development programmes in Industrial Training Department.**
422. **An amount of ₹ 25 crore is provided for the modernisation of ITIs.**
423. An amount of ₹ 4.50 crore is earmarked to Industrial Training Department for various projects for providing additional facilities to the existing ITIs for imparting training to more trainees.
424. **An amount of ₹ 17 crore is earmarked for 'SARANYA' Scheme which provides self-employment to the unemployed widows registered in employment exchange, deserted/divorced/unmarried women, unwed**

mothers, differently abled women and wives of bedridden patients.

425. An amount of ₹ 4.50 crore is earmarked to Factories and Boilers Department.

NORKA

426. **During 2024-25 financial year, an amount of ₹ 143.81 crore is earmarked for the various activities of NORKA.**

427. **An amount of ₹ 25 crore is earmarked for NDPREM, the scheme to ensure sustainable livelihood by promoting self-employment ventures, as part of the rehabilitation of returnees to Kerala on account of global recession and nationalisation in gulf countries.**

428. **An amount of ₹ 44 crore is earmarked for Rehabilitation, Reintegration and Co-ordination Scheme for returned pravasis.**

429. **An amount of ₹ 33 crore is earmarked for the 'Santhwana' Scheme which is intended to provide one time financial assistance such as treatment assistance upto ₹ 50,000/-, after death assistance upto**

₹ 1 lakh, and assistance upto ₹ 10,000/- to purchase physical aids for the disabled, marriage assistance upto ₹ 15,000/- to the keralites, who have worked abroad for at least two years

430. **An amount of ₹ 12 crore is earmarked for the welfare schemes through “The Non Resident Keralites Welfare Board”.**

Scheduled Castes Development

431. **An amount of ₹ 2979.40 crore is earmarked for Scheduled Castes Sub Plan**, which is 9.81% of the State plan outlay. Out of this an amount of ₹ 1341.30 crore is the share of Local Self Government Institutions.
432. An amount of ₹ 50 crore is earmarked for the construction works of Palakkad Medical College and **₹ 150 crore for additional State assistance to post-metric scholarship.**
433. **An amount of ₹ 73 crore is set apart as state share for the centrally sponsored post-metric scholarship scheme** for SC Students whose annual income does not exceed ₹ 2.50 lakh.

434. **An amount of ₹ 8 crore is earmarked as state share for the pre-metric scholarship scheme for SC students studying in 9th and 10th classes.**
435. **An amount of ₹ 55 crore is earmarked to enhance employability among Scheduled Caste youths through various skill development programmes of Scheduled Castes Development Department.**
436. **An amount of ₹ 15 crore is earmarked for the management of Model Residential Schools including Ayyankali Memorial Model Residential Sports School, Vellayani. This amount is ₹ 2 crore more than that of the previous year.**
437. **An amount of ₹ 170 crore is earmarked for the purchase of land for the landless SC families for construction of houses. Government intends to help around 5000 landless SC families through this programme.**
438. **An amount of ₹ 222.06 crore is provided for the completion of partially constructed houses, renovation of houses and construction of study rooms of SC families. This amount is ₹ 17 crore higher than that of the previous year.**

439. **An amount of ₹ 51 crore is earmarked for the development programmes of various economically and socially disadvantaged sections of SC community.** Priority will be given to the families identified in the Extreme Poverty Survey 2021-22. In this scheme 40% of the beneficiaries will be women.
440. **An amount of ₹ 86 crore is earmarked for a scheme for providing ₹ 1.25 lakh each, to the parents/guardians of girls** belonging to SC families having annual income upto ₹ 1 lakh for their marriage.
441. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked in the year 2024-25 for the scheme 'Valsalyanidhi', to be implemented to improve education of SC girls.**
442. **An amount of ₹ 50 crore is earmarked for 'Dr. Ambedkar Village Development Scheme'.**
443. **An amount of ₹ 65 crore is earmarked for the health care programme** which provides medical care to the deserving patients and the old age people belonging to SC community. **This amount is ₹ 12 crore more than that of the previous year.**

444. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for e-governance initiatives under the Scheduled Castes Development Department.
445. **An amount of ₹ 45 crore is provided as corpus fund for Critical Gap Filling Schemes** implemented under SC sub plans, giving special emphasis on human resource development, basic needs and economic development.
446. **An amount of ₹ 17.92 crore is earmarked as state share for the schemes under SC sub plan implemented through LSGD institutions.** An amount of ₹ 25.69 crore is expected as central share for the scheme Deendayal Andhyodaya Yojana, implemented through Kudumbasree Mission.

Scheduled Tribes Development

447. **An amount of ₹ 859.50 crore is earmarked for Scheduled Tribe Development.** This is 2.83% of the total State plan outlay which is higher than 1.45% ST population as per the 2011 census in the State. Out of the total allocation, ₹ 201.55 crore is the share for LSG Institutions.

448. **Provision earmarked for the schemes to provide incentives and assistance to ST students is enhanced from previous year's allocation of ₹ 8.75 crore to ₹ 9.25 crore.**
449. An amount of ₹ 32.10 crore is earmarked for various schemes to encourage education among ST community.
450. An amount of ₹ 12 crore is earmarked as state share for Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme.
451. **An amount of ₹ 3 crore is set apart for the new scheme to provide economic assistance and logistics support to the ST students who pursue higher education** in universities outside the state and prestigious foreign universities.
452. **An amount of ₹ 9 crore is earmarked to give support to individuals and self-help groups for promoting self-employment** for livelihood and resolve unemployment among scheduled tribes youth by providing modern skill development training.
453. **'Unnathi' is the newly envisaged scheme to promote entrepreneurship and startups among educated ST Community.** Assistance will be provided to

entrepreneurs for research and development, marketing, new investments and other activities to foster ventures. Financial assistance of ₹ 10 lakh will be given to startups at initial stage. **An amount of ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for this new scheme.**

454. **An amount of ₹ 2 crore is earmarked for WINGS, the new skill development programme,** envisaged to address unemployment among the educated scheduled tribes in the State by tapping the employment opportunities in the aviation field.
455. **An amount of ₹ 35 crore is set apart for the scheme 'Kerala Tribal Plus',** which provides additional 100 days of employment to tribal families over and above the 100 days provided under MGNREGS.
456. **An amount of ₹ 57 crore is earmarked as running cost of Model Residential Schools/Ashram Schools, Ekalavya Schools, Special CBSE Model Residential Schools** and ₹ 5 crore is set apart for construction and completion of buildings.
457. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the renovation of Pre-metric/Post-metric hostels functioning under the

Scheduled Tribes Development Department and for providing facilities as per UNICEF standards.

