



ADDRESS
OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
SHRI MURLIDHAR C. BHANDARE
GOVERNOR OF ORISSA

TO THE
ORISSA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

8th MARCH, 2010

Mr. Speaker and Hon'ble Members,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you to the 3rd Session of this 14th Orissa Legislative Assembly. I convey my heartiest greetings to all of you and to the people of Orissa.

2. This August House has expressed its deep condolence on the sad demise of Late Harcharan Singh Brar, former Governor of Orissa, Late Jogesh Chandra Rout, former Minister, Hrushikesh Hota, Bikram Keshari Deo, Upendra Mohanty, Trinath Sahu, Ajit Das and Rudramohan Das all former members of this House who have made significant contribution to the development of the State. This House has also expressed its deep condolence on the sad demise of Late Narsingha Mahakud, Ex- Sub-Inspector of Police, Nrusingh Charan Routray, Ex-Sepoy and Achyutanand Nayak, Ex-Gunner of Indian Army, Bhupindar Singh, Ex-Dy. Commandant, Sunil Kumar, Ex-Constable, Narendra Kumar, Ex-Driver of CRPF, Late Narayan Chandra Pradhan, Ex-ASI, Rajendra Kumar Mohanta, Ex-Havildar, Gahma Hembram, Ex-Constable of Orissa Police and Manas Ranjan Naik, former Jail Warder who have rendered exemplary and self-less service and laid down their lives for the cause of the Nation. I request Hon'ble members to join me in paying tribute to late Phulamani Santa, Baidhar Singh, Gadadhar Mishra, Raghunath Mahapatra, Rajkishore Nayak, Prabhakar Behera, former members of this House, Late Gangadhara Dalai, Commando, Special Operation Group, Suresh Chandra Behera, Ex-Habildar, Indian Army and Pravakar Singh, Ex-Head Constable, C.R.P.F. who are no more with us. The House may convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of the departed souls.

3. My Government has been endeavouring to achieve a sustainable and inclusive higher economic growth, accelerated overall development, reduction of regional, social and gender disparities and a faster rate of poverty reduction. The 11th Five Year Plan (2007-12) envisages an average annual growth rate of 9% with a projected outlay of Rs.32, 225 crore in the state. Sustained efforts have been made by the Government to allocate increased resources for planned development of the State. The size of the State's Annual Plan has been increased substantially from Rs.2,500 crore in 2004-05 to Rs.9,500 crore in 2009-10.

Development of rural infrastructure is one of the priority programmes of my Government. The State Government has recommended 13,456 projects worth

Rs.2,355.18 crore for execution out of RIDF-XV. NABARD has so far sanctioned 909 projects worth Rs.773.28 crore.

The Annual Action Plan for the year 2009-10 under Special Plan for KBK districts was formulated with an outlay of Rs.130 crore provided by Government of India in shape of Special Central Assistance (SCA). The State Government proposes to implement RLTAAP in the KBK districts during the year 2010-11 with a projected outlay of Rs.130 crore for various schemes in Agriculture, Irrigation, Afforestation, Urban Drinking Water Supply, Welfare of ST/SC, Social Safety Net, Rural Connectivity, Housing and Livelihood sectors.

The State Government has launched the "Biju KBK Plan" for the KBK districts with annual allocation of Rs.120 crore during the 11th Five Year Plan out of State Plan resources. The "Biju KBK Plan" lays great stress on Bijli, Sadak and Pani, which includes provision of funds for improving infrastructure, village electrification, construction of concrete roads and other forms of rural connectivity, and creation of irrigation / drinking water source.

With a view to accelerating the development process and expediting poverty reduction in Kandhamal and Gajapati districts, the State Government has launched a Special Area Development Initiative called: "Biju Kandhamal 'O' Gajapati Yojana (BKG Y)" under the State Plan effective from the year 2009-10 out of its own resources. The scheme focuses on Bijli, Sadak, Pani, Livelihood Initiatives and Social Safety Net programmes. Each of the two districts shall be provided with funds @ Rs.1.50 crore per Block per annum for implementation of the scheme.

4. Irrigation is the most important input for agricultural production. The State Government is making an endeavour to increase the irrigation coverage by completing the ongoing irrigation projects and taking up new projects. Out of 61.65 lakh hectares of cultivable land in the State, so far 28.45 lakh hectares (46.16%) have been covered under irrigation. A Perspective Five Year Plan (2009-10 to 2013-14) has been drawn up to provide irrigation to additional 9% of cultivable land (5.61 lakh hectares). It has also been programmed to cover all deficit blocks of the state with at least 35% irrigation coverage. It is targeted to complete Rengali Left Bank Canal-II, Bhaghalati, Aul Creek and Birupa Genguty extension, 168 Minor Irrigation projects, commence command area rehabilitation activities in Potteru Irrigation Project, Upper Kolab Irrigation Project and Upper Indravati Irrigation Project and construct field channels covering an area

of 27600 hectares and field drains covering an area of 8000 hectares during the year 2010-11.

Steps are also being taken to rehabilitate / modernize the existing irrigation infrastructure to provide water to the farmers at the tail end of distribution system. Work in Hirakud command areas are in progress from State's own resources. Loan agreements have been signed with World Bank and Asian Development Bank to undertake Orissa Community Tank Management Project and Orissa Integrated Irrigated Agriculture and Water Management Project (OCTMP and OIIAWMP) for rehabilitation / modernization work of selected major, medium, minor flow and lift irrigation projects. Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) for modernization of selected large Dams proposed under World Bank funding is likely to be grounded in 2010-2011.

For optimization of water use efficiency, Command Area Development and Water Management (CAD&WM) activities and Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) activities have been scaled up. So far, 12.19 lakh hectare of irrigated land has been handed over to 17617 Pani Panchayats for operation and maintenance.

Private Lift Irrigation Points namely, Shallow Tubewells, Borewells, Energized Dugwells and River Lift Points under Jananidhi Scheme are being promoted by providing 50% subsidy. During the current financial year 23714 Private Lift Irrigation Points have been set up. It has been programmed to set up 25,000 Private Lift Irrigation Points during 2010-11.

