

Mr. Speaker and Hon'ble Members,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome all of you to the Fifteenth Session of 15th Odisha Legislative Assembly. Let me take this opportunity to extend my heartiest New Year Greetings to all the Hon'ble Members of this August House as well as to the people of Odisha.

1. This August House has expressed its deep condolence on the sad demise of Late Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Prime Minister, Late Somnath Chatterjee, former Speaker, Lok Sabha, Late Muthuvel Karunanidhi, former Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu, Late Jadunath Dash Mohapatra, former Minister, Late Dolagovinda Pradhan, former Minister of State, Late Prasanna Kumar Pal, former Government Deputy Chief Whip, Late Surendra Pradhan, Late Suryamani Jena, Late Braja Kishore Mohanty, Late Muralidhar Kuanar, Late Banshidhar Sahoo, all former Members of this August House, Late Sanjaya Majhi, Ex-Constable, Odisha Police, Late Champeswar Mahakud, Ex-Rifle Man, 29, Assam Rifles, Late Braja Mohan Behera,

Ex-Driver, CRPF, Late Achyutananda Sahu, Ex-Cameraman, Doordarshan. I request Hon'ble Members to join me in paying tribute to Late Chaitanya Prasad Majhi, former Minister, Late Nityananda Garatia, Late Raj Kishore Pradhan , Late Parsuram Panda and Late Ratna Manjari Devi, all former Members of this August House, Late Hemanta Kumar Panda, Ex-Lance Naik, 46, Rashtriya Rifle. The House may convey our heartfelt condolence to the bereaved families of the departed souls.

2. Odisha's transformational journey since 2000 has been remarkable. Odisha was then not known for efficient handling of natural disasters and precious lives were lost. The State is now recognised for having set global benchmarks in disaster management. Odisha's farmers were then doing subsistence agriculture. Now, we are an agriculturally progressive State which has won KRISHI KARMAN Award five times during last seven years. In fact, Odisha is the only State in the country which has doubled farmers' income in real terms in the last one decade. We were then a foodgrain-deficit State dependent on the Central pool to feed our people. Now, the State is among the largest contributors to the PDS

and is playing a major role in the food security of the nation. We were then a State having abysmal record in IMR and MMR. Odisha has made a quantum jump by achieving the sharpest decline in IMR and better than the national average decline in MMR. Odisha was then in a state of financial bankruptcy, not being able to pay the salaries of its employees. Now, the State is known for excellence in the field of financial administration. Odisha was then known for acute poverty. The State has shown the way to others by bringing about the highest poverty reduction in the country of 24.61 percentage points in less than a decade. Odisha was then not known much for its industrialisation. Now, the State has one of the highest industrial growth rates in the country and has been among top three States in attracting live manufacturing investments.

3. Odisha's performance in many sectors has been phenomenal. It is now the leading State in the country in rural housing having completed a record 20 lakh houses since 2014. A record number of 6 lakh girl students are studying in our educational hostels. Our vibrant Mission Shakti movement, with 7 lakh women

SHGs comprising of 70 lakh women, is transforming the socio-economic landscape of Odisha. Our flagship health initiative, Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana, is unique in providing near universal health coverage. We have our own State Food Security Scheme ensuring coverage of every deserving family. We are providing pension to more than 48 lakh persons, which is the highest coverage in terms of percentage of population in the country. We lead the country in providing land rights to our forest dwellers. Special Development Councils have been set up in 9 tribal dominated districts to focus on preservation of culture, tradition, heritage and unique identity of 62 tribal communities and 13 PVTG's. Since 2014, we have created additional irrigation potential of about 8 lakh hectares and we will surpass our five-year target of 10 lakh hectares by April, 2019. Bhubaneswar topped the Smart City challenge in the country. Odisha has now emerged as the Sports Capital of India. "Skilled in Odisha" is now recognised as a global brand.

4. My Government has introduced KALIA (Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation), scheme to further accelerate agricultural prosperity and

reduce poverty in the State. This scheme is progressive and inclusive. It covers 92% of the cultivators, loanee as well as non-loanee farmers, share croppers (actual cultivators) and landless agriculture labourers. It also specifically takes care of vulnerable agricultural families identified through Gram Panchayats and makes interest free crop loans. Besides, all cultivators and landless agricultural labourers will be provided life insurance and personal accident insurance cover of Rs.2 lakh each. Already over 12.45 lakh small and marginal farmers and about 58,000 share croppers have been provided assistance @ Rs. 5,000 each amounting to Rs. 652 crore. The amount has been transferred to their accounts during January, 2019 through DBT mode.

5. Production and productivity of rice has doubled since 2001-02. Odisha Millets Mission has been launched in the State in 11 tribal districts and 55 blocks covering 16,000 hectares to preserve local diversity of millets.

6. My Government has launched the Odisha Organic Farming Policy, 2018 with the objective of leveraging

Odisha's strength in organic farming and expand the area under organic practices. A progressive Farmer Producer Organisations Policy, 2018 has also been launched to assist in the aggregation of farm produce and improve the market linkages.

7. My Government has introduced "Mukhyamantri Abhinav Krushi Jantrapati Samman" awards to the farmers for innovation in farm implements. "Mukhyamantri Krushi Udyog Yojana" has also been launched to provide single window facility for establishment of agri-enterprises.

8. My Government has optimized the potential of cooperatives by revitalizing a wide range of services like crop insurance, paddy procurement, efficient management of warehouses, agricultural market reforms and developing the PACS (Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies) as one-stop destination for all agricultural inputs at the Gram Panchayat level for the farmers in general and weaker sections of the State in particular.