458. An amount of ₹ 6 crore is set apart for marriage assistance to ST girls, ₹ 2.50 crore for assistance to Sickle Cell Anemia patients, ₹ 40 lakh for providing financial assistance to the traditional tribal healers identified with the help of KIRTADS.
459. **An amount of ₹ 17 crore is earmarked for the scheme 'Janani–Janmaraksha'** introduced for providing financial assistance to ST women during the pregnancy and post maternal period.
460. **An amount of ₹ 25 crore is earmarked for the food security scheme to provide sufficient food grains in tribal areas of all districts in the state in order to eradicate poverty and malnutrition among the ST community.**
461. **An amount of ₹ 32 crore is earmarked for the scheme 'Comprehensive Tribal Health Care'.**
462. **An amount of ₹ 70 crore is earmarked for the scheme intended to complete the construction of houses for people belonging to Scheduled Tribe before the**

inception of LIFE Mission Scheme and for the renovation of dilapidated houses.

- 463. An amount of ₹ 40 crore is provided to the Critical Gap Filling Corpus Fund under Tribal Sub Plan.**
- 464. An amount of ₹ 40 crore is earmarked for Ambedkar Settlement Development Scheme.**
- 465. An amount of ₹ 42 crore is earmarked for the scheme 'Resettlement of Landless Tribal People' aimed to provide land to the extent of at least 1 acre to the landless ST families subject to a maximum ceiling of 5 acres.**
- 466. An amount of ₹ 33.25 crore is earmarked as human resource support for the implementation of schemes in tribal areas.**

Welfare of Other Backward Classes

- 467. An amount of ₹ 167 crore is earmarked for various welfare schemes of other backward classes.**

468. **An amount of ₹ 9 crore is provided for the activities of Kerala State Backward Classes Development Corporation.**
469. **The allocation to Kerala State Development Corporation for Christian Converts from SCs and Recommended Communities is enhanced to ₹ 8 crore from the previous financial year's allocation of ₹ 6 crore.**
470. **An amount of ₹ 40 crore and ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for post-metric scholarship and pre-metric scholarship respectively to the students belonging to the most backward communities among the other backward classes, as per government norms.**
471. **An amount of ₹ 13.90 crore is earmarked for various programmes towards enhancing job opportunities to other backward classes.**
472. **An amount of ₹ 15 crore is earmarked for the scheme 'Kedavilakku' to provide scholarships to students belonging to Other Backward Classes. It is estimated that 50% of the beneficiaries of the scheme will be girls.**

473. **An amount of ₹ 8 crore is earmarked as state share for providing PM YASASVI Pre-Matric Scholarship and ₹ 58 crore is set apart as state share for providing PM YASASVI Post-metric scholarship to the students belonging to Other Backward Classes, Economically Backward Classes, De-notified Tribes Categories.**

Welfare of Minorities

474. **An outlay of ₹ 73.63 crore is earmarked for the welfare of minorities.**
475. **An amount of ₹ 16 crore is earmarked as state share for the scheme 'PM Jan Vikas Karyakram' for providing better socio-economic infrastructure facilities in the minority concentrated blocks.**
476. **An amount of ₹ 9.61 crore is provided for the scholarship scheme for minority students.**
477. **An amount of ₹ 7.02 crore is earmarked for various skill development schemes and employment oriented schemes for the minorities.**

478. **An amount of ₹ 1 crore is set apart for arranging facilities at Kannur Airport in connection with Haj Pilgrimage.**
479. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart as share capital for the Kerala State Minority Development Finance Corporation.**
480. **In the backdrop of the Central Government's withdrawal from providing scholarships to minority students of classes 1 to 8, the State Government is announcing a new Pre-metric scholarship scheme 'Maargadeepam' for providing scholarship to such students. For this, an amount of ₹ 20 crore is provided.**
481. **An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the new scheme formulated to provide financial assistance to divorcees, widows, deserted women among the minorities for starting self-employment ventures.**

Welfare of Forward Communities

482. **An amount of ₹ 35 crore is earmarked for the activities of Kerala State Welfare Corporation for Forward Communities.**

Social Security and Welfare

483. **An amount of ₹ 553.31 crore is earmarked for Social Security and Welfare Sector.**
484. **An amount of ₹ 13 crore is earmarked for various schemes for the rehabilitation, skill development and empowerment of marginalized/ unorganized groups.**
485. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for various programmes such as 'Athijeevanam', skill development scheme 'Prachodanam' and 'Integrated Rehabilitation Villages' for those including endosulfan victims.**
486. **An amount of ₹ 8 crore is earmarked for Barrier Free Kerala Scheme for the differently abled.**
487. **It is intended to implement a new scheme 'Retirement Homes' under Social Justice Department for ensuring shelter of old age people on payment of prescribed fee. Including this, an amount of ₹ 6.80 crore is earmarked for various schemes for ensuring geriatric care.**

488. Kerala is the first state in the country to announce a special policy for transgenders. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the scheme 'Mazhavillu' towards the welfare of transgenders.
489. An amount of ₹ 12.50 crore is set apart for the National Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (NIPMR).