Orissa has been one of the pioneers in the country in demonstrating successful Watershed Development Programme. Presently, 2973 Micro Watersheds Projects are under implementation under various Schemes. During the current year, 64,000 hectares of land has been treated through Watershed Development Programmes with an expenditure of Rs.58.41 crore. 8766 Water Bodies, 22961 small soil and watershed conservation structures and 19899 hectares of plantation have been done under Watershed Development Programmes in the State. 813 Self Help Groups have been formed under Watershed Development Programmes. From the current year, a new Programme namely, Integrated Watershed Management Programme has been taken up at an outlay of Rs.403.00 crore for treatment of 3,35,979 hectares.

5. My Government is committed to usher in a suitable and inclusive growth in the Agriculture Sector. As a result of the various measures taken, foodgrain production

is expected to be about 90 lakh MT inspite of deficient and erratic monsoon during the year 2009-10 as compared to about 87 lakh MT during the previous year.

Seed is one of the most important inputs that play a key role in boosting agricultural productivity. My Government has initiated a number of steps to increase Seed Replacement Rate of important crops. More than 4.51 lakh qtls of paddy and 1.3 lakh qtls of non-paddy certified seeds have been supplied to farmers at subsidized rate increasing Seed Replacement Rate from 12.04% in 2007-08 to 18% in Kharif – 2009. It is targeted to enhance Seed Replacement Rate of paddy to 25% by end of 11th Five Year Plan. In spite of adverse climatic conditions this year, fertilizer consumption has gone up.

Farm mechanization not only brings a significant improvement in agricultural productivity, but it also goes a long way in reducing drudgery in agricultural operations. In view of the low level of mechanization in the State, my Government has given a lot of emphasis on farm mechanization. During the current year, 5349 Power Tillers, 2324 Tractors, 40 Combined Harvestors, 388 Paddy Reapers, 33 Rotavators, 20 Paddy Transplanters, 338 hydraulic trailers and 609 power operated implements have been popularized with subsidy involvement of Rs.58.45 crore. 25,264 Diesel Pump sets have been made available to the farmers at the subsidized rates.

Our State is bestowed with a variety of agro-climatic conditions favourable for development of horticultural crops. Government has initiated a number of measures to exploit potential for horticultural development in the State. During the year 2009-10, 32,000 hectares of land have been brought under different fruit crops with an expenditure of Rs.32.18 crore. It is programmed to bring about 42,000 hectares of land under fruit crops during the year 2010-11. Due emphasis has been given for commercial cultivation of flower. An area of 3075 hectares has been covered under floriculture with an expenditure of Rs.4.92 crore. It is programmed to cover 3200 hectares under floriculture during 2010-11. State has achieved self-sufficiency in quality planting materials of most of the important horticultural crops. Steps have been taken to set up a Block Level Nursery in each Block of the State. So far, 126 Block Level Nurseries have been set up. The backyard plantation has been taken up through Women Self Help Groups. It is programmed to provide 5 lakh units of quality planting materials to Women Self Help Groups during 2010-11.

Promotion of Organic Farming is high on the State Governments' agenda. 4,000 Vermi Compost units and 181 Vermi Hatcheries have been set up during the current financial year. It is programmed to set up 6125 Vermi Compost units during 2010-11.

My Government has set up a State Farmers Commission to address the problems of farmers in a holistic manner and work out a comprehensive strategy for achieving sustainable and equitable agricultural development of the State.

6. The Cooperative credit structure plays a significant role in the dispensation of credit for agriculture activities and rural development through its short-term structures with their vast network, wide coverage and outreach extending to the remotest rural areas. An amount of Rs.1407.82 crores has been disbursed as crop loan during Kharif-2009 season and Rs.495.00 crores during Rabi-2009-10 season by the District Central Cooperative Banks at state subsidized interest rate of 5%. To facilitate trading of selected notified agricultural commodities by the farmers, traders, food processors of our State, a private electronic spot market "e-market" has been established under the Regulated Market Committee, Nawarangpur in collaboration with National Spot Exchange Ltd. (NSEL), Mumbai. For strengthening the marketing infrastructure for agricultural commodities in the State Rs.3.11 crore has been allotted in the Budget for the year 2009-10. With this fund the market yards of Regulated Market Committees (RMCs) at Nawarangpur, Keonjhar, Malkangiri, Bonai, Kandhamal, Bhadrak, Kantabanjhi, Kendupatna and Narasinghpur shall be developed. Besides under the Pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme implemented during Kharif-2009 crop season, 54811 farmers of the State have been paid compensation to the extent of Rs.7.50 crore. Two market yards for cotton has been established at Parlakhemundi and Digapahandi Regulated Market Committees with project out lay of Rs.1.81 crore and Rs.3.07 crore respectively. Two specialized maize mandis at Umerkote and Raighar in Nawarangpur district with a project outlay of Rs.1.85 crore and Rs.1.58 crore respectively with funding under Biju Krushak Yojana and Rastriya Krushi Vikash Yojana (RKVY) have been established. The Integrated Cooperative Development Project (ICDP) is under implementation in 20 Large Area Multi Purpose Cooperative Societies (LAMPs) of Koraput district and 8 LAMPs of Malkangiri district to strengthen the infrastructure facilities with an investment of Rs.201.48 lakh in 2007-08 Rs.367.52 lakh in 2008-09 and there is a budget provision of Rs.145.00 lakh

for the year 2009-10. Renovation and technological upgradation of Baragarh and Aska Cooperative Sugar Industries has been taken up by State Government. Financial assistance of Rs.3.00 crore has been provided during 2008-09 and there is provision of Rs.3.44 crore during 2009-10 financial year.

7. Fisheries sector plays a very vital role in the rural economy. My Government has initiated many steps for the development of this important sector. 7,42,447 fishermen families have been covered under Group Accident Insurance Scheme which is the highest in the country and has earned National Award for the State. 10,259 marine BPL fishermen families have been provided with financial support under Savings-cum-Relief Scheme. Government has recently prepared a 10 Year perspective plan for fisheries sector to achieve self sufficiency in fish production and to take inland fish production from the present level of 2.13 lakh ton to 7.10 lakh ton. 1 lakh small and marginal farmers will be assisted to develop pisciculture tanks each with maximum area of half an acre. Three new fishing harbours are proposed to be constructed at Bahabalpur, Chudamani and Chandipur with a projected outlay of Rs. 110.00 crore.

Livestock sector is emerging as an important alternate source of income to the rural poor and is providing livelihood support to a large number of small and marginal farmers. The Government has taken steps for development of livestock infrastructure in rural areas with NABARD assistance. Self employment opportunities were created by training the unemployed youths and engaging them as private A.I. workers (GOMITRA) for providing veterinary services. A 10 Year Perspective Plan has been recently prepared for development of Animal Resources Development sector with a projected outlay of Rs.22, 51 crores.