9. My Government has taken steps for conversion of all the Kisan Credit Cards into Ru-Pay Kisan Cards to enable the farmer members to access their sanctioned loans through all types of ATMs.

10. My Government has now been providing crop loans to farmers upto Rs.50,000 at 1% rate of interest, which has been reduced to zero percent with effect from 1st April, 2019. The small, marginal and landless share croppers and rural women have good access to hassle free credit from financial institutions without any collateral security by organizing Joint Liability Groups.

11. Computerization of all PACS in the State is a flagship programme of my Government. So far, 1179 PACS are already running online with Data Centre of Odisha State Cooperative Bank and the process for remaining PACS is going to be completed soon.

12. My Government has provided about 60,000 mobile phones to farmers across the State to access market and other relevant information. As a part of the Agricultural Marketing Reforms, my Government has decided to set up more number of e-platforms for e-trading facilities in the State.

13. I am glad that my Government has stood firmly with the people of Odisha on the Mahanadi and Pollavaram issues and will continue its strong resolve to protect the interests of the people of Odisha.

14. My Government has always endeavoured to make the State drought proof through a holistic approach of developing, conserving and utilising the surface and ground water resources.

15. My Government has completed 67 Mega Lift Irrigation Projects, energised and handed over 53,992 Deep Bore Wells to farmers and 6,059 Community Lift Irrigation Points to Pani Panchayats. That apart, 8,757 Check Dams in different nallahs have been constructed to conserve water and consequentially bring additional area under irrigation.

16. My Government has completed four major and medium irrigation projects namely, Rukura, Upper Indravati Extension, Ret and Titilagarh Irrigation projects. Two other major and medium projects namely, Lower Indra and Telengiri are going to be completed soon.

17. My Government has restored all the embankments and canal breaches in the districts affected by TITLI cyclone. 1760 Lift Irrigation points were also restored on war footing.

18. By introduction of various programmes to attain self-sufficiency, my Government is heading towards an average annual growth of 13% in inland fish production by 2020-21.

19. My Government is providing livelihood assistance of Rs.7,500 per family to 5,000 fishermen families, who are affected due to ban in fishing for sea turtle conservation.

20. With a view to provide nutritional security and financial empowerment, my Government has tagged about 1650 Women Self Help Groups with GP tanks for practising pisciculture in the water area of about 1575 hectares with 60% subsidy assistance during 2018-19.

21. My Government has provided interest subvention of 3% on term loans to about 10,000 farmers during current year under a new scheme “Interest Subvention on Long Term Credit Support for Livestock Farming”.

22. With the implementation of various Dairy Development Projects, Odisha has become self sufficient in milk production and we are now procuring about 5.50 lakh liters of milk per day.

23. My Government has successfully delivered the benefits of the National Food Security Act to 86.90 lakh families consisting of 322.39 lakh individuals under Priority Households (PHH) and Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) categories. In order to cover poor, distressed and left-out eligible beneficiaries of the National Food Security Act under food security, my Government had launched its own State Food Security Scheme across the State on 2nd October, 2018. More than 23 lakh beneficiaries have already been covered under this scheme, who are getting 5 kgs of rice per person per month @ Rs.1 per kg.

24. Odisha has been a pioneer State in rural housing. We have already completed more than two million houses during last four years and my Government is committed to convert all kutcha houses in rural areas of the State into pucca houses within a definite time frame.

25. To provide adequate safe drinking water to both urban and rural habitations, a new scheme namely, “BASUDHA” (Buxi Jagabandhu Assured Drinking water to all Habitations) has been made fully operational since 2017-18, as a tribute to the eminent freedom fighter of Odisha, Buxi Jagabandhu, in the bi-centenary celebration year of the Paik rebellion.

26. A path breaking pro-people initiative ‘Ama Gaon Ama Bikash’ has been completed in all 314 blocks of the State. 62,857 projects in 6,798 Gram Panchayats amounting to Rs.1554 crore have been sanctioned by the Chief Minister directly after discussion with the villagers through video conferencing. This initiative of the Government is being hailed in the country as a unique people-connect programme.

27. Odisha has launched Peoples’ Empowerment Enabling Transparency and Enhancing Accountability on Odisha Initiatives (PEETHA) recently to make people aware about different Government initiatives and ensure delivery of entitlements to the eligible beneficiaries in different schemes. PEETHA camps are being organised at Gram Panchayats and Wards in the Urban Local Bodies from 15th to 20th of every month.

28. With 'Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana' the State has achieved the objective of near universal health care in Odisha through ensuring universal access to equitable, affordable and quality health care services. Under 'Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana' (BSKY), my Government has assured about 70 lakh families (3.5 crore people) with cashless assistance of Rs.5 lakh per family per year with additional Rs.2 lakh for the women members of the beneficiaries' families.

29. My Government has launched numerous new schemes and interventions in health sector, i.e. Free Diagnostic Services–Nidaan, Free Dialysis Services – Sahay, Universal Eye Health Care Programme – Sunetra, Specialist Services in Urban PHC / CHCs – Ama Clinic, Strengthening of Ancillary Services – Nirmal, ASHA Matrutwa Yojana, Transport Assistance to Blood Disorder Patients, ASHA Kalyan Yojana, Nutrition Support to TB Patients, Drop Back Assistance to Delivery Patients and Sick Infants etc.