Kerala Social Security Mission

490. An amount of ₹ 17 crore is earmarked for the comprehensive package for Endosulfan victims.
491. An amount of ₹ 27.50 crore for the scheme 'Vayomithram', ₹ 20 crore for the scheme 'ANUYATRA', ₹ 50 crore for the scheme 'Aswasakiranam', ₹ 17.39 crore for the scheme 'Snehapoorvam', ₹ 3.80 crore for the scheme 'Mittayi', ₹ 13 crore for the schemes 'Subhayathra', 'Aashwasam' and 'Hasthadanam' are earmarked.
492. An amount of ₹ 19.50 crore is earmarked to the National Institute for Speech and Hearing.

Women and Child Development

493. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for the Scheme 'Nirbhaya'.**
494. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is set apart for various activities in connection with the security of women.**
495. **An amount of ₹ 51 crore is earmarked for the scheme 'Psycho-Social Services' which is being implemented through 1012 schools for adolescent girls.**
496. **An amount of ₹ 9 crore is earmarked for various activities of Gender Park.**
497. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked for setting up modern Anganwadis and Smart Anganwadis in association with Local Self Government institutions.**
498. **An amount of ₹ 13 crore is earmarked for the scheme 'Our Responsibility to Children' being implemented with the objective of care and development of children.**
499. **An amount of ₹ 2.20 crore is earmarked for establishing crèche for children upto the age of 3 years**

at work places as per the Maternity Benefit Act, pre-school for children aged 3 to 6 years and safe care centers for adolescent girls by integrating Anganwadies functioning in adjacent places in urban areas.

500. **A new scheme, 'Non-Institutional Care for Children' will be implemented for non-institutional rehabilitation and protection of children. For this, an amount of ₹ 50 Lakh is provided as state share.**

Insurance Scheme for Anganwadi Employees

501. **A new Insurance Scheme exclusively for anganwadi employees is intended to be implemented with a coverage of ₹ 2 lakh. For this, an amount of ₹ 1.20 crore is earmarked as state share for the year 2024-25.**
502. **An amount of ₹ 17.60 crore is earmarked for various activities of Kerala State Women's Development Corporation in the year 2024-25.**
503. **An amount of ₹ 5.20 crore is earmarked for the activities of State Women's Commission.**

504. **An amount of ₹ 2.40 crore is earmarked for activities of State Commission for Protection of Child Rights which has been functioning as per Child Rights Protection Act, 2005.**
505. **The number of POCSO Fast Track Special Courts functioning in the state has been enhanced to 54 from 28. An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the functioning of these courts and 2 new courts are intended to be started.**
506. **An amount of ₹ 194.32 crore is earmarked as state share for the Integrated Child Development Scheme. An amount of ₹ 291.48 crore is expected as central share.**
507. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is earmarked as State share for the National Nutrition Mission Scheme for improvement of the nutritional status of women and children. An amount of ₹ 15 crore is anticipated as Central assistance.**
508. **An amount of ₹ 11.76 crore is earmarked in the year 2024-25 for providing sufficient infrastructure facilities to all District Planning Offices/DPC buildings in the State and for the completion of the**

construction of District Planning Committee buildings in all districts.

509. **An amount of ₹ 18.05 crore is earmarked to Institute of Management in Government (IMG) for the components such as State Training Policy Programmes, Centre for Good Governance and Capacity Building of Faculties.**
510. **An amount of ₹ 9.66 crore is earmarked for the continuation of the special scheme for digitization of legacy records kept in Sub Registrar Offices in a phased manner.**
511. **An amount of ₹ 5.24 crore is earmarked for the construction of own buildings for Kollam, Alappuzha, Idukki, Ernakulam, Malappuram and Kasaragod district offices of Kerala Public Service Commission.**

Vigilance & Anti-Corruption Bureau

512. **An amount of ₹ 5 crore is earmarked for the modernisation of Vigilance Department and ₹6.96 crore is earmarked for the construction of office buildings in the Department.**

Police

513. **An outlay of ₹ 150.26 crore is earmarked for the implementation of various technology based modernization programmes in Police Department.**
514. **An amount of ₹ 12 crore is set apart as state share for the modernization of police force. Under the scheme, an amount of ₹ 18 crore is expected as central share.**

Prisons

515. **An amount of ₹ 14.50 crore is earmarked for various construction activities of Prisons Department and for modernizing the management and administration of Prisons.**
516. **An amount of ₹ 9 crore is set apart for the various schemes intending skill development–education–welfare programmes of prisoners.**

Fire and Rescue Services

517. **An amount of ₹ 74 crore is earmarked for Fire and Rescue Services.**

Devaswom

Sir,

518. **The monthly financial assistance for 'Achara sthaneeyar' and 'Koladharikal' in Northern Malabar, is increased from ₹ 1400 to ₹ 1600.**

Judiciary

519. **An amount of ₹ 44.14 crore is earmarked for various activities of Judiciary Department.**
520. **An amount of ₹ 3.30 crore is earmarked in the financial year 2024-25 for modernising the High Court and Subordinate Courts with the help of Information Communication Technology.**

Judicial City

Sir,

521. **A decision was taken to set up an extensive judicial city in a meeting between the Hon'ble Chief Minister and Hon'ble Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court. A Judicial**

City will be established at Kalamassery in Ernakulam to house the High Court and associated judicial offices.

522. **Enhancing the security of courts and creating better working atmosphere can be achieved through the modernisation of the High Court, Subordinate Courts and the Kerala Judicial Academy. An amount of ₹ 15.04 crore is earmarked for the various components under the scheme.**
523. **An amount of ₹ 18 crore is earmarked as state share in 2024-25 for the improvement of basic infrastructure of judiciary. An amount of ₹ 27 crore is expected as central share.**

Excise Department

524. **An outlay of ₹ 9.27 crore is earmarked for the modernization of Excise Department.**
525. **‘Vimukthi’ is the anti-narcotic campaign launched by the State Government to create awareness among the youth about the evils of narcotic substances. An amount of ₹ 9.50 crore is earmarked in the year 2024-25 for its various activities.**

Finance Department

526. Offices of National Savings, Chief Technical Examiner, State Insurance Department and other Directorates under Finance Department are functioning at different regions in Thiruvananthapuram. There are problems of lacking adequate facilities as well. An amount of ₹ 20 crore is earmarked for the construction of an office complex for the functioning of these offices.