8. Education is the most important factor for the socio-economic development of the people as a whole and Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes in particular. My Government attaches a lot of importance to improve the educational status of these communities. To arrest the drop out rate of schools and to promote Scheduled Tribe girls' education, 52 new residential girls High Schools having classes from Class – VI to X have been opened in the academic Year 2008-09 in the Tribal Sub-Plan blocks of Koraput, Malkangiri, Rayagada, Kandhamal, Sambalpur, Sundargarh, Keonjhar, Nabarangpur, Gajapati and Mayurbhanj districts where there was no girls high school. In addition, as many as 1004 nos. of 100 seated Scheduled

Tribe girls hostels have been newly constructed and operationalized during 2008-09 and an ambitious programme to set-up further 1040 nos. of such hostels was taken up during the year 2009-10, which includes 190 ST Girls Hostels in five Naxal affected districts i.e. Sambalpur, Deogarh, Gajapati, Malkangiri and Rayagada. New schemes such as (i) Payment of Ex-gratia to the next kin of SC/ST boarders in Government hostels in case they die of any reason (ii) Computer education in High Schools and Girls High Schools, (iii) Supply of cooking gas (LPG) equipments to the Hostels (iv) Promotion of Archery Training Centre in Nodal Schools of KBK districts and (v) Computerization of Pre and Post Matric Scholarship have been proposed for implementation under State plan. Steps have been taken to impart teaching in Tribal languages i.e. in Santali, Saora, Munda, Bonda, Kui, Kuvi, Juang, Koya, Kisan and Oram in Primary Schools (Sevashram / Residential Sevashrams) which are located in the most remote tribal areas. The Government has successfully implemented the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dweller's Act, 2006 and so far has distributed titles to 1,38,120 Scheduled Tribe households including 10,107 Primitive Tribal People. As many as 1246 cases of alleged fake Caste Certificates of Kandhamal and Bolangir districts have been received out of which 148 cases have been disposed of by the State Level Scrutiny Committee as per guideline set up by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. In order to expedite the disposal of other cases, three scrutiny committees have been formed under the Chairmanship of concerned Revenue Divisional Commissioners. Under self employment programme, my Government has financed 3971 Schedule Castes, 1837 Schedule Tribes and 908 Scavengers through Banks during the year 2009-10.

9. Today we observe Centenary of International Women's Day. My Government is in the forefront of implementing various programmes for empowerment of Women. The Mission Shakti was launched on International Women's Day on 8.3.2001 to form 2 lakh Women Self Help Groups (WSHGs) to actively engage them in activities like MDM, Public Distribution, Rural Marketing, Pisciculture and Handicraft etc. There are 3,87,325 Women Self Help Groups having 46,47,900 members in the state. The WSHGs have been credit linked with an objective to provide more opportunities of self employment on sustainable basis to rural poor Women Group for ensuring their financial viability. The WSHGs have been credit linked worth Rs.1,36,780.48 lakhs. With a view to enhancing the socio-economic status of the poor especially women and

disadvantaged groups in 38 poverty stricken blocks of 10 districts, Government has launched Targeted Rural Initiatives for Poverty Termination and Infrastructure (TRIPTI) project in the year 2009.

Supplementary Nutrition Programme is being implemented for 300 days in a year through Anganwadi Centres (AWCs). During 2009-10, 40,93,115 normal, mild and moderate malnourished children, 35,566 no. severely malnourished children and 7,80,120 nos. pregnant women and lactating mothers were covered. Beneficiaries in 3 KBK districts, namely, Koraput, Malkanagiri and Nawarangpur are being provided Ready to Eat Food in shape of India Mix. Old, infirm and indigent persons belonging to BPL household are provided food each day throughout the year under Emergency Feeding Programme in 8 K.B.K. districts. Cooked hot food is being provided to the beneficiaries through Anganwadi Centres. A new scheme providing nutrition and medical support to severely malnourished children has been launched in February 2009. During the year 2009-10, a sum of Rs.7,88,61,600/- has been placed with Collectors out of Chief Minister's Relief Fund to provide protein or energy rich food, vitamin and mineral supplements .

Madhu Babu Pension Yojana (MBPY) was introduced with effect from 1st January,2008. During 2009-10, 14,08,400 persons have been benefited under the Scheme. The National Old Age Pension Scheme is being implemented in the State since 1995-96. 6,43,400 people have been benefited under this scheme during 2009-10 and it is targeted to cover 11,93,176 beneficiaries by 2010-11.

Government of India has sanctioned 19,221 nos. more Anganwadi Centres and 5397 Mini Anganwadi Centres in the third phase expansion of ICDS, making the total Anganwadi Centres of the State 60918 and 10216 Mini AWCs. A new initiative named e-Pragati has been launched to provide a web based solution for online tracking and subsequently monitoring the functioning of all the Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) in the state thereby ensuring transparency and accountability in the system.

Monthly maintenance allowance of Rs.500/- per inmates of orphanages as well as differently abled students of Special Schools towards food, clothing, medicine and other expenses has been enhanced to Rs.750/- during the current year. With a view to strengthening the child care measures and enhancing protection of children in difficult situations, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Orissa Rules, 2002 has been amended which has come into force with effect from 26.10.2009. The

Government has also decided that differently abled students pursuing higher studies / technical studies after class X shall be exempted from tuition fees and other related fees.

Maintenance and welfare of parents and senior Citizens has been mandated in the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. The Act has come into operation in the State w.e.f. 1.10.2008. Detailed rules to implement different provisions of the Act have been made in the Orissa Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Rules, 2009 which has come into operation w.e.f. 29.9.2009.

10. The rich tradition and culture of the state needs to be nurtured particularly with regard to the weaving art of our skilled weavers. My government ensures steady progress in this sector by introducing several measures for socio economic development of the weavers. In addition to the special package announced for the weavers of the state, the state government has restructured the outstanding loan of Sambalpuri Bastralya Handloom Coop. Society Ltd. Production of quality fabrics in new designs in 23 clusters and 47 projects under group approach is being implemented for augmentation of income of the weavers. The raw-material banks have been opened and steps are being taken to federate these into an apex organization at the state level. Such a body will directly procure raw materials and accessories from the producers, thereby ensuring quality materials for the weavers at competitive rates. The Government is providing about 11 acres of land to National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) and has agreed to provide Rs.58.65 crores for establishment of the Bhubaneswar branch of NIFT at Chandrasekharpur. The course will start from the next academic year to build skilled manpower base. The Government is trying to provide modern accessories to the weavers particularly for pre loom activities in large numbers so as to increase productivity, production and income of the weavers.