30. The overall transformation of public health facilities in the State has resulted in increasing people's faith,

trust and dependency on these facilities and has been acclaimed at various National and International forums. Odisha has received National Award for securing 2nd rank among all States for maximum improvement in OPD services in public health facilities during the period 2016-17 to 2017-18. Odisha has the highest percentage (91%) of population relying on public health sector for health care.

31. Institutional deliveries in Odisha have increased from 22.6 % in 1998-99 (NFHS-2) to 85.4% in 2015 (NFHS-4), which is also better than national average. The State has also made significant achievement in population stabilization measures by reducing the Total Fertility Rate to 2.0, which will contribute substantially towards accelerating the socio-economic development of the State.

32. Odisha is a model State in effecting sharpest decline in Malaria that has been acknowledged globally by WHO. Odisha has recorded the path breaking decline of over 82 % in reported malaria cases and of over 87% in reported malaria death incidences between 2016 to 2018.

33. The number of MBBS seats in the State has increased from 450 to 1050 through establishment of 4 new Government Medical Colleges. Another five new Government Medical Colleges are also coming up shortly at various distant and remote locations. Several other steps have been taken by my Government for strengthening the human resource for the Health Sector including cadre restructuring, Place Based Incentives for doctors, corpus funds for difficult areas, transparent exit policy and creation of over 2500 posts of doctors, 400 posts of Dental surgeons and 5719 posts of paramedics.

34. Under Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) the State has covered over 46 lakh beneficiaries with revised menu having increased calorie and protein content, even above the Government of India standards. In order to increase dietary diversity 'Ragi ladoos' will be provided to Anganwadi children in collaboration with Odisha Millets Mission soon.

35. Under MAMATA, a flagship scheme of my Government, conditional cash transfer amounting to Rs.1655.28 crore has been provided to 35.69 lakh pregnant and nursing mothers since inception.

36. Three lakh new groups have been added to the Mission Shakti movement of the State, thus making it a 70 lakh women empowerment initiative federated in 7 lakh Self Help Groups. Mission Shakti is empowering these groups by providing seed money, digital empowerment assistance and loans up to Rs.3 lakh at zero rate of interest to pursue high cost income generating activities.

37. The children of the Child Care Institutions of Odisha emerged champions bagging 14 Gold, 4 Silver and 5 Bronze medals in “Hausala-2018”, Government of India’s annual inter-State sports competition. Further, this year four children were selected by Government of India for the National Bravery Awards, 2018.

38. My Government is committed to social security and empowerment of the vulnerable sections of the population. We have 5 lakh new beneficiaries under ‘Madhu Babu Pension Yojana’ during this year. Pension is now provided to over 48 lakh persons covering the highest proportion of population amongst all States in the country. The monthly rate of pension has also been enhanced by Rs.200 per month.

39. My Government is aware of the rich tradition of handlooms and handicrafts in the State and has accordingly initiated programmes for holistic development of the sector. My Government has constituted the Odisha Handlooms and Handicrafts Development and Promotion Council for sustainable upliftment and inclusive growth of weavers and artisans of the State. The Council shall undertake promotional activities to boost the sale both handlooms and handicrafts products of the State and shall also advise the State Government for framing policies for betterment of the weavers and artisans.

40. My Government has taken steps for setting up of Bunakar Bazars at Balijury and Baragarh and for revival of Kotpad Textiles. Under “Baristha Bunakara Sahayata Yojana” my Government has made a provision of monthly financial assistance to the aged weavers as a social security measure.

41. My Government has dedicated Odisha Crafts Museum to the people of Odisha on 22nd March, 2018. It is the only State owned Museum in Eastern India

showcasing multi-faceted, rich and vibrant traditions of handlooms and handicrafts. All out efforts are being made to develop the Museum into a vibrant cultural place. It has become a must-visit destination for tourists and school children alike with crafts workshops, crafts bazaars, guided tours etc. being organised regularly.

42. My Government has introduced “Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana” to provide financial assistance to fifty thousand artists @ Rs.1,200 per month.

43. The promotion and propagation of Odia language and the cultural legacy of the State has been a continuous endeavour of my Government. For the first time, a Heritage Cabinet was constituted by my Government to protect our rich heritage and legacy. The Heritage Cabinet in its first meeting decided to set up an Odia University at Satyabadi.

44. In order to celebrate 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi’s birthday, my Government has constituted a State level Celebration Committee to plan and proceed with the biennial celebration. To commemorate the 200th

year of Paika Rebellion, a postage stamp and a commemorative coin was released.

45. My Government is keen to establish one Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya in each Block of the State to provide the opportunity of quality English medium education to the students in rural areas. So far, 190 Odisha Adarsha Vidyalayas have been opened in 28 districts and 51,309 students are availing quality education in these schools.

46. State Institute of Open Schooling has been started in 344 centres covering all 30 districts of Odisha to encourage school dropouts and similar category of children who have left school and are deprived of formal education to enable them to pass secondary level and earn livelihood opportunities. So far, 63,904 students have taken admission and HSC Pass Certificates issued to 37,064 students.

47. My Government has provided for Vocational Education in 314 schools of 314 blocks, wherein 24,885 students have taken admission.

48. School Uniforms have been distributed to nearly 48 lakh students of Class I to VIII in the year 2018-19.

My Government has also made a budget provision of Rs. 152.65 crore for distribution of free bicycles to about 6 lakh Class IX students during this year, which is nearing completion.

49. In 2018-19, my Government has introduced 3 new awards, namely Mukhyamantri Medha Bruti, Odia Bhasa Bruti and Best School Award and Felicitation for talented students, quality schools and good parents of successful students. Under Mukhyamantri Medha Bruti, a one time scholarship of Rs. 5,000 is awarded to 35,490 students @ 100 students of each Block, 100 students of each Municipal Corporation, 50 students of each Municipality and 20 students of each NAC.