Social security pension

Sir,

527. Social security pension is provided to approximately 62 lakh people in the state, making ours the state with the most generous pension system in the country. An annual budget of 9000 crores is required to pay pensions at the rate of Rs 1600 per month. While the government strives to ensure the proper disbursement of social security pensions, delays have occurred due to certain measures implemented by the central government. The Kerala Social Security Pension Company Limited, established to facilitate pension distribution, has accumulated Rs 35,000 crore, out of which Rs 24,000 crore has already been repaid. However, the central government's

restrictions on mobilizing funds through the pension company create obstacles, because the new policy of the Union Government defines the fund mobilized by KSSPL as public debt, causing difficulties in pension disbursement. Moreover, the Central Government provides only nominal assistance for social security pensions, and even that is not disbursed on time.

528. The government will take special measures to ensure timely and accurate payment of social Security pension in the next financial year.

KIIFB

529. A total of Rs 62,454.18 crore has been allocated for 1,066 infrastructure development projects across various sectors such as roads, bridges, IT, education, health, drinking water supply, irrigation, transport, tourism, sports, and energy in the state. Additionally, KIIFB has approved seven projects worth Rs. 20,000 crores for the land acquisition. The tender process for projects worth Rs. 32,738.25 crore has been completed. Out of these completed tender processes, 595 projects have commenced and projects worth Rs 14,830.76 crore is completed. Currently, projects worth Rs 21,817.66 crore

are in progress. An expenditure of Rs 27,522 crore has been incurred on approved projects to date.

State Goods and Services Tax Department

530. **Re-organization of State Goods and Services Tax Department was the first among this kind in the country. Quality results have been obtained in tax collection and tax administration after re-organization. On rearranging the department into 3 categories, tax evasion can be detected through scientific and modern means. Steps are being taken to further improve the activities of the department. A special program is being implemented for modernizing the infrastructure of the GST Department with the help of Information Communication Technology. For this purpose, an amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked in 2024-25, with an objective of augmentation of revenue income.**
531. **An amount of ₹ 4 crore is earmarked in 2024-25 for general awareness programmes and capacity development related to goods and services tax.**
532. **An amount of ₹ 3 crore is earmarked for shifting SGST, Intelligence and Audit offices under State Goods and**

Services Tax Department to special buildings and for renovation of the existing buildings.

533. **An amount of ₹ 6.80 crore is earmarked for GST Department including ₹ 3.80 crore for the purchase of new vehicles.**

Kerala State Audit Department

534. **An amount of ₹ 2.11 crore is earmarked to Kerala State Audit Department including the updation of the software 'Project Information and Management System' which has been developed for the effective functioning of the Department.**

Department of Treasuries

535. Effective functioning and computerisation of entire treasury operations and have been ensured. A programme for construction of new buildings for 22 treasuries in Kerala has been started. **An amount of ₹ 18.60 crore is earmarked to Department of Treasuries. This includes ₹ 7 crore for providing additional facilities in connection with computerisation for ensuring fast and quality services like infrastructure development, WAN**

revamping, replacement of computers and other IT equipment and Queue Management System. An amount of ₹ 7.50 crore is earmarked for the up gradation of basic infrastructure of Treasuries.

State Insurance Department

536. After this Government assumed power, remarkable progress has been achieved by Kerala State Insurance Department in providing various insurance services to Government Servants and Public. 'Jeevan Raksha', the scheme declared last year ensures better coverage to Government employees in Kerala. **Government aims to implement a new scheme, 'Annuity', which is designed to earn a fixed amount per month by government employees after retirement. State Insurance Department shall conduct feasibility study in the matter.**

KSFE

537. The Public Sector Undertaking–KSFE, has shown good performance during the last three years. **Through the mobile App 'KSFE Power' introduced as part of digital incubation programme of Kerala Government, the chitti/loan schemes in KSFE became more**

transparent, simple and fast for the customers. In the year 2023-24, KSFE has started 22 new branches. It is aimed to start 50 new branches in 2024-25. KSFE will introduce various new services and will expand activities related to Pravasi Chitty. Diversified activities will be taken up in connection with financial sector.

Kerala Financial Corporation

538. Kerala Financial Corporation, one of the most efficient financial institution in the country has witnessed hike in net profit through its systematic and prudent functioning. The net profit in 2020-21 which was 6.58 crore has increased to ₹ 50.19 crore this fiscal year till date. Total Non-Performing Assets have reduced to 3.11% and Risk Weighted Asset Ratio which was at 22.85% has been enhanced to 25.58%. **An amount of ₹ 846.50 crore has been distributed through around 2800 loans under CMEDP, KAMS and Startup Schemes in the year 2023-24 with the assistance of the Government. Through these schemes, jobs have been provided to 61,715 individuals either directly or indirectly.**

539. A special company will be set up to identify and agglomerate parcels of land available in Kerala suitable for industries and distribute the same among the

entrepreneurs for basic infrastructure development to give a boost to the economy and aiming infrastructure development. This company having an authorised share capital of 1000 crore, will be formed in co-operation with KSFE and NRKs under the aegis of KFC. The share capital of KFC will be enhanced by ₹ 100 crore.