11. My government has accorded high priority to generation of employment opportunities and has formulated "State Employment Policy-2005". A High Power Employment Mission under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister has been constituted and Orissa State Employment Mission Society (OSEMS) has been formed to achieve objectives of the Employment Mission. The OSEMS has been imparting self employment and skill upgradation trainings. During the year 2009-10, 11,664 unemployed youth have been imparted training under different vocational, technical and

skill development training programmes organized by the Employment Mission. Besides, 57,030 unemployed educated persons have been imparted basic computer training through OCAC in four phases. Other initiatives include Civil Work Supervisor training of ST youth, skill up-gradation training in Masons and Form work carpentry and organization of Job Melas. During the year 2009-10, self and associated wage employment opportunities for 4,13,269 unemployed youth have been generated through financial assistance by various banks in the State. Besides, 1.95 lakh beneficiaries have been covered under various Self Employment Programmes (SEPs) executed by various Departments.

My Government has been implementing various labour welfare measures. The Government has revised minimum rate of wages for the unskilled, semiskilled, skilled and highly skilled workers. Preliminary notification including domestic workers under schedule of employments has also been issued for fixation of their wages. For rehabilitation and mainstreaming of the released Child Labour, the Government of India has sanctioned 24 National Child Labour Projects in the State. 975 Special Schools are functioning at present and 47431 number of boys and girls have been enrolled in these schools. 93518 Child Labourers have been mainstreamed into formal schooling system. Government of India has been pursued to sanction N.C.L.Ps for the remaining 6 districts of the State and enhance the number of Schools under the existing Projects. My Government is implementing Rastriya Swasthy Bima Yojana (RSBY) to improve access of the B.P.L families to health care facilities. This health insurance scheme is being implemented in 12 districts through the New India Assurance Co. Ltd. and it is programmed to cover the remaining districts of the State.

12. The targeted Public Distribution system is functioning effectively through a wide network in the State to provide food grains at subsidized price to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. A total of 12,64,500 poorest of the poor beneficiaries covered under Annapurna Antadoya Yojana are being supplied with 35 Kg. of rice per month to each card holder @ Rs.2.00 per Kg. Besides, 37.90 Lakh BPL families of the State and 5.66 lakh APL families in 8 KBK district are being provided 25 Kg. of rice per card @ Rs.2.00 per Kg. per month. Further, under Annapurna Scheme, 64, 800 Senior Citizens who are not covered under Old Age Pension are being provided 10 Kg. of rice per beneficiaries per month free of cost.

In order to prevent distress sale of paddy and providing minimum support price of paddy to farmers Government has fixed target for procurement of 32 lakh MT rice during the Kharif Marketing seasons 2009-10 through Government agencies directly from the farmers. Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies, Women Self Help Group (WSGHs) and Pani Panchayats have been associated with paddy procurement operations to strengthen these institutions.

State Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission and 31 District Consumer Dispute Redressal Forums are functioning in the State. In order to create awareness on consumer rights among the school students, consumer clubs have been set up in 500 Schools, Consumer Counseling Centers have been set up in 18 Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums and the State Commission. A Sanjog Help Line on Public Distribution System having toll free telephone is functioning in the Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Department. Secondary Standard Laboratory of the Directorate of Legal Metrology (Weights and Measures) has been developed as a model Laboratory of the country.

13. In order to decentralize power and increase people's participation at grass root level my Government has emphasized to strengthen 3-tier Panchayati Raj Institution. Accordingly, 21 subjects relating to 11 Departments have been devolved to the control of 3-tier Panchayati Raj Institutions. My Government has decided to introduce Grama Nyayalaya in each Block in order to provide access to justice to the people at village level. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme now extends to all 30 Districts of the state 55.19 lakh families have been issued with job cards, 11.01 lakh house holds have demanded employment and 10.73 lakh were given work under the scheme. For maintaining transparency in wage payment, the State Government have signed MOU with State Bank Of India for payment of wages to labourers through Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT). Steps are being taken to achieve the target of excavation of One lakh farm ponds in 2009-10 in the land of SC/ST/BPL families / IAY beneficiaries / small and marginal farmers for protective irrigation, horticulture plantation, pisciculture etc. One Community tank will be taken up in each G.P under MGNREGS within Rs.25 lakhs. Ganjam and Mayurbhanj districts have been awarded by Ministry of Rural Development Government of India for

Excellence in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guaranty Act Administration for successful implementation of the scheme during the year 2009-10.

My Government is providing rural infrastructure primarily Bijli, Sadak and Pani to every revenue village to the districts under Backward Region Grant Fund Scheme and Gopabandhu Gramin Yojana. Government is implementing successfully the self-employment programme of the Government of India like Swarna Jayanti Gram Sworojgar Yojana, thereby bringing the assisted poor families (Sworojgaries) above the poverty line by providing them income generating assets through bank credit and Government subsidy .Government has also provided computer alongwith broad band service to all Blocks and DRDAs for better flow of information from Block Level to the District and State Head Quarters. Dedicated IT workers have also been placed at Block and District level for smooth operation of the e-Governance applications like PAMIS, Betan, NREGS online, Plan Plus, Prisoft, Rural soft and NPP etc. It has been programmed to computerize each and every G.P office by March, 2011.

14. My Government stands committed to universalization of Primary, Elementary and Secondary education, creating new facilities and ensuring quality education for all. The Government has opened Class-IX in 1087 Upper Primary (ME) Schools in Gram Panchayats, which have no High Schools. Government has also decided to include Class-VIII at elementary level and has upgraded 5616 Upper Primary schools to Class-VIII under Sarva Sikshya Abhiyan (SSA). Government has taken steps for engagement of 17820 Siksha Sahayaks at the elementary level and 3,210 contract teachers in High Schools for improvement of quality education. “Orissa Child Census” Programme which started in the year 2005 has been updated in the year 2009-10. All Children of the State between age group 6 to 14 years have been tracked individually and special steps have been taken for their enrollment in school. During the current academic year 2009-10, free Text Books have been provided to all students in the elementary level including Class-VIII. Free text books have also been supplied to the Odia students residing in other States such as Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Maharastra. Free Urdu text books have been supplied to 4372 nos. of students reading in Government and aided Madrasas. During the current academic session, free uniforms have been provided to all girl students in Government schools up to Class-VIII through Village Education Committee. Under Biju Pattnaik Computer

Aided Education Programme (BICEP) 900 more Upper Primary Schools have been included during 2009-10 with a view to increasing the retention rate at Upper Primary level.