50. Under Odia Bhasa Bruti, a sum of Rs. 5,000 each is awarded to 3,549 students securing highest marks in Odia subject in Annual HSC Examination with 10 students of each Block, 10 students of each Municipal Corporation, 5 students of each Municipality and 2 students of each NAC.

51. My Government has launched a novel initiative 'Mo School Abhiyan' in order to attract philanthropic interest

of alumni of Odisha schools residing within Odisha, in India and abroad to contribute generously to their alma mater. Excellent response has been received from alumni and the community for Mo School Abhiyan, which has resulted in contribution of Rs. 21.02 crore from alumni of 8,050 schools in 30 districts with a matching grant Rs. 42.05 crore from the State Government. These contributions are meant for setting up of libraries, repair and maintenance of school infrastructure, constructing new classrooms, boundary walls, common facilities for children, setting up of laboratories, garden, MDM hall, special coaching on sports, annual school celebrations as well as improving student well being.

52. My Government has made transformative reforms for achieving global excellence in higher education including quality of learning, research and innovation, industry-academia linkages, community linkages, entrepreneurship and incubation, skills, career counselling and placement, internationalization, ICT and e-governance through digitization, infrastructure, learning tools, regulatory practices, student facilities and governance.

53. My Government has established 8 Model Degree Colleges in Educationally Backward Districts and is planning to establish 6 more New Model Degree Colleges with technologically advanced facilities to increase access to higher education and improve the gross enrollment ratio.

54. My Government has started a new initiative called 'Gopabandhu Sikhya Sahayata Yojana' extending annual financial assistance to the tune of Rs.20,000 each for students belonging to the underprivileged sections of society in graduation and post-graduation programmes. This is in addition to the existing scholarships being availed by the students. The assistance is limited to the duration of the course and will be given each year till the completion of the course.

55. My Government has extended 'Vyasakabi Fakir Mohan Bhasha Bruti' in Odia upto +2 and +3 students, waived fees for Degree and Post-Graduation Studies in Odia, enhanced number of Ph.D. seats and reader posts, and has opened Career Counselling Cells in all State Universities and 52 Government Colleges. Besides, Civil Service Coaching Centers have been opened in 8 Universities.

56. My Government has distributed 90,000 Laptops under Biju Yuba Shasaktikaran Yojana during last 6 years. For digitization of higher education system, my Government has undertaken many IT initiatives by introducing e-Library, e-Admission (SAMS), High Power Committee (HPC) automation, creation of Digital Gender Atlas, Personnel Information Management System (PIMS), Spoken Tutorial Project etc.

57. My Government has adopted a holistic and integrated approach for development of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes and Minorities of our State with special focus on social, economic, education, health and livelihood sectors. As education is vital for social development, my Government operates around 4,300 residential schools and 6,400 hostels across the State and provides quality education to 5.70 lakh ST&SC student boarders.

58. My Government has initiated a new scheme “ANWESHA”, a pioneering initiative to facilitate quality educational opportunities in the best public schools for the disadvantaged ST/SC students. So far, under this

initiative 19,000 ST/SC students have got admission with free course fees, hostel facilities, food, transportation etc. in various Public Schools across 17 districts of the State.

59. Two state-of-the-art Urban Hostel Complexes 'AKANKSHYA' in Bhubaneswar have been constructed to provide accommodation to about 1000 students hailing from remote areas for pursuing higher education. Further, 6 new such urban hostels are being constructed at Berhampur, Sambalpur and Rourkela which will have an overall accommodation capacity for 3,000 students.

60. My Government has implemented the Forest Rights Act in a mission mode and has become the leading State in the country in distributing about 4.22 lakh individual and 6,467 community right titles involving 9.68 lakh acres of land.

61. My Government has launched the Odisha Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups Empowerment and Livelihoods Improvement Programme with an outlay of Rs.795.41 crore for a period of 8 years. The project is being implemented from financial year 2015-16 to

2022-23 and will benefit around 96,000 households covering 1019 villages.

62. With an objective of providing better facilities for the socio-economic and cultural development of minority communities, my Government has sanctioned 100 Multi-Purpose Community-cum-Cultural Centers in the minority concentrated villages. Further, in order to provide quality higher education to minority students, a new scheme for providing residential facility was launched during 2016-17. Accordingly, 40 hostels have been sanctioned with an overall capacity for 4,000 Minority students.

63. Similarly, my Government has taken initiative to sanction 100 hostels with an accommodation capacity for 10,000 OBC/SEBC students to access higher education in 14 major urban educational hubs of the State.

64. Under the active initiative of my Government enlisting community participation in the protection and regeneration of degraded forests, Odisha recorded a forest and tree cover of 35.54% of the geographical area.

The State has recorded an increase of 2,490 sq. km of forest cover over 5 assessment periods i.e. from 2009 to 2017 as assessed by the Forest Survey of India.

65. My Government has launched the “Green Mahanadi Mission” scheme for a period of five years from 2017-18 to 2021-22, to protect and conserve river Mahanadi ensuring perennial flow of Mahanadi, IB and Tel rivers by creating a Green Belt over 1 km width on both sides of the rivers.

66. My Government has successfully implemented the “Jagannath Bana Prakalpa” by planting 17.64 lakh selected species of trees for supply of timber for the holy Chariots during Rath Yatra at Puri.