MEDISEP

540. 'MEDISEP', the comprehensive health insurance scheme implemented for government employees, pensioners and their dependents by replacing existing complex medical reimbursement system thereby providing better and cashless treatment for unexpected and exorbitant treatment cost. A total number of 553 hospitals have been empanelled till date and insurance coverage upto a maximum of ₹ 3 lakh per year is provided. **Around 30 lakh individuals including the dependents of employees and pensioners are beneficiaries of the scheme. Total claims worth ₹ 640.49 crore have been sanctioned to 2,45,494 beneficiaries as against ₹ 491.46 crore paid as premium in 2022-23. In 2023-24, claims worth ₹ 435.07 crore have been issued to 2,31,772 beneficiaries till date.**

State Lotteries

541. Kerala State lottery is a major sector that ensures employment and income to more than one lakh people of the state. Nearly one crore lottery tickets are sold in the State every day. Sixty percent of these sales proceeds are given back to the people as gifts. Besides, the major portion including the lottery agent commission, discount etc, comes back to the people themselves. Apart from this, money from the lottery revenue is also channeled to the health insurance schemes like Karunya.
542. The situation of non-availability of sufficient number of weekly lottery tickets to the new agents and small scale vendors exists. In order to resolve this the series of weekly lottery tickets will be increased and the prize structure will be revised. Additional employment opportunities for 30,000 people will be created through this.
543. As part of making the government offices differently-abled friendly, district offices and sub offices under Lottery Department functioning in various districts need to be made completely differently-abled friendly. For this, the offices functioning in upstairs should be shifted to the ground Floors and made differently-abled friendly. In order to ensure the accommodation facilities for this,

steps will be taken after inspection in association with Public Works Department.

SPARK

544. **An amount of ₹ 1.83 crore is earmarked for the implementation of SPARK version 2.0** in order to revise existing Pay Roll System of employees in Government and Aided sector.

Land Revenue Department

545. Smart offices with modern facilities for various revenue offices, have to be constructed for providing speedy service delivery to citizens. **An amount of ₹ 49 crore is earmarked for the construction of Revenue Bhavan, various revenue offices and smart villages.**
546. **An amount of ₹ 26.50 crore is earmarked for the computerisation of Revenue Department in order to provide speedy and effective delivery of quality and transparent services.**

State Disaster Management Authority

547. **An amount of ₹6 crore is earmarked for State Disaster Management Authority.**

Major Infrastructure Development Projects

548. **An amount of ₹ 300.73 crore is earmarked for the smooth and time bound execution of major projects such as Vizhinjam Port, Cochin Metro and Kannur Airport.**

Kerala State Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC)

549. The objective of K-DISC is to create an eco-system which suits the creation of innovative methods such as education, skill development, entrepreneurship, participative governance and research through public and private participation. **For achieving these goals an amount of ₹23 crore is earmarked in the year 2024-25.**

Nava Kerala Karma Padhadhi – 2

550. **An amount of ₹ 9.20 crore is earmarked for the implementation of Nava Kerala Karma Padhadhi–2 in convergence of the existing 4 development missions under Nava Kerala Karma Padhadhi.**

551. **The outlay for Rebuild Kerala Initiative in the financial year 2024-25 is enhanced to ₹ 1000 crore from ₹ 904.83 crore of the previous financial year.**

Haritha Keralam Mission

Water in Quarries to Agricultural Lands

552. There are abandoned rock quarries in various parts of Kerala. Quarries are filled with abundant water during the rainy season. **A project has been implemented on an experimental basis at Kareepra Grama Panchayat of Kottarakara constituency in Kollam District to pump this water for irrigation using green energy. An amount of ₹ 3 crore is sanctioned under the leadership of Haritha Keralam Mission.**

Surakshithamakkam Pachimakhattam

553. Western Ghats is the most important biodiversity area in Kerala. 'Surakshithamakkam Pachimakhattam' is the project launched under Haritha Keralam Mission to mitigate the natural calamities frequently occurring in the Western Ghats where lakhs of people inhabit and secure people's lives. As part of the project, water streams in

Western Ghats are recorded through digital mapping and are rejuvenated ensuring their smooth flow.

Printing

554. **An amount of ₹ 5.22 crore is earmarked for the modernization of Government presses.**

Public Works (Buildings)

555. **An amount of ₹ 43 crore is set apart to Public Works (Buildings) Department in the financial year 2024-25 for the construction of public office buildings and other allied activities.**

Civil Supplies Department

556. **An amount of ₹ 41.17 crore is earmarked as assistance for the implementation of National Food Security Act.**
557. **An amount of ₹ 2 crore is provided for the implementation of 'Hunger Free Kerala' Scheme.**
558. **An amount of ₹ 10 crore is provided for the revamping of Supplyco outlets.**

559. **An amount of ₹ 2.50 crore is provided for the basic infrastructure development of Civil Supplies Department.**

Service Matters

Sir,

560. The insecurity created by the NPS has caused great concern among the employees. A three-member committee has been constituted to further examine the report of the committee appointed by the government to study its revision. The government is planning to review the NPS and implement a Revised Scheme that will provide security to the employees. Necessary action will be taken to get back the share given to the central government. **A revised scheme will be formulated to implement an 'Assured' pension system. New schemes of similar nature in other states will also be studied and necessary steps will be taken to implement in the state.**

Sir,

561. Kerala is the only state to have revised salary/pension for government employees/pensioners even during the

Covid period. It has been revealed that Kerala accounts for 42% of the total appointments made through Public Service Commissions in the government sector in India today. We are facing severe hardship as the Center has cut around Rs 57,000 crore, which is due to Kerala. If we get at least a part of this, we can solve our severe problems. **Even in these circumstances one instalment of DA/DR will be made available to government employees/pensioners along with the salary/pension for the month of April 2024.**

Navakerala Sadas

562. Navakerala Sadas organized by the Government of Kerala is the most remarkable chapter in the history of democracy. This is the first time in the world that all the ministers in a cabinet including Chief Minister directly approached people and held discussions and received their suggestions and instructions. Only a government having faith in voters and self-confident about functions, can implement this type of democratic experiment. Millions of people took part in Navakerala Sadas.
563. An amount ₹ 35 crore is earmarked under Planning and Economic Affairs Department for the formulation of infrastructure development projects proposed during the

discussions held as part of Nava Kerala Sadas. An amount of ₹ 25 lakh is set apart for each Legislative Assembly Constituency for the preparation of DPRs. Detailed project report of law cost and high. Standard projects envisaged in Nava Kerala Sadas will be approved by a committee comprising of secretary, planning, planning board member and the secretary of Administrative Department concerned and the projects will be implemented through the Administrative Department concerned. The schemes, are envisaged such that they guide towards ends and means for future Kerala. An amount of ₹ 1000 crore from the State's development schemes will be utilised for the schemes related with the proposals in Nava Kerala Sadas.