15. Members will be particularly happy to note that my Government has successfully organized 15th National Youth Festival-2010 in the State Capital, Bhubaneswar from 8th to 12th January 2010 in collaboration with Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, NYKS and NSS. Around 4,500 delegates, officials, volunteers from different States and Union Territories participated. In addition youth delegates from SAARC countries like Srilanka, Nepal, Pakistan and Afghanistan took part in this mega National Festival.

It is gratifying to note that Miss Meena Madhuri Toppo and Miss Saraswati Chand have made us proud by wining Prizes/ Medals in their field at International Championships. My Government has programmed to complete construction of Sports Academy at Kalinga Stadium, creation of Sports Infrastructure in uncovered districts, extension of Panchyat Youth Khela Krida Avijan to include all blocks and districts.

16. My Government has taken major reform initiatives in Higher Education to keep pace with the fast changing scenario where knowledge is recognized as the prime resource. A Task Force under Padma Bhusan Prof. Trilochan Pradhan has been constituted to prepare draft education policy, two annual action plans for year 2010-11 and 2011-12 and Perspective Plans for 12th and 13th Five Year Plans. Due to the persistent effort made by the State Government, a Central University has been established at Koraput during 2009. The foundation stone for construction of own campus of the National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER) and Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar near Jatni have been laid. The IIIT Bhubaneswar has started functioning from its new campus. It has been decided to develop it as a World Class Institute to meet quality faculty requirement in IT disciplines of Engineering Colleges and to cater to the need of the Industry including IT sectors. The IIIT Bhubaneswar is also mandated to nurture academic research in cutting-edge technologies and Industry sponsored research programmes. Government has taken all measures to establish Sri Sri University and Vedanta University for expansion of University education in the State. With a view to make admission process efficient and more transparent, Government has introduced e-admission in 60 Junior Colleges including 50 Government Junior Colleges, Basic Science Junior College and

9 aided Junior Colleges in different district Head Quarters from the academic session 2009-10. It has been decided to extend e-admission to additional 111 Jr. Colleges and 53 Degree Colleges in the next academic session. My Government has proposed for ICT Activities, Internet connectivity, teachers capacity building, ICT Aided Education and Computer Education under centrally sponsored scheme in 50 Government Junior Colleges, Higher Secondary Schools and 488 Non-Government Aided Junior Colleges. To upgrade the communication skills of the students for enhancing their employability, Government has decided to establish English Language Laboratories in Degree Colleges. In the first phase it is proposed to establish such Labs in one leading Degree College in each district.

17. My Government is committed to provide adequate facility of qualitative, preventive and curative health care for the people of the state. Steps have been taken to strengthen health care for the needy and backward class people by providing mobile Health Units which are presently working in 8 KBK Districts of Orissa. In order to meet shortage of doctors, all out measures are being taken to increase seats in all Medical Colleges of the state. In addition, Government has issued NOC in favour of 17 Organisations for establishment of Medical and Dental College in private sector. Government is implementing National AIDS Control programme to effectively reduce the spread of HIV in the state and to strengthen the state's capacity to respond to the HIV menace. National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is functioning to provide health care to the rural masses, especially the disadvantaged groups including women and children. 38083 numbers of ASHA workers have been trained to work in all our 30 districts. Health programmes like Janani Surakhya Yojana, AYUSH, Immunization etc. are being implemented under NRHM through ASHA karmees to provide effective health services to the people of rural areas.

Orissa is one of the leading states to launch telemedicine technology with an aim to provide tele health care for patients requiring more advanced consultation. Telemedicine centres are functioning in all 3 Government Medical Colleges. Telemedicine network is also being extended to the District Headquarters Hospital of Koraput, Rayagada, Mayurbhanj, Kalahandi, Sudargarh and Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar.

18. My Government has taken significant steps for providing potable drinking water and sanitation facility to the rural people of Orissa. 2,71,830 hand pump tube

wells, 9,338 sanitary wells and 5,458 Piped Water Supply Projects have been installed. It is targeted to install 11230 Spot Sources (Tube wells and Sanitary wells) and 2000 Pipe Water Supply Projects during 2009-10. With community participation 1254 projects have been completed under Swajaldhara scheme.

Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) is being carried out in all 30 districts of the State to provide sanitation facilities in all rural households, all schools and Anganwadi Centres at a cost of Rs.1313.20 Crores. 24,31,358 individual household latrines (IHLs), 61,121 school toilets and 18299 Anganwadi toilets have been completed under this programme. 155 Gram Panchayats of the State have been awarded Nirmal Gram Puraskar at National level.

19. Urban population in the state has witnessed a substantial growth in the last decade. My Government is committed to meet the increasing demand for better civic amenities and infrastructure facilities to the people of the urban areas. 391 water supply schemes for improvement / augmentation / extension of urban water supply in different Urban Local Bodies have been taken up during 2009-10. Six Water Supply Projects at Bolangir, Jeypore, Titilagarh, Nawarangpur, Koraput and Khariar Road towns have been completed under RLTA. 29 water supply projects have been completed and commissioned under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP). The City Development plans for Bhubaneswar and Cuttack have been approved under the Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) component of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission of Government of India. Integrated Sewerage Project with cost of Rs.49891.35 lakh, Bindusagar Lake conservation project with cost of Rs.601.30 lakh, Puri Water Supply Project with cost of Rs.16690.00 lakh, City Bus Service for Bhubaneswar and Puri with cost of Rs.1650.00 lakh and Rs.330.00 lakh respectively, Storm Water Drainage Project for Bhubaneswar and Puri with cost of Rs.6833.00 lakh and Rs.7182.00 lakh respectively have been approved for implementation. Under Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP), 31 projects in 28 Urban Local Bodies benefiting 12,317 Households have been sanctioned. Under Basic Services to Urban Poor (BSUP), 6 Slum Projects for Bhubaneswar and Puri worth Rs.6890.23 lakh have been sanctioned which would benefit Urban Poor households. Orissa is one of the pioneering states in the implementation of various urban reforms in the country. The important reforms under taken interalia include devolution of 16 out of 18 functions enumerated in the

12th schedule of the Constitution to the Urban Local Bodies, reduction of stamp duty to 5%, rationalization of property tax to introduce unit area taxation, migration to Double Entry Accrual Based Accounting System, introduction of e-Governance system. To bring about transparency in urban governance, public disclosure law has been acted upon and e-tendering has been enforced. The State Government has also initiated steps for preparation of new building regulations for the major towns. As per direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the work of Sewerage Collection and Treatment System for Puri is being implemented.