67. For the crop year 2018, a sum of Rs. 157.37 crore towards Procurement Price and Rs. 23.92 crore towards Bush Cutting has been disbursed to over 8 lakh kendu leaf pluckers and about 24,000 binders, mostly belonging to weaker sections of the society and largely comprising women, through their respective bank/postal accounts. Their bonus dues of Rs. 159.23 crore at the rate of 100% of Kerry procurement cost have been released through

their bank accounts and incentive awards of Rs. 15.30 crore released to the Binders and Seasonal Staff.

68. A Welfare Trust Fund has been set up for the pluckers and binders that provides compassionate grant of Rs.1 lakh in case of death & disability, marriage assistance of Rs. 25,000 for 2 daughters, medical assistance upto Rs. 2 lakh in case of severe diseases and educational scholarship for 2 children.

69. My Government has completely waived the royalty on Sal leaves collection, which was Rs.86 per quintal. This will benefit about 25 lakh people of the State.

70. With an aim to enhance the forest eco-system and livelihoods of the forest dependent communities residing in project villages, Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project Phase-II with project cost of more than Rs. 1000 crore is being executed from 2017–18 to 2026-27 with the cooperation of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

71. My Government has approved 2,428 projects with an estimated cost of Rs.100 crore during 2018-19 to reduce regional imbalances and accelerate the pace of development in the Western Odisha.

72. To promote innovative ideas in different priority areas of development and governance, my Government has invited eminent persons of different fields to deliver lectures under Odisha Knowledge Hub Lecture Series and participate in discussion with senior functionaries of the State. Four such lectures have been delivered during 2018-19 by eminent speakers. All district level functionaries also participated in the lectures through Video Conferencing.

73. By implementing various fiscal reform measures, my Government has recorded significant improvement in the State finances during last 18 years. My State has been able to adhere to all parametres envisaged in Odisha Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act since its enactment. The debt stress of the State has been brought down to 17.8 percent in 2017-18 from the level of 50.7 percent in 2002-03, due to concerted efforts of my Government. Similarly, the Interest Payment to Revenue Receipt ratio has been brought down from 40.2 percent in 2001-02 to 5.9 percent in 2017-18.

74. My Government has implemented the Goods and Services Tax in Odisha from 1st July, 2017 through legislative and administrative measures and massive sensitization programmes.

75. More than four lakh employees and more than three lakh pensioners have been benefitted by the implementation of revised scales as per recommendations of 7th Pay Commission.

76. Efficiency in public spending and productivity has been prioritized by my Government by implementation of various initiatives such as Integrated Financial Management System IFMS-2.0, Integration of SBI e-pay with IFMS, Public Financial Management System (PFMS), “ARPAN” portal for online revision of pension etc.

77. My Government has significantly enhanced the time rated minimum wages in 89 scheduled employments and piece rated minimum wages in 15 scheduled employments to increase the standards of living, reduce poverty and inequality and boost the morale of workers. The minimum wages have been enhanced in respect of

unskilled workers from Rs.200 to Rs.280, semi-skilled workers from Rs.220 to Rs.320, skilled workers from Rs.240 to Rs.370 and highly skilled workers from Rs.260 to Rs.430 with effect from 30.10.2018.

78. My Government has amended the Odisha Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1956 to ensure display of Odia Sign Boards in all shops and commercial establishments across the State.

79. My Government has implemented “Nirman Kusum” to provide financial support to the children of registered beneficiaries under the Odisha Building and Other Construction Workers’ Welfare Board for pursuing technical education like ITI and Diploma courses in Government Institutions.

80. My Government has planned to make all State Highways to atleast double lane standard. Out of 2,158 kms of single lane State Highways, 1700 kms have been covered and the rest will be completed by the end of 2019-20.

81. My Government is constructing the ambitious four-lane road of 640 kms length, “BIJU EXPRESSWAY”

connecting Jagdalpur to Rourkela through western Odisha and KBK districts of the State. The four lanning work of Sambalpur – Rourkela, a section of SH-10, covering 163 kms length with investment of Rs.1292.56 crore has been completed and dedicated to the people of Odisha.

82. During 2018-19, my Government has provided Rs.70 crore for ABADHA (Augmentation of Basic Amenities and Development of Heritage and Architecture) at Puri which includes land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement, road improvement for providing better facilities in and around Shree Jagannath Temple, construction of Habisiyali Centre and Multilevel Parking etc. among others.

83. My Government has taken up construction of 13 bridges over river Mahanadi, out of which 8 have been completed. Similarly, 7 bridges have been taken up over river Brahmani, out of which 5 have been completed. The longest bridge in Odisha over river Kathajodi has been completed for alternate connectivity between the twin cities of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. The long

awaited Bridge over Gurupriya has been dedicated to the people of Malkangiri. For infrastructure development and livelihood opportunities, my Government has announced a package of Rs.100 crore for people living in this Swabhiman Anchal of Malkangiri.

84. My Government is implementing different schemes for providing better road connectivity and building infrastructure in rural areas. During current year, 9,230 kms of rural roads and 150 bridges are planned to be completed under different schemes such as 'Biju Setu Yojana', R.I.D.F, 'Mukhyamantri Sadak Yojana' etc.

85. My Government has taken several initiatives for creating urban infrastructure and for providing basic services and amenities to make our urban areas livable, sustainable and inclusive for all. My Government is implementing "UNNATI", an urban transformation initiative with the objective of addressing critical gaps in urban infrastructure along with convergence of schemes and programmes implemented in the urban areas. Under this initiative, 11,731 projects have been approved with an investment of Rs.437 crore out of which 4,173 projects

have been completed and the remaining projects are at various stages of implementation.