PART IV

Resource Mobilisation

Electricity Duty

564. From 1963 onwards electricity duty is collected at the rate of 1.2 paise per unit for consumers who generate and consume energy for their own consumption. The rate is enhanced to 15 paise per unit. An additional revenue of 24 crores is expected.

565. From 1963 onwards, Electricity duty for the sale of electricity is being levied at the rate of 6 paise per unit. This is enhanced to 10 paise per unit. An additional Revenue of Rs.101.41 crores is expected.

Judicial Court Fee

566. Judicial Court fee stamp rate in the state has not been revised for the last two decades. Though in the last budget speech it was declared that the court fees would be enhanced, the same could not be brought into force.
567. In the past, court fees had been revised based on the recommendations of the committee appointed by the Government for this purpose. For furnishing recommendations for revising the court fee in the state, Government have appointed a five-member committee under the chairmanship of Justice (Retd) V. K. Mohanan. The committee has already submitted its interim report to the Government. The following changes are being effected, based on the recommendations of the committee.
568. Many States in India have been imposing separate court fee in cases filed, as per Section 138 of Negotiable Instrument Act 1881. But in the State, the Judicial Court

Fee is still only Rs.10/. The committee after examining the same, has recommended that if the value of the dishonored cheque is up to Rupees 10,000/-, then Rupees 250/- may be imposed as court fees. In case the value exceeds Rs. 10,000, then five percent of the cheque amount may be imposed as Court Fees, subject to the condition that the maximum amount of Court Fees shall not exceed Rs. 3,00,000.

569. The following changes are being proposed in cases of appeals filed under this act. The amount of Court Fees proposed in cases of appeals filed by an accused before the Sessions Court shall be Rs.1,000, and for appeals filed by the complainant before the Hon: High Court, it shall be half of the Court Fees remitted in the trial court.
570. Likewise, it is hereby proposed that for the revision petition filed by the complainant before Hon: High court, the Court Fees shall be one tenth of the cheque amount, and in revision petitions filed by the accused against conviction, it shall be Rupees 1500/-.
571. Similarly, for petitions filed under Section 7(1)(c) of the Family Courts Act,1984 relating to property, a fee of Rupees 50/- is imposed at present. The committee has also recommended to revise the same. Where the value

of the subject matter in dispute does not exceed one lakh rupees, the court fee shall be 200/- Rupees, and in cases where the value is between One Lakh and Five Lakhs Rupees, the fee shall be half percent of the claim amount, and if the amount exceeds Rupees Five Lakhs, the fee shall be one percent of the claim amount, subject to a maximum of Rupees Two Lakhs. Court fee at the same rate shall be imposed on appeals from these cases filed before the Hon: High Court.

572. By accepting the recommendations of the committee, chaired by the former Judge of Hon: High Court, suitable amendments will be incorporated in The Kerala Court Fees and Suits Valuation Act, 1959. Through these the Government expects a revenue of Rupees Fifty Crores. Also, steps will be taken to revise court fee in other areas based on the recommendations in the final report of the committee.

Motor Vehicle Department

573. The number of tourist buses with All India Tourist permit that are registered in the state is very low. Those vehicles that ought to be registered in Kerala go to states like Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh where the tax is relatively low and get the vehicle registered there. They

take advantage of the new rules regarding tourist permit implemented by the Central Government and is regularly plying in Kerala state. This causes tax loss and loss in registration fees and fees of fitness test. Therefore, to facilitate the registration of such vehicles in Kerala itself, the tax of All India tourist permit buses is decreased as follows.

Sl. No.	Class of vehicles	Existing quarterly rate	Proposed quarterly rate
1	All India Tourist Buses having ordinary seat	Rs.2250/seat	Rs.1500/seat
2	All India Tourist Buses having Push back seat	Rs.3000/seat	Rs.2000/seat
3	All India Tourist Buses having Sleeper berth	Rs.4000/berth	Rs.3000/berth

574. Not only this, those vehicles that have been registered in other states with All India Tourist Permit that enter the state occasionally for tourism purposes will have to pay one tenth of the quarterly tax from the date of entry of such vehicle for a period of seven days. If the bus remains in Kerala for more than 7 days, the tax will be collected for each month. The taxation Act will be

amended in accordance with this. Quarterly tax will be collected from the tourist buses that regularly ply in the state.

575. It is decided to continue the Scheme of One Time Settlement this year also so as to collect the pending tax arrears in the Motor Vehicle Department. Transport vehicles that have tax arrears for four years or more will have to pay 30% of the four year tax, and for non-transport vehicles, this will be 40% and can settle the entire arrears and thereby be able to avoid future tax liability from such vehicles that have been dismantled or not in possession.

Excise

Sir,

576. The Abkari law permits levying a gallonage fee of up to 30 rupees per liter on the sale of Indian-made foreign liquor. This has been set at 10 rupees per liter. Through this, an additional revenue of 200 crores rupees is expected.

GST

577. Under some pre-GST tax laws, the Government is owed approximately fourteen thousand crores in arrears.

However, many of these arrears are either very old or of small amounts. It has been about six and a half years since the old tax laws ended, and most businesses have now transitioned to the GST system. To invigorate the trade sector in Kerala, especially the small-scale trade sector, and based on numerous requests received during the Nava Kerala Sadas, 'Amnesty 2024' Tax Arrears Resolution Scheme is announced.