20. Due to extensive afforestation measures taken by my Government and involvement of people in forest protection and regeneration there is an increase of 100 sq kms of forest cover in Orissa as per the State of Forests Report 2007 published by the Forest Survey of India. During 2009-10, 91,003 hectares have been covered under various afforestation programmes and it is targeted to cover 2.50 lakh hectares during 2010-11.

Initiatives have been taken for in-situ conservation of medicinal plants resource of the State and resource augmentation through ex-situ conservation programme. For promotional schemes such as conservation of Saraca asoka in Orissa and a resource augmentation project "Dasmool", Rs.209.60 lakh and Rs.344.26 lakh have been sanctioned respectively by National Medicinal Plants Board, Department of AYUSH, Government of India for execution in the State. Extensive protection measures have been taken for safety of Olive Ridley Sea Turtles in the nesting sites at Rushikulya and Devi River Mouth. Regular patrolling has been ensured with involvement of Coast Guards and local people.

Government has launched the Environment Management Fund and funds have been released for developing green belt around the industrial areas of Talcher and Jharsuguda to combat pollution. To meet the genuine demands of the people, the Saw Mills and Saw Pits Control Act has been amended and the Orissa Forest Development Corporation Ltd. has been entrusted with the responsibility of opening new saw mills in the scarcity pockets of the State.

The Chilika Lake, a Ramsar Site, has drawn the attention of the international community as a success story of the wetland management. The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) have been constituted to accord environmental clearance to the

“B” category projects notified under Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 at the State level. An Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan for protection and conservation of two coastal stretches namely – Gopalpur to Chilika and Paradeep to Dhamara of Orissa is being formulated with a financial outlay of Rs.140 crores with the assistance from the World Bank for protection of coastal erosion, conservation and improvement of environmental, archaeological and cultural assets and ensuring livelihood of coastal community.

21. My Government has taken up a number of road and bridge projects in the State with a view to providing good infrastructural facilities to boost industrial growth as well as to provide connectivity in backward regions for overall development of the State. For development of the road connectivity in the Left Wing Extremism affected districts of the State, proposal was submitted for improvement of 490 Km. of State roads out of which sanction of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India has been received for 205 Km. of roads in districts like Gajapati and Sambalpur. Vijawada-Ranchi Corridor with a length of 1219 Km. passing through tribal areas largely affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE) has been put to implementation under State Plan resources. At present 272 Km. State road is being improved in various stretches relating to this mega projects. Project proposals amounting to Rs.59.50 crore and Rs.100 crore have been submitted to Ministry for sanction of funds under Central Road Fund and Inter State Connectivity respectively.

Under World Bank Assisted Orissa State Roads Project 461 Km. of State road network is programmed to be improved to double-lane standard with an investment of Rs.1431.19 crore over a period of five years. Construction work of 204 K.M of Year-I roads under the project has been taken up during 2009-10 and balance 257 Km. will be taken up in 2010-11 .

22. Government has formulated a Port Policy and has identified 14 Potential Sites for development of Ports in the State. Establishment of a mega port at Dhamara is in progress. For development of Captive Port at Chudamani in Bhadrak District Government has signed an MoU with Aditya Birla Group. Government has formed a new Directorate of Ports and Inland Water Transport to provide integrated service in the sphere of development of ports and inland water transport in the State. Orissa is endowed with 480 Kms. coastline. My Government has decided to constitute Orissa

Maritime Board with statutory authority to plan, direct and function as single window facilitator for the overall maritime development of the State.

23. Orissa is the first State in India to undertake reform and restructuring of the Power Sector and privatisation of distribution System. There has been no rise in tariff for the last 9 years in the State. For providing access to electricity to all villages having population of 100 and more “Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyuti Karan Yojana (RGGVY)” is being implemented in the state. 8212 nos. of villages / habitations having 62727 BPL Households have been electrified so far. In addition, the State Government has launched “Biju Gram Jyoti Yojana” to ensure electricity to all villages / habitations having less than 100 Population and which are not covered under RGGVY with a target to cover 10,000 villages / habitations during 11th Plan.

The State Government has decided to launch a new programme namely, “Biju Saharanchala Vidyutikaran Yojana (BSVY)” to provide access to electricity to the people living in un-electrified areas in the urban local bodies. The BPL families living in such un-electrified urban areas will also be connected with power supply on “Kutir Jyoti” pattern. The programme also envisages system improvement. The allocation for electrification of such un-electrified areas will be Rs.1.00 crore for each Municipal Corporation, Rs.50.00 lakh for each Municipality and Rs.30.00 lakh for each NAC.

State Government has signed MoUs with 21 private Independent Power Producers for generation of 27,000 MW power out of which 5420 MW will be generated during the 11th plan period and 21580 MW during the 12th plan period. Besides, 12000 MW power is expected to be generated from Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs) and 7200 MW power from NTPC. The State will get 12320 MW power towards its share during the 12th plan period.

My Government is implementing the Village Energy Security Programme (VESP) with the support of Ministry of Non Renewable Energy, Government of India. The power generation system in 10 projects have been commissioned and electricity supplied to those villages. The Remote Village Electrification Programme (RVEP) is going on to electrify un-electrified remote census villages and remote hamlets of electrified census villages where grid connectivity is either not feasible or not cost effective through non-conventional sources of energy with the financial support of Government of India. Electrification work of 223 villages have been completed out of

288 Villages programmed. Besides, DPRs for 371 remote villages of the State have been prepared for electrification under RVEP scheme.

Energy Plantation and Bio-Diesel production has been taken up with collaboration of Government of India to produce Bio-fuel. Plantation of Jatropha Curcus in 912 acres of land in Rayagada district, 1870 acres in Ganjam district, 1483 acres in Kalahandi district and 955 acres in Keonjhar district have been taken up so far. Biomass Power Projects for generation of electricity in Dhenkanal, Ganjam, Rayagada, Kalahandi, Nawarangpur and Nayagarh districts has been programmed for 2010-2011. The total capacity of these projects comes to 70 MW.