86. Universal coverage of pipe water to all households in all the urban areas is utmost priority of my Government. To achieve this objective, a new initiative, BASUDHA, has also been undertaken under which 546 projects with an investment of Rs.589 crore are being implemented in the urban areas of the State. An ambitious programme to provide energy efficient smart LED street lights is under implementation in all the 114 Urban Local Bodies. Under this programme, all the existing conventional street lights are retrofitted with smart LED lights. Further, all the streets and roads not covered with street lights are also being provided with smart LED street lights. An amount of Rs. 640 crore is being invested for this programme.

87. Odisha Land Rights to Slum Dwellers Act, 2017, a historic legislation has been enacted - to issue land rights to the slum dwellers in all 47 Municipalities and 62 Notified Area Councils of the State. 13,000 Land Rights Certificates have already been distributed so far under

the JAGA Mission and efforts are on to issue the Land Right Certificates to eligible slum dwellers on in-situ basis by March, 2019.

88. “AAHAAR” was launched by my Government on 1st April, 2015 with an objective of providing affordable, hygienic and nutritious hot cooked meals to the needy people at places of public congregations in the urban areas. Presently, 118 AAHAAR Kendras are functioning in 30 districts. From 31st December, 2018, meals are now being served during night in the 56 AAHAAR Kendras located in/near Hospitals.

89. My Government has created a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) for providing public transport services in master plan areas of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Puri-Konark Development Authority. In the 1st phase of Bhubaneswar City Bus Modernisation Plan, 200 buses have been procured to augment the existing fleet of 110 buses. Construction of a modern Inter-State Bus Terminal at Baramunda, Bhubaneswar will be taken up soon with an investment of Rs. 174.35 crore.

90. Continuous endeavor of my Government in energy sector has resulted in achieving 100 percent electrification in rural as well as urban areas, fulfilling the motto of “Power For All” through implementation of Biju Gram Jyoti, Biju Saharanchal Vidyutikaran Yojana and other schemes. During this year, about 22 lakh households have been electrified, thereby increasing the total number of households electrified to 96 lakh. This marvelous achievement was possible due to augmentation of generation, transmission and upgradation of distribution infrastructure through different programmes.

91. My Government has also taken major initiatives for addition, upgradation and modernization of transmission lines by Odisha Power Transmission Corporation with 144 Grid Substations, 13,757 circuit kms. of HT lines and transmission capacity of 18,416 MVA projecting Odisha as one of the best performing Transmission Utilities of the country. By adopting the new technologies OPTCL has been maintaining the System Availability at 99.99% since last two years.

92. My Government has also adopted an innovative Power Banking system, whereby it could mitigate the power shortage during difficult summer months through a barter system in which power availed through Banking gets returned during surplus months.

93. Under the programme 'Aama Ghare LED' my Government has taken effective steps for Energy Conservation and Demand Side Management by distributing LED bulbs free of cost to all eligible single phase domestic consumers @ 4 per household across the State.

94. Our State continues to remain a favoured investment destination due to investor friendly policy environment, stability in governance and availability of raw materials and skilled manpower and above all robust industrial infrastructure. My Government has undertaken industrial promotion activities, creation of land bank and industrial infrastructure and simplification of rules and regulations for attracting investment.

95. My Government has taken several business reforms focusing on technology-based interventions to

ensure ease of doing business. Online portals such as Government of Odisha-Single Window for Investor Facilitation and Tracking (GO SWIFT), Government of Odisha-Synchronised Mechanism for Inspection of Licensed Enterprises (GO SMILE), Government of Odisha-Portal for Land Use and Services (GO PLUS), Government of Odisha-CSR Administration and Responsive Engagement (GO CARE) have been developed.

96. My Government has been proactively pursuing investors through organization of investors' meets, road shows, conferences etc. and has participated in various national and international road shows and investors' meets. Make in Odisha Conclave, 2018 was organised with resounding success with participation of leading industrial captains. The biennial event showcased the policy and regulatory environment, investment opportunities across focus sectors and the manufacturing prowess of the State. The Conclave received investment intents to the tune of Rs.4.20 lakh crore across 15 sectors with potential to generate employment for 5.91 lakh persons. Japan was the

partner country for this event which saw a participation of more than 5 thousand industry captains and delegates from across the country and abroad.

97. My Government has started the Startup Odisha Initiative with the launch of Startup Odisha Policy and Startup Odisha Portal. 334 Startups have already been registered. Odisha has been honoured as the 'Top Performer' State in the States' Startup Ranking 2018.

98. Altogether 3,67,077 micro, small and medium Enterprises with total investment of Rs.17,863 crore have been established generating employment of 14.61 lakh persons till December, 2018.

99. The export turnover of the State has increased to Rs 52,677 crore in 2017-18 against Rs 40,870 crore in 2016-17. The State has registered the highest growth rate of 114% in export amongst all the States in India for the year 2016-17, for which Odisha has been recognized as the "Champion State" during 2016-17.

100. My Government attaches utmost priority to development and expansion of Technical Education and

Skill Development for youth to bring transformative human development and to provide outstanding skilled work force comparable to the best in the world.

101. My Government in technical collaboration with ITEES, Singapore will establish a World Skill Centre at Bhubaneswar, which will impart technical and vocational training of international standards to the youth of our State to make them industry and market ready. Training in most advanced and futuristic trades shall be imparted in the World Skill Centre.