578. The features of 'Amnesty 2024' Scheme are as follows:

- This scheme will apply to arrears under the Kerala Value Added Tax Act, Kerala Agricultural Income Tax Act, Kerala General Sales Tax Act, Kerala Tax on Luxuries Act, and Kerala Surcharge on Taxes Act.
- This scheme will not be applicable for arrears related to turnover tax and tax payable at compounded rates under the Kerala General Sales Tax Act by dealers including Bar Hotels and distilleries.
- Tax arrears related to business transactions conducted before the implementation of the GST law will be covered under this scheme.

- This scheme will fully waive off penalties and interest on the arrears.
- Under this scheme, arrears are divided into four slabs based on the tax amount involved.
- In the first slab, arrears with tax amounts up to fifty thousand rupees will be completely waived off. Though this slab accounts for less than one percent of the total arrear amount, it will help resolve approximately twenty-two thousand cases, providing a new impetus to the small-scale trade sector.
- In the second slab, for arrears with tax amounts from fifty thousand to ten lakh rupees, 30% of the tax amount needs to be paid.
- In the third slab, for arrears with tax amounts from ten lakhs to one crore rupees, there are two approaches.
- For arrears under appeal (involved in legal proceedings) in this slab, 40% of the tax amount needs to be paid.

- For arrears not under appeal (not involved in legal proceedings) in this slab, 50% of the tax amount needs to be paid.
- In the fourth slab, for arrears exceeding one crore rupees, there are two approaches.
- For arrears under appeal (involved in legal proceedings) in this slab, 70% of the tax amount needs to be paid.
- For arrears not under appeal (not involved in legal proceedings) in this slab, 80% of the tax amount needs to be paid.
- The above benefits under the Amnesty 2024 Scheme shall be available only to those who join before a specified date, and any delay in joining the scheme will reduce the available benefits.
- The last date to join the scheme is 31st December 2024.

579. This scheme will not only provide relief to taxpayers but also enable the GST department to undertake new activities that will boost tax collection.

Registration

580. Agreements relating to equitable mortgage, where title deeds are deposited as security for credit, are at present not recorded in the registration and revenue records by financial institutions except co-operative banks. This often leads to irregularities such as the transfer of mortgaged property, re-mortgaging by concealing mortgage information, and withholding of title deeds from the owner by financial institutions even after the mortgage matures etc. To address these issues, steps are underway to introduce a state amendment to the Registration Act, 1908. In order to curtail the wrongful practices and to bring transparency, as an interim measure and in exercise of the executive power of the Government, an order will be issued for the compulsory online filing of Agreements relating to the Deposit of Title Deeds in Sub-Registrar's offices. A filing fee of 0.1% of the loan amount subject to a maximum of Rs 10,000 will be charged from the financial institutions. An additional revenue of Rs 50 Crore is expected.
581. At present, stamp duty is levied on lease deeds at a fixed rate of average annual rent depending on tenure of lease. This often results in underreporting of annual rents and thereby reducing the stamp duty. In order to set right this

issue, the Kerala Stamp Act will be amended to fix the stamp duty based on the fair value of the leased land instead of the annual average rent. For lease deeds where only the building portion is transferred, the whole rental amount or the fair value of the land on which the building is situated, whichever is higher, will be the basis for calculating stamp duty. Along with this, the existing stamp duty slabs for lease deeds will also be revised. An additional revenue of Rs 40 Cr. is expected.

582. Under a partnership firm, the entire immovable property of partners can be transferred by the existing partners to the new partners without registering a sale deed. To prevent this, the Kerala Stamp Act, 1959, will be amended to provide for levy stamp duty at the rate applicable to a sale deed on transfer of immovable property when the existing partners intends to transfer all their property to new partners during reconstitution or dissolution of a partnership firm. An additional revenue of Rs. 2 Cr. is expected from this.
583. Although registration of sale agreements is now mandatory by law, there is a reluctance among people to register them, because the parties have to pay the registration fee for the amount mentioned in the sale agreement while registering the sale deed also. In order

to promote the registration of sale agreements, the registration fee schedule will be amended to set off the registration fee, if any, paid in respect of the sale agreement from the registration fee payable for the sale deed, if the same parties register the sale deed within 6 months of registration of the sale agreement.

584. Registration fee at the reduced rate of 1% subject to a maximum of Rs. 525 is currently levied for the registration of instruments for securing agricultural, educational loans and other loans from the commercial banks, and the reconveyance deeds thereof. This relaxation will also be extended to release deeds executed by commercial banks in respect of above instruments.
585. As per Serial No. 16 in the Schedule of the Kerala Stamp Act, stamp duty is levied on sale certificates issued by the Civil Court, Revenue Court, Government, Collector, and other revenue officers. In order to make it applicable to sale certificates issued by other civil officers, Serial Number 16 of the Schedule to the Kerala Stamp Act will be amended by adding the word 'civil officer'.
586. There is a system to determine the value of the building in accordance with the norms of the Central Public Works Department. The aim of this system is to prevent stamp

duty evasion by accurately reflecting the true value of the building in the document related to the transfer of the building. Since Sub-registrars lack the technical expertise to determine the value, stamp duty is currently calculated based on the valuation certificate provided by an approved valuer. However, it has been observed that the value of buildings is also being undervalued in the valuation certificates leading to tax evasion. To prevent this type of tax evasion, steps will be taken to formulate norms for calculating the value of the building based on the plinth area at CPWD rates. Additionally new guidelines will be issued to verify that the stamp duty paid is on a value not less than the value determined by these criteria by making the necessary amendments in Kerala Stamp Rules, 1960. An additional revenue of Rs 100 Crore is expected.

Land Revenue

587. Loans are offered by banks based on the security of title deeds of lands. Capturing such securities in the revenue records in a manner than can be accessed by banks would bring in transparency. Arrangements would be made to electronically record these mortgages in the ReLIS portal of the Land Revenue Department. For 'e-marking' these mortgages in the database a maximum

sum of Rs 1000/- and for 'e-releasing' these mortgages a sum of Rs. 300/- would be levied as fees from the concerned mortgagee banks. Through this an additional income of Rs. 200 crore would be generated annually.