24. Orissa occupies a prominent place in the mineral map of the country with its rich reserves of high grade iron ore, coal, bauxite, chromite etc. My Government is pursuing a policy of establishment of mineral based industries for value addition, employment generation and industrialization. Out of 49 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with various steel plant promoters, 29 companies have started partial production of 6.18 MTPA sponge iron and 6.18 MTPA of steel and have provided direct and indirect employment to 19669 and 51076 persons respectively. Royalty from minerals constitute one of the major source of non-tax revenue of the state. Mineral sector earned revenue to the tune of 1380.52 crores during last year. My Government has taken a number of measures to stream line mineral administration and to curb illegal mining. The State Level Task Force has been reconstituted under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Orissa for effective monitoring. A dedicated State Level Enforcement Squad (SLES) has been constituted with mandate to conduct regular check and raids. Newly designed transit pass has been introduced. With a view to delineate the lease boundaries correctly, detect illegal mining and curb manipulation of lease boundaries, Government has decided to digitize the maps using National Remote Sensing Agency /Orissa Remote Sensing Application Centre maps. Four different committees have been set up to study and recommend reforms for setting up integrated check gates, collection of revenue intelligence, study functioning of the weigh bridges and suggest measures for effective supervision of ore despatch and application of Information Technology in mineral administration. Guidelines for Renewal of Mining Lease (RML) have been issued. A State Level Co-ordination and Empowered Committee has been constituted to monitor and minimize delay in grant of approval for mineral concessions.

25. Natural resources of the State and investor friendly policies of my Government have attracted a large number of investment proposals for setting up mineral based industries such as steel, power, alumina and aluminum in the State. My Government has proposed to upgrade testing and Certification Laboratories to improve the marketing prospects of the Micro, small and medium enterprises. Development of Industrial parks, logistic support hubs and sector specific cluster development have been under taken for improvement of industrial infrastructure. Government has proposed to establish 91 new ITIs and 22 polytechnics in the Government and private sectors especially in the under served areas.

26. Tourism has been identified as one of the focus areas of development. Tourism infrastructure schemes such as destination development, circuit development, mega tourism development and rural tourism development has been taken up to diversify tourism related activities to boost in flow of tourists to the state. A mega Marine Aquarium Project at Puri is underway. Extensive media campaign has been launched both at National and International level to create awareness about tourism potential of the state. There is an increase of 8.16 percent of tourist inflow than that of last year despite economic recession. A target of 7.97 million tourists has been set for the year 2010.

27. Information Technology has been identified as a priority sector and my Government has taken several steps to make our state one of the fastest growing IT bases in India. To attract IT entrepreneurs of the country and from abroad, the Government has set up an Industry Facilitation and IT Promotion Cell at Orissa Computer Application Centre. This provides single window facilities to IT Companies for establishment of their unit in Orissa. Major IT Companies like Wipro, TCS, Mind Tree Consulting Private Ltd. and Genpact have signed MoUs with the Government of Orissa to set up their units at Bhubaneswar and acquired lands in the Infocity. Development of Infocity-II, Bhubaneswar will be implemented in PPP mode envisaging direct employment for about one Lakh IT professionals and indirect opportunity for about four lakh personnel in service sectors. For providing external infrastructure linkages to IT SEZ viz, Road, Water and Electricity supply, IDCO has been assigned the responsibility to create necessary infrastructure. To promote the BPO units in the State, construction of an IT Tower named "OCAC Incubation Tower" adjacent to existing OCAC Building will be taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.28.97 crore. This will provide

incubating facilities to BPO Units and cater to the need of MSME software exporters. For accommodating the ancillary activities under National e-Governance Programme, a training centre for Village Level Entrepreneurs will also be established.

My Government is implementing National e-Governance Programme (NeGP) for delivery of "web-enabled Anytime, Anywhere access" to information and services in rural India. Under this initiative e-GRAM has been prepared covering 15 Departments as a mission mode project, which would deliver 200 identified services in the first phase. In addition, e-Municipality Project is being implemented on mission mode to leverage the ICT opportunities for sustained improvement in efficiency and effectiveness of delivery of municipal service to citizens. My Government is implementing the Smart Panchayat Project with the objectives to develop a suite of integrated applications for automating internal processes of Gram Panchayat and various citizen services delivery at Panchayat Level. **e-Seva** initiative is being launched with the objective to provide citizens to access anytime anywhere services in an efficient, reliable and transparent manner and wishes to significantly improve the service delivery capacity of the State Government departments. Initially the scope of this project is to create Urban Citizen Service Centres in an integrated and coordinated manner in three cities viz. Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Berhampur.

28. My Government has taken several initiatives for the development of frontier area of science of Biotechnology. A Biotech Pharma is being developed over 64.860 Acres of land near Bhubaneswar on Public Private Partnership mode. Within this park, a Biotechnology Incubation Centre (BTIC) will be developed by the State Government for use by researchers, entrepreneurs and students. Government of India has Sanctioned an amount of Rs. 2.00 crores for the Biotechnology Incubation Centre. Financial support has been provided for research and development projects on Biotechnology.

29. As a part of public enterprise reform programme, my Government has pursued a policy of selective privatization / disinvestment of loss making Public and Co-operative Enterprises operating in non-core sectors. The primary objective of Government's Privatization policy has been to revive potentially viable loss making enterprises. As a part of this strategic policy choice, the State Government has consciously opted for the model of privatization to secure the interest of the workers and to create opportunities for further job creation by catalyzing the dynamism of the private

enterprise. The State Government has also identified a set of core enterprises which will continue to operate in the domain of the public sector. The State Government has approved the “Corporate Governance Manual for the State PSUs” as policy to institute a system of good corporate governance practices in public enterprises so as to enhance transparency and accountability in their operations and stimulate their performance. Government has re-constituted the Public Enterprise Selection Board with the provision to co-opt experts to the PESB for selection of top professionals of the PSUs. Government has allowed revision of scales of pay of the employees of State PSUs as per ORSP Rules, 2008 to remove wide disparity in the pay structures of both executive and non-executive cadres of different PSUs. My Government has set up “Orissa State Renewal Fund Society” to continue the next generation enterprise reforms programme, implement corporate governance practice and explore the possibility of listing of PSUs in the stock exchange.

30. State has experienced multiple natural calamities during the year, 2009-10 which have been managed successfully by Government. Prompt action was taken to manage the devastation caused by severe tornado in Rajkanika Block of Kendrapara district on 31st March, 2009. In the severe flood that affected 17 districts, 59 persons lost their lives. State Government took effective steps for providing relief and rescue operations. The State has experienced drought during the Khariff, 2009. Government has declared 5294 villages in 99 blocks and 48 wards in 10 urban local bodies of eighteen districts as drought affected based on crop cutting experiment.

National Land Records Modernization Programme is being implemented in the State for modernization of land records and digitization of maps. The programme has been taken up in four districts and will be extended to the entire State in phased manner. Forty-one new Revenue Inspector Circles have been opened in Kandhamal district to extend the services and facilitate resolution of land disputes. e-registration has been launched on 4th January, 2010 to computerise the registration system. This will make the registration process simpler, faster and hassle-free for the general public. A large number of persons are residing in Gramakantha Paramboke, Abadi, Khassmahal and Nazul lands but do not have rights to such land. Government has taken steps to settle such land on permanent basis with heritable and transferable rights in favour of persons in lawful occupation of such land for more that three years prior to 26-2-2009.

31. My Government has taken a new initiative for expeditious disposal of Public Grievances and their monitoring. During the year 18 “Jana Sampark Sibirs” were organized in different districts benefiting a large number of people. A joint hearing of grievances by the Collector and S.P. alongwith with other district level officers are conducted on every working Saturday.

32. The state has 19 airstrips across 15 districts, In order to provide all weather aircraft operation, efforts are being made by my Government to develop the existing airstrips at different places of the state. Rs.1.00 crore has been allotted during 2009-10 for construction of a new airstrip at Malkanagiri. Steps have been initiated for construction of new airstrips at Paradeep, Kalinganagar and Dhamara.

33. Left Wing Extremism is one of the greatest problems, the country is facing today. Last year there were several acts of violence, killing 32 security personnel and 28 civilians in 266 reported incidents in the State. Sustained efforts are being made by my Government to counter Left Wing Extremist activities and its spread. Anti-extremist operation by security forces have resulted in arrest of 182 Maoists, neutralization of 11 and surrender of 08 Maoists during the year 2009. Attempts by the Maoists to replicate a “Lalgarh type campaign” in Narayanapatna area of Koraput District has been dealt with firmly and the growing menace of “Chasi Mulia Adivasi Sangha”, a frontal organization of Maoists, in Narayanapatna and adjoining areas has been effectively restrained.

The State Government has focused on capacity build up by way of raising Special Operations Group (SOG), Special Intelligence Wing, four Special Security (SS) Battalions, five India Reserve (IR) Battalions and Orissa Special Security Force (OSSF). In addition, the State Government has embarked upon massive infrastructure upgradation by way of construction/ fortification of Police Stations/ Marine Police Stations/ Out Posts, Armouries, etc. With the upgradation of training infrastructure of State Police and other initiatives, operational efficacy of State Police has now been shaping up well and sustained efforts has brought about improvement in the situation in the districts like Sambalpur, Sundergarh, Mayurbhanj, Jajpur and Keonjhar. More SOG units have been deployed in a more focused way in the core operational areas of Maoists.

As a part of the Prison reform programme, close circuit Television System has been extended for strengthening security in 14 jails of the state. Fortification of

prisons is in progress in 33 jails. For better prison management, 3 prison ranges have been created with headquarters at Cuttack, Berhampur and Sambalpur.

48,813 cases have been disposed of in 35 Fast Track courts functioning in the state. Two Fast Track courts at Phulbani and Gramya Nayalaya at Puri have been made functional during 2009.

34. My Government has undertaken fiscal reform measures such as expenditure rationalization and revenue generation measures, resulting in perceptible improvement in the fiscal condition of the State during last few years. Improvement in the finances of the State has not only resulted in increase of capital outlay but also has considerably increased the size of the annual plan. This has also helped to implement many welfare schemes like Biju KBK Yojana, Gopabandhu Grameen Yojana, Biju Gramjyoti Yojana, Rice @ Rs.2/- per kg. , Madhubabu Pension Yojana and the proposed Biju Saharanchal Bidyut Yojana out of State's own resources to provide immense benefit to the poorest sections of the society. Capital outlay which was only Rs.1038.06 crore in 2005-06 increased to Rs.3779.17 crore in 2008-09. This has been possible by generating surplus in the revenue account. The state has attained revenue surplus since 2005-06 to be utilized for capital investment. The annual plan size of Rs.3500.00 crore in 2006-07 has increased to Rs.9500.00 core in 2009-10. Improved fiscal situation has made it possible for my Government to increase the State Share of CSP from Rs.388.73 crore in 2005-06 to Rs.1900.48 crore in 2009-10 so as to access Central Assistance for the Centrally Sponsored Schemes at a much higher scale. Accelerated efforts have been made by the State Government for infrastructure development and maintenance of capital assets like roads, buildings, irrigation works etc. There has been considerable improvement in utilization of Central Assistance. While the utilization of Central Assistance was of the order of Rs.3913.08 crore in 2007-08, it increased to Rs.4856.45 crore during 2008-09, the rise being 24%. On the Debt Management front, my Government has made substantial strides. The net debt stock has been reduced from 51.50% of GSDP in 2003-04 to 29.82% of GSDP in 2008-09 thereby inching closer to the desired level of 28% as recommended by the 12th Finance Commission. The ratio of interest to Revenue Receipts which should be within the prudential level of 15% has already been achieved by 2007-08. This ratio stands at 11.74% in 2008-09. Through buy back / prepayment of high cost loans and debt swap, it has been possible to reduce the debt stock and interest burden.

Improvement in fiscal performance has enabled the State Government to get debt relief of Rs.381.90 crore per annum continuously since 2005-06. With improvement in fiscal situation, the State Government has not resorted to Open Market Borrowing during 2006-07 to 2008-09 as result of which the State Government is on the threshold of achieving debt sustainability.

35. I have taken this opportunity of outlining the policies and programmes of my Government in important areas of activity, and it will continue to implement all the programmes and fulfill the promises it has made for the welfare of the people of Orissa.

I now leave you to your deliberations and wish you all success.

Jai Hind.