102. My Government has signed Memorandum of Understanding with leading organisations to set up modern labs in Government Technical Institutions and to promote placement of students in leading organisations.

103. With a view to create opportunities for the rural youth and to scale up skill training programme, Skill Development Centres @ one in each district and 38 Skill Development Extension Centres in the campus of each Government ITIs and Polytechnics are being set up.

104. My Government has organized and ensured participation of more than 6,000 students from various technical institutions across the State in the State Level Skill Competition. The winners of Odisha Skill Competition contested in the National Skill Competition in 21 skills. Our contestants performed exceedingly well by winning 4 Gold, 9 Silver, 6 Bronze and 3 Medallions of Excellence. The State stood second in overall medals tally, which is indeed a remarkable achievement by our youth.

105. The 1st Skill Museum has been dedicated to the cause of skilling the youth and to inculcate Design-Thinking in the minds of young people, ITI trainees, school children and others at ITI, Cuttack.

106. To develop Science & Technology and to popularize science education, research and communication in the State, my Government has implemented a number of innovative programmes.

107. The new Biotechnology Policy, 2018 encourages education, research and innovation in the field of biotechnology.

108. The new planetarium at Burla has started its operation and three more planetariums will be established at Rayagada, Baripada and Gopalpur.

109. My Government has decided to establish Science Centers/Parks in all districts of the State.

110. OREDA has commissioned 1866 SPV pumping systems for drinking water supply and 298 solar powered pumps for irrigation purpose. Under Decentralized Distribution Generation, 14,593 households in 398 villages were electrified by solar energy in 2018-19.

111. The Odisha State Geospatial Data Infrastructure was made operational for use by all stakeholder Departments and agencies of the State. ORSAC provided web services for 1.19 lakh acres of Land Bank for industrial development. Geodatabase of 34 Forest Divisions has been prepared and forest inventory work is in progress for Forest Working Plan preparation.

112. For better and effective governance, my Government has strengthened the provision of Video Conference facility in 314 blocks using Odisha State Wide Area Network (OSWAN). A state of the art video hub facility has been set up at Secretariat.

113. With a vision to improve efficiency and to bring transparency, my Government had started Odisha Secretariat Workflow Automation System (OSWAS) during 2009-10. Keeping the technological up-gradations in view, a technology compliant and user friendly newer version with better security features was launched in November, 2018 covering all the Departments and 3 Directorates.

114. Under “Biju Gaon Gadi Yojana”, public transport facilities have been extended to remote and unconnected Gram Panchayats. 556 BGGY buses alongwith normal stage carriages have already connected 6,742 Panchayats.

115. My Government has undertaken renovation of bus stands at Bolangir, Jeypore, Motu, Angul and Cuttack. New bus stands are also being developed at several locations to provide improved amenities to passengers.

116. My Government has inducted 23 A/C luxurious buses under “Rajdhani Express” initiative for bus services between different District headquarters and Bhubaneswar.

117. Bolangir to Bichhupalli, a 16 km section of Khurda Road – Bolangir New B.G. Rail Link Project, has been commissioned. 130 km New Jeypore – Malkangiri Railway Line project has been cleared by the Central Government with consistent efforts and commitment of my Government to contribute 25% of the construction cost as well as cost of land required for the project.

118. Land shall be provided free of cost for the connectivity from the Rail Head of Narla Station up to the proposed location of Electric Locomotive POH Workshop by my Government. With this, Kalahandi District will have a rail based industry to boost its socio-economic development.

119. Rajdhani Express has started plying via Sambalpur with sustained efforts of my Government.

120. Fourteen potential port sites in the State have been identified to be developed through PPP mode. Two ports at Dhamra & Goplapur are in operation. Second phase expansion of Dhamra Port and further expansion of Gopalpur Port are being carried out.

121. An extent of 692.68 acres of land has further been handed over to the project proponent of Subarnarekha Port to develop the port .The development of Riverine Port in Kendrapara district with an outlay of Rs.2,110 crore is being taken up.

122. My Government has implemented i3MS (Integrated Mines and Minerals Management System) Project as part of e-Governance process to bring transparency in mineral administration. It includes e-Permit, e-Pass, e-Filing and e-Payment system, besides mobile application named NMS(National Mineral Statistics) to capture the production, dispatch and sale value of the minerals on real time basis. This IT intervention has also been recognized and appreciated by the Central Government.

123. To expedite the exploration activities, Odisha Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. has been designated as exploration agency. 16 blocks have been allotted to OMECL for up-gradation of exploration to the desired level to facilitate auction of more blocks. The revenue from mineral royalty has shown an increase of over 70% upto December, 2018 as compared to the same period, last year.

124. Under the new Tourism Policy, 2016, my Government has envisaged an aggressive, dynamic and long term approach to develop Odisha as the most sought after tourist destination and to place it prominently on the domestic and global tourism map.

125. “Baristha Nagarika Tirtha Yatra Yojana” was launched by my Government in the year 2016-17 to enable the poor and deprived senior citizens of the State within the age group of 60-75 years to go on pilgrimage to fulfil their spiritual aspirations. This scheme is offered to people of all religions and faith. 6,000 senior citizens of the State have proceeded to different places of pilgrimage during the last two years. During 2018-19, the number of journeys has been enhanced to six and number of beneficiaries to 6,000.

126. My Government has organized Odisha Travel Bazar at Bhubaneswar in October, 2018 in order to invite foreign tour operators to educate them about the tourism products. At the initiative of my Government, Air Asia has started operation from Bhubaneswar to Bangkok in international sector.

127. My Government has made appropriate use of technology to provide various citizen centric services in a transparent manner. 5,22,670 online mutation cases have been instituted in all Tahasils of State during 2018 after receiving electronic intimation of registration of documents, deeds and instruments from the Sub-Registrar offices and 64% of such cases have been disposed online. The cadastral maps have been digitized and made available on Bhulekh platform. Maps are being corrected on Bhulekh following mutation of records. Records of Right are sent by speed post to the land owners. New registration offices have been opened during 2018 in Kesinga and Junagarh in Kalahandi district, Ganjam in Ganjam district and Tarava in Subarnapur district.

128. My Government has always been committed for the overall development of world famous Shree Jagannath Temple, Puri. Various schemes have been implemented for the welfare of the Sebayats in the areas of social security, health, housing and education.

129. For quick and speedy disposal of cases, my Government has issued notification for establishment of 18 Courts of different categories during 2018.

130. To provide access to justice to rural people, my Government has established Legal Assistance Cells in each of 1286 Gram Panchayats under 70 selected Blocks of the State named as “Madhubabu Aain Sahayata Sibir”. During the year 2018 as many as 1117 Lok Adalats have been organized and 1,64,690 cases have been disposed off.

131. My Government has introduced Odisha Right to Public Services Act and Rules, 2012 under which 341 notified public services relating to 25 Departments are being provided to citizens within the stipulated time through online application facility. In the last four years, about 70,000 posts have been filled up through direct recruitment and rehabilitation assistance.

132. My Government has implemented Human Resources Management System (HRMS) to simplify service related works. The Annual Establishment Review, Training and Recruitment Modules have been

developed in HRMS. The Schedules of all Long Term Advances are being sent to AG, Odisha online through HRMS.

133. My Government has implemented LMS (Litigation Management System) in order to ensure better management of Court cases pending in the High Court and Odisha Administrative Tribunal.

134. The initiative of my Government for adoption of self-certification by abolishing affidavits, wherever possible, is a positive step to provide hassle free governance.

135. Since the introduction of “Chief Minister’s Award for Excellence and Innovation in Governance and Public Service Delivery”, my Government has awarded ten best initiatives from the year 2012-13 to recognize the extraordinary and innovative works in State Civil Services.

136. For better administering of CMRF to the deserving people, my Government has delegated powers to the Collectors for sanction of financial assistance. During current year, the Collectors have provided more than Rs.6 crore to 5,810 applicants out of the CMRF funds till December 2018.

137. The overall law and order situation in the State during 2018 remained by and large peaceful. To avert any untoward incident and to maintain law and order, adequate preventive measures were adopted. My Government has been continuously focusing on upgradation of anti-Left Wing Extremists operational capability of the security forces, strengthening of the security infrastructure and plugging the security vacuum in the LWE affected areas by strategic deployment of security forces to deal with the problem effectively.

138. Safety and security of women, children and other vulnerable groups is the top priority of my Government. During the year, my Government has organized a noble campaign named PAREE PAIN KATHA TIYE with the technical collaboration of UNICEF to create mass awareness across the State against sexual harassment of minor girls. 15 vehicles decorated as “PAREE EXPRESS” moved throughout the State for a period of 15 days covering 44,707 kms and 1377 venues. Different stakeholders, people’s representatives and PRI members including 12 lakh people had attended the awareness campaign.

139. Odisha has now emerged as a major sports destination with successful organization of National and International sporting events.

140. By organizing of Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2018, Odisha, my Government has proved its mettle in organizing an international tournament with the highest level of perfection.

141. As the first and only State in the country, my Government organized the State level Tribal Sports meet with an objective to identify the hidden sporting talents of tribal youth and provide them with a proper platform for participation in the State and National Level competitions.

142. To take games and sports in the State to the next level, High Performance Centers have been planned in Athletics, Swimming, Shooting, Football, Hockey, Badminton and Weightlifting in partnership with corporate houses and eminent athletes/ sports management agencies.

143. My Government is going ahead with the construction of Sports Complexes with requisite facilities

in various disciplines in all districts, Integrated Sports Complex in major cities of Cuttack, Rourkela, Berhampur, Sambalpur and Jeypore, and construction of Synthetic Hockey Turfs in all the 17 Blocks of Sundergarh district.

144. My Government has implemented various benefits such as ex-gratia in case of death, financial assistance in case of incapacitation, education assistance for the children of deceased working journalists, interest subsidy for purchase of house, vehicles etc. to the working journalists. Besides, “Gopabandhu Sambadika Swasthya Bima Yojana” has been implemented since June, 2018 to provide health insurance coverage of Rs.2 lakh to each working journalist. So far, 3,847 working journalists have been covered under the scheme.

145. Odisha’s economy is on the path of steady growth. The State has been consistently growing at higher rate than the national average. From subsistence to sustenance and from sustenance to surplus, our pace of transformation has been exceptional and our growth

has been inclusive. We are now distinctly positioned as a progressive State setting national and even global benchmarks. My Government is untiringly striving to eradicate poverty, accelerate the pace of economic growth, reduce regional disparity and gender differences through various socio-economic measures and pro-people initiatives. Stability has provided us an unrestrained space for growth and development. Our transparent ways of governance have made us responsive and responsible to the changing needs of our time. Participation of people in the process of development of the State has been the hallmark of this wonderful journey.

146. I would like to reiterate in unequivocal terms that my Government is firmly committed to develop all regions of the State and empower all sections of the people.

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

Bande Utkal Janani