588. Government Land was given on leases and grants subject to conditions to foreign nationals and companies prior to independence. Post independence, now Government can realize the lawful lease rent from the present occupants of such lands. It has been ascertained that 1,00,312 Hectares of such lands exist in the State. Litigations are also in vogue in some cases to establish the title of the Government. Effective steps will be taken to defend Government's interest in court cases so as to realize the lease rents due to Government.

589. Residents of flats and apartments have been demanding assessment and remittance of land tax for their undivided share of land on individual ownership basis. The land tax rates on such undivided share of land on individual ownership basis would be appropriately fixed and levied in the State.

590. The fair values of lands in the State were determined in the year 2010. The fair value had been increased by a fixed percentage from time to time thereafter.

Considering the developments in the state and the increase in market value of lands after 2010, the fair value of lands in the State would be revised in an appropriate and judicious manner. Along with such revision of fair value, the land tax would be levied also factoring the use to which the land is put to.

591. A sizeable number of individuals and institutions have defaulted in the payment of lease rent due to the Government for land leased. An Amnesty scheme will be brought in to realize these dues. Lessees who clear their dues under the Amnesty scheme would be allowed to migrate thereafter to a lower rate of revised lease rent based on a renewed lease policy. Lessees who do not clear their dues under the Amnesty Scheme will be evicted from the land after cancelling the lease. Revenue Recovery proceedings would be initiated to realize such arrears due to the Government.

592. River sand removal in the State has been discontinued since 2016. Following all legal formalities, extraction of river sand from Bharatapuzha, Chaliyar and Kadalundi rivers will be resumed in the year 2024-25. Removal of sand would be taken up in phases in other rivers also with sand deposits. An additional income of Rs. 200 crores is expected from this. Such removal of sand will also

increase the carrying capacity of the river and decrease the risk of riverine flooding.

Scrapping Policy

593. The state will develop a streamlined salvage and scrapping policy. The policy will enable different departments to unlock value through the disposal of unusable assets like old furniture, condemned vehicles etc. The state will raise around 200 crores through this scheme.

CONCLUSION

Sir,

594. We are transitioning into a stage of taking heightened responsibilities. Collective efforts are required to strive forward upholding the past achievements of Kerala. Kerala was the first to raise the point that the Central Government takes different approaches towards State Governments. It is doubtful whether it was accepted as such at that time. Approaches of the Central Government are getting worse than the stage when we raised the issue of curtailing our eligible Central share and benefits two or three years ago. More and more curtailments are

imposed every year. There are persons in this House also who opined that this diminution was justifiable and the state was eligible for a meagre amount. But, various State Governments ruled by different political parties are now ready to agitate against the Centre's extreme disregard. We are proud to say that we were the first to raise the slogan for the protection of cooperative federalism and protection of rights.

Sir

595. Let's stride in unison towards the attainment of what is rightfully ours. This land has a history of thousands of years. As per the historical records, Kerala had relations with Arab merchants, Chinese traders, Greek travellers and the Western countries. Kerala was a wealthy land on account of its cultural peculiarities, abundant natural resources and agrarian prosperity. Travellers around the globe reached Kerala for these reasons.
596. Our land witnessed several fierce struggles during the time of freedom movement. Massive agitations were held here against untouchability and ill-practices. Society made advancement through progressive-labour and renaissance movements. Now Kerala is being pointed out as a land of comprehensive development which was

once criticized by Swami Vivekananda as a lunatic asylum.

597. We need to initiate earnest efforts to take this land forward. For that, dynamic activities and policy formation should be made in all sectors especially in economic sector.
598. This is the time when the world itself is shrinking and the boundaries are vanishing. Now the presence of Keralites is felt in every part of the world. During the Covid times, the people residing in development countries including Keralites realized the fact that the best health care facilities and services were available in Kerala.
599. As far as Kerala is concerned, our expatriates are a unique treasure. They provide constructive co-operation and assistance in the field of development and welfare of the State. We can have a giant leap in the development sector through capital investment in various sectors ensuring the co-operation of the expatriates. This is not unfamiliar to Kerala. This is the land of Governments which brought big establishments like Mavoor Gwaliyor Rayons in 1957, Toshiba Anand in 1967 and Oil palm fields which are not familiar to us even today. In this way, we will be able to take forward the lives and amenities of

Keralites together. Schemes and announcements which guide us towards that goal are included in this budget. We have the responsibility to build a much better Kerala for the generations to come. Let's remember and appreciate the timeless verses written by the eminent poet Mahakavi Vallathol.

“When you hear the name of India

Your heart must swell with pride

When you hear the name of Kerala

The blood must throb in your veins”

600. Let me now present a summary of the Revised Estimates for 2023-2024 and the Budget Estimates for 2024-2025.

Revised Budget Estimate for 2023-24

(Rs. In crore)

Revenue Receipts	126837.06
Revenue Expenditure	151422.37
Revenue Deficit	(-) 24585.31
Capital Expenditure (Net)	(-) 14348.25

Loans & Advances (Net)	(-) 1527.82
Public Debt (Net)	31998.00
Public Account (Net)	8400.44
Overall Deficit	(-) 62.94
Opening balance at the beginning of the year	182.69
Closing balance at the end of the year	119.75

Budget Estimate for 2024-25

(Rs. In crore)

Revenue Receipts	138655.16
Revenue Expenditure	166501.21
Revenue Deficit	(-) 27846.05
Capital Expenditure (Net)	(-) 15596.92
Loans & Advances (Net)	(-) 1086.00
Public Debt (Net)	35988.28
Public Account (Net)	8500.00
Overall Deficit	(-) 40.69
Opening balance at the beginning of the year	119.75
Closing balance at the end of the year	79.06
Additional Expenditure announced	(-) 1420.00

Additional resource mobilization	1067.00
Cumulative Deficit at the end of the year	(-) 273.94

601. Sir, Let me present this budget for the approval of the August House. Also presenting the Vote on Account for the next four months (2024 April to July) of the next financial year for the approval of the August